



**Associació per a les
Nacions Unides
a Espanya**

United Nations Association of Spain

CATALONIA MODEL UNITED NATIONS 2010

Four hundred university students from around the world will debate some of the most important issues on the international agenda during meetings at the Catalonia Model United Nations, C'MUN 2010 this spring.

The model United Nations is a simulation exercise. A simulation is a process in which real-life procedures are recreated under more reduced and controlled circumstances. Explaining what a model UN is like is complex. Imagine a room – a committee – of some fifty or sixty people debating – in English – the positions of the country that they have chosen – never their own country of origin – faithfully and realistically in terms of the themes on the United Nations agenda. Add to this an element of stage design and theatre – from formal clothing to how people should express themselves – put this with the “logic” of the UN and the dynamics of the group created and shake with the vitality and dynamism of young people. Now, multiply by the number of committees. That will give you some idea of what a model United Nations is like. But there's a lot more to it than that. It's also the everyday work of the press team, who reflect on the events that have occurred over these days, as well as co-existence, and the personal relationships, friendships and harmonies that have been formed. It's an experience that cannot be matched.

Under no circumstances can young people represent and defend the interests of their country of origin. This obliges them to take a very close look at the problems of countries that are not their own and which contributes to an overall cultural education that will be required of future generations in both their professional and personal life.

This year's event is very special, as the C'MUN will be celebrating its fiftieth edition. Over a period of five years, the Catalonia Model United Nations (C'MUN) has established itself as one of the leading forums of its kind held in Europe.

A summary of how the model works:

Each of the seven topics is assigned a committee. The participants – some fifty to sixty students per committee – present, study and debate the issues during the conference, reproducing exactly the process followed by United Nations diplomats to write the corresponding

resolution. The conclusions are presented at the General Assembly plenary on the final day, where they are debated and voted on with a show of hands. The resolutions are then passed to the “real” UN to be considered as an expression of the points of view and wishes of young people from around the world.

Apart from the committee sessions, this year will see the recreation of the workings of two essential organs of the United Nations system: the Security Council and the International Court of Justice. And, by way of important new features in this very special year, two of the most important agencies will also be simulated at this year’s edition: UNESCO and the ILO, with the desire and drive to work on more recent and current questions on the international scene.

TOPICS FOR DEBATE

THE SECURITY COUNCIL – Reform of the Security Council, and Peacekeeping Missions

The reform of the Security Council is one of the most controversial topics at the United Nations. Always on the Organisation’s agenda, and an indication of the obvious anachronism for which its composition stands, attempts to transform it into something more democratic and fair have failed, the last of which was four years ago at the 2005 World Summit. Yet the question persists, in more disguised form, through the work of the committees and groups of countries. However, the next two years are seen as an opportunity to bring this issue back to the table, as the new configuration of the Council for 2010 and 2011, of which the four aspiring candidates for permanent membership will form part, will very possibly lead to the debate being taken up again.

Along with the reform of the Council, the other subject that has been proposed is a fundamental question: assessment of and reforms to peacekeeping operations.

THE HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL – Reproductive and Sexual Rights

Last year, 2009, saw the celebration of the fifteenth anniversary of the 1994 International Population Congress held in Cairo, which approved the action programme – the Cairo Consensus – that placed reproductive and sexual rights centre-stage. This is an opportunity to assess the progress made and the shortcomings, and to plan future challenges. As Nafis Sadik, the former Executive Director of the UNFPA, said, “Reproduction is used as a way of controlling women, of limiting their options and subordinating them to men. Any serious approach to reproductive health must bear this perspective in mind.”

UNESCO– The New World Information and Communication Order

The controversial *Many Voices, One World* report, was presented in 1980. Known as the “McBride Report”, after the person who led the research, it

defended a change to media structures with a view to their democratisation. It analysed the orientation of information in the mass media, access to its space and who owned it. Thirty years later, on the one hand, control of the media and production of information content is now in fewer hands and their power has multiplied, while, on the other, we are witnessing a mushrooming of content production and access to information through new technologies. This dichotomic reality makes debate and analysis of one of the more relevant areas necessary if we are to understand our modern societies.

INTERNATIONAL LABOUR ORGANISATION– The Regulation of Elite Sports

Is a footballer worth 94 million Euros? Or should you be paid 24 million a year for driving an F1 car? Are these models sustainable and feasible? And legitimate? How is it that a sportsperson can take on the nationality they want in such a short space of time? And why is their tax situation different? The influence that some sports, clubs and sportspeople have and the numbers involved make sport a mass movement as well as a global business. But it also raises several doubts: ethical, financial and social. Our aim for the ANUE is to bring this brand new and current subject to the table and study it from the perspective offered by the ILO, in other words, from the perspective of workers, companies and the laws that govern these relationships.

THE AD HOC COMMITTEE ON THE ALLIANCE OF CIVILISATIONS– The Integration of Migrants

The ANUE continues to explore topics for debate at this special Alliance of Civilisations committee, which it pioneered through its introduction to the world of the model United Nations. Given the experience that four simulations, and further parallel activities regarding the Alliance, constitute for this committee, the challenge for 2010 is to address a question of global significance that has multiple repercussions: the integration of migrants into receiver countries. The cultural question, the collision between the culture of origin and the receiver culture, sometimes creates gravely conflicting situations. Participants will have to respond to questions, such as who has to make an effort to adapt, if schools should also take this into consideration, if there are religious customs that should not be allowed in the receiver country and how the legal concept of the “family” and citizenship should be addressed.

1st DISARMAMENT COMMITTEE – Nuclear Non-Proliferation

After thirteen years of stalemate due to differences between the super powers and the emerging countries, the UN Disarmament Committee agreed a working plan to achieve a nuclear disarmament treaty. The favourable climate encouraged by closer relations between Russia and the Obama administration has opened a new phase which it is hoped will translate into an effective agreement for the 2010 Revision

Conference held in May 2010. Participants at C'MUN will simulate this Conference almost in "real time".

THE INTERNATIONAL COURT OF JUSTICE – The North Pole's Future

The greenhouse effect is melting the surface of the North Pole and by 2040 it will probably have disappeared. However, as well as the dramatic environmental consequences, the fierce international dispute over this geopolitical region is now a reality. According to scientists, it has 25% of the earth's oil resources, a new trade route waiting to be exploited and it also contains an incomparable wealth of gas, gold, diamonds and other riches. Russia started the fight by planting its flag on Lomonosov Ridge, which set alarm bells off in all the countries disputing rights to the region (USA, Canada, Denmark and Norway), anticipating what may possibly be the battle of the twenty-first century. This will be the question for debate at the International Court, during a passionate edition that will see the environment, geopolitics, the economy and jurisdictional rights all brought together.

UNIVERSITIES PARTICIPATING IN THE FOURTH EDITION (29 April - 2 May)

University of World and National Economics, Sofia	University of Seville
University of Edinburgh	London School of Economics
University of Zurich	University of Swansea
National University of Kiev	Saint-Joseph University, Beirut
University of Bucharest	University of Warsaw
Panteion University, Athens	The New University of Bulgaria
University of Constance	Msoi Naples
College of Communications Banjaluca	University of Deusto
Pompeu Fabra University	Brussels School of International Studies
The Free University of Amsterdam	Paris 8 University - Saint Denis
University of Westminster	ESCI-UPF
Complutense University of Madrid	Luiss Guido Carli University, Rome
University of Jagellons, Krakow	Bocconi University, Milan
University of Belgrade	RSM Erasmus University,
Union University, Belgrade	Has Den Bosch
University of Alexandria	Academy of Economic Studies,
University of Trieste	Bucharest
Kapodistrian University of Athens	Effat University, Jeddah
University of Cairo	Humboldt University of Berlin
ESADE	The Free University of Berlin
University of Sofia	Heilbronn University, Künzelsau
Barcelona Institute for International Studies	University of Manitoba
University of Hamburg	Catholic University of Leuven
Babes-Bolyai University of Romania	National Orthodox School, Jordan
University of Athens	University of Siena
Southwest University of Bulgaria	Bucerius Law School, Hamburg
University of Parma	UNYA Italy
University of Helsinki	University of Kingston, London
	University of Aberdeen
	The Interdisciplinary Center Herzliya

Taras Shevchenko National University of
Kiev
Athens University of Economics and
Business
University of Zagreb
African Students Tourism Organisation
Obafemi Awolowo University
University of Lagos
Lagos State Polytechnic
Akure Federal University of Technology
University of Nigeria
Singidunum University in Belgrade
Postdam University, Germany

Carlos III University, Madrid
Universitat Oberta de Catalunya
University of Barcelona
Autonomous University of Barcelona
Moscow State Institute of International
Relations
CUSCO Andes University
San Antonio Abad del Cusco University
University of Marmara
University of Bilkent
Belgium MUN Society
Madrid Diplomatic School

NATIONALITIES PARTICIPATING IN THE FOURTH EDITION (where students come from)

Bulgaria/United States/Switzerland/Italy/Egypt/Iran/United
Kingdom/Ukraine/Romania/Greece/Czech Republic/Bosnia/Poland/The
Netherlands/Serbia/Spain/France/Dominican
Republic/Germany/Finland/Lebanon/India/Kazakhstan/Georgia/
Saudi Arabia/Canada/Belgium/Jordan/Belarus/Sri Lanka/Sweden/Norway/
Cyprus/Tanzania/Israel/Mexico/Denmark/Croatia/Lesotho/Nigeria/Ghana/
Iraq/Hungary/Yemen/Cameroon/Russia/Hong Kong-China/Peru/Turkey/Latvia/New
Zealand