



HiMUN Observer

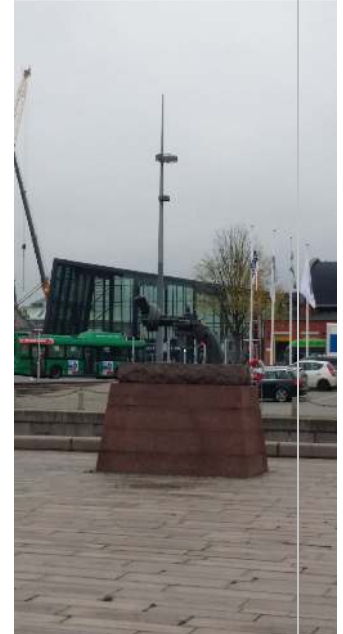
The Hildesheimer Delegation to MUNOM 2014

November 20th to November 23th 2014

7 Delegates of the University of Hildesheim participated in MUNOM 2014 at Malmö Högskola (University of Malmö) and represented the UN member states Belgium, Russia, Turkey and USA in a simulated Security Council, DISEC and SOCHUM Meeting from 20th to 24th June 2014.

The topics to be discussed at MUNOM acutely mirrored the current crisis in Israel/Palestine: due to its re-emerged importance to World Politics, the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict had been selected as the guiding scenario of the conference this year. The second MUNOM in cooperation with the Foreign Affairs Association of Malmö, welcomed more than a hundred delegates from different scientific disciplines and European universities.

The organisers of MUNOM 2014, amongst them former HiMUN-delegate Theresa Kresse, now Secretary General of MUNOM 2014, highlighted not only the importance of profound knowledge in the topic areas, but also the importance of the diplomatic and social aspect, that plays a tremendous part in the outcome of negotiations at MUNOM. The social events, such as delegates' dinners and the Saturday evening event 'Delegate Dance' at Tangopalaset, Malmö provided the participants with a festive air to continue diplomatic conduct after the days' committee proceedings.



Top left: The Hildesheimer MUNOM Delegation 2014

Bottom left: The venue of the MUNOM 2014 Opening Ceremony, City Hall of Malmö

Right: The Non-Violence Sculpture of Swedish artist Carl Fredrik Reuterswärd, Bagers Plats, Malmö

Opening Ceremony of MUNOM 2014

The opening lectures of MUNOM 2014 in Knutssalen at Malmö City Hall were held by Anders Forsberg and Anders Persson and discussed the current crisis in Gaza and its repercussions for the Middle East, as well as the international community.

Anders Forsberg, human rights activist with EAPPI (Ecumenical Accompaniment Programme in Palestine and Israel) has been monitoring and reporting human rights abuses in the occupied territories and acted with protective presence in vulnerable communities and areas. His speech connected issues of illegal Israeli settlements, restrictions of access for Palestinians to city areas and places of worship as well as questions of rule of law with parallel legal systems for Israelis and Palestinians.

Anders Persson, Professor at the University of Lund, focused on the historical background of the conflict and political factors, which shape coalitions and interests in a geostrategically crucial region for scholars of international politics. Taking into account the acknowledgement of the State of Palestine by a number of European countries, such as Sweden, Spain and the United Kingdom, as well as the recent conflict dimensions in Syria, Lebanon and Iraq, Persson characterized state formation in the Middle East as a violent process with changing and permeable borders.

With officials statements from MUNOM's 2014 Presidents Geert de Vries and Katrina Mertz, this year's Secretary General Theresa Kresse declared the official opening of MUNOM 2014.

Editorial

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HIMUN Observer

The United Nations at Work – Soundbites from MUNOM 2014

The Delegation of the Russian Federation, Security Council:

The Russian Federation starts with this opening speech - "In the years between 1948 and 2009 more than 14.000 people have been killed and it is possibly already too late to find a solution!"

Everyone was concerned about our position - "UK is very concerned about your position, we please you to speak."

The Russian Federation thanks all states in the Security Council - "The Russian Federation is very pleased about the attention of the other states."

The Delegation of Turkey, SOCHUM:

We, Turkey, support the ceasefire in this region and continue to provide humanitarian assistance to the Palestinian people in Gaza.

Aileen Bolling, Chair SOCHUM:

The delegations in SOCHUM have dealt with humanitarian responsibilities with regard to internally displaced people in ceasefire in the Gaza strip. The Presidency of the committee welcomes the high and passionate engagement of delegates discussing that issue. The social and humanitarian norms of SOCHUM have been at the heart of discussions. The call for working towards the establishment of a legal regime for IDPs is certainly one of the main achievements of the committee, thus exemplifying the interdependence of humanitarian and security related issues. The role policy actors in the political systems of Israel and Palestine were mirrored by the policy issues of freedom and security, detailing the need to realize the two paradigms of human security (freedom from fear and freedom from want) not just on paper but on the ground for the most vulnerable members of society.

The Delegation of the United States of America, DISEC:

- 1) The United Nations of America consider that the resolutions contribute a positive effect for the surviving population in the Gaza Strip.
- 2) The extension of the contracts in relation to disable the arms trade, contains the main objective to strengthen the civil defense and limiting the arms trade.
- 3) The aim of the concerted resolutions based largely on human rights.

The Delegation of Belgium, DISEC:

Land mines are a topic that should be given the highest priority, since people die every day from mine-related causes. Belgium has set itself the task of supporting any organisation, which helps improving the technical standards and methods detecting and destroying mines. We highly appreciate all countries to follow our vision and aims to make a better world without any injuries or fatalities caused by mines.

Let's all have a wise purpose here!

The Delegates' Experiences

Yasmine Boumahdi, representing Turkey:

MUNOM 2014 was a great experience for me and I'm looking forward to the next one. "The only source of knowledge is experience." (Albert Einstein)

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Max Engelking, representing Russia:

First time Model United Nations + representing Russia = personal challenge.

Model United Nations is the best way to make contact with different people from all over the world. At the beginning I felt a bit uneasy, because there were many questions in my head like "English all the time, is that possible?" or "Is it possible to represent such a powerful state - the Russian Federation?". But after closing ceremony, I was really sure about answers to that questions - YES it is possible. My motivation for being a part of MUNOM 2014 was to experience politics first-hand. In a seminar at university you only talk about 'how it works', but you don't try it and MUNOM 2014 was a chance to witness all aspects of the United Nations.

Mareike Jacobi, representing Belgium:

Since it has been my first MUN, I can only say that the whole event was pretty amazing. Not only that I got to know so many people from different cultures, but also the conference itself, which has been magnificent.

It was interesting to see how resolutions were developed in fruitful and productive debates. One could believe that we were really working out a paper, which could be used in real life, improving and defusing the critical situation in Palestine. Thanks MUN for this unforgettable experience!

Lara Kujawa, representing USA:

I found the atmosphere on the Model of the United Nations in Malmö very friendly. It was a great experience.

Sandy Anna Stachulski, representing USA:

The excursion to Malmö was very exciting. I can take a lot of new evidence emerges and the UN Simulation was a new and successful learning process.