

MOAS Newsletter

N° 3

29th Model OAS General Assembly for High Schools

Fear is the Highest Fence:

General Committee Round Up

Despite an exciting afternoon session of passing resolutions and debating on a variety of topics from



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education to music, one resolution stood out in the General Committee of the MOAS. It all began with John Hacking, delegate of the

United States, with a very debatable resolution attempting to prevent Islamophobia in the Americas. Hacking proposed the resolution to the General Committee, trying to put a stop to racial and religious profiling, specifically the racial profiling of Islamic people in the Americas. The delegate demonstrated the dire need for such a

resolution to be passed and communicated that other international organizations, such as the United Nations, had already taken action toward ending racism toward Muslims. This began an impassioned discussion on this controversial resolution. Following his ardent opening speech, questions arose about the validity of his resolution, including the enforcement of such a resolution.
(cont. on page 3)

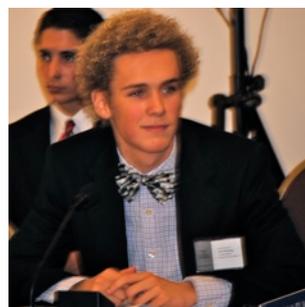
World Cup

Following a great deal of deliberation in Zurich, Switzerland, the executive committee of the Fédération Internationale de Football Association (FIFA) decided that Russia will host the 2018 FIFA World Cup, followed in 2022 by Qatar. Despite a passionate campaign to host this International soccer tournament, the United States' bid, including speeches by Morgan Freeman and Bill Clinton, was denied. This rejection greatly impacts the entirety of the Americas, due to the extremely large economic boost that comes with hosting such a global event. When the U.S. last hosted this tournament in 1994, the economic increase was well over 4 billion dollars. This event not only helped the economy of the United States, but led to an economic surge in Mexico, Canada, and several Central American nations. With a growing soccer fan base in the United States, it is to be expected that the economic benefits would be greater than ever. This, however, was not meant to be in 2022, and the United States, as many other nations, wait to make their case to play host in 2026.

Elections are Approaching!

With Next Year in Mind, Preview Vice-President Hopeful John Hacking

I had a chance to interview John Hacking, a junior at Springfield Township High School. John is running for Vice President for the 30th MOAS conference next year. As an aspiring VP, John hopes to make committees more welcome, "where delegates are not afraid to speak their mind." John feels that this is essential to diplomacy and democracy. While speaking with John, I noticed his Philadelphia Eagles bowtie and proceeded to ask him: what's up with the bowtie? John explains that his dad has been wearing them since he was young and that it "just caught on," when he was growing up. Not only would becoming VP be a personal benefit for John, but also an educational one. John is not exactly sure of a future career plan but he says "international diplomacy is something that I've always been interested in." Hacking ain't slacking!



2 Meet Your First and Second Committee Chairs

First Committee: Mason Sneed

AS: What is your name?

MS: Mason Sneed

AS: Where are you from?

MS: Midland High School in Texas

AS: What year in school are you?

MS: A senior.

AS: How do you think this MOAS has been going?

MS: I think that it has gone very smoothly so far.

AS: What has your favorite resolution been?



MS: My favorite resolution has been proposed by the delegations of Grenada and Panama. It suggested for a sharing of financial information, which would ultimately lead to a unification of the Americas that is free of fraud and corruption.

AS: What dance move are you going to display at the Gala tonight?

MS: I'm planning on teaching everyone how to Dougie tonight.

Anna Studenmund,
Layout Editor



Second Committee: Po-Ju Huang

AS: What is your name?

PH: Po-Ju Huang

AS: Where are you from?

PH: I am from A&M Consolidated High School in Texas

AS: What year in school are you?

PH: Senior

AS: How do you think this MOAS has been going?

PH: I think that it's been really, really great so far.

AS: What has your favorite resolution been?

PH: Probably the resolution that proposed to legalize the distribution of drugs.

AS: What dance move are you going to display at the Gala tonight?

PH: Whatever the girl requests :)

AS: Have there been any funny notes/incidents in committee yet?

PH: This year, we have continued the tradition of making friends with other delegations by presenting them with apple pies after the lunch break.



Your Committee Wrap Up:

Day One Afternoon and Day Two Morning Sessions

General Committee *Cont.*

Guatemala, Paraguay, and Chile, wondered whether this resolution would only affect the United States, and whether it was truly an issue for all of the member nations of the OAS. Hacking replied by stating that, though focusing on Islamaphobia, this resolution mentions the discrimination that comes from differences in all religions in the Americas.

During this exchange, other delegates agreed with Hacking and offered their words of support. A delegate from Argentina stated that racial and religious profiling, including the discrimination against Islam, occurs in every single member nation in response to concerns over relevance to all American nations. The delegations of Mexico and Columbia also voiced their backing for this resolution, affirming that despite the specificity of this resolution, it would take large steps toward the elimination of religious discrimination, as well as racial discrimination in the Americas. The delegates stated that this would help encourage the incorporation of the Islamic people, and all

minority religious and ethnic groups, to live as active participants in the American nations.

Delegate John Hacking also declared the importance of this resolution as a stepping stone to an American region free from discrimination to end the dialogue. "This resolution is not a cure-all, but merely the first step to eliminate discrimination in the Americas." In the end, the United States delegation, spearheaded by delegate John Hacking, was able to generate enough support for this resolution, as the resolution to prevent Islamaphobia in the Americas was passed with a vote of twenty-two delegates for, eight delegates against, and 1 delegate abstaining. Hopefully resolutions, such as this one, will lead not only to increased awareness and discussion of topics of religious and racial discrimination, but lead to changing the American nations into a more equal and unified hemisphere.



First Committee

After a delay in receiving the book, the first committee started to take a look at the available resolutions. First in the book was Resolution 1-3 proposed by the delegation of Haiti. This resolution requested rebuilding Haiti with the cooperation of member states. Its terms consisted of outreaching to companies for funds, calling upon the member states



to punish acts of corruption, and much more. As this was the longest resolution yet, it underwent much debate before it was passed with 24 in favor, 2 against, and 4 abstentions. Following this resolution, the next also had a positive outcome. Proposed by the delegation of Antigua and Barbuda, this resolution urged for the reevaluation of countries' own constitutions with the use of the Gini coefficient (the economic scale of equality or inequality in countries). of the Dominican Republic. (*cont. on page 4*)



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Your Committee Wrap Up:

Day One Afternoon and Day Two Morning Sessions Cont.

First Committee *Cont.*

Because the current drug trafficking situation has a direct association to political crisis, this resolution proposed attacking the problems of drug trafficking in the Americas by training the governments with generals/representatives from each country. This

would include fighting drug cartels, and ask for funding to fight drug trafficking. This was quite the controversial resolution. After the questioning list was extended 3 times, this resolution failed 4 to 19 with 1 abstention. Once again, first committee did not disappoint in a lack of debate; rather, it produced some great discussions on various resolutions.

Second Committee

To make up for delays in the first session, the second committee chairman got the second session started right away. Suriname presented their resolution, which was to schedule an annual hemispheric conference to be attended by a military representative from each country. All participating countries would contribute to funding the meeting. The issue was brought up by a delegation that some countries are more dominant than others when it comes to military size and power. To solve this problem, the Suriname delegation decided that all countries, no matter what their size, would be equally represented. Columbia argued that passing information at this conference could cause more conflict between countries, and Chile stated that they believed there was no substance to the resolution. Many other delegations spoke against the resolution as well. Only 7 voted in favor of the resolution, while

there were 17 against and 6 abstaining votes. Therefore, Suriname's resolution was not passed.

Ecuador had a similar resolution to Suriname's, but theirs was well thought out. Ecuador also proposed that the countries all work together and share information. But, their conference was more for the purpose of more powerful countries helping out the

struggling ones with policies and border patrolling methods, instead of just talking about the problems. This program would be funded by the GMP.

Paraguay, along with many other countries believed that this resolution provided a good place to start forming a plan to combat drugs everywhere.

Columbia however, couldn't have gone on more about the negative points of this resolution. Their incessant arguing against Ecuador's resolution proved to be for nothing because the resolution passed with 27 votes in favor, and only 3 against and 1 abstaining vote.



Meghan Smith
Staff Writer



Third Committee:

After a short caucus, the books arrived, roll was taken, and debate in Third Committee started right away. The first resolution concerned a construction code for buildings in order to prevent damage due to natural disasters, such as earthquakes, tsunamis and hurricanes. Its goal was to prevent as much damage as possible, but safety was a



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major component as well. After much debate, the vote results were 25 in favor and 6 against, meaning that the resolution passed. The second resolution proposed to give financial aid to countries in time of disasters. Within it there was a motion to have plans in time of emergency for safety. After a lot of debate and a lot of time extensions the delegates got around to voting and the resolution passed. (*cont. on page 5*)



Your Committee Wrap Up:

Day One Afternoon and Day Two Morning Sessions Cont.

Third Committee Cont.

The third resolution revolved around a warning system for aquatic natural disasters. The idea was for a system of sensors to give an early warning to countries in the tropics so they can prepare for the

imminent disaster. This warning system would give warnings for tsunamis, hurricanes and any other aquatic natural disaster. Venezuela, along with supporting delegations, debated well, and the resolution passed.

Fourth Committee

After caucusing quite some time, the second half of day one began. Fourth committee began with a resolution involving a reoccurring theme: the electoral observation mission. The resolution proposed to use funds to buy black light pens for voter identification cards. These black lights would prove ID cards are genuine and would help to legitimize elections by eliminating fraud. This technology was said to greatly help the nations because they would make voting transparent and more accurate. Holding a fair and honest election is always the goal of every member state. With a vote of 18 for, 10 against, and 1 abstention the resolution was passed.



Miranda Holt
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for electoral observation missions with the help of Hewlett Packard, or HP. Since HP is already an established partner of the OAS, the bill would help utilize the partnership

while simultaneously improving voter technologies. The funds provided by HP would help many member states and would be given to them as needed. A committee composed of both OAS and HP officials would organize and carry out the project. Even though the bill passed with a vote of 18 for, 6 against, and 4 abstentions, valid counter arguments were presented that brought up the fragile state of the economy and how companies may not be as generous as they have been in the past.

In addition, Mexico proposed a resolution that would provide financial and technological resources

Your Daily Horoscopes:

Aries: Take a trip into Chinatown and expand your cultural knowledge. Try going to the Wok and Roll Restaurant: you're sure to enjoy it! Lucky number: 6

Taurus: Get ready to get your groove on at the Gala tonight. Remember, always stretch before doing any intensive physical activity (we're taking about salsa, of course). Lucky number: 1

Gemini: Beware your next trip to Cosi – don't risk going through those back alleyways to save yourself time. Take the long way; enjoy the sights of DC. Lucky number: 0

Cancer: We know that the highlight of your day is reading these newsletters. Come up to the pressroom sometime if you'd like to see behind the scenes (room 675). Lucky number: 7

Leo: Even though you're disappointed that the US didn't get the 2022 World Cup bid, don't let that affect your dancing shoes tonight. Lucky number: 3

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Your Daily Horoscopes *Cont.*

Virgo: Ladies: even though your feet may be killing you from those heels, remember that pain is beauty. And guys, don't be afraid to relax in committee, and loosen those ties up. Lucky number: 1

Libra: The elections are coming up, and you've been noticing a classy young man sporting a bow tie in committee. Don't be afraid to show your support and vote for him! Lucky number: 8

Scorpio: Even though you're super excited about those blueberries, try not to fall off your stool. Doing the Cha-Cha Slide with a broken ankle will not be enjoyable. Lucky number: 3

Sagittarius: You probably have a lot of homework to make up over the weekend, but don't let that get you down. Hint: buttering your teachers up with gifts from DC may help you out. Lucky number: 6

Capricorn: Make sure you bring your debate A-game today: you're gonna need it. Lucky number: 9

Aquarius: You may throw your hands up in the air sometimes, saying "Ayooo, Galileo." Wanna celebrate and live your life? Then light up the Gala like it's dynamite! Lucky number: 9

Pisces: We're sure you've seen Taylor Swift and Jake Gyllenhaal steaming up the pages of the magazines lately. Well, if you aspire to be in those glossy pages yourself one day, why not start out in this newsletter? If you have an interesting talent/story, don't be shy – let us know! Lucky number: Really, if you haven't figured out the pattern by now...

