

25th  
DSAMUN  
Conference  
21.  
October  
2022



# Fly Me To The MUN



GAMES  
For the  
real  
players

## TWILIGHT: New MUN

(you can watch them, or not... up to you. But trust our out of this world movie taste)

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# welcome to the POST-PANDEMIC WORLD!



After COVID-19 was declared a global health emergency on January 30th 2020, the whole world's reality changed. Authentic social interactions were replaced by digital ones. Lockdowns, school closures, devastated industries and millions of job losses became parts of our everyday life. And while the pandemic restrictions were having economic and social impacts worldwide, the COVID-19 deaths and new cases were increasing. However, we managed to survive this crisis. Now the question is what our next steps will be. Questions like this one will be answered by the delegates in the 25th session of the Deutsche Schule Athen Model United Nations Conference.

Nevertheless, not all problems are solved. Even though we fought against the pandemic, many more issues prevailed: the start of the war between Ukraine and Russia, the death of the Iranian woman Mahsa Amini who was detained by the morality police and the far right Italian party that won the elections in September. There's been some human behavioral change caused by the COVID-19 crisis. Another problem is the huge wealth gap between the government and the citizens. But people don't stay quite in front of those social and economic issues. They're raising their voices in protests like the one in Sri Lanka or the other in Iran.

These previously mentioned issues aren't just topics of this year's MUN. They're parts of our reality. And by discussing them we become informed and active citizens.



**WELCOME EVERYONE !!!**

**Your Beloved PRESS TEAM <3**

## Jason Patsatzis

My name is Jason Patsatzis, I am 17 and an 12th Grader at the German School of Athens, and I will have the utmost honor of serving as the Secretary General. I don't know how to really introduce myself, but here is a go at it: I like helping, living life, and most importantly doing something that has some impact. I would say I am a man of simplicity, to be honest I just enjoy good company and people I can have fun with (shout out to the rest of the sec). In the last 4 years of MUN I have seen great change not only in myself but also the ones around me; however, most notably it has helped me understand what I wanted to do in my life and the kind of person I wanted to be.

Model United Nations may seem like just an extracurricular activity for some; however, for others it goes way beyond, it even goes beyond the premise and essence of MUN. MUN is not about the people you meet or the conferences you attend, it is about the way you perceive things and the way you influence others. Since the DSAMUN is the

first live conference after the pandemic, the post pandemic is a truly relevant theme. For the last years we were bombarded with information regarding covid, however did we truly take a second to look around us? Well, that is the issue, this is what we want delegates to see. There are far more issues than what meets the eye.



## MEET YOUR SECRETARIAT !!!



## Chrysanthi Dellas-Grivas

Dear everyone!

My name is Chrysanthi Dellas-Grivas and I am a 17 year old student at the German School of Athens (DSA). I will have the utmost honor of serving as the President of the General Assembly in the 25<sup>th</sup> Deutsche Schule Athen Model United Nations Conference.

I am a 12<sup>th</sup> grade student at the German School of Athens and I have been participating in MUN for five years now. Having attended 15 conferences so far as a delegate, judge advocate, chair and Secretariat Member, I can say with confidence that MUN is one of the most unique extracurricular activities a highschool student can undertake. It makes young people politically educated about ongoing or even past issues of the world, whilst trying to find realistic solutions. In addition, one can make new friends from all around the world with similar interests.

Personally, MUN has helped me become the person I am today. My public speaking skills, as well as my knowledge of current affairs have improved immensely due to MUN. It has offered me the opportunity to meet new people from all over the world and to travel to various conferences with my friends.

## Alice Alifragi

My name is Alice Alifragi, and I have the utmost honour of serving as the Deputy Secretary

General in the 25th DSAMUN! I am 17 years old and attend the 12th grade of the German School of Athens. I'm working towards studying architecture, preferably in Berlin, once I finish school. I have been committed to MUN for nearly 5 years now, and I'm more than just excited to be a Secretariat Member after all those years of hard work, but also amazing memories.



## Erika Kunstmann

Dear all,

My name is Erika Kunstmann and I will be serving as the Deputy President of the General Assembly in this year's DSAMUN Conference.

My MUN journey started in September of 2018 and one month later I was a delegate in Action paper 1. After DSAMUN I fell in love with it and I can proudly say that joining the MUN club has been one of the best choices I have done so far. I've made so many great memories through MUN and to finally achieve my dream of being in the Secretariat with some of my closest friends is more than I could ever ask for.

MUN holds a very special place in my heart as it was the first time I felt like myself and was not scared to express myself freely. I want to emit this feeling to every person joining this year's DSAMUN conference; either as a newcomer or as a veteran.

I am looking forward to meeting you all in October, have fun debates and make good memories and of course, most importantly, welcome you all to our MUN family.



## Vassilis Trantalis

My name is Vassilis Trantalis and I am an IB2 student at Platon School. In this year's DSAMUN conference, I have the utmost pleasure of serving as a Deputy Secretary General, a position I was eager to eventually get since 2020.

My participation in MUN dates back to CGSMUN 2019, one of the last live conferences before the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic. This year, the 25th DSAMUN has decided to focus on the time period since then, investigate the impacts of COVID to the Post-Pandemic World and find solutions to them.

Overall, MUN has created a platform where students can socialize, develop their skills and learn about current affairs. The welcoming nature of this community is what, to me, MUN stands out for. During these three days, we are going to make sure all participants enjoy their time in the school's premises and create an experience unforgettable for all.



# HELLO!

# Revisiting Afghanistan

How does it fare one year after the Taliban takeover?

(by Ioannis Sigalas)

When the Taliban captured Kabul in August 2021, many people in Afghanistan believed that this would be a new era for their impoverished and divided country. They hoped that the Taliban had genuinely changed from a group of fanatic Islamic terrorists to a group capable of not only running Afghanistan, but doing so whilst also respecting women's rights, giving amnesty to people who had previously worked with the west and, most importantly, saving the economy.

Now, one year after the incident, even the most hopeful of people must admit that their beliefs were misplaced. It is no secret that the Taliban have failed or flat-out refused to execute the policies they promised when they took power. But just how bad is the situation in Afghanistan, how does it compare to before the Taliban takeover and what can be done by the international community to influence and hopefully improve the current situation in the country?

Currently, the situation in the country is concerning, even by its own standards, with the economy taking an especially hard hit. Ever since the Taliban takeover, the nation's economy, which was already struggling before, suffering from severe drought, the COVID-19 pandemic and declining confidence in the previous government, has worsened once again. The main reasons for this, are the almost complete draining of civilian and security aid, which had comprised up to 40% of Afghanistan's GDP, as well as economic sanctions, the freezing of Afghanistan's foreign exchange reserves and foreign banks' reluctance to do business with the country. As stated by William Bryd, of the United States Institute of Peace: "No country in the world could have absorbed such an enormous economic shock", and especially not one whose economy was in a shape as bad as Afghanistan's.

But the situation is not just distressing on paper. Millions of Afghan people are directly impacted by their country's imploding economy. Almost 20 million people, comprising half of the population of the nation, are currently suffering of either level 3 "Acute food insecurity" or level 4 "Humanitarian emergency" levels of food insecurity, according to the assessment system of the World Food Program, with some provinces, like Ghor, which is located in central northwest Afghanistan, even reporting level 5 "Famine", meaning that there is quote "a complete lack of access to food and other basic needs".



Mother with her daughter in a malnutrition ward in Ghor

Although fixing the economy was one of the main promises made by the Taliban, and certainly the one that was deemed most important by the people in the country itself, it is important not to overlook the others. Especially their promise of respecting women's rights, (be it in compliance with Shariah law) is one that directly affects almost 50 percent of the population.

Considering the headlines that have come out of Afghanistan since that fateful day in August 2021, it might not surprise many, that the situation for women in the country has worsened significantly. It started with the Taliban effectively eliminating women's right to political participation and power, by banning them from holding government positions. Then, girls were forbidden from attending school past the sixth grade, and as if that wasn't enough, they were barred from working most jobs outside the house. The violations of women's basic human rights continue, and even worsen from day to day. In May of this year, the Taliban decreed that all women must cover their faces almost completely with a niqab when going out in public and must not leave their homes unless in cases of necessity. In the same speech it was also announced that women would be banned from long distance travel without a male supervisor.





## Domestic abuse and femicide: The Shadow Pandemic

- by Eleni Gouma

Throughout the years women had to fight for basic human rights, such as the right to vote, to be able to work or to have access to education. And even though these fights were successful, women's rights are still restricted in the 21st century in countries like India, Ecuador or Saudi Arabia.

While the world's attention is focused on restraining the transmission of the COVID-19 virus, this other "curse" is growing, exacerbated by the very measures put in place to contain the virus. The violence against women and girls is a widespread problem that occurs in the form of domestic abuse or even femicide. The COVID-19 pandemic has intensified this phenomenon and that's why a lot of people are calling it "the shadow pandemic". From the start of the year 2021, Greek media has reported female victims being killed, with many of their arrested partners reportedly confessing to the murders. It's not just the increase of murders that's concerning, but also the fact that the numbers are mostly capturing women and girls who are being murdered.

Why have domestic abuse and femicide been rising since the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic? The lockdowns and stay-at-home orders have negatively influenced the dynamics and stresses at home. However, these orders did not affect men with a non-violent history. It's most likely that the restrictions exacerbated the violence and bad treatment that some women and children had already been living with. The lockdowns limited their options in terms of dealing with the violence like they may have done before the pandemic. Gender equality plays also a big role. Violence against women is rooted in the misogynistic values that are a product of a patriarchal society. Let's not forget that the definition of femicide is no other than "the murder of a woman because she's a woman".

Governments around the world have a responsi-

bility to protect women's rights of freedom and life. Still to this day there's no definition of femicide in the Greek Criminal Code. By creating and enforcing laws that protect women from violence and discrimination, the oppression and violence that women are experiencing could increase. Nevertheless, the violence against women and girls was a pandemic long before the outbreak of COVID-19. While the pandemic has changed the dynamics of domestic violence in some ways, the underlying causes, the experiences, consequences and solution of this problem have not changed significantly. Female empowerment and the re-education of both men and women about the gender discriminations that women have to deal with in our societies are some important measures that need to be taken in order to end the decreasing violence against women and girls. That's how we'll prevent new cases of femicide in a global level.

*"A free woman is a woman who has no fear of being overpowered or controlled."*



pixastock.com - 77978709

### Some fast facts about domestic abuse:

- Most domestic violence incidents are never reported
- 1 in 4 women will experience domestic violence during her lifetime
- Every year, 1 in 3 women who is a victim of homicide is murdered by her current or former partner
- Every 9 seconds, a woman is assaulted or beaten in the U.S.
- Every year, more than 3 million children witness domestic violence in their homes

# Greece ran exclusively on renewable energy for the first time- why didn't I know? - by Heidi Tzovanis

Greece has the perfect environment for renewable energy sources, the country has superb wind resources, a wealth of geothermal resources, and a long-term legislative framework, ensuring investment reliability in biomass and biofuels. Despite the great opportunities, renewable sources of energy only accounted for about 29 per cent of energy production in 2021. The plan according to the NPEC is that renewable energy sources will be the main source by 2030 (about 65%)

The PPC (Public Power Corporation) in Greece has fought hard to maintain Coal as the main power source, leaving electricity production in the hands of private corporations.

This is exactly why last week's news shocked the world. For the first time in history, on October 7th, renewable energy accounted for 100% of power generation, for about 5 hours. an amazing step in the right direction. The plan is to have 25 gigawatts, instead of the current 10 installed by 2030.

Many Greek citizens, including myself, ask themselves: Why didn't I hear about this sooner? And why did I read it in international news? This is amazing news and has not gotten the coverage it deserves. Even some of the biggest news channels have not reported on it.

Is it because Greek news focuses on negative, even gruesome news that generates high numbers? The country's mass media have the highest rate of distrust and bias, making the internet the most popular news source.

Is it maybe a matter of interest? As mentioned before, the private sector of energy production has fought to keep Coal the Number one way of producing electricity. Will the proof of the possibility of a greener future harm them? Due to the war in Ukraine, the shift has become even harder, but it may just be the push Greece needs to rely more on renewable sources and for once to take advantage of the opportunities its geographical location and natural resources present

Generally, it is of utmost importance to inform the masses correctly and objectively about every single important step towards a greener, healthier, and even livable future. This way the media can play a crucial role in saving our only home, Earth.



# TWILIGHT: New MUN

by Ariadne Giavridis

(you can watch them, or not... up to you. But trust our out of this world movie taste)



Dear MUN-ers,

**Our three-issue long movie journey begins here today. This section of our paper is aptly titled:**

**My first pick I'll justify with the commencement of spooky season (to try and hide a certain trend you'll start to notice through the progressment of the movies I picked...) and that is none other than Kinji Fukasaku's masterpiece:**

## “Battle Royale”

**2000 - Action/Thriller - 2h 2m**

Put together with remarkable confidence and flair, its steely candour, and weird, passionate urgency make it a most compelling cinematic work.



## The plot?

*Some time in the future, Japan suffers from unparalleled criminal activity and economic downturn. Young people, in particular, are out of control. So the embattled government passes the Battle Royale Act: a piece of legislation which means that a group of students are forcibly marooned together on an island, and forced to kill each other until one survivor is left, in what is a kind of Japanese hunger games (minus the Hemsworth Brother and Effys iconic outfits).*

Essentially, it's a movie about violence and the state: how the state reacts to it, and how it endorses retaliatory violence of its own. It posits the fictional conceit of a violent game being at once the safety-valve for endemic violence and a violent response on the part of the government, an act of capital punishment, arbitrarily decided upon and sub-contracted to its victims by the state: they have to kill and terrify each other.

Japanese cinema has given us some brilliantly violent parables of cultural malaise - from the survivors of a bus hijacking in Shinji Aoyama's "Eureka", to the sadistic fetish-princess of Takashi Miike's "Audition". But neither has the effrontery and the sheer outrageousness of this extraordi-

nary machine-tooled piece of provocation from director Kinji Fukasaku.

It's a futuristic nightmare, a satirical vision of Japan's fear and horror of its recalcitrant, disorderly younger generation...a pulp-sploitation shocker with guns, knives, blood and school uniforms. But what it is most of all is a dying breed of a movie. Because one key aspect that characterizes it is precisely this...it's violent: very, very violent...the kind of violence which is not ironized in the manner we have become accustomed to in the past 10 years, but presented in an eerily formal melodrama complete with stately, Kubrickian passages of pop classics on the soundtrack.

The core premise: kill your friends, your classmates to survive; paired with rampant emotions, fears and paranoia that spreads within you like a virus. The end result is a proficient piece of action film-making, plunging us into a world of delirium. Even in light of such a life or death scenario, paradoxically, the film explores the more subtle back-stories of the friendships, attractions, crushes and unrequited loves that emerge in this crucible of anxiety. Amidst the hail of bullets and the queasy gouts of blood, troubling narratives of yearning and sadness are played out. It is as if the violence of Battle Royale is not a satire of society at all, but simply a metaphor for the anguish of adolescent existence: a subject routinely sentimentalized or made the subject of nostalgic comedy, but here evoked with the unanaesthetised pain with which it is actually experienced at the time.

Some will find the explicit violence of this movie repulsive - or plain boring. But this is a film put together with remarkable ambition and even served as inspiration for cinema in the years to come (most notably Quentin Tarantino's Kill Bill).

## TODAYS PICK of movie characters that would make great MUNers

**Kat Stratford - 10 Things I hate about you**



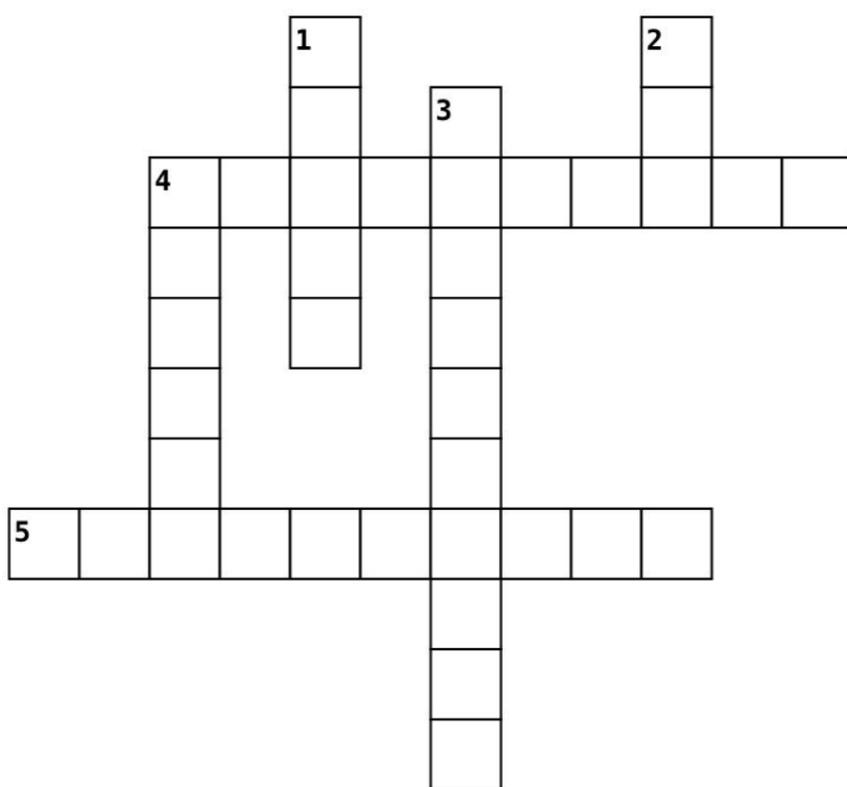
Why She statis-

"you suck" would be enough to humiliate anyone asking a pointless POI. If all that fails she'll slap you with one of her feminist literature books.

you ask? doesn't even require

tics..one eye roll or

	1	9			7			
5				8			6	
4		2	5					
		3			4			
				2			1	
	5			4			3	



**Across**

- 4. The DSA is celebrating the 25th...
- 5. not everyone is satisfied or proud of the ... of the conference

**Down**

- 1. MUNey MUNey MUNey must be...
- 2. Fly me to the?
- 3. dating but elegant
- 4. usually you sit on them