



# LA VOCE

VOLUME 8 ISSUE 2

28-30 JUNE 2018



**LEARN LEAD LIVE**

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## OPENING CEREMONY

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Excitement and nervous anticipation reached sky-high levels in the ballroom of the Marriott Hotel as delegates waited for the start of the opening ceremony. As promised, we saw everything, from nervous first timers frantically practicing their opening speeches to relaxed delegates snapping insta-worthy pictures.

The opening ceremony began with videos that captured the very spirit of this prestigious conference in a nutshell. Our emcees then welcomed the large gathering of delegates and the EB and Secretariat received hearty applause as they took their places at the dais. A beautiful, heartwarming performance of the song 'Yesterday's dream' by the school choir left no soul in the room untouched. Akshay Aurora, our EB and Secretariat Advisor then addressed the gathering illuminating the importance of the theme 'Towards an Inclusive World' and urged the delegates to use this conference as a an opportunity to discover their passion and make a difference. Our chief guest, Mr.R.K.Mishra, a philanthropist and humanitarian, left us spellbound with his speech on the power of Model United Nations to make a difference to humanity and motivated all the delegates with his personal experience and words. Mr. Roshan D'Souza, the host Cluster Principal, wished everyone an ever cherishing conference and Ms. Kavita Sahay's words of wisdom "Inclusiveness starts at school, with fighting against bullying" made a deep impact on the delegates. Finally, the moment we were all waiting for, the Secretary General, NeelKabir declared the conference open with that oh-so-satisfying 'thud' of the mallet, and thus VHMUN 8 began.



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## HISTORICAL SECURITY COUNCIL



Day 1 started off with a brief explanation of Rules Of Procedure for the benefit of the committee. We witnessed certain experienced delegates dozing off and some even correcting the chair. The committee discussed Agenda 2 :The Gulf War, after unanimous voting and the GSL was opened. The co-chair soon took to tossing candies to the delegates for well made points, making us feel like we were in a preschool class, although it was undoubtedly a sweet gesture. As an end to his moderated caucus on military aid, the delegate of Saudi Arabia started the declaration of war just two hours into the debate, living up to HSC's reputation for 'creating' war rather than preventing it. The delegate of USA and Saudi Arabia decided to go to the washroom to discuss their conspiracy theories while the delegate of UAE stood up and declared, "I do not understand what is going on in this committee", sending the chairs into fits of laughter. However, the introduction of a crisis update on Iraq killing 750 civilians brought this hilarious committee to its feet. Day two saw the committee alternating between peace and war as if each delegate was having an internal conflict as to which one they wanted. Meanwhile the co-chair, Krish Agrawal, sent an admin member to ask the delegate of Iran in SC where he got his hot chocolate from. To reward delegates for their hard work on drafting resolutions, the co-chair brought them a plate of cupcakes, earning yet another disapproving glance from our chairperson, Seimonee. Soon, with the passing of draft resolution 660, the first agenda finally came to an end to thunderous applause. On Day 3, the committee started the first agenda, The Indo-Pak War. "History often repeats itself" and this committee proved just that by again indulging in declaring war. We saw visibly less interest compared to Day 2 as the co-chair was caught yawning and the delegates grew restless. Nevertheless, as expected the second agenda could not be completed and we ended with a much-needed motion to entertainment that had us all rolling on the floor laughing at the 'United States of Potatoes'.



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## SECURITY COUNCIL



With so much shade being thrown around in this committee, it's hard not to have fun in the Security Council. When you put so many impertinent delegates in one place, all you get are witty exchanges, iconic quotes and a boatload of trash talk. The entire session was permeated with the delegate of USA's heavy know-it-all vibes and Iran's offhand, snarky remarks. Committee began with the delegate of Iran raising a point of personal privilege as the Delegate of USA's voice was 'hurting his ears'. This was the beginning of this delegate's long campaign of interesting quotes which led him to be gagged and kicked out multiple times. There were many excellent delegates but USA and Iran were the show-stoppers with USA's comments on what everyone said and Iran's backhanded comments on everything he said. It didn't stop with Iran; the entire committee was intent on throwing heavy shade at the delegate of USA. On the second day, the committee seemed to have settled down. The shenanigans of yesterday had subsided and SC was intent on coming to a resolution for this problem although their second agenda was all but forgotten about. The morning remained dry but it slowly built up to a grand crescendo. Of course, all of this was the courtesy of the delegate of Iran. With his tendency to get on the nerves of everyone present and brilliant record of getting barred a massive minimum of sixteen times, he got suspended from the General Assembly. After a written apology to the General Assembly, his suspension was lifted and he actually behaved himself... for about half an hour. He relapsed into unbecoming witticisms and a budding bromance with USA. The final day of committee had arrived. Early into session they entered voting and quickly tabled their second agenda. Finally, they entered into debate on their first agenda, Nuclear Policy in the 21st Century. All the delegates took off their fun faces and they meant business. The tension in the committee was so thick that you could cut it with a butter knife. Mischief had dried up and even Iran's quips were far and few. The atmosphere took a dangerously serious turn. As soon as we thought this committee was turning sober, a legendary fight broke out between the delegate of Japan and the delegate of Syria regarding their soberness. Even though they got off to a rocky start with their complete lack of manners as pointed out by the co-chair of HSC, they pulled together and delivered a fierce debate. This committee had been a constant source of entertainment.



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## DISARMAMENT AND SECURITY COUNCIL



“Delegates, any more questions?” basically sums up the first hour of the Disarmament and Security council committee session. After the GSL was opened and the agenda was set to the Yemeni Civil War, the delegates, though eager to speak in GSL, failed 3 motions for “Mod” and 1 motion for “Unmod”. The Chair, Ishaan Khosla provided some much needed entertainment which included hitting himself with a mallet, updating his Instagram story in the middle of the committee session and personally asking the delegates to acknowledge his humour. The delegates were continuously questioned to check their attentiveness to the other speeches. Post the coffee break began all the drama. The delegate of Yemen gave a controversial speech on the political causes of the Yemeni crisis because of which the chair said that the “UN is confused” and the delegate was questioned (read: attacked) for 20 minutes, and because of his shredded state was sent out to “breathe”. The delegate of Israel’s unwavering support to Yemen led to his breaking the UN mandate and the co-chair, Krish Abrol, stating the delegate could be charged in the ICJ because of it. All in all, the EB of DISEC was thoroughly amazed by the participation of the delegates and the level of debate being carried out in the committee session.

Pakistan and Saudi Arabia began with some very “interesting” statements, to say the least and then it was just “Turtles all the way down” from there on. As DPRK began to question USA's morals for bombing Yemen's hospitals, USA took a very strange turn, implying it was perfectly fine to bomb innocent civilians. You know it's bad when DPRK has better standards for human rights than the USA. With the EB throwing in continuous splashes of humour in the delegate's speeches, the committee never had a dry moment. The committee was graced with the chair's continuous beat-boxing while rules of procedure were being explained.

Post MOD, DISEC received its first crisis and what followed was anarchy. Yemen and Pakistan both made presidential statements to make their stance clear. When Akshay Aurora walked in as a guest delegate of Libya, there were ripples in the committee, with the chair somewhat jokingly relinquishing his position. Israel had something controversial to say at every speech. Enough delegates! Enough! The day ended with a surprisingly boring MOE. Come on delegates, committee sessions were funnier. You can do better than this. Finally, with five draft resolutions waiting to be analysed by the EB and the tension between the blocs increasing by the minute, the committee was left looking dumbstruck!



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## SOCIAL, CULTURAL AND HUMANITARIAN COMMITTEE



“I like that sound.”

After the Chairs introduced themselves to a group of rather nervous delegates, committee began with a brief discussion of the Rules of Procedure with a very-I’m not going to teach you, you’re going to teach me- approach, echoing a classroom vibe. As formal proceedings began, the committee decided on ‘Protecting and Advancing Women’s Rights in the Middle East’ as their agenda. For a committee primarily filled with first timers, SOCHUM was very responsive and enthusiastic. During the GSL, different points, opinions and stances were seen. The Chairs reminded the committee to refrain from using personal pronouns several times, but we still saw a lot of those AND a bunch of unnecessary statistics thrown around. Numbers make an impact, but only when they’re relevant, delegates! SOCHUM failed all motions for an unmoderated caucus but then also proceeded to fail all motions for moderated caucuses. What a committee! Another chit we caught was between the delegates of Niger and Mali – “Dear Delegate, I hope you are satisfied” by what, delegate?! With no other option, committee reverted back to GSL. Placards were lost, the wrong ones picked up and what not. We had hit a standstill. Or so we thought, When Aditya Madnani took over as guest Chair, he made quite the analogy – “Delegate, if you had a boyfriend, would you show your mom all your texts?” That’s what it’s like when delegates pass all their chits through the EB. With the Motion Of Entertainment, we saw SOCHUM in a whole new light: Chair, Chinmay Gundlur, made his committee tap their thighs and chant “We Are, We Are SOCHUM” **what a start!** This was quite definitely the peak of the classroom - esque vibe that we felt. The committee quickly got back to work – after all, our co-chair did promise his committee a dance if they succeeded. Resolutions were discussed, amendments made, it was almost as though the committee acted as one person, with one mind, all decisions were synchronized and strung together. A committee of 80 delegates, with almost two-thirds of the delegation being first timers, SOCHUM succeeded in its efforts and also gave us quite a few laughs. Major points for efforts!



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## UNITED NATIONS WOMEN



UNW was undoubtedly the most stagnant committee from day one. The conference fell into monotony from the moment the GSL was opened as the delegates' speeches expressed confusion. There were lesser debates or attacks than expected, and the delegates were either too serious or too casual. There were many attention seekers in the committee, \*cough\* you know who you are \*cough\*. It was easy to see that the only thing keeping the conference awake (all genders included) was the presence of the gorgeous chair, Sae Chitale, who stole hearts with her elegance and charm. At some point during session, Akshay Aurora made a much needed guest delegate of Sudan and set the committee in motion with very controversial ideas. Quoting him, "I am going to be here for the next two days and make sure all your resolutions fail." This caused the delegates to move into more serious and extensive debate. However, the enthusiasm shown towards grabbing the attention of our "Ladies' Man" overpowered committee discussion to the extent that several comments like "do you think he noticed me?" were heard from several delegates.

The chairs, being very considerate, moved into a motion of entertainment. As rightly said by the co-chair, MUN is a perfect balance between fun and learning. On day three, the seriousness of the council made us want to dance like a chicken just to break the horrible boredom taking over everything present in the room. The only interesting moment was when everyone perked up after the co-chair said, "Just raise your placard, I'll come to you." \*facepalm\*

With the entry of the guest delegate of Sudan, things took an interesting turn and discussions cut through the boredom with sparks flying from both propositions and opposition. In conclusion UNW was a great committee with perfectly blazing agendas but the all delegates could definitely have tried and participated more because the topics were controversial and also essential towards the development of the world. It would have done them better if they had focused more on the topic in hand rather than on the undoubtedly attractive Executive Board.



# LA VOICE

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## UNITED NATIONS HIGH COMMISSION FOR REFUGEES



“I’ve seen delegates wave placards right in my face to get recognized for the GSL.”

Taking these words of the co-chair, it would be fair to say that this committee built itself up from the very basics. UNHCR was dominated by first timers who were slightly hesitant but managed to keep events in a decent flow. The first 45 minutes could be accurately described as the snoozing hour for all our experienced delegates as the chair and co-chair were brushing up on the rules of procedure.

The committee seemed somewhat dull and we even caught one of the delegates watching anime during the session, clearly finding that more amusing. But, the day ended with a joint presidential statement from the delegate of Russia and the USA. Although, there was little participation by the chair, our admired co-chair enthusiastically instructed for all available photographers to “continuously flash so that they feel like this is real”.

We are glad to tell you that UNHCR came off to a good start and concluded day 1 on a fairly eventful note.

Day 2 kicked off with GSL, during which, we were extremely proud to see all our first timers begin to confidently and clearly speak up and deliver their speeches. Though the speeches were well proffered, we came across several delegates, who out of nervousness, vigorously and brutally, waved their mics and phones all around, not failing to amuse us. Once our adored co-chair arrived, our delegates were back into form. We did notice, that the delegates were getting slightly fed up with the co-chairs attempt to enlighten them.

Co-chair: “...so listen, after the GSL, you go home, I go home, and you sleep.”

Delegate of Pakistan: “Why is he so obsessed with sleeping?”

But to be fair, UNHCR did comparatively well on the second day and got us eager to find out how the delegates hopefully came up with the resolution without getting violent and potentially stabbing someone in the eye.

Day 3 was the most productive day. The committee began the session on a high note and our delegates grew to be more courageous when it came to taking on questions from the EB, although there were delegates who were nervous and sweaty as they were helplessly searching for answers.

Our co-chair was extremely exhausted after the long hours of the previously held ICC but patiently dealt with all the unseen aspects that the delegates forgot to mention during their speeches. We were adequately entertained with the presidential statements. The co-chair managed to help us capture all the presidents, in their clueless, helpless state especially when they had met their unforeseen ends.

All in all, this committee really picked up pace and provided us with some really concrete solutions. Good job delegates and keep up the good work!



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## *MODARATED*

The Press had been listening to what your clothes had to say throughout the conference and we heard assorted statements. From solar system socks to Deathly Hallows pins, you guys had a lot to tell us. No style casualties had occurred this time. There were only gentle fashion faux pas. \*Heavy sigh of relief\*. We were bracing ourselves for what atrocities we'd have to report this year.

The ladies have shown us some incredible visuals. We had seen some elegant dresses, tasteful trousers and superb skirts. We had observed some people experimenting with jumpsuits which is an excellent change of scenery. But we had seen some dresses more suited to a nightclub rather than a formal conference. The girls stuck to a simple palette, sticking to noble neutrals and pastel rainbows. Of course there had been some exceptions. We have seen some garish greens and brown on brown. What were you thinking, delegates? We had warned you about the dangers of high heels but maybe you took it too far with some tasteless choices in footwear. We thank you delegates for sticking to the recommended amount with your make up. Otherwise, you'd have looked like clowns.

We would like to add a note of appreciation for all the gentlemen who turned up in suits. Y'all looked crisp. But some of you had forgotten to complete the look. Throwing on a blazer over a t-shirt and jeans does *not* qualify as formals. Sometimes you have to put in some effort. Just about every man we've seen at this conference looked almost exactly the same. This isn't your homework. Please don't copy-paste. We had seen some dashing neckwear as we made our rounds to see your style sense. No tie was too obtrusive and we thank you for sparing our eyes. But we were *very* disappointed with the lack of bow ties at this conference. We saw *very few* in all these three days. Another notable observation was the creative socks sported at the debate. There were from simple bananas to full-blown solar systems on these pieces of clothing. We do have to congratulate the originality, delegates!

We have seen some interesting statements this year. The ethnic formals of Akshay Aurora were greatly admired. Some delegates chose to reflect the culture and sentiments of the country they represented. This added an element of diversity that is painted by the UN.

Style is something each of us already has; you just have to find it. Y'all put together excellent ensembles this year so you have found it. We guess we can say this now. You have *impressed* the press.



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## INSIDE THE PRESS ROOM

“What does the press even do?”

Delegates, we know that's a question you *think* you know the answer to-We sit. We giggle. We gossip-Of course we do! However, that's not where it stops.

Constant vigilance is our motto as we see everything you do, hear everything you say, and make it our job to put that to good use. While you're debating and figuring out how to deal with that power delegate, we're running around getting all the juicy stuff because who wants to hear the word ‘boring’ after three days of MUN.

Day 1 for us is when we're just getting into the mood and our press head still loves us. The photographers get their best pictures while we writers just sit bored waiting for the best spice. We find time to put on makeup, paint our nails and even do each other's hair before committee starts. Day 2 is when that marriage starts to fall apart and our life gets much more intense and we make sure we don't miss any spice from your committees. Day 3 is when the divorce is almost finalized as our press head starts getting the press ‘press’urized and we don't even have time to breathe as we finish and make last minute changes to the La Voce. Fashion talks turn into focusing on writing the *modarated* and doing hair into pulling each other's hair to get their attention and ask them why they didn't finish their article.

“I can't life anymore.”

“When I say I want something today, I want it with me yesterday!” the candid words of extremely exhausted press head after just one and a half days of VHMUN, solid proof that being in press is no easy job. If ever Garima is your press head, make sure you submit your stuff *before* time because she wants work done and she wants it done quickly . Of course she can be equally fun and when you get on her good side, you can chit chat about music, gossip about the people in the conference and she's literally your best friend.

From rock paper scissors contests to decide committees to “why the hell didn't I get your pictures?” to discussing ‘the Neel Kabir award’ the press room has all the fun you could possibly want and more. So delegates, maybe you should consider joining press next year, but think it through for our task is hard, stressful and daunting and after three days, all you'll want to do is go home and **sleep**.

xoxo,

The Press Corps



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## 10 THINGS EVERY DELEGATE DOES AFTER A MUN

- a. Keep the placard in a special corner of your room.
- b. Committee group selfie posts on social media including #insidejokes.
- c. Keep sending messages through your delegation's chat although it has been one week after the conference.
- d. Find yourself continuously stalking the conference Facebook page just to make sure if they have posted any picture of you.
- e. Skimming through the press release 13924 times hoping to see your country name somewhere.
- f. Trying not to freak out about the amount of work you have left, thanks to the time you spent in the conference.
- g. Trying to stop your non-MUN friends from murdering you because they are tired of listening to your MUN gossip. (You constantly talk about Model UN, but this part of the year is the worst for them)
- h. Join all your efforts to avoid yourself from answering "the delegate of \_\_\_\_ believes that" instead of "I believe that" when called in class.
- i. Wondering why two weeks after the conference you keep finding crisis notes. They literally appear out of nowhere.
- j. Surviving Post-MUN depression IS a real thing.

## AWARDEES

### HSC

Best Delegate- USA  
Honourable Mention: Saudi Arabia, Pakistan and Syria

### UNHCR

Honourable Mention-USA,  
Ethopia and Jordan

### Press Corps

Best Delegate- Rutik Patil  
Honourable Mention: Triparna Ghose, Minal Shaik and Nitya Agarwala

### SC

Best Delegate-USA  
Honourable Mention- Iran and France

### SOCHUM

Best Delegate-Saudi Arabia  
Honourable-USA, Denmark, Qatar

**BEST DELEGATION:**  
**VIBGYOR High,**  
**MARATHAHALLI**

### UNW

Best delegate-Monaco  
Honourable Mention-USA, UK and Kenya

### DISEC

Best Delegate- Yemen  
Honourable Mention-UK, Israel and Iran

### Admin and Security

Best Delegate- Arjun Chopra  
Honourable Mention- Anusha Kunjibettu, Saipriya Yellayi and Pazen Langrana