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LETTER FROM THE EIC

Honorable delegates, chairs, advisors, and guests,

It is with great privilege to serve as the Editor-in-Chief of Seoulite, the official press publication of SEOMUN for over a decade. I would like to congratulate delegates and chairs for tackling the most urgent and complex issues of our time in an ever-divisive world, as well as to the organizers for setting up the means to facilitate productive discourse. By simulating the workings of a UN conference, the dialogue within the event paves the way for future global leaders to envision and craft solutions for a better future.

This year's theme, "Voices for Tomorrow," invites us to reflect on the power of communication, empathy, and conviction in shaping the future we wish to inherit. In a world where polarization increasingly drowns out reason, it is ever more imperative that our generation uses words as instruments of change rather than weapons of division. "Voices for Tomorrow" is a reminder that progress begins with the courage to speak truth with compassion, and the willingness to lend an ear to those who are often left out of the conversation.

Journalism is the means of sharing this with the wider population, and Seoulite strives to capture the courage, commitment, and productive conversations of delegates. Through the four issues we will publish throughout the conference, we hope to remind everyone that, as divided and challenging our world may seem, we have already come so far thanks to the work and conversations of those willing to work for a better world.

I also kindly ask all delegates and chairs to keep in mind two things:

First, please check out our website (https://populationme.com/seoulite), which contains past SEOMUN issues and the daily issues that will be uploaded for this year's conference! Our publication team has curated a variety of content that ranges from serious committee debates to more lighthearted topics, such as delegates' favorite hobbies!

Second, if a press member approaches you for a photo or interview, please spare a few minutes. We aim to keep our interactions non-intrusive, but please be mindful that, if we do take more than a few minutes, we are simply just trying to capture the essence of the SEOMUN experience. Also, we welcome your candid and personal opinions!

I wish all delegates the best of luck, and may this conference inspire you to serve for the betterment of our tomorrow.

Sean Kim
Editor-in-Chief



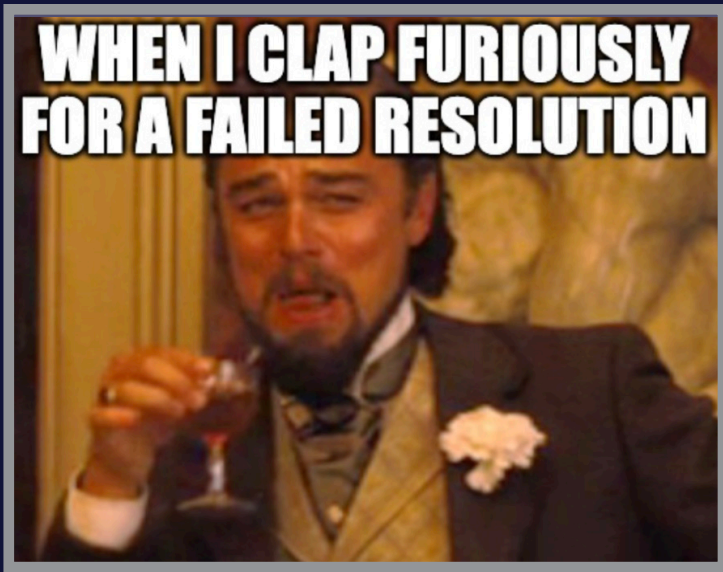
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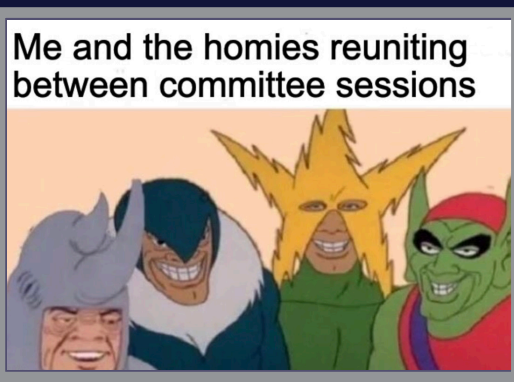
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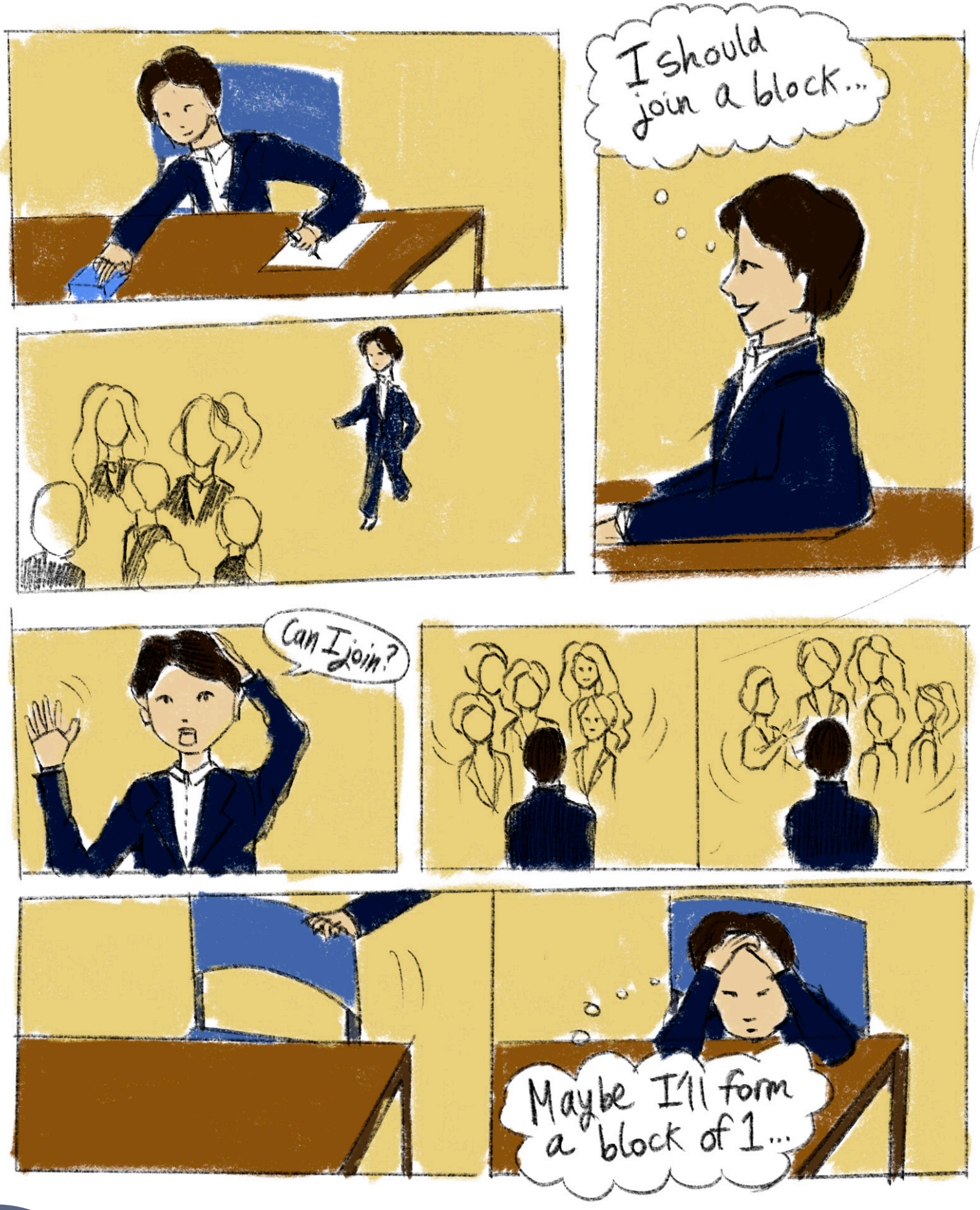








Layout by **Aidan Hong**
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OPENING CEREMONY
WELCOMES THE VOICES OF THE FUTURE

The first day of SEOMUN XXVVIII was met with great anticipation and excitement as delegates from eight different countries gathered together for the opening ceremony. The ceremony provided an overview of the three day conference and introduced the main theme of this year's conference: voices of tomorrow. The delegates were able to meet the Secretary General of this year, Olivia Kim, and learn about the goals for this event, setting the stage for this exciting weekend. "Coming back here has been a road trip of memories, and I truly do believe that it was fun to interact and talk to my fellow delegates," Noel Cheong, delegate of the United States, said. "And coming here has shown me how far I've gone in terms of MUN experience. Before the ceremony began, I talked to some kids that I saw last year, catching up on our MUN experience and life." The ceremony officially began with a performance by the SFS chamber orchestra, and was followed by a series of speeches from the Secretaries. They described the troubles of our world today, like rising global temperatures, economic crisis, and the increasing world population, and stressed the importance of voicing one's thoughts, collaborating, and having a global vision that goes beyond the delegate's country and national boundaries. "I'd like to compliment the Secretary General and the keynote speaker, they did a great job, and it was interesting to listen to," Malcolm Alexander, delegate of South Korea, said. "Honestly, his job sounds very fun, even though I'll probably end up doing something else, I'm glad I got to listen to him talk about his job because it always impresses me, and provides me a new perspective." This year's keynote speech was by Dr. Soo-hyun Lee, who introduced and detailed the topic of this year's theme. He shared his experience as a student holding many ambitions and his experience working in the United Nations. He also highlighted some issues related to this year's conference theme: wars, pandemics, climate change, sea level rise, and rapid extinction. He stressed the importance of the 5p's (People, planet, partner, and prosperity) to ensure and guide the goals of the United Nations. "The speech from Dr. Soo-hyun Lee was very interesting," Daniel Oh, delegate of Japan, said. "Him talking about the theme and his own experiences really inspired me to speak up and voice my ideas during the conference. One memorable part of his speech was when he mentioned the kids who made real changes with their arguments and voices."

Layout by **Raisen Qi**
Written by **Doyeon Kim**
Photo by **Yuna Ahn**

GA1 DEBATES REGULATIONS FOR DUAL-USE SCIENTIFIC INNOVATIONS

The General Assembly kickstarted their discussion in the SEOMUN XXVIII conference by tackling issues on the ethical dilemmas of synthetic biology, cyber warfare, and nuclear warfare on a regional level. A commonality in discussions about the first and third agendas was the pressing need for regulations. Delegates addressed the positive potential for synthetic biology and AI but emphasized the need for oversight. Similarly, many delegates acknowledged the presence of nuclear weapons in international politics but again, highlighted the urgency for disarmament regulations to avoid issues such as regional conflicts from forming into full-blown wars.

"I wanted to primarily talk about preventing regional conflicts from triggering nuclear warfare. North Korea supports the idea that our country should have nuclear weapons, but only for nuclear deterrence, only in defense and never in aggression," Audrey Leung, delegate of North Korea, said. "We believe that we have the autonomous decision to develop these defensive nuclear capabilities. Also, it is imperative for North Korea to have protection against the escalation of Western cyber warfare and the algorithmic biases embedded in AI security technologies, which are the other two agendas. But the US is in our bloc, which is a bit controversial, so I think we will come to an agreement that includes the No First Use policy."

Stances on nuclear warfare were consistent among the majority of the countries, with delegates promoting nuclear disarmament through frameworks such as the Non-Proliferation Treaty. On the other hand, other delegates argued for nuclear deterrence and the right to defensive measures. These delegates came together as a bloc that consisted of North Korea, Israel, China, Russia, and the United States.

"There have been some strong disagreements between a couple of countries, and we have lost a member due to it. However, overall, it's been very agreeable, and we've been able to all come together to agree on the stance that cooperation is of utmost importance for this agenda." Deepak Talwar Jr, delegate of the United Arab Emirates, said. "The United Arab Emirates specifically requires itself to be at the forefront of this new technology and be able to use it in the new world, especially with how fast other technologies are developing. Biological intelligence is something very necessary for the production of medical care, as well as just general environmental standards. So the UAE wants to allocate a lot of funds to help other countries participate with it in this new technology. It wants to promote the research of this technology."

The bloc addressing the first agenda focused on the double-edged sword nature of synthetic biology and how it can be developed for both positive and negative uses. The bloc also added that synthetic biology is a great opportunity for lower-income countries to participate in global trade and global research. However, this field does have its dangers and thus requires some regulatory clauses, especially considering the damage that it might cause to the environment and the possibility of it polarizing research in high-income and low-income countries.

"The debates so far have been very productive; delegates are trying their best with their own effort and their anxiety for the debate," Nyan Lin, President of GA1, said. "They are looking forward to the verbal battlefields when they are debating about the resolutions, and I really hope that the debate will go into an experience that will be unforgettable and timeless."

The next step for the committee is to present each bloc's proposal, during which delegates will propose amendments in order to form a resolution that aligns with their countries' stances while addressing the pressing concerns about nuclear warfare, synthetic biology, and cyber-warfare.





Layout by **Raisen Qi**
Written by **Megan Lee**
Photo by **Abbie Huh**

GA2 UNDERTAKES DISCUSSION REGARDING CHINA US TRADE WAR, AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENTS

With the initiation of SEOMUN XXVIII, the Second General Assembly immediately tackled the first of three agendas regarding job replacement from automated artificial intelligence, the ongoing China–US trade war, and economic development in mountainous regions in Central Asian territories. An intriguing discussion was triggered by the clashing opinions of the delegates, who imperiously formed blocs and alliances with each other, which promised a compelling debate.

"We don't have conflicts. We generally just talk about the conflicts that occur, but we don't have any countries that hate each other," Daniel Jung, delegate of Israel, said. "I would say things are really peaceful. It's also really fun overall, I guess. And as for the opening speeches, I was able to get an overall gist of which countries and nations I should block with and who not to. In the end, I know that all the countries want to work together instead of fighting or debating, so it was not really a problem talking about these issues with others."

The conference started off with a diverse range of views on the US–China trade wars, including contrasting opinions from Germany and the Republic of India. However, those countries quickly reconciled and were able to work out an agreement regarding oil prices and oil imports. Another delegate from a different bloc showed strong agreement with the personal views of the delegate of Israel.

"We are just working on the resolution, but I would say that there is no conflict," Lauren Park, delegate of India, said. "It's mostly just casual discussion and thoughts. I really enjoy this type of discussion instead of always having to debate on whether a clause or resolution should pass. I also think that there should be more collaboration with other blocs, not just within our bloc. But at the same time, I really like how there is still some disagreement within our blocs, which helps us write a better resolution overall. And since we are doing the actual debate tomorrow, we have a lot of time to negotiate today."

Most of the debate and conversations were on how countries can incentivize others in the funding of their systems. Although other blocs were skeptical of how this would work, no strikes nor POIs were made about this issue. Every country agreed to work peacefully with each other through negotiations while respecting one another's national sovereignty.

"The teams are very unbalanced. We got a big group of people there, a mediumish group there, and we only have six people," Garmin Ho, delegate of Tajikistan, said. "I think this is good because we will have more ideas and better discussions. But at the same time, I wonder what would happen if some of our members had different ideas. But what I like even better than the fact that there are more ideas because there are more people is that the countries in this committee are working together no matter their current military clashes or problems."

Although some delegates believe that having more members in a bloc will result in the production of more ideas and intellectual conversations, others express concerns about everyone having different desires and ideas. However, most delegates agree that they are on the same page. They are ready to collaborate together and work toward a meaningful solution to achieve peace and prosperity.





Layout by **Yuna Ahn**
Written by **Doyeon Kim**
Photo by **Yune Hur**

ECOSOC FOCUSES ON MEASURES TO PROVIDE HUMANITARIAN AID WORLDWIDE

The delegates of the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) participated in a debate regarding the issues surrounding humanitarian aid worldwide. Focusing on addressing and solving the causes surrounding social and economical disparities, the delegates discussed solutions regarding various humanitarian challenges. Among those addressed were reducing food scarcity in Somalia through means of sustainable agricultural practices and trade reforms, minimizing inequality in global wage distributions, and supporting Internally Displaced Persons (IDP) to foster economic resilience.

One of the most prominent topics during the opening speech revolved around how IDPs should be supported. The delegates of Somalia, Brazil, and France put emphasis on the need to provide humanitarian aid to IDPs. While the delegate of France stressed the need to empower the displaced community within the nation by taking domestic measures such as reforming the education system, the delegates of Brazil and Somalia claimed that international cooperation should be utilized over domestic policy.

"Foreign aid would be extremely beneficial; we just need a lot of training and diplomacy in order to correctly execute the job," Jose Roberto Chavez-Cassan, delegate of Somalia, said. "Though currently we don't have a lot of nations standing up to make international cooperation, I believe that foreign aid, rather than domestic means when it comes to aiding the IDP, is necessary."

The delegates of countries valuing internal reforms, like that of France, took a slightly different approach when addressing solutions beyond supporting IDP resilience. Focusing on developing existing sectors such as education and raising national standards of recovery, the delegate of France addressed the importance of domestic efforts to try to combat the humanitarian crisis.

"The delegate of France believes that IDPs should be respected and countries should aim to incorporate domestic means to resolve this issue," Siyeon Lee, delegate of France, said. "Foreign measures of diplomacy are important, but taking steps domestically would be more crucial because at the end of the day I believe there is a clear limit to the extent foreign nations can stand up and donate to another country."

One common measure that the vast majority of the countries responded positively upon was the establishment of a cooperative relationship between countries in order to promote a robust wage system. During the lobbying session, many emphasized the inherent financial inequality between people across different classes. In order to overcome this issue, countries such as China, Brazil, and Bangladesh advocated for the establishment of a sustainable wage framework. Specifically, this was done so through means of establishing a system of fairwages, a global system that advocates for the gradual increase in minimum wage.

"China believes that a cooperative, gradual improvement over time is more effective than making harsh bans on financial transactions which can worsen poverty," Min Kanh Kyaw, delegate of China, said. "This will not only cause more problems in the long term, but also worsen the case when trying to bridge the gap between wage inequalities. Moreover, countries should also strive to work with each other, and with organizations to achieve this goal. Countries should indeed support and pay more attention to countries—especially developing countries that are in need of support."





Layout by **Yuna Ahn**
Written by **Alina Lee**
Photo by **Abbie Huh**

UNHCR NAVIGATES BETWEEN REFUGEE LIVES AND GEOPOLITICAL TENSIONS

What is required to live a good life? For the United Nations High Commissioner on Refugees (UNHCR), going the extra mile from ensuring the pure survival of refugees to improving their long-term quality of life is the most challenging barrier they face. Through debates on refugee camps' conditions, including strengthening maternal and child healthcare, promoting educational and vocational training, and preventing human trafficking and exploitation, the UNHCR tackled the unique challenge of not just saving the lives of refugees, but building them a path to a life beyond their experiences of violence and displacement.

Throughout the first day, all delegates affirmed the importance of setting up long-term, sustainable solutions that effectively use resources to support refugees. Policies aiming to prevent corruption and misuse of humanitarian funds, apply innovative technologies, and establish diverse training programs and opportunities for refugees demonstrated the committee-wide dedication in the UNHCR to create comprehensive and efficient solutions for refugee issues.

Describing her bloc's work on instituting education for refugees, Maria Alessandra Baja, Delegate of Canada, described education as a "catalyst" that could improve the long-term quality of life that would allow refugees to unlock new opportunities and work in harmony with the other agendas, and expressed her hope for future collaboration.

However, underlying conflicts also surfaced as lobbying continued. As Assistant President Harumi Ueno explained, nations have historically disagreed over how humanitarian aid should be contributed and distributed to refugees—most recently demonstrated by controversial US cutbacks on humanitarian funding.

Vince Warr, Delegate of France, described the dilemma of humanitarianism as though humanitarianism itself is "nearly universal", all delegates will "have different ideas on what that means and how that should be done and what that will cost us, especially if we feel like we have to give up a lot of our own stuff for somebody else to succeed."

In the UNHCR, these tensions manifested as blocs split between the United States and an opposing Russia-China partnership to address healthcare for refugee mothers and children. The influence of contentions such as Russia's involvement in the Ukraine War and US cutbacks on funding for UN humanitarian efforts demonstrated how issues of humanitarianism and geopolitics are intertwined.

Notably, Tommy Dewar, Delegate of Russia, described his country's goal of absorbing Ukrainian refugees, stating that "Russia takes in many migrants,… millions of refugees, and we really want to support them and give them the humane treatment they deserve because it's a mother's right to bear a child."

This also became a concern for other agendas in the committee. In the bloc working to prevent refugee trafficking, delegates brought up the challenge of balancing strong security policy with concerns about national sovereignty.

As the Delegate of France described, "you don't want to be necessarily intrusive, but because [human trafficking is] a transnational crime, it does require a lot of interconnection and work between various organizations. We have to find a balance between making something that's strong and actually effective and making something that doesn't violate the sovereignty of other member states."

Navigating the complex issue of humanitarianism in the context of global politics, delegates of UNHCR must continue to work to maintain the core objective of saving refugee lives they expressed in their rhetoric.



Written by **Lauren Leem**
Layout by **Winston Lee**
Photo by **Yuna Ahn**

UNEP CONFRONTS THE CLIMATE CRISIS

On the first day of SEOMUN XXVIII, the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) began with a discussion on some of today's most urgent climate issues. Delegates engaged in debates on topics about the global waste trade, biodiversity protection, and water management, emphasizing the urgent need for international teamwork and innovative solutions to build a more sustainable future for all nations. Delegates opened the discussion by focusing on the whaling crisis in the Arctic Ocean. They explored ways to prevent further damage to marine biodiversity while respecting the rights and traditions of indigenous populations. Many stressed that ethical, cultural, and environmental considerations must guide any proposed solutions, focusing on the difficulty of balancing conservation efforts with human livelihoods. "Our committee is currently focusing on three main agendas, but my delegation is primarily addressing the whaling crisis in the Arctic Ocean," Jun Yi, delegate of Germany, said. "Since we're in the environmental committee, this topic is very relevant. We've been discussing strategies to prevent further whaling, analyzing past incidents, and trying to propose ways to mitigate the crisis effectively. It's important that we find solutions that not only protect marine life but also consider the communities that depend on these resources." Throughout the first day, delegates focused on resolving the Arctic Ocean crisis, one of the committee's key environmental challenges. Discussions also extended to the ethical and environmental concerns of exporting waste to developing countries. As debates went on, delegates proposed measures such as strengthening global waste management agreements, promoting recycling initiatives, and encouraging nations to adopt stricter regulations to reduce harmful trade practices. "Delegates have been trying to address the balance between economic development and environmental protection," Aung Bhone Pyae, delegate of Ethiopia, said.



"We understand that without economic growth, progress can stagnate, but at the same time, protecting the environment is crucial for the future. In light of climate change and global warming, it's important to find solutions that carefully balance both priorities and ensure sustainable development for all nations, including the most vulnerable." Delegates also explored methods to balance economic growth with environmental sustainability. Many proposed investing in renewable energy, advancing green technology, and providing support for developing nations to adopt environmentally beneficial policies. Discussions emphasized that sustainable development requires coordinated efforts, ensuring that progress occurs without causing long-term damage to ecosystems or natural resources. "One of the biggest challenges in reaching a consensus has been managing the wide range of perspectives among different countries," Jay Garg, delegate of Australia, said. "Each nation brings its own priorities, interests, and opinions to the table, which can make it difficult to find common ground. Deciding how to compromise effectively, while ensuring that all voices are heard and respected, has been particularly challenging throughout the discussions." Despite these challenges, delegates remained committed to collaboration and constructive debate. Many delegates focused on the importance of listening carefully to differing perspectives, sharing research, proposing practical solutions, and negotiating compromises. Through these efforts, the committee worked toward a consensus that could benefit both the environment and global communities.

Written by **Michael Jang**
Layout by **Winston Lee**
Photo by **Raisen Qi**

DELEGATES OF HRC TACKLES HUMAN RIGHTS IN GAZA

SEOMUN XXVIII has begun, and the Human Rights Council (HRC) tackles problems while also encountering trouble in correlation with conflicting countries and disagreements. They faced issues in relation to the agenda; combating "problems against the human rights in Gaza". The delegates approached these issues generally positively, all having the purpose to resolve the issue while having different ways of fixing them.

Throughout the general conference, the delegates prioritized their own concerns on the topic during the opening speech. Not only did they offer concise insights that were directed to solve the problem, but also, the delegates addressed the issue directly with a strong opening speech. Overall, the conference portrayed different perceptions on the topic, awaiting an interesting discussion.

"Our opening speeches weren't necessarily opposing other ideas from other delegates," Oscar Lee, delegate of the United States, said."It was rather somewhat relevant to one another. Specifically, the US is a pretty humanitarian nation, aiming to tackle all problems in relation to this issue that is in relation with Gaza."

It was assumed that the delegates would face conflicts when their individual statements contradicted other delegates. However, on the contrary to what was predicted, the delegates mentioned that they were actively collecting ideas from others and critically thinking about how they could merge these ideas to propose in-depth resolutions that were most appropriate to the issue, constantly noting the proposals made by other delegates, and focusing on them. For instance, the delegates of Israel and Saudi Arabia came upon and agreed during the lobbying session. The contents of this conversation between them consisted of issues that they saw in the topic, and how they disagreed with one another, giving critical feedback.

"I definitely thought the conference was cooperative because so far we've done lobbying and emerging." Jeff Pyae Min Nyi, delegate of Israel, said. "Speaking politically, our countries are not on the best terms. Despite this, we've still worked hard to get along and conclude a resolution we desire: specifically freeing Palestinian citizens to instill human rights."

In many parts of the conference, their behavior suggested collaborative behavior. It was observed when finalizing resolutions that they provided their own perception-based ideas, but also continuously adding ideas to other delegates in order to finalize the resolution. Another example of this was during lobbying, delegates discussed ways to summarize all the main ideas while not only talking the problem in relation to the agenda, but the inclusiveness of the conference and how each idea from the delegates were attributed to the final idea.

"The resolution is coming together quite well." Faris Alhejazi, delegate of Saudi Arabia, said."There were some parts during the conference where I felt biased and it felt like the solutions offered leaned more towards Israel. However, we are slowly working as a group and trying to make the situation as neutral as possible. We have proposed the idea that Israel could submit amendments later on to make it more lenient to continue to make it the way we want it to be.





Written by **Sean Byun**
Layout by **Raisen Qi**
Photo by **Yune Hur**

CSTD DISCUSSES GLOBAL TECHNOLOGY AND DEVELOPMENT

On the first day of SEOMUN XXVIII, the Commission on Science and Technology for Development (CSTD) gathered to discuss several issues regarding the ethical implications of technological innovations in developing nations. Delegates representing various nations devised several resolutions to ensure technological developments are being made responsibly, ethically, and equitably, overall aiming to allow developing nations to benefit from such technological innovations.

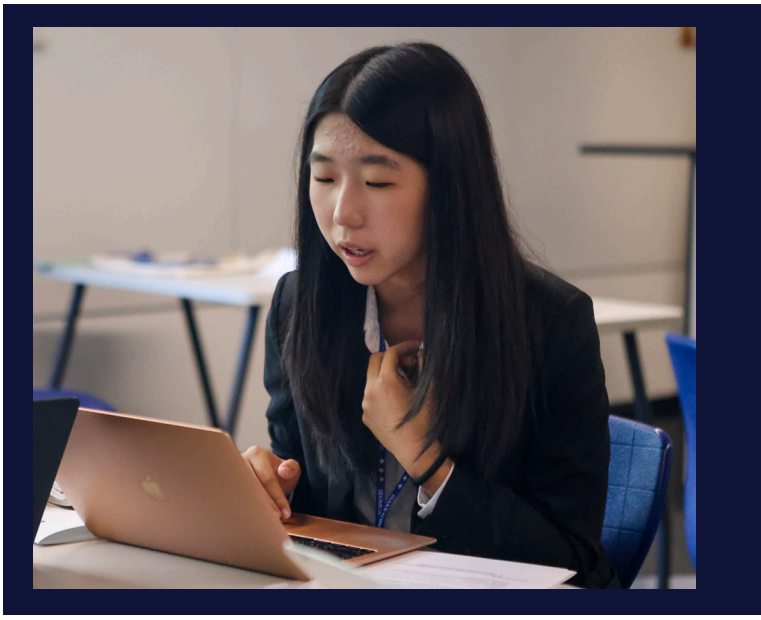
The CSTD is a committee surrounding the policies for sciences and technology, specifically for developing nations. For their preliminary discussion, the committee focused on three agendas: implementation of ethical standards for artificial intelligence (AI), international cooperation on the digital divide, and strategies for sustainable technology transfer. With the development of OpenAI and other AI corporations, these issues are especially relevant in modern society.

The delegates divided themselves into three groups, each representing a specific agenda, and took valuable notes on each issue. "As we are the CSTD, we strive to focus on the equal development of our nations, including more developed and less developed countries, which is why we are specifically addressing the digital device to ensure equitable access for emerging technologies in future generations," Leah Kim, Assistant President, said. "We are connecting climate and other issues, societal issues like poverty and the digital divide, to technological development in order to make sustainable progress for the future, including ethical standards for the use of technology in the future, and to focus on youth-led innovation."

Throughout the session, delegates exchanged several ideas and proposals to make technology more accessible while preventing its misuse. Among these include expanding the access to technologies by making it more affordable, creating initiatives to educate nations on ethical AI usage, and creating global partnerships. The committee also developed specific strategies for different nations about how to enhance climate resilience and vulnerable regions, especially as climate change is another crucial problem in modern society. The discussion revealed various obstacles, including divides in perspectives.

"I think we've got way more good things than obstacles, but one thing I would definitely say is that because we have a mixture of less economically developed countries (LEDCs) and more economically developed countries (MEDCs), there's definitely a really visible difference in incentives and why we would want to do such things," Seohyun Kim, Delegate of the United States, said. "Because as someone representing the USA, I have much different approaches to innovation compared to more LEDCs, like South Africa and Egypt, who are looking for more basic physical infrastructure and device implementation."

As the committee moved toward drafting resolutions, many delegates began considering how these proposed policies could translate into real-world interaction. While the resolutions remain in development, members expressed optimism that their work would set the basis for technological cooperation in all regions.



Written by **Yeseo Lee**
Layout by **Raisen Qi**
Photo by **Abbie Huh**

WHA TACKLES ISSUES REGARDING INTEGRATING AI IN THE INTERNATIONAL HEALTHCARE INDUSTRY

Delegates of the World Health Assembly (WHA) gathered together on Oct. 26 to address the growing challenges in international healthcare. This includes how to safely integrate Artificial Intelligence (AI) for healthcare, helping Less Economically Developed Countries (LEDCs) build facilities and sustain their medical system, as well as concerns regarding problems related to antimicrobial resistance (AMR). The debates and opening statements of the delegates highlighted the concerns of unequal or unfair access to technology and resources, especially for indigenous people, and emphasized the role of AI in healthcare systems.

The opening speeches explored how the integration of AI could transform the healthcare world. Many delegates emphasized that while technology brings new skills and efficiency, it must be implemented with caution to ensure it is not used as a weapon against less developed countries. They further stressed the need for rules and regulations to guarantee that AI serves as a tool rather than deepen economic or healthcare gaps between countries.

"I think that AI has crazy potential, because it can speed up things and make things so much more efficient," Charlotte Kim, Delegate of China, said. "So I think from here for AI the only way is up, as long as it keeps developing we will be able to use it in ways that are even more beneficial to the global healthcare system. And as for my resolutions to integrate technology, it is less about rules and regulations and more about ensuring that developing countries will have access to the same type of resources."

Building upon these points, delegates also turned their attention to the support needed for less developed nations and groups of people. As well as the urgent threat of antimicrobial resistance. They emphasized the need for all nations to collaborate to manage and prevent AMR. One delegate noted that these steps are crucial for creating a truly inclusive global healthcare system.

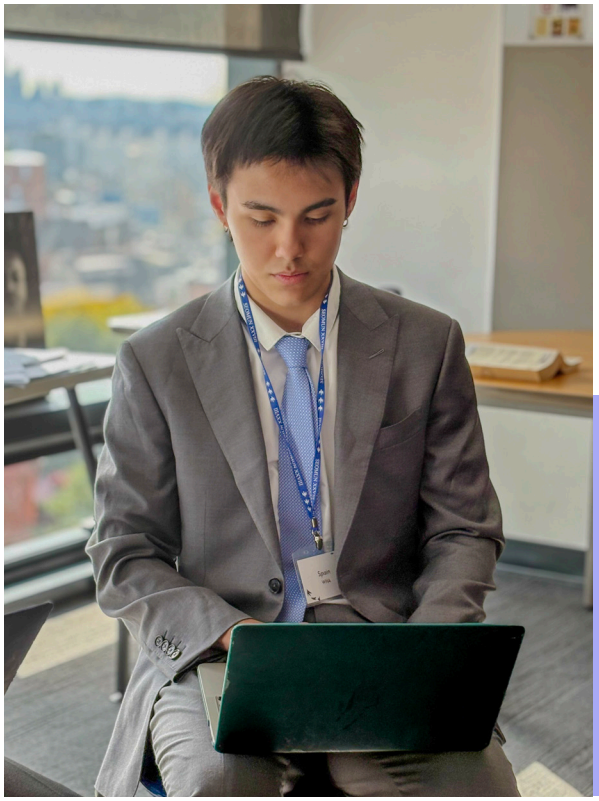
"I think it's important to add AI into healthcare because of the way the world is changing right now and how much usage there is among everyone." Kea Lawrence, the delegate of Spain, said. "However, there are dangers of using AI, like ethical issues and dangers, because as of right now, AI is not fully stable, and not fully understood, so I think there should be guidelines or frameworks between countries or in each country."

Following the discussion on AI integration, equal-healthcare, and antimicrobial resistance, delegates began to draft solutions. The delegates, while discussing and drafting their resolutions regarding technological and artificial intelligence in healthcare, mentioned wanting to implement an ethical framework and make sure that AI is actually practical and



works properly. Regarding the rules and regulations, delegates mentioned ideas about a national regulation system, with international standards that clearly outline data privacy, patient safety, and responsible usage.

"So we are focused on antimicrobial resistance, and on funding towards less economically developed countries or low to middle-income countries." Cara Yang, Delegate of Kenya, said. "We have stuff talking about refugee camps and education on antimicrobial resistance diseases. So being more focused on education is something unique about our resolution. "



Written by **Grace Kim**
Layout by **Winston Lee**
Photo by **Lauren Lee**

SDG 5 BY 2030: DELIVERABLE OR NOT?

At the 28th iteration of SEOMUN, the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) assembled delegates from over 15 states, ranging from More Economically Developed Countries such as the United States and Less Economically Developed Countries (LEDCs) such as South Sudan and Turkey. The delegates convened to debate three agendas, including the lack of girls' rights to education and employment in LEDCs, specifically Palestine and Iran, which the United Nations Sustainable Development Goal Five (UN SDG 5) aims to address by 2030.

The war in Palestine has violated fundamental rights to healthcare, education, and personal hygiene, which have had severe consequences on female physical and mental health. Beyond basic rights, Palestinian girls have been deprived of education and intellectual freedom. Throughout the opening speeches, all nations sympathized with the state of Palestine and recognized the infringements of the Gaza Conflict on girls' rights, exemplifying a unified commitment to cooperate with fellow member nations.

"Because of Israel's attack on us, girls are physically displaced to other regions, and over 28,000 women and girls alone were killed in Gaza," Avery Nam, Delegate of Palestine, said. "Our educational infrastructures have been obliterated, and our children have been displaced to other regions, which has disproportionately impacted girls. Already, young girls are more vulnerable in terms of civic protection than any demographic, but now more than ever, rates of child marriage and gender inequality have skyrocketed."

Being an experienced delegate who has attended over seven conferences, the delegate of Iran formed alliances with other anti-American states such as the Russian Federation and the Republic of China, who all share a common political and ideological rival, the US. Furthermore, instead of mitigating the effects of the economic sanctions, the blocs have alternatively strategized to lift the bans as a whole. In full support of Iran, the communist states have profited from this opportunity to bypass the US-centered financial dominance and advance their individual geopolitical interests.

"The US has sanctioned Iran heavily, and as a result, the cost of living has risen enormously. This has forced women to leave their homes to work in unsafe environments like in factories, where they are forced to complete unprotected manual labor," Jack Sheley, delegate of Iran, said. "Sanctions placed on our nation, including the bombing of our nuclear programs, trade bans, and asset freezes, have forced our women into the workforce despite our cultural beliefs that women should lead domesticated lives. In Iranian



Culture, women are the backbones of their families, but the global stage has pressured us to tolerate female employment."

The UN's SDG 5, which aims to "close the gender gap and ensure equal opportunities for all," has made significant progress since its establishment in 2015. Yet, the issue of unequal access to education persists in LEDCs such as Haiti. To address the multifaceted problems, solutions target the cultural and societal stigmas surrounding women's roles.

"2030 is in five years. I think we can make improvements, but I don't think this goal will be achievable for all. For my country specifically, it's going to take more than five years, since we have domestic issues such as national political corruption and gang control. More importantly, our country is a small island. Since we are isolated, it's hard to get aid and resources from other nations to boost education," said Alzira Leal, delegate of Haiti. When asked about the feasibility of SDG Five, "I think it's important that more people get educated because it allows women to take on important roles for society, such as doctors and political figures who are in positions of power to end gender-based discrimination."



Written by **Gloria Kim**
Layout by **Winston Lee**
Photo by **Lauren Lee**

UNDP DISCUSSES CULTURAL PRESERVATION AND AGING POPULATIONS

The initiation of SEOMUN XVIII birthed a thoughtful and energetic committee discussion on middle-income countries and navigating the first of three agendas: balancing human development standards and cultural preservation, managing the impact of aging populations on middle-income countries, and navigating the economic development and sustainability of small island countries. Delegates eagerly formed blocs and prepared by forming alliances before the lobbying session began.

"I think it's going pretty well in the committee. Bolivia is prepared to make a full-on attack on America, but apart from that, every country seems calm and oriented. I think the debate will get even more interesting when we start drafting resolutions and forming official blocs because that's when we'll really see which countries are aligned and which ones are just trying to become the best delegate," Steven Seo, delegate of South Korea, said. "In summary, the drafting resolutions and committee stuff are going on well but we should work on negotiation between Bolivia and the USA. To be honest, I really enjoy debating and stuff but since there is not much conflict that I am directly involved in its kind of buns."

Discussions within this committee were extremely fiery. The delegate of South Korea expressed his concerns about the intentions of the delegate of Bolivia. On the other hand, the delegate of the United States kept an open attitude towards all countries and sought to form a strong political, social, and economic alliance.

"My block is New Zealand, Germany, and the United States. but there is a lot of controversy regarding the United States. I think most countries here will agree. Their claims are very open-ended," Alex Lee, delegate of Germany, said. "Even though we have a lot of great insight into each delegate's perspectives from the opening quote, statements can be interpreted in many ways, which causes a lot of confusion. I think they are trying to keep their options open so they can align with whichever bloc seems more influential later on, but that's causing frustration for some countries who want to establish clear partnerships early in the debate."

All delegates seem to be reinforcing the important idea that negotiation is the best strategy and that managing the impacts of aging populations is very significant for all countries. However, regarding the first agenda, the navigation of economic development and sustainability of small island countries, China has raised concerns about where the funding will come from and how they can manage the amounts of money based on the country's GDP.



"I personally think that most of the opening speeches have taken the stance that they are available and strongly encourage international cooperation. Even though countries have different political systems and economic capabilities, the tone has remained respectful and constructive," Liam Lucas Panganiban, delegate of the United Kingdom, said. "It feels like most delegates genuinely want to find shared solutions. I think all of our purpose is to come up with a resolution. Additionally, from the opening speeches we basically knew we were on the same page. I think the opening speeches that we had this time were really good except for the speeches that the delegates did not prepare beforehand about."

Delegates were quickly able to identify from the opening speeches that they generally all had the same viewpoints, which made cooperation, negotiation, and bloc formations extremely efficient and effective. In addition, delegates expressed their desires and motivations in having a hospitable and fruitful debate.



Layout by **Aidan Hong**
Written by **Doyeon Kim**
Photo by **Yuna Ahn**

SPT CALLS FOR HUMANITARIAN AID AND DISCUSSES SANCTIONS ON DPRK

The delegates of the Six-Party Talk (SPT) discussed various measures revolving around the conflict in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK). From humanitarian issues addressing basic human rights to establishing sustainable trading relationships with neighboring countries, the delegates engaged in a fierce debate regarding their stances on issues revolving around North Korea. The most evident split is visible between the United States and allied nations like Japan, the Republic of Korea, and their non-allied nations such as Russia, the Republic of China, and the DPRK. While pro-US nations advocated implementing sanctions towards DPRK, non-allied nations argued against it. Another prominent split was that while the pro-US bloc criticized DPRK's infringement of humanitarian rights and suggested global aid, non-allied nations kept their silence.

The premise of the discussion revolved around the extent to which sanctions should be incorporated on the DPRK, or, if they should even be implemented in the first place. During the opening speech, the Russian Federation addressed the negative effects of international sanctions on the DPRK, opposing the common stance of Japan, South Korea, and the United States. The Russian Federation stressed that such measures would only strain DPRK's relationship with the West while strengthening its connection with Russia and China, and even with criminal organizations such as the Cartel.

"Overall, Sanctions, I believe, have a negative effect on the amount of international cooperation that could result from DPRK's denuclearization; sanctions have created a huge setback as they could now contact criminal organizations such as Chinese and Russian Cartels, undermining global efforts to try and interact with DPRK," Claire Shin, delegate of the Russian Federation, said. "This decreases the ultimate reach of the economy that North Korea can access; ultimately, the sanctions are why the DPRK is currently reaching out to China and Russia, rather than actively participating in international politics."

However, there were voices of opposition to any proposals regarding reducing the sanctions, mainly the United States and allied nations. Their concerns primarily stemmed from North Korea's constant reluctance towards denuclearization.

I definitely think sanctions are a very valuable tool to use, especially in this situation where tensions between nations are inevitably rising," Kevin Liu, delegate of the United States, said. "Because the mistrust between the countries is significant, especially right now, where North Korea is constantly and secretly planning out nuclearization measures, I believe sanctions are useful, not necessary."

The discrepancy amongst sanctions, however, is just one aspect of a broader debate on how to approach policies regarding the DPRK. Attitudes addressing the DPRK's humanitarian concerns varied widely.Similar to the previous debate, the United States and its allied nations strongly advocated for international intervention, which would include a global-scale support towards the citizens of DPRK, provided with humanitarian and medical aid.

"South Korea believes that the humanitarian issues happening in North Korea are severely inhumane, and an action ought to be halted," Eliot Hwang, delegate of the Republic of Korea, said. "We believe that nations should cooperate to provide support in order to increase standards of living. Improvement of child health is a crucial area of improvement, for instance, and is something that should be considered. Medical aids, standardized compliance kits, and insurance are all examples of the aid we seek to provide."





SC ADDRESSES DISPUTES AND STABILITY IN THE SOUTH CHINA SEA

With the start of SEOMUN XXVIII, the Security Council (SC) began its first session by addressing rising tensions regarding the South China Sea dispute. This issue involves overlapping territorial claims by China, Taiwan, Vietnam, the Philippines, and other nations. The region is strategically significant for global trade and natural resources. Upon entering discussion, delegates showed a diverse number of views on territorial sovereignty, regional security, and the role of international law in preventing escalation. Several member states emphasized the urgency of maintaining peace in this strategic maritime region, given its crucial role in global trade and military stability.

As discussions began, there was a notable mix of cooperation and tension in early conversations. Delegates especially highlighted concepts of sovereignty, trade, and military presence, with different regional blocs forming with similar goals but different priorities.

"In the South China Sea dispute, many countries are claiming overlapping territories, and China's stance is that we own 90 percent of the area based on historical evidence," Cherie Sim, delegate of China, said. "But since everyone's claims overlap, we're avoiding arguments over borders and instead focusing on preventing military escalation and illegal fishing. There's really no clear right or wrong in this dispute, so our goal is to find practical ways to maintain peace and stability rather than fight over lines on a map."

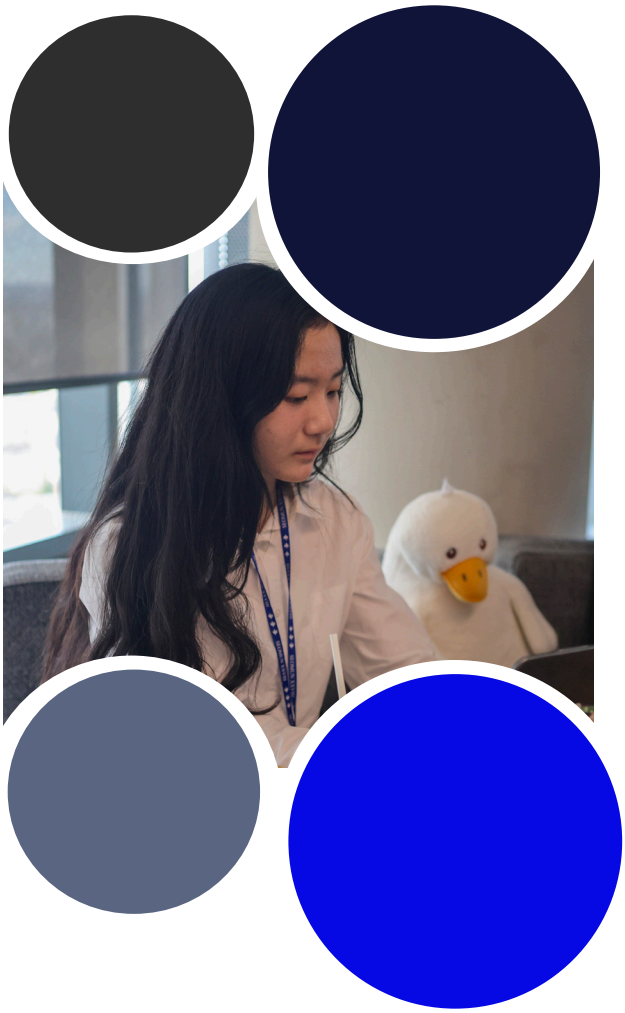
The delegate of China's remarks reflected a broader theme being recognized within the discussion—an effort to move away from direct confrontation toward more cooperative management of shared waters. Building on this perspective, the discussion soon centered on the divide between sovereignty claims and international law under UNCLOS, delegates also mentioning concerns over naval buildup and artificial islands. Western states mainly focused on freedom of navigation, while China defended historical rights, rejecting further external interference. Despite some differences in legal and security perspectives, delegates showed urgency to prevent further escalation in the strategic trade route, with most prioritizing stability and avoidance of direct conflict.

"Vietnam also emphasizes that all countries should follow international laws under UNCLOS," Feihsuan Chang, delegate of Vietnam, said. "This dispute affects our fishermen and trade routes, so we need more cooperation and less military activity in contested areas."

All the delegates showed such concerns regarding rising militarization and the risk of accidental clashes at sea. Generally, there is skepticism over how enforceable UN actions would be without cooperation from all claimants, and the shared acknowledgement that a trust deficit is a central obstacle to immediate progress. Most solutions currently lean toward monitoring mechanisms and dialogue rather than hard intervention.

"The Philippines acknowledges that rising tensions in the region can affect local communities," Ava Yao, delegate of the Philippines, said. "We support democratic dialogue but also that it is important to consider relationships and trust between countries, especially in keeping trade routes open and protecting smaller states' rights."

These remarks emphasize the ongoing need for immediate action. The delegates mentioned the importance of accountability and transparency in such a situation, with smaller states calling for more consistent follow-through. Cooperation between countries is essential for an effective resolution, and all delegates recognized this with cautious optimism as the session came to an end.



Written by **Sean Byun**
Layout by **Aidan Hong**
Photo by **Raisen Qi**

HSC TACKLES 1982 CONFLICTS

The first day of SEOMUN XXVIII saw the Historical Security Council (HSC) revisiting some of the world's defining moments in 1982. Delegates engaged in strong discussions over major global conflicts, including the Falklands War and the Lebanon Crisis, as they worked to find diplomatic solutions to these complex historical challenges.

As discussions began, delegates focused on understanding each side's perspective and identifying common goals for a productive and meaningful debate. They emphasized collaboration, ethical decision-making, and historical context as essential components for drafting realistic and practical resolutions that could address the crises effectively.

"Our committee is currently debating the 1982 Afghanistan and Soviet War," Charlie Park, delegate of China, said. "At first, we spent time understanding the historical context and the different sides involved, but now we are moving toward drafting a resolution. The discussions have been productive so far because many delegations share similar perspectives on how to approach the issue. I think we are starting to find common ground and build a sense of cooperation, so I believe the debate will progress smoothly and lead to a meaningful resolution."

Following this, delegates turned their attention to the Falklands conflict and the Lebanon Crisis, focusing on the need for collaboration between historically opposing nations. The discussion included strategies to protect citizens, maintain regional stability, and ensure fairness while upholding ethical responsibilities. Delegates emphasized how joint efforts across diplomatic divides could lead to sustainable peace solutions, even in scenarios historically marked by tension, mistrust, and conflict.

"Right now, one thing that truly stands out to me is the amount of unity and compromise present in our committee," Ardan Li, delegate of the United Kingdom, said. "For example, in the Lebanon conflict, we have both North Korea and the USA working together in a multilateral way to reach a common goal for peace and security. In the USSR-Afghan conflict, the USSR is working with Saudi Arabia, nations that are usually foes, to find an accessible solution. Here in the Falkland Islands conflict, we are all working together to ensure democracy is focused on the Falkland Islands citizens and that their voices are represented in the decision-making process."

Delegates then looked for ways to de-escalate the conflicts by focusing on demilitarization, negotiation frameworks, and the protection of civilians caught in the crossfire. The committee examined historical examples for successful conflict resolution and discussed how these could be adapted to the current scenarios. Emphasis was placed on striking a balance between maintaining security and protecting human life, reflecting the UN's mission and overarching goal of promoting peace and cooperation among nations.

"We are going over the topic of the Falkland Islands, like the previous interferer," Minjae You, delegate of the Republic of Korea, said. "The main goal of the UN and also our plan is to first provide demilitarization and start proceeding with de-escalation of the status quo, which is basically all-out war. We want to prioritize civilian protection and ensure that this will not escalate further. We are trying to create a resolution that is realistic, enforceable, and considerate of the historical complexities involved, so that peace can be achieved while respecting all parties."



Written by **Yeseo Lee**
Layout by **Aidan Hong**
Photo by **Yuna Ahn**

COMMITTEE ICJ DEBATES ON CONFLICTS WITH RUSSIA AND UKRAINE

The initiation of SEOMUN XXVII has started, and delegates are looking to resolve them through measures that are not only crucial to tackling the topic of the accusations of Ukraine committing genocide, filed by Russia, but also efficient in offering new ideas to the topic. Opening speeches provided highly quantitative examples of other problems that faced similarly in relation to the topic that they are trying to resolve.

Most delegates throughout the entire debate were vocal. Others were somewhat quiet. However, their general delivery of their thoughts on whether Ukrainians should be held accountable and deserve punishment, or if these accusations are an injustice were powerful. Other delegates observing qualitatively during the presentation of evidence were getting ready to provide their own information that could contradict claims made by the delegates from Russia and Ukraine, depending on whether they were for the accusation of Russia's claims of genocide in Ukraine.

"The disagreement was in the lack of evidence people provided, and I think there were gaps that needed to be filled that support the claims." William Lee, delegate of the United States, said. "But not necessarily, there weren't any specific disagreements regarding the topic besides the tense conversation between the delegates of Russia and the delegates of Ukraine.

There was a dominant opinion being supported by many delegates during the opening speech. However, there weren't any disagreements that were presently opened in the conference. The methods of supporting or refuting these statements were in relation to a certain extent, as the questions were either to clarify or justify specific flaws in the advocate's arguments. While addressing these flaws, delegates like the United Kingdom asked open-ended questions to receive insights on the issue, specifically on the advocates and the respondent parties.

"The case was on Russia versus the Ukrainian Federation, mostly the genocides." Oliver Wang, delegate of Ukraine, said. "We were Ukrainian advocates, so we wanted to prove that Russia has committed genocide and is actively violating the rights of Ukrainian citizens. Were there any specific violations? Maybe, however, for the ICJ, there are multiple ways of introducing evidence. For example, evidence manifests where a series of 10 pieces of evidence is submitted before the conference through research.

The debate was continuously active, either offering a somewhat positive approach to the topic or completely denying it. Delegates of Ukraine, for example, objectively downright claimed that Russia's accusations were false, and presented evidence that suggested that no genocide was being committed, and further elabroating on how the delegates of Russia abused the word "genocide'.

"There were arguments from both the applicant and respondent parties. I think both sides made very good claims on the intent behind Russia's and Ukraine's attacks and the invasions." Nate Kim, delegate of the United Kingdom, said."So when examining the case of Ukraine versus Russia, Ukraine put forth the example in which Russia did commit genocide and proving how Ukraine never had any intention of committing it themselves. Therefore, in a way, the tables are turned from the claims made by the delegates of Russia and evidence is actively used to support them.





Written by **Sean Byun**
Layout by **Aidan Hong**
Photo by **Raisen Qi**

WHAT'S BEEN THE MOST ENJOYABLE PART OF SEOMUN SO FAR?



Jean Hu, President of UNEP

"I really enjoyed the opening, especially coming from Hong Kong," Jean Hu, President of UNEP, said. "I think it's really interesting to get to see a little bit of a Korean cultural performance, and I think it was really insightful to have that exposure. It was really cool and very well put together."

Jay Garg, Delegate of Australia in UNEP

"This is a new experience for me," Jay Garg, Delegate of Australia in UNEP, said. "So just connecting with other people was the most enjoyable part. I had fun talking to other people outside of my committee as well and chatting about the conference."





Nyan Lin Ko, President of GA1

"For SEOMUN so far, it has been the opening ceremony where I saw the guest speaker," Nyan Lin Ko, President of GA1, said. "I also really felt captivated by the performances of the Korean traditional music and the last dances. It was an unforgettable experience, and I would want to come next year just to experience the same joy that I felt this time."

Aiden Kim, Delegate of Ethiopia in UNHCR

"Meeting and recognizing other delegates with similar ideas as you has been a very liberating experience," Aiden Kim, Delegate of Ethiopia in UNHCR, said. "Many of the delegates have had prior experience in MUN, so it was interesting to see how they were interacting with each other."



Written by **Yeseo Lee**
Layout by **Aidan Hong**
Photo by **Yuna Ahn**

WHAT HAS BEEN YOUR EXPERIENCE AS A DELEGATE SO FAR, FROM FIRST IMPRESSIONS TO THE CHALLENGES YOU'VE FACED?

Jacob Siyun Sung, the Delegate of Bangladesh



"SEOMUN is quite a competitive conference," Jacob Sung, delegate of Balgedesh, said. "Although I have participated in debate competitions and I have MUN experience from middle school, this has beena totally different experience. In general, it feels much more competitive; all the delegates are engaged and participating in opening speeches and creating resolutions."



Claire Shin, the Delegate of Russia

"My experience as a delegate has been entertaining discussions, with a lot of interesting opinions given the diversity of people the conference embodies." Claire Shin, delegate of Russia, said, "It was my first SEOMUN conference, and it was interesting to meet new people and collaborate with them to draft resolutions about diplomacy."

Serisophia Sambath, Delegate of South Korea

"I think SEOMUN has been really different from my other MUN experience because the procedures have all been different." Serisophia Sambath, delegate of China, said, "Even starting from the opening ceremony, it felt different from my other experiences. It was much more engaging and well-prepared. They had performances from the orchestra and traditional Korean dancers. So far, I think the conference itself is very professional and organized. It's also very cool and fun to meet new people."





Visothyrath Heng, Chair of Russia

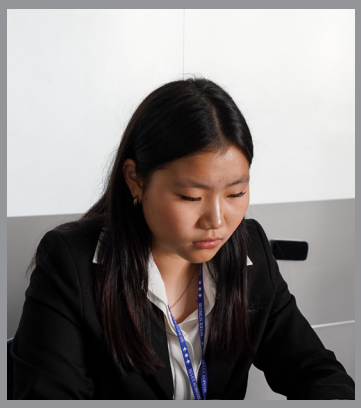
"Sometimes it's confusing, because you don't know the procedures and what to say at what time. "Visothyrath Heng, delegate of Russia, said, "However, listening to the more experienced delegates speak allowed me to learn more. Their insights on the topic helped me form my own resolutions and speak up during lobbying time."

Written by **Grace Kim**
Layout by **Aidan Hong**
Photo by **Raisen Qi**







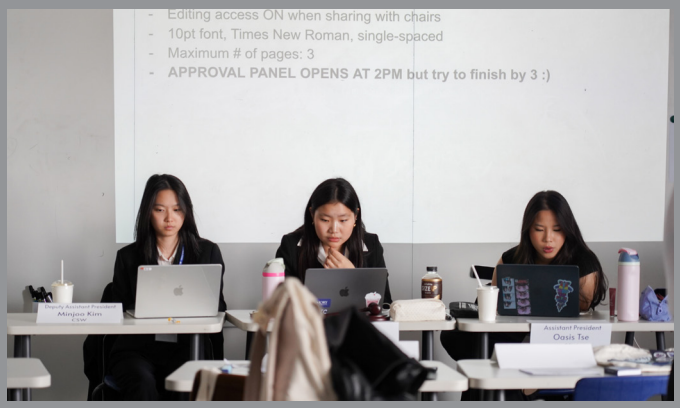














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