



Annual Report
Rapport d'activité

2009



GIMUN Annual Report 2009
Rapport d'activité du GIMUN 2009

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Dear friends and supporters, my fellow GIMUNers,

Two years ago marked the beginning of a new era for our association. On July 20, 2007, GIMUN was granted the Special Consultative Status with the United Nations - an accreditation which was (and still is today) unique among the hundreds of Model United Nations worldwide! And while the vast majority of all organizations that get accredited are professional, and the examination process by the U.N. beforehand normally takes several years, our case passed within a single year – in record time!

Not surprisingly, our excitement about all that has been ongoing ever since. This status allows us access to the U.N. sites, individually as well as for our events. It also grants us the right to speak at the ECOSOC and the Human Rights Council. And last but not least it gives the Association credit for all the effort made by everyone involved in GIMUN.

In this sense, this status is a huge recognition for all previous GIMUN Conferences, known to students from around the world for their excellent quality. Our conference has become the largest event organized by any NGO at the Palais des Nations, but still regularly receives more than two applications for every open position at the Conference.

However, the name 'Geneva International Model United Nations' stood exclusively for a single event – the Annual MUN Conference. Therefore, to grant GIMUN this U.N. accreditation can best be understood as an investment for the future. It is an acknowledgment of our potential due to a privileged location at the "world capital of multilateral negotiations".

The question therefore is: what exactly is our potential and how can we make best use of it? In 2008, this question was not only vividly discussed among the GIMUN EXCOM, but it was also submitted to all the participants of the Annual MUN Conference. The common response was that the Association should extend its activity in organizing student and public events throughout the year. It also should facilitate other youth groups to enter the U.N. wherever this is appropriate. And it should possibly start doing so outside of Geneva as well.

With this background, the past year obviously became a period of changes for GIMUN. Through three General Assemblies, the Association was given a new organizational structure. A newly composed executive Board replaced the old EXCOM in managing all the activities of the Association. From then onward, the Annual MUN Conference would be embraced in the Annual Program consisting of several shorter public events which are held throughout the year. During this first year, these Annual Program events ranged from workshops, to conferences, including collaborations with other organizations. And in January we also opened a local chapter in New York which has so far organized a number of visits for U.S. students into the U.N. headquarters.

A second big change has been the creation of the Advisory Board (AB). It consists of former EXCOM members from the past years and meets formally at least four times a year. The AB's purpose is to avoid knowledge loss in our Association, which is run by a new team every year. This way, GIMUN can continue its practice of giving a new group of students the opportunity to steer the Association every year, while still assuring continuity.



For us, the Board'09, all of these events in sum contributed to an intense but, more importantly, most exciting experience. And in the Board's name, I wish to thank each one who has joined us in our daily work or supported this association in any way for making these achievements possible! I am convinced that all members of the newly elected Board'10 are together able to continue the work in a great way. But nevertheless I wish each one of them all the best for his/her mandate!

In the Annual Report 2007, the president at that time raised the question: "GIMUN – quo vadis?" In 2008, my predecessor answered him: "Off to new shores!" Today, I am most content to tell you that GIMUN has not only become an active NGO throughout the entire year, but a true Youth Gateway to the U.N.

For the Board'09

Felix Stähli

President of the GIMUN Association 2008-09



GIMUN – The MUN Conference

La Conférence du GIMUN: un Défi renouvelé

La responsabilité est toujours grande quand on organise un événement comme le GIMUN, mais cette année encore plus: la 10e édition avait lieu.

Il faut année après année être à la hauteur des attentes d'étudiants impatients d'entraîner leurs aptitudes de diplomates à l'intérieur même des murs de l'ONU. Il faut aussi être à la hauteur de notre encore jeune statut d'ONG accréditée à l'ECOSOC. Plus encore, il faut être digne du travail de nos prédécesseurs qui ont donné au GIMUN la renommée et le niveau de professionnalisme qui est le sien.

Pour cette édition, le challenge était donc important avec en outre le handicap d'une crise financière qui n'épargne personne.

Cependant avec le soutien renouvelé et même augmenté de nos partenaires, nous avons pu réunir pendant une semaine 200 étudiants de cinq continents avides d'apprendre et de simuler les Nations Unies. Nous avons pu conserver l'esprit du GIMUN, un esprit jeune, tourné vers l'avenir, tout en développant des nouveaux concepts. Nous avons en effet articulé la conférence autour du thème de l'intervention humanitaire. De là, nous avons décliné six différents comités autour de ce thème. En profitant, des conditions exceptionnelles offertes (locaux, interprétation bilingue français-anglais, etc.) nos délégués ont pu élaborer une, deux voire 3 résolutions par comité. Pour les aider dans cette tâche, des intervenants de haute facture nous ont fait l'honneur de leur présence, dont le Directeur Général de l'ONUG Sergei Ordhonikidze,

Ces résolutions ont eu notamment pour thème: la responsabilité de protéger, la coopération triangulaire, la situation au Soudan, les déplacés internes, les énergies renouvelables et l'efficacité énergétique, et bien d'autres encore. Tout cela en cinq jours de travail intense, guidés par des modérateurs enthousiastes et expérimentés.

Ces accomplissements ne nous rendent pas peu fiers. Nous savons la chance que nous avons de pouvoir compter sur l'intelligence et l'énergie d'étudiants des quatre coins de la planète. Mais nous espérons en outre que cette année encore nous avons permis à beaucoup de gens de ne pas seulement exercer leur talent de diplomates mais aussi de rencontrer, d'échanger avec des gens d'autres horizons. Ceci montrerait que le GIMUN a suivi sa devise: un portail pour la jeunesse vers l'ONU.

Martin Staub

Conference Manager GIMUN 2009



Taking on the task of recruiting and selecting the participants of a conference as well-known and respected as the Geneva International Model United Nations is a pretentious venture at the very least, and a wonderful personal experience at best, as in seeing the conference taking shape slow by slow, seeing the necessary steps taken by both the staff and the participants, but also as in getting to know people from different backgrounds and discovering their culture.

For this year's conference, the recruitment department saw some changes coming its way: for one, following the re-organisation of the administrative structure of the GIMUN and the adoption of new statutes, the recruitment team was no longer part of the executive board and could hence fully concentrate on the recruiting process.

Moreover, upon inspiration from last year's team, a new recruiting policy was adopted. Before, the recruiters would choose from the candidates on a „first come, first serve“ basis, confirming the participation and assigning a fixed position to the candidates who applied first and were found suitable. This year, our strategy was different. The candidates were divided into three categories in a first step, being either accepted, pending or outright rejected, of which „pending“ was the biggest group. After the end of the application period, having an overview over the candidates, we confirmed or rejected the rest of the pending candidates and assigned positions to everyone. This way, very good candidates who applied late still had a chance to have a strong, suitable position at the conference, which maybe would have been taken by a weaker candidate otherwise.

Our work started as early as August and September, sending out the first promotion posters, flyers and texts to contact persons on all five continents, mainly people who had participated in or organised GIMUN in the years before. Local promotion in Geneva was greatly enhanced by presentations at other student groups and by a mock MUN session performed at the university by the staff.

In November, the registration finally opened and applications immediately started to flood in. Our promotional work was paying off, as we soon had more applications to work on than places at the conference. When the registration was closed in January, there were more than 360 applications for roughly 180 places in total, hence resulting in a two to one ratio of candidates and available places.

The selection was based on the data provided in the registration form, notably information on education, language skills, extracurricular activities, work experience and previous participation in MUNs. Moreover, the letters of motivation and the curriculum vitae were a crucial help in choosing the most motivated and dedicated participants for the conference. We used phone interviews with about two thirds of the candidates to further help us evaluate their level of dedication and knowledge.

With a pool of candidates so established, the recruitment team proceeded with assigning country positions to the participants and preparing the smooth journey to Geneva, including sending out invitation letters to and calling Swiss embassies in order to facilitate the visa procedures and giving information about Geneva and Switzerland in general. We also helped the responsible for accommodation with finding affordable places

to stay for our participants, a particularly hard task in Geneva.

Financial aid was given to those candidates who were able to provide evidence of their need of a scholarship due to their own difficult situation and provide proof of their academic excellency. As many as 20 participants benefited from an exemption from the participation fee, and seven received a partial or full scholarship to cover their accommodation and travel expenses.

Even though the current worldwide economic crisis complicated our lives a great deal, with many chosen candidates not being able to come to Geneva at all because of financial restraints and hence having to be replaced by others, often last-minute, we were able to make the GIMUN a truly global conference with participants from every continent, and a great chance for us all to learn about other backgrounds, and ways to solve the problems that concern us all.

David Janssen and Oscar Parraga
Recruiters GIMUN 2009



The issues dealt with by the GIMUN 2009 Security Council (SC) were:

The Responsibility to Protect (R2P)

Attaining a Sustainable Peace in Sudan

The Responsibility to Protect (R2P) is a new principle emerging in international law. There are, however, varying opinions on how far this norm, if indeed it is one, has crystallized so far. The Security Council plays a vital role in giving norms weight or turning them into customary law. Hence we felt that this was an issue on which discussion was important for our delegates to engage in.

Sudan with its two primary conflicts, that between the North-South for which there is already a peace agreement in place and the conflict in Darfur which still rages on and sees the biggest UN-involvement if fully employed, is a topic which can just not be left aside until solved.

On the proposed Draft Agenda R2P was to be discussed first and Sudan afterwards; however the delegates changed the Agenda by vote, arguing that Sudan and the people's suffering was more urgent to address than R2P.

Attaining a Sustainable Peace in Sudan

A few weeks before the opening of the GIMUN, the world had witnessed a truly historical event related to Sudan: for the first time the International Criminal Court (ICC) issued an arrest warrant for a sitting Head of State. Sudanese President Omar Al-Bashir was indicted on ten counts including war crimes and crimes against humanity. The SC played, and continues to play, a very important role in the actions of the ICC since it was the SC which has referred the situation in Sudan to the ICC for investigation and prosecution in 2005. Additionally, Article 16 of the Rome Statutes allows the SC make the ICC defer from acting on a case for a period of 12 months, with the option of renewing such a deferral indefinitely.

Under these circumstances, nobody was surprised that the discussion turned to a large part around the question of whether the SC should make use of Article 16 or not, with China leading a group in favor and France and the United Kingdom leading the group which supported the indictment. The United States played a somewhat ambiguous role, since they supported the referral to the ICC even though they didn't recognize the ICC itself.

Apart from this issue, a lot of practical solutions to the conflicts were to be found in the Draft Resolutions.

The SC had the huge privilege to welcome Dr. Mukesh Kapila as the guest speaker. Dr. Kapila was, among various other important positions, the most senior UN-representative in Sudan in 2004 when the Darfur-crisis erupted. Dr. Kapila's recapitulations of the happenings and yet the thoroughly positive message he delivered to us regarding the UN left nobody untouched, and his words filled us with hope and motivation that we can make a difference in a world where national interests seem to dominate over any humanitarian concerns.

At the end, the SC was able to pass a resolution which did not mention Article 16 of the Rome Statutes but various practical steps to improve the situation of the civilians suffering.

The Responsibility to Protect (R2P)

The Security Council began deliberation on the second topic, the Responsibility to Protect, on the fourth day after having concluded in depth discussions on Sudan as well as the crisis situation that arose. Thus the delegates were pressed for time

when it came to this topic.

The R2P norm is one which is very technical and involves a great deal of legal understanding. The Council did very well to understand the concepts involved and deal with them proactively. In addition, the SC discussed several interesting and novel ideas, including the creation of a body to assess situations where the R2P doctrine could be used; an early warning system to alert the council on issues which fell under the doctrine of the R2P; and the involvement of regional bodies in the assessment of situations.

Although there were efforts to work on various Resolutions, the lack of time as well as the preference of certain member states of the Council, led to the adoption of a Presidential Statement. A Presidential statement, made by the President of the Council (in this case the Chairpersons) on its behalf serves as a means to pass a non-binding decision which reflects the opinion of the Council.

The Presidential Statement passed by the Security Council reaffirmed previous work done by the United Nations on the Responsibility to Protect. It further emphasized the need for members to respect State Sovereignty and also laid emphasis on the responsibility of all States to respect and protect their own populations. The Council ultimately opined that the International community bore a "residual" responsibility to protect if a country was unwilling or unable to protect its own populations; but this could only be done as a last resort with a decision of the Security Council on a case by case basis.

The outcome served to be highly reflective of the current global norm followed regarding the Responsibility to Protect, and thus the discussion on this topic was very realistic. The delegates should also be commended on working hard to come to a conclusion of a very large issue in a comparatively short amount of time.



Ultimately the Security Council at this year's GIMUN was of a very high caliber. They dealt with the two topics, both very complex in themselves and yet differing in their nature, in a highly skillful manner. Sudan dealt with a situation that was unfolding on the ground and the R2P norm was a theoretic legal discussion on the establishment of a principle of International Law. Yet both issues were tackled practically and innovatively. It was indeed a pleasure to Chair the Security Council for GIMUN 2009.

Kaspar Paur and Vikram Singh

Chairpersons of the GIMUN Security Council 2009



The topics under discussion in the ECOSOC during the 2009 annual conference were: *Rising food prices* and *South-South and Triangular Cooperation*. Articles 62 to 66 of the United Nations Charter define the functions and powers of the Council. Unlike the other main councils, and referring to these articles, the ECOSOC has a significantly greater variety of tools at its disposal to implement its initiatives. Among them are the direct or indirect setting of the agenda for other UN organs, the establishment of Sub-Committees, the creation of International Conferences and even the preparation of Conventions for the submission to the General Assembly.

This makes the ECOSOC at the same time an extremely diverse and complex body, allowing delegates to be creative but requiring them to understand the UN structure in depth.

Rising food prices

On the first topic, rising food prices the delegates have managed to engage in productive discussions early in the week thanks to a working paper submitted by the delegation of Uruguay on the first day. The paper included a big share of the most pressing aspects of the problem, allowing a draft resolution to be introduced shortly after. Following the submission of said first draft resolution, however, the debate lost momentum. The draft was lacking a clear distinction between related topics and



topics open to influence by the ECOSOC which should make up for the difference between Preambulatory and Operative Clauses. After the working paper the delegations also brought less new ideas and angles into the discussion and were less creative by proposing solutions, until the evening of the third day. After the introduction of a Report of the Secretary-General

the committee was urged to take the time to read through the draft again, restructure it and consider missing parts of a solution to the problem of rising food prices. This night the delegates worked until one o'clock at night in order to present an almost perfect draft the next morning. First, this new draft resolution comprehensively set the topic into context, referring to the UDHR, the MDGs, Climate Change, the already existing institutional framework within the UN, tackling the issue, and several related Conferences, within its Preambles.

The operative part focused on short term measures involving the work of the World Food Programme (WFP), medium and long term measures as education in the agricultural sector, the inclusion of NGOs and civil society in programs aiming at ensuring food security, identifying risks to adequate food distribution and referring to the responsible actors within the global institutional structure. This draft resolution was adopted within few hours after introduction.

The resolution can be seen as very comprehensive and innovative in many parts, especially when it comes to the integration and participation of non-state actors. The delegates have recognized that NGOs and the civil society are becoming increasingly important and need to be involved wherever possible.

Development Cooperation Forum: South-South and Triangular Cooperation

In the recent past there have been efforts to further integrate NGOs and the private sector into the discussion in the ECOSOC. In this light we simulated this topic within the Development Cooperation Forum (DCF), one of the new central pillars of the ECOSOC and possibly the first true multistakeholder body within the United Nations system.

The delegates highlighted the unique possibilities the development cooperation between equals can offer, calling for its promotion and discussing new frameworks to further enhance its efficiency. The passed resolution focuses on different types of cooperation (e.g. technical, monetary, and economical) and proposed different frameworks and initiatives to promote all aspects of South-South and Triangular cooperation. The resolution is to be seen as a first step in the right direction, acknowledging the fact that the impact South-South cooperation is nowhere near its potential.

Onur Sonat and Daniel Walter
Chairpersons of the GIMUN ECOSOC 2009



General theme: The Protection of Human Rights in Internal Armed Conflicts

In the first days there were three working papers on the floor concerning Agenda Item I on Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs). The main focus was the protection of Human Rights of IDPs in internal armed conflicts, but climate change and human made disasters were also mentioned as reason for internal displacement, but remained not the main focus of discussion. Further the discussion went about the most vulnerable group of IDPs, especially women and children, highlighting their special needs. Since state sovereignty is another major point, which cannot be crossed out when talking about humanitarian intervention, it was underlined, like in the 1998 Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement, that the main responsibility to protect IDPs is the concerned government. But almost all states supported the policy framework “the responsibility to protect”, which means that only when the respective state cannot take the responsibility to give humanitarian assistance to its IDPs, the international community carries the duty to protect them instead.

The biggest challenge was then to merge the three working papers into one draft resolution, since all of them went pretty much into the same policy direction. Therefore it did not really make much sense to have three separated draft resolutions on the floor which did not even differ in its essence that much. In the end there were two draft resolutions left, out of which passed the one that incorporated the main ideas of all three working papers the best, a nerve bursting last minute work, until



all patience was almost leaving us. It needs to be mentioned that our guest speaker, Mrs. Claudine Haenni, helped us a lot concerning the IDP topic and gave us an important motivation boost. Thus we could productively include her proposals and

experience of all the years working together with the SGR on the protection of the Human Rights of IDPs (Walter Kälin), in our negotiation procedures.

The crisis in the Great Lake Region came in between the negotiations of Agenda Point I, and we have held a special session for 1 ½ days, to finish up an urgent resolution which condemns the recent attacks made by the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) as well as their use of children in armed conflict and their violence against women and refers the security aspect of the crisis to the Security Council and requests the SC to give all information concerning the situation to the HRC. The discussion flow about this special resolution hampered a little, since there was a misunderstanding of whether the crisis was true or not and thus there was some unwillingness to actually hold a special session on that topic! In addition there was a general lack in the knowledge of the rules of procedure and about what the HRC can actually really do in such a crisis situations. We seized the chance to officially clarify everything and informed about what the HRC can actually move! Better later than never!

The negotiating process about Agenda Item I and the special meeting took unnecessarily longer than expected, thus we had only the last day left to start talking about Agenda Item II concerning Children in Armed Conflict. But unexpectedly, the Council immediately came up with a working paper on that topic in the morning, on which a very motivated and disciplined delegation worked on the entire night before! The whole last day, the Council discussed the issue in a moderated caucus and then used several expanded caucuses to type a draft resolutions, which could be copied and distributed in the last minute, and be voted upon in the last second before closing ceremony! Therefore we are more than proud that we reached three urgently needed last second consensuses within five days, which all became more or less innovative and strong resolutions, supporting the main goal of the HRC to promote the universal respect for the protection of all human rights and fundamental freedoms for all.

Onur Oksan and Stella Szonn
Chairpersons of the GIMUN Human Rights Council 2009



The 2009 GIMUN simulation of the General Assembly Sixth Committee (legal affairs) addressed two different topics, the first being “Humanitarian Intervention and State Sovereignty” and the second “The Legal Status of Environmental Refugees”.

The first session of the Conference was devoted to procedural matters and agenda setting discussions. Given many divergences in priorities for the Member States present, negotiations had to resume in the second session, and a vote finally allowed “Humanitarian Intervention and State Sovereignty” to open substantive negotiations.



and non-moderated caucuses, Member States worked together on the redaction of a working paper. Through that working paper, the Committee agreed on a definition of the term “environmental refugee”, addressed their status under public international law and recommended different paths of action to various members of the international community. At the end of the last day (session 10), the debate was closed and the Committee adopted the draft resolution, which became Resolution 1/2.

Audrey Reeves and Gina Schmied
Chairpersons of the GIMUN GA Sixth Committee 2009

By the middle of the week, two working papers were tabled on Agenda Topic 1 and considered before the Committee as Draft Resolution 1/1 and Draft Resolution 1/2. The first was proposing the establishment of a Committee responsible for providing consultancy services and expertise to the Security Council in the event where the Council would be confronted to situations of widespread violations of human rights. The second was recalling the principle of “responsibility to protect” as enshrined in Art. 138 and 139 of the General Assembly 2005 Summit Outcome, and proceeding to a codification of the application of R2P as a response to massive human rights violations and genocide.

At the end of the third day (session 6), the Committee closed the debate and entered voting procedures. Draft Resolution 1/1 was considered by the Committee and was not adopted. Draft Resolution 1/2 was then considered and, following some amendments, adopted by the committee as Resolution 1/1, though not without opposition.

Following the end of the debate on Agenda Item 1, the Committee went on to tackle Agenda Item 2. Again, after spending one day debating the best way to bridge the legal gaps in the question of “environmental refugees” in moderated



The Historical Security Council re-enact the situation of April 1994 while the Genocide in Rwanda. The delegates represented the position of their countries right after the shot down of the presidential airplane of Rwanda and after the outbreak of violence in Kigali and in already in some parts of the country. To understand the difficult situation of the Security Council while this crisis was one of the aims and the reason why GIMUN established this council. To allow the delegates to act a bit outside of the historical decisions of their represented state the situation changed while the simulation was running, basically the role of the General Secretary and the official informations, like the confirmation of genocide, the delegates get.

To work four days in constant crisis, not to forget the historical context and to know that if the Security Council will not act in a reasonable manner the result could be, due to the small changes made in the event time line, even worse then in April

is a perfect addition for the GIMUN as it is a good possibility for experienced delegates to work under constant pressure as they know what had happened before and to change history without violating the politic of their represented state at that time. The active collaboration between the delegates also continued at the social events. Also the more experienced delegates were willing to help the new delegates to integrate them into to whole simulation, making it able for everybody to learn and to be active.

The chairs want so say thank to all delegates of the Historical Security Council and the GIMUN, also the whole staff and all the sponsors for their support for this exceptional conference. Without all the effort of everybody such a conference would not be possible.

*Daniel Hardegger and Uzair Mahmood
Chairpersons of the GIMUN Historical Security Council 2009*



1994 was hard for the whole council. This constant pressure showed in the fact that the Historical Security Council worked in specials meeting, not following the agenda which had been set on the first day. However, the Historical Security Council, under the impression of the worsening crisis in Rwanda, was able to accept two resolution and one presidential statement. It was a very laborious and in historical and personal perspective very interesting week. A historical crisis simulation like this one



This year GIMUN welcomed a new committee – Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP). Given the importance of environmental issues the committee was aimed at discussing sustainable development issues. The UNEP general agenda was “Promoting Environmentally Sustainable Development” with three subtopics “Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency”, “Water Management” and “Strategies for Sustainable Trade”.

During the conference the delegates have discussed and written resolutions on the first two subtopics - renewable energy and energy efficiency and water management.

For energy issues the main conflict line was lying between countries highly depending on fossil fuels supplies and use and therefore willing to develop alternative energy sources and those countries which possess fossil fuel resources and profit from their extraction and trade. Among the most active delegates working on the problem were representatives of Argentina, Chile, Algeria, the United Kingdom facing active opposition of Iran delegation.

UNEP has joined the representatives of 26 countries and 3 organizations which served advisory functions – Food Agriculture Organization, World Bank and World Trade Organization.

In general during the committee’s work intensive negotiations, conflict of the interests, bright ideas and resulting consensus took place. UNEP has combined the efforts of both developed and developing countries. The delegates have demonstrated not only deep knowledge of the agenda and well structured national strategies, but willingness to cooperation and finding common solutions.

The committee has created friendly atmosphere which united the delegates not only during the day time, but during social events in the evenings.

The Chairs would like to thank all the participants, organizers and sponsors for making GIMUN 2009 a success.

Alisa Yushchenko and Lisya Alalu
Chairpersons of the GIMUN UNEP 2009



In water management issues the committee’s work concentrated mainly on two problems – water pollution and water scarcity. The delegates have written two working papers and then combined common decisions in final resolution which was highly supported by the delegations of the United States, the United Kingdom, Argentina, Chile, Botswana, Mexico, Brazil and Algeria.



Le Gimun est pour la plupart des étudiants-interprètes la première expérience de travail « réel ». Finis les exercices où on parle dans le vide, à un mur ou à ses collègues de l'école qui ont déjà compris le message. Au Gimun, pas le droit d'abandonner quand l'orateur s'exprime peu clairement ou trop rapidement, sous peine de voir la moitié de la salle lever les yeux vers vous.

Les délégués participant au Gimun ont souvent posé des questions très intéressantes aux interprètes : Changez-vous parfois le sens d'une phrase si vous n'êtes pas d'accord avec ce qui vient d'être dit ? A quoi servent les hiéroglyphes notés à la hâte sur les blocs en interprétation consécutive (quand l'interprète prend des notes et refait le discours après) ? Est-ce que vous comprenez le sujet et suivez-vous les discussions ?

Alors pour répondre à toutes ces questions, il faut d'abord rappeler la première mission des interprètes : restituer, aussi fidèlement que possible, le message d'origine. Bien sûr, les

difficultés se sont révélées nombreuses : de l'orateur qui oublie systématiquement d'allumer son micro, (en interprétation simultanée, c'est-à-dire en cabine avec écouteurs) à celui qui prononce une phrase en anglais et la suivante en français pour finir de nouveau en anglais, ou encore le délégué qui veut à tout prix pouvoir lire à toute vitesse tous ses arguments dans les 45 secondes qui lui sont imparties et commence un sprint verbal qui laisse l'interprète littéralement bouche bée.

Evidemment, à cause du manque d'interprètes au vu du nombre de comités, il a fallu faire des choix parfois difficiles, certains interprètes ont su au dernier moment à quel comité ils allaient être affectés, compliquant ainsi la préparation des thèmes qui allaient être traités, préparation pourtant indispensable pour pouvoir appréhender les enjeux.

Mais interpréter nous a également procuré un sentiment de grande satisfaction. Le simple fait de rendre possibles la communication, les échanges passionnés, les joutes verbales, est un exercice très gratifiant. Et le meilleur compliment qu'un délégué puisse faire à un interprète est, très paradoxalement, de lui dire qu'il n'avait même pas remarqué sa présence, car au même titre que seule la maladie nous fait prendre conscience de l'importance de la santé, seule une mauvaise interprétation rappelle aux participants le travail souvent ardu dont s'acquittent les interprètes.

Ceci étant dit, les remerciements adressés aux interprètes à la fin de la conférence ont été vivement appréciés et tous les interprètes en herbe se joignent à moi pour vous dire « merci » à notre tour.

Lucie Solem
Responsable de l'interprétation



As the Annual Conferences take place year after year, its newspapers remain the very best indicator of the committees' accomplishments. This year, GIMUN's attention to the importance of media was not overlooked. All along, constructive criticism was one of the most decisive tools which help GIMUNDO journalists to reflect on their writing.

From the food crisis to global warming to the alarming situation in Darfur, the issues surrounding the 2009 Conference were as diverse as well as critical. Luckily, more than simple observers, this year's journalists took their chance at being real actors of their committee. As priorities were being set on each commission agenda, these would be questioned objectively. While formal considerations threatened the success of resolutions, calls for action could be frequently read in the next day articles.

Eleven aspiring writers, all of them university students, covered the six committees, two -in most cases- for each commission. What changed this year from previous GIMUN conferences was the willingness to give biased-media (in opposition to the neutral perspective from which some GIMUNDO staffers were asked to report) more visibility. Consequently, two committees were followed by a pair of biased-media writers only. The newspapers chosen hail from all over the world. Namely from Colombia to the United States passing by India. Yet, considering the issues on the agenda, the presence of southern hemisphere newspapers was strengthened.

It was indispensable for the journalists to carefully follow the debates in order to report in the most accurate manner. As Editor-in-Chief, it came to my attention that it was sometimes a little frustrating for them not to be able to speak during a session. Nonetheless, they were assiduously taking notes of which statement was made by whom, the statements that were not made, and trying to figure out the reasons behind each country's action.

Once the sessions were over, squeezed in our 5th floor office, each journalist would add his brick to the building of the upcoming GIMUNDO. Long hours of proofreading and layout checking (making me be the last person in the Palais des Nations except security guards), before delivering the file to the printer at about 11.30 p.m., would culminate in the satisfaction of seeing the delegates hurrying to purchase the newspaper. Last but not least, what would be a newspaper without images? Thanks to the shots of our three photographers, GIMUNDO was undoubtedly a "must" each morning at coffee break.

"You don't become a journalist, you are born one", said UN correspondent of La Tribune de Genève Alain Jourdan to GIMUNDO members, during an informative interview, talking of the necessary attributes of a journalist such as curiosity and integrity. But, most of all, the ability to empathise with others is crucial to this job, whether they are contacts, interviewees or readers. Stressing the importance of the effects of the delegates' decisions on human beings, writers of GIMUNDO have made the essence of journalism even more vivid.

Henri Della Casa
Editor-in-Chief



Delegates race to publish a first resolution

Delegates' patience has been put to the test due to long waiting for the publication of their draft resolutions. Out of frustration, they officiously grappled with the issue of water management.

Yesterday after lunch, Chile introduced a moderated caucus on the introduction of Green Funds and the UK was eager to produce a proposal to tax barrels of oil. Tension was rising as producing and consuming countries could not reach an agreement on who would be affected most by these taxes. However, Iran deadlocked the negotiations since it welcomed all proposals on a possible taxation with a very firm "no".

The comment of the chairs to try to advance as quickly as possible was responded with some distorted faces. Since the draft resolutions had still not been translated and distributed, our delegates complained that they could hardly advance if their positions could not be officially discussed yet. The long waiting did not only prevent our delegates to come up with a final draft resolution which they would all be supporting, it also made frustration rise.

During a long un-moderated caucus, however, the topic of water management was officiously addressed by all the delegates in order not to lose too much time while waiting for the draft-resolutions.

At the beginning of the final session, the deliverance from this distressed situation came with the publication of two draft resolutions. Finally, the plan of adjusting the second draft by adding amendments coming from the first draft could be addressed. Delegates expressed their wish to finish their first resolution as soon as possible.

Mieke Achtergael, GIMUNDO

The primary aim of the GIMUN Annual Conference is to instil and further cultivate the values and principles of the United Nations Organisation in today's youth by providing them with simulated forums of discourse that engage and challenge them, both academically and as whole individuals.

History is often studied as the interaction between people; between individuals or nations as a whole, on a local or global level. In the latter half of the century, local and global problems have become increasingly intertwined; governments now discuss managing household waste and recycling, while groups of civil society also debate nuclear proliferation. Evidently, not everyone shares the same point of view but it is only through increased awareness and discussion that the principles of human rights, peace and security, legal and environmental matters can be further championed. GIMUN's Annual Conference offered an effectual platform for increasing awareness and discussion by placing participants in the role of diplomats and journalists; and quite often by forcing them to take a stand that they would not necessarily condone. For it is only when we begin to expand our horizons and place ourselves in the shoes of another that we fully begin to understand the gravity of the question at hand.

The 10th Annual Conference espoused the theme of Humanitarian Intervention and the Responsibility to Protect, simulating six committees that delved deeper into the myriad finer aspects of this multi-faceted question. Besides increasing the understanding and appreciation of the topic at hand by exposing the youth to pressing global issues, the simulation offered participants the chance to develop and hone their skills in the fields of research, diplomatic technique, negotiation and oration.

Delegates are pressed to resolve these challenging issues within a matter of a few days, a constraint that further enhances the development of their skills. They learn to research efficiently, identify lines of potential conflict, and debate an issue with the aim of reaching consensus via means of a resolution that is acceptable to all. Reaching consensus does not exclude initiative and leadership and while some participants work to convince their peers by fiery speeches, others chose to work in the background, lobbying and negotiating in the hallways of quiet diplomacy. The interpreters, translators and journalists also benefit from this exposure, and albeit while they do not occupy the limelight in the committees, they gain an invaluable practical experience in their chosen sphere of education.

The conference also impinges on the secretariat and staff that organise and conduct the conference and workshops. From increasing coordination and organisation to fostering a strong sense of team spirit and professional rigour, the conference primed the staff to commit to and shoulder greater responsibilities in the future.

GIMUN not only has a direct educational impact on its participants but in a loosely speaking manner, also offers students an exercise in the preparation for life. We are all continuously faced with conflict: in our homes, amongst friends and acquaintances as well as in our professional activities. The conference equips each participant, be it a delegate, chairperson or secretariat staff, with the skills and tools to surmount impasses and stalemates, a quality that is vital not only for the future leaders of our governments but also for

civil society as a whole.

The keystone of GIMUN's Annual Conference is the development of a certain stature of professionalism and innovation, while resolutely and continuously serving as a portal of access for the youth. It is our firm belief that we can only work towards a better future through increased awareness, dialogue and debate, considerate compromises and a strong sense of tolerance and forbearance; benefitting not only our individual selves but all the peoples of all our nations. In this regard, it is my privilege and honour to report that the 10th Annual Conference not only lived up to but also surpassed its expectations and unfalteringly upheld the aims and mission of our Association.

Faraz Merchant
Secretary-General

“The most impressive moment of this year's GIMUN was the speech of Mukesh Kapila [former representative of the UN for the Sudan]. In an MUN, you often get the impression that the UN is in the end useless because of the veto of the five permanent members of the Security Council. So, how can you still work for the UN? Mr. Kapila answered it is because you are the UN.”

Beatriz De Anta
(studies in Brussels and works at the European Parliament)

“During such a GIMUN, you have to adapt fast, you have to learn fast. You're like a sponge. I feel like a new person with new ambitions and new hopes.”

Zhao An Ran
(Student of Psychology in Hong Kong)

“J'ai surtout appris à faire passer des idées, de les exprimer. On apprend comment convaincre des gens de certaines idées et points de vue.”

Thomas Valentin
(étudiant des Sciences Politiques à Lille)

“I have noticed that every delegate has their own manner and it takes some tactfulness to convince others and to share your ideas. As a delegate, you learn to use the strength of others.”

Gerardo Dasyel Mendoza Capetillo
(Student of International Trade in San Luis Potosí, Mexico)

“Usually, at some place, it gets stuck and it will take a lot of effort to move ahead. Sometimes, you end up having to take out many things that you would have like from a draft resolution.”

Lale Tüzmen
(Law Student in Istanbul)

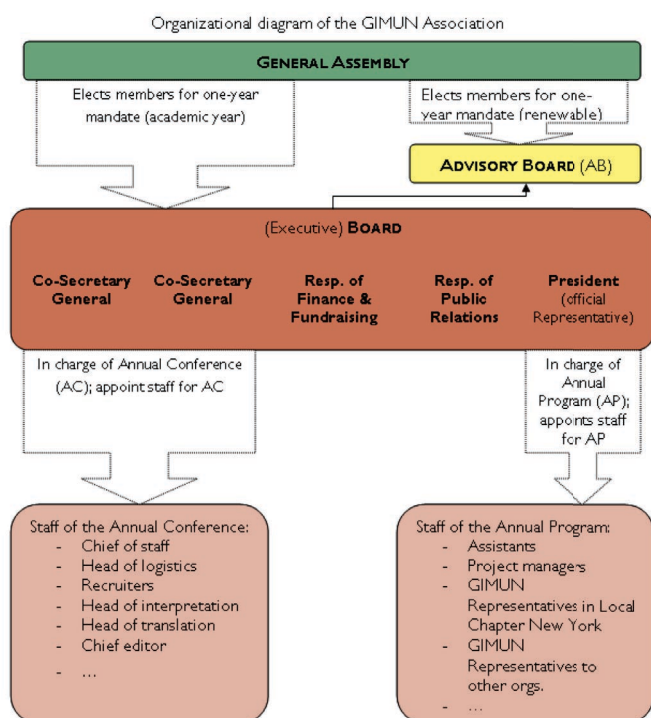


GIMUN – The NGO

Structural changes of the GIMUN Association

As mentioned already in the foreword of this report, GIMUN has seen important structural changes during the past year. They became necessary in order to successfully expand GIMUN's work throughout the entire year; while consolidating the achievements from before.

However, it is important to us that all stakeholders of GIMUN understand the main characteristics of the Association, as well as its functioning with the new structure. This is the aim of this section.



the Association for one (academic) year. All strategic decisions are discussed and taken jointly, whereby each Board member has an equal say.

However, the Annual MUN Conference and the Annual Program run parallel throughout the entire year. On the one hand the two Secretary Generals are directly charged with organizing the Annual MUN Conference, including the appointment of their necessary staff.

On the other hand the same applies for the President with regards to the Annual Program and its various events. Under the President's mandate is also the GIMUN Local Chapter in New York, as well as the cooperation with other organizations. He is the official representative of the Association as a whole. The Advisory Board (AB) members are also elected by the General Assembly. All of them have held important functions within the Association in the past and are committed to share their experience with the current team. The AB meets formally at least four times during the year, but through their chairperson they are in ongoing contact with the Board. Their agenda items concern the strategy of the Association or parts of it. However, they are a purely consultative body without any decision power. This ensures that every year a newly constituted group of students can be given the opportunity to manage the Associations' activities as its Board, without endangering GIMUN's continuous development and sophistication.

Felix Stähli
President GIMUN Association

Characteristics of GIMUN

GIMUN is an association under Swiss civil law. It is a non-profit organization and independent from any other institution. The Association is entirely run on a non-professional basis by students who dedicate their spare time. They all share a big interest in and seek to promote the idea of the United Nations. The Association tries to continuously live up to its tradition of French-English bilingualism.

Objectives of GIMUN

GIMUN aims to:

- offer students a practical hands-one experience of the work of the U.N.
- to train their negotiation skills
- to provide youth a platform to discuss and formulate findings and initiatives regarding pressing global issues

Hereby, the Association commits to a neutral and un-biased approach.

Functioning of GIMUN

Every year the General Assembly elects each of the members into the executive Board for a one year term. The executive Board then carries out the mandate of running the activities of

During the past year, all events besides the Annual Conference were held for the first time under the umbrella of the GIMUN Annual Program. Parallel to the conference's staff a second group of GIMUNers organized smaller events every six to eight weeks throughout the entire year. These events were either managed in collaboration with another organization or they were organized by GIMUN solely. Thus the association was able to reach out to many more people with a focus on the United Nations' work. And this not only implied activities in Geneva but newly also in New York, where GIMUN opened it's U.S. Chapter at the beginning of 2009! - A further mile stone in the history of the association.

ANNUAL PROGRAM 2008-09:

5 July

GIMUN workshop at the IAESTE Int. Conference:

Three-hour mini-simulation of the Security Council on the second intervention in Iraq, 2003.

15 October

GIMUN workshop during AIESEC's International Days (University of Geneva):

Three-hour mini-simulation of the Security Council on the second intervention in Iraq, 2003.

23 October

GIMUN commemoration of the 63rd UN Day at the Palais des Nations (in collaboration with the NGO Liaison Office UNOG).

12 December

2nd Geneva Lecture: "60 years of Human Rights" - organized by UNITAR, in collaboration with GIMUN regarding preparation and promotion (see under "GIMUN collaborations").

3 February

GIMUN study trip to the UNHQ (New York University) - organized by GIMUN's U.S. Chapter.

13 February

GIMUN study trip to the UNHQ (New York University) - organized by GIMUN's U.S. Chapter.

28/29 February

JUNESMUN'09 - collaboration of JUNES with GIMUN regarding content and staff.

17 April

GIMUN study trip to the UNHQ (University of Yale) - organized by GIMUN's US Chapter.

18 May

Mini-simulation organized by the ADH (Academy of International Humanitarian Law and Human Rights, Geneva) with logistical support of GIMUN and GIMUN participation (see under "GIMUN collaborations")

20 June

GIMUN workshop at the Global Humanitarian Youth Forum: Four three-hour simulations of the UNFCCC and climate change adaptation projects.

GIMUN WORKSHOPS

"Mini-Simulation of the Security Council on the second intervention in Iraq, 2003:"

On 5 July, in the middle of the academic summer break and shortly after the Board'09 had taken office, the first event under the Annual Program took place. GIMUN organized a workshop at the Global Citizens Conference of IAESTE – the International Association for the Exchange of Students for Technical Experience. For this conference thirty-five engineering students from foreign technical universities had gathered for two days in Geneva. For them we had been asked to prepare a three-hour insight on the work at the U.N. – an exciting opportunity for us to hold a Model U.N. under new circumstances.

Compared to the participants who we usually welcome at our Annual Conference, these students had neither MUN-experience nor had they done any kind of preparation for this simulation. Therefore, a new simplified MUN concept was to be applied on a subject which would be less specific than normally. – These were the reasons why we chose to simulate a "Historic" mini-MUN of the Security Council on the eve of the second intervention in Iraq at the beginning of 2003.

The start of the workshop implied a general presentation on the functioning of a MUN. This also included the explanation of a simplified set of rules of procedures for debate. Next was a short thematic introduction which addressed the political environment as well as the role of the Security Council with regard to the subject at stake. In groups of two the participants then received the position paper on the SC member country which they were about to represent. After the GIMUN facilitators had dispelled the last individual questions the actual simulation could start.

However, during the ninety minutes of passionate debate, a common stance could not be found. Hence a resolution on the issue was out of reach – just as it had also turned out in reality in 2003. But in our case this outcome luckily implied a success for the workshop, because within a very restrained time frame it gave the participants a hand-on experience on the difficulties and the complexity of working towards consensus in this U.N. body.

After this first good experience of organizing such a mini-MUN, it became clear that we could easily reuse its preparatory work for a similar setting in the future. And for the next occasion we did not have to wait very long. On 14 and 15 October the international student association AIESEC organized their "International Days" at the University of Geneva - a welcomed setting for the promotion of GIMUN, its work, as well as a next mini-simulation. Over thirty students attended our workshop and the spontaneous time extension for debate of more than one hour indicates best that the second event again largely satisfied the partakers as well as the organizers.

Felix Stähli

U.N. DAY CONFERENCE by GIMUN

Commemoration on the 63rd anniversary of the entering into force of the U.N. Charter on the subject of “The value of the U.N. Charter in 2008”

24 October, the day of the 63rd U.N. anniversary offered a meaningful occasion to organize a first large event under the Annual Program. Up to that moment, no other NGO had officially commemorated this day within the walls of the Palais des Nations. Therefore, we took this opportunity to create a conference which would not only reach out to students but also to professionals, as well as the public in general.

This objective made it clear from the beginning that for once our experience on Models U.N. would not find a direct application. Nevertheless, GIMUN's tradition to look at U.N. issues in an interactive and practical manner should also here persist. Furthermore, the commemoration should include looking back on the 63 years of the charter, without disconnecting from the present. Thus we decided that an event of three parts would best address these parameters while creating an "arena" for the partakers to challenge actively their individual knowledge on some of today's pressing global issues. The goal was to gather country representatives, NGOs, U.N. staff, the academia, as well as others in order to jointly discuss the possibilities on how to tackle some of today's global challenges through the application of the U.N. Charter.

The first part was dedicated to different commemorative speeches on the occasion of the event, with opening remarks by the GIMUN president. Mrs Momal-Vanien, senior political advisor to the Undersecretary General of the UNOG, elaborated on the importance of the daily work of the U.N. Next, Mr Balzaretti, ambassador of Switzerland towards the UNOG, addressed Switzerland's focus regarding specific U.N. programs. He was followed by Mr Espinosa, head of the NGO Liaison office, which had once more supported us greatly through out the preparation during the weeks before. His speech put forward the growing say of NGOs on U.N. related issues. Then Mr Hanhimäki, professor at the IHEID and a specialist on the history of international organizations, provided the thematic keynote speech on the characteristics of the U.N. Charter. In his presentation he analyzed the political environment and the circumstances under which the charter has been created. Additionally he elaborated on the major accomplishments as well as the longstanding challenges of the U.N. throughout past.

Thereby Mr Hanhimäki laid the basis for discussions which then took place in the second part of the event. Here, the audience played an active role since all participants joined one of five panels to which they had subscribed and received a study guide beforehand. Through these thematic discussions on different pressing global issues the application of the charter was analyzed with regards to its potential and its limits to solve them. The five discussions were facilitated by a panel leader – each of them a specialist on his/her subject. The panels titled as followed:

- "Tilting the Right Balance. The Promotion of Environmental Standards in Developing Countries and Policies of Self Regulation by Foreign Investors";

- “The Right to Health: Possibilities and Challenges for Actors Attempting to Reach the Millennium Development Goals”;
- “Promoting Gender Equality and Empowering Women”;
- “Is the Charter Still Relevant in International Security”;
- “Humanitarian Intervention and the U.N. Charter: The Case of Darfur”.

In the final part a summary of the central findings and arguments on all five subjects were presented in the plenary, before closing remarks by GIMUN ended the commemoration.

For us this event was a huge success – nearly 200 people participated in this U.N. Day, including 140 students! Furthermore the evaluation by the partakers showed that the three part concept has been widely appreciated despite some minor logistical shortfalls. These problems can be partly explained by the inaugural character of the event and will be addressed in 2009. Because there is no doubt about that a second edition of this U.N. Day organized by GIMUN will take place.

Felix Stähli

2ND JUNESMUN FACILITATED BY GIMUN

On the eve of our tenth Annual Conference, GIMUN facilitated for the second time the two-day JUNESMUN. As the year before, this was an opportunity for us to pass on our own experience to an event organized outside of our association. Therefore a group of eleven GIMUNers travelled to Zurich for the weekend of this conference.

The JUNESMUN'09 was initiated by JUNES – the Swiss Youth U.N. Network - and logistically organized by the “MUN Group Zurich”. GIMUN's engagement concerned the provision of the content of the simulations, including chairing them and coaching the participants. Thereby we resorted to the thematic content which had already been created for our Annual Conference'08. Four U.N. bodies were simulated on the following issues:

- Human Rights Council – the Right to Food and the Right to Land;
- Security Council – Piracy and Maritime Terrorism;
- World Health Organization – Intellectual Property Rights and Accessibility of Innovative Medicine for Developing Countries;
- Economic and Social Council – Economic and Social Marginalization of Indigenous Peoples and Minorities.

As the JUNESMUN'09 became a very valuable experience for all its stakeholders this demonstrated anew that GIMUN can successfully create synergies with other youth organizations focusing on U.N. issues. On the one hand this conference of a young MUN group, with the support of GIMUN, capacitated nearly one hundred students on multilateralism. On the other hand this was an important evaluation for the GIMUN staff in terms of preparation and readiness for our own Annual Conference. Therefore, we hope to continue this collaboration also for the third edition of the IUNESMUN in 2010.

Felix Stähli

GIMUN MINI-SIMULATIONS AT THE GLOBAL HUMANITARIAN FORUM'S INAUGURAL YOUTH FORUM: YOUNG ADULTS FOR NEW RESULTS

The Global Humanitarian Forum - a widely recognized NGO, which works on the issue of climate change - organized this June in Geneva its first annual forum for young people. For this inaugural Youth Forum, GIMUN has been asked to organize mini-simulations of the UNFCCC (United Nations Framework Convention for Climate Change). Of course, we happily accepted to offer the organisers our assistance and share our experience in this matter.

With the outlook towards the important climate change summit in Copenhagen at the end of 2009, the objective of our workshop was to highlight how a specific stance of a country influences the overall result in a multilateral negotiation. Therefore, we held four identical mini-simulations parallel to each other and compared thereafter their different outcomes. Furthermore we also analyzed the different arguments brought forward by the same country in all four simulations. On the findings Daniel Walter wrote a report for the Youth Forum.

In order to best comply with this objective the setting for our mini-simulation on the UNFCCC were strongly simplified. Furthermore information on how the participants can prepare themselves on an individual basis for the workshop was sent to each of each of them during the weeks before. In our mini-simulations the UNFCCC consisted of 'only' 12 countries and discussed projects to be recommended for financing to the Adaptation Fund. This fund was established after the negotiation of the Kyoto Protocol in order to support concrete adaptation projects, having a positive impact on climate change. The delegates were presented with four NAPA (National Adaptation Program of Action) climate projects of different amplitude, goals and concerning different locations. NAPA projects are financed through the Adaptation Fund. The maximum amount the "diplomats" could select projects for was limited to 25 million U.S. Dollars, allowing different constellations of projects chosen, excluding the support of all four projects at once.

In this sense the debates during the simulations focused on setting specific priorities. And not surprisingly, the differences of the arguments, speaking skills, and experiences of the same delegation in each of the four simulations shaped the opinion making in one or the other way. In the aftermath these different pathways were documented in a report which helped to analyse and compare the results of all four UNFCCCs that had been simulated.

This concept was once more something new for GIMUN's organizers and required intensive preparatory work. However, the objective in the end could be attained. And as the Forum and its participants luckily shared this view, a renewed collaboration next year could well be possible.

Felix Stähli

GIMUN U.S. CHAPTER

This year in January a further landmark in the history of our association took place. GIMUN opened its U.S. Chapter and thereby extended its work from Geneva to New York! Two fellow GIMUNers who both study at universities in the Big Apple became the official representatives of GIMUN towards the UNHQ. The following report shows how soon after the chapter's launch, the first events were held successfully under the GIMUN flag.

'WORKING AT THE U.N.: POSSIBILITIES AND EXPERIENCES': TWO STUDY TRIPS TO THE UNHQ FOR STUDENTS FROM NEW YORK UNIVERSITY

It was yet another freezing, snowy day in New York, Tuesday February 3, 2009. But nevertheless a big day for the U.S. Chapter of GIMUN as it launched its first event.

A group of 20 New York University students, law and global affairs, 11 nationalities, and from 4 continents, took the opportunity to participate in the half-day study trip 'Working at the UN: possibilities and experiences'.



The study trip included two sessions. The first session, 'Careers at the UN' was hosted by the Human Resources Office. Ms. Nelly Keita informed the participants on the various job possibilities and methods to join the UN system; Mr. Suhail Akhtar Khan (Team Assistant to the peace-keeping mission in Chad and former UN intern) provided us with all the information on the UNHQ internship, along with some interesting insider details.

The second session, 'The Role of an International Lawyer at the UN', was hosted by the Office of Legal Affairs (OLA), in their conference room on the 34th floor of the Secretariat

Building (only 4 floors under the Secretary-General's offices!). We were very lucky and honoured to be welcomed by the Under-Secretary General for Legal Affairs and Legal Counsel, Ms. Patricia O'Brien. Afterwards, Mr. Markus Pallek, Legal Officer, shared with us his experiences within the OLA and the role of the Office within the UN system. A very inspiring and enriching encounter!

Although having been in parts of the UNHQ buildings which tourists cannot enter, we were, unfortunately, unable to further explore the UNHQ and its conference rooms, due to the new tightened security measures.

Our trip ended with a coffee in the UN cafeteria and a browse in the UN Bookshop.

Due to the huge interest in the first event, the U.S. Chapter organized the same trip on Friday February 13, 2009 for a second group of students. This trip was however shorter as we did not have the Legal Counsel again as a speaker. Nevertheless, the group of 9 students and 6 nationalities could obtain an insight in the UN job system with Ms. Keita.

With this first event, organized over two days, GIMUN is fulfilling its mandate of acting as a gateway between the UN and the Youth even at the other side of the Atlantic.

Some comments of the participants:

"It is always important to know the way how people made it to their job and [the Legal Officer] described it in a great way." – Mauricio (Mexico).

"Being up on the 34th floor was quite the experience." – Anna (U.S.).

"[The Legal Officer] gave us a genuine insight of his job." – Anath (Switzerland).

"If it were not for GIMUN, I would not have been able to meet those interesting and important people!" – Iván (Panama).

"The trip was very useful for me and opened my eyes in many ways." – Paola (Mexico).

"In today's political atmosphere, where the UN is used as a political football, [the Legal Officer]'s story is one that is simply not heard enough." – Lorna (U.S.).

"I was particularly pleased with the opportunity to meet people in the field one-on-one, who could answer my questions frankly and with insight. This was truly enlightening!" – Donna (Ireland).

Ine Declerck

Main Representative GIMUN U.S. Chapter

"PEACE & SECURITY": STUDY TRIP TO THE UNHQ FOR YALE UNIVERSITY STUDENTS

The first Yale event of the U.S. Chapter proved to be an exciting experience. Ten Yale students committed themselves to a full-day study trip to the United Nations, which was focused on peace and security. The group consisted of both undergraduate and graduate students; most students were U.S. citizens, but there were also students from Canada, U.K., Japan, and Korea.

After taking the 7.50 train from New Haven to Grand Central Terminal, our group picked up our temporary grounds passes for the United Nations. We then walked to the Austrian Mission, where the ambassador, H.E. Mayr-Harting, gave a broad overview of his country's priorities during its tenure in the Security Council. The ambassador offered us some interesting anecdotes on the workings of the council and the power-play that is often involved.



Lunch was next on our schedule, so we went to the U.N. cafeteria to enjoy the food and views of the East River. We then had to rush to the other side of Headquarters, where we were briefed by Mr. Diakhate, who is public information assistant and former peacekeeper in MONUC (Democratic Republic of Congo). He explained to us the works of the United Nations during peacekeeping missions, and all the practical difficulties that characterize these important undertakings. All participants were moved by Mr. Diakhate's stories about his grassroots work to improving the daily lives of many people in the Congo. His presentation on the practical side of peacekeeping was an interesting complement to the usually very theoretical discussions on this matter.

Our group enjoyed the following free hour by exploring the exhibitions at U.N. headquarters and enjoying the great weather outside. Afterwards, we walked to the European Commission delegation, where our last event was scheduled. There, we met with ambassador Valenzuela, who presented us with a clear picture of the relations between the European Union and the United Nations. He also talked about the many important interactions of the EU with other players, such as China and Russia.

All participants were very much impressed by the wide-ranging experience and knowledge of today's speakers. They were excellent communicators that could offer us more in-depth knowledge and understanding of the complex world of the United Nations. Every participant was extremely satisfied with today's activities. And to celebrate this successful first Yale event of the U.S. Chapter, the group finally went to the Yale Club of New York City where we enjoyed some good drinks and evaluated this rewarding day.

Johan van Rijn

Representative of GIMUN U.S. Chapter

Fundraising

Nos sincères remerciements à nos partenaires et sponsors,

La collecte de fonds, "fundraising", est une mission à la fois délicate et essentielle de l'organisation du GIMUN. En effet, au delà de leur soutien financier, nos sponsors représentent une importante source d'encouragement et de conseil, et leur partenariat renforce la crédibilité et l'attractivité du la Conférence pour des étudiants motivés et brillants en provenance du monde entier. De plus, la rigueur et la transparence de la comptabilité, la fiabilité et le dialogue sont des éléments décisifs pour préserver les relations existantes avec nos sponsors, et pour en créer de nouvelles.

Une fois de plus cette année, nous sommes honorés d'avoir la chance de travailler avec un cercle de partenaires privilégiés. Nous avons pu compter cette année encore sur l'Institut de Hautes Etudes Internationales et du Développement, partenaire privilégié du GIMUN depuis de nombreuses années, qui nous apporte soutien et conseil très appréciés aussi bien pour l'organisation de la Conférence que pour le programme annuel. Nous avons maintenu également nos relations avec de nombreux sponsors d'horizons différents. Beaucoup d'entre eux ont renouvelé leur généreux appui comme le Département Fédéral des Affaires Etrangères (DFAE), la Fondation pour Genève et l'Association d'Etudiants de l'Institut IHEID (GISA). En ce qui concerne le secteur privé, nous comptons comme partenaire régulier la Fondation Wilsdorf ainsi que la Banque Pictet, qui cette année encore nous ont démontré son précieux soutien. Enfin, parmi les Ecoles partenaires, nous avons le plaisir de collaborer avec l'Institut Supérieur d'Interprétation et de Traduction (ISIT).



Nous tenons donc à exprimer notre sincère gratitude à nos partenaires et sponsors au nom du comité exécutif, de l'équipe d'organisation et de tous les participants. Les nombreux soutiens obtenus nous ont permis de réaliser cette année encore une conférence de grande qualité.

Enfin, le fond de solidarité du GIMUN a permis cette année encore de financer la participation d'étudiants qualifiés, provenant pour la plupart de pays en voie de développement, qui n'auraient pas pu vivre cette expérience à cause des coûts de voyage transport ou de logement pour la durée de la conférence. Nous avons donc veillé à améliorer notre efficacité afin de maintenir le fond qui assure année après année une grande diversité sociale et culturelle parmi les participants. Le GIMUN tient à assurer à ses sponsors une comptabilité fiable et une grande transparence dans les comptes. Ils seront bien entendu avertis d'éventuels changements dans l'association.

Un grand “ Merci ” à tous,

Willis Palermo
Fundraising and Finance Coordinator

Situation Financière

Depuis le 20 Juillet 2007, le GIMUN a obtenu le statut consultatif auprès du Conseil Economique et Social (ECOSOC) des Nations Unies, devenant ainsi une ONG à part entière accréditée par les Nations Unies. Le concept et la structure de l'Association GIMUN ont donc été réorganisés pour mettre au maximum en valeur l'ONG et pour assurer un fonctionnement optimal. Ainsi, les finances ont également subi des modifications. La comptabilité a été séparée entre la conférence au Palais des Nations, et le programme annuel, qui consiste en une série d'événements organisés autour du thème de la conférence pour promouvoir les mêmes idéaux. Bien entendu, nous nous engageons à tenir au courant nos partenaires de tout développement de la situation financière.

Programme Annuel

Plusieurs évènements ont été réalisés durant l'année grâce au don du Département Fédéral des Affaires Etrangères.

L'exercice 2008/2009 est le premier exercice comptable distinct du programme annuel de l'ONG GIMUN. L'exercice se boucle avec un bénéfice de 2070.17 CHF. Le montant laissé en banque est destiné à la nouvelle équipe pour la réalisation des premiers évènements.

Bilan au 30.04.2009			
1 ACTIF		2 PASSIF	
10 ACTIF MOBILISE		20 CAPITAL ETRANGER	
1000 Caiss e	2'412.75	2010 Créanciers	300.00
1020 Banque UBS	5'823.09	2084 Provision p/engagements	8'000.00
1090 Produit à recevoir	7'000.00	2090 Charges à payer	8'100.00
		21 CAPITAL PROPRI E	
		2100 Capital	36'768.20
		2129 Bénéfice reporté	-21'054.17
		Perte de l'exercice	-16'878.19
Total 1 ACTIF	15'235.84	Total 2 PASSIF	15'235.84

Conférence GIMUN 2009

La conférence annuelle GIMUN demeure l'évènement principal de l'association. Comme chaque année nous avons essayé d'utiliser l'aide de nos sponsors pour le contenu de la conférence ainsi que pour le fonds de solidarité. Les frais de participation ont été utilisés pour financer les événements encadrant la conférence.

Les liquidités restantes à la banque vont être utilisées pour payer les créanciers de l'exercice, et pour assurer au nouveau Comité Exécutif un montant de départ pour supporter les premiers frais de l'exercice 2009/2010. Une provision de 8'000 CHF a été constituée pour couvrir les éventuels frais relatifs à cet exercice qui parviendront à la nouvelle équipe. Les "charges à payer" ont été constituées pour couvrir tous les premiers frais de la nouvelle équipe, relatifs à notre exercice. Elles comprennent notamment

les frais d'impression du Rapport Annuel 09.

Comme chaque année, un « fonds de solidarité » a été constitué dans le but d'aider les participants provenant de pays défavorisés. D'une part, certains participants ont reçu une aide pécuniaire pour financer leur séjour (logement ou vol), d'autre part environ 25 participants n'ont pas payé / n'ont payé qu'une partie des frais de participation. Le montant total s'élève donc à environ 8'000 CHF.

Bilan au 30.04.2009

1	ACTIF	2	PASSIF
10	ACTIF MOBILISE	20	CAPITAL ETRANGER
1000	Caiss e	2010	Créanciers
1020	Banque UBS	2084	Provision p/engagements
1090	Produit à recevoir	2090	Charges à payer
		21	CAPITAL PROPR E
		2100	Capital
		2129	Bénéfice reporté
			Perte de l'exercice
	Total 1 ACTIF		Total 2 PASSIF
	1523584		1523584

Compte de Résultat au 30.04.2009

3	CHARGES	4	PRODUITS
3600	Frais de repas Conférence	6200	Fundraising
3601	Frais d'impression Conférence		Don de l' IHEID
3620	Evenements Excom		Don du DFAE - Conférence
4010	Frais de préparation Conférence		Don de la Fondation Wilsdorf
4200	Fond de roulement NG O		Don Banque Pictet
4220	Frais bancaires		Don de l'ISIT
4300	Matériel bureau		Don GISA
4600	Frais exceptionnels		Kheops SAS
4700	Merchandising		Don CGTF (à recevoir)
4710	Webpage		
4730	Financial help/Fonds de solidarité	6201	Participation fee
4760	Frais réunion excom	7400	Autres revenus exercice ant.
4770	Frais Assemblée Générale	6202	Produits divers
4810	Frais de Logistique	6700	Intérêts bancaires
4830	Frais de déplacement	4840	Produits BUNKER
4841	Frais de logement CITÉ		
4850	Frais de soirées Conférence		
4870	Frais Postaux		
4900	Frais de promotion		
4990	Frais de communication		
4991	Perte de change		
4992	Charges ex. précédant		
			Résultat (perte de l'ex.)
	Total Charges		16878.19
	9437796		Total Produits
			9437796



Board

- Felix Stähli – President GIMUN NGO
- Martin Staub – Conference Manager & Co-Secretary-General
- Willis Palermo – Finance & Fundraising

MUN Conference

- Martin Staub – Conference Manager & Co-Secretary-General
- Faraz Merchant – Co-Secretary-General
- Leticia Tápia – Logistics Coordinator
- David Janssen – Recruiter
- Oscar Parraga – Recruiter
- Héloïse Faury – Chief of Staff
- Séverine Barioni – Social Events Coordinator
- Carla Niediek – Accommodation Coordinator
- Nina Meldahl – Merchandising
- Pauline Ratzé – Head of Translation
- Lucie Solem – Head of Interpreters
- Henri Della Casa – Editor in Chief GIMUNews
- Aezana Yohannes – Vice Editor in Chief GIMUNews

NGO

- Felix Stähli – President GIMUN NGO
- Sara Stocker – Event Manager
- Nina Engels – Event Manager
- Sarah Himmelberger – GIMUN Representative at JUNES
- Véronique Pannatier – GIMUN Representative at UNITAR
- Kaspar Paur – Local Chapters, EMUNET
- Sophie Hoang – Local Chapters
- Fabian Grass – Advisory Board

Public Relations

- Ivo Näpflin – Public Relations Coordinator
- Dorothea Schmidt – Publications Responsible
- Jean-Marie Balogh – Layout & Design

Finance & Fundraising

- Willis Palermo – Finance & Fundraising
- Caterina Luciani – Fundraising Assistant

The Board 2010

On the 14th of May, the new GIMUN board was elected by the General Assembly. The highest organ of the GIMUN association will be composed of five young and very motivated students from very different backgrounds. We have students from the University of Geneva, the IHEID, the School of Diplomacy and the Business and Management School participating in Bachelors or Masters from International Relations over Economics to Business.

All new board members have expressed their commitment to the cause and already took up their work. Due to the very good transition phase, facilitated by the 2009 board, and the strong initiative by the new board members, they could hit the ground running.

These are the positions:

Fundraising and Finances: Fawaz Hussain

President: Daniel Walter

Public Relations: Dorothea Schmidt

Secretaries-General: Faraz Merchant and Vikram Singh



THE GRADUATE INSTITUTE | GENEVA

INSTITUT DE HAUTES ÉTUDES
INTERNATIONALES ET DU DÉVELOPPEMENT

GRADUATE INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL
AND DEVELOPMENT STUDIES

Partner

Graduate Institute of International Studies, Geneva

Created in 1927, the Graduate Institute of International Studies (HEI) is, in accordance with its statutes an institution intended to provide to students of all nations the means of undertaking and pursuing international studies, most notably of an historic, judicial, economic, political and social nature. It thus fulfils an instruction and research role in the areas listed above through multi- and trans-disciplinary approaches, developed since its creation.

<http://www.graduateinstitute.ch>

Sponsors



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
Confederazione Svizzera
Confederaziun svizra

Département fédéral des
affaires étrangères DFAE

Département des affaires étrangères

Sur mandat du gouvernement fédéral, le Département des affaires étrangères (DFAE) coordonne les activités de politique extérieure de la Suisse. Il veille à ce que les objectifs fixés dans la Constitution soient mis en oeuvre en une politique extérieure cohérente. La sauvegarde des intérêts de la Suisse est ainsi efficacement assurée.

<http://www.eda.admin.ch>



Fondation pour Genève

Constituée en 1976, la Fondation pour Genève est un organisme privé, reconnu d'utilité publique, dont le but est de contribuer au rayonnement de Genève, tant en Suisse qu'à l'étranger. La Fondation pour Genève suscite et soutient toute initiative en faveur d'une Genève attrayante, carrefour de manifestations de haut niveau, dont l'accueil, l'accès et la sécurité constituent des atouts majeurs.

<http://www.fondationpourgeneve.ch>



Banque Pictet

Founded in 1805 in Geneva, Pictet & Cie is one of Switzerland's foremost private banks. From its two centuries-old heritage of banking tradition, Pictet has retained its corporate status as a private partnership. This unique form of organisation means that the nine Managing Partners not only provide Pictet's capital but also pledge their entire personal assets against the Bank's liabilities. Today, the Bank has grown into an international group with offices or entities in the major financial centres worldwide.

<http://www.pictet.ch>

Fondation Hans Wilsdorf



INSTITUT DE MANAGEMENT ET DE COMMUNICATION INTERCULTURELS

Institut Supérieur d'Interprétation et de Traduction

Depuis 1957, l'ISIT a pour mission de former celles et ceux qui interviendront comme médiateurs culturels et linguistiques dans les échanges internationaux. Ils seront traducteurs, interprètes, managers interculturels, spécialistes de la communication interculturelle, mais aussi juristes internationaux et cadres d'entreprises internationales.

<http://www.isit-paris.fr>



COMMISSION DE
GESTION DES TAXES FIXES

Commission de Gestion des Taxes Fixes

La Commission des Taxes Fixes (CGTF) gère la part des taxes universitaire destinée à soutenir les activités des associations d'étudiantEs et d'assistantEs à l'Université de Genève.

<http://www.unige.ch/taxes>



Association d'Etudiants de l'Institut IHEID (GISA)

<http://iheidgisa.weebly.com>