

9th MUNLawS Model United Nations Conference

12 – 14 November 2021, Faculty of Law, University of Ljubljana

The 9th MUNLawS Model United Nations Conference, held between 12 and 14 November 2021 at the Faculty of Law, University of Ljubljana, organised under the leadership of Professor Dr. Vasilka Sancin, Head of the Department for International Law at the Faculty of Law, University of Ljubljana, was held under honorary patronage of the President of the Republic of Slovenia, H.E. Borut Pahor.

It was attended by 156 delegates, including 6 university and 3 high school delegations, as well as several individual delegates.

The conference started with an Opening Ceremony, attended by honorary speaker Dr. Marko Rakovec, Director General of the Directorate for International Law and Protection of Interests at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Slovenia. Professor Emmanuel Decaux, President of the Court of Conciliation and Arbitration within the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe, delivered a video address. A panel titled »The Union of Tomorrow« and registered on The Future of Europe Platform, that followed, featuring Janez Lenarčič, European Commissioner for Crisis Management, H.E. Adrian Pollmann (on behalf of the Ambassador of Federal Republic of Germany Natalie Kauhter), and Igor Evgen Bergant, Journalist and News Anchor at Radiotelevision of Slovenia, discussed EU's geopolitical influence in terms of enlargement, EU's relations with third countries (special emphasis added on the Western Balkans, Turkey, China, Russia, United States), possible improvements in EU's Humanitarian aid and civil protection portfolio, in particular in relation to EU's response to global pandemic(s), EU's response to humanitarian crises around the world (special emphasis added on Afghanistan) and the role of the rule of law.

The conference features simulations in 8 committees, 2 of them on high-school level: Security Council (both on university and high-school level) (*Topics: Revising the Dayton Agreement and Addressing the Coup d'État in Myanmar*), Human Rights Council (both on university and high-school level) (*Topics: Human Rights Situation in Afghanistan and Human Rights Situation in the Region of Xinjiang*), European Council (*Topics: European Integration of the Western Balkans, 5G – Opportunity or a Cybersecurity Threat?*), The Council of EU (*Topic: Green Transition: Beyond European Climate Law*), OSCE Court of Conciliation and Arbitration (*Fictional Case: The Case Concerning Space Activities, National Minorities and Environmental Damage*) and International Court of Justice: (*Fictional Case: The Case Concerning the Construction of the Alastria Line City*).

Due to the conflicting views on the revision of Dayton agreement, the university-level Security Council adopted a resolution only on the topic of Revising the Dayton Agreement. The delegates reiterated the importance of maintaining peace in the Balkans and the important role of EUFOR. The high-school level Security Council managed to adopt a resolution on Myanmar, where issues of minorities, economic sanctions against Myanmar and maltreatment of the Rohingya were addressed. Their resolution on Dayton suggested the measures to fully implement the Agreement and to revise the role of UN High Representative for Bosnia.

The delegates in Human Right Council concluded that immediate foreign aid to most vulnerable groups of the people of Afghanistan, threatened by the Taliban forces, is necessary. They deemed it imperative to find a sustainable solution for the internally displaced in Afghanistan and refugees in the neighboring countries. On the situation in Xinjiang, the Council was split on two camps: the one supporting China and the one opposing its policies. The coalition of the opposing countries prevailed and the resolution condemned Chinese policy against the Uygurs. The resolution of the high-school Human Rights Council, besides calling for international assistance to the Afghani people, underlines the importance of education when it comes to preventing the Taliban from having control over schools. The resolution on Xinjiang establishes an independent international fact-finding mission and condemns the ill-treatment of Uygurs.

The European Council has unanimously approved two conclusion papers regarding the 5G and European Integration of the Western Balkans. EUCO acknowledged 5G to be a transnational issue rather than a national one and built upon the framework established by the EU Toolbox on 5G Cybersecurity. EUCO recommended Member States to put 5G as one of their priorities through establishing a national budget for 5G. EUCO has also once again stressed the importance of the Western Balkans as key partners for the European Union and acknowledged the geopolitical importance of the region for maintaining peace and stability in Europe. It therefore proposed hosting an urgent summit with Bulgaria and North Macedonia under EU supervision and further fostering bilateral talks between Belgrade and Pristina in an attempt to peacefully resolve their territorial disputes.

In the OSCE Court of Conciliation and Arbitration Committee, the arbitral tribunal in its award, addressing all claims presented by the parties (Republic of Arcturus and Kingdom of Rastaban), decided to possess jurisdiction and decided that the territory of Denebola forms part of the State of Rastaban given the latter's long-lasting and undisputed effective control over it. The Respondent was found responsible for human rights violations *vis-a-vis* the Arcturian national minority inhabiting the county. With relation to claims of environmental damage, no compensation was granted, as the arbitral tribunal stated that a new and diverse task force should first be created to assess again the extent of the true damage suffered in Mercury, and then to determine the exact amount of compensation owed by the Respondent to the Applicant. The tribunal rejected the Respondent's claim of wrongful interference by the Applicant into Rastaban's internal affairs, as the Respondent did not succeed in satisfying its burden of proof regarding the existence of such interference.

The International Court of Justice's fictional case Concerning the construction of Alastria Line City concerned the relocation of ethnical minority group to the special accommodation camp due to the construction works, where the state officials were accused of human rights violations. Other issues were alleged violation of bilateral agreement between the States, destruction of a famous tropical forest due to the fire explosion in a refinery plant and the compensation claim. The ICJ found a violation of human rights and provisions of the Agreement between the states.

The Security Council at university level was presided by Mark Jeršič and Una Iza Grandovec. The Best Belegate in the committee was Manuel Campos Lago (Vietnam), and Outstanding Delegate Eva Ferrer Cirral (Ireland). Emilien Mercenier (Serbia) received an Honourable Mention. The Security Council at high

school was presided by Karla Marušić and David Nagode. The Best Belegate in the committee was Val Marušič (the UK), and Outstanding Delegate Nenad Dimitrijević (China). Štefan Grašič (Croatia) received an Honourable Mention. The chairpersons in Human Rights Council at university level were Jakob Mišič Jančar and Gal Gabrijel Vilfan. Norman Garcia (France) was titled the Best Delegate, Ferran Álvarez Martinez (Pakistan) Outstanding Delegate, Honourable Mention was given to Anna Garriga Puig (Poland). Human Rights Council at high school level was chaired by Katarina Kogej and Urban Lečnik Spaić. The Best Belegate in the committee was Neža Kejžar (China), and Outstanding Delegate Ana Dimitrijević (The Netherlands). Polina Kaspranova (Italy) received an Honourable Mention. Nik Smerkolj served as President of the European Council, while Aiden Jurij Franko was Vice President. The Best Delegate was Imanol Olite Crisol (Austria), Outstanding Delegate Olga Triay Bagur (Sweden), Laia Croxet (Poland) received an Honourable Mention. Council of EU was chaired by Ana Maja Kralj and Gaja Podgornik. The Best Belegate in the committee was Anna Pelaéz Valls (France), and Outstanding Delegate Emilia Andueza Guerrero (Denmark). Joan Llonch Tegido (Italy) received an Honourable Mention. President of the OSCE Court of Conciliation and Arbitration was Anže Mediževc, Vice President was Kaja Leban. The Best Arbitrator in the simulated arbitral tribunal was Aina Patiño, while Ajda Petek was awarded as Best Agent. Sergeja Hrvatič served as the International Court of Justice's President, Matej Padar was Vice President. Best Judge was Elise Reyns, and the Best Agent Dženita Arapović. Gimnazija Bežigrad was awarded the title of Best High School Delegation, while the United Nations Student Association of Barcelona was titled the Best University Delegation.

We congratulate all participants and wish them all the best in their studies and professional careers afterwards!