



UN-FORUM

National Model United Nations 2001

*Report of the Participation of the Freie Universität Berlin,
representing the Argentine Republic, 5 - 15 April 2001, New York City*



*„The United Nations is, and will continue to be, a forum where all of us can ponder
and take action. There is no other more legitimate forum.“*

*Fernando de la Rúa
President of the Argentine Republic
Millennium Summit of the United Nations
New York, 7 September 2000*

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National Model United Nations 2001 The Delegation of the Argentine Republic

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Manuela Gadow	Political Science	World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia, and Related Intolerance
Julia Gliszewska	Political Science	General Assembly First Committee
Frauke Godat	Political Science	WTO Ministerial Meeting
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Lovis Rieck	Law	Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice
Ansgar Schönborn	Law	International Law Commission
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Foreword

In the seventh year of our participation in the most important simulation of the United Nations worldwide, the National Model United Nations in New York City, the Delegation of the Freie Universität Berlin felt deeply honored to represent the Argentine Republic in thirteen committees and organizations, with the extraordinary challenge of representing for the first time a non-permanent member of the Security Council.

We have followed our tradition of involving all interested faculties in the Delegation, thus, students of Law and Political Science worked together with students of Economics, North American Studies, Ethnology, Physics, Biology and Medicine. As the broad variety of topics within the UN-system holds fields of interest for all faculties alike, the interdisciplinarity of our programme also strives to lead to a better understanding and co-operation between the different faculties at this university, an endeavor which has been taken up enthusiastically by the involved participants.

The preparation was conducted by Ms. Peggy Wittke, who works at the chair of the undersigned in the Faculty of Law at the Freie Universität Berlin. During the class in the winter semester, the Delegation focused on the United Nations system as well as history, policy, economy, environment, social and cultural issues of the Argentine Republic. Special consideration was given to topics such as development, human rights, peace and security as well as diplomacy with the support of specialists in the field: for her briefing on Human Rights in Argentina, we owe Dr. Ruth Stanley, Department of Political Science, our deepest gratitude as well as former Ambassador Dr. Hans-Joachim Vergau for his fascinating insights into the world of international diplomacy. Two simulations of the United Nations Security Council were organized and conducted by Ms. Wittke in cooperation with the United Nations Association of Germany, Berlin-Brandenburg Chapter, one on the Situation in South Asia, another on Iraq and Sanctions in general. Both contributed to the practical knowledge of our students - a necessity to conduct business effectively at the National Model United Nations.

A series of briefings in New York gave the participants last information on the issues which were to be debated. A meeting with Mr. Guillermo Kendall, Second Secretary at the Permanent Mission of Argentina to the United Nations, provided detailed information of the main priority issues of Argentina. It was also cherished very much due to the friendly atmosphere. The UN-Study Tour, organized for us by the United Nations Department for Public Information, was as in the years before one of the highlights of our journey to New York. The students also visited the Delegation of the European Commission and the Permanent Mission of Germany, both of them very attractive for student internships, as could be proved by a member of our 2000 NMUN-Delegation, who at the time was in the course of an internship at the Permanent Mission of Germany and gave a highly interesting report on his experience. Several students could take home acceptances for internships, partly directly at the United Nations Headquarters, as the Office for Internal Oversight, or at Non-Governmental Organizations, such as the Coalition for an International Criminal Court. A student of Medicine was provided with the opportunity of taking part in the *Special Session of the General Assembly on the Problem of HIV/AIDS in All Aspects* from June 25th to June 27th in New York as an official delegate of the World Federation of United Nations Associations.

The Argentine Delegation was outstandingly active and dedicated to their work in all of the committees. The Delegation could introduce all crucial points of Argentine foreign policy, e.g. the *White Helmets Initiative* (which had been called into being as support for humanitarian aid in 1993) and the emphasis on the security of United Nations personnel, which is of vital importance since Argentina is one of the most important troop contributors to peacekeeping missions.

The excellent performance of this year's Delegation was particularly acknowledged at the conference: Argentine Delegates were elected by their committees to present reports and resolutions of their respective committee namely the International Law Commission and the

General Assembly. Particularly impressive were the voting procedures, this year held in the General Assembly Hall for the first time ever. Therefore, the students were able to take the seats of the Argentine Delegates and speak from the rostrum where normally only Heads of State, the Permanent Representatives or high-ranking diplomats deliver their speeches.

A unique honor was the fact that one of our Delegates was elected to chair the session of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization. On the first day in the committees the participants may apply for the posts of Chair or Rapporteur and are chosen after a personal interview. As there is a huge competition for these posts it is an even greater pleasure to me that a member of our Delegation was chosen to preside over such a sought-after committee.

The 2001 experiences will encourage us to continue to participate in the 2002 National Model United Nations. The Freie Universität Berlin will be present as the Republic of Poland.

Univ.-Prof. Dr. Philip Kunig, Vice Dean
Faculty of Law, Freie Universität Berlin



The Security Council: Frederik Siegmann, Jenny Suckale, Felix Marklein, Nina Truchseß, Ferry Bühring, Wolfgang Weinzierl, Andrej Lang, Paula Marie Hildebrandt, Astrid Ziebarth, Manuela Gadow and Arzu Hatakoy.

Sponsors of the Berlin Delegation to the National Model United Nations Conference 2001

We wish to thank the following persons, enterprises and institutions for their financial and/or ideological support of our participation at the *National Model United Nations 2001*:

Auswärtiges Amt, Berlin

Mrs. Chopra, UN-Dokumentationsstelle, Universitätsbibliothek der FU Berlin

Delegation of the European Commission to the United Nations, New York

Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst, Bonn

Freie Universität Berlin, Außenamt

Mrs. Hawa Kamara-Taylor, United Nations Department for Public Information, New York

Lufthansa City Center, AP Reiseservice Pankow, Berlin

Dr. Bernhard Neugebauer, Ambassador, ret., Berlin

Permanent Mission of Argentina to the United Nations, New York

Permanent Mission of Germany to the United Nations, New York

Dr. Werner Pfennig, Freie Universität Berlin

Dr. Ruth Stanley, Otto-Suhr-Institut, Freie Universität Berlin

UNA-Germany, Berlin-Brandenburg Chapter

UNi-Group of the UNA-Germany, Berlin-Brandenburg Chapter

Dr. Hans-Joachim Vergau, Ambassador, ret., Berlin

World Federation of United Nations Associations, New York

Special thanks to Geneviève Libonati for never ending support !

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 programs were directed at students to offer thorough and detailed information on the United Nations system and the work and functioning of International Organizations by means of an authentic simulation. The popularity of the *Model United Nations-Programs* has risen constantly over the years. Meanwhile, these programs are also being offered at Highschools - in the United States more than 200.000 Highschool 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 and Berlin.

The *National Model United Nations* is the largest simulation of the United Nations in the world today. Each year more than 2.500 students from North America, Canada, Asia and Europe take part in the conference, which is held for six days at the Grand Hyatt, New York and the United Nations itself. The *National Model United Nations* is sponsored by the *National Collegiate Conference Association, Inc.*, a non-profit organization which works closely with the United Nations and was granted the status of a *Non-governmental-Organization* 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 UN-Member State at the conference. According to reality, these Member States 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 in order to act as realistic as possible at the conference. In addition, it is necessary to lay down the country's 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 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 who at the same time have to be open-minded towards compromises, always taking into consideration the special interests of the represented nation. 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 interests are taken into account. By the reaction of the other Delegates he immediately realizes his failures and, most important, his success.

At the end of the conference the 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* (ECOSOC). The passing resolutions are forwarded to the *Secretary-General of the United Nations*, Mr. Kofi Annan, as the official result of the *National Model United Nations*.

Peggy Wittke

2. UN-Study Tour, 5. – 9. April 2001

In close co-operation with the *United Nations Department for Public Information (UNDPI)* we were able to offer a UN-Study Tour to our participating students. Co-ordinated with the different committees in which the students were to represent the Argentine Republic at the

conference, the briefings took place in the course of two days at the United Nations Headquarters.

High-ranking UN-Diplomats talked about their work and answered patiently the numerous questions of the students. Through the personal encounter with „real“ UN-Diplomats, the NMUN-Delegates had the special opportunity to gather information concerning the topics of the conference and to look “backstage” of the United Nations. The very interesting and enthusiastic briefings which were followed by lively discussions illuminated impressively the various fields of activity of the United Nations.

UN-Study Tour Program

5 April 2001

Thursday

10.30 a.m.	Secretariat Briefing on Peacekeeping
11.30 a.m.	Secretariat Briefing on Disarmament
12.30 p.m.	LUNCH
1.45 p.m.	Secretariat Briefing on UNIFEM
2.45 p.m.	Secretariat Briefing on Economic Development
4:15 p.m.	UN Guided Tour

6 April 2001

Friday

10.30 a.m.	Secretariat Briefing on the work of UNEP
11.30 a.m.	Secretariat Briefing on the Global Compact
12.30 p.m.	LUNCH
1.45 p.m.	Secretariat Briefing on UN Employment and Internship Opportunities
2.45 p.m.	Secretariat Briefing on the UN in the New Millennium
3.45 p.m.	Secretariat Briefing on International Terrorism/Crime

9 April 2001

Monday

9.30 a.m.	Delegation of the European Commission to the United Nation
3.00 p.m.	Permanent Mission of Germany to the United Nations

11 April 2001

Wednesday

11.30 a.m.	Permanent Mission of Argentina to the United Nations
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2.1 Briefing on Peacekeeping

At the beginning of the 2001 UN-Study Tour we had a briefing by **Mr. Fred Schottler** from the Peace and Security Unit of the Department for Public Information, which was a highly instructive and valuable experience. Mr. Schottler started by giving us a short introduction of the organizational structure of the United Nations and put a special emphasis on the role of the Secretariat of which the Department of Peacekeeping Operations is part of. He accentuated several times that the Secretariat primarily had a serving function. According to Mr. Schottler the Secretary-General and his Department are only the „servant of member states“ and it would be a misjudgement to discuss success and failure of the United Nations only with respect to the work of the Secretary-General and his staff. As a body of the United Nations system the Secretariat can only act within the limits determined by the Member States. The United Nations are not an independent entity but the entirety of all 189 Member States. This mixture of different nationalities enriches the work at the United Nations but at the same time delays the process of decision-making. Apart from the diverse cultural backgrounds of people working at the United Nations, the national interests of each and every Member State play a central role. Those national interests very often lead to dissatisfying results, which are based on political motives not necessarily related to the issue upon which the decision itself is made. As an example Mr. Schottler presented to us the extension of the mandate of the UNPREDEP Mission in Macedonia.

The United Nations Preventive Deployment Force (UNPREDEP) was established by the Security Council [S/RES/981 (1995), S/RES/982 (1995), S/RES/983 (1995)] in March 1995 as successor mission of UNPROFOR. UNPREDEP had the mandate to monitor and report any development in the border areas which could undermine confidence and stability in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and threaten its territory. In numerous resolutions the UN Security Council supported the work of the mission and decided several times to increase the size of the contingent and to prolong the mandate itself. Resolution S/RES/1186 (1998) authorized to increase the troop strength of UNPREDEP up to 1,050 and to extend the mandate for a period of six months. Resolution S/RES/1186 was the last resolution of this kind. Without a doubt UNPREDEP did very valuable work, which was indispensable for the improvement of peace and stability in the region. The UN Secretary-General, Mr. Kofi Annan, confirmed this in his report of 12 February 1999, when he deemed the presence of UNPREDEP in the region as absolutely essential. Despite the good work of the mission and the necessity of a continuing presence in the region, another extension of the mandate (Draft Resolution S/1999/201) failed due to a Chinese veto. While Russia abstained from the vote, the remaining 13 members of the Security Council voted in favor of the mandates' extension (Press Release SC/6648). Numerous Member States of the United Nations regretted the decision of the Chinese government and worried that the unrest in Kosovo could overlap to Macedonia, which was a justified concern from today's perspective. Mr. Schottler quoted the Ambassador of Canada, who commented on the Chinese decision and described it as an „unfortunate use of the veto“. The Chinese Ambassador justified the decision with the opinion that peace-keeping operations should not be established for an unlimited period of time and that the situation in Macedonia appeared to be stable.

After Mr. Schottler had outlined this development to us he asked for the true motives of the Chinese government. The question arose which national interest was decisive for China to veto the extension of UNPREDEP's mandate. It turned out that the only reason must have been the fact that the Macedonian government had recognized Taiwan as an independent state. With this example Mr. Schottler demonstrated that the strict pursuance of national interests is part of the daily work at the United Nations which very often makes constructive decision-making very complicated.

Mr. Schottler also drew our attention to a current resolution concerning the situation in Sierra Leone, which was passed by the Security Council on 30 March 2001 (S/RES/1346). In this resolution the Security Council authorized under reference to S/RES/1299 from 13 May

2000 a remarkable increase of the troop contingent up to 17,500. Mr. Schottler pointed out that this decision was very contradictory because the Security Council didn't mention the Lomé Peace Agreement with a single word even though the UNMASIL mission was only set up to enforce that peace agreement in Sierra Leone.

Because Mr. Schottler encouraged us from the start to ask all kinds of questions an interesting discussion developed quickly. As we were representing the Argentine Republic the security of UN-personnel was of primary concern to us. So the following discussion concentrated on that point. Mr. Schottler also deemed that issue to be of high importance and he ascribed the increasing risk for UN-personnel to the changing nature of conflicts. He referred to the „magic of the UN-flag“ which has lost its effect on rebel groups. Nowadays the security of the UN is a question of financial means.

With his briefing Mr. Schottler delivered a unique insight view in the work and the related problems of the UN-Secretariat to the Berlin Delegation. With his precise and clear cut examples he explained certain coherences that turned out to be very valuable for the understanding of the United Nations.

Ferry Bühring

2.2 Briefing on Disarmament

Next, our Delegation had the pleasure of listening to the Secretariat Briefing on Disarmament by **Mr. Francesc Claret**, Department of Disarmament Affairs. To show the importance of the topic for a long period of time, Mr. Claret quoted the fact, that the first resolution ever to be passed by the General Assembly Plenary was about disarmament.

The topic of disarmament is dealt with in the General Assembly First Committee, since the General Assembly has split up into six different main committees to work efficiently. The General Assembly First Committee is a debate body, that reports its results to the General Assembly Plenary. Except for the United Nations there is only one other place to discuss this topic on an international level, it is the Conference of Disarmament in Geneva. When talking about agencies one has to differ in between operational agencies, that advise the Secretary-General regarding the implementation of resolutions and specialized agencies that, for example, monitor the translation into action. Also regional centers provide regional background information and data.

The different branches of the topic of disarmament are Non-Proliferation Treaty, conventional arms as well as small arms and light weapons. As the Non-Proliferation Treaty and the threat of nuclear weapons in general has been a major topic ever since, the hot issue in the United Nations now is the topic of small arms and light weapons. The first international conference to ever discuss this topic was going to be held in New York in July 2001. The great danger of small arms and light weapons results from the easy handling and smuggling possibilities. Also the number of small weapons worldwide is enormous, they are the weapons used most in armed conflicts.

The topic of disarmament is also linked to the topics of development due to different programs, human rights and also environment, because of the pollution by weapon storage. It shows that disarmament is related to the main United Nations priority issues. Some of these programs are Weapons For Development, where technology and know-how is transferred in exchange for weapons. This way, stabilization in a certain region is not only reached by withdrawing weapon capabilities, but also by installing infrastructure, hospitals or job training. But these programs are based on co-operation, the country involved has to accept the setup of that specific program. Another problem is the financing of the programs. A permanent fund for program setup expenses does not exist, instead money has to be raised each time, it seems reasonable to assume a comparison with professional begging. Two approaches seem to be suitable for this matter. One could either approach governments or

private investors. Since the government sector has not been very effective in the past due to own financial problems, private investors were contacted more often in the recent past. It has shown, that private companies have their own interests in a stable and peaceful environment, for example an oil company committing every day business in a region in the Middle East. Also financial background from the private sector provides more independence from governments and political interference. Participants of these programs have been for example Albania, Brazil or Guatemala.

However, collecting and destroying weapons is the objective factor, still the subjective component is necessary. You have got to reach the people affected in the region, disarmament by destruction is not as effective as disarmament in peoples' minds, once there is a way out, a future, a difference in their life, there is a difference in their minds. And this does not only result in disarmament, but also what the disarmament branch is immediately linked to - the United Nations Peace-Keeping Operations and overall peace and security within the entire world.

Thomas Kühn

2.3 Briefing on UNIFEM

„Discrimination against women violates the principles of equality of rights and respect for human dignity.“

Convention on the Elimination of
All Forms of Discrimination
against Women

The United Nations system is operating at two levels: on the one hand, there is the normative function presented by the Secretariat and on the other hand, there is the operational function marked by funds and programs. UNIFEM, the United Nations Development Fund for Women, is the women's fund at the United Nations providing financial and technical assistance to innovative programs and strategies that promote women's human rights, political participation and economic security. UNIFEM focuses on three main areas: strengthening women's economic capacities and rights; engendering governance and leadership, and promoting women's human rights and eliminating violence against women. UNIFEM belongs to one of the smaller agencies within the United Nations' system. In order to build capacity UNIFEM is working closely together with other UN agencies such as UNDP, UNICEF, and UNESCO.

Mrs. Flavia Pansieri mentioned in her presentation that while there has been progress in most countries to end discrimination against women, women in all parts of the world continue to fight against various forms of discrimination:

- Two thirds of the world's illiterate adults are women;
- More boys than girls attend school;
- Women do twice the amount of unpaid work that men do;
- Women earn three fourths of what men earn;
- Women are vastly under-represented in positions of power.

In order to promote gender equality in general decision-making processes UNIFEM's mandate is to:

- Support innovative and experimental activities benefiting women in line with national and regional priorities;
- Serve as a catalyst, with the goal of ensuring the appropriate involvement of women in mainstream development activities, as often as possible at the pre-investment stage;
- Play an innovative and catalytic role in relation to the United Nations overall system of development co-operation.

Mrs. Pansieri pointed out that civilians are most effected by crisis in the international system, today. Once again, women are particularly affected. However, women are not a part of the crisis decision-making process and are left out from the negotiation tables. Thus, Mrs. Pansieri welcomed the initiative of Bangladesh and Namibia in the Security Council putting the topic „Women in peace-making” on the international agenda. This action initiated a study proposal to find out the impact of war on women.

Answering one of our questions Mrs. Pansieri continued that a main part of UNIFEM’s work is to lobby governments and work together with them in order to achieve the goals that have been set out in treaties and declarations dealing with the promotion of women’s human rights.

Furthermore, Mrs. Pansieri remarked that the women’s movement today and thus the pressure of civil society on governments is weakening although there still are societies in the world in which women are neither allowed to own land nor to inherit it from their family or their husbands. UNIFEM is trying to support governments with guidelines on how to implement gender equality being culturally sensitive at the same time to different cultural backgrounds. A fact that is important when dealing, for example, with issues such as female genital mutilation.

For more information:

www.unifem.undp.org

www.un.org/womenwatch

Frauke Godat

2.4 Briefing on Economic Development

Mr. Jacinto DeVera briefed the Argentine Delegation to the 2001 NMUN on major issues in Economic Development. Mr. DeVera, originally from the Philippines, is a very experienced UN-official: He is already working in his 30th (!) year for the organization. During his career he worked for UNCTAD, with a focus on debt relief, later he was involved in Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) programs dealing with transnational companies. Presently, he is concerned with public economics and public administration.

The department he works for is the Department of Economic and Social Affairs (www.un.org/esa). Mr. DeVera pointed out that already from the department’s name the holistic approach of the UN regarding economic development becomes obvious: when promoting economic growth, the social impacts for the whole population always have to be taken into account. As can be seen from the comprehensive information material Mr. DeVera gave our Delegation, the mission of the particular division he works in (Division for Public Economics and Public Administration), is to ensure that the governance systems, administrative and financial institutions, policy development processes and the human resources of Member States function in an effective, participatory and transparent manner. This aim is reached by fostering dialogue, promoting the sharing of information and knowledge, as well as providing technical assistance.

In his speech, Mr. DeVera gave an impression on the different tasks the UN had to fulfill in the economic sector since their foundation in 1945. His overview made clear, how diverse the challenges have been that the UN had to face. After 1945, the main economic goal of the UN was to rebuild the countries that had suffered from the Second World War. Later on, the focus changed towards the countries of the developing world that had become independent and were economically struggling. As a major challenge in this context, Mr. DeVera named the OPEC shock and several debt crises in the 1970’s. At that time, Mr. DeVera had been involved in a research team. The suggestion of the team to the OECD countries was to „wipe off” the debts immediately and start over. However, this suggestion never came to the agenda since the developing countries opposed it. They needed further loans and feared that a wipe-off of debts would make it more difficult for them to get new loans in the future.

Today's greatest challenge in the area of economic development is the phenomenon of globalization. Although there has already been a period of close interdependence between countries around the year 1900, today's globalization is even stronger in its impacts, mainly due to the IT revolution that enables people around the world to communicate without delay. However, Mr. DeVera pointed out that globalization is only to a very limited extent influenced by the different countries. It is rather a „wind of globalization“, and whether it „blows into a country's face“ or whether it has positive effects for a country depends on how governments react to this challenge. Consequently, different records of economic development in different countries can be explained by the different ways in which countries reacted to globalization. From an economic perspective, major prerequisites to cope with globalization are a stable monetary structure, well trained public servants and good institutions. In this context, Mr. DeVera referred to Africa as an example of a continent, where only modest progress has been made in the past decades. This can be explained by the fact that poor countries have more urgent needs to fulfill than building up public structures that only in the long-term can lead to favorable outcomes.

After his speech, Mr. DeVera opened the discussion and our Delegation had the possibility to ask questions regarding economic development and the UN. Regarding the role of the UN, its well-known role as a forum for all its Member States was pointed out. But in addition to that, in the sector of economic development the UN can provide technical assistance, consulting in the design of economic laws (to empower the position of a developing country on the world market) and training of government officials.

As Free Trade is a major goal Argentina pursues, most of our Delegation's questions were concerned with the impacts of Free Trade and its links to globalization. Mr. DeVera pointed out that answers to these questions have to be judged very carefully, because the links between free trade and development are not the same in every case. Of course, free trade is a major prerequisite to a truly globalized world and trade barriers have never been as low as they are today. On the other hand, the possible negative effects of free trade and globalization, such as the marginalization of certain groups in society and the widening of the gap between rich and poor, have to be taken into account. This topic demonstrates the need of tackling economic and social questions at the same time, as the UN does.

The issue of corruption, also of major concern to the Argentine Delegation, is one of the main fields where the Division for Public Economics and Public Administration is active in. From his experience, Mr. DeVera said that the most successful approach to fight corruption in the public sector is three-fold: Wages have to be raised, in order to reduce the often tremendous gap between wages in the public and in the private sector. Moreover, education of public servants helps to make them more resistant against corruption. Finally, a high degree of accountability and transparency in the actions of the public administration has to be reached.

After the discussion was over, Mr. DeVera expressed that he was glad to brief our Delegation on economic issues and gave us the best wishes for a successful participation in the 2001 NMUN conference.

Felix Marklein

2.5 Briefing on UNEP

In 1972, as an outcome of the Stockholm Conference, the United Nations Environmental Programme (UNEP) was created and subsequently implemented within the UN-system. As indicated by the name, this program aims at protecting the environment, yet the topical orientation has undergone changes and viewpoints shifted since 1972, as stated by the speaker **Mr. James Sniffen**.

He underlined the fact that questions and answers of the Delegates throughout his presentations were of vital importance so that after a short insight into the working atmosphere and strategies of UNEP he welcomed a vibrant discussion.

The speaker started out by stating that UNEP exists now for more than thirty years with the Headquarters being in Nairobi, Kenya, and engaging about 300 professionals with this program worldwide. In the first 10 to 15 years protection of the atmosphere and wildlife were the main points of focus of the UNEP. Meanwhile, an encompassing Environment Protection Program has evolved which contributed to the creation of environmental ministries and administrations in a lot of countries.

Due to the relatively small size of UNEP its range of work is naturally limited, yet the collaboration and communication with i.e. international universities and laboratories is increasing. UNEP work concentrates on the implementation of government run commissions dealing with topics such as protection of the atmosphere, biodiversity and oceans. National governments support the work of UNEP. Furthermore, UNEP supplies information and gives advice, offers possible options and projects and makes connections visible and graspable for politicians.

In 1992 with the Rio Environmental Conference the self-perception and the role of UNEP changed immensely. From that point on the topics environment and development were treated as connected and interrelated issues and Agenda 21 came into being. Since 1992 technology transfer to developing countries and awareness for environmental matters in these countries has steadily increased. In 2002, the ten year review report of the Commission on Sustainable Development will be presented.

Furthermore, the issues of energy- and water supply are becoming more and more important within global perspective and global development. Presently, national programs targeting these problems already exist. The real challenge, however, will be to effectively co-ordinate them for the future. First steps are soon to be taken up at the Ten Year Review Session in Johannesburg, South Africa. As a country with a rapidly increasing population, South Africa as a representative of the African Nations, plays a vital role in targeting problems arising in overpopulated countries.

After this brief synopsis of the work of UNEP, the debate was opened. When asked about how much the conflicts in Iraq and Kosovo have influenced the overall environmental awareness, the speaker stated that a lot of countries are now concerned with environmental questions. He underlined the continuation of this process in Johannesburg and called for a „Security Council for Environment“.

With regard to the co-operation with Non-governmental Organizations Mr. Sniffen pointed out projects for energy management in Africa and several other projects worldwide targeting water management. Furthermore, he explained that it is not possible for UNEP to influence the ratification of the Kyoto Protocol. The Delegates were and still are deeply concerned about the current situation regarding CO₂ reductions. Informal meetings of several ministers are planned and many present ideas are „pre-visions“ of the Kyoto Protocol. However, if necessary, protocols like the Kyoto Protocol on Climate Change can be subject to alterations in order to adapt and respond to current situations and developments and to effectively influence future developments. As an example, the speaker alluded to the agreements on the treatment of the Ozone layer which has been altered by the Montreal-Protocol in order to flexibly respond to changing circumstances.

Moreover, the speaker remarked that UNEP has to deal with complex connections and correlations. The expert groups working on various issues are normally very small, i.e. only four experts are involved with questions regarding the atmosphere.

As an international organization, UNEP works together and negotiates with the EU and similar institutions. Thus, in order to co-ordinate local and international interests, the main task of UNEP is to bring together the parties involved in a certain matter. However many developing countries do not have sufficient financial resources to deal with arising problems although it is of vital interest to them to tackle these problems. Reports dealing with these problems do not adequately depict the respective situations, however they provide information which might be of use for other nations.

The speaker closed his briefing with pinpointing to the work of UNEP being efficient and can be characterized as tacit and discrete diplomatic work. In his briefing Mr. Sniffen has touched on various aspects and provided a knowledge insight into the work of UNEP.

Emanuel Hensel

2.6 Briefing on the Global Compact

The Global Compact was initiated at the World Economic Forum in Davos in 1999, when UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan asked companies to embrace, support and enact, within their sphere of influence, a set of core values (nine principles) in the areas of human rights, labor standards and the environment. This means that a company needs to bring about positive change only in those areas that are relevant to its business operations. **Ms. Denise O'Brien**, Executive Office of the Secretary-General, first gave us a general outline of the idea of the Compact and stressed that this initiative does not attempt to take away responsibility from governments.

They primarily work together with large multinational companies, which are used as an entry point, because these firms work with locals, smaller enterprises, customers, consumers, etc. The involved UN-agencies are the International Labor Organization (ILO), the United Nations Environmental Programme (UNEP) and the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights. On the side of civil society labor unions and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) were invited to participate. The Compact is thus designed as a „cross-issue-project“. In general, following the main goals of the United Nations, *firstly* peace and security and *secondly* poverty eradication, the project defines progress through economic development. Ms. O'Brien explained the three „legs“ of the project which are a learning form as a dialogue to other stakeholders, a policy dialogue, and the projects.

The central tension lies between the danger of using the UN-emblem as a public relations effect and public pressure once the companies expose themselves on the web page. Thus, an often articulated criticism of the Global Compact is its voluntary character (as a „lip service“) since the commitment is not legally binding and companies are merely asked to provide examples of their best practice on the Global Compact web page. But Ms. O'Brien stressed the positive aspects of this voluntary approach, because it is based on the companies own priorities and beliefs and is therefore realistic.

Furthermore, the Compact does not accept money from companies but encourages funding of other UN projects or specific agencies such as UNICEF. She explicitly referred to the importance of transparency in the funding and implementation of projects and in this context mentioned the need to cooperate with NGOs such as Transparency International. Ms. Wittke briefly reported about the idea of the Freie Universität Berlin to participate in the Compact by encouraging dialogue between German university faculties and interested firms - this, of course, was highly welcomed by Ms. O'Brien.

Paula Marie Hildebrandt and Nina Truchseß

2.7 Secretariat briefing on UN Employment and Internship Opportunities

Those of our Delegation, whose college and university career was coming to an end, were especially looking forward to this briefing by **Ms. Maha El-Bahrawi**, Office of Human Resources Management. The curricula vitae had been printed and everyone was hoping to gather as much inside information as possible concerning UN internship and employment opportunities. Since the homepage of the United Nations already contains detailed information concerning this topic, the chance to ask questions, which was generously granted, was of greater interest to most participants than general statements. Before continuing with a short conclusion of the employment and internship opportunities, we refer

the reader to the following homepage for a detailed description:
<http://www.un.org/Depts/OHRM/brochure.htm>.

The United Nations offers employment opportunities in ten different areas: administration, economics, electronic data processing, finances, languages, law, libraries, public relations, social development and statistics. Including the Staff Development Services, the Field Administration and the Logistics Division of the Department of Peacekeeping Operations and the Internship Program there are generally three contact bureaus, whose addresses are given at the end of the report.

The candidates for the different employment levels like „junior professionals“ (P1/P2) and „professionals“ (P3) are chosen by competitive examinations. The Member States are given quotas according to their contributions to the UN-budget which determine the number of their respective nationals that can be employed at the UN. The Federal Republic of Germany is therefore granted between 126 and 170 posts at the UN-Secretariat in New York, Geneva and Nairobi. Right now only 124 Germans are working with the UN. Since Germany is therefore under-represented, German nationals have the chance to sit for the exams every year, whereas for over-represented countries are not offered such exams. The minimum requirements in order to be allowed to take the exams for the P1/P2 level consist of a college degree and four years of professional occupation or an advanced degree as well as a maximum age of 32. The requirements for the P3 level consist of an advanced degree, four years of professional occupation and a maximum age of 39. Nevertheless, the actual requirements are often much higher. 70-80 candidates are admitted to take the examination in Germany each year. But since there are usually more than 400 applicants the actual criteria are relatively higher which makes them difficult to fulfill even for highly qualified candidates.

Once the aim of employment at the UN is reached, one will have to get used to the strictly hierarchical structure of the UN and the bureaucracy involved in the administration of the political interests of 189 Member States. Furthermore, the UN suffer from an under-representation of women. Although the aim of an employment quota of 50% women was to be reached already in 2000, right now only 34% of UN-employees are women. According to an internal report, the quota of 50% will now not be reached until the year 2012. Therefore the UN practice affirmative action for women by preferring female over male applicants with the same qualifications.

Those interested in employment at the UN should contact:

United Nations
Examinations and Tests Section
Staff Development Services
Specialist Services Division
Office of Human Resources Management
Room S-2590
New York, NY 10017, US
Tel: 001-212-963-3215

Those especially interested in field missions of the United Nation should visit the United Nations Volunteers homepage at <http://www.unv.org>.

Concerning an application for civilian personnel to Peacekeeping Operations should send their curriculum vitae to:

United Nations
Personnel Management and Support Service
Field Administration and Logistics Division
Department of Peacekeeping Operations
Room S-2280
New York, NY 10017, US

Of particular interest to students is certainly the internship program of the UN. This program is strictly regulated and centrally administered. Possible are only internships of two months, starting in January, May or September. Applicants should be aware that after the end of their internship a waiting period of at least six month must be observed before an application for employment at the UN can be filed.

Those interested in the Internship Program should contact:

United Nations
Internship Program
Room S-2590C
Specialist Services Division
Office of Human Resources Management
New York, NY 10017, US
Tel: 001-212-963-7522

Arzu Hatakoy and Ansgar Schönborn

2.8 Briefing on the UN in the New Millennium

The briefing on „The United Nations in the New Millennium“ was one of the few briefings, that was not specifically concerned with one aspect within the UN system, **Ms. Patricia Seghers**, UN Department for Public Information, gave a rather general overview over the Millennium Assembly and the UN aims for the new millennium.

As the new millennium has been discussed in all areas of public life, the United Nations has not remained untouched by it. Shortly before the turn of the century the General Assembly decided to designate its 55th session „The Millennium Assembly of the United Nations“, which opened at the Headquarters of the United Nations in New York on September 5, 2000. Heads of State and/or governments of the Member States of the United Nations gathered to participate in the largest conference of political leaders the world has ever seen, and brought New York City to the verge of collapsing.

Yet, this unique and symbolically compelling moment was not chosen to celebrate, but to agree on a process for fundamental review of the role of and the challenges facing the United Nations in the new era. Questions like „Do we still need the United Nations in 2000+x ?“ or „What are the main problems and most dangerous threats the international community faces?“ and „Which actions are to be taken?“ were mainly discussed.

The discussion was based on the Millennium Report, presented by the Secretary-General. The object of the Report was to provide the conference with a basic document to work from. It tried to identify the main challenges the world faces entering the 21st century; and to sketch out an action plan for addressing them. It states that, if the changes in the world could be summarized in one word, it would be „globalization“. We live in a world that is interconnected as never before, and although this has dangers (crime, narcotics, terrorism, disease, weapons), the benefits are also obvious: faster growth, higher living standards and new opportunities. At the moment these opportunities are far from being equally distributed, half of the human race has never used a telephone before, not to talk about computers! Therefore, the overarching challenge of our times is to make globalization benefit all and to work together on the global issues that endanger this.

What are these global issues? They are grouped under three headings, each of which is related to fundamental human freedom:

- 1) freedom from want (e.g. endangered by poverty, water pollution, insufficient education, HIV/AIDS, slums, unemployment, hindered trade access, debts, insufficient ODA);
- 2) freedom from fear (e.g. endangered by weak international law regulations, ineffective peace operations, untargeted sanctions, illegal weapon traffic, mass destruction weapons);

- 3) freedom of future generations to sustain their lives on this planet (e.g. endangered by global warming, environmental pollution, destruction of ecosystems, over-consumption of non-renewable energies).

A special focus should thereby be put on the African continent and its development. Those are the problems and the tasks which affect the everyday lives of the world population and the utility of the United Nations will be judged on how these problems are handled. And just as well the role of the United Nations in the new millennium.

The Secretary-General announced also four new initiatives in the report:

- 1) A volunteer corps (e.g. to train groups in developing countries in the uses and opportunities of information technology);
- 2) A Health InterNetwork (e.g. to establish on-line sites in hospitals and clinics in developing countries to provide access to up-to-date medical information);
- 3) A disaster response initiative (e.g. to provide mobile and satellite telephones for humanitarian relief workers in areas affected by natural disasters and emergencies);
- 4) A global policy network (e.g. to explore new approaches to the problem of youth unemployment, to include the private sectors, to recommend governments).

Another important aspect to guarantee the credibility should be the renewal of the United Nations system itself, to make it more transparent, more effective and equal.

Verena Loch and Jenny Suckale

2.9 Briefing on International Terrorism

On Friday, April 6th, our group joined a group from the Vienna University to attend a briefing on International Terrorism. This briefing was conducted by **Mr. Hamid Abdeljaber** who works for the Department of Public Information at the United Nations. As a first and actually most important viewpoint it is to be pointed out that this topic cannot be found in any book and so it is very essential to listen to someone like Mr. Abdeljaber. Along with the actual situation on discussing this issue it becomes clear that it is a most delicate one. Mr. Abdeljaber declared at the very beginning that due to the vast diversity of opinions on the issue, the points he portrayed are based on his very own opinion and not necessarily the official one of the UN. In general, people take their ideas about terrorism not from research or a scientifically based background but from the media. Since they do not give a proper definition of the term terrorism itself, one of the main obstacles is to define International Terrorism. An overall agreement on a single and universal definition of the term terrorism has not been achieved by now due to the Member States of the UN not agreeing, and Mr. Abdeljaber thinks that they will not do so for the next 20 years or so. This controversy emanates from the problems in, for example, developing or least-developed countries. For some people, a freedom fighter as well as the liberty movement in a colonial state has to be considered as of terrorist nature. But this assessment depends on the circumstances as the example of the former President of South Africa, Nelson Mandela, shows. He once was accused by the former Apartheid Regime of being a terrorist. Such a right of self-determination is even constituted in the Charter of the United Nations.

Mr. Abdeljaber mentioned that the root causes of terrorism need to be discussed as well in order to fight terrorism in long term. This is being asked for by the developing nations. Misery, frustration, grieving and despair are social phenomena and they are root causes of terrorism. If you not only punish terrorists but also solve root causes by going deeper into history and other backgrounds of those roots you might be able to defeat terrorism.

In 1972 the issue of terrorism was addressed by the United Nations for the first time by Secretary-General Kurt Waldheim. After this, Cyprus resumed the discussion on the issue in 1993. So, the issue differentiation of self-determination and terrorism keeps coming back, but certain nations within the United Nations try to impose a single and universal definition, Mr. Abdeljaber said. For example a Professor from Washington D.C. stated that an act of

violence threatening a large amount of people should be considered as terrorism. Another attempt to define terrorism was made by the statement that „bad people bring terrorism to *our* democracies“. Nevertheless, terrorism is a global threat and much more than those rather simple definitions are trying to impose.

Domestic terrorism, for example, is concerning many nations. During the age of the Cold War the United Nations was paralyzed by this „war“. In 1976, a Palestinian group captured a civil plane in Uganda. Then Israeli Forces intervened and killed all except one of the Palestinians. Since Uganda is a sovereign country and Israel intervened, is that an act of terrorism? No resolution was achieved due to the different views about the topic. In 1988, the Lockerbie incident caused a resolution on sanctions on Libya until they extradited the two suspects in 1999, which all happened after the Cold War. All possible terrorist acts during the Cold War were protected by one of the two superpowers and therefore these atrocities did not make it to the United Nations. At this time, terrorism was inspired by ideological motives, but after the Cold War this changed into ethnic and religious fighting. Overall, no nation is against the protection of civilians from the unlawful seizure on airplanes as the Montreal Convention shows. Next to the International Convention on the Capture of Civilian Hostages there are at least thirteen other agreements on the issue of terrorism. Last year brought a Convention on Financing of Terrorism. The idea of the Rome Convention in 1998 on constituting the International Criminal Court is still lacking the necessary number of ratifications, but once this is achieved, we might have one more tool to combat International Terrorism. As a result it has to be realized that there is an inevitable need of an international mechanism to internationally combat terrorism. Mr. Abdeljaber named sustainable development as another possible key for facing the problems in the countries where terrorism is emanating from. Also it is imperative to look at terrorism as a highly complex phenomenon and not only at its isolated manifestations.

Lovis Rieck and Stefan Lhachimi

2.10 The Delegation of the European Commission to the United Nations

At the beginning of the meeting, **Minister Counselor Richard Wyatt** gave an introduction into the main task of the Delegation: The commission was created to present a link between the two organizations European Union and United Nations. Mr. Wyatt emphasized the need and the related difficulties - to bring these two „different worlds“ together.

The staff of the Delegation consists of five diplomats who organize a close co-operation among the missions to the United Nations of the fifteen Member States of the European Union. Each of the staff members cover their own realm of responsibilities. The following areas are covered by the five officers:

1. economic, financial, environmental issues (covered by Mr. Wyatt),
2. political issues,
3. social issues, including women, drugs and crime,
4. humanitarian affairs,
5. the Ambassador as Head of the Delegation.

In 1974, the European Community was the first organization which was granted a sub-status within the United Nations. As stated by Minister Counselor Richard Wyatt, the European Commission's functions are twofold: on the one hand, it is concerned with the co-ordination within the European Union, that is among the fifteen Members States. Within this context, about 600 coordination meetings take place approximately every six months. On the other hand, the Delegation focuses on the representation of the European Union with regards to United Nations affairs. However, the European Union does not inherit a legal political status, hence, the Commission is not allowed to vote within the UN-system.

The staff of the EC mainly focuses on three different types of questions:

1. issues of exclusive competence of the EU: trade, agriculture, fisheries, competition policy,

2. issues of non-exclusive competence according to the Treaty of Rome: finance, development, environment. Regarding the non-exclusive matters the Delegation strives for a common position to be represented before the UN,
3. issues not covered by the Treaty of Rome but by the Treaty of Amsterdam: Specific policy matters, especially the realm of common foreign and security policy. With respect to these issues, there is no need to have a common position among the Member States, nevertheless those strive for a common position.

During the discussion with Mr. Wyatt the following topics were covered:

1. Concerning the reform of the Security Council, the EU supports an enlargement in numbers as well as in permanent members;
2. With regards to the liberalization of trade the EU started the „Everything but Arms-Initiative“ with a special focus on least developed countries;
3. Concerning regional organizations the EU stands strongly in favor of a further integration of those organizations involved in peacekeeping and peace-enforcement operations. In the fields of the prevention of conflicts and peace-building measures, regional organizations should focus on taking a more active role than currently is the case.

Frederik Siegmann and Vera Hanus

2.11 The Permanent Mission of Germany to the United Nations

On April 9th, 2001, **Ambassador Dr. Hanns Schumacher**, Deputy Permanent Representative of Germany to the United Nations, cordially welcomed the Delegation of the Freie Universität Berlin as well as other National Model United Nations Delegations from Germany.

He opened the briefing by pointing out the extraordinary importance of the United Nations as the only organization in which almost all nations of the world are represented. He underlined the significance of the UN with a quote by Nick Holbrooke stating that „the United Nations are indispensable“. After a brief synopsis of the development of the United Nations since its foundation in 1945, the Ambassador remarked the renaissance of importance and influence of the UN especially since 1989. However, throughout this revitalization, the UN, according to the Ambassador, has not yet overcome various external and internal problems. Among the latter overly excessive officialdom and bureaucracy, corruption and lack of efficient management are the main problems to be tackled. Moreover, as UN-staff as well as the Secretary-General have to act in compliance with the instructions of the Member States, the UN can only work as effective as permitted by them. In the range of external problems the speaker alleged to the North-South Conflict between the Group of the states of G 77 and the industrial states.

In the course of the briefing, the Ambassador furthermore addressed the necessity of a reform of the Security Council pinpointing to the most controversial points of discussion. Among these first and foremost he mentioned the enlargement of the Security Council, meaning a just allocation of seats with respect to regional aspects. Especially the states of the G-77 currently feel not adequately represented, maintaining that the Security Council still reflects the post-Second World War political structure. Furthermore, the Security Council is also confronted with a dominant US and quarrels about reorganization of veto power. Dr. Schumacher stated that overall, the work of the Security Council in its current formation can be characterized by a lack of efficiency and effectiveness.

The speaker continued the briefing by alluding to the Kosovo Conflict as a watershed event for the UN as it stimulated academic discourse about the principles of the UN. Since the conflict occurred, peace-keeping missions under UN-mandate have increased by leaps and bounds. However, the enormous costs of these missions have further contributed to the

already serious financial situation of the UN. This is especially problematic as the budget of the UN in the past seven years is characterized by „zero growth“.

With regard to Germany's position within the UN, the speaker pointed out that Germany ranks as the third biggest contributor of payments and as second strongest contributor of troops and materials, strongest being the US in the latter case. The Ambassador emphasized the mediating role of Germany within the UN and remarked that German overall representation should be adequately reflected with respect to the amount of contributions made so far.

On these notes Dr. Schumacher closed the briefing and opened the general debate. Questions referred to topics such as disarmament, humanitarian interventions, positions and interests of Germany as well as NGOs within the UN. The speaker welcomed many questions and openly replied to them.

Perorating his briefing, Dr. Schumacher criticized the low level of reports and news in the German media about the UN. He pointed out that none of the journalists invited to this briefing were present. Finally, one has to mention that with his clear structured briefing the Ambassador provided ample information on various aspects of UN tasks and problems, highlighting German work and co-operation within the UN in order to guarantee effective working of the United Nations.

Manuela Gadow and Astrid Ziebarth

3. The Permanent Mission of Argentina to the United Nations

We were very cordially received by **Mr. Guillermo Kendall**, Second Secretary at the Permanent Mission of Argentina to the United Nations. There were fifteen diplomats working at the Mission, but that this number increased as Argentina was elected to be a non-permanent member of the Security Council in 1999/2000. The membership in the Security Council brings about additional important tasks for the Mission and its diplomats like investigating, writing reports, position papers and speeches for the Permanent Representative, who is usually the one who represents Argentina to the Security Council.

The briefing concentrated, due to the experience of Mr. Kendall, on the Argentine time as a non-permanent member of the Security Council between 1999 and 2000. Mr. Kendall pointed out the four main priority issues of the Argentine policy towards the United Nations:

1. Transparency in the work of the Security Council,
2. The security of UN-personnel,
3. Human Rights,
4. The reform of the Security Council.



Mr. Guillermo Kendall, Second Secretary at the Permanent Mission of Argentina to the United Nations.

Mr. Kendall told us, that the first impression he had during his first time in the sessions of the Security Council was that there were „five members and ten guests“. Indeed about 60% to 70% of the sessions are held in secret, during informal talk in separate conference rooms, to which the access is very restricted. The result is, that in real terms no country but the fifteen members know what is really going on in the Security Council. The formal sessions are only used to vote upon the decisions already taken and discussed, or to give a provocative speech. It was Argentina, together with Canada and the Netherlands effectively rose the debate on the access to the sessions and on their transparency.

Argentina is one of the biggest troop contributing countries. Today Argentina's peace-keeping forces count 544 members, there will soon be 658 because 114 are going to be sent to Kosovo. During the year 2000, peace-keeping forces were continuously threatened, putting into danger their lives (e.g. Sierra Leone). The Argentine Republic held the opinion that each and every resolution concerning peace-keeping operations should contain provisions dealing with the security of UN-personnel, which began to happen thereafter. It was not an easy topic to discuss, because many African States felt affronted by such resolutions. This situation changed, as similar provisions were integrated in resolutions concerning Georgia and Haiti.

The Argentine Republic was also proud to be a sponsor of several resolutions dealing with the protection of civilians. The debate took place around the topic of humanitarian intervention, more specific the bombing of Kosovo by NATO -Forces. Mr. Kendall told us, that the Russian Federation had written a draft resolution demanding the immediate stop of the bombing, which did not pass (10 against, 3 in favor and 2 abstentions).

The Argentine Republic supports a different position as Germany concerning the reform of the Security Council. Argentina belongs to the so called „coffee-club“ that supports the expansion of the Security Council by only non-permanent members. Basically the Argentine Republic is against any kind of discrimination and distinction between the members of the Security Council.

Concerning the Malvinas, Mr. Kendall told us about the „Umbrella-Formula“, which means that whenever Argentina negotiates with the United Kingdom it does not affect the Argentine stance towards sovereignty over the Malvinas. We also asked Mr. Kendall about the „principle of non-indifference“ introduced by Argentina to the UN-Vocabulary. At the

Millennium Summit, the President of the Argentine Republic, Dr. Fernando de la Rúa, asked: „Can the United Nations remain indifferent to [human rights] violations committed within the borders of a state when at the same time it advocates the defense of those very rights and freedoms ?” As an answer to that question Argentina suggests the „principle of non-indifference” in harmony with the „principle of non-intervention”. Although the „principle of non-indifference” does not have a legal background and does not belong to the rules we know as international law, it clearly demonstrates Argentina’s commitment to not remain indifferent towards violations of human rights no matter in which part of the world they are occurring.

Once again we would like to thank Mr. Kendall for his kindness and patience and above all for his knowledge that allowed us to represent the Argentine Republic with, we hope, very much dignity. **!!!Viva Argentina!!!**

Wolfgang Weinzierl

4. The Argentine Republic: An Overview

Official Name:

República Argentina
Argentine Republic

Political System:

Republic

Head of State:

Eduardo Duhalde

Borders:

with Bolivia, Brazil, Chile,
Paraguay, Uruguay

Area:

2,766,890 sq km

Population:

37,384,816 (July 2001 est.)
inhabitants, 97% Spanish and
Italian, 3% mestizo,
Amerindian, or other

Religion:

92% Roman-Catholic, 2%
Protestant,
2% Jewish, 4% other

Capital:

Buenos Aires 2,961,000
inhabitants, other major cities:
Córdoba (1,148,300), La
Matanza (1,111,800), Rosario
(894,600), Morón (641,500)

Official Language:

Spanish

Currency:

1 Argentine peso (ARS)
1 Euro = 1,82 ARS

Gross Domestic Product:

\$476 billion (2000 est.)

Foreign Debt:

\$154 billion (2000 est.)

**Membership in International
Organizations:**

AfDB, Australia Group, BCIE,
BIS, CCC, ECLAC, FAO, G-6,
G-11, G-15, G-19, G-24, G-77,
IADB, IAEA, IBRD, ICAO, ICC,
ICFTU, ICRM, IDA, IFAD, IFC,
IFRCS, IHO, ILO, IMF, IMO,
Inmarsat, Intelsat, Interpol, IOC,
IOM, ISO, ITU, LAES, LAIA,
Mercosur, MINURSO,
MIPONUH, MTCR, NSG, OAS,
OPANAL, OPCW, PCA, RG,
UN, UNCTAD, UNESCO,
UNFICYP, UNHCR, UNIDO,
UNIKOM, UNMEE, UNMIBH,
UNMIK, UNMOP, UNTSO,
UNU, UPU, WCL, WFTU,
WHO, WIPO, WMO, WToO,
WTrO, ZC

Source: CIA Worldfactbook 2001

5. Argentina at the 2001 National Model United Nations

5.1 Argentina in the Security Council

Represented by Ferry Bühring and Andrej Lang

The Security Council was composed of Argentina, Bangladesh, Canada, China, France, Great Britain, Jamaica, Malaysia, Mali, Namibia, the Netherlands, Russia, Tunisia, Ukraine and the US. German universities represented Great Britain, Russia, Canada and Argentina while the other Delegations came from North America. As the Security Council was the only organ within the NMUN-conference, which set its agenda on its own, the Delegates strolled around the room of the NMUN-Security Council and asked other Delegates which issue their country would prefer.

We, Argentina, were especially prepared for the co-operation between Regional Organizations and the Security Council, which was discussed in the background-guide as well. This topic was also within the interest of Argentine foreign policy, because (1) Argentina is member of the OAS and the Mercosur and as such promotes integration, (2) the Security Council had discussed about this issue officially yet which enabled Argentina to emphasize its main points of interests during its short membership of the Security Council of 2 years and (3) it could strengthen its influence on the Security Council through a closer co-operation and therefore improve the Argentine area of interest, namely peace-keeping. However, we were caught by surprise when the other Delegates didn't show the interest to discuss this issue like we expected them to do because of the fact that the issue was expounded to the Delegates in the background-guide. Therefore, we had to fight – at the beginning mainly on our own – to set the topic on the agenda.

The debate about the setting of the agenda showed clearly how the momentum during debates changes permanently, how other countries jump on the bandwagon and how through this process majorities evolve. Because the topic didn't hurt anybody and to a certain degree was also existent on the priority list of most nations, the Security Council finally voted with a great majority in favor of setting the agenda topic as follows: The co-operation between Regional Organizations and the Security Council. This certainly was a small diplomatic success for Argentina, which was quite important for us since we felt somewhat intimidated by the strength of the other Delegates and the speed and style of the negotiations at the beginning. Once again, the Delegates started the discussion with exchanging their viewpoints concerning the agenda issue. But very soon, China and Bangladesh came up – probably the two best Delegations within the NMUN-Security Council 2001 – with a working paper. The night after the first session, we tried to create a counter-draft together with Canada. However, the attempt failed because a close co-operation with Argentina went too far for Canada at least at the beginning since it preferred to cooperate with their traditional partners like the US, Netherlands or Great Britain.

The next day in session, the negotiations got into the decisive phase. This turned into a frustrating experience for us at first because we were well prepared for the topic but the other Delegates didn't show much interest in our ideas. At those informal consultations where everybody stayed at the table, it was difficult to get to speak at all. Did you manage to get the floor; the task consisted of convincing the other Delegates within 20 seconds of its ideas and winning the momentum back. But because the number of sponsors had grown up to 5 or 6, their willingness to change a consenting working paper simply because of the will of one non-permanent member was very low. They thought that the vote of one non-permanent member was not worth jeopardizing the quality of or potential votes of the working paper. Suddenly, we faced the danger of not even integrating one single priority issue of Argentina except basically improving the co-operation between Regional Organizations and the Security Council. This danger changed our minds up to the point that we started to represent the interests of Argentina more energetic. In that respect, the integration of the security of UN-personnel was of special importance for us.



Working in the Security Council: Andrej Lang.

Our energetic appearance and the support of several countries as the US, Canada and Great Britain made us win the momentum back. Suddenly, Argentina was known as representative of the security of UN-personnel, was heard and worked on getting majorities. Finally, a presidential statement of Argentina from February 2000 concerning the security of UN-personnel as well as an appeal for a better co-operation between the Security Council, Regional Organizations and UN-training centers (another priority of Argentina) was worked into the resolution. Surprisingly, Argentina now belonged to the spokesmen of the Security Council and we could use our knowledge about the co-operation between Regional Organizations and the Security Council. For there was one passage in the working paper which established an early warning-policy (a policy, which attempts to find solutions before conflicts have broken out). The problem with this was that the United Nations had just abolished an early-warning system, not because it didn't work and didn't send any signals – it did so several times – but because the United Nations lacked the capacities to react according to these signals and to intervene early in evolving conflicts. Therefore, Argentina held the opinion that it would send wrong signs to the world public to first create an institution and then abolish it only to re-establish it once again. Argentina certainly supports the idea of early warning policy but its establishment has to go hand in hand with the increase of preventive-action capacities. However, this plausible reasons could not succeed against the fact that the resolution was already supported by the majority as it was and many Delegates simply wanted to adopt the resolution to move on to the next topic. Argentina could not integrate its wish into the resolution. But because Argentina had not really questioned its support for the resolution without changing the debated passage it didn't lose any credit with the other Delegates. The opposite was the truth; Argentina had played a leading role at the debates of the Security Council. At the end, the resolution was adopted unanimously.

Still, at the end of the session, on Wednesday evening, when the adoption of the resolution was only a formality – linguistic details of the working paper had to be corrected -, 8 non-permanent members came together on initiative of Argentina, the Netherlands and Canada to create a majority for the issue of „Peacekeeping-reform“ as next agenda topic. However, the issue caused reluctance especially within the permanent members. They didn't want to talk about another general, bulky issue how they called it. Besides, the Security Council had just recently adopted Resolution 1327 to legally convert the Brahimi-Report whose provisions had to be implemented first, they said. As other issues receiving lots of support crystallized the Middle East, because the Americans had, to everyone's surprise, underlined their willingness to look at

the conflict from another angle. For hours, the Security Council debated about the new agenda topic without finding any majorities because neither the coalition of the majority of non-permanent members nor the permanent members supported by a few non-permanent members wanted to deviate from its standpoint. Argentina wanted to avoid the Middle East as agenda topic, because, as developing country, it supports many Palestinian demands, but on the other hand the close and crucially important partner US rather supports Israel. After long debates without any results, it finally came to the showdown in official session when Great Britain proposed the Middle East as agenda topic. Because Argentina wanted to avoid this issue it proposed out of tactical considerations conflict prevention in Africa as agenda topic because it appeared to attract a broader range of countries, for it dealt with a concrete region and China had fought for this issue before. At the following suspension of the meeting, the members of the Security Council tested how they would vote in session, whereat conflict prevention in Africa received a majority of 8 to 7 votes against the Middle East, which were sufficient in deviation from the real prerequisites of the Security Council. When afterwards in formal session the voting started in chronological order with the Middle East, excitement was high. Seven Delegations – as expected – raised their placard but suddenly the arm of the delegate of Tunisia, who in informal session wanted to vote for preventive action in Africa, went up in the air.

The agenda topic was the Middle East and Argentina would have to live with it to be able to play a good role anyway soon. We decided to be offensive and thus we started an initiative – to work out a resolution with the US. For the Americans it was important that the resolutions contained only neutral formulations. For Argentina, this was only acceptable if the humanitarian situation in the Palestinian areas – without blaming Israel for the situation – was improved. White helmets (civilian personnel which was established by the General Assembly on Argentine initiative and which provides relief in conflict areas) should do the humanitarian efforts. After long negotiations, the US was willing to accept this point which furthermore led to a friendlier approach of the super power on humanitarian aid in the Middle East throughout the conference. Great Britain became sponsor of our working paper as well.

However, there were two other working papers worked on, one from China and Bangladesh, which contained a rude language against Israel and which promoted the establishment of a UN-Observer Mission in the Palestinian areas and another working paper that was sponsored by many developing countries and focused especially on humanitarian aid for the Palestinian areas. Both working papers enjoyed popularity because they implied a clear position against Israel. Argentina slipped more and more into a difficult situation because it stood in opposition to the other developing countries, the position it actually supported. Moreover, the passage about the white helmets was criticized. Russia didn't find that it belonged into this resolution. The developing countries, on the other hand, found their efforts for humanitarian aid within an own resolution endangered. This pressure strengthened the United States in their standpoint to strike the passage out. Otherwise, they could still make an own working paper, they told us.

Argentina viewed a neutral resolution as the ideal basis for the resumption of negotiations between the conflicting parties and humanitarian aid as a compromise between its ambivalent interests, and finally accepted the striking out of the white helmets passage – under two conditions: the passage should be replaced by an announcement that the Security Council will take further steps concerning the Middle East. These further steps should be the adoption of the working paper of the developing countries, being complemented by the white helmets-passage and substantially supported by the US. This is how it worked out then. The adoption of the draft of the developing countries was - except some linguistic correction in the direction of more neutrality – secured.

However, the two working papers of China and Bangladesh on the one, Argentina, Great Britain and the US on the other hand competed with each other by content. For the working paper of China and Bangladesh was extremely diminished by now. Argentina had attacked the language of the working paper as not being helpful in finding a solution. A standpoint that was supported by Canada and the Ukraine. The only substantial difference between the two working papers was now the establishment of the UN-Observer Mission, which was planned in the China-draft, but not in the Argentine-American one.

The latter was also the reason why the first resolution, which would be voted on first, found way more support in the Security Council. Even the Ukraine told Argentina that it would probably vote for the first one. This was of importance because China and Russia speculated on unmasking the US through its veto against the vast majority of the Security Council. However, the US, which certainly didn't like the idea of the Observer Mission, behaved ambivalent and left open whether it would veto the China-draft or abstain from the vote. This undecidedness, however, brought Argentina in difficulties. For Argentina had declined the China-working paper to the advantage of its own draft and announced an abstention. This had become more and more obsolete because of the linguistic changes of the China-resolution.

We didn't want - as the only country besides the US and Canada - not to vote in favor of the China-draft, because this would not have corresponded with Argentine foreign policy. An abstention could have only been justified through abstentions from at least four other countries. Therefore, we decided together with the Ukraine to make some friendly amendments - friendly, because China wanted to receive as much support as possible to unmask the US - to the China-Resolution concerning the Security of UN-personnel in exchange for our support. It came to the vote: the China-resolution was rejected by 13 votes in favor, one abstention by Canada and one veto by the US. The Resolution of Argentina, Great Britain and the US was adopted by 14 votes in favor and one abstention by France as reaction to the American veto. The resolution for the improvement of the humanitarian situation in the Palestinian areas was adopted by acclamation.

With this vote, the simulation was mostly over; the fight for awards was done. The crisis simulation on Saturday at the UN-Headquarter didn't count for the awards. The Security Council was presented an imaginary crisis that dealt with the unconfirmed death of the president of Liberia, which had led to riots in Liberia and Sierra Leone. During our attempts to deal with the crisis we received permanently the latest information about the state of the crisis and could also talk to representatives of the affected governments and Regional Organizations like ECOWAS. The difficulties in dealing with the crisis showed us that it is often easier to blame the international community for incapacity to act and undecidedness than to actually make it different. It is not easy to find a compromise under the different interest of fifteen countries.

5.2 Argentina in the General Assembly Plenary

Represented by Thomas Kühn

The General Assembly is one of the most important forums within the United Nations. In the General Assembly each member state is represented. According to Art. 18 UN-Charter each member has one vote, following the principle of sovereign equality under Art. 2 I UN-Charter.

The following agenda had been selected for this year's General Assembly Plenary:

1. Terrorism;
2. New World Economic Order;
3. Humanitarian Intervention.

After the opening ceremony at the combined ballrooms of the Grand Hyatt Hotel on Tuesday, April 10th, the Delegations had to decide upon the setting of the agenda at the first general meeting. Even though developing countries did have a clear majority in the General Assembly Plenary and also did have the similar interest to discuss No. 2 first, we were not able to set the agenda in a fast way due to different views on the topics to follow and - unfortunately - personal issues. Therefore I concentrated on uniting the South American Region together with the Delegates from Brazil, who afterwards joined efforts with the blocs of Africa and Asia. Despite the fact that 11:00 p.m. was approaching, where - without voting - the agenda would have been adopted the original way, we still were not able to agree on voting procedure regarding the agenda setting. Only after two consecutive (!) motions of closure of debate from Argentina, we did enter voting procedure. Finally we set the agenda - also in Argentina's favor - no.2, no. 3, no. 1 and suspended the meeting until next day's afternoon.



The General Assembly Plenary: Argentine Delegate Thomas Kühn.

At Wednesday's session, the first one touching substantial matters, I found out, that preparation only had not done it. Quite a few draft resolutions had already been typed in advance and distributed, therefore an initiative of Argentina to set up a different draft resolution did not seem suitable. Instead I had to find out which resolutions would meet Argentina's interests best to be able to work together regarding detail questions. During this process it became obvious, that the majority of (developing) countries - contrary to my expectations from past simulations - did not want to have a comprehensive draft resolution, but instead different ones to be able to go into detail easier. Due to the fact that there had been no co-ordination in advance this plan turned out to be difficult, because different draft resolutions overlapped and finding signatories became complicated.

From here two goals had to be accomplished. First I wanted to find these draft resolutions of Argentina's interest, but also did I want to work within the South American bloc, since we had to have at least (!) similar interests and goals. At different speeches, I addressed the necessity to follow objective aspects instead of subjective motives and to work together within the regions to afterwards join the efforts between the regions. Finding the draft resolutions of Argentina's interest was not a problem, a united approach within South America was. But also during this attempt an excellent co-operation with Paraguay and Bolivia developed, who together with Nicaragua and Guatemala, on a more or less loose basis, made up the core of the OAS, while other nations, for example Brazil, did go different (more unusual) ways. Afterwards the main objective was to raise awareness for each other within the blocs of the (split up) South American Region and the African Region.

From a substantial point of view, work was a lot easier, since a lot of draft resolutions existed, that were compatible with Argentina's interests. These main interests concentrated on three issues. The first one was free access to open markets. The goal of free trade is an essential condition to reach the goals of development and poverty eradication. The different forms of protectionism are not only endangering these goals, but also appear as a form of discrimination. Secondly, Argentina was interested in technology transfer, because we believe that the benefits of globalization - especially in the area of technology improvement - must be distributed equitably, again to eradicate poverty, but also to create economic and social equity between the countries. The third main interest was debt review. Motives like financial instability finally lead to social instability, that can become a threat to the international community both from a financial and social point of view. That way the interest of free access to open markets was

covered by draft resolution 1/1 - also edited and signed by Argentina - that later became resolution 1/1. The resolutions 1/2, 1/3, 1/4 covered the important topic of technology transfer, while resolution 1/6 addressed debt review.

Unfortunately topic no. 2 remained the only one topic to be discussed. Even though the majority of countries did have the same interests, time was wasted during the setting of the agenda as well as during substantial discussions at committee sessions and especially during final voting procedures on Saturday. At the beginning personal motives hindered the substantial discussion at the General Assembly Plenary, afterwards they even lead to unrest during Saturday's April 14th voting procedures damaging the otherwise very nice organization of the conference. As regards content, almost all priority issues of the developing countries have been addressed, but it still has to remain questionable if creating and adopting overlapping resolutions is within the spirit of the General Assembly Plenary.

5.3 Argentina in the General Assembly First Committee

Represented by Julia Gliszewska and Vera Hanus

Accounting 189 states, GA First Committee counts among one of the largest committees at the NUMN conference. Accordingly, the Argentine Delegation worked with the committee in a ballroom, sharing discussion with nearly 300 Delegates representing the other states. The Committee on Disarmament focuses on affairs related to disarmament and non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, chemical and biological weapons as well as small arms and light weapons. The three items which were foreseen on the original agenda were:

1. Follow-up to the NPT Review Conference: Towards Complete and Total Disarmament;
2. The Impact of Technology on International Peace and Security;
3. Conventional Weapons limitation and Disarmament.

The Committee was meant to fuel a discussion on those issues and eventually agree on one or more resolutions, based on broad consensus if possible so, to be presented before the General Assembly Plenary for final acceptance.

Already at the very beginning of the conference, a vivid discussion arose on the final agenda setting for the following three days. The Argentine Delegation was aiming at an Agenda Setting of TOP 1 as first, TOP 3 secondly and TOP 2 as third discussion point. To Argentina, this agenda seems most appropriate for the purpose of a three day conference. With respect to the Nuclear-Weapon-Free-Zone in Latin America as well as the strong Argentine interest in an international conference among the NWFZs in existence, TOP 1 presented a good chance to engage in a discussion. As Argentina is an ardent supporter of de-mining programs and child protection in armed conflicts, plus considering the ongoing smuggle of weapons in the region, TOP 2 was considered a second priority issue.

There were motions on the agenda, incorporating any possible agenda setting. During informal debate, two basic blocs crystallized. Argentina, with the support of half of the Latin American countries as well as several Asian and Central Asian countries and most of the five Permanent Members, voted for 1,3,2. However, a second Latin American bloc in co-operation with nearly all African states, slightly managed to succeed in an agenda setting of 2,1,3. The dividing line among the Latin and South American States ran alongside the following argument: The first bloc with Argentina, Bolivia, Costa Rica, Colombia and others, argued for a regional solution for Top 3 rather than a discussion on the international level within the Disarmament Committee. The plenary ought to be rather used as a forum for matters of international concern such as TOP 1 certainly provided for. The second bloc around Paraguay, Dominican Republic, Peru, Panama and others provided the argument vice versa: Considering the fact that the NPT Review Conference had recently taken place, small arms and light weapons should be put on the agenda for international discussion.

Concerning Top 3, Argentina held the following interests:

1. Enhancement of a fight against small arms and light weapons, the illicit trade, production and stockpiling thereof. As Latin America can be considered a rather well integrated continent with respect to solving regional problems within multilateral institutions and forums, Latin America could serve as good example to be followed by other regions. Within this context, Argentina held a special interest in the Latin American Weapon-Free-Zone beyond nuclear arms as well as special training centers nearby Buenos Aires established to train UN-personnel in de-mining programs and related tasks within peace missions;
2. A second issue of major concern presented the special protection of women and children in armed conflicts; especially, child soldiers in armed regional conflicts, should be given special attention;
3. Addressing the production, stockpiling and illicit trade of small arms and light weapons more specifically and intensively.

According to the large number of Delegation members, intense informal as well as formal discussion were fragmented in different groups. Finally, seven blocs formed each of which presented a resolution after two days of detailed work and debate. Argentina joined three groups as active members and sponsors to the resolution and was a signatory to two more resolutions. In the following, two important resolutions which especially reflect Argentine interests, will be discussed in detail.

1) Resolution GA 1/1/2 focused on a broad consensus. The two most important partners during the formation of the resolution were Bangladesh and the United States of America. The resolution incorporated all important aspects which raised concerns for the international community with respect to the issue of small arms and light weapons. The document also gives special attention to those matters of special concern for the Argentine Republic: The proposition and enhancement of regional initiatives dealing with small arms and light weapons and related problems on the basis of institutions and multilateral forums. The resolution points out initiatives such as the Argentine Training Centers for Latin American and UN personnel. Furthermore, the stockpiling, production and trade are mentioned as concerns for the international community.

The resolution with several sponsor and a great number of signatory countries passed in the General Assembly on the basis of broad consensus. The Argentine Republic is also proud to be awarded by the honorable Chair of GA First Committee to speak in favor of this resolution which Argentina is a sponsor to before the plenary.

Resolution GA 1/1/2 presented a solution to a lot of those problems which were discussed in GA First Committee. The paper was designed and introduced to approach the following problems: Transparency in production, stockpiling and trafficking of small arms and light weapons. It was especially important to find a regional way to cooperate and solve the regional problems concerning Africa and Latin America. However, states such as China, Russia, Northern Korea and a number of Arab and Asian states were afraid of losing their sovereign independence of dealing with internal state affairs. Resolution GA 1/1/2 successfully bridged the gap and found a wording which addressed the problems to be solved without interfering in internal affairs. Furthermore, the paper shed light on related issues such as the situation of women and children in armed conflicts. Even though the resolution did not introduce binding steps for the near future, it successfully raised concern for the topic on an international level.

2) The resolution GA/1/1/7 was sponsored by Argentina, Cuba, Latvia and few other countries from all continents. In comparison to the other resolutions passed in GA 1st, which had a much more general tone, this resolution deals concretely with landmines and the danger they cause to the people, especially civilians. This resolution emphasizes the need of international co-operation in solving problems that overcome the national borders, like it is the case of the landmines. From the beginning, the resolution appeals to the international community to take serious steps towards a total and complete elimination of landmines. It reminds the states of the existing Ottawa Convention from 1997 and calls upon Member States, which are not yet party to the Convention to join it as soon as possible.

The resolution GA/1/1/7 expresses the appreciation of the Member States to already existing national and regional initiatives dealing with landmines such as the Norwegian People's Aid Program, the CAECOPAZ (Centro Argentino de Entrenamiento Conjunto Para Operaciones de Paz) and the declaration of the MERCOSUR countries to encourage the establishment of a mine free zone hoping to expand the zone to the entire Western Hemisphere.

The signatory countries propose to establish the United Nations Mine Action Service, in order to give Member States the possibility to exchange information and technology. Another proposition made was the expansion of the World Solidarity Fund (WSF) to the landmines topic. Apart from measures to eliminate landmines, the resolution also encourages measures to control the production and trafficking of landmines in including the landmines to the United Nations Register of Conventional Arms. The resolution GA/1/1/7 was signed by a numerous number of countries like the United States of America, Japan, Poland, South Africa among others. Although there still were countries opposing the resolution like Singapore, who saw their economies in danger because of the measures proposed, the resolution was passed in the 1st Committee and in the General Assembly with the greatest consensus.



Voting Procedures in the General Assembly Hall: Julia Gliszewska and Thomas Kühn.

5.4 Argentina in the International Law Commission

Represented by Ansgar Schönborn

„The Chair recognizes the Commissioner from Argentina for two minutes.”

Argentina? Again? Weren't there four countries before me on the speakers' list just a minute ago? I am trying to reword this amendment for the tenth time and the call from the Chair catches me by surprise. Where are my notes? Why did nobody warn me that small committees can also be stressful....

For the 2001 National Model United Nations, the organizing National Collegiate Conference Association decided to simulate for the first time a meeting of the International Law

Commission (ILC) instead of a trial before the International Court of Justice. The history of the ILC started in December 1946, when the Committee on the Progressive Development of International Law and its codification was set up by the General Assembly to bring forward methods by which the General Assembly should encourage the eventual codification of international law, secure the co-operation of the entire United Nations system, and enlist assistance from national and international law bodies. After thirty meetings over the course of one year, the Committee presented a final report to the General Assembly recommending the establishment of a commission on international law and providing a statute for such a commission. With the „purpose of encouraging the progressive development of international law and its codification“ the International Law Commission was founded on November 21, 1947 by General Assembly Resolution 174 (II).

The members of the ILC are 34 independent legal experts from Africa, Asia, America and Europe which are elected from a list of qualified candidates by Member States for a five-year term. The legal experts, chosen based on their independent knowledge and demonstrated use of international law, are expected to act independently and without the instruction of their governments. The ILC is supposed to progressively develop and create new rules of international law by either regulating a new topic, comprehensively revising existing rules or examining particular texts or reports on particular legal problems upon special assignments by the General Assembly. The topics on the agenda included

1. Diplomatic Protection;
2. Jurisdiction on Extraterritorial Crimes;
3. Intellectual Property in Outer Space.

During the agenda setting, consensus that the topic of jurisdiction with regard to crimes committed outside national territory should be debated first, was easily reached. As the second topic of the agenda, Argentina would have preferred the question of intellectual property rights in outer space, as ventures into outer space financed by private companies threaten the access of the developing world to the results of research conducted in outer space. Although there was some support for Argentina's position throughout the developing world, the majority voted for diplomatic protection to be debated as second topic. But the agenda discussion proved to have been largely in vain by Friday night, when the ILC closed its session with two reports passed concerning jurisdiction with regard to crimes committed outside national territory and no time left to discuss any one of the two remaining topics.

The discussion in the ILC evolved mainly around the questions of extradition, state sovereignty, and the distinction between international and universal jurisdiction. Since the topic proved to be so vast, three, sometimes four different working groups spontaneously formed, working on different aspects of the topic. Although many ideas were brought to paper, it took two days to finally draft two working papers that were accepted by the chair as drafts. Since there was only one commissioner per commission present, it was difficult to keep track of all the current developments that took place in the different working groups. Argentina decided not to rely on one specific group, but to try to influence all of the working groups and insert as many of the issues it deemed important into all of the papers. Through continuous lobbying, especially among the developing countries, Argentina managed to insert into the working papers provisions concerning technological assistance and the sharing of technical expertise in the fighting of crime as modern criminal activity like cyber- or computer-crime challenge not only the financial capabilities of the developing world, but also the legal systems, which in many countries do not contain any special provisions concerning computer crimes. Similarly, articles concerning the prohibition of the use or threat of force during extradition procedures and the negative impact immunity for crimes may have on democracy and stability were proposed and formulated by Argentina.

The second draft, which focused especially on the topic of money laundering included a passage drafted by Argentina on the importance of regional organizations in the fight against money laundering. But in the end, this report contained provisions including the filing of reports by multinational financial institutions or a wait period on the transfer of funds that proved to be too specific for most industrialized countries who feared a negative impact on the world economy.

Therefore, this draft report was first heavily amended and in the end defeated, because the vast majority of states abstained and the supporters were slightly outnumbered by the opposing states.

Minutes before the deadline for the acceptance of draft reports on Thursday night set by the Chair, a third working paper was introduced by the commissioner from the Philippines, that elaborated on the types and hierarchies of jurisdiction, stressing the precedence of domestic legislation and calling for non-intervention of politics into judicial investigations. On Friday morning, when everybody was frenziedly working on amendments and trying to gather support for their draft reports or amendments, the commissioners from Argentina and Japan, who had already been working together during the previous days, suddenly realized, that one important aspect was still missing in all the draft reports: The respect for the human rights of the accused during the investigation and trial procedures and guarantees for fair and equal trials. But fortunately, there was just enough time to draft an amendment and seek the support of the sponsors of one of the draft reports to make it a friendly one, before the speakers' list ran out and voting procedures started.

During the voting procedures, two of the reports were accepted by rather large majorities, whereas one, as mentioned above, was narrowly defeated. Once again Argentina had to rise to a point of order correcting a procedural error of the Chair, who started the alphabetical role call always with the letter 'A', making Argentina the first state to cast its vote, whereas the rules of procedure call for the first state to cast its vote to be picked by lot. This provision is important as it avoids disadvantages to countries at the beginning of the alphabet that otherwise would always have to cast their votes first during role call procedures, which are obviously being used for tactical reasons. With two reports passed, the ILC adjourned its meeting after having chosen speakers to argue in favor or against the reports before the General Assembly Plenary which has to vote upon all reports presented by the ILC. Since one of the countries chosen to speak in favor was Argentina, I had the opportunity to address the General Assembly Plenary in the General Assembly Hall of the United Nations, where the reports of the ILC were also accepted.

Simulating the ILC was a very interesting and valuable learning experience, although committees with supposedly independent „experts“ rather than countries' „Delegates“ are not as suitable for a simulation, because the independence of the „experts“ relieves participants from the need to „stay in character“ and makes their behavior less predictable so that two prerequisites for a successful simulation are not necessarily given.

Address to the General Assembly Plenary by the Commissioner from Argentina

Honorable Chair, Delegates, Excellencies, distinguished Guests:

In addressing the topic of Jurisdiction with regard to crimes committed outside national territory, the International Law Commission has been well aware of the fact, that in the age of globalization, not only goods, information and financial investments transcend national borders, but also drugs, computer viruses and the practice of money laundering.

At the same time the Commission agreed on the fact that impunity for crimes must not be allowed, as justice is an indispensable component in order to build a stable peace.

Therefore, the report is based on three columns:

- first, assisting the states in their effort to draft adequate domestic legislation concerning computer crimes, drug trafficking and money laundering
- second, providing further guidelines concerning extradition
- third, making suggestions concerning the issues of domestic, international and universal jurisdiction

Concerning the first column, our report calls for the installation of an Ad Hoc-Committee of legal and technical experts working on definitions and sample legislation concerning computer crimes, money laundering and drug trafficking. Assistance and cooperation, as called for in the report, are absolutely vital in order to combat these crimes in every single country. We cannot afford to have any safe havens for these criminals.

Extradition, the second column of the report, is being approached from three different perspectives. The report stresses the importance of bilateral and multilateral extradition treaties. At the same time the

necessity of securing human rights and due process during investigation and prosecution as laid out in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights is acknowledged. Furthermore, we agreed to advocate strongly for the principle, that states must refrain from the threat or use of force as laid out in Art. 2 of the UN Charter whenever requests for extradition are being made.

On the last column of jurisdiction, the report clearly differentiates between the principle of domestic jurisdiction for the vast majority of crimes and the principle of universal jurisdiction with regard to certain crimes like genocide. All the articles concerning universal jurisdiction, which also include thoughts about restrictive conditions on the application of universal jurisdiction, need to be understood solely as proposals for future consideration. Universal jurisdiction is not yet an agreed-upon principle in International Law.

Although certainly not without flaws, this report presents a comprehensive and coherent approach. Starting from the topic of jurisdiction with regard to crimes committed outside national territory, we have been able to move closer to justice with regard to crimes committed outside national territory.

I ask you to accept this report with the same vast majority with which it has been approved in the International Law Commission.

Please remember:

Any step forward in codifying international law is a great success.

Only the application of and compliance with International Law effectively allow the international community to predict states' behavior.

Only the application of and compliance with International Law can provide peace and stability within the International Community.

Only the application of and compliance with International Law allow us to gradually organize an order that would include the principles and values incorporated in the Charter of the United Nations.

Thank you.

5.5 Argentina in the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia, and Related Intolerance (WCAR)

Represented by Nina Truchseß and Manuela Gadow

Since the adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights in 1948, the international community has made important advances to combat racism and racial discrimination. In 1978 the first World Conference to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination took place, the second followed in 1983. In 1997 the General Assembly made in its resolution 52/111 the declaration, to hold a WCAR, no later than the year 2001. The United Nations Commission on Human Rights is working as the preparatory committee for the World Conference. During the last years several preparatory meetings, expert seminars, regional expert seminars and regional intergovernmental meetings took place, for example the meeting for the Americas was held in Santiago de Chile in December 2000. This WCAR will be held in Durban, South Africa from August 31 – September 7, 2001. The NMUN-WCAR report will be taken to Durban in August by the Director of our committee, John R. Gagain, who is a representative of the US-Delegation.

The WCAR was one of the largest committees at the 2001 NMUN simulation. All together around 420 Delegates participated in it. All UN-Member States as well as states with observer status and several Non-Governmental Organizations were represented. The last ones did not have procedural voting rights, and could not sponsor working papers, but they made their voice heard in discussions, through speeches and through their constructive work on the Conference's report. The issues to be discussed at the WCAR were:

1. Prevention of Ethnic Conflict;
2. Review of the Phenomenon of Double Discrimination against Women and Children;
3. The Relationship between Racism and Poverty.

The first task of the WCAR was to set the agenda. The Delegations had the possibility to state their preferences in speeches. Informal caucuses also took place in which the Delegations negotiated to find a common position. We tried to set the agenda in an order that represent the

national priorities of Argentina. Most of the Latin-American, Caribbean and African states agreed with us, that the eradication of poverty as a root cause of conflicts should be treated first. In voting procedure this topic was accepted as the first to be discussed. This was a great success for Argentina. The final agenda was the following: 3 – 2 – 1.

Because of the complexity of the subject only the first agenda topic was discussed at the WCAR. Argentina regrets that the two other topics were not talked about because of the lack of time. „Prevention of Ethnic Conflict“ is one of our national priorities. For more than 40 years Argentina actively participates in peacekeeping operations and supports them.

During the WCAR, Argentina worked closely together with the Latin-American and Caribbean states. An especially fruitful co-operation took place with Chile and Brazil. The Latin-American and Caribbean bloc worked together with other regional blocs, for example the African or the European ones. During the course of the Conference, the Russian Federation also was a reliable and co-operative partner because of similar priorities. Not only the regional neighborhood united the Latin-American and Caribbean bloc, but also similar opinions and priorities. So for example the wish to find a final solution for the debt problem of many countries. Other important goals for the Argentine Republic were to include better access to open markets and the right to development in the report. Also Argentina considered sustainable development and economic stability as important means in the eradication of poverty and conflict. The Argentine Republic stressed, that racism, poverty and conflict are closely interrelated and may therefore not be addressed individually. The other Delegations followed us in this important point. Most of the states considered education as one of the most important tools to eradicate poverty and racism. In the final voting procedure the UN Member States had to vote on eight draft reports. The draft report that Argentina sponsored, was adopted with the most votes. We consider this as a great success for all our partners and us. In the end the adopted draft reports were combined to one final report. This is the one that will be taken to the real WCAR in August. We are proud to contribute to this important Conference in this way.

5.6 Argentina and ISTANBUL + 5

Represented by Astrid Ziebarth and Emanuel Hensel

Taking the special session of the General Assembly to review and appraise implementation of the Habitat Agenda worldwide in June 2001, five years after Habitat II, as our „model“, the advised agenda for our committee contained the following three topics:

1. Mega-Cities;
2. Migration;
3. Natural Resource Management.

The Argentine Republic, aware of the enormous change of the global environment caused by increasing world population, has adopted the Habitat Agenda as a policy for national environmental politics in order to preserve the environment for future generations. To avoid exploitation and destruction of natural resources Argentina strongly welcomes and asks for an effective co-operation within the international community.

This attitude was reflected when supporting the changing of the agenda, „Natural Resource Management“ being the first topic on the newly set agenda. As most of the Delegations shared the focus on this issue, the next days were to be spend solely on this subject .

The enormous size of the committee aggravated effective functioning and co-operation between Delegations. Efficient discussions took place solely in informal sessions as the speakers list was too large to function as a discussion board, with more than 70 speakers on the list before the Delegate of Argentina had the floor. Furthermore, even the informal discussion groups were very large and made factual discussions very difficult.



Negotiating for HABITAT: Astrid Ziebarth and Emanuel Hensel.

Throughout negotiations in the committee it came to show that many Delegations failed to acknowledge the factor that this conference was a review conference, screening the countries progresses and actions made with regard to the Habitat Agenda within the last five years. The accentuation on the connection between Natural Resource Management and Human Settlement was barely visible, yet came to be more perceptible as time progressed. However, discussions lacked the overall exchange of valid and sound arguments. Within time, clear interests and positions of different countries and country groups were perceived with regard to regional and national interest, resulting in various working papers.

However, Argentina's aims, e.g. committing developing countries to voluntary greenhouse targets as exemplified by Argentina and the implementation of the „White Helmets Initiative“ proved only to be successfully adopted to some extent. While Argentina's aims and interests came to be mentioned in various drafts they failed to be explicitly mentioned in the final version. One also has to mention that, as proposed by some Eastern European and African countries, the proliferation and extension of atomic energy was successfully turned down by the majority.

Given the already mentioned great number of Delegates, we want to positively mention the immense co-ordination effort of the organizers in our committee and the good work of our committee chair.

5.7 Argentina in the Commission on Human Rights

Represented by Paula Marie Hildebrandt

The Commission on Human Rights (CHR) is mentioned in the UN Charter under Articles 68 which enables the Economic and Social Council to set up commissions for the promotion of human rights. The CHR meets each year in Geneva, first in 1947, and now increased its number to 53 Members, which are elected annually. The CHR is in fact, the primary UN body for initiating efforts at human rights standard setting, investigating alleges abuses, and for condemning violations. The commission has only a limited number of instruments at its disposal and primarily works through means of public announcements, resolutions in the form of recommendations and working groups. The experience of the last years has shown that the sessions and negotiations among the representatives from the UN-Member States are frequently led by political rather than human rights concerns. Many items on the agenda are dealt with annually, whatever their present urgency or relevance might be, and thus the wording of the resolutions often hardly differs from previous ones.

The agenda of the CHR at the NMUN 2001 contained the following topics:

1. The Right to Development;
2. Human Rights in Armed Conflict;
3. Human Rights and Coercive Measures.

The sessions of the Commission were quite productive and finally six resolutions passed. Mainly due to time constraints only the first two topics were discussed.

Argentina's history of military dictatorship and ambiguous human rights record were of no importance, neither during sessions, nor in negotiations or informal caucus. Rather important were our continuous efforts to substantially contribute to drafting papers and finding formulations in consent with all involved parties. Indeed, there was no time for political accusations of current human rights practices, and the working atmosphere was characterized by good co-operation and mutual respect.

The Argentine position concerning the Right to Development in general stressed the universal, indivisible, interdependent and interrelated character of all human rights, and the primary responsibility of States to design favorable conditions for the full realization of all human rights, including the Right to Development. While stressing the importance of economic growth, more international co-operation and a more equitable access of developing countries to the world market were essential key points for Argentina. The Argentine interests were coherent with the other Latin American countries and thus the Latin American bloc sponsored a joint resolution which calls upon Member States to develop policies that will provide poor countries with the appropriate means and facilities to foster sustainable development. Argentina originally initiated this resolution, appeared as a sponsor and could address our main concerns. After having drafted, accepted some friendly amendments and having promoted our position, the resolution passed with great majority.

Other initiatives were rather characterized by personal sympathies among the Delegates than real interest coalitions, such as Indonesia, the Sudan, the Republic of China, Cuba and Botswana jointly promoting national human rights centers. As negotiations proceeded the speakers time was changed various times, and the number of motions to divide out operative clauses, to close or re-open the speakers time, to call for roll calls, for purpose of informal caucus, etc. increased and slowed the whole process down.

Concerning the second point of the agenda, human rights in armed conflict, the co-operation among the Delegates was more constructive. All members of the Commission jointly decided to split up into three groups, which would work on different subjects. This working manner would thereby avoid overlaps and enable the Commission to cover a broader range of issues. The three groups decided to work on the rights of children in armed conflict and rehabilitation of victims, conflict prevention and peace keeping. The Argentine Republic worked with a number of other countries on a draft paper explicitly addressing the question of the safety of peace-keeping personnel, better training for military and civilian staff (mentioning the Argentine „White Helmets Initiative”) and as negotiations went on, a number of other concerns like the control of arms trade were included. Furthermore, all Member States were explicitly asked to sign, accede and ratify the Rome Statute for the International Criminal Court.

Argentina substantially contributed to this paper, but negotiations with the other Member States increasingly became difficult, since some decided to abstain from the formal sessions, insisted on their particular points, or rivalries in getting out draft papers with their sponsorship. Again, the rules of procedure and the different instruments with which you design and manipulate the whole process of caucus and voting proved to be critical and finally hindered the passing of our submitted paper, again strongly characterized by Latin American co-operation, due to time constraints.



Argentina's CHR and ILC Representatives: Paula Marie Hildebrandt and Ansgar Schönborn.

5.8 Argentina in the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice

Represented by Lovis Rieck

As the United Nations are concerned with issues of drug control, crime prevention and international terrorism as well, the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (CCPCJ) is being relied upon by the Member States. The Commission's main functions are to report to the UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC). This tool is meant to enhance the Member States' ability to co-ordinate activities designed to combat transnational criminal activity. The CCPCJ has 40 representatives of Member States that are being elected by the ECOSOC. The CCPCJ is considered an expert body and therefore the work on very specific issues is often more the work of experts than politicians.

The three topics that were addressed by the NMUN 2001 Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice are:

1. Promoting Crime Prevention through International Co-operation;
2. Domestic Institutions to Combat Terrorism;
3. Strengthening Criminal Justice Systems.

The three topics were discussed in the order shown above which was the original one. During the setting of the agenda it became clear that almost all of the present Member States had the opinion that the best order would be the suggested one. Without any complications this agenda was adopted by the Commission. Unfortunately, due to the time constraints we were not able to discuss the third topic in depth and could not pass a report on it. This was somewhat counterbalanced by the fact that the first agenda topic already contained partial elements of the third one which was taken into account by us during the setting of the agenda.

When starting the work on the first agenda topic there were some minor differences on how to approach the numerous and highly specific aspects every Member State was affected by. Soon it became very clear, though, that this kind of separate work would not lead to an effective outcome. Therefore, we decided to work together on one single and comprehensive report. For this purpose the Delegations split up into several groups that then worked on their special interests.

A very important and therefore first step was to contact the Delegates from the other Latin American countries that were present in the Commission. Already at the very beginning it became apparent that there were very common interests between most of the Latin American States which by name were Peru, Bolivia and, of course, Argentina. This co-operation with common ideas was even extended by Jamaica as a close neighbor as well as Cameroon, India, the Philippines, the Russian Federation, South Africa and Togo. Unfortunately, the contact to Brazil, Ecuador and Mexico as very close neighbors was relatively poor. As a major unexpected condition was the indifference of the delegate from the United States being no contributor to any suggestions the Americas could benefit from. Nevertheless, along with its close negotiating nations Argentina was able to sponsor a draft report on the first topic of *Promoting Crime Prevention through International Co-operation*, which contained every issue of concern to Argentina except the idea of the International Criminal Court, which actually is being favored by many nations. But the obstacle was that most of the Delegates had not heard of this concept before and therefore Argentina, Cameroon and the Republic of Korea, both being very much interested in the ICC themselves, could not convince the rest of the importance given to this issue. After this process of collecting the ideas in several unofficial draft reports, all papers were merged into one draft report that was then being copied and handed out to every delegate in the Commission. In order to fit the whole report to every nations needs a following moderated caucus was entertained and this really worked out great. Within a matter of a few hours we finally had a draft report accomplished that could be handed in to the dais. The voting procedure on this draft report was very short and easy resulting in a comprehensive paper concerning the first issue and at the same time already containing some substantial points of the third topic, which unfortunately was not discussed in depth later.

Before targeting the second topic we had the honor of having a guest speaker from the United Nations' Center for International Crime Prevention (CICP). For about an hour he told us about the ways the UN works with issues concerning drugs and crime. The most surprising fact being told was that there are only 25 people working for the CICP with a budget of 5 million dollars per year at their disposal. The CICP focuses on the „three P's“, which are prevention, protection and prosecution. He said the climate for a convention on corruption is pretty good because many governments have changed their former hesitant position realizing that corruption costs countries up to 1% of their general GNP. So apparently one can be confident and at least not lose hope that there is light at the end of the tunnel.

After this very informative and interesting hour we moved on with now trying to tackle the second topic on our agenda. Raising in front of all Delegates the issue of International Terrorism was presumably the most delicate issue we could have dealt with. But considering the complexity and diversity of the many opinions on this issue in the real world the Commission did not face those problems in any comparable severity. Since the actual topic was *Domestic Institutions to Combat Terrorism* and what role they could play in the international endeavor of fighting this scourge of humanity we again chose to proceed with the way proven to be quite successful before. So it came again that we split up into smaller groups and Argentina cooperated with its well-known partners from earlier before. Especially the delegate from South Africa has to be named because of his innovative approach to new ideas of combating terrorism that went along perfectly with all of Argentina's priorities and we sponsored the draft report that was the product of this co-operation. After the formation of a final draft report containing the priorities of all members of the Commission we went into voting procedure. Again in a matter of no time we had successfully voted on one single report. The thing to do now was to join together the two reports on the two topics to one report we could pass on to ECOSOC which would vote on it the very next day. Argentina and some of its close partners observed the voting procedures as guests in the ECOSOC the following day to witness how our report was successfully adopted.

5.9 Argentina in the WTO Ministerial Meeting

Represented by Frauke Godat und Jenny Suckale

The World Trade Organization (WTO), located in Geneva, Switzerland, has been established in 1995 after the Uruguay Round trade negotiations (1986-94). As of 30 November 2000, the WTO has 140 Member States. In 2000, the WTO had a budget of 127 million Swiss Francs, employing 500 people in the Secretariat Staff. The World Trade Organization is the only global international organization dealing with the rules of trade between nations. At its heart are the WTO agreements, negotiated and signed by the bulk of the world's trading nations and ratified in their parliaments. The goal is to help producers of goods and services, exporters, and importers conduct their business. Its main function is to ensure that trade flows as smoothly, predictably and freely as possible.

The agenda for the WTO Ministerial Meeting had been set preliminarily before the start of the conference as follows:

1. General Agreement on Trade in Services (GATS): Negotiating for the future;
2. Global Economic Disparity;
3. Trade and Environment.

Right at the beginning, entering the meeting room, several states were already competing to find out how states would set the agenda in the meeting: interviewing Delegates, writing down their preferences for arranging the agenda and taking down notes carefully. Our main concern, however, was to obtain a strategic seating spot at the front of the plenary. Sitting in one of the larger committees at NMUN, it was hard at first making Argentina's voice heard among approximately 100 Member States. However, as the speaker's list opened, we managed to be third in the row!

The agenda setting passed almost without us noticing it: the chair moving to points on the floor quickly and Delegates raising placards even faster. The agenda was adopted with limited debate moving Global Economic Disparity on top of the agenda, followed by GATS: Negotiating for the Future and Trade and Environment. The G-77 countries and also most of the industrialized countries had consensus on stressing the importance of the topic Global Economic Disparity. Argentina with an economy in transition had a special interest in this topic. Our country experienced a boom in economic growth in the early 1990s due to monetary, fiscal, and trade reforms. During the late 1990s, Argentina was hit by a series of external economic shocks such as the Asian and the Mexican crisis that caused, for instance, unequal distribution of income and high unemployment (13.8% in 1999). In addition, the Argentine Republic is facing the fact that in 1998, 26% of the population of Greater Buenos Aires lived in households with income below the poverty line. In Latin American and the Caribbean 36% of the people in the region lived on less than \$2 per day in 1998 and about 16% lived on less than \$1 per day. In many speeches in the past within the United Nations' context Argentina has stressed that „poverty eradication is an essential factor in the prevention of conflicts and [...] has the largest validity and dimension for the international community“ (The President of the Argentine Republic at the UN Millennium Summit, September 7, 2000).

The debate within the WTO Ministerial Meeting was limited only to one topic, Global Economic Disparity. During the discussion different blocs were formed: G-77, European Union and African and Small Island countries. Argentina took the initiative on the second day of the meeting to gather all Latin American States present (Brazil, Bolivia, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Honduras, Peru, etc.) in order to speak with one voice within the G-77 discussion. It was unfortunate for the Latin American bloc, that so many states of the region were absent, because that diminished our influence as a bloc.

The whole committee was being divided by the issue of debt relief because of a question of prioritization. During formal session on the third day, the developing countries were ruling over

developed countries: moving to 30 seconds speaker's time as industrialized countries were on the speaker's list and changing it back to 5 minutes as developing countries were about to speak.

On the last day, two reports competed. One set up by the G-77 states and one by the European Union. As time went on, negotiations were getting stressful and the two blocs tried to gather as many votes as possible for their report. The main three differences and most controversial aspects throughout the whole session were: debt relief, financing in general and agricultural trade barriers; and in these matters nothing even close to a consensus could be found. Argentina and the Latin American States did not produce their own report, but collected their priorities and included them in the reports existing. Therefore, we were in favor of both reports, though we considered the EU one to be more adequate, and above all more realistic. In the end, for time reasons, only the G-77 report was produced and voted on.

The report dealt with six initiatives: short-term adjustment cost, debt relief (Argentina managed to include into the report the idea to create a regional emergency fund in the case of economic crisis), market access, technological assistance, transfer of technology and foreign direct investment. The report calls for all Delegations of the World Trade Organization to formally begin implementing the principles of the World Trade Organization's Charter and beyond that it requests countries to focus on sustainable development for the achievement of economic and environmental prosperity. The report was passed in a voting procedure that lasted only 50 minutes with a vote of 72 affirmative, 27 dissenting and three abstentions.

5.10 Argentina in the WTO Dispute Settlement Body

Represented by Frederik Siegmann

The WTO Dispute Settlement Body is a panel established and elected by members of the WTO. The panel decides about disputes, that can be appealed by every Member State. I entered the conference room as one of the last Delegates of the Dispute Settlement Body on the first day of the session. After knowing that Argentina was present, some Delegations started contacting me for the only reason, that there was a dispute between the United States of America and the Argentine Republic. This dispute dealt with patent protection for pharmaceuticals and was more like a precedence case regarding the gap between the interests of the industrial countries on one hand and the interests of the developing countries on the other hand. The Dispute Settlement Body was more pendent towards the bloc of the developing countries because of the number of African members.

The following countries had representatives in the panel: Angola, Argentina, Austria, Bahrain, Benin, Brazil, Canada, Czech Republic, Cuba, Ecuador, Denmark, Germany, Hungary, India, Israel, Mexico, South Africa, United States of America.

When setting the agenda, Argentina, as well as Brazil, tried to get the topic of Anti-Dumping Measures first. However this objective was just not possible, mainly because the big number of African Countries were not interested in that topic as much as in the case of patent protection for pharmaceuticals, but also because of some industrial nations that tried to avoid this topic.

After some short negotiations we decided on the following agenda:

1. Patent Protection for Pharmaceuticals
2. Anti-Dumping Measures
3. Multilateral Restraints of Trade

The following day the negotiations about the first topic started. This was also going to be the only topic discussed, since topics 2 and 3 could not be dealt with because of a lack of time. In the beginning it seemed to be important to get the two parties involved to talk to each other, meaning the United States and Argentina.

After some difficulties the mediation of Israel and Bahrain was showing some effects. In the following caucuses the Delegates split up into different discussion groups to discuss the problem of certain articles of the TRIPS-Agreement involved. Here it showed that Argentina

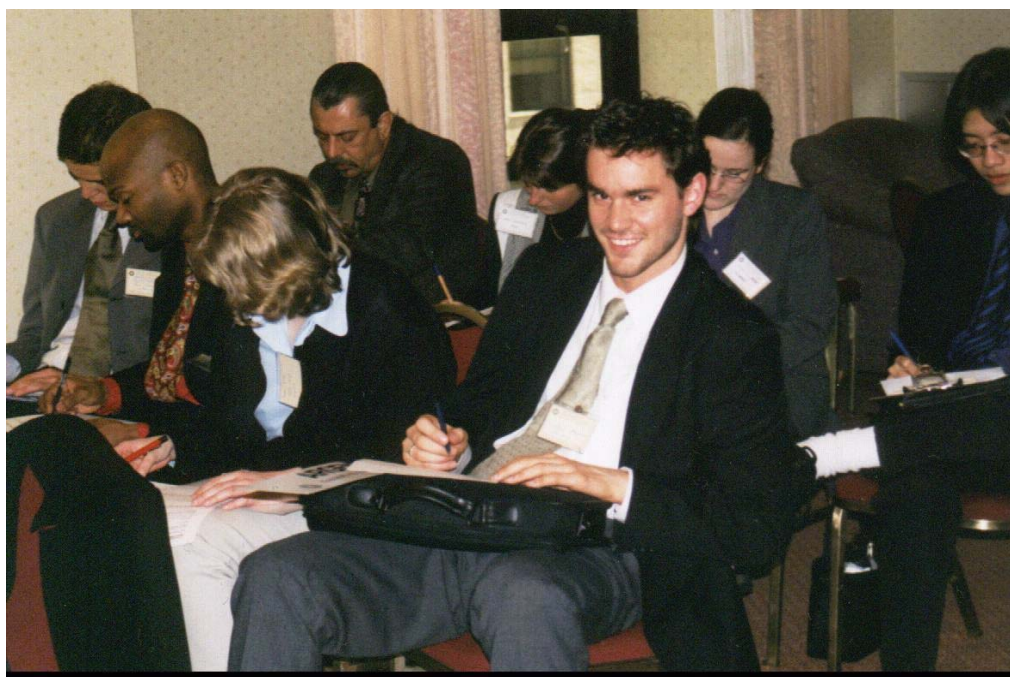
had a major disadvantage; Argentina only had one representative in the committee, while most of the other Delegations, including the US had a team of two Delegates. In comparison to the United States it was therefore difficult for Argentina to follow all the different discussions going on. But partners like Brazil offered to keep a focus on the Argentine position. In any case the co-operation between Argentina and Brazil was from the beginning very co-operative and fruitful; right from the start we agreed on the main positions and consequently pursued those together.

The positions of the two parties involved in the dispute need to be explained here shortly to clarify the problem.

Arguments of the plaintiff: The United States of America find the national legislation of Argentina not being in compliance with the TRIPS-Agreement, here focusing on patent protection. The United States of America find Argentina to be violating the TRIPS-Agreement especially the articles 27, 28, 31, 34, 39, 50, 62, and 65.

Arguments of the defendant: Argentina on the other hand says to be fully in compliance with the TRIPS-Agreement based especially on the articles 27, 30, 31, and 62 of TRIPS-Agreement.

The first two days of the negotiations were very tough, none of the parties - each supported by the blocs behind - was willing to give way. The major part of the session was informal caucus. The formal session was only used for lip-service. The Argentine demand of course was to let the Dispute Settlement Body turn down the accusation of the United States.



Settling Disputes: Frederik Siegmann.

In the end after long discussions it worked because the panel did not have enough information on the case. During the whole conference the negotiations were characterized by the bloc-positions. This showed the great importance of this case, not only because of its presence in the media currently.

But even between the two parties involved, the United States and Argentina, a constructive working climate developed and after some difficulties in the beginning we tried to really come to a solution. A final report being done after some days of hard work was the result of the session. This was also due to the never-ending tries to mediate by Israel, Bahrain and Benin, who always tried to inform both sides about the newest development of the discussions and who also tried to get the agreement by either the United States or Argentina, although most of the

time instead of getting our agreement they only got our disagreement and had to inform the working groups that their work might fail.

The result all the members of the Dispute Settlement Body agreed on was a report of 651 lines, that - being honest - was totally meaningless and only stated that if Argentina violated the TRIPS-Agreement - which could not be said because of a lack of information - they should bring their national legislation into compliance with the TRIPS-Agreement within a reasonable timeframe.

5.11 Argentina in the International Atomic Energy Agency

Represented by Wolfgang Weinzierl

With its 129 Member States the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) is one of the two autonomous organizations within the United Nations system. The decisions made at the IAEA do not have a binding character; however they are passed on to the General Assembly and the Security Council. Thereupon decisions are made to what extent efficient actions are to be taken regarding the adopted IAEA resolutions. The primary aims of the agency are the promotion of atomic energy for peaceful purposes, health and wealth as well as the support of underdeveloped countries in this context. The agency is legally based on the Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) of 1 July 1968. It is however not compellingly necessary for states to have signed and ratified the NPT to become an IAEA member.

This point ensured a discrepancy amongst the four missing signatories (Cuba, India, Israel and Pakistan) during the simulation in New York. The following agenda topics in itself show the high degree of technical know-how and core understanding of radioactive decay processes that the work in the agency demands of its experts – not to say that we all possessed that knowledge...

1. Strengthening Nuclear Safeguards;
2. Enhancing the Safety and Security of Nuclear Waste and Spent Fuel;
3. Combating the Illicit Manufacture of Nuclear Material.

The agenda setting finalized the above order at the beginning of the simulation which - from my point of view - could not have been better. With an enormous amount of documents, aims and tremendous excitement I was ready to begin an unforgettable journey with an unforgettable group to New York.

With Cuba and India as participants in discussions on the universality of the NPT as well as on the improvement of verification mechanisms promised an interesting outcome. After Brazil had left this agency and I realized that Bolivia - due to its delegate's tremendous desire to be the center of attention - would not make my life easy, I got together with the remaining members of the Rio-Group (Peru, Uruguay) and Cuba to agree upon the further strategy and to adjust our most important points. In the meantime the EU Member States had gotten together to jointly work on a resolution. Bolivia joined forces with China, and soon a number of countries gathered around the Chinese delegate who had proudly unpacked his laptop. Now it was time to start the action in order to not lose track. With Japan, India and South Korea we – the Latin-American bloc – soon found our allies. Except for the issue on the signing of the NPT we found it possible to constructively discuss and acknowledge the other states' main issues. Being the founders of the first Nuclear Weapon Free zone, it was Argentina's – and consequently my – strongest desire to address its extraordinary position and to draft and promote a Model Protocol on the creation of new zones. The biggest success of this debate was mentioning of the Latin-American „pioneer role“ in the resolution. With a tremendous joint knowledge in our group we realized that we were about to draft the most outreaching resolution. After this very pleasing first day the time had finally come to - as at the second day would bring - to celebrate the day's successes and disappointments making new acquaintances at O'Neil's and Blarney's. After a short night the next - and longest day – demanded instant awakening. Voting Procedures were scheduled with resolutions from three working groups and an enormous amount of amendments. The points most important for Argentina were contained in a resolution, which was adopted after a

nerve-racking roll-call. We were told that all three resolutions were passed in record time with only a few modifications.

As it became visible later, a consensus on the next agenda point „Spent Fuel and Nuclear Waste“ was possible, which nevertheless cost the remaining time of the simulation. After these first one and a half days it became more and more obvious that not only my energy potential had suffered. India and South Korea used the first round of the caucus to draft a resolution, which would require signatories and supporters. After adjusting with Peru and Uruguay we decided to cooperate with the EU in their efforts to draft another resolution. This turned out to be extremely productive yet very unrealistic. The first sentence I heard from this approximately 20-people-group addressing all involved was: „Which points do you want in the resolution?“ The co-operation then ran accordingly. In a calm minute – during official speeches - Peru and I took the chance to sit at the computer to integrate some further points with the participation of Germany. On the third and last day the big task was to motivate the states involved in other resolutions to support our „own“ resolution. At this time the long nights and intensive discussions of the past two and a half days were clearly visible in the faces of the ones present - and not in bed. With a sigh of relief these resolutions were finally adopted.

After these wonderfully strenuous days in the Grand Hyatt, New York I was truly relieved that the GREAT challenge had been mastered by all of us. The real value of this entire simulation and the activity on-site would only be realized as time passes anyway. With my first real insight of the work and tasks of international organizations I got a feeling for what the problem of „growing together“ in our world can mean and actually must mean, to bridge the contrasts.

5.12 Argentina in G-77

Represented by Arzu Hatakoy

G-77 was established on 15 June 1964 by seventy-seven developing countries at the end of the first session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) in Geneva. Although the membership of G-77 has increased to 133 countries, the original name was retained because of its historic significance. As the largest Third World coalition in the UN, G-77 provides the means for the developing world to articulate and promote its collective economic interests and enhance its joint negotiating capacity on all major international economic issues in the UN system, and promote economic and technical co-operation among developing countries.

During the National Model Conference 2001 G-77 had to work out a joint declaration concerning the following three topics:

1. Economic Effects of Political Instability and Corruption;
2. External Debt;
3. Reliable Health Care Systems.

Since the end of 1999 Argentina is suffering from a severe economic crisis, which has especially aggravated since February 2001. Its US-Dollar bound currency can only be stabilized through perpetual IMF credits. Not only because of this actual crisis, but also because Argentina is one of the most heavily indebted countries in the world, the country sees itself stuck in an ever tighter vicious cycle of debt increase which seriously hinders the development of its economy. As most of the G-77 countries suffer from the same problem, the majority granted priority to the debt relief topic and the agenda was reorganized in the following order: 2, 3, 1.

With the beginning of formal session all Delegates were eager to give their speeches and the speaker's list was immediately occupied by all 133 countries. But soon came the motions for the interruption of debate for the purpose of caucus and during the informal debates several groups were formed in order to work on draft declarations. Actually there were as many groups formed as there were laptops available and at the end of the first working day a total of four working drafts coming from the Asian and African bloc and from two mixed groups were in progress. In

the beginning, I was very disappointed because I could not manage to unite the Latin American and Caribbean bloc. This was due to the fact that not only that most of the Delegates from this region were most of the time absent so that with the second working day a relatively small number of 50 persons were present all the time and actively participated in the debate. Despite those which were either absent or working, there were also some Delegates which attended the meetings but showed only little interest in the topic. Unfortunately for me many of my important regional partners belonged to this latest group, and they showed no real enthusiasm for my explanations concerning our joint positions as expressed during the Rio-Group summits. Therefore, I soon dropped the illusion of a united Latin American position.

As at the end of the second day there was some confusion about the number of draft declarations in work, and the Chair instructed us to merge the different papers to one document. Nevertheless, two groups remained, and I joined the African-Asian paper. This draft was sponsored mainly by Gabon, Bangladesh, China and Turkmenistan, other countries participating varied from the Bahamas to South Africa and Sao Tome & Principe. I was very positively surprised that within the group a very productive and co-operative working atmosphere prevailed. From then on I saw my main task in reinforcing the Argentine position in this draft. This included little changes as stressing the importance of the Inter-American Development Bank but also the insertion of two new paragraphs which stressed the importance of free trade and the access to markets as a precondition to development and debt relief.

The second paper which remained for discussion constituted a counter-position to our draft. The main sponsors of this document were Egypt, Panama, Indonesia, Jamaica, Costa Rica, the Lebanon, Algeria and Togo. This paper was formulated in a more pointed language which accused the industrialized nations and stated the failure of the Bretton Woods institutions. Furthermore it called for a feasibility study which should work out the conditions for the establishment of a G-77 Debt Relief and Development Bank (DRDB). An excerpt of the paragraph on the financing of the bank reads as follows:

„...We suggest that funding for the DRDB comes from within the countries of the G-77...We recommend that each country contribute between 0.5% - 2.0% of their annual GNP toward the starting capital, also granting special exemptions to certain countries unable to contribute to the bank. We encourage the helping hand of the private sector to take initiatives in introducing private savings to the DRDB. We urge the DRDB to establish a reserve rate of at least 3,0% to be imposed on central banks, which would be transferred to the DRDB for the purpose of lending to the G-77 countries...“

For Argentina being a country which is mainly dependent on the co-operation with the IMF such a confrontational tone was unacceptable. Concerning the bank issue my speeches in the plenum in which I stressed the necessity to strengthen the market mechanism in order to help the economy and to get out of the debt crisis did not help much. During the informal caucuses I tried to convince the economically more developed states from the danger that they would have to pay for this bank and that the other states would only accept to be the beneficiaries of the credits. The last day, Friday, most of the time was spent for the correction of the drafts. During this procedure the Chair read the drafts and made comments on them and then the groups had to change the according paragraphs. The final editing of the papers was not finished until half past three, so that we could only start with the voting procedure at the very last minute before four p.m.. What remained were the two drafts G-77 1/1, which was also called the „bank proposal“, and draft G-77 1/2 which was the one I supported. Additionally there were several amendments to both papers, of which none passed which would have brought a substantial change to the drafts. Argentina also presented an amendment to draft G-77 1/2 which should mention the missing aspect of self-initiative and the commitment of the G-77 countries to democratic values. It consisted of the following operative clause:

„Further recognizing that the increase in Official Development Assistance, open markets and the creation of new programs of debt relief would not work without an internal framework. We, the countries of the G-77, commit ourselves to the principles of good governance, full respect of law, pro human rights policies and to avoiding corruption.“

After a strong speech by the delegate of Benin against this amendment in which she rejected any imposition of „Western values“ as a new form of colonialism, this amendment was rejected by the majority of countries.



Voting Procedures in the ECOSOC: Frauke Godat, Lovis Rieck, Paula Marie Hildebrandt and Arzu Hatakoy.

During the voting on the final drafts we voted at first on the paper G-77 1/1 (the „bank proposal“). But here happened something which I do not fully understand. We voted on the draft by roll-call and I voted for Argentina with no. But many of the other states which also supported the second draft abstained, so that in the end the draft passed with 25 votes in favor, 19 against and more than 50 abstentions. What I ask myself is whether the other states abstained because the G-77 is supposed to be a consensus body and they did not want to vote no because of political considerations, or if they were not aware that only the total of the yes- to no-votes determines the voting result and that the abstentions did not count. After this we voted on the draft G-77 1/2, this draft was accepted by a greater majority. In the end the G-77 had passed two declarations consisting of the declaration G-77 1/1 which was written in a stronger language and represented a more radical approach to debt relief and of declaration G-77 1/2 which was more moderate and opted for a co-operative solution.

5.13 Argentina in the Inter-American Development Bank

Represented by Stefan Lhachimi and Felix Marklein

The Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) is the oldest and largest of the world's regional development banks. The main task of the IDB is to provide funding for development orientated projects in the countries of Latin America. As the IDB is an Intergovernmental Agency, only governments (not private sector firms etc.) can approach the IDB for funding. Every member country is represented by one governor in the board. Next to almost all Latin American countries, a considerable number of donor states are members of the IDB. Among them are the United States, Canada, Japan and most of the EU-countries. In our simulation, the first NMUN simulation of the IDB Board of Governors ever, the board consisted of 46 governors. Although a very complicated voting procedure is agreed upon in the IDB statutes (the number of votes every country has corresponds to the amount of payments it makes towards the IDB), the Board of Governors is known to be a consensus body, acting unanimously in its decisions.

The three issues on the IDB's agenda were

1. Combating Corruption in Latin America and the Caribbean;

2. Conditionality of Development Assistance;
3. Rehabilitation after Natural Disasters.

The optimal setting from Argentina's point of view was to discuss first the issue of Corruption, since it is one of the major threats to Argentina's economic stability. The issue of Natural Disasters is a field Argentina is not as directly concerned by as it is the case with corruption, but nevertheless Argentina is very involved in this field, as the establishment of the „White Helmets Initiative“ demonstrates. The issue of conditionality is not too much of concern for Argentina. It turned out that in general smaller countries tend to put high priority on this issue. After one day of intense debate on how to set the agenda, the following setting was adopted: The first topic to be discussed was Combating Corruption, secondly came the issue of Natural Disasters and finally Conditionality should be debated. This setting constituted the optimal agenda for our Delegation.

It was interesting to see that after the setting of the agenda every representative was very active in the discussion on „Combating Corruption“. Nobody tried to bloc, everyone participated in the formal debate and in the caucuses. Argentina had the honor to be one of the first speakers. As already mentioned, Argentina has a strong commitment in the fight against corruption. In his speech the Honorable Governor of Argentina stressed the importance of pursuing the idea of sustainable development. Therefore, Argentina proposed already some very concrete measures, like the funding of network institutions and training for civil servants.

During the debate it was surprising that nobody denied that corruption, at any level, is a major problem throughout the Americas. But that does not mean, of course, that there is a consensus concerning the solution of this problem. So Argentina used the opportunity to prepare, as the first Delegation, a draft resolution. In informal caucus our Delegation already gathered ten sponsors that were needed to introduce a paper on the floor. So we typed the paper and let the co-sponsors sign, but it was not the original ten Governors because some already changed their positions. Although we could collect the signatures quite quickly, the paper was not introduced for several hours. A problem in the computer network occurred and the paper was queued and delayed. In the course of waiting for the paper, needless to say, the discussion went on and new fractions developed: The South American States on the one side and the European Union on the other side. Especially the Spanish Governor showed integrity and loyalty to both, to the former colonies in Latin America as well as to the Swedish Presidency of the EU. For the South American Bloc, especially the representatives of Paraguay and Suriname put a lot of effort into uniting the parties.

Due to the fact that corruption is a multidimensional phenomenon, there was no master strategy apparent, but nevertheless there was a consensus that the „strengthening of civil society“ and the „empowerment of the single citizen“ should be part of the solution. A number of countries therefore introduced single projects like „micro-credits“ and a „media awareness campaign“. Also the Argentine suggestion of an independent network of „Centers of Excellence in Combating Corruption“ was taken up and advanced in the discussion.

So two different working papers were developed, one by the European Union and the other mostly by the Latin American States, which were very similar in many respects. Argentina withdrew the already outdated draft resolution, but participated of course in the discussion of the new one. The committee spend half a day in merging these two papers. In the end only one resolution was introduced. This resolution was quite long (3 pages) and consisted mostly of operative clauses. But everybody could find at least one position of his own in the final resolution. So the reward in the end of the debate of our first topic was that we accepted the resolution by acclamation, which means that, as long as nobody opposes, the paper passes without voting.

Only one day remained for the debate on the topic of „Rehabilitation after Natural Disasters“. Argentina's position that rehabilitation can only be seen in one context with prevention and emergency assistance was shared by a number of countries, especially by Latin American countries such as Paraguay and Costa Rica, giving our Delegation a strong negotiating position towards the donor states. Also our suggestion for a further strengthening of the White Helmets

was approved within the Latin American bloc. Due to the time constraints, most of the debate on Natural Disasters took place in an informal way. The Argentine Delegation worked closely together with the Latin American bloc, especially with the Delegations from Brazil and from Paraguay. Brazil, as the largest country in South America and in Mercosur, was in general the first Delegation we reached agreement with. In addition, the co-operation with Paraguay, also a member of Mercosur, was tremendously fruitful. The Delegation from Paraguay contributed to the discussion by elaborating innovative and detailed action plans to mitigate the adverse effects of Natural Disasters.

As the major part of the debate took place in informal caucusing sessions, the Argentine Republic had only once the opportunity to speak during formal debate. In this speech, Argentina took the chance to thank all governors for their commitment and encouraged them to keep the good co-operation going. Furthermore, Argentina addressed the need to tackle the issue of natural disasters in Latin America and the Caribbean on the three pillars Prevention, Emergency Assistance and Rehabilitation and, as an outline, directed the focus of future work towards measures that are suited to reduce the vulnerability of the people in the region.

During the informal sessions, Argentina was able to shape the draft resolution of the Latin American States in several crucial aspects: The need to improve the co-operation between the White Helmets Initiative and other emergency assistance agencies was stated, the idea of strengthening prevention mechanisms was pointed out and especially the importance of a sustainable development approach was included into the draft resolution. Moreover, the idea of implementing risk management institutions was introduced by Argentina and the call for an annual conference where disaster relief agencies and NGOs convene was put forward.

At the end of the day there were again two draft resolutions on the floor, the Latin American one and one by the donor countries. The contents of these two draft resolutions were once again not too far from each other, whereas the Latin American draft resolution was a lot more specific. With further debate it should have been possible to find consensus between all Governors and adopt a final resolution by acclamation, as it was the case in the debate on the fight against corruption and as it is appropriate for a consensus body. Unfortunately, due to the strict time constraints, no further negotiations on the draft resolutions could take place. Nevertheless, the two draft resolutions give proof of the productive work of the IDB Board of Governors, with the Latin American draft resolution reflecting most of Argentina's interests. Finally, the meeting was adjourned and a consensus on Rehabilitation after Natural Disasters as well as a common position towards Conditionality of Development Assistance are to be found in next year's NMUN simulation of the IDB Board of Governors.

6. (Cheering and) Chairing for NATO

Not that the Argentine Republic had all of a sudden become a NATO Member State... In fact, my engagement for this committee had happened rather unforeseen.

Originally designated Argentine Delegate to the Group of 77 (G-77), the world-wide major convention of developing countries, I had attended the first night's agenda setting with best intentions and considerable enthusiasm. According to the Argentine national priorities, it was my plan to delay the topic of corruption as far as possible in order to hope for it to be neglected in the end.

The debate on how to set the agenda turned out to be quite chaotic, most frustratingly due to the fact that some participants were seeking attention by repeatedly changing the speaker's time. Among others, the result of which was that instead of the 79 Delegates previously signed up to speak only 5 were finally heard until late at night we had to proceed to voting upon the agenda. To our delight, the committee voted in favor of our proposal, which could be counted towards a success.

Following the first session, the directors announced the recruitment of volunteers to serve as rapporteurs or chair to the G-77. Those positions seemed to be very exciting and challenging,

and I decided to submit an application form for either job. Little did I know that the recruitment would keep me awake until the early morning hours. Since the position as chair to G-77 had been given away fairly soon, I was offered to try out for NATO. NATO's Director then asked me questions regarding my studies, checked upon my knowledge of rules of procedure and presented a disastrous scenario to be solved for me as a chair. Around 1:30 h I was informed that I had to show up for chair training the next day.

Apart from the fact that I missed the visit to the Argentine Permanent Mission to the UN, it became clear that I was no longer going to contribute to the team. My highest appreciation belongs to Arzu Hatakoy who agreed to replace Argentina's empty seat at G-77 in order to keep up our interests in this committee.

Established in 1949, the Northern Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) is highly concerned with peace-keeping and security issues regarding the North Atlantic region. Current Member States of the treaty are the US, Great Britain, France, Germany, Belgium, the Netherlands, Iceland, Turkey, Greece, the Czech Republic, Poland, Hungary, Denmark, Spain, Portugal, Luxembourg, Italy, Canada and Norway. During the NMUN, NATO discussed their mandate for military intervention, peace-building in Europe, and unconventional threats. Having wasted hardly any time on agenda setting, they had already proceeded with debates when I joined them.

I'd like to mention that I was impressed with the way the two mentioned committees differed from each other. I had accepted the fact that I would be sharing a tight and stuffy room with 120 fellow Delegates, so I found it a very liberating feeling to „inhabit“ a generous 14th floor suite with about 20 others. The couches had been moved out to the hallway, to be used for informal caucuses by the Delegates, or even a nap during the noon break. We covered the huge mirror with the Speakers' List, and arranged the chairs in a circular shape, and thus our little chamber was a reasonable facsimile of a conference room.

The discussions on all days ran smoothly and orderly, and because every person was represented on the agenda several times daily, no one attempted to present themselves outside of the scope of the presentation. In regards to military intervention, while NATO stressed their belief in the United Nations Charter, they also reserved the right to respond militarily in collective self-defense, as stated in Articles 51 and 54 of the UN Charter, if it identifies a grave violation of international law and/or a threat to the Alliance. They reaffirmed that political and economic sanctions should be given a chance to work in all but the most grievous situations.

While NATO originally set peace-building as the second topic, they tabled that issue and moved on to unconventional threats. They focused on weapons of mass destruction, terrorism, particularly terrorist attacks against information systems, and the destabilizing effects of international crime rings, in particular drug smuggling and sales, on the political, social, and economic levels. NATO called for implementation and compliance with existing international treaties and conventions. NATO also stressed that it would improve co-operation and information exchanges between NATO Member States, as well as facilitate more peaceful and productive relations with neighboring non-Member States, including those in the Middle East, regarding terrorists' activities.

NATO returned to the topic of peace building in Europe. They released a statement outlining its policy on the issue, stating that peace building was certainly not just a job for NATO, but needed to be a co-operative partnership with regional organizations such as the European Union, wherein they pledged not to interfere with other regional organizations whose expertise lies in peace building.

Finally I can say that I enjoyed this kind of different educational experience. It was fun to be granted the power of decision whether to allow the interruption of formal session or to ask for more speakers to be heard in order to enhance the flow of discussion. I was thrilled by the high amount of respect I received from the Delegates! In all, I can recommend the participants to the following Delegations to apply for the position of Chair or Rapporteur, especially when having two persons sit in the same committee.

Verena Loch



Cheering for NATO: Verena Loch.



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Republic of Lithuania (1995)

Syrian Arab Republic (1996)

Kingdom of Norway (1997)

Republic of South Africa (1998), Award „Honorable Mention“

The People's Republic of Bangladesh (1999)

The Republic of Turkey (2000), Award „Honorable Mention“

The Argentine Republic (2001)

The Republic of Poland (2002)

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INFORMATION OF THE BERLIN-BRANDENBURG CHAPTER OF
THE
GERMAN UNITED NATIONS ASSOCIATION

***National Model United Nations
2001***

***Report of the Freie Universität Berlin, representing the
Argentine Republic, 5 – 15 April 2001, New York***

published by

Philipp Jornitz
and
Peggy Wittke

on behalf of the Berlin-Brandenburg Chapter
of the German United Nations Association