



UN-FORUM

National Model United Nations 2014

Report of the Participation of Freie Universität Berlin

representing Montenegro

13 – 17 April 2014, New York City

Freie Universität Berlin



*'Montenegro is a civil, democratic, ecological and the state of social justice,
based on the rule of law.'*

The Constitution of Montenegro, Article 1

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National Model United Nations

2014

*Report of Participation of Freie Universität Berlin
representing Montenegro
13 – 17 April 2014, New York City*

Edited by
Petya Hristova and Peggy Wittke

supported by
Petrit Elshani, Christina Heroven, Oliver Märtin, Burcu Okur,
Michelle Ruiz and Junis Sahib

On behalf of the Berlin-Brandenburg Branch of the
United Nations Association of Germany

National Model United Nations 2014

The Delegation of Montenegro



The Delegation of Montenegro with the Deputy Secretary-General Jan Eliasson (in the middle of the picture)

Back row (from left to right):

Carly Evaeus, Sebastian Kugel, Prince Owusu Sekyere, Petrit Elshani, Christina Heroven, Oliver Märtin, Nina Hake, Rosa Galvez, Miezan Haile, Burcu Okur, Michelle Ruiz, Petya Hristova, Peggy Wittke (Faculty Adviser)

Front row (from left to right):

Stephanie Kutschmann, Enhui Shen, Junis Maxim Sahib, Lotta Schneidemesser

Absent:

Suvi Moilanen, Lucie Naundorf, Varja Savnik

Photo Credit: Eskinder Debebe (UNDPI)

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Foreword by the Head Delegates

"Welcome to the FU-Delegation for the National Model United Nations 2014! You are officially now member of the MONTENEGRO Delegation – Congratulations!!!" And so the beginning of a team journey was announced by e-mail to us. But was it really the start for our passion for global issues and the possibilities to contribute to humanity? Well this may have showed its signs before, during and after the NMUN experience, what matters the most is that we already know that it will never end (as Peggy would say). We are proud of sharing with you *why*.

Following this letter, the legendary room 4405 was full of "I's" on a 2013 November afternoon. Students between 18 and 32 years, coming from quite all continents in the world (except for Australia) and whose academic background ranged from History to Geology, going through Sociology, Literature, Economics, Chemistry and Law met for the first time.

Did it already sound challenging if constructing the "we"-soul of the Montenegro Delegation was desired? In fact, our unique personalities posed the main difficulties/contributions so that *knowing* that we relied on each other got actually *felt* (and remained) as it. We invested the best of our resources and capacities (you see the diplomatic language gets stuck to your identity, too) in order to dig into Montenegro's history, current situation and objectives; to understand the roots and development of main challenges for humanity; to elaborate links between varied actors and their discourse, agency and engagement in the international relations; motivated by the aim of building a strategy, a positivist proposal under negativist conditions for a better world (quoting Deputy Secretary-General Jan Eliasson).

It took a lot of sleepless nights, presentations, debates, additional meetings and endless research. But the best part of this process was the permanent cooperation and infinite laugh that accompanied it. While learning about the UN and Montenegro we were discovering new capabilities on ourselves and trained really hard for developing them as skills. Always keeping our heads up, sure of our voices and at the same time keeping it humble, result from six months of becoming a Delegation.

Beyond being merely descriptive reports, the following pages tell the story of 20 (19 Delegates plus Peggy) minds and hearts on their adventures on their way to, as well as, having arrived to the committee sessions at the NMUN 2014 conference held in New York. We do not want all that we learnt from conversations with national and international diplomats; from joining efforts with hundreds of students we have just known while visiting the UN Headquarters, the Montenegrin and EU Mission in the stage of one of the most vibrant cities to remain with us, or worse in NY.

Here is to all the sponsors that made this fantastic journey through the UN and ourselves possible; to the FU Berlin, to Peggy Wittke, to our family and friends, but above all to those wishing to keep this project transforming (their) lives and, even better, the world we share.

Michelle Ruiz and Petrit Elshani



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1. The National Model United Nations Conference

The *National Model United Nations* (NMUN) was founded in 1946 as a successor to the *Model League of Nations* which originated in 1923. These programmes are directed at students to offer thorough and detailed information on the United Nations system and the work and function of international organisations by means of an authentic simulation. The popularity of the *Model United Nations* programme has risen constantly over the years. Meanwhile, these programmes are also being offered at high schools – in the United States more than 200,000 high school and college students take part in the simulations annually. The great acceptance of *Model United Nations* is not limited to the United States: today *Model United Nations* take place in more than 25 countries throughout the world including Germany. Freie Universität Berlin organizes, together with different co-operation partners like the *Federal Foreign Office*, various *Model United Nations* conferences throughout the year in Berlin.

The *National Model United Nations* today is the largest simulation of the *United Nations* in the world. Each year more than 5,000 students from North America, Latin America, Asia, Africa and Europe take part in the conference, which is held for five days at the Hilton Hotel or the Sheraton Hotel & Towers, New York, and the *United Nations Headquarters*. The *National Model United Nations* is sponsored by the *National Collegiate Conference Association*, a non-profit organisation, which works closely with the United Nations and was granted the consultative status by the Economic and Social Council in 1995. The Board of Directors co-ordinates and supervises the simulation. The conference is administered by a 55-member Secretariat which is composed of graduate and undergraduate students who are elected annually. Head of the Secretariat is the Secretary-General, supported by a Director-General and a Chief of Staff.



Each participating university represents a United Nations Member State or non-governmental organization at the conference. According to reality, these Member States and non-governmental organizations are represented in different committees and international organizations. It is the task of the Delegations to make themselves acquainted with the history and policy of their country or non-governmental organization in order to act as realistic

as possible at the conference. In addition, it is necessary to lay down the position concerning the different topics that will be negotiated during the sessions. The visit at the *Permanent Mission to the United Nations* offers the valuable opportunity to gather first-hand background information by consulting high-ranking diplomats.

During the five days of the conference, the Delegates of the various committees strive to work out proposals and draft resolutions. At that point it becomes clear that the knowledge, which has to be obtained, cannot be limited to the country or non-governmental organization represented, but has to include information on ‘friends and foes’ as well, in order to get into contact with the proper partners during negotiations.

The participating students are expected to behave as active diplomats, who have to formulate their positions and try to enforce them, but at the same time have to be open-minded towards compromises, always taking into consideration the special interests of the represented nation or non-governmental organization. This marks one of the major attractions of the *National Model United Nations* conference: each Delegate has to participate in the negotiations by ensuring that his nation's/non-governmental organization's interests are taken into account. By the reaction of the other Delegates, failures are immediately realized, as well as – most importantly – success.

At the end of the conference, voting procedures take place at the *United Nations Headquarters*. Selected resolutions are on the floor of the General Assembly Plenary and the Economic and Social Council. The passing resolutions are forwarded to the Secretary-General of the United Nations, Mr. Ban Ki-moon, as the official result of the *National Model United Nations*.

2. The Berlin NMUN 2014 Delegation



Petrit Elshani is a 7th semester Law student from Prishtina, Kosovo. Upon completion of the 6th semester of his basic studies at the Faculty of Law of the University of Prishtina, he was awarded an Erasmus Mundus Scholarship to conclude his studies at the FU Berlin. As an elite Law student and an admirer of the noble principles the UN was founded upon, the NMUN Conference represented an excellent opportunity for him to be provided with in-depth insight of the

working procedures within the United Nations System and influence the flow of the discussions with an intriguingly unique perspective.

At NMUN 2014 he represented Montenegro in the General Assembly Third Committee with Nina Hake.

Carly Evaeus is Swedish-American and spent her childhood in both Stockholm and New York. Her interest in globalization, development and sustainability has for years urged her to get involved with organizations and people working for change. This interest deepened while working for Tällberg Foundation, a thought leading organization and organizer of the prestigious annual Tällberg Forum, and after about five years of practical experience in the field, she began her studies in Global Development at Stockholm University as a means of strengthening her knowledge in this area.



At NMUN 2014 she represented Montenegro in the United Nations Environment Programme together with Sebastian Kugel.



Rosa Gálvez is a graduated Law student from Ecuador. In 2007 she moved to Berlin where she completed her Magister Legum (LL.M.). Rosa is currently studying Business Administration at FU Berlin in her third semester. Her main fields of interest are Business and Finances. Rosa views NMUN as a great opportunity to improve her negotiations and debating skills, expand her understanding and knowledge of

international issues, and on the negotiation processes of the UN Organs, as well as being able to skillfully perform real-life diplomacy.

At NMUN 2014 she represented Montenegro in the United Nations High Commissioner on Refugees Committee with Stephanie Kutschmann.

Miezan Haile was born in Frankfurt, to Eritrean parents. Growing up in a highly political environment, she decided to study Law at the Humboldt University of Berlin. After participating in the Erasmus Exchange Programme and studying one year in Istanbul, she is currently specializing on Intellectual Property Law. Miezan believes that NMUN offers a unique opportunity to get an in-depth insight of the procedures of global politics.



At NMUN 2014 she represented Montenegro in the General Assembly Second Committee with Christina Heroven.



Nina Hake was born in 1994. She grew up and attended highschool in Berlin. Nina is currently studying law at FU Berlin in her 3rd semester. During her volunteering activities for *Terre des hommes*, she realized that human rights are her main field of interest. With her participation at NMUN, she hopes to broaden her knowledge of international relations and especially of the United Nations. Furthermore, she sees the project as a great

chance to come in contact with people from all over the world and to experience intercultural political discussions.

At NMUN 2014 she represented Montenegro in the General Assembly Third Committee with Petrit Elshani.

Christina Heroven is a Biochemistry student from Chile. She's currently enrolled in a Master's Program at FU Berlin, where she's specializing in Structural Biochemistry. Christina is particularly interested in democratization processes in Latin America and in the development of science and technology in developing countries. Before participating at NMUN she visited several courses and lectures at the Institute for Latin American Studies.



At NMUN 2014 she represented Montenegro in the General Assembly Second Committee with Miezian Haile.



Petya Hristova is a Political Science student, born in Bulgaria in 1991. After successfully completing her Bachelor studies in Political Science at the Otto-Suhr-Institute at FU Berlin she has begun her Master Studies at the East Europe Institute in order to continue her specialization in exploring state and society in this fascinating region. Beyond her study interests she made an internship at the *Federation of German*

Scientists and engaged in the institute life as editor at the Otto-Suhr-Institute (OSI) magazine and freshmen' mentor. NMUN will provide for her the great opportunity to apply the theoretical knowledge about the United Nations that she has acquired during her Bachelor studies and also practice bargaining in Global Politics.

At NMUN 2014 she represented Montenegro in the Human Rights Council with Enhui Shen.

Sebastian Kugel has German and Austrian roots and is studying Meteorology at FU Berlin since 2011 with special focus on synoptic meteorology, urban climate and weather forecasting. He joined excursions on urban microclimate research in Egypt and is in preparation for an excursion to Kenya. His participation at NMUN is due to get experience in international politics regarding climate protection and ecological affairs.



At NMUN 2014 he represented Montenegro in the United Nations Environment Programme together with Carly Evaeus.



Stephanie Kutschmann, born in Berlin, is currently enrolled in the Master's program of Contemporary History. After writing her Bachelor thesis on US-Iranian relations and working at the German Federal Foreign Office during the summer of 2013, NMUN 2014 will help her pursue her interest in diplomacy, a field in which she hopes to explore further in the future. In Berlin, she works as a student counselor at FU Berlin and is the President of the International Club.

At NMUN 2014 she represented Montenegro in the United Nations High Commissioner on Refugees Committee together with Rosa Galvez.

Oliver Märtin, born in Rostock, studies History and Political Science as an undergraduate at the FU Berlin. By serving as an intern for a member of the German Bundestag during highschool, he discovered early his passion for public service. He served as a member of the First German Youth Parliament consisting of children born in the Year of the German Reunification and served as a delegate for the 7. German-Russian Youth Parliament. Since 2012, he is a Youth Ambassador for ONE, which is fighting Extreme Poverty and found there his passion for development policies.



At NMUN 2014 he represented Montenegro at the United Nations Population Fund together with Lotta Schneidemesser.



Suvi Moilanen is a Finnish student from the University of Eastern Finland. She holds a Bachelor's degree in European Law and is currently completing her Master's degree at FU Berlin as an exchange student. Suvi has also studied International Law and Relations and was previously on exchange at Al Akhawayn University in Morocco. She has gained international experience through internships at the European Commission

and UNESCO Bangkok and has a particular interest in human rights and foreign policy.



Lucie Naundorf is a German student of the Master Program Sociology – European Societies at Freie Universität Berlin. She participated in the NMUN in order to get acquainted with the modes of action of international organizations and on the level of global politics.

Burcu Okur was born in Berlin and is of Turkish and Chechen origin. Her current field of studies is business administration. She cannot imagine a better way than the National Model United Nations to participate in a dialogue with students from all around the world and discuss current political issues. She thinks that the NMUN project provides a unique platform of knowledge sharing with students from different study areas and cultural backgrounds, which is why she decided to join.



At NMUN 2014 she represented Montenegro in the General Assembly Fourth Committee together with Junis Sahib.



engaged in EU and Ecuador's Parliament models.

Michelle Ruiz comes from Ecuador's capital Quito and has been studying Sociology and Political Science at Humboldt University in Berlin since she finished highschool in 2012. Nevertheless, Michelle's interest for politics and social dynamics was always present in her interests and academic formation. She organized social cooperation projects in her role as students speaker, and beyond UN simulations, she has also been

At NMUN 2014 she represented Montenegro in the General Assembly First Committee together with Prince Owusu Sekyere.

Junis Sahib was born and grew up in Berlin. After spending a year in New Zealand and performing his civilian service in Berlin, he started his studies on International Management and Applied business language in Arabic in Bremen. He now studies Political Science in Berlin and is highly interested in International Relations, European politics, and political questions concerning the Middle East.



At NMUN 2014 he represented Montenegro in the General Assembly Fourth Committee together with Burcu Okur.



Varja Savnik is a 22 year old student from Slovenia. She is studying Law at the University of Ljubljana and is currently doing her Master's degree at FU Berlin. She is specializing in international law and relations. In the future, she wishes to practice international law or work in one of the European or World's organizations.

Lotta Schneidemesser has studied in New Zealand researching Maori literature and culture. She has worked on a Native American reserve in the United States of America, as well as spending time in Ireland and France. She is currently completing her Masters Degree in Applied Literature at FU Berlin.

At NMUN 2014 she represented Montenegro in the United Nations Population Fund together with Oliver Märtin.





Prince Owusu Sekyere is a final year law student of the University of Westminster interested in International Public Relations and Commercial Law. He is a German citizen and was born in Ghana. After his Abitur in Hamburg he moved to England for his legal Education through which he got the opportunity to spend his penultimate year at FU Berlin where he got introduced to NMUN. The experience made at the simulation in New York showed that international Cooperation, political willingness and treating every disaster as one occurring in our own country are keys to resolving

international issues. These and other experiences such as meeting and speaking and maintaining contact to students from other school who are also interested in international relations have had an effect on him wanting to be engaged diplomatically in solving international issues such as the Ebola epidemic.

At NMUN 2014 he represented Montenegro in the General Assembly First Committee together with Michelle Ruiz.

Enhui Shen is pursuing a Master of Law on International Law at FU Berlin. She studied at the Law School of Inner Mongolia and Peking University and after achieving her Bachelor, she has worked for International Bridges to Justice in Geneva, which is the leading organization focusing on human rights law, international criminal law and promoting rule of law in developing countries. She wishes to expand her knowledge on legal systems in the world and to know how states and international organizations overcome challenges they are facing.



At NMUN 2014 she represented Montenegro in the Human Rights Council together with Petya Hristova.

3. The Republic of Montenegro – An Introduction

Some Facts

The Republic of Montenegro is a country in Southeastern Europe. Located on the Adriatic Sea its neighbors are Croatia to the west, Bosnia and Herzegovina to the northwest, Serbia to the northwest, Kosovo to the east, and Albania to the south-east. The area of Montenegro is only 13,812 km² and the capital city is Podgorica, which is also the largest city in the country. Etymologically „Montenegro“ can be transliterated into „Black Mountain“ which also gives evidence to the character of the landscape. The Mountains of Montenegro created one of the rockiest regions in Europe. This extraordinary Diversity of geological base, landscape, climate and soil brought into being

a one-of-a-kind biodiversity, which is home for lots of unique species. For example out of 526 European bird species 333 are regularly present in Montenegro. The history of modern Montenegro is rather short as it only exists in the form we know today since a Referendum in 2006 that made it independent from Serbia and Montenegro.

The 2011 census counted 625,266 citizens living on a density of 45/km². Montenegro is home to a variety of ethnical groups. These major ethnic groups are Montenegrins (Crnogorci) with 44.98%, Serbs (Srbi) with 28.73, Bosniaks (Bošnjaci) with 8.65, Albanians (Albanci – Shqiptarët) with 4.91% and Croats (Hrvati) with 0.97%. Besides Montenegrin being the official language Serbian, Bosnian, Albanian and Croatian are spoken.

The vast majority of Montenegrins is Christian. Religious groups that form majorities in some of the countries regions are Muslims. Most Montenegrins, 72.07% are part of the Eastern Orthodox Church, ranging second is Islam with 19.11%.

With a total unemployment rate of 41.1%, Montenegro is ranked 11th worldwide concerning unemployment. Only 1.5% of the total population is illiterate.

Communication-wise Montenegro ranks 131st worldwide with 163,000 telephone land-lines and 154th worldwide with 1.126 million mobile cellular connections. Also concerning Internet users Montenegro is 133rd worldwide with 280,000.

The transportation system in Montenegro is composed by 5 airports, 250 km of railways and 7,763 km of roadways.

Source: CIA Factbook

History

Early History and Middle Ages

The history of Montenegro dates back to the ages of Roman hegemony over the Balkan Peninsula. At that time the territory of Montenegro was a part of the Roman province Dalmatia. Under the Emperor Diocletian Southern Dalmatia became a separate province, Dioclea. In the 7th century the northwest part of the Balkan Peninsula was invaded by Slav tribes. The tribe of the Serbs settled in the territory of the Western Balkans and founded several principalities. The most southern principality which covered today's Montenegro was called Zeta or Duklia. From Zeta came the Nemanjiden Family, under whose rule the Serbian Empire became a great power in the region. After the Christianization of the population in the 9th century, the Chief Zupan Stefan I Nemanja embraced the Orthodox Faith; his son Sava was appointed first Orthodox Archbishop of Serbia in 1221.

After the battle of Amsfeld in 1389 Zeta became a refuge for the Serbs who refused to submit to the Osman rule. At the beginning of the 15th century, Iwan Cernojewic secured the sovereign authority for himself as a vassal of the Venetian Republic. During this period the province received the name of Crnagora, or Montenegro. In 1516, the prince abdicated and the people invested the bishop (vladika) with supreme secular authority. He was both spiritual and temporal ruler of the little state, although he named a governor to conduct war and administer justice. The Turks made repeated attacks during the 15th century on the freedom of the mountain kingdom. The Montenegrins were finally forced to make their submission, and from about 1530 had to pay tribute to the Sandjak of

Scutari. In domestic affairs, however, they remained independent. In 1696, Danilo Petrovic, was elected Vladika and made the episcopal dignity hereditary in his house. Danilo introduced closer relationships with Russia.

Early Modern and Modern History

The most prosperous era of Montenegro opened with the reign of Vladika Peter I Petrovic (1777-1830), who repelled unaided a fierce attack of the Turks in 1796 and rendered valuable aid to the Russians against the French during the Napoleonic wars. His successor Peter II Petrovic, educated in St. Petersburg, rendered valuable services to his country by raising its intellectual and commercial conditions. He founded schools, instituted a system of taxation and established the state's senate. Danilo (1851 – 1860) changed Montenegro into a secular state, dispensed with episcopal consecration and undertook the administration as a secular prince. Russia and Austria recognized Montenegro as a hereditary, secular and independent state. The Porte refused its recognition and sent expedition of 60 000 men against it; Austria interfered on Montenegro's behalf. At the Congress of Berlin Turkey recognized the political independence of Montenegro, the territory of which was more than doubled after forming an alliance with the Bosnians and defeating the Turks.

When Austria annexed Bosnia and Herzegovina in October 1908 it annihilated the dreams of Montenegro and Serbia of a United Serbian Empire. In 1900, Prince Nikita received the title Royal Highness, and in August 1910, with the consent of all Great Powers he had himself crowned king. In 1905, he granted the country a constitution and a national assembly (Skupshtina) elected by popular suffrage every four years.

First World War

The disastrous impacts the First World War had on the world, did not leave Montenegro untouched. During World War I, Montenegro fought on the side of the Allies and was defeated by Austro-German forces. Eventually, Nicholas/ Nikita was forced to flee the country which had impacts on the national sovereignty. In the absence of its ruler Montenegro was annexed to Serbia, then called the Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats, and Slovenes, and renamed Yugoslavia in 1929, the first Yugoslavia. Then during the mid - 1920s the Yugoslav Communist Party arose and Josip Broz Tito was to become leader in 1937.

Second World War

Hitler invaded Yugoslavia on multiple fronts followed by the Italians. In fact, Benito Mussolini occupied Montenegro in 1941 and it became a protectorate of Fascist Italy. With the diplomatic and military support of Churchill and other Allied powers the Partisans controlled much of Yugoslavia by 1943. After the departure of the Italians and the German's defeat in 1944, Josip Broz and Tito's Partisans assumed control and entered Belgrade with the Red Army. On 20 October 1944 Tito was made prime minister.

Montenegro within Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia

After WW II, Yugoslavia became a Communist Republic under Tito, the „Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia“. Montenegro then was one of the six republics forming the Republic. Tito created a one party state without any opposition allowed. In 1971

reformers within the Communist Party called for greater economic autonomy and constitutional reform to loosen ties within the Yugoslav federation. By the 1990s, Yugoslavia started to disintegrate in a brutal ten-year civil war.

The Republic of Montenegro within the „third Yugoslavia“

After the collapse of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia which happened in consecution to the Yugoslavian Wars and the independence of Slovenia, Croatia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, and Macedonia, Serbia and Montenegro formed a loose state union, the so called „third Yugoslavia“. The establishment of a new constitution and the implementation of democratic elements in Montenegro characterized the next years. An abandonment of all communist symbols included a change of the flag, a change of the capitals name from Titograd to Podgorica, and a change of the political system, including a multi-party system, in which the communist party plays an important role until today. Montenegro at that time already showed signs of separatism, expressing a non-willingness to contribute to the costs of the war anymore. Montenegro only agreed to unification under Serbian pressure and since 1996 showed signs of growing separatism. Montenegro is of great importance to Serbia due to its access to the sea. The new president of Montenegro, Dukanovic, set the course to independence; one of the new economic policies was the adoption of the Deutsche Mark.

The State Union of Serbia and Montenegro

The end of the State union of Serbia and Montenegro was also the end of the name of “Yugoslavia”. Economic sanctions, which were put upon Serbia at that time, due to political issues related to the struggle for independence by some former Yugoslavian provinces also affected Montenegro in terms of economy, and politics. The sanctions included sanctions on flights, air embargo, an oil embargo, bans on credits, and bans on visas. These sanctions were imposed by the United States, the European Union and the United Nations.

Montenegro was then kept off the NATO-led attack due to its neutral position in the Kosovo War in 1999, although some of the NATO targets were on Montenegrin territory. After Milosevic lost power in 2000, Montenegro spoke out for full independence and in 2003 adopted a new charter and a new name for the loose state union of Serbia and Montenegro.

The independent State of Montenegro

The vote for independence in 2006 was expressed by a referendum in which 419.240 votes were cast, which covered 86.5 % of the total electorate. In the referendum 55.5 % voted with “yes” and 44.5 % with “no” as they opposed the independence of Montenegro. The threshold set by the European Union for the acceptance of the referendums’ result was at 55% and was therefore narrowly hit.

As Montenegro officially left the union with Serbia it had to apply newly to all international institutions whereas Serbia as the legal successor of the former state adopted all former positions of Serbia and Montenegro. There was also a new application to the United Nations and on the 28th of June 2006 Montenegro became the 192nd member of the UN.

Political System

Constitution of Government

By adopting the Constitution of Montenegro in 2007, the former Constitutional Parliament of Montenegro established the separation of powers into the legislative, the executive and the judicial power (Art. 11). Henceforward, the Republic of Montenegro is defined as a civic, democratic and ecological country with social justice based on the rule of law (Art. 1).

Executive

The President of Montenegro is the head of state (Art. 96) and is directly elected every 5 years with a maximum mandate of 2 terms. The President's main responsibilities consist in the representation of Montenegro within the country and abroad, proposing the Prime Minister to the Legislative and commanding over the army (Art. 95). Filip Vujanovic is the current President of Montenegro since 2003, reelected in 2008 and 2013. While being a member of the Democratic Party of Socialists (DPS), Vujanovic replaced Milo Djukanovic who filled the position from 1998 – 2003.

The Government is composed of the Prime Minister, the Deputy Prime Minister(s) and the ministers, while the Prime Minister represents the Government and manages its work (Art. 102). If the Prime Minister's work is not approved by the Parliament, the Prime Minister and the Government can be recalled by a vote of no-confidence (Art. 107). Nevertheless, the Government may raise the issue of confidence before the Parliament (Art. 106). Since 2012, Milo Djukanovic is the Prime Minister of the Republic of Montenegro and currently attends his fourth term in office.

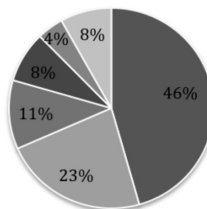
Legislative

According to Art. 11 of the constitution, the Parliament of Montenegro exercises the legislative power. The Parliament is directly elected for a 4 year-term and consists of 81 members (Art. 83, 84). It is mainly in charge with passing all laws, ratifying international treaties, appointing the Prime Minister, ministers and justices of all courts and adopting the budget (Art. 82).

Montenegro owns a multi-party system, in which parties must work together in order to form coalition governments. At present, the ruling majority of the Democratic Party of Socialists (DPS), the Liberal Party and the Social Democratic Party form the Coalition for European Montenegro since the elections in 2012.

Parliamentary elections results from 2012

- Coalition for European Montenegro
- Democratic Front
- Socialists People's Party of Montenegro
- Positive Montenegro
- Bosniak Party
- other parties



Judiciary

The judicial power is independent and only relies on the Constitution, laws and published international agreements (Art. 118). Based upon a three-instance court system, it consists of 15 basic courts, two High Courts, an Appellate Court and a Supreme Court, completed with two Commercial Courts and an Administrative Court. As the highest court in Montenegro, the Supreme Court ensures uniform application of the law by the courts. Its Court President is jointly proposed by the President of Montenegro, the Speaker of the Assembly and the Prime Minister, while other judges are elected by the Judicial Council (Art. 124, 125).

The Constitutional Court is assigned to deal with questions concerning the Constitution. Its judges are proposed by the President of Montenegro and elected by the Assembly Court. The Court President is elected among its members. Moreover, the Judicial Council of Montenegro secures the autonomy and independence of judiciary (Art. 126).

Montenegro's International Relations

Montenegro and the European Union

Integration into the *European Union* is one of the main priorities of the Montenegrin foreign policy. The membership aspirations are, indeed, greatly reflected in all aspects of its international relations and are carried out particularly by promoting the foreign policy of Montenegro through bilateral relations and in multilateral arenas. The EU recognized the independence of Montenegro and established relations with it as a sovereign country in June 2006. In 2010, it gained the status of a candidate country for EU membership. The actual accession negotiations started in June 2012 and currently, Montenegro is in the phase of harmonizing its legislation to meet the EU norms and standards. It is often considered to be the closest country to membership, i.e. the next country potentially accessing the EU. Joining the Union would bring Montenegro remarkable economic, societal, political and judicial benefits and, furthermore, foresees a comprehensive positive development of the country prior to the accession. According to the recent progress report (2013) issued by the European Commission, there are positive signs of progress in Montenegro's path towards the accession. It is of an utmost importance for Montenegro to engage in a regular political dialogue with the EU and develop its relations with individual EU member states further. Moreover, good neighborly relations and regional cooperation is a definite precondition for the membership.

Montenegro and NATO

Integration into the *North Atlantic Treaty Organization* (NATO) has been identified as a foreign policy priority by the Government of Montenegro. This strategic and highly important goal would guarantee security and stability for the country in order to pursue other equally important objectives. By joining this international organization and developing substantial relations with it through the *Partnership for Peace* (PfP) program as well as other mechanisms, Montenegro will have an optimal framework to prevent potential threats, challenges and risks for the stability of the country and the region as a whole. It will also promote an image of a stable democracy and improve economic development by attracting more foreign direct investment.

The key areas of cooperation between NATO and Montenegro include Security Cooperation, Defence and Security Sector Reform, Civil Emergency Planning, Science and Environment and Public Information. Beyond supporting reform, another key objective of NATO's cooperation with Montenegro is to develop the ability of the country's forces to work together with forces from NATO countries and other partners, especially in peacekeeping and crisis-management operations. Since 2010, the country has contributed to the NATO-led *International Security Assistance Force* (ISAF) in Afghanistan. It has also indicated its willingness to participate in the post-2014 follow-up mission to train and assist Afghan security forces, after ISAF's mission has ended.

Integration of Montenegro into NATO is closely tied to the accession of the country into the EU, as these are two parallel and compatible processes. In relation to this, democratic institutions, rule of law, market economy and security are necessary preconditions for any country that aspires to become a member of the EU and NATO. Montenegro is working hard to draw closer to NATO institutions by meeting Euro-Atlantic standards with the aim of joining the North Atlantic Treaty Organization. Following the June 2014 NATO Foreign Ministers Meeting, the Secretary General announced that NATO will open intensified and focused talks with Montenegro and will assess at the latest by the end of 2015 whether to invite Montenegro to join the Alliance.

Montenegro and the United Nations

Montenegro joined the United Nations on 28th June 2006 as the UN's 192nd Member State. Montenegro was admitted by a General Assembly resolution adopted by acclamation, upon recommendation by the Security Council according to Art. 4 of the UN Charter. Montenegro embraces freedom and the rule of law, and determined to promote international peace and security. Montenegro is seeking a non-permanent seat on the UN Security Council for the term 2026-2027, showing its dedication to maintaining international peace and security.

Montenegro is actively engaged in issues concerned by international community since the admission to the United Nations and has by now become a member of almost all UN funds and programmes, like the *United Nations Environment Programme* (UNEP), the *United Nations Children's Fund* (UNICEF) and the *United Nations Development Programme* (UNDP) as well as specialized agencies such as the *World Health Organization* (WHO) and the *International Labor Organization* (ILO). While taking an active part in these bodies to solve worldwide problems, Montenegro also receives support by several UN entities and hosts the *UN Country Team Montenegro* in the newly built *UN Shared Eco Premises* at the River Moraca which was especially designed using efficient and ecological technology.

On sustainable human development, for example, *UNDP Montenegro* supports the European Union accession priorities, building on its global development network with access to innovative solutions, knowledge, experience and resources. Montenegro promotes its social welfare reform, created the social card, and keeps pushing towards gender programmes in order to promote women's rights. On national democracy, as a candidate country of the European Union, Montenegro improved its legal procedures and developed local governance capacity while protecting the voice of civil societies.

On economic and environmental development, Montenegro initiated various projects, like the *Beautiful Cetinje* project which aims to reconstruct the cultural heritage of the

old royal city by means of economic and environmental revitalization measures, promotes the *Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan* and business clusters for sustainable economic growth in cooperation with different departments of the United Nations and non-governmental organizations. Montenegro works closely with UNDP on the *National Human Development Report* to fight against poverty, gender discrimination and other situations of inequality etc., taking its findings and recommendations seriously. Additionally, Montenegro has a multitude of joined programmes with UNDP and other UN-entities, as for example, the UN Youth Empowerment Programme, Good Health System Governance, National Response to HIV/AIDS, and Improving the Business Environment Through Green Jobs and Institution Building.

Montenegro and the Balkan Region

Montenegro's relations with its neighboring countries are remarkably good, especially considering the larger conflicts that affected the region in the 1990s. Montenegro has diplomatic relations with all of its neighbors, having instated embassies in all of them (with the exception of Kosovo). Montenegro often receives praise from the EU for fostering good neighborly relations. However, some border disputes remain unresolved and the border demarcation process has yet to be completed. One important contributing factor to the cooperation in the region, is the common strategic foreign policy goal of achieving EU membership. The Croatian experience is of great advantage in this aspect, since the successful accession negotiations serve as a useful example for the Balkan countries aspiring to enter the EU. Besides, Croatia will be a great support to Montenegro while the country undertakes the necessary reforms to meet the European requirements. In cooperation with Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia and Albania, Montenegro is attracting investments in tourism, energy and infrastructure, exemplified by the construction of the Nikšić – Čapljina railway and Plužine - Šćepan Polje roadway.

The relations with Serbia suffered in 2008, when Montenegro recognized the independence of Kosovo, but have improved in the last years. Some tensions remain, since Serbia does not approve of the accession of its neighboring countries to NATO. Montenegro maintains a close cooperation with Kosovo, especially because of the great number of Kosovars that fled to Montenegro during the Kosovo War in 1999. Other important cooperation partners in the region are Italy, a crucial supporter in the integration process to the EU and NATO and the top investor in Montenegro; Turkey, one of the most important Diaspora countries of Montenegrins and Greece, who has traditionally had good relations with Montenegro.

Following the spirit of good neighborly relations, Montenegro has proposed the '*Western Balkan Six*' initiative, with the aim of bringing together Montenegro, Serbia, Kosovo, Macedonia, Albania and Bosnia and Herzegovina and to strengthen regional cooperation. The initiative envisaged the formation of a common Parliamentary Assembly and a joint Balkan police, while the member countries would strive to fight corruption, develop more competitive economies and hopefully allow a swifter European integration.

Economy

According to OECD's 2012 Journal on Budgeting, "Montenegro was one of the world's fastest growing non-oil economies. The country pursued a vigorous privatization and

structural reform agenda, introduced a flat income tax at a rate of 9% (one of the lowest in Europe), and made large efforts to create a business-friendly environment. Foreign direct investments, equivalent to 40% of GDP, stimulated domestic demand and economic growth”.

Montenegro's economy is driven by sources such as agriculture and export of metal. However, it is heavily dependent on tourism. Comparing Montenegro to the six South Eastern European countries Montenegro has the highest GNI per capita Income which rose from \$2400 in 2003 to \$6940 in 2014 however with a decline of \$220 compared to 2012. Nonetheless the Balkan nation can boast of a reduction of poverty (from 11.3% in 2005 to 6.6% in 2010) and advancement in structural reforms in its preparation for the EU membership which is the government's main target. Structural reforms seen in the public sector, the financial sector and the investment climate have contributed to the advancement of the country's economy which has bettered its ranking in for example the 2014's Doing Business Report. According to this report, from 2013 to 2014 Montenegro has improved from 50th to 44th position among 189 countries as being an attractive place of doing business.

Despite these progress however, the country's strive to recover from the turmoil orchestrated by the Global economic crisis is hampered by the country's tendency to accumulate market factors which has proven to be inefficient in the long term. In contrast “productivity growth so far has been non-existent”. Montenegro is considered to have the advantage of being geographically well positioned at its disposal thus making the connection to the region as well as the world easy. However, it has not made much use of it to increase its export possibilities.

These and many other factors have been addressed in the December 2012 *Country Economic Memorandum* (CEM) named “Montenegro: Preparing for Prosperity-Ensuring Sustainability Connectivity and Flexibility for Dynamic growth” compiled by the World Bank. In this analysis, useful recommendations are made to assist the country achieve a long term economic fruitfulness. These included a focus on productivity growth of which just 0.6% could make way for a growth rate of 4% or more in the country. Sustaining this rate in the longer period could significantly improve the Montenegrin Living Standards. Considering the fact that public debt exceeds 62% of the GDP, a move towards building fiscal reserves and adopting and enforcing credible fiscal rules is inevitable. Also the need to improve the Banking system in Montenegro took some relevance on the “To do list”. The CEM also recognized the need to strengthen *Information and Communication Technologies* (ICT) as another factor the country's competitiveness on the International scale. Investment in ICT and the accompanying skills does not only foster knowledge but also contributes to the reduction of unemployment.

The topic of energy connectivity was similarly addressed in the CEM report. In response to this, the Montenegrin Government in 2013 opened bids for the construction of second Block of the PLJEVLJA power plant not only to reduce Montenegro's dependency on outside sources for the supply of energy but also enhance Foreign Direct Investment (FDI). Alongside this are the government's policies and plans to make use of its Hydro power energy from which Montenegrins will reap benefits. This is evidenced in the *Technical and Economic Consultancy Report* for the Moraca River Hydro Power Plant which states that “overall, the economic analysis predicts that going forward with the

investment in Morača HPP will bring benefits to the Montenegrin economy, if proper environmental and social management plans are adhered to.

The foregoing analysis points out possibilities of Montenegro to excel in the Balkan region and on the international scale. Nonetheless the country faces a number of problems such as corruption. The country has the potential of achieving a strong economy in the long run if more is done focusing on the CEM's three Pillars.

4. The Preparation Process in Berlin

Have you heard that metaphor of the little bird, who is taught to open his wings but only he alone can learn to fly by taking the risk? Indeed, that was us except we did not have that just one thing we had to learn from a single tutor. We were fortunate enough to be guided by Faculty Advisors, diplomats and NMUN expert students. Even more, we had each other to discover our skills and improve them; how to do international relations research, analyzing complex issues and negotiating possible solutions, as well as training our speaking skills were main achieved objectives after jumping towards the cliff; though, which steps lead us there?



As traditional from any meeting at Luise, the ice got broken really quickly. We soon understood that as a team cooperation by organization and knowledge sharing were essential. So we focused on four parallel issues: getting to know the United Nations as an institution, becoming literate on Montenegro, linking the former mentioned by representing our nation as qualified diplomats and keeping track of the logistic advances through our engagement at the Task Forces.

Having the UN-Charter in one hand and some pragmatic Security Council and General Assembly resolutions in the other, we looked after the reasons of its founding and the agreements that had to be done, in order to structure it as such. Key issues like the responsibility to protect, peace and security, what does International Public Law actually mean and why disarmament is such a sensible topic were carefully analyzed in our first sessions.

As for Montenegro, however, we inquired from different perspectives, which are the current challenges for our country and how could it potentially contribute to the international community, facing not only armed conflicts, but also climatic and socio-demographic emergencies. Each of us also specialized on three topics belonging to eight different committees. Well, before rushing to any proposals; an overview of the historical, economic, political, social and cultural developments in the country were required. Thus, by presenting those topics to our comrades we looked for a common point of departure while aiming to determine Montenegro's position in the UN landscape.

Not only why migration (particularly of ROMA and refugees), natural disasters, disarmament, women empowerment and religious tolerance are global issues were examined by us, but we searched for Montenegro's national policy, also, in order to acknowledge its discourse's and practical political commitment. We were near to the first jump on our own; redacting our position papers: This was the point when even if we felt that being meticulous in plenty editing rounds was exhausting, we realized it was worth it (since it required profound research and strategic positioning) and assumed it as a common project. Indeed, we specialized on particular matters but we constantly shared suggestions and our questions to our comrades so that we could improve our statements until we confirmed they reflected Montenegro's concerns, commitment and potentials (or reverse?).

After our Christmas Party we finally elected our Head Delegates, Michelle and Petrit, who assumed organization and guiding responsibilities. Nonetheless, the engagement of each Delegation Member was great regarding our specific tasks; which could be demonstrated in our main fundraising event: the Fundraising dinner. We soon realized that the profits would not significantly contribute to our five digits' future debt, but it would definitely motivate us and other potential NMUN Delegates. So food from the whole world was served at the FU International Club's tables and we even had live Balkan music to enjoy with our main sponsors, our friends. Additionally, another fundraising attempt should be mentioned in spite of the difficulties; we kindly thank our comrades, who donated blood; in order to get 25€ euros each for the team.

Getting comfortable with NMUN rules and procedures; as well as learning how to behave as diplomats, required also the best of our energies while we were lucky to have the best guidance of Prof. Vergau's long diplomatic carrier experience. For instance, while simulating two Security Council sessions (organized and moderated by Prof. Vergau himself) we had valuable impressions on how complex it is to conceal pluralist interests and come to an agreement. Still, as the Delegation of Montenegro we were sure that we could offer proposals in benefit of all the nations. So we focused on how to propose and promote them, how could we pass from the discourse to a working paper and finally a resolution. We therefore organized another didactic simulation, which we called MUNtenegro and was essential for once again sharing our doubts and recommendations, from negotiation tips to a concrete national strategy.

Concluding this briefing on our preparation, like little birds in learning process, we took the risk of flying to New York, getting to know the UN really close and getting into diplomat's shoes. We thank everybody who taught and helped us to give the first steps and believed in us so that full of confidence and commitment we could even dare to amend the rules of the sky, because we refuse to recognize whatever could stop our flight.

4.1 Emergency Session of the Security Council: Incident in the East China Sea

The Emergency Session of Security Council took place on 13th December 2013 and it was set up as a practice session during which we had the chance to familiarize ourselves with the Rules of Procedure and diplomatic speeches in preparation for the NMUN Conference in New York. The emergency session was summoned due to a (supposed) incident in the East China Sea. China's shooting of a Japanese military aircraft on 10th December 2013 caused three casualties, one American, one South Korean and one

Japanese pilot. As a response to the occurrence, Japan called for an emergency session at the United Nations.

On 23rd November 2013, an *Air Defense Identification Zone* (ADIZ) was established by China. The United States set up their Air Defense Zone in the 1950s, Japan had them for 44 years. Prior to the incident in the East China Sea, Japan extended its zone in 2012 to include the Senkaku/Diaoya Islands. The islands have been at the center of a territorial dispute between China and Japan for years. According to the information given for our simulation, on December 10th, 2013 a Japanese military aircraft flew over the Senkaku Islands, China asked the aircraft to identify which they ignored. For the Chinese government, this action was seen as a provocation and a risk to their population. Therefore, the Chinese government shot down the Japanese military aircraft justified by Article 51 of the Charter of the United Nations on the basis of its right of self-defense.

The session started with the speaker's list, including statements of most countries on the issue. Most of the countries had a neutral position and were leaning towards a regional solution, meaning negotiations between Japan and China moderated by a mediator. During a moderated caucus and informal caucus all members of the Security Council were working on a resolution. The session resulted in



one working paper aiming to condemn Chinese actions and one resolution which proposed direct negotiations between China and Japan moderated by the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the creation of a peace zone until the dispute was settled. The resolution failed to pass with the vote of 10 in favor, 4 against, 1 abstention. Due to the veto of the United States and China, the resolution was bound to fail.

The Emergency Session simulation was a first practical exercise that us to get to know the rules and procedure of the United Nations. All participating students represented their respective countries well and were looking forward to represent Montenegro at NMUN 2014.

4.2 Visit to the German Federal Foreign Office

In preparation for the conference in New York, our Delegation had the opportunity to attend a session at the *Federal Foreign Office* (Auswärtiges Amt - AA) on 17 December 2014 to become familiar with diplomacy and German foreign policy approaches. The group listened closely to **Dr. Ramin Moschtaghi** who works for Section 500 (International Public Law) and **Mr. Kai Baldow** who is the Deputy Head of the *Foreign Service Academy* at the Foreign Office involved in the selection process of prospective employees.

Dr. Moschtaghi opened the session with a short introduction to his work at the AA during which he elaborated on the numerous fields he is involved in, e.g. international tax questions, UN resolutions or to mandate foreign deployment. Dr. Moschtaghi is a lawyer

by training and works on the legal framework of German foreign policy decisions. Mr. Baldow is an *Alumnus* of Freie Universität Berlin (Faculty of Law) and participated in the FU-NMUN Delegation in 1996. He kindly introduced the different services at the AA and talked to the students about being a diplomat and what this lifestyle entails. Furthermore, he answered questions about his time as a Delegate at NMUN. We were very happy to have the opportunity of another meeting with Mr. Baldow, on 22 January 2014 he visited us at FU Berlin and shared his experiences as a German Diplomat in the *Human Rights Council* in Geneva, a posting he held prior to coming back to Berlin. He provided us with many details of the procedures and negotiations at the Council, remarking that there were not many differences between negotiations at NMUN and a “real” international body such as the *Human Rights Council*.

The visit to the AA gave us the opportunity to ask questions to German Diplomats first hand and experience diplomacy directly. Therefore, this session was an important asset for us in our conference preparation. We like to thank Mr. Moschtaghi and Mr. Baldow for welcoming us at the Federal Foreign Office and providing us with valuable insights in German foreign policy and diplomacy.

In addition, we want to thank **Prof. Dr. Hajo Vergau** for connecting us with the Auswärtige Amt and his continued support in the preparation process for NMUN in New York. We especially value his advice and encouragement during our simulation of a Session on Security Council Reform which we enjoyed immensely!



4.3 Visit of the Montenegrin Ambassador to Germany at Freie Universität Berlin

As the Delegation representing Montenegro at the National Model United Nations Conference, we had the great pleasure of receiving the Ambassador of Montenegro to Germany, Ms. **Vera Joličić-Kuliš**, for a visit to our University on 13 March 2014.

She was born in Annweiler/Rheinland Pfalz, as a “Gastarbeitkind”, moving then mid 1980 with her family back to former Yugoslavia, i.e. Montenegro. She finished her law studies at the national university. Subsequently, having done a clerkship, she joined the Foreign Ministry of Montenegro. Rapidly her talent and commitment brought her to head

the cabinet of the Foreign Minister and then to be sent to the Montenegrin Embassy in Berlin where she was appointed as Ambassador.

Ms. Joličić-Kuliš began her briefing by pointing out Montenegro's foreign policy priorities which she called out as being EU and short-term NATO membership, good neighbourly relations in the Balkan region and the development of bi-and multilateral cooperation on the international scale.

She emphasized the EU membership as being very crucial for Montenegro. One of the main reasons is that Montenegro does not want to remain at Europe's front door, but actually – contrary to what many may believe –, the country has always been part of Europe. Now, as the negotiations proceed since June 2012, Montenegro is closer than ever to becoming a member of the European Union. But this would have never been possible without the political will of the Montenegrin Government and support of the people, who according to the polls, agree with a large majority (70% of the population) on such a historic enterprise. In this sense, the Ambassador added that Montenegro, being a country that has witnessed the horrific impacts of the Balkan conflicts, regards EU membership first of all as a symbol of peace, freedom and stability.

When a question from one of the Delegation members came regarding the steps which have been taken so far to accede to the EU, she underlined the new EC approach in negotiation talks, focusing on Chapter 23 (Judiciary and Fundamental Rights) and Chapter 24 (Justice, Freedom and Security). However, she highlighted that even if *"laws are easier to pass, they must be filled with life and given the essence they ought to exhibit among their audience. In order for this to happen, there is the need for a change of mentality and that means transformation of the whole society"*. Good signs of advancement are the political stability and continuity within the country, as well as the economic development and the improvement of the rule of law, which have also impulsed Montenegro on its path to the Euro-Atlantic integration. Recent polls on Montenegro's accession to NATO have not shown that there is a widespread agreement, unlike the EU's case but still, the Ambassador pointed out the significance of joining NATO as the path without alternative for long lasting security and stability in the Balkan.



Furthermore, regarding the *Copenhagen Criteria*, she stated that there is no hierarchy between political, economic and the *acquis* criteria, since they are highly interrelated with each other and thus equally important. At the same time, she pointed out problems such as corruption and environmental difficulties, which the country is taking concrete steps to tackle. Fortunately, for this means, Montenegro has developed a cooperation strategy even beyond the region. Worth to mention in this case is Germany as a main partner, which actively and constructively has provided development support since 2000 and until 2012, through the BMZ, but due to the positive results is even planning to extend its commitment towards Montenegro until 2015.

An important topic to be discussed was also Human Rights. Particularly in relation to the Roma and LGBT community, the Ambassador confirmed that Montenegro is doing a hard work on assuring their integration into the society dynamics. The country has been providing a safe haven for the Roma community over a significant period of time and especially during the Kosovo conflict in 1999 and promotes synergetic societal efforts to give tolerance a priorital role, in order to facilitate and enhance a harmonious habitation among all the peoples of Montenegro.

We are very grateful to Ambassador Joličić-Kuliš for accepting our invitation and even more her optimism and encouraging words about our performance at the upcoming National Model United Nations Conference. We would like to express our sincere thankfulness for her time and effort and will remain very fond of our nice group picture together with the Ambassador of Montenegro!

5. The UN Study Tour in New York

Our Delegation received one of the biggest highlights of the first week in the Big Apple by visiting UN Headquarters located along the East River. The Head of the UNHQ Visiting Center, Mrs. **Elisabeth Waechter**, took time personally to give us a Guided Tour. We enjoyed this privilege to visit this indispensable multilateral institution with respect to global politics. And after passing comprehensive security, our Delegation got the first impressions from the inside:

The Construction for the main UN Headquarters complex began in 1948 and was completed in 1952. The UN Complex consists of four main buildings: The General Assembly Building, the Secretariat Building, a conference building and the Dag Hammarskjöld Library. The whole area of the UN complex belongs neither to the United States nor the United Nations but belongs directly to the 193 Member States and envoys insofar extraterritoriality. Originally the site was purchased by the Rockefeller Family, who donated it to the NY City Government, which transferred it to the United Nations. At its founding in 1945 the UN had 51 Member States, which should grow to 193.



The UN Headquarters complex is full of extraordinary art and exceptional gifts of single Member States to the United Nations: The first gift of a Member State to the UN that Mrs. Waechter showed us, was the Norman Rockwell Mosaic, called "Golden Rule" a special gift by Nancy Reagan. The mosaic shows the peoples of the world and reminds the observer: "*Do unto others, as you want other to do unto you*". As we walked further through the corridors of diplomacy we discovered the Statue of Saint Agnes which survived as only peace of a completely destroyed cathedral by the nuclear attack on Nagasaki, Japan. Tangential to the Nagasaki Statue we saw further exhibits from the UN Peace Missions such as the "*Excopetarra*" – a guitar made from an automatic rifle which has become a figure for peace. The "*Excopetarra*" was donated by Colombian musician and peace activist Cesar Lopez and is one of the prominent figures in the Permanent Disarmament Collection. 2014 is the 10th anniversary of the exhibition in 2004 on the genocide in Rwanda in the UN central office in New York. The Permanent Disarmament Collection will figuratively point the finger on the young victims of landmines, which have to face consequences such as amputations, traumatic injuries and death. Mrs. Waechter explained the background of the *Peacekeeping Missions* and informed us about the 16 current peacekeeping operations plus the special political one – the *United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan* (UNAMA). Additionally, she briefed us about the 55 completed missions as well as financial, training and recruitment obstacles in the present.

In the garden outside we discovered a part of the Berlin Wall which, by the way, was also our gift to most speakers by us. After that we visited the chambers of one of the main organs of the United Nations: The Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) before experiencing the most prominent chamber: The UN Security Council, which for all of us was surely the most exceptional highlight.



The tour gave us many valuable insights in the current state of affairs at the United Nations. We learned about the history and working fields of the organization, while walking through the floors with wonderful exhibits. So our Delegation listened and learned:

The structure of the United Nation was heavily influenced by the failing model of the *League of Nations* prior. As widely known the UN was founded directly after World War II, with the goal to maintain peace and security and hinder any replication of a global military conflict. The Cold War once again heavily influenced the agenda of the Security Council. The era of decolonization in Africa in added a wide range of new members, which belonged originally to neither ideological block and pushed the work of the United Nations with respect to global economic justice. Furthermore, we learned about the main working areas of the United Nations: Maintaining international peace and security, fostering human rights, social justice, protecting the environment and combating global challenges such as climate change and global poverty with respect to development policy and not least providing humanitarian aid in case of natural disaster and armed conflict.

We also learned about the vital contribution of UN agencies – which supplement the six main organs: General Assembly, Economic and Social Council, Security Council, Secretariat, the International Court of Justice and the Trusteeship Council – like UNICEF, UN Women, UNHCR, WHO and the World Bank. The United Nation maintains offices not only in New York, but also in Geneva which is hosting for example the Human Rights Council and UNHCR, as well as in Vienna (International Atomic Energy Agency – IAEA) and in Nairobi (UN Environment Programme – UNEP).

On the way to the cafeteria with a superb look over the East River, we discovered the gallery showing all former Secretary-Generals of the United Nation from the first Secretary-General of the UN to Kofi Annan. Our Delegation is remembering the Guided Tour through the United Nations as one of the absolute highlights of our trip to New York and our Delegation expresses our sincere gratitude to Mrs. Waechter.

5.1 Briefing on Disarmament

The Delegation of Montenegro had the opportunity to meet Mr. **Curtis Raynold**, Secretary of the UN Secretary-General's Advisory Board on Disarmament Matters at the *United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs* (UNODA), to discuss various disarmament efforts and initiatives within the framework of the United Nations during the UN Study Tour of the Delegation of Montenegro.

Since the briefing from Mr. Raynold in April, crises and armed conflict in Ukraine and the Gaza-strip have escalated, and so the concerns regarding the development and the use of various weapons in armed conflict have grown exponentially. The United Nations Security Council, for instance, continues to focus on countering the illicit acquisition of all types of weapons as well as combating terrorism. States, nevertheless, which continue to justify bombardments by claiming to proceed in their defense and according to international law have lately gotten most of the media's and international community's attention. Therefore, disarmament, often seen as "the only way", in order to achieve peace, turned to be more than ever a high priority issue on the UN agenda.

Mr. Raynold discussed the pursuit of peace and security through various disarmament initiatives led by global and regional organizations cooperating under the United Nations umbrella. He carefully elaborated on the difference between conventional weapons, such as *Small Arms and Light Weapons* (SALW) and *Weapons of Mass Destruction* (WMD), such as nuclear, biological, and chemical weapons. The international community has developed a system, which through treaties such as the *Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons* (NPT), among others, and UN resolutions (e.g. Security Council Resolution 1540) seeks to prevent the acquisition of WMD.



Small arms and light weapons (SALW) continue to be the main cause of casualties and deaths, due to the numerous instances of armed conflicts in the world. The lack of ratification and implementation of internationally agreed instruments (see the recently adopted *Arms Trade Treaty*, for instance), which regulate their use and development makes them real (thus more dangerous than) weapons of mass destruction.

Following an in depth discussion about nuclear, chemical and biological weapons, Mr. Raynold turned to the issue of terrorism and the complexity of addressing it. Diplomats and representatives of social movements fail on finding concordance on the definition of terrorist individuals and/or such actions. This has, however, not stopped the Security Council and/or other security organizations from addressing terrorism.

Mr. Raynold underlined the need for regional agreements with regard to proliferation of materials, which could potentially contribute to the development of WMD. In this sense, the individual states' responsibility and transparency is an essential requirement. Thus, disarmament is not possible without recognizing that there is no chance for peace nor social development by further investing so much human and economic resources on threats, rather than safeguards for life. We therefore concluded that these processes require constant dialogue and cooperation between either national or transnational actors on the global arena, in order to strengthen confidence building measures, which enable the combining of resources, capacities and expertise (as exemplified by regional initiatives, inter-agency cooperation or the *Coordinating Action on Small Arms* [CASA] programme).

Mr. Raynold vividly and comprehensively illustrated disarmament in all its complexities during our briefing. The Delegation of Montenegro at the National Model United Nations would, therefore, like to express its sincere gratitude to Mr. Raynold for his briefing on the current state of disarmament and non-proliferation.

5.2 Briefing on Terrorism

On the 9th of April 2014, Mr. **Trevor Chimimba** graced the last hours of the first day of our UN Study Tour with an enthusiastic and passionate briefing on the topic of Terrorism.

Mr. Chimimba is a Malawian Senior Legal Officer at the *Office of Legal Affairs* (OLA) and involved with *UN Action Against Terrorism*. Starting the briefing, Mr. Chimimba pointed out that the United Nation's Framework for combating terrorism as a global phenomenon was established over the years starting with the early attempts to define terrorist acts in the 1930s, including in the context of the *League of Nations* with the adoption of the *1937 Geneva Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of Terrorism*. The Geneva Convention obliged the Member States which were parties thereto to establish in their respective national criminal legislation the offences listed in Article 2 of the Convention and also to punish and extradite the alleged offender. This Convention, however, did not enter into force partly as a result of the outbreak of World War II. Nonetheless, it has served as a model for subsequent conventions dealing with Terrorism.



He stressed that the conventions modeled on the *1937 Geneva Convention* were adopted following the so called “Sectoral Approach”. The legal regime for combating international terrorism is informed by the “statist” paradigm defining the obligations of States to prevent and suppress terrorism and the “criminal law enforcement” paradigm, where extradition and mutual legal assistance form pillars of international cooperation and attempts to define “terrorist acts” have been fraught with complex discussions on the “inclusionary” and “exclusionary” elements of the possible definition. Following the “Sectoral Approach” meant identifying activities which were seen as “terrorist acts” and working out treaties responding to the categories of such acts. He cited examples of treaties which were adopted from the 1960s following this approach. He termed these the “first generation” of the

counter-terrorism regime and these were conventions which were within the context of hijacked planes, violence within airport areas, maritime navigation etc. Examples of these conventions are the 1963 Tokyo Convention on Offences and Certain Other Acts Committed on Board Aircraft, the 1970 Hague Convention for the Suppression of the Unlawful Seizure of Aircraft, the 1971 Montreal Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against the Safety of Civil Aviation, the 1988 Montreal Protocol for the Suppression of Unlawful Violence at Airports Serving International Civil Aviation and the 1988 Rome Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts Against the Safety of Maritime Navigation.

The negotiation of the “second generation” of instruments began with the adoption of the *1994 Declaration on Measures to Eliminate International Terrorism*, and its 1996 Supplement. Under the latter, the General Assembly established an *Ad Hoc Committee*, which has thus far adopted three instruments on terrorist bombings (1997), financing of terrorism (1999) and nuclear terrorism (2005). The *Ad Hoc Committee* has since 2000 been negotiating a draft comprehensive convention. Prior to 1997, the already existing ones, he added, seemed not to have envisaged/addressed other forms of terrorism such as terrorist bombings, nuclear terrorism and also factors which are potentially conducive to terrorism such the source and financing hence leading to his conclusion that they were not enough to deal with the end of all criminal conducts in relation to terrorism. The first generation instruments differs from the second generation in that with respect to the newer instruments the “political exception” clause to a “terrorist offence” no longer applies; there are enhanced provisions on international cooperation, which may in some cases be refused in terms of mutual assistance in criminal matters if the “human rights exception” clause applied. Amendments have also been effected to some of the earlier instruments to take into account these developments. Also he stressed that following the Sectoral Approach, the need to define “Terrorism” was not prioritised.

It was part of the mandate of the *Ad Hoc Committee* to deal with terrorism comprehensively. Once the three instruments mentioned above were completed, work commenced on a comprehensive convention to tackle this global phenomenon on the basis of a proposal by India. This, however, has been onerous since it has proven problematic to reach “agreement on the exception”. In other words, between the “inclusionary: and “exclusionary” elements of a definition, agreement on the latter has proven contentious, as such agreement bears on obligations of States under the Charter of the United Nations, including the right of peoples to self-determination; the obligations of States and non-State actors under international humanitarian law, including considerations concerning the wars of national liberation; and the obligations of military forces of the State acting in an official capacity during peace time.

Mr. Chimimba added that the *United Nations’ Counter-Terrorism Strategy* recognises four pillars which are (a) measures to address the conditions conducive to the spread of terrorism; (b) measures to prevent and combat terrorism; (c) measures to build States’ capacity to prevent and combat terrorism and to strengthen the role of the United Nations system in that regard; (d) measures to ensure respect for human rights for all and the rule of law as the fundamental basis for the fight against terrorism. The legal regime for combating international terrorism focuses on (b) while bearing in mind the other three elements. Mr. Chimimba couldn’t emphasize enough how important it is to adhere to these pillars and also labeled International Cooperation as the key to craft collaboration on counter-terrorism issues.

5.3 Briefing on the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA)

On the 10th of April 2014, Ms. **Nicole Ganz**, working at the Middle East and West Asia Division of the *Department of Political Affairs* in the United Nations Secretariat in New York and a former staff member of the *United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East* (UNRWA), briefed the FU-Delegation on the work of the Agency. Ms Ganz gave us an interesting overview about the UN-role in the Middle

East Peace Process, based on her enormous knowledge and her personal experiences. She also described the foundation of UNRWA and its development in history, UNRWA's challenges and obstacles and the actual situation of UNRWA. History is a fact that is essential for the understanding of UNRWA politics and the Middle East Peace Process. Worth mentioning and pointing towards the political situation of today, are the following stages:

It all started with the 1947 *United Nations Partition Plan for Palestine*, which was a proposal developed by the United Nations recommending a partition with the *Economic Union of Mandatory Palestine* to follow the completion of the British Mandate. After the first Arab-Israeli War in 1948, the United Nations General Assembly Resolution 302 (IV) of 8 December 1949 founded UNRWA. It was meant to be an agency to carry out relief and work programs for Palestine refugees. The establishment of UNRWA was a response to the preceding events and the depopulating and destroying performance of the nascent Israeli forces on up to 500 Palestinian villages.



Back then UNRWA was responding to the needs of about 750,000 Palestine refugees, most of them fled to surrounding Arab countries, while their original homes were destroyed or occupied by the young state of Israel. With the hostilities of June 1967 and the Israeli occupation of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip another high number of refugees was added to the number of displaced Palestinians. To accommodate this new wave of refugees, it was necessary to establish ten more camps. Today the estimated number of refugees of Palestinian origin is more than 6.5 million.

In 1993, the *Oslo Accords* were signed. Meant to be an agreement that should lead to the self-determination of the Palestinian people, its main purpose was to start a peace-process that would lead to a resolution of the ongoing conflict.

That was also flanked and followed by the General Assembly which passed Resolution 48/213, assuring assistance to the Palestinian people. The Palestinian Authority then was established in 1994 and it was another major step towards self-determination of the Palestinian people. As there has not been a solution concerning the issue of Palestine refugees UNRWA's mandate has been renewed many times. The General Assembly most recently renewed the mandate until 30 June 2017.

When Ms. Ganz was emphasizing the huge amount of UN-presence in the region, it soon became clear that the UN was contributing to the region's peace enormously. Especially when going into detail about the staff structure this fact became obvious. With more than 13,000 staff members on the ground in the region and more than 24 UN-Agencies in the area, the United Nations is a factor not to underestimate. UNRWA guarantees the provision of facilities in 59 recognized refugee camps in Jordan, Lebanon, Syria, the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. It is led by a Commissioner-General, who is appointed by the UN Secretary-General, and who reports directly to the General Assembly. As UNRWA continuously faces inadequate funding, it was also interesting to learn about the composition of the budget. The budget sums up to US\$ 1.23 billion. It is funded through voluntary contributions by UN Member States. The major contributors are the United States and the European Commission, which together account for more than half of the annual budget. Another great part is also funded through the regular UN Budget.

Another pillar of the presentation was UNRWA's program of work. Upon the ambitious objectives is the alignment of UNRWA's main tasks with the *United Nations Millennium Development Goals*. Derived from the goals that include a long and healthy life, acquired knowledge and skills, a decent standard of living, and human rights enjoyed to the fullest, the strategic objectives contain an education program, a health program, and a relief and social services program. Despite these fundamental and necessary programs UNRWA is facing challenges that are coherent to problematic political developments in the region.

UNRWA's working definition of Palestine refugee, the ongoing Israeli occupation in the West Bank with numerous checkpoints, expanding Israeli settlements, and attacks by Israeli settlers, making everyday-life difficult for the people living there, the devastating situation in Gaza, are issues that challenge different and various aspects of UNRWA on both, the institutional level and the practical level. Problems on the practical level UNRWA and other UN-Agencies in the region are confronted with can mainly be described by access issues and issues of medical care. In regions that due to different political points are at disturbance and far from being calm, it often is hard to reach the people you want to reach and to access relevant institutions. The described problems can be seen in Jordan, Syria and Palestine.

One of the points of criticism that always meets UNRWA's work is the question of jurisdiction. The question of defining a Palestinian refugee is a highly complex question, because the general legal definition of the term „refugee“, based on the *1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees*, does not fully accord to the definition of Palestinian refugees, as well as there is no consensus about possible borders of Palestine. UNRWA describes Palestinian refugees as “persons whose normal place of residence was Palestine during the period 1 June 1946 to 15 May 1948, and who lost both home and means of livelihood as a result of the 1948 conflict.”

Ms. Ganz eventually gave us an insight in nowadays complex political structure of the Middle East Peace Process also sharing with us the US-perspective. First of all it was also important to clarify the status of Palestine within the UN-System. When in September 2012 the application of Palestine to become a full member in the UN-system was blocked it became the goal to be a “non-member observer state“. Compared to the previous status of a "observer entity" this was a historic benchmark for the people of Palestine.

It soon became clear that the Peace Process right now still struggles with a lot of obstacles which unfortunately are on the agenda for quite some time. She then mentioned President Obama's trip to Gaza in March 2013 and the illegal aspects of Israeli settlements. In fact President Obama and Secretary of State Hillary Clinton asked for a suspension of these settlements, no adherence of this request was following, though. Now the new Secretary of State, John Kerry, tries to negotiate an end of settlements. The US-position on the problems can be best described with the concept of direct talks and negotiations. The US is striving for a solution that combines the establishment of a Palestinian state with terms that guarantee the safety of the state of Israel. However, the major problems and obstacles for peace can be summarized into five points from her point of view: 1) Jerusalem, 2) the West-Bank, 3) Gaza, 4) the politics of settlements, 5) the „Right of Return“.

Finally, the most important and demanding task of UNRWA is to handle the problems and difficulties Palestinian Refugees are living with. As there are more than 5,000,000 Palestinian refugees registered, with the very sensitive return-issue also existing, this definitely is a major task.

We wish UNRWA and Ms. Ganz a lot of strength on their future way, may there be success upon your actions, and also we are expressing our deepest and grateful acknowledgments for this great presentation and insight into real world UN politics.

5.4 Briefing on the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs

The Briefing by Mr. **John Winkel**, Associate Economic Affairs Officer, covered the favourable prospects for 2014 to 2015 of macroeconomics based on the work of DESA's remit. He gave an overview of the current global economic situation and provided projections of the future development direction in 2014/2015 with different diagrams. Also, the briefing introduced the potential challenges of macroeconomics we might encounter in 2014 to 2015.

Overview of United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA)

The *United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs* (also known as DESA) is the think-tank of the United Nations, supporting deliberations in two major UN Charter bodies: the UN General Assembly and the UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC). DESA's working programme can be categorized into three areas: norm setting, analysis, and capacity building. One of DESA's primary contributions is providing policy research and analysis for Member Governments to use in their deliberations and decision-making. DESA provides a regular update on the latest economic and social developments at the global and regional level. The Department generates crucial input for its macroeconomic reports through Project Link, which is a co-operative, non-governmental, international research activity.

Current Situations and Trends on Global Macro Economy

In the first season of 2014, the global economy continued a slow recovery; the recovery was led by China, Western European Countries and Latin America. Economic growth is expected to slow down in emerging economies, and the limited expansion in the world trade is expected. This sluggishness appears relatively broad in both developed and

developing countries based on the reducing statistic on the world trade. The larger developing economies are facing much weakened investment demand because of financing constraints in some sectors of the economy and excess production capacity elsewhere, a flexible policymaking is demanded by most of the economies. In an outlook, the macroeconomic conditions are expected to improve only moderately in 2014.

At the same time, inflation remains low in most countries around the world. It will be partly reflected by high unemployment and financial deleveraging. In the United States, the inflation will fall in 2014 and 2015. In many developing countries in South Asia and Africa, the inflation will remain relative high, since the domestic demands is expected to grow in 2014. Countries in the East Asia and the Euro Zones are expected to continue facing benign inflation. In the new EU-Member States, economic activities continue to strengthen. Inflation in the region remains relatively low; this is accompanied by lacking of monetary policies.

Compared to the 1990s, global trade flows in the past two years have been sluggish. It is notable that the ratio between the growth of global world trade and the growth of global output has been historically low. In addition, some policies and protectionist measures adopted by certain economies after the financial crisis had negative impacts on the international trade system, which slowed down the international trade growth. According to the statistics that DESA provided, in 2014 to 2015, international trade is expected to grow about at 4.8 per cent and 5.3 per cent gradually.



What also remains significant to observe is, the price of most primary commodities has declined moderately during 2013, which was mainly driven by the weak global demand. However, as the international demand is expected to pick up moderately in 2014 to 2015, the commodity prices are expected to be flat, compared with that in 2013. In Africa and East Asia, the commodities prices were relatively high and have helped the increase of international investment. In Western Asia, the commodity prices were in the past relatively stable, growth is expected in 2014 and 2015. The relatively lower commodity prices in Latin America and Central America are expected to grow in 2014 and 2015. In the outlook, global commodity prices remain generally high and volatile; the trend is gradually being flat.

During the Q&A Session the attention was especially raised on the impact of sustainability and responsibility approaches on global markets. While one question from parts of the students concerned the change of environmental and green awareness in the economy sector within the last decade, another interest was shown towards the impact of UN-PRIs on global market developments and investor behaviour. The United Nations-supported *Principles for Responsible Investment* (UN-PRI) form an international network of investors with the objective of developing a more sustainable financial system and is

an investor-led coalition in partnership with the *United Nations Environment Programme Finance Initiative* and the *United Nations Global Compact*. By practicing the six PRI, a larger understanding of the implications of sustainability for investors can be attained through supporting signatories to incorporate these issues into their investment decision making and ownership practices. Being vital for the long-term stability of markets, the Responsible Investment approach considers environmental, social and governance factors within the decision making of investors and forces a more conscious investment strategy. Initiated in early 2005 by Kofi Annan, the UN-PRI have already proven to be successful: the simple act of asset managers asking their investees about environmental and social influence of their investments changed investor behaviour on where and how capital gets invested.

Recommended Reading Materials:

“Poor Numbers” on Economic in Africa, by Morten Jerven, Cornell University Press, 2013, <http://www.cornellpress.cornell.edu/book/?GCOI=80140100939320>

World Economic Situation and Prospects 2014 + Update mid-2014, publication by DESA and UNCTAD, <http://www.un.org/en/development/desa/policy/wesp/archive.shtml>

5.5 Briefing on Sexual Violence in Armed Conflict

The presentation delivered by Ms. **La Neice Collins** and Ms. **Stephanie Schulze** on the topic of Sexual Violence in Armed Conflict will go down in our memories as one of the most inspirational presentations we had the pleasure of following closely during the UN Study Tour. With every word they spoke and every gesture they made we could sense how passionate they are about the purpose of their work. They both work at the *Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict*. This Office serves as the United Nations’ political advocate on conflict-related sexual violence, and is the chair of the network *UN Action against Sexual Violence in Conflict*. It was established in 2009 by Security Council Resolution 1888. The current Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict is Ms. Zainab Hawa Bangura of Sierra Leone.

Ms. Collins and Ms. Schulze started off by giving us a brief description of the work of the United Nations in this area, identifying country level action as a priority including efforts to build capacity and train advisers in gender-based violence programming and coordination as well as broader support for joint UN programming in selected areas and countries. Furthermore, action to raise public awareness and generate heightened political will to address sexual violence in conflict more effectively was portrayed as a necessity. Sexual Violence in Conflict is a uniquely destructive act and method of war. It is an outrage to all morality. Moreover, sexual violence in conflict often flows from underlying inequalities. Further, a society that believes in human rights for all human beings and opportunities for all its citizens cannot know about the way rape is used as a weapon of war and then simply ignore it. We would like to kindly refer you to the Office’s webpage for more details (<http://www.un.org/sexualviolenceinconflict/>).

In this context, Ms. La Neice Collins raised the attention of all of us with a very intriguing sentence when she stated, citing Ms. Bangura, that “*Just because there’s no government, it doesn’t mean there’s no governance.*” She further elaborated on this

emphasizing the importance of reaching out to tribe elders and other individuals in charge of governance processes in communities where the conventional concept of government is not established, and encouraging them to assist in addressing the challenge of sexual violence in armed conflict.

One of the vital steps towards progress on their agenda, as expressed by Ms. Schulze, was the official recognition of sexual violence in armed conflict as a war crime and as a tool of war. In addition to that, both expressed the importance of aligning the United Nation's work with national efforts to address sexual violence and to intensify partnerships with NGOs and civil society organizations that have been actively working to end sexual violence in conflict for many years. The aim, as expressed by these two impressive ladies, is to strengthen services provided to survivors, including legal aid, medical services and economic security. The UN aims to set up a system to continuously advise local government officials on the criminal proceedings, how to efficiently investigate these crimes and prosecute its perpetrators in order to avoid impunity.



A range of interesting questions were posed by us, including the treatment of men who have been victims of sexual violence during armed conflict and the work that is being done to raise public awareness in relation to this problem. Ms. Collins recognized the existence of this problem and stated that joint action is being taken by different UN agencies to address this challenge, and underlined that Security Council Resolution 1820 adopted in 2008

does not only lay its focus on women as victims of sexual violence but also men and boys, hence raising this issue to an institutionally recognized level. The issue of the right of adequate housing in relation to victims of sexual violence during armed conflict was also brought up and emphasized.

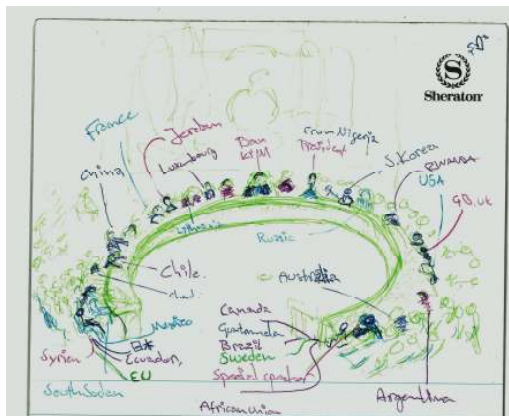
From the very beginning to the end, the presentation on this topic had a clear message throughout: we need more than words to end sexual violence in armed conflict! And this was perfectly exemplified by the work of these two inspirational women.

5.6 The Security Council Special Session on Sexual Violence in Armed Conflict

After the engaging discussion on Sexual Violence in Conflict, Ms. Collins and Ms. Schulze surprised us with a fantastic opportunity. We were invited to attend the open debate on conflict-related sexual violence, which would be held by the Security Council on April 25th. The open debate would be briefed by the Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon, Special Representative on Sexual Violence in Conflict Ms. Zainab Hawa Bangura and by all members of the Security Council. Since the debate took place a week after the NMUN conference, unfortunately only few of us were able to participate at this event.

The open debate primarily focused on the issues raised in the Secretary-General's 13 March 2014 report on conflict-related sexual violence (S/2014/181), which stressed several concerns, including sexual violence in the context of contested political processes; sexual violence as a driving factor in displacement; sexual violence against men and boys; the need for survivors to have access to justice and comprehensive health

services and for provisions related to conflict-related sexual violence in ceasefire and peace agreements. The 2014 report also provides country-specific information, like parties credibly suspected for committing sexual violence.



Even though we had visited the Security Council Chamber during our Study Tour, it was a completely different experience to see the room with the representatives of all 15 Member States occupying their seats (a special “thank you” for the drawing to Peter Bruce!). From our seats on the visitors and press section, we were very happy to recognize many known faces: the Delegates from Chile, whom we had met during the UN Study Tour; our friend Mr. Miloš Nikolić, First Secretary of Montenegro’s Permanent Mission, who entered the chamber to be placed on the speakers list and of course Ms. La Neice Collins and Ms. Stephanie Schulze, who waved at us from behind the seat of Ms. Bangura.

With a jolt of excitement from our side, the Secretary-General, Mr. Ban Ki-moon entered the room and the debate was opened by the President of the Security Council, Ms. Joy Ogwu of Nigeria. The Secretary-General then addressed the Security Council, stating that sexual violence is “*as destructive as any bomb or bullet*” and that it “*inflicts unimaginable suffering on victims, impedes peace and contributes to enduring poverty and insecurity*”. He referred to the latest report on the issue, which was compiled by Mr. Ban’s Special Representative on Sexual Violence in Conflict, Ms. Bangura.

Ms. Bangura was the next to take over the debate, who highlighted the current unprecedented political will and momentum to eliminate sexual violence in conflict. However, Ms. Bangura warned that perpetrators are not being held to account and that sexual violence was still a largely “cost-free” crime. She finished her intervention directly addressing the perpetrators: “*The spotlight is now turned on you, and we are coming after you with all the ways and means at our disposal. There is no hiding place. If you commit, or command, or condone such crimes against humanity, humanity will pursue you relentlessly, and eventually you will be held to account.*”

The debate was continued by Rhoda Misaka, a civil society representative from South Sudan who participated on behalf of the NGO *Working Group on Women, Peace and Security* and who delivered an impressive statement regarding sexual violence in her

country. She focused on several points, like ending impunity of perpetrators, the need of comprehensive services for surviving victims and women's meaningful participation in peace negotiations. Ms. Misaka shocked the Security Council by ending her speech with the story of Sarah *"who was interviewed by our organization in Bentiui, where her uncle was killed in front of her, her mother was burned, and Sarah herself was raped. She also told us of ten other women who were shot because they refused to be raped."*

After these opening remarks and briefings, the Delegates of every member of the Security Council went on to deliver statements on this issue. They were joined by over 60 representatives and authorities, like the Minister for National Defense of Ecuador, in a debate that lasted the whole day (we, however, had to leave the chamber earlier). Most of the Delegates showed their concern regarding sexual violence in armed conflict and vaguely compromised to engage in the recommendations included in the report by Ms. Bangura.

Some statements caught our special attention, like the controversial speech delivered by the Jordan Diplomat Prince Zeid Ra'ad Zeid Al-Hussein. He said that it was pointless to discuss accountability without a proper understanding of the extent to which courts were functioning and stated that the Security Council must support the *International Criminal Court* in order to combat sexual violence. He further questioned whether the Organization possessed credibility on the issue, since some members refused to undertake the actions necessary to ensure that peacekeeping operations do not involve in sexual exploitation and abuse. In his view, it was hypocritical to condemn these crimes while the General Assembly Sixth Committee (Legal) did not progress on the draft *Convention on Criminal Accountability of United Nations Officials and Experts on Mission*. He even suggested that all UN officials should hand in a DNA sample in case paternity tests were needed to identify the authors of a violation.

Being able to attend this special session at the Security Council was, without a doubt, a once in a lifetime opportunity. We are extremely thankful to the team of Ms. Bangura, especially Ms. Collins and Ms. Schulze, for taking their time to speak to us and allowing us to participate at this event. The open debate was a clear example of how the work of the United Nations can have an immediate effect on pressing international issues. At the same time, it became evident to us how mere political will is not enough to solve a problem if this momentum is not accompanied with consequent and concrete actions. Citing Ms. Bangura: *"We need to transform resolutions into solutions."*

5.7 Briefing on Climate Change, Sustainable Development and the UN System

"If it's not sustainable, it's not development."

The third day of our UN Study Tour began with a lecture by Ms. **Jennifer Baumwoll** from UNDP's Bureau of Development Policy.

Ms. Baumwoll's lecture was titled „Climate change, sustainable development and the UN system“. She started with an overview of UN's history of scientific and political processes to address the challenge of climate change. The scientific process under the UN is driven by the Assessment Reports published by the *Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change* (IPCC), while the political process is focused under the *UN Framework Convention on Climate Change* (UNFCCC) holding the annual conferences and

concluding agreements, including the *Kyoto Protocol*.

Ms. Baumwoll explained that the IPCC was founded in November 1988 by UNEP and the *World Meteorological Organization* (WMO) to ensure that all state leaders worldwide are informed about the current research on climate change. In the fifth and latest Assessment Report (AR5), which was published 2013/14, more than 2,000 authors analyzed over 9,000 studies.

The results of AR5 were that global warming is caused by human activities, with a certainty of 95-100%, and global temperatures will rise between 1.5 to +4.5°C until year 2100. To limit global warming to remain under 2°C we cannot emit more than the amount of carbon we usually emit within 2.5 years. The report is also telling us that sea-levels have risen more than 30cm since 1901, which is a much faster rate than the mean rate of the previous two millennia.

The future of IPCC is uncertain due to the high costs, long timeframe, and enormous effort required for each assessment report. In some cases, results are outdated by the time they are published. A reform of IPCC is needed and may come in the near future. Still there is no better instrument than IPCC and its assessment reports to summarize worldwide data and research results regarding climate change and inform governments and people about it.



Regarding UNFCCC, Ms. Baumwoll gave us an overview of the financial mechanisms which were set up to support agreements made by Parties to the Convention. The *Green Climate Fund* (GCF) was established most recently (in 2010) to finance action on climate change. While the GCF is not yet operational, its Board has been established and modalities agreed and will come into force in the coming year. The *Global Environment Facility* administers the *Least Developed Countries Fund* and

Special Climate Change Fund, which both provide financial support to help vulnerable developing countries adapt to climate change. Other funds and mechanisms have also been established under the UNFCCC to address mitigation, capacity building, technology transfer and adaptation. UNDP is supporting countries in using this financial support effectively and efficiently.

Ms. Baumwoll continued with the definition of Sustainable Development from the *Brundtland Report* in 1987: „development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs“. The conclusion is that you have to address climate change in order to achieve sustainable development in a comprehensive manner. Examples for development-processes, which already consider elements of climate change, are the *Agenda 21* from 1992, Rio+20 and the *Sustainable Development Goals* which are still being discussed for the post-2015 regime. The UN Secretary-General will be hosting a Climate Summit in September 2014, which will further discuss links between climate action and sustainable development, and help lead to a meaningful global agreement in 2015 under the UNFCCC.

About the work of UNDP, Ms. Baumwoll explained to us that this UN Agency assists countries to address climate change in the context of development. For example, this

includes support the development of climate strategies and access to financing. One of UNDP's initiatives focused on least developed countries, named „*Boots on the Ground*“, concentrates on providing policy support to vulnerable countries to both „Adapt“ to the impacts of climate change and „Mitigate“ processes which are harmful to the world's climate. Furthermore, UNDP supports the implementation of projects and sharing their knowledge. To assist countries in these fields UNDP cooperates with Ministries, donor aid agencies, universities and the private sector.

Finally, Ms. Baumwoll had prepared further information about UNDP-Projects in Montenegro. Therefore, she mentioned projects to improve energy efficiency in Montenegrin housing stock which has a saving potential of up to 63%. In Montenegro, there are about 100,000 houses built illegally which are not energy efficient. UNDP's programme helps the owners of these houses to integrate systems and infrastructure that will make them more energy efficient. The savings help them to pay the loans, so they can legalize their properties. Furthermore, UNDP supports Montenegro in shifting energy sources from coal and wood to gas and more efficient renewable sources. These goals should be achieved by stimulating the local market for more expertise in energy efficiency.

The Delegation of Montenegro was very happy about Ms. Baumwoll's lecture. The content of her lecture was not just informative for the NMUN-Committees of UNEP and GA2. Climate change and sustainable development are topics affecting every one of us. Thereby, we all could take something out of the presentation for ourselves, beyond NMUN. We enjoyed and appreciated Ms. Jennifer Baumwoll's presentation very much and like to express our gratefulness to her.



5.8 Briefing on Human Trafficking

The Briefing of Ms. **Evelien Borgman**, Associate Migration Officer at the *International Organization for Migration* (IOM), was structured into five main topics: the IOM as an institution against Human Trafficking, the causes and consequences of Human Trafficking, the Identification of victims of Trafficking, New Prevention measures and the situation in Montenegro.

The International Organization of Migration (IOM)

The International Organization for Migration was founded as the *Provisional Intergovernmental Committee for the Movement of Migrants from Europe* in 1951. It consists of 156 Member States and 10 Observer States. The world's population is 7 billion, while 1 billion of the population are migrants, 232 millions of them are international migrants and 740 millions are internal migrants. International and internal migrants can be distinguished by the crossing of borders. International migrants cross borders and immigrate to other countries. Internal migrants do not cross borders but have to leave their homes due to political or economic reasons. Urbanization and Feminization have increased up to 50% and more. Especially Victims of Trafficking, Internally Displaced Persons (IDP's), Asylum Seekers and Refugees are regarded as vulnerable migrants.

The *UN Protocol of Human Trafficking to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children*, adopted by the General Assembly in November 2000 as one of two supplements to the *UN Convention Against Transnational Organized Crime* (Resolution 55/25 of 15 November 2000) is the only official document which criminalizes the Act of Human Trafficking. It defines Trafficking in Article 3 saying that "‘Trafficking in persons’ shall mean the recruitment, transportation, transfer, harbouring or receipt of persons, by means of the threat or use of force or other forms of coercion, of abduction, of fraud, of deception, of the abuse of power or of a position of vulnerability or of the giving or receiving of payments or benefits to achieve the consent of a person having control over another person, for the purpose of exploitation. Exploitation shall include, at a minimum, the exploitation of the prostitution of others or other forms of sexual exploitation, forced labour or services, slavery or practices similar to slavery, servitude or the removal of organs."

Article 3 c) of the Protocol points out the specific importance of the guarantee of safety for children. The second Protocol of United Nations deals with the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air which is defined as a voluntary illegal entry of a person into a state while trafficking is a crime and a forced illegal border crossing.

The causes and consequences of Human Trafficking

The main causes of Human Trafficking are poverty, demand for inexpensive labour, sex services, human organs and restrictive immigration policies. Global estimates of Human



Trafficking are 800,000 persons/per year while 58% of victims assisted by IOM in 2012 were female. The total assisted caseload saw an increase of 35% in male victims. Organized crime networks are believed to gain 32 billion dollars in profits from trafficking and exploitation. The countries with the highest number of assisted trafficking victims are Ukraine, Haiti and the USA.

Identification of Victims of Trafficking (VOT)

The Identification of Victims of Trafficking is independent from any national law. There are 7 main key indicators: Age, Sex, Nationality, Documents, Contexts, Sign of Abuse and Last Location.

These 7 main key indicators should lead to identify Victims of Trafficking. The Age, therefore, can be a first sign, especially children at a young age or young adults are more likely to become VOTs. Regarding the sex, women are mostly vulnerable to be Victims of Trafficking (58% female). The nationality cannot always be the best indicator to prove Human Trafficking, but it has been shown that especially in the European area, most of victims come from the Eastern Europe. A lack of documents can be a clear indicator for a crime such like Trafficking. Most Victims of Trafficking have to face forced prostitution or human trade wherefore a medical treatment is necessary to prove a point on that indicator.

A further classification can be done by the three phases: the Act, the Means and the Purpose of Trafficking. These are the most important points to identify Trafficking as a crime.

New Prevention Measures

The *International Organization for Migration* works on new Awareness Campaigns to inform clients such as buyresponsibly.org. Other websites are awareness raising websites are slaveryfootprint.org and polarisproject.org, which is a Database of number of Victims of Trafficking. These are only some of the new measures to prevent cases of Human Trafficking.

Situation in Montenegro

Montenegro is a source, transit and destination for women, men and children, subjected to sex trafficking and forced labour primarily from Serbia, Macedonia and Bosnia and Herzegovina. Most of the children are Roma, coerced by their family members into street begging in Montenegro. Some Roma girls from Montenegro are often forced into domestic servitude, sold into servile marriages in Roma communities in Switzerland and Germany. In conclusion, especially stateless individuals, regarding persons without a nationality or citizenship due to the discrimination of especially Roma, are vulnerable to trafficking in persons.

We would like to thank Ms. Borgman for her great and informative presentation about the IOM, which not only was a great help for our conference, but also was a great enrichment and has broadened our knowledge about this topic. Furthermore, we would like to thank her for the great discussion and for answering all our questions, which was very inspirational for all of us.

5.9 Briefing on UNHCR

The second briefing on 11 April was on the topic “refugees” and was held by Associate Policy Advisor Ms. **Noelia Díaz Vázquez** from the *Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees* (UNHCR). The session was very interactive and gave us a fundamental

understanding for the main areas of UNHCR's work and steps refugees go through. Ms. Díaz Vásquez inspired with her deep insight and passion.

UNHCR is mandated to protect and assist international refugees and other persons of concern (such as IDPs, asylum-seekers and stateless people) and to seek temporary solutions and provide fundamental human rights. UNHCR works with governments in a "protective sensitive entrance mechanism" to help them better fulfill responsibilities in respect to individuals and human rights.



The persons of concern for UNHCR often live in settlement camps but today the majority of the world's refugees live in urban areas. In 2013, Afghans, Syrians and Somalis were the world's biggest refugee populations, according to UNHCR's *Global Trends Report* published 20 June 2014. UNHCR's hands-on works is done

together with humanitarian and lifesaving assistance organizations such as the Red Cross, UNRWA and WFP.

According to the *1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees*, which is the key legal document in defining who is a refugee, a refugee is defined as: "a person who is outside their home country because they have suffered (or feared) persecution on account of race, religion, nationality, political opinion, or because they are a member of a persecuted social group or because they are fleeing a war. Such a person may be called an asylum seeker until recognized by the state where they make a claim."

Ms. Díaz Vásquez clarified that the element of fear is important and a main key for the definition and mentioned that gender related persecution is a current issue. She emphasized that more than 10 million individuals worldwide have been recognized as refugees, 20,7 million of them as IDPs. Ms. Díaz Vásquez explained that the procedures for recognition of refugee status consist of interviews with people of concern in order to check their history, which is then compared to records from the country of origin, when possible. However, a common challenge is to be able to prove nationality, since they often must flee without papers.

Asylum-seeker is someone who arrives in a new country seeking for protection and stating that he or she is a refugee - but whose claim has not yet been definitively evaluated. Protection then translates into a status. Ms Díaz Vásquez explained the need for states to step up to this obligation.

Internally Displaced Person (IDP) is someone forced to flee his or her home but who remains within the borders of their country of residence. IDPs are often referred to as refugees, although they do not fall under the current legal definition of a refugee. Originally, in 1951, IDPs were not under UNHCR care, but today they fall under UNHCR's. However, a common challenge is reaching IDPs with humanitarian assistance, a current example being Syria.

Statelessness - Millions of people worldwide are stateless. If domestic laws in two countries do not overlap, they can place an individual in limbo, thereby causing statelessness. Ms. Díaz Vásquez explained that e.g. a Lebanese father can transmit

nationality, but a Lebanese mother cannot. If a Lebanese woman has a child with a Palestinian man, the child becomes stateless.

Solutions

UNHCR also helps overcome challenges that a host country may face when receiving a refugee by providing help and guidance for the procedures and supporting the host country's capacity for receiving refugees. The refugee is dependent on the host country's justice system. Ms. Díaz Vásquez stressed the importance of finding temporary and durable solutions for People of Concern and gave us a short prospect how UNHCR deals with the different solutions. The three main solutions are:

Returnees - refugees returning to their country of origin when it has become safe, this can often take more than after 10 years the conflict is officially closed

Local Integration - by integrating refugees in host-communities and providing resident permits, integrating into the local community could offer durable solutions and provide the opportunity to start a new life. Local integration is a complex and gradual process that comprises distinct but related legal, economic, social and cultural dimensions and imposes considerable demands on both the individual and the receiving society.

Resettlement - Resettlement to a third country gives a refugee the opportunity to start fresh and the chance to enjoy legal and physical protection, access to civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights, as those enjoyed by national citizens. Few states participate in the *Resettlement Programme*, and the number of resettled refugees is a drop in the sea. However, resettlement makes a huge difference for the individual.

Montenegro's NMUN Delegation of 2014 is grateful for the opportunity of having gained better insight and understanding of UNHCR's mandate and the important and challenging work of providing protection for persons of concern worldwide, and would like to extend a warm thank you to Ms. Díaz Vásquez for a very insightful and inspiring briefing.

5.10 Briefing at European Union Delegation to the United Nations

On the 8th of April 2014, our United Nations Study Tour started with the briefing at the European Union (EU) Delegation to the United Nations on the EU's contribution to the *Post-2015 Development Agenda and Sustainable Development Goals* (SDG). Mr. **Philippe Latriche**, Counsellor (Development, Macroeconomic, Trade), gave us enlightening insights to the Delegation's current work and efforts.

As 2015 represents the deadline for achieving the *Millennium Development Goals* (MDG), the international community is involved in global discussions on the Development Agenda after this date. The ultimate objective is to set a globally-agreed, ambitious framework that addresses poverty eradication and sustainable development, and ensures a decent life for all by 2030. The MDGs are already a good framework for the world, but due to the fact that not all of them have been fulfilled, the EU is still working on achieving all MDGs by 2015, for example in the fields of poverty eradication and strengthening health systems.

Until September 2015, a complex process is imminent, affecting all processes and every area of the EU's work. The Summit in September 2015 will be held to adopt a *Post-2015 Development Agenda*, reflecting new development challenges as well as implementing the Rio+20 Outcome (*UN Conference on Sustainable Development*). Therefore, the Delegation of the EU is working towards a coherent approach for a single overarching *Post-2015 Development Agenda*, covering the topics of poverty eradication (MDG-related track), sustainable development (sustainable development track) and the support of climate objectives (climate change track) and peaceful societies, good governance, rule of law objectives..

At present, there are several international processes leading to the Development Summit in 2015: the *Open Working Group* for the elaboration of SDGs, the *UN Expert Committee on Sustainable Development Financing* and the efforts related to the final phase of the MDG process. The EU's contribution to worldwide development aid covers 60% of the total amount, but this sum can never be sufficient on its own. Therefore, the European Union works on promoting a common and comprehensive approach to *Financing for Development* beyond 2015. To achieve this goal, the role of the *Official Development Aid* (ODA) which is determined to be 0.7% of a Member State's gross national income, remains crucial for the poorest countries. But domestic, private as well as innovative sources of financing have to be taken into account. Developing and enforcing private investments and partnerships seem to be a first working goal. New solutions concerning the question of what kind of private partnerships may support the implementation of the SDGs and how to increase the commitment of private sector investors have to be discussed in the ongoing process until September 2015. The EU remains committed to increasing its support to developing countries up to the 0.7% mark by 2015, concentrating efforts on the most vulnerable and where aid has the highest impact. While showing fully transparent aid flows, another focus of the European Delegation is to work on more concrete goals to achieve and enhance more pragmatic partnerships.

In line with the SDGs and financing of Sustainable Development goes the issue of responsibility. At present, the SDGs are common goals for the international community and a universal agenda calls for consideration of responsibilities concerning the implementation of those goals. This links to ongoing discussions on the principle called



Common But Differentiated Responsibility (CBDR) that balances the need for all states to take responsibility for global environmental problems while recognizing the wide differences in levels of economic development between states. Formalized in international law at the *United Nations Conference on Environment and Development* (UNCED) in 1992 in Rio de Janeiro, the principle of CBDR only distinguishes among developing and developed nations and only applies to the issue of environmental degradation, not to all issues currently discussed for post 2015. Nowadays, the five major emerging national economies of Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa (BRICS) must also bear more responsibility within the context of development cooperation and financing, as these large and fast-growing economies have a significant influence on regional and international affairs. In order to conduct an effective outreach and to ensure that the future Post-2015 Agenda reflects a vision shared by all stakeholders, the issue of differentiation has to be further discussed.

The next milestone within the complex process until the Summit 2015 will be the release of the United Nations Secretary-General's Synthesis Report by the end of 2014. This key report, as it was described by Mr. Latriche, will be the basis and at the same time the starting shot for formal intergovernmental negotiations. In conclusion, there was one aspect that Mr. Latriche pointed out and repeatedly emphasized during our briefing: the cohesion of the EU Member States. By standing together and promoting a coherent strategy, the EU will continue to promote a strong position within the process of developing a Post-2015 Agenda for the international community.

Representing a unique and valuable part of our preparation, we are very grateful to Mr. Latriche giving us such an interesting briefing on current activities within the Delegation of the European Union to the United Nations, as well as the developing process of the *Post-2015 Development Agenda*.

5.11 Briefing at the Permanent Mission of Montenegro to the United Nations

Probably one of the most highly anticipated briefings during our UN Study Tour was the visit to Montenegro's Permanent Mission. We were lucky enough to have the First Secretary, Mr. **Miloš Nikolić**, taking time for us regardless of his very busy agenda. Before our arrival to New York, Mr. Nikolić had kindly agreed to read our position papers and we were extremely happy and quite proud to hear him say that he "was impressed" and considered us to be "best prepared NMUN Delegation of Montenegro so far" when we entered the meeting room.



After a round of introductions, Mr. Nikolić gave a brief introduction into Montenegro's current situation and the priorities of its foreign policy, followed by an exciting discussion that lasted over one hour.

Mr. Nikolić started his briefing stating that even though Montenegro can be considered a young nation after regaining independence in 2006 and entering the United Nations, the country is one of the oldest in the Balkan region. With a population of less than 700.000 inhabitants, Montenegro is also a small country, which does not limit its influence in the United Nations. Quite the contrary is the case, since Montenegro has had a very active

role since entering the organization. Montenegro's current foreign policy is based on three pillars, which are:

- I. the accession to the European Union and NATO,
- II. maintaining good neighborly relations in the region and
- III. promoting multilateralism.

Regarding the accession processes, Montenegro is hoping to receive an invitation to join NATO during their next summit, while it continues to prepare for the reforms that go along becoming a member of the European Union. In respect to maintaining good neighborly relations, Montenegro can be considered a promoter of cooperation in the region and today the country has no open issues with neighboring nations. Encouraging multilateralism and a regional approach is crucial for Montenegro, since it is easier to attract investments in infrastructure or energy development on a regional level. This is already being applied in the construction of international highways and in the development of a common police force for the region.

Upon being asked if the implementation of these three pillars in Montenegro's foreign policy are not conflictive or somehow contradictory, Mr. Nikolić claimed that they can be easily combined but require the close cooperation between partners. Only in few cases have Montenegro's priorities caused tensions in the region, for instance with Serbia, that does not support the accession of its neighboring countries to NATO.

During our discussion with Mr. Nikolić it became apparent that Montenegro is highly supportive of the position of the members of the European Union and is making great efforts to fulfill UN resolutions (for example regarding disarmament). Montenegro's support to the EU was particularly notorious when discussing the Post-2015 Development Agenda. Even though Montenegro received *Official Development Assistance* (ODA) in the past, Mr. Nikolić explained that this north-south cooperation should be replaced by development assistance given by the private sector, civil society, academia and other forms of cooperation, like south-south or triangular cooperation. In addition, the new *Sustainable Development Goals* (SDGs) should target the needs of both developed and developing countries, since the *Millennium Development Goals* (MDGs) mainly addressed problems that were faced in developing countries, which might have caused the decreased involvement and compromise of developed countries. Since Montenegro is member of the *Open Working Group on SDGs*, the country will put all its efforts in order for the agenda to become as transformative and ambitious as possible.

Regarding the *Post-2015 Development Agenda*, human rights should not be placed as a sole pillar, but rather be comprehensively included in every SDG. According to Mr. Nikolić, it is essential to include goals regarding agricultural development and food security and to end the violence against women, while cultural differences or patriarchal societies can no longer serve as excuses to avoid addressing the issue. Besides, Montenegro should continue to move towards a multi-ethnic, multi-cultural and multi-religious society which makes it unique from the rest of the region and be a promoter of tolerance and harmony – a dedication also clearly reflected in Montenegro's membership in the *Human Rights Council*.

A very recurrent topic was the situation of refugees in Montenegro, which is an important issue for the country. Over the last years, Montenegro has accepted around 100.000 Kosovars, which has a great impact in a country with a population of less than a million.

Together with the ‘*Western Balkan Six*’, Montenegro is developing a joint plan to address the issue, and to analyze how the international community could help the region in facing the problem. Yet the refugee issue also demonstrates how Montenegro perceives its regional role in more general terms: to enhance trust and cooperation in the region by being a bridge-builder while also realizing the interconnectedness of the world.

The briefing at the Permanent Mission was of great importance to us, because we needed to confirm the information we had gained after months of preparation. The discussion with Mr. Nikolić was our missing piece in order to gain full insight into Montenegro’s foreign policy and to be able to truly represent the country at NMUN. After thanking Mr. Nikolić and awarding him with a piece of the Berlin Wall (which he truly seemed to like!), we left the room feeling a deep (mutual) appreciation and respect.



6. Montenegro at the NMUN 2014 Conference

6.1 Montenegro at the General Assembly First Committee

represented by Michelle Ruiz and Prince Owusu Sekyere

Committee Short Overview

The General Assembly is the main deliberative organ of the United Nations. Its power and symbolic representation is legitimated by the democratic participation of all the Member States, which adopt resolutions under the principal: “one country, one vote”. In this sense the GA is unique on its kind; no other policy-making international platform unites so many countries under the condition of horizontal relationships. In order to

formulate recommendations to the international community or UN organs, the GA is divided into six *Main Committees*. As foreseen in Article 11 of the Charter, the First Committee deals with issues of disarmament and international security. Additionally, it examines emerging non-traditional disarmament issues, such as preventing an arms race in outer space, telecommunications in terms of international security, regional issues and the role of gender in disarmament. In order to achieve this, the Committee works in close cooperation with the *United Nations Disarmament Commission* and the Geneva-based *Conference on Disarmament*.

Committee Report

The Topics proposed to be discussed at NMUN were:

- I. Measures to Prevent Terrorists from Acquiring Weapons of Mass Destruction
- II. Relationship Between Disarmament and Development
- III. Prevention of an Arms Race in Outer Space

The First Committee experience began for us months before meeting the Delegates, but especially in the last week and even on the flight and in the hotel we concluded our last strategy details before presenting our contribution proposal to our diplomatic colleagues. As we had our first opportunity, therefore, we approached the Delegates, who assisted to the rules of procedures lecture led by the Conference Supervisors. Those contacts were crucial for further negotiations; we finally put the tips for "two-minutes-talks" into practice and built confidence bounds for the next days to come.



Trying to greet the *Honorable Chair* and *Dear Fellow Delegates* in the most diplomatic way as possible, that is the reason why the roll call took so long. Nevertheless, we wanted Montenegro's introduction to stick to our Delegations' and personal essence as possible: "let's stay bescheiden" we said, and stood up together for confirming our presence. Still without compromising our vote, since we were sure that even if Montenegro has a general agreement with the international community on disarmament issues (it has ratified all the related UN treaties since its accession in 2006), in the last years the country has gotten very cautious on its foreign policy; every action is a determinant step towards Montenegro's main goals: the accession to the EU, NATO and regional cooperation.

That was it: COOPERATION, so we jumped as the informal caucus started for having an insight of the agenda preferences and noted that we agreed with the majority, but that there were still strong deviant positions. Hence we tried to promote an

order, which could be broad enough for enabling to discuss Topics No. 1 and 2 together. This could only be the case if we'd have decided for "Relationship between Development and Disarmament" as first topic, and so it happened. It was already a very positive opening, now we had to find our partners and were guided by Montenegro's foreign affairs priorities for that purpose.

One of us went for "the global powers", among which the Permanent Five Members of the Security Council (P5), NATO and EU leading nations were. The other one, though, went for the neighboring countries, mainly but not limited to the Western Balkans. Two strong working groups were built. And we are proud to assume that the chance to position Montenegro as a negotiation leader relied on a convincing exposition of our disarmament proposal [as exemplified by the projects of *Demilitarization and Safe Storage for the Republic of Montenegro* (MONDEM) and the *Capacity Development Programme for SALW* (conventional ammunition)] plus showing a huge interest in the improving recommendations of our committee comrades. These were especially forthcoming when redacting both working papers.

For instance, the proposal of the MONDEM program as a demilitarization measure in respect to disarmament received a very positive response among the Sponsors of the working paper which consisted of Montenegro, the United Kingdom, United States of America, Greece, China, Australia and Russia. China subsequently offered to provide financial assistance for the implementation of our proposal (based on the MONDEM framework) in countries that would be willing to engage in it. Later in the course of negotiations other proposals for disarmament emerged. This included the *Guns for Book Programme*, which intended to invite countries to reduce their military expenditure and rather invest in education. Furthermore, our working paper had to be merged as the P5 were pushing for a deliberately vague resolution in order not to compromise their interests, while striving for an ambitious agreement; measures to ensure proper regulation in the sales of arms, reduce military expenditure and use the income derived for sustainable development purposes. After this, an additional clause was rejected by countries like Mexico and Greece as it sounded very commanding and too imperative. Mexico argued that it had border issues and therefore was reliant on arms. After a lengthy debate with the sponsors and signatories, Montenegro took the initiative to rephrase the clause by stating that it "*encourages every country to assess their security needs in order to the level of arms needed*". With this we considered to have respected the sovereignty of the respective states.



The other working paper, however, expanded its negotiation scope from the neighboring countries (i.e., Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Greece, Bulgaria) to the whole world.

With this goal in mind, and trying to give every Delegation the chance to share their comments and suggestions with us on a paper they were soon going to vote on, Montenegro approached various Delegations that had central roles as coordinators in their regions in order to disseminate our contribution. Instead of fighting terrorism and international crime by judging and punishing agents, we sought to prevent violent acts, and particularly, those involving arms by destroying the remaining materials from past conflicts. The existence of light and heavy weapons poses a huge danger for the population's security due to the risk of natural catastrophes or human manipulation, i.e.,



illicit trade. Thus disarmament is of paramount importance, but not every nation has enough financial and technical resources to do so. Relying on the demilitarization experience in the Western Balkans, therefore, we proposed the *"Program for the Coordination of Regional Disarmament Initiatives"* as an attempt to enable international cooperation by improving the communication and implementation between already specialized agencies. After introducing our idea

we received many merging proposals, since the topic seemed to be similar. But when deepening on the explanation of the monitoring or financing details, e.g., we realized that merging was not a convenient move, even if recommended by the Chair. Thus we kept the original submitting countries (Montenegro, Croatia, Switzerland and Spain) not because we would not value other ideas reflected on around fifteen additional working papers, but because after carefully analyzing each of them, we concluded that our proposal was clear and concrete on itself, and that these features were not worth to put in danger when forcing to be part of the result from, in some cases, up to five working papers merged. The Chair welcomed our arguments each time we presented an improved version of our future resolution, but for that to occur, there was a long, but pretty active, and specially, fast negotiation process to come.

The atmosphere in the First Committee was encouraging. The Delegates ran through the room, but tried to keep it organized at the same time. So we compressed our initiatives in bullet points and hung them on a wall to make them visible to all. Furthermore each working group had an established place, we never got tired for inviting other Delegates to read and review our papers. Their suggestions were immensely constructive; their will to cooperate for the common-good outstanding, too. So on the last day of the debate we came with a working paper, which already enjoyed broad approval in the First Committee.

Notwithstanding, we could not help but experience mixed feelings of nervousness and excitement; for the last four days we had been presenting our initiatives, attentively learning from other ones, projecting them on a paper and permanently informing about its status either personally, through the message service or at the podium when holding our speeches. Hope you can imagine the smiles on our lips and hearts when not only it, but all the resolutions of the committee got adopted by the body. It seemed like minutes

have passed and the First Committee did not want to stop clapping; it was a common achievement. The Committee Chair, however, also wanted to recognize those Delegations with an outstanding position papers and performance. At that moment we did stop clapping, neither of us expected Montenegro being mentioned and such a great surprise became unforgettable. “You deserve it” they said, but we prefer to “keep it bescheiden” and emphasize the fact that it was not us, it was our team, the committee, the experience as a whole; what everyone did and still makes of it.

6.2 Montenegro at the General Assembly Second Committee

represented by Miezana Haile and Christina Heroven

Committee Short Overview

The General Assembly Second Committee (GA2) is a Main Committee of the General Assembly specializing on Economic and Financial issues and is composed of all 193 Member States. GA2 deals with issues related to economic growth and development, addressing macroeconomic policy questions (e.g. external debt sustainability) and providing leadership in the creation of coherent and collaborative strategies to achieve global financial stability. The Second Committee also discusses the permanent sovereignty of the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian Territory and deals with matters relating to Groups of Countries in special situations, including for example the *Least Developed Countries* (LDCs) and *Landlocked Developing Countries* (LLDCs). Since Montenegro joined the United Nations in 2006, it has had an active role in the Second Committee, participating in the introduction of several draft proposals. During the 68th session, chaired by Mr. Abdou Salam Diallo from Senegal, we can expect Montenegro to be specially focused on sustainable development and environmental issues, and in reaching the financial stability in the Balkan region.

Committee Report

Our negotiations seemed to begin even before Ms. Thera Watson gave her Opening Ceremony Speech on the first night of NMUN 2014. Earlier the same day, we attended the Rules of Procedure Training in a packed conference room at the Sheraton Hotel, where excited Delegates were gathering the last pieces of advice for the participation at the conference. But the conference had already started: right outside the hot conference room, in the hotels' lobbies, on the queue to the toilet, in elevators or at the closest coffee shop, Delegations were getting to know their peers, exchanging presentation cards and discussing agenda settings. We witnessed a true showdown of ‘NMUN preparedness’: Delegations were wearing matching ties and skirts, carrying around what seemed to be libraries of UN documents, practicing speeches, prewriting notes to the Dais and racing to form alliances beforehand. Feeling a bit overwhelmed (and admittedly intimidated) at the beginning, we quickly tried to keep up by looking for the Delegations whose position papers had seemed most interesting to us.

The discussions regarding the agenda setting intensified during our first session that night and we were happy to see that most Member States wanted to address agriculture development and food security first. The agenda was finally set at II., III., I., the topics being:

I. External Debt Sustainability and Development
II. Agriculture Development and Food Security
III. International Strategy for Disaster Reduction

Topic II, especially rural development and agriculture, are critical for Montenegro, with as much as 70% of the country's rural population obtaining their income solely from subsistence farming and nearly 38% of the country accounting for agriculture land resources. In line with Montenegro's national priorities, during the conference we wanted to promote small-scale, family farming, the introduction of organic and sustainable practices, the empowerment of women in the agricultural sector and measures to avoid food price volatility; while always supporting the position by the European Union.

"Are there any points of motion on the floor?" The question fired an immediate reaction, almost all placards were raised within a second. After voting upon suspending the meeting for informal caucus for either 40, 45 or 50 minutes, the committee quickly separated in regional blocks. Having already set the agenda setting, discussions moved to substantial proposals within the first topic. Even though we spent the first moments among other members of the European cluster, we also exchanged views with Latin



American and African countries and we encountered mainly positive reactions to our ideas. At the end of the first session, we had not been able to speak during formal session, but had found several potential cooperation partners for the following days.

During the next session, however, we were quite surprised to see that most Delegations had already formed groups and had started developing working papers overnight. Our cooperation partners had partially included our ideas, but we were still concerned that Montenegro's position might not be included in the writing process. After this initial

throwback we quickly recovered by actively cooperating with the Delegations of Croatia, Moldova, Somalia, Jordan, Kuwait and The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, among others. In parallel, we developed a small working paper on organic farming with member states of the Balkan region and remained cooperating with the Members of the European Union. After a couple of informal sessions our main working paper started getting shape and the Delegation of Moldova, who took over the organization of our team, gave it the catchy name of '*HOPE*', standing for 'Higher Outcome for Productive Environment'. We divided ourselves in subgroups and along with Croatia, Somalia and Switzerland, developed concrete proposals to promote small-scale family farming in agricultural development. Some of the proposals included an international campaign to encourage small farm holders to form associations within regions or the creation of an international insurance plan for small farmers. Our attempt to include clauses that promote gender-sensitive policies or the empowerment of women was met by disapproval by our co-sponsors from Jordan and Kuwait, but after some negotiating, we managed to include some proposals written in a softer, less compromising, language. We were also able to introduce a small, rather suggestive clause regarding organic farming, which happily made it to the final draft.

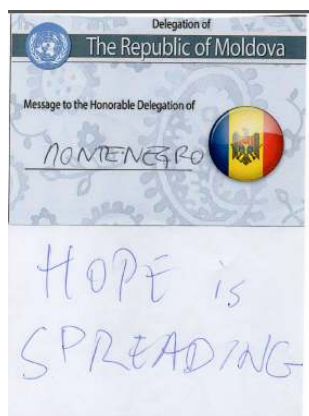
By the end of the third session there were 19 working papers being discussed on the floor. We had several negotiation talks with other groups to evaluate a potential merging of the papers, but most of them turned out to be unsuccessful or very difficult to accomplish. The last formal sessions were mainly spent in promoting working papers and getting to know the concrete proposals of other Delegations. We were able to deliver two speeches, in which we drew the attention on the importance of closing the gender gap in agricultural production and the impact of capacity building for farmers in rural areas, based on Montenegro's experiences.

During this final phase, our working paper gained a lot of support, culminating in a quite motivational speech given by the Delegation of Moldova, stating: "Fellow Delegates, can you feel it? *HOPE* is spreading!" Further Delegations made valuable contributions to the paper, which often resulted in extended discussions and last minute editing, leaving us thankful for every extra minute the Dais would give us.

By the end of our session, we were quite proud to see our *HOPE* draft become the resolution with the highest approval of the Committee, including several clauses that were proposed by Montenegro.

Below, we cite some clauses of the *HOPE* resolution.

Recognizing the importance of small family farming in order to deal with food insecurity and agricultural development as described in the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development titled 'Trade and Environment Review 2014: wake up before it is too late',



Further noting with concern the currently limited capability of women to access credit, land, and agricultural technologies despite their responsibility for the majority of the world's total food production,

Recalling the world food program's initiative accelerating progress toward the economic empowerment of rural women, which aims to improve food security, increase rural women's incomes, and build rural institutions and leadership in Ethiopia, Guatemala, Kyrgyzstan, Liberia, Nepal, Niger and Rwanda,

1. *Proposes* an international campaign to promote the benefits of the Small Farm Holders Association (SFHA) and encourage small farmers to start their own associations in order to:

- a. teach the advantages associated with cooperation between farm holders by:
 - i. showing how increased small holder assets boost guarantees for creditors resulting in lower interest rates and further incentives towards investment in agriculture;
 - ii. making the transition from the informal to formal economy, which can boost credibility, expand markets, and deliver greater wealth; and
 - iii. recognizing that increased investor confidence will help further investment in small farm holders associations;
- b. make use of workshops that deliver the benefits of SFHA, the mechanisms to invest in new technologies and techniques, and the manners to increase the benefits of farming;

15. *Calls on* all member states in cooperation with the UN inter-agency network on rural women to diminish discrimination and empower women by developing gender sensitive policies that facilitate the access to:

- a. resources in agriculture and arable land respecting the voluntary guidelines on responsible governance of tenure of land, fisheries and forests in the context of national food security;
- b. microcredits as a tool of development to empower women, which are dependent on agricultural activities, by providing financial resources to start their own businesses, funded by national banks and local financial institutions, in order to diversify revenue sources and increase agricultural market capacity locally, regionally, and internationally;
- c. local markets and entrepreneurial activities;
- d. technology, especially communication, educational and training programs on agriculture techniques and best practices, with the aim of improving rural women's skills, productivity and employment opportunities;

20. *Encourages* the use of organic fertilizers that come from a sustainable source, such as compostable materials instead of fertilizers that can possibly degrade the soil structure and environment;

21. *Suggests* the implementation of efficient crop rotation and avoiding monocropping to:

- a. maximize the utilization of arable land, replenish soil fertility, and promote seasonal crop yields; and

- b. provide seed packaged that will diversify crops used in the crop rotation, supported by the agricultural ministries of member states;

22. *Emphasizes* the importance of family farming as an important element in bolstering the accessibility and availability of food throughout the community by:

- a. planting a variety of crops and incorporating livestock that will fulfill the basic dietary needs of all the members of the family and reinforcing the ecosystem within the farm; and
- b. assuring the food demand of families is fully met by deploying pragmatic but effective technology, particularly based on the spread of local knowledge and south to south cooperation; [...]

6.3 Montenegro at the General Assembly Third Committee

represented by Nina Hake and Petrit Elshani

Committee Short Overview

The General Assembly Third Committee (GA 3rd) is one of the six Main Committees of the General Assembly. It provides a forum for all of the 193 member states of the United Nations to participate in multilateral discussion on social, humanitarian and cultural issues. The Third Committee acts according to the main goal of the United Nations: The insurance of international peace and security. In the GA 3rd, special focus is dedicated to global education as well as ensuring, promoting and advancing human rights. It has the competence to draft so-called “country-specific resolutions on human rights situations”. In this regard, the Third Committee offers the most representative assembly for dealing with the aforementioned subjects and thus certainly constitutes an integral role within the UN system.

Committee Report



At the first Committee Session, on Sunday, 13th April, we settled the Agenda setting to the topics 3-1-2. The first topic we would deal with was Intensification of Efforts to Eliminate All Forms of Violence against women (Topic No. 3). Violence against women is a grave violation of human rights subject to international law. It is a global challenge taken on by the UN, given its increasing and serious impacts on the economic and social life of billions of people, women and men alike. Intensifying efforts to eliminate all forms of violence against women is the responsibility of governments, civil society and all other stakeholders alike. That is why it is highly important that the UN and the international community extend all assistance to

countries and regions where cases of violence against women are reported.

Throughout the whole week we only dealt with the first topic. For the two other topics Migration and Human Rights (Topic No. 1) and Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice

Systems and their Development in a Changing World (Topic No. 2) we unfortunately did not have enough time.

Most of the work in our Committee was done in the informal caucus. We were adamant on following the European policies and guidelines in each topic. We wanted to put forward the following proposals, as we considered these to be of vital importance to the general betterment of the position of women around the world: the empowerment of women through guaranteed education (primary and secondary school) and work access (labour markets) for women; training of police and border control; change of mentality regarding the cultural and religious background by engaging in talks with village elders, doctors, teachers, activists and journalists; better access to legal justice for victims and advanced medical and psychological aid in all countries.

Then we decided to work with the European Block, taking into account our country's profile, characteristics and foreign policy priorities. We also became Sponsors for their Working Paper. It was divided into four main areas: Prevention, Legal Aid, Treatment and Recovery. Prevention should be guaranteed throughout the empowerment of women achieved through equal access to education and work. Legal Aid basically focused on a Training Program to ensure the training of border control, legal and police officials. Special crimes like Sex Trafficking, Sexual Harassment in work place and Domestic Violence would find special attention at this point. The Treatment Part worked on elaborating an anonymous hotline for victims of (sexual) violence and a Safe House for Victims where they can find a community, legal, psychological, medical and financial aid. Recovery concentrated on creating a NGO ensuring work chances and possibilities.

During the elaboration of our Working Paper, there were 21 other Working Papers. So as the Chair recommended us to merge certain Working Papers with each other, we merged our Working Paper with another from Portugal, Namibia and some other countries, as it was similar to ours. At the last day, 13 Working Papers were up for voting, although some were substantially amended. In the end our Resolution, just like the other 12 Resolutions passed with a clear majority.



To summarize our experiences at the Conference, we would have to admit that the work is really challenging due to the length of the conference and number of Delegations in our Committee but it was really worth all the work, because we passed an innovative and productive Resolution as a main sponsor together with the European countries which was our plan from the beginning. It marked an amazing experience, from an academic as well as an inter-personal perspective, as we engaged in many fruitful discussions and debates with students from across the globe who were, just as us, eager to take on world challenges with renewed energy and firmer attention.

6.4 Montenegro at the General Assembly Fourth Committee

represented by Burcu Okur and Junis Sahib

Committee Short Overview

The General Assembly Fourth Committee is a part of the UN General Assembly and therefore adopts its main characteristics. Being one of the six principle organs laid down in the UN Charter, the General Assembly is credited with assuming the role as the main deliberate, policymaking and representative organ of the UN. The wide-ranging mandate of “special political” issues allows discussing a broad diversity of topics. The Security Council often refers discussions to the Fourth Committee, when help of the whole international community is required on a certain issue. The Fourth Committee’s functions and powers resemble to those of the General Assembly and are out-lined within Articles 10-22 of the UN Charter. The body is tasked with “initiating studies and making recommendations to promote international cooperation in the political field” (Art. 13). The Committee has to send recommendations to the General Assembly Plenary which will be considered within the votes on adopting resolutions. Nevertheless, resolutions adopted by the General Assembly are non-binding in international law (except for budgetary matters), but have always affected the international community.

The Fourth Committee of the General Assembly is a young Committee only existing since 1993 in the form we know today. Resolution 47/233 of 17 August 1993 merged the *Special Political Committee* with the General Assembly’s Fourth Committee. The intended purpose of that resolution was to relieve and revitalize the General Assembly’s work in general. The last waves of decolonization also led to the mentioned merge as decolonization was no longer a high priority subject.

Committee Report

Even though the Opening Ceremony was scheduled to be the starting shot for the National Model United Nations 2014 Conference, the Delegates of the General Assembly Fourth Committee (GA 4th) started the informal caucus hours before the first committee session took place. In order to receive a first impression of agenda setting preferences, we used the opportunity before and after the rules of procedure training which was perfectly suited for meeting our respective committee’s other Delegations. The following agenda items were meant to be discussed during the Conference:

- I. Civilian Capacity in the Aftermath of Conflict
- II. Strengthening the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East

III. Strengthening the United Nations Police

Our approach on the agenda setting was kind of unique in comparison to other Delegations, as we believed that the Civilian Capacity in the Aftermath of Conflict and Strengthening the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East were both crucial issues for the international community. On the one hand, we had a topic dealing with the impacts of an ongoing conflict which does not only affect a certain region, but the community of states as a whole. Consequently, the UNRWA topic was of utmost urgency and global significance. On the other hand, the *CivCap Initiative* reflected our common responsibility to actively help states to re-cover from conflicts and their impacts. By finding solutions to improve and broaden this initiative, Member States would support an anticipatory approach in order to build civilian resilience within future conflicts. Happily, we were able to be amongst the first 10 Member States to be put on the speakers list during the first committee session. This was our opportunity to share our agenda preference and with outlining the importance of both topics, we were able to win the favor of the majority of Delegations during the negotiations.



In general, most Delegates demonstrated a strong preference for prioritizing Civilian Capacity in the Aftermath of Conflict, but a smaller contingent wished firstly to address the issue of Strengthening United Nations Police. Following a lively debate in both formal and informal sessions, the committee decided to set the agenda in the order 1, 2, 3 as stipulated by the first motion on the floor. The issue of civilian capacity proved to be of such significance that it motivated all

Delegates to strive towards a common goal, regardless of any divisive political relationships between Member States.

When the committee reconvened on Monday afternoon, Delegates separated into numerous working groups as we began to tackle substantive issues. Thematic areas of concern included the incorporation of a gender perspective, ensuring the availability of funding for civilian capacity initiatives, rebuilding infrastructure in post-conflict states, and regional approaches to peace building. During this process, our Delegation mostly worked together with different European Delegations in order to form a common European Strategy. As of Monday evening, Delegates had submitted eight working papers to the Dais for review, two of them being sponsored by Montenegro amongst others.

We were able to sponsor specifically two papers due to the accentuation of our proposals in the fields of demilitarization, the sovereignty of nations and regional cooperation initiatives. The resolution that dealt with demilitarization was completed by our amendment that referred to the *Montenegrin Demilitarization Policy* as a role model for the region and the world: „[...] further implementation of disarmament programs with

proven success in the Western Balkan countries, such as the *Montenegro Demilitarization Programme* (referred to as MONDEM), which has already reached the final phase of the destruction of remaining weaponry in Montenegro...". We were also able to highlight initiatives administered by regional blocs that will prevent relapse into conflict and create self-sustaining peace as is the right of every sovereign nation, in addition to being recognized as the most important aspect of a post-conflict period in the resolution about sovereignty of Nations. We also could not let the *Migration, Asylum, Refugees Regional Initiative* (MARRI) in the Western Balkans be unmentioned in the same resolution.

On Tuesday morning, our committee had a total of 22 working papers submitted to the Dais. Aware of the overlap between the papers, Delegates began to seek out opportunities for collaborating with other working groups and merging existing papers together. Merging approaches were especially important for the European Member States, as they seemed to be totally split into a variety of working groups with similar focus areas. In the end, several speeches and negotiations during the informal caucuses helped to create a strong block and to share the idea of European solidarity.

After fruitful negotiations over the course of Tuesday afternoon and following inspiring speeches from other Member States, the committee was able to reduce the volume of working papers to 18. Through cooperation and in the spirit of diplomacy, we helped to submit targeted, issue-specific papers on a wide range of sub-topics, allowing us to cover many aspects of civilian capacity in the aftermath of conflict. The submitted 18 papers dealt with the aspects of communication technologies, the *World Health Organization* and other medical NGO's considering aspects of health care and mental health, the reconstruction of infrastructure, micro-financing projects, the promotion of education and training in the field of agriculture, gender perspectives, woman participation, the increase of *UN-Women* initiatives, the diminishment of gender disparity, the implementation of peacekeeping operations on different national levels, peace building and the security sector. Some highly creative Delegates produced papers with unique proposals for action, including the use of satellite assets and imagery, the enhancement of healthcare to provide targeted services to mental health patients with stress disorders, and steps to take so as to reduce the effects of toxic waste on health and the dangers that conventional weapons pose to civilians. These points were very important to Montenegro, so among other resolutions we sponsored it.

When we returned to session on Wednesday morning, we knew we still had a lot of work in front of us. It was our aim to reach out to as many Delegations as possible to review their working papers and maybe to add amendments and points of priority. There were seven approved draft resolutions and throughout the session, the Dais approved the remaining working papers as draft resolutions. We then alternated between formal and informal debate and circulated around the committee and promoted our innovative approaches to bridging gaps in civilian capacity in states emerging from conflict. These gaps were again mostly linked to the issue of women empowerment and gender equality, as well as the balance between regional cooperation and the question of national ownership. By the beginning of the last session, all 18 working papers were approved as draft resolutions and distributed to the committee.

Delegates took advantage of the final suspensions to review and amend draft resolutions. Before moving into voting procedure, we indeed were able to submit a friendly

amendment to a resolution about toxic waste and chemical weapons, adding a point of regional cooperation in the Balkan region concerning this matter. The amendment eventually was presented to the committee by the Chair, and also highlighted the special efforts Montenegro was taking in this matter but also throughout the conference. To end its annual meeting, the committee subsequently passed each of the 18 draft resolutions by a significant majority, demonstrating the consensus that Delegates had achieved with each other regarding the issues at hand over the course of the week.

But still our work was not done at that point. While preparing for NMUN in Berlin, one of our most interesting, complex and time-consuming tasks was the writing of our Position Paper, summing up our positions concerning the topics presented in the committee. As we put a lot of effort in it, we were eager for recognition for our work. At the end of the conference, the best Position Papers were rewarded an „*Outstanding Position Paper*“ Award. We eventually felt very proud and honored when we were awarded in front of the committee, knowing that everything was worth the hard work and knowing that we did our best to present Montenegro.



6.5 Montenegro at the United Nations Environment Programme

represented by Carly Evaeus and Sebastian Kugel

Committee Short Overview

UNEP, the *United Nations Environment Programme*, is “the voice” for environment within the UN and the Secretariat is located in Nairobi, Kenya. In the *UN Conference on Human Environment* held in Stockholm in 1972, the General Assembly recommended the founding of the UNEP. In December the same year, the GA officially adopted this

resolution and UNEP was founded. Originally, UNEP had 58 members. Since 2012, UNEP has a universal membership, which entails that all UN-Member States are invited to be part of UNEP. Currently the ‘five-member bureau’ of the *Committee of Permanent Representatives* consists of Korea, Belgium, Romania, Uganda and Chile. The roles of the bureau members rotate every two years and are reelected after six years.

The main tasks of UNEP are to promote international cooperation regarding environmental issues as well as monitor and high-light current issues and problems. UNEP recommends international policies, promotes international co-operation and capacity-building, contributes with expert scientific knowledge and manages processes in transferring knowledge about environment issues. It also develops international laws to insure implementation of agreements e.g. the *Kyoto Protocol*. UNEP contains of six main sub-programs: Climate Change, Disaster and Conflicts, Ecosystem Management, Environmental Governance, Harmful Substances and Resource Efficiency. In 1992, *Agenda 21* brought the concept of “Sustainable Development” into focus within UNEP.

Having previously focused only on environment, UNEP now has a more broad focus, including sustainable development and thereby bringing social and economic well-being into their program. The outcome is that UNEP is officially the UN body for global environmental authority.

Committee Report

The three topics in focus at NMUN 2014 were:

- I. Transformation to a Green Economy: Challenges for Transportation Worldwide
- II. Management of Harmful Substances and Hazardous Waste
- III. Facilitating South-South Cooperation for Environmental Capacity Building

These topics are all of great importance to Montenegro. Because of problems with water pollutions and management, the issue of water usage is a main priority for the Montenegrin development. The need of renewable energy sources and increased energy efficiency is not yet so developed, but Montenegro’s energy report to 2030 puts it high up on the agenda and international companies have shown interest to invest in such projects. Because of the metal industry in Montenegro, also management of hazardous waste, e.g. in aluminum production, is a crucial area of focus for Montenegro.

At NMUN 2014, in the UNEP committee, Montenegro considered it a main priority to set the agenda to the order; 1, 2, 3, so as to shed light on the urgent need of more sustainable transport sectors worldwide, necessary in order to reach a more sustainable global development. According to Article 1 of the Constitution, Montenegro is a “democratic, social and ecological state.” Pursuing a balanced approach towards the three dimensions of sustainable development, addressing environmental, economic and social sustainability was of main



importance to Montenegro. Therefore, during the agenda setting, Montenegro voted for a 1, 2, 3 order and much to Montenegro's delight, the outcome of the voting procedure met our wishes; "Transformation to a Green Economy: Challenges for Transportation Worldwide" was now on the agenda.

During the first informal consultations, the Montenegrin Delegation separated with purpose of having a strategic approach and be able to quickly meet and discuss the topic with as many countries as possible, in order to gain further insight in where the other countries stood regarding the topic. Because Montenegro aligns itself with the EU, we ensured to have a constant relation to the region from the start. The other Delegate interacted with developing countries from Asia, South America and Africa, in order to gain insight in the ongoing discussions among these countries as well.

The European block was mainly driven by the Delegates from Sweden and Switzerland, who helped coordinate the different areas and organize Delegates into working groups, focusing on various topics within green transport. Montenegro played an active role here and headed a working group, which came to focus on greening the public transport sector. In this working group Montenegro had the pleasure to work closely with Italy, Germany, Estonia, United Kingdom, Austria, Sweden and Switzerland. Later, also countries such as Monaco, Turkey, United States of America and Republic of Korea showed interest in supporting our work and sponsored the working paper titled "D".

During this time, the other Delegate from Montenegro began to work with Croatia and Romania on working paper J. Working paper J was more focused on strategies for carbon caps and trade, as well as regulations within the aviation sector. When starting with working paper J, the basic idea of the Croatian, Romanian and Montenegrin Delegate was to establish an emission certificate trading system for aviation to encourage airlines to modernize their fleets and to save fuel with new techniques. The whole profit from selling the certificates should go into research on alternative jet-fuels and eco-friendly aviation techniques. These steps should accelerate the transformation process to a greener aviation.



When the basic ideas were written down and filled up with details, the Delegates began to convince other Delegations of their working paper and to include their ideas. The Netherlands and the United States of America became strong supporters and were added to the sponsors list. Many other aspects of green transportation systems were added to the working paper, which convinced a big group of countries to become signatories to working paper J, especially from the European block.

After many revisions and edits, and after having received feedback from the Dais multiple times, the working groups working on working paper J and D were encouraged to merge the papers. Because Montenegro fully supported both papers, as active contributors to both, Montenegro supported this suggestion and was an active contributor to the work necessary in order to complete the merge, which resulted in Working Paper J.

Below is an example of one of the resolutions written by Montenegro and the European block, with support from other countries:

Endorses Member States who have national airlines to set up “Clean Trips”, a plane flight fueled by clean fuel as well as setting up a general program in Clean Trips where flyers can voluntarily donate a sum of their choosing in dollars per carbon dioxide emitted in order to off-set its impact by:

National owned airlines make use of clean fuel for a percentage of flights,

On those flights, there is an option to donate money to offset environmental impact,

Member States can use money collected to fund environmental programs,

The airlines track and provide the statistics on the amount of carbon dioxide being emitted

Before the voting procedure, Montenegro had the opportunity to hold a speech for the entire committee. At this point, the focus was to raise awareness of our main points in Draft Resolution J, thereby aiming to gain interest and support from fellow delegations.

“Honorable Chair, Fellow delegates,

As the 2nd newest member state of the UN, Montenegro is proud to be an active member of UNEP and the international community.

As an aspiring EU Member, Montenegro fully aligns itself with the European Union in our task ahead; to tackle the global climate change, ensure environmental stability. Therefore, we have been working closely with EU states such as Italy, Germany and United Kingdom, and other aspiring EU members, and Switzerland while drafting two working papers. With these two working papers we are drawing focus to six main areas, and invite you to support our working papers. The focus areas are;

- 1. Increase the use of renewable energy sources*
- 2. Include private sector, increase their responsibility*
- 3. Involve South South Cooperation in this transformation*
- 4. Reduce emissions by further regulations, mainly for commercial, private and public flights*

5. Increase capacity building also through education and awareness raising

6. Redevelop UNEP's function and structure to an Agency

We very much appreciate working with you on these challenges ahead of us, as an unified international community. THANK YOU."

Speech held by Carly Evaeus Tuesday April 15th 2014

Montenegro, together with above mentioned countries and many other signatories, was very pleased when our Draft Resolution was voted on with a result of 88 votes for and only 10 against (36 abstaining), thereby passing and being renamed to UNEP/RES/1/9.

Montenegro was also supportive of two other working papers by being signatory of the Draft Resolutions, "Sharing is Greening", which was basically about establishing a knowledge-transfer platform for green technologies, and "Biofuels". Also these passed the voting procedure.

The NMUN 2014 UNEP experience was enriching and educating, and taught the Delegates from Montenegro just how difficult diplomatic decision-making can be. We are thankful for this experience and wish the best of luck to future Model UN:ers!

6.6 Montenegro at the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees Committee

represented by Rosa Galvez and Stephanie Kutschmann

Committee Short Overview

The *United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees* (UNHCR) works under the authority of the General Assembly (GA) and the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC). The ECOSOC created the Executive Committee (ExCom) that works as a subsidiary organ of the GA. The subsidiary organ of ExCom is the Standing Committee. UNHCR is led by the High Commissioner (head of the organization), Deputy High Commissioner and Assistant High Commissioner for Protection and Operations. UNHCR finances itself through donations mostly from Member States. About 86% of its budget comes from member states, 6% from inter-governmental organizations, 6% from the private sector and 2% limited subsidies from the UN. The top five donors in 2012 were the United States, Japan, the European Commission, Sweden and the Netherlands. The funds that are allocated are used to provide basic needs, security, protection and durable solutions for refugees.

The Executive Committee currently consists of 87 members. Most of UNHCR's work is managed outside of the ExCom and Standing Committee in its regional offices, branch offices, sub-offices, and field offices. Originally, UNHCR was founded in 1950 in the aftermath of the Second World War to handle the refugee crisis in Europe. Today, UNHCR is able to work alongside other partners and negotiate with countries to cooperate in protecting and giving assistance to refugees around the world. The main tasks of UNHCR are the protection and assistance during replacement, guarantee of safe return to home land and support upon reintegration. UNHCR is currently providing services to over 35 million people and assumes responsibility for assisting an average of 2,000 new refugees every day.

Committee Report

After the inauguration ceremony of the conference, we had the opportunity to meet other Member States, potential regional and strategic partners from our committee. We immediately started to work alongside other Delegates such as Portugal, Italy, Chile and others. During the first day of committee sessions, we discussed a variety of topics during informal caucus including agenda setting. The committee voted upon the following order:

- I. Advancing Emergency Response for Displaced Populations Affected by Conflict and Natural Disaster
- II. Improving Public Health Systems for Refugees and Other Forcibly Displaced Persons
- III. Providing Humanitarian Assistance to Refugees from and Internally Displaced Persons in Somalia

On the first day, we focused on finding partners that share the same ideas and goals for the topics before the committee. Unexpectedly, our regional neighbors did not pursue similar strategies like us. While we were advocating programs that are mainly aimed at the inclusion of refugees and IDPs in the society, the other European countries focused more on specific policies (mostly women's rights, health or security related). Therefore, we had to adjust and branch out to new partners to stay true to Montenegro's policies.

Within the course of the second day, we worked hard to contribute to a number of working papers. Our main partner were Chile, Portugal, Moldova, South Africa and the United States with regard to the practices in dealing with the psychological impacts of displacement, the importance of IDPs, improving preparation and management of risks prior to a natural disaster, strengthening coordination between NGOs and IGOs, addressing issues of sexual and gender based violence, funding and implementation and more efficient use of current data.

During the conference, we had the opportunity to speak twice before the committee. Each time trying to illustrate the strengths of our position and working papers. Here is an excerpt of Stephanie's first speech before the committee outlining Montenegro's position:

Honorable Chair, fellow Delegates,

Montenegro would like to first and foremost express its appreciation for the work of this body in the aftermath of the conflict in Kosovo. Being a primary recipient of



refugees following the break-up of Yugoslavia, we are willing to support international agreements to advance emergency response.

We would like to emphasize the urgent need for stronger regional coordination and cooperation following conflict or disaster. Past conflicts and disasters have shown that more directed help is needed to guarantee all refugees and IDPs peace and security as guaranteed under the Charter of the United Nations. We are looking forward to discussing a framework that re-lies on individual responsibility of the state and cooperation with partners such as the private sector, NGOs and other United Nations organizations that will not only relief the situation momentarily, but strives to sustainable long-term solutions.

As far as funding is concerned, Montenegro proposes that each state participates in their national capacity, either monetary or by allocating resources to respond to the needs of refugees and IDPs following conflict or natural disasters.'



On the third day of committee sessions, 12 working papers were submitted to the committee chair of which 10 were adapted into draft resolutions. Among the most notable draft resolutions was the so called GRIP initiative standing for *Granting Rights to IDPs*. We shaped this initiative in coordination with Moldova and Guinea while focusing on the need of a definition of IDP status to guarantee the same access to help as it is already instituted for refugees.

In addition, Montenegro sponsored 4 draft resolutions and signed 3 more. Our main focus on the improvement of advancing emergency response through the advancement of health services, education and housing were passed in resolution 10. In total, 8 resolutions were passed by UNHCR addressing several key issues that refugees face today as mentioned above.

In conclusion, the conference was a great learning experience for us. We would like to thank the participants of UNHCR for their hard work and wish them the best for the future. We will never forget what we have learned in New York.

6.7 Montenegro at the Human Rights Council

represented by Enhui Shen and Petya Hristova

Committee Short Overview

The *Human Rights Council* (HRC) based in Geneva consists of 47 Member States elected for a once renewable term of three years. It is apart from human rights treaty

monitoring bodies, one of the main human rights mechanisms of the United Nations and a subsidiary body of the General Assembly. The aim of the HRC is to strengthen the promotion and protection of the universal human rights concept, to prevent the violation of human rights, as well as to improve the international human rights standards. Cooperating with independent experts in the field enhances the capacity of HRC to address human rights concerns and reaffirm to cover as many aspects of human rights as possible. The *Commission on Human Rights* (CHR), established in 1946, was replaced by the HRC established by the UN General Assembly on 15 March 2006 (Resolution 60/251). The reform aimed at creating a more effective and neutral human rights body that would undertake the role of the CHR. Montenegro was among the 18 countries elected to serve on the Council on November 12th, 2012 and advocates for the institutional strengthening of the HRC.

Committee Report

The topics of paramount importance considered to be discussed by the Human Rights Council were:

- I. Human Rights in the Post-2015 Development Framework;
- II. Extrajudicial, Summary and Arbitrary Executions, and
- III. The Right to Adequate Housing and Protection from Forcible Evictions.

During the months of preparation in Berlin we worked on a consistent strategy for the three committee topics according to the Montenegrin internal affairs preferences and external orientation towards membership in NATO and the EU as well as good neighborly relationships. Montenegro's 2013-2014 presidency of the *Roma Decade* plays thereby a very important role as a sign of enhanced commitment to improving the situation of the minorities in the country, especially of the Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian (RAE). Along with the adoption and implementation of human rights legislation, the incorporation of the Rule of Law principle in the nation states' policies as well as transparency and accountability were a centerpiece of the strategy of our Delegation which we gave our best to represent in the HRC committee sessions.

Our actual committee work began before the official NMUN Opening Ceremony and the first Committee Session. In the afternoon of the 13th April all Delegations had the opportunity to attend a Rules of Procedure Training, a great chance to get to know fellow Delegates from the HRC, to get rid of some business cards and of course to discuss Agenda Setting preferences and try out our persuasion strategies. We found out soon enough that networking is the root of all diplomatic success, to paraphrase the well-known quote.

After getting inspired by the Keynote Speaker at the Opening Ceremony, the Head of the EU Delegation to the UN, H.E. Thomas Mayr-Harting, we headed to our conference room and started formal session. Our first task was the setting of the topics' order to discuss at the HRC and thereby the Agenda for the next three days. The voting on suspension of the meeting and entering into an informal caucus to discuss the Agenda Setting preferences with the other Delegates shortly followed. The Delegation of Montenegro argued that the Agenda should be set in order 1, 3, 2, in reference to the in the year 2015 expiring *Millennium Development Goals* (MDGs) and the needed reform to ensure equity among current and future generations including gender equality as well as the equity among the entire range of population groups. Fully aware of the crucial

importance of the second and third conference topics in our preference list, we called upon for expeditious handling of the procedural questions and going into substantial debate. The European Union (except of Germany, arguing for 3, 1, 2) and her ring of friends including Montenegro and Moldova as well as the United States agreed on setting the agenda at 1, 3, 2. By the voting this topic order won the majority and the exciting formal and informal debate on the first topic Human Rights in the Post-2015 Development Framework commenced.



According to Article 1 of the Constitution, Montenegro is a “democratic, social and ecological state.” Pursuing a balanced approach towards the three dimensions of sustainable development, addressing environmental, economic and social sustainability, we wanted to address the initial lack of inclusiveness, efficiency and transparency in the prior-2015 Development Framework in the resolutions of the HRC. As a suitable tool to reach this goal

we saw the introduction of an effective and more importantly symmetrical cooperation between state and non-state stakeholders on a global scale. To the concrete measures we took a firm stand for not only in our speeches but also in the discussions with our co-sponsors in the working paper phase belonged the following: assessing the vulnerability of the achievements towards the MDGs to external influences including climate change, economic and financial crises and geopolitical shifts; assessing the inequitable progress allocation in contrast with the human rights provisions and reforming the *Official Development Aid* (ODA) approach with introducing conditionality in its framework; and supporting the *UN High Commissioner for Human Rights* in incorporating the concepts of accountability and transparency in the future Sustainable Development and Human Rights Manifestation agenda.

The Delegation of Montenegro addressed these three key points within two working papers which at the end after hard work and negotiations became Draft Resolution 1-3 and Draft Resolution 1-4. The first draft resolution originated from a broad coalition of sponsors (Angola, Argentina, Cote d’Ivoire, Czech Republic, Ethiopia, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Malaysia, Mauritania, Moldova, Montenegro, Romania, Switzerland, Thailand) and dealt with the different aspects of equality as well as the development of suitable instruments to ensure the incorporation of that principle in the Future Development Agenda. Besides the constant work on formulating and negotiating resolution clauses, Montenegro contributed with the idea for reform of the ODA in order for it to reach all population groups by diversifying the sources of assistance, including technology transfer and expertise transfer among industrial and developing countries. Since eleven working papers had been submitted to the Dais till the end of the Tuesday evening session, the Chair highly encouraged the sponsors to maintain merging

negotiations. Our at that time Working Paper on Equality succeed in that point and stated an example on bringing different approaches towards equality together.

The second draft resolution was the result of our productive work with our partners from the European Union, the United States and Brazil (see the picture below). Within our working paper, we focused on the transparency and accountability as methods and instruments to ensure that the reform steps in the post-2015 Development Agenda are going to be implemented. Our provisions were oriented at the establishment of an Oversight Committee on Transparency and Accountability in HR, which will oversee the allocation of funds within the international system; implementation of tailor-made anti-corruption training programs and cooperation with NGOs and other non-state actors for enhanced expertise and better addressing of the violations. We, the sponsors of the Accountability-Working Paper, took a firm stand not to merge with any other working paper, since we believed that our approach is of paramount importance for ensuring further reforms and thereby should be voted separately on. At the end the HRC voted on seven Draft Resolutions dealing with important substantial problems such as food security, education, reform of the health care system in the developing countries and equality. Six of the resolutions passed by acclamation and one by significant majority, which stated the broad consensus on the reform measures needed for the *Sustainable Development Goals* approach to inure to the benefit of the peoples of the world. Our Accountability-Draft Resolution passed by significant majority, however not by acclamation due to the opposition of the Asian economic powers concerning our call for transparent government actions – one more sign for the reality check we and all other HRC members were proud of.



The NMUN 2014 Human Rights Council maintained an active, comprehensive and consensus-oriented approach towards the committee work on our first topic. Unfortunately, three days weren't enough to come further. The Delegation of Montenegro is grateful for the productive debate and work with our fellows from the

other Delegations and the competent and cooperative Dais. We lived the HRC spirit and we are going to spread the messages for peace, sustainability and equality we shared during formal and informal session.

6.8 Montenegro at the United Nations Population Fund

represented by Lotta Schneidemesser and Oliver Martin

„To deliver a world where every pregnancy is wanted, every birth is safe, and every young person's potential is fulfilled.”

– Overall goal of UNFPA

Committee Short Overview

In 1967, the *United Nations Fund for Population Activities* (UNFPA) was established as a trust fund to support and finance programs related to population issues. The name was changed to *United Nations Population Fund* in 1987 (but the abbreviation remained the same).

UNFPA works together with different humanitarian agencies, such as UNICEF, WHO, and UNDP. The Executive Board of UNFPA is made up of representatives from 36 countries around the world who serve on a rotating basis. UNFPA receives overall guidance from the General Assembly, but it reports to its very own governing body, the UNDP/UNFPA Executive Board, on different matters, for example those which have to do with financing and administration. The main purposes of the Fund were set by the Economic and Social Council in 1973 in its resolution 1763. According to this resolution, UNFPA's overall goal is to *“deliver a world where every pregnancy is wanted, every birth is safe, and every young person's potential is fulfilled.”* UNFPA is responsible for accumulating data and research on the issue of a rapid global population growth and demographic shift.

Committee Report

The three main topics for UNFPA at the NMUN conference 2014 were:

- I. Health Priorities Post-2015: Opportunities and Challenges for Improving Maternal Health
- II. Impact of Urbanization on the Implementation of the ICPD Program of Action
- III. Strengthening the International Response to New Trends in Migration

When setting the agenda, different propositions were made, but the majority of the committees opted for the first topic (Health Priorities Post-2015) to be discussed at first. Finally the agenda was set to: I. Health Priorities Post-2015, II. Urbanization, III. Migration.

With only 36 members, UNFPA is a comparatively small committee (as opposed for example to the General Assembly, where 193 members are present). Therefore getting a place on the speakers' list, suggesting a motion or collaborating with other Delegations

during informal caucus is made much easier. We, as the Delegation of Montenegro, managed to get on the speakers' list relatively quickly, and in total we were on the speakers' list about 4-5 times (whereas our fellow Delegates in other committees like the General Assembly managed to be put on the speakers' list only once or twice, due to the enormous size of their committee).

On the first day, in the first informal caucuses, it was important for our Delegation to get to know the other Delegations and to talk with them about their position, their aims and their strategies. The next day, working groups began to form in order to work together on working papers with the aim to produce a final paper that could be adopted as a draft resolution by the Chair. In total, four resolutions were adopted after an initial working process that took two days and a half. Two working papers were actually merged into one draft resolution, as they had very similar approaches and ideas. Suggestions in the fight against maternal mortality included, among other, various educational programs, especially for younger people, in order to educate them about sexuality related topics and empower young girls through knowledge in fields like family planning, personal hygiene and education. Studies have shown that the more educated a girl is, the more likely she is to have a) fewer children and be older when she has her first child and in some countries, this alone will reduce the risk of maternal mortality while giving birth to a great deal.

We, as the Delegation of Montenegro, supported the transformation of development aid from a top-down towards a bottom-up process. That means, that we underlined the importance that any education project or approach to fight the risk of maternal mortality should take into account the necessities to be culturally sensitive and to gain the local communities support and approval. Sexuality is a highly sensitive topic, even more so in remote village where these topics are considered to be private affairs, or, due to religious beliefs, are even taboo-topics. One has to be very sensitive here to find a way of



approaching people and to not to force a pre-developed concept on them that does not fit their situation. Also, we underlined the importance of the inclusion of the private sector in new programs that have to do with development aid, because in our opinion it is very important to convey that each and every one of us can do their part in changing this world to a better place. We also supported the aim to call on world leaders to strengthen the coordination of development aid and to thus demonstrate in UNFPA that this topic is of high importance.

Our committee adopted all resolutions on maternal health. The voting process actually went very fast, as there was no opposition and no call for changing something within one of the draft resolutions. The Chair expressed great surprise, saying that this was the fastest voting process they every experienced at a NMUN conference. However, this might also show that the topic “Health Priorities Post-2015” was not a controversial one within our NMUN UNFPA Committee. All the Delegations were convinced that something had to be done to improve maternal health care and health conditions and had many different ideas on how to achieve just that, through different programs, projects and initiative. Among the most popular ideas were:

- 1) Establishing a community based health program for young adults (aged 13-20) called “Healthy Me!” with the aim to provide health, sexual and maternal education and to serve as a safe forum for young adults to discuss health issues, and even issues of domestic violence.
- 2) Establishing an annual conference for African States on the topic of maternal health, the suggested name is: “African Forum on Maternal Health and Mortality”. This would serve as an opportunity for Member States and NGOs to meet regularly in order to discuss maternal health problems that are unique to Africa, and ways to combat these problems.
- 3) Implementing community management programmes, in order to record cases of maternal mortality in more detail and thus be able to find out exactly what the reasons for maternal mortality in a specific region or country is and how to combat it. The *Maternal Death Surveillance* system in Morocco could be taken as an exemplary framework for the establishment of a National Maternal Death Surveillance and Response System.

The resolutions presented different ideas, but in general they pursued the same goal: to improve maternal health and health care in general and to decrease the maternal mortality rate, and to make sure that this topic would be of high importance on the political agenda, even after 2015.

We then moved forward to the next topic on the agenda, urbanization. With regard to the fact that more than 50% of the world’s population live in cities, and what this entails concerning the living aspects of people, especially in less developed countries, urbanization is a topic of high importance. It is projected that by 2050, 70% of the world’s population will live in cities, and the problems that are caused by a rapid urbanization, as we see it in many countries today, are various. They include, for example, a higher unemployment rate in urban areas, as the demand for work exceeds existing job possibilities, the increase of housing prices which leads to the fact that the number of people in inadequate housing conditions increases, or, in less developed countries, leads to a creation of huge slums. It can foster social inequality, as well as exclusion and segregation of certain groups in society.

With regard to Montenegro, there is of course not the danger of the creation of huge slums, which can be found in a number of countries in South-America and Sub-Saharan Africa due to the comparatively small size of the country and the population. However, in Montenegro minorities such as the Roma can be seen as being highly affected by urbanization, as sometimes they are forced to migrate to cities and settle there, or they are denied the right to live in certain parts of the city and are only given inadequate housing. Unfortunately, it was already the last day of the conference and we had very little time to discuss the topic, but our committee still managed to adopt two draft resolutions. Among the most popular ideas were:

- 1) Encouraging Member States to focus their development policy on the creation of smaller urban centres in rural areas
- 2) Encouraging Member States to contribute to and support UNFPA programmes that have a special focus on the effects of urbanization
- 3) Emphasizing the importance of the creation of small, local businesses to in order to strengthen the local community in rural areas and to provide employment opportunities



A Speech given by Lotta Schneidemesser during the last Committee session:

Honourable Chair, Fellow Delegates,

We are very impressed by the great progress that has been made in the past days – and that we now have several draft resolutions in front of us.

When Helmut Schmidt, a famous German politician, became the German Chancellor, he was asked: "What is your great vision?" And he replied. "If you have visions you should go and see a doctor!" – meaning that in politics, we do not need

visions, but we need to develop concrete ideas and take action. This has happened here, in this Committee, over the past days. Instead of having visions, we have developed very concrete ideas in order to then take action. We want to thank the countries that have taken the lead in developing these ideas, especially Canada, China, Germany and Morocco and inspired others to contribute their ideas, too. And we are very happy to see that national preferences have been put aside by many delegations in order to work together on achieving a greater goal.

Let me perhaps close this speech with a famous quote that underlines how important it is that if you have a great idea, go and take action, and involve as many people as you can.

"Your playing small does not serve this world. There is nothing enlightened about shrinking so that other people won't feel insecure around you. And when we let our light shine, we unconsciously give other people permission to do the same." Nelson Mandela

Thank you.

7. Closing Ceremony at the NMUN 2014

After having taken part in an outstanding Study Tour and at the same time experienced the everyday life of an UN-Diplomat or civil servant at the New York Headquarters; after having explored the amazing New York City and, finally and most importantly, after having participated in the challenging and enriching National Model UN Conference and given our best to present the Montenegrin policies, we couldn't imagine that the most thrilling part of our Delegation trip is yet to come. The Closing Ceremony at UN Headquarters became its culmination: our efforts were rewarded, we got "infected" with the UN-virus and we had a meeting that no one of us will forget anytime soon.

April 17, 2014. While our fellows from the other Delegations were impatient to get to know the New York UN site for the first time, we were happy and a bit proud to know and go back to First Ave./47th Street. Well, this time we had to stay in line, what an unusual experience for the regular guests at UNHQ! Joke aside, we were totally excited about our appointment before the start of the official ceremony at the General Assembly Hall and the waiting was nothing to whine about.

The Delegation of Montenegro, represented by Freie Universität Berlin, had an official appointment with the Deputy Secretary-General Jan Eliasson, the official speaker for the ceremony, scheduled thanks to our fellow Delegate Carly Evaeus. Our host has been a Swedish Minister of Foreign Affairs, Sweden's Permanent Representative to the UN, 1st Under Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief, involved in operations in the Balkans, Somalia, Sudan and Mozambique, 60th President of the United Nations General Assembly and since July 2012 Deputy Secretary-General to Ban Ki-moon. Impressive biography, but even more impressive was meeting the statesman Jan Eliasson. He gave us four important words of advice outlining the cornerstones of diplomacy to take along back to Berlin:

- 1) Develop your language skills, become a master of the spoken and the written word!
- 2) Put a great emphasis on the importance of timing for your career!

- 3) Develop and show cultural sensitivity and respect to all races, religions and world views!
- 4) Be trustworthy, straightforward and honest!

In his brilliant speech in front of the NMUN participants, conference senior staff and volunteers, Mr. Eliasson set forth the paramount importance of the UN ideas: preserving the world peace and security and ensuring the manifestation of sustainable development and human rights, and more importantly the interaction of these three UN fundamentals. *“There is no peace without development, no development without peace, no lasting peace without sustainable development and without respect for the human rights and the rule of law”*, so the Deputy Secretary-General. As a token of our gratefulness for taking his time and meeting us Peggy had prepared a piece of the Berlin wall as a present for Mr. Eliasson. During his speech in the General Assembly Hall he pointed out that the participants at NMUN as future leaders should demolish walls and build new ones never again. The Deputy Secretary-General mentioned meeting the Delegation from FU which gave him food for thought by reminding him of the divided Berlin.

An “Honorable Mention” for the work of the Delegation of Montenegro, two rewards for an “Outstanding Position Paper” for our fellow Delegates at the General Assembly 1st and 4th Committees and very special mention by the Deputy Secretary-General and of course unforgettable experience from NMUN 2014 with the Montenegrin Delegation and a lot of new friends from all over the world, this is the recapitulation from our New York endeavor, from a once in a lifetime experience.



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Participation of Freie Universität Berlin in the National Model United Nations conferences 1995-2014

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Awards for the NMUN 2014 Delegation

Outstanding Position Paper Award – General Assembly First Committee

Outstanding Position Paper Award – General Assembly Fourth Committee

The NMUN 2014 Delegation of Freie Universität Berlin is grateful for these awards as they honor our preparation for and our work at the Conference and conclude a wonderful and delighting experience.

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