

JMUN EXPRESS

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“Protecting Human Rights”



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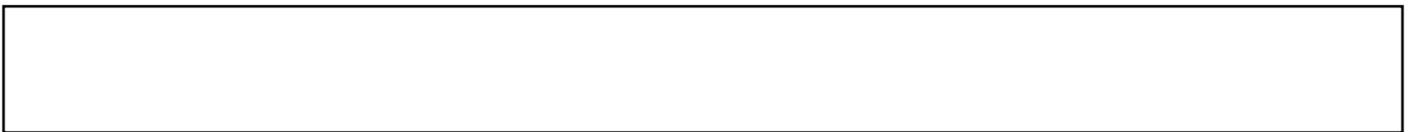
Welcome to JMUN 2014

by Eran Sabaner

I would like to welcome each of you to Hisar School's ninth annual JMUN session. Serving in the media manager position for the second time is personally thrilling for me as I am eager to meet and work with my media team. Sadly, this year will be my last year in JMUN but I can ensure you that I will use this last chance by reporting every important bit that will happen in the conference with the help of my Press Team.

As you all know, this year's theme is Protecting Human Rights. In a time when journalism is more influential than ever, my primary hope is to create a voice in JMUN Express that will inspire and motivate our delegates, or in other words, our future leaders. I hope this year's journalists, editors and photographers will get to benefit from our goals effectively and manage to have fun at the same time. I am positive that JMUN will be a productive yet intriguing experience for everyone. I hope this year will be efficient for everyone that participated this great experience.

I am writing these words while people around me are in a haste checking once again whether everything is arranged properly. I feel privileged to work with such a hard working and perfectionist team. I see myself reminiscing about my time in JMUN once I graduate from high school, as I it is very unlikely for me to work with a group this advanced. Thus, I want to dedicate this letter to the cabinet and my dear friend, Secretary-General Deniz Yüksel.



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Interview with the Secretary General

Deniz Yuksel

1) Can you tell us about your MUN experience? How long have you been part of MUN?

It is actually quite an interesting story. When I first started my MUN experience I was in Dubai-we had moved there temporarily for my father's job-and I only joined the MUN club because one of my best friends in-

sisted that I did so. My first conference led me to realize my interest in international affairs and politics. Every passing conference I became more and more ambitious about world issues and this even changed what I wanted to study when I went to college. When I came back to Istanbul, joining the MUN club had become a must for

me. I went to almost all of the conferences our club attended in my freshman and sophomore years. Now, with having gone to more than 20 conferences, I finish my 5th year in my MUN career, and I can undoubtedly say that it definitely shaped who I am today.

2) Can you tell us about your role as the Secretary-General?

I am in charge of monitoring what the whole organizing team is doing and I make sure that everything runs smoothly throughout the conference, from the research report to the budget to the food. I distribute the workload between the members of the organizing team, follow up and give suggestions accordingly. I guess you could say that I am the big boss ☒

life. Most importantly, I made lifelong friendships with people that I would never would have met otherwise. Other MUNers will understand when I say that we are a very close-knit community.

4) Have you faced any difficulties in organizing this conference?

Of course, organizing a conference and especially being the go to person in every crisis always bring difficulties as all great responsibilities do.



The most challenging thing was to organize the conference while simultaneously working on another one where I was also appointed as the Secretary General, III. MBMTR. Because it is not a conference affiliated with a school, we, the organizing team, had to find the sponsors, invite the schools

3) What has MUN helped you gain in other aspects of your life?

In addition to discovering my interest in international relations and diplomacy, I had the chance of improving certain organizational skills that I am sure will help me throughout my

and were personally responsible for even the smallest issues that may occur. Organizing one conference is a hard undertaking but organizing two within 3 months is even harder as you may imagine. I had difficulties with catching up with my schoolwork

5) Can you enlighten us on the theme of the conference “Protecting Human Rights”?

We already know that we have certain rights that are not given to us, but are automatically ours when we are born, simply because we are human beings. But our world is facing a plethora of issues that are violating our most basic human rights. One of the main goals of the United Nations, as stated in its charter, is the protection of human rights, but recent events, protests and unrests prove that this goal has not been achieved yet. In this conference, I hope that the delegates will find sufficient and intelligent solutions to call attention to the theme, and especially draw attention to the fact that we, as the youth, care about these issues and want human rights to be respected everywhere and at all times.

6) What suggestions do you have for this year’s participants?

I suggest that you all actively participate in the debates and es-

pecially connect with other participants during the lobbying period in order to create innovative, collaborative and efficient solutions. Pretend as if you are actually in the UN and take your job seriously, after all, tomorrow’s diplomats are today’s students! But of course, never forget to have fun and make lasting friendships.

7) Considering you have participated in numerous conferences, you must have memories that you are fond of. Can you share the most special one?

This might not be the happiest memory, but it is the day that I truly realized my place in the MUN community. At RCIMUN 2013, I was a delegate in the Historical Committee, but I had to take my TOEFL and attend a meeting with a representative of the Turkish Ministry of Foreign Affairs on the last day of the conference. I took the TOEFL with a 39 degree fever and rushed to the meeting, which went absolutely terribly. I was cry-

ing in the taxi on my way to Robert College when the taxi crashed into another car! I was a mess when I finally got to the committee, but the rest of the day went so well (even though my delegation lost the war!) that I had forgotten about all of it!

8) Finally, what are your expectations on this year’s conference?

We have been working night and day (with little sleep!) to make this conference the best one yet. At JMUN, we are always competing with ourselves, trying to improve and become better every year. I hope that we can make this year’s conference enjoyable for every single participant. More than anything, I hope we can capture a certain JMUN spirit which makes us feel like a part of this family and obligates us to continue working passionately every year.

Around the World



A - Istanbul

- Bilfen Ataşehir School
- ENKA School
- Hisar School
- Irmak School
- İstek Kemal Atatürk Anatolian High School
- İTÜ School
- Koç Middle School
- Kültür 2000 School
- MEF
- Robert College
- Sezin School
- Şişli Terakki
- TED Istanbul School
- Ulus Musevi Schools
- Üsküdar American Academy

B - Ankara

- BLIS
- British Embassy Schools Ankara
- British International School of Istanbul

C - Izmir

- Gelişim Koleji
- Işıkkent Eğitim Kampüsü
- Piri Reis Karşıyaka
- Private İzmir SEV School

D - Egypt

- Cairo American College
- Schutz American School
- The British International School Cairo

E - Greece

- Anatolia College
- Ekpedefteki Anagennis

F - Germany

- Bavarian International School

G - Luxembourg

- International School of Luxembourg

A Glimpse of Istanbul

by Ekin Karahan

For hundreds of years, Istanbul has been home to many civilizations. From the Byzantine Empire to the Turkish Republic, the civilizations have all contributed to the uniqueness of the city. They have also provided people with many historical places to visit.

One of the most famous ones is the Hagia Sophia. This historical place provides tourists an opportunity to observe the cultures that Istanbul has seen over the years. First built as

a Greek Orthodox Church during the Byzantine times, Hagia Sophia still contains some of the mosaics from those times. They are joined by several Islamic elements that were added during the time of the Ottoman Empire. These were added when the church was converted into a mosque when the Ottomans conquered the Byzantine Empire. It remained as the principal

mosque of the Ottoman Empire for a long time. Now Hagia Sophia serves as a museum. It has been reconstructed and is one of the biggest tourist attractions Istanbul has to offer.

The area surrounding Hagia Sophia contains many other artifacts, mosques and museums. They all share a view of the glo-



rious Bosphorus, which always manages to be colorful and full of life. It is especially lively at night, when the two bridges connecting the city are lit by colourful lights. They are joined by the boats that come out after working hours. During the day, however, boats filled with tourist, who use the opportunity to observe the beauty of the Bosphorus, use the strait.

They are joined by the fisherman who line up on the shore early in the morning. No matter what time it is, the Bosphorus always finds people to entertain. Besides its natural and historical features, Istanbul also has many modern aspects. Shopping malls are very popular in Turkey. Many of them provide a place for people to go to

on weekends. They offer varieties of products and are always filled with energy. They are also great places to go to observe the people of Istanbul. Always filled with a crowd, they pro-

vide entertaining interactions and an opportunity to see how much Istanbul has changed and progressed. Seeing them after visiting the historical artifacts of Istanbul gives people an opportunity to understand how the city continues to grow and change even though it greatly values its history. It also helps to understand the diversity of Istanbul and see how it's a mix

Orange Your Neighbourhood

by Zeynep Seker

In order for an individual to live, some basic conditions are needed. Every living creature needs an environment that provides safe shelter and the necessary nutrition to keep living. Throughout the years this number of necessities have increased. With the unfortunate rate of violence, people have started to need security rather than just a shelter. Everyone wants to feel safe while walking in their neighbourhood just like they feel when they're home. Unfortunately, nowadays "home" isn't a safe environment for women either.



According to United States Women (UN Women) in 2013, 35% of women worldwide have experienced physical or sexual assault by their partners or strangers. When looking at some specific countries we can observe that

this number can reach 70% which is a highly dangerous and upsetting number. In general these women who need to get out of this abusive environment cannot receive any aid from anyone, simply because they don't report it. Based on a study by 28 Member States of the European Union only 14% of women have reported the violent behaviour they have faced. When we look at the majority of these assaults, 14% is an extremely small number. The other 86% of the abused women remain silent due to their fear of getting hurt again. The fear of being beaten up and being sexually harassed has forced many people to keep silent when all they wanted to do was shout

at the top of their lungs and just ask for help; to say that they just want their freedom back.

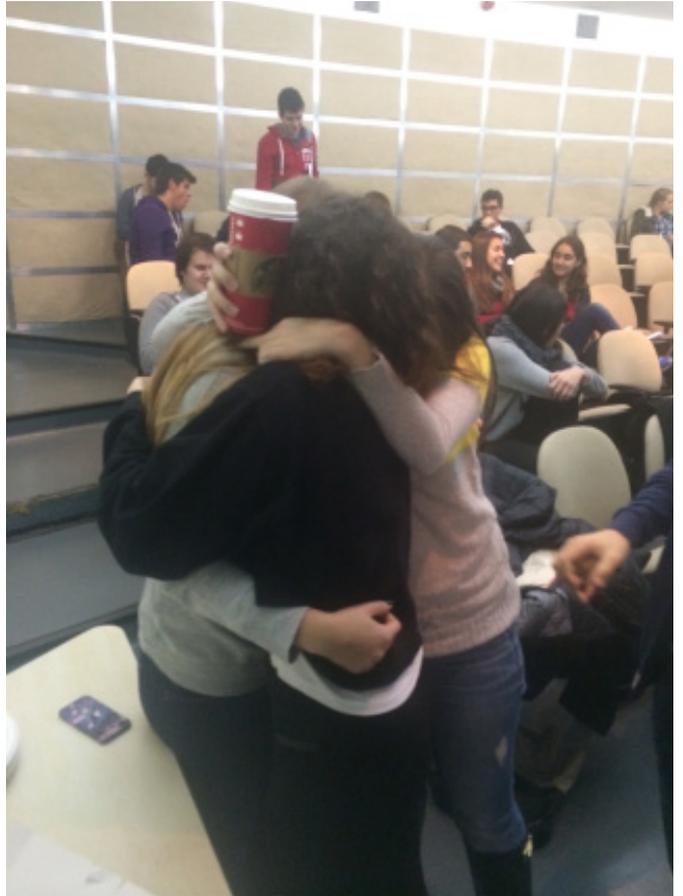
This year United States Women has started a campaign to raise awareness. This campaign started on November 25th 2014 and will continue until December 10th 2014. These two dates aren't just random dates. The day this campaign starts is International Day for



the Elimination of Violence against Women; the last day of it is International Human Rights Day. This 16-day activism is called "Orange Your Neighbourhood". The colour orange has been designated by the UNiTE campaign as a symbol for a brighter future without violence. People all around the world wear orange or use orange decorations to raise awareness and participate in this campaign.

"Violence against women" has been one of the biggest issues for United States and United States Women. As the violence against women has increased people have started to react to it as if it was usual. The awareness towards this problem has decreased throughout the years when it should have increased and be in a place that it would cause violent behaviour to come to an end. That's why it is important to acknowledge people and take action to catalyse this process.

PHOTOS



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