

March 18, 2022

JMUN EXPRESS

Official Newspaper of the Official Hisar JMUN

ENDORISING ACCOUNTABILITY: RE-APPROACHING NEGLECTED URGENCIES

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The Opening Ceremony

LAL ACAR

Today, with the 16th annual Opening Ceremony of the JMUN, the conference was officially declared to be open. The ceremony began with an introductory speech from Madame President of the General Assembly, Damla Karabay. To kick off the event, Karabay started with her notes on this year's theme: Endorsing Accountability: Re-approaching Neglected Urgencies. She drew attention to how the global challenges we face today are mainly caused by neglect in the international field. Another point she made was that this year's conference, with 20 committees and over 700 participants, would be the largest one held by Hisar Schools yet.

Afterward, Madame Secretary-General, Zeynep Büyükyazgan, also added her views and opinions on this year's conference. She spoke about her faith in the organization team and how she hopes that the conference will grow to an even bigger scale in the upcoming years. Büyükyazgan also spoke of how she hopes the participants will benefit from the experience. She highlighted how the JMUN aims to improve students' confidence, debating skills, and awareness as well as their knowledge of the international field.

As the introduction wrapped up, the audience saw the keynote speaker of the ceremony, Nasimi Aghayev, on the screen. Mr. Aghayev is an esteemed diplomat and the Consul General of Azerbaijan in Los Angeles. he is an expert on international relations and believes that upholding international law and making sure it is abided by should be the first goal of any global organization.

Our keynote speaker, first of all, talked about the history of the founding of the UN. He described the conditions after World War II, which paved the way for a new and better League of Nations, the forefather of the UN. He spoke about the losses the world suffered during and after WWII, which were the deciding factors in determining the function and purpose of the UN: using peaceful means in international affairs, protecting international peace and security. After the UN was established, he said, there was an era of unprecedented peace, The Long Peace. The number of wars decreased exponentially and people all over the world suddenly took a stand against violence. Mr. Aghayev mentioned that 7 important reasons could explain the era of peace continued uninterrupted: nuclear deterrence, economic growth for all countries, decreased poverty, higher quality education for children, a new focus on human rights, and the start of political media steered by individuals to call attention to important issues.

Mr. Aghayev concluded his speech with notes on "territorial integrity," claiming that peace between countries was based on their right and claim over their borders. He gave an example of a breach in Azerbaijan from over 30 years ago and how the UN wasn't able to do anything about it. "The UN allowed violence only in the name of self-defense, and with limitations, even then. If the founders of this principle violate it themselves, the whole system will be in danger of a great collapse." He finished his speech with how the UN must evolve beyond the past to achieve its former glory and influence. There are many challenges we face today, he added, climate change and the pandemic are only two examples, but no one country could be able to meet these challenges by itself. That's why the UN, and therefore MUN and JMUN are vital in solving these issues in the future if need be.

It was inspiring to hear our keynote speaker narrate in detail how the UN came to be, what its purpose was and how it evolved over the years. His speech ended with the conclusion that better education is the key to aware, equipped world citizens, like the ones JMUN hopes to create. We thank Mr. Aghayev for his speech and for all he has done for the world in his career.

And so, Hisar JMUN'22 begins.

Interview with the SG (Zeynep Büyükyazgan)

LAL ACAR

Lal Acar: How long have you been participating in the JMUN?

Zeynep Büyükyazgan: Since fifth grade. I began as an admin, and if I remember correctly I was the admin of the Health Committee.

LA: How did you first start JMUN? Do you remember what inspired you to join?

ZB: Yes. When I was in kindergarten I was enrolled in an American international school in Hungary, Budapest and I really enjoyed being around people who were from around the world. That was something I really enjoyed and craved when I came back to Turkey. So, when I saw what MUN was, at the time, I was inspired because when we were holding physical conferences there really were people coming from around the world and everyone was united to discuss topics that involved every world citizen. My experiences in kindergarten and learning about the idea of MUN really inspired me to take this track.

LA: What is your favorite aspect of the JMUN?

ZB: My favorite aspect of the JMUN is that it's a Junior Model United Nations. So we can say that it is for "early bloomers," students eager to begin their MUN journey as soon as possible. There wasn't a Junior MUN Before Hisar JMUN and I guess that's the aspect I love the most. It's the very fact that it centers middle schoolers and creates this bridge between real world problems and young individuals who are eager to make a change.

LA: How has the JMUN changed over the years? Is it always the same or does it change from year to year?

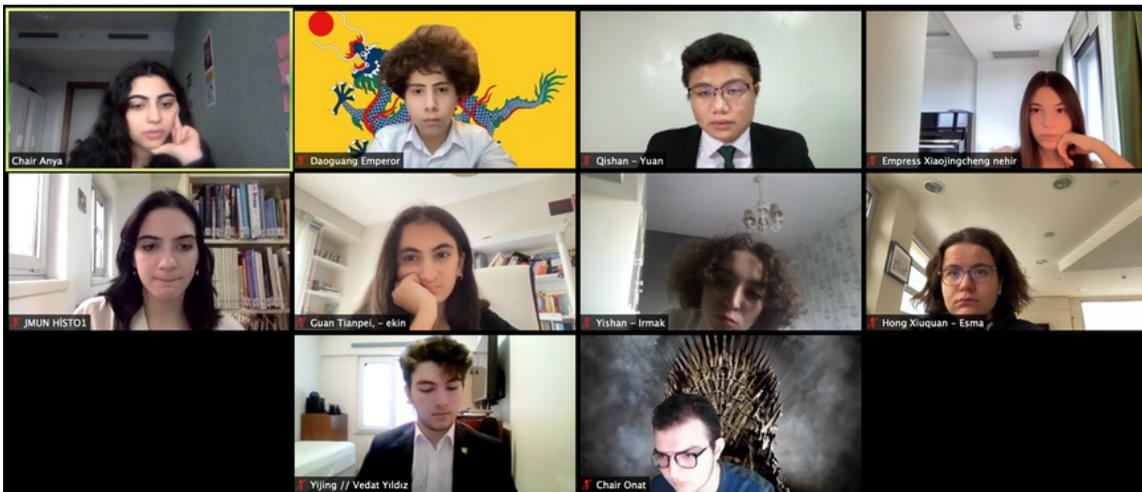
ZB: It's never the same from year to year. For example, this year, we did our best to be completely paperless. We now have a Crisis Committee, which we didn't have before, and also we have a brand new committee in this conference, The Historical Security Council.

LA: Do you have any notes on this year's theme? What about it do you think makes it important?

ZB: That's a really good question. The reason why we chose this theme, Endorsing Accountability: Re-approaching Neglected Urgencies, is because, for example, we all heard about the wildfires in Turkey. What the problem was was that we didn't have the infrastructure necessary to combat these fires immediately, and that's why these wildfires reached an extent we could not have overcome easily. This also applies to the COVID-19 pandemic as well. Pandemics have been happening for centuries, so we can call it a recurring event. But, again, we weren't ready for the strike, so, at first, COVID began as an epidemic and soon grew to become a pandemic. Of course we should not be too attached to the past but these events once again showed us that history repeats itself once in a while. Sometimes we have to look into the past and search for a root cause to resolve a future problem.

LA: Do you have any notes or advice for the participants of this year's JMUN?

ZB: Yes! So, I know that JMUN can be tough, I can personally say that I was extremely, extremely anxious during my first conference. I shed a couple of tears after accepting my first point of information. That's true, I did. But, it gets easier. Practice really does make perfect. As delegates participate more and more, it gets easier each time. But, like I said, I do know that the first step looks like a giant leap but I can promise that once you take that leap, everything becomes much more enjoyable. In fact, I met one of my best friends during JMUN while not passing and answering their points, and I think every delegate attending this conference can too. So take the leap, give your first speech, and make the most out of this conference!



Transparency and Legitimacy in governments

DEFNE DEDEHAYIR

Honesty, reliability and openness are three words that define a legitimate and transparent government. Transparency is the idea that governments are blatant and open to citizens about their decision-making processes. Legitimacy in governments means that a government is being completely honest and not sharing any false information with their citizens or other countries. This type of government also respects its citizens' opinion and cares about fulfilling their wishes.

Transparency is key to eliminating corruption. Since corruption plays a large role in threatening good governance, it seems that the only way to have decent governance is to eradicate corruption. With this information it can be seen that having a transparent and legitimate government is extremely important if a corruption-free government is desired. While transparency and legitimacy is exceedingly important, they are also two factors that almost all governments lack. However, if there was a government that could be described as transparent and legitimate, there would be a huge difference between that government and those that are not transparent and legitimate. For example most countries are not very transparent about their military. Governments prefer not to expose what their military is doing to other countries. This is due to the fact that even though legitimacy and transparency is often a good quality for a government, it can also do damage if it is shown too much. Especially if they share too much information with other countries, what they do may come forward as a threat to them and this might even result in war. However an illegitimate government can also have dire consequences. For example if a government keeps too much information from its citizens and from other countries about what their military is doing and if anyone finds out about it, this can also result in war as well. Overall, it is good for a government to have transparency and legitimacy but only to a certain extent.

When governments start to lose their legitimacy and start to neglect protests it shows that they do not allow their people to voice their thoughts and opinions and this can be seen as dictatorship for it is very important to respect and listen to what their people have to say about the country's form of government. Neglecting protests also means neglecting the people of their country and this means starting to tend towards dictatorship. The reason why most governments ignore protests is because often protests result in governments losing their power. Other than ignoring protests and not letting their people voice their opinions, a government may also lose its legitimacy and transparency. This means that the government is also losing its reliability and integrity. The loss of transparency and legitimacy may be due to a government doing illegal business and this may result in the government having a bad relationship with its people.

Overall, transparency and legitimacy are very important qualities a government should have because they eliminate corruption, however no government can truly be transparent and legitimate because in some cases it is better not to be.

Money Laundering

ZEYNEP İŞERİ

Money laundering is an illegal activity which can be briefly defined as the transfer or conversion of possessions that are known to be the product of any sort of offense. This conversion of possessions may be a result of the effort to conceal and cover up the source or/and the people who participated in the illegal achievement of these possessions. Money laundering in today's world is known to be an alarming threat to businesses, economies and society in general as it jeopardizes the integrity of many organizations who were a victim of money laundering, causes criminal activity and organized crime to continue and keeps the money obtained from illegal pursuits protected. According to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the amount of money laundered each year is approximately 2 to 5% of the world's GDP, which translates to 800 billion to 2 trillion dollars which isn't a number to underestimate. As it is a problem that is arising and significant, it is crucial to convey what is being done about money laundering and why it is still common and discreet.

In between August 31 and September 2, 2015, the United Nations held a conference of State parties for the United Nations Convention against Corruption in Vienna. In this conference money laundering and ways to prevent it was one of the main topics discussed. Turkey, for example, talked about the money laundering problems that surfaces with not having a secure communication with corporations and how they overcame it by "improving its information technology systems and capacities. This in turn improved managerial capacity, allowing for uninterrupted service, easier management and the efficient use of resources." (Report by the Secretariat). Although United Nations and State parties are making an effort to stop money laundering, this problem still is concerning and still is here. The main reasons for this recurring issue is that money laundering is a newly seen crime opposed to other offenses and that the internet growth played a huge role in expanding money laundering ways. As an example; money laundering wasn't written as illegal until 1986 in the United States, 1994 in the UK and 1996 in Turkey. With this data it can be obtained that money laundering is an issue that only began to be dealt with in recent times. Therefore, it can be said that money laundering still exists in big frames due to the amount of time that this issue was on the surface. An example that can be given to the addition of the internet growth is the use of cryptocurrencies in money laundering. According to the data obtained from the U.S. Financial Crimes Enforcement Network (FinCEN) in June 2021, cryptocurrencies has become one of the main ways money laundering occurs. As cryptocurrencies are a topic that again is newly emerged to the public eye, ways to deal with it are also in process. On that account, it can be said that even though the United Nations is fighting money laundering and taking it to a matter, it is still an arising problem as it is still being discovered and taught.

What can be done is still a very significant question to uphold and it can be answered by saying money laundering needs to be adjusted and dealt with in a modern way as it is a modern issue that is being done in progressed and modern ways. This problem needs to be solved by learning more about it, investigating the roots of the issue and the newly discovered ways it is being carried out such as the internet. Money laundering is a global issue that is challenging to handle but it is not impossible to stop with the right solutions.

PUZZLES

Easy

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

Hard

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

ARTICLES & WEBSITES

- **U.S. Government Accountability Office** - <https://www.gao.gov/>
- **Government Accountability in the Twenty-First Century** - <https://scholarship.law.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?referer=&httpsredir=1&article=1307&context=scholar>
- **Our Leaders are Ignoring Global Warming to the Point of Criminal Negligence. It's Unforgivable.** - <https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2019/apr/20/our-leaders-are-ignoring-global-warming-to-the-point-of-criminal-negligence-its-unforgivable>
- **How and Why Environmental Issues are Neglected** - <https://environment-review.yale.edu/how-and-why-environmental-issues-are-neglected-0>

Song From Our Prep-Video

Wake Me Up Before You Go-Go
Wham!

