



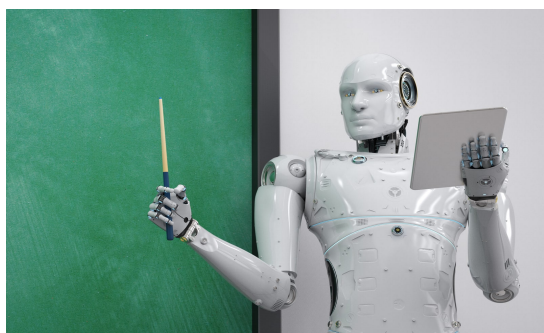
The MUN Express

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Robots vs Teachers



Delegates attending General Assembly 2 had an argument this afternoon about whether robots should take over the jobs of teachers and let's just say it had a very straight forward outcome.

Holland believes that if robots were to takeover teachers jobs, they would make it look like robots are looking down on humans and they could be more powerful. Holland also believes that if a robot was to crash, what would happen then? Where will the substitute be?

The Republic of Ireland replies to the argument with this statement –“would Holland not agree that robots are already above humans?”.

Finland made a statement that got everyone's attention: “robots are advancing more and more which will end in them knowing more than teachers in the future”.

Greece challenged Finland by pointing out that having robots as teachers would actually be more expensive in the end because it costs a lot of money to build and program these robots. In the end, the resolution did not pass and in fact, had an overwhelming amount of votes against it!

FIERCE DEBATE IN GA2



GA2 Saw Ferocious Debating between delegates of the MUN:

Ireland's resolution for GA2 (General Assembly 2) tried to achieve more funding for sporting events in order to combat poverty and Ireland also looked for a worldwide agency to be created to donate to countries in need.

This resolution turned into a heated debate between several countries – Ireland, Russia, the USA, China and the Republic of Korea. Ireland used the attack on New York as an example of a time when everyone came to the aid of those in need. The UK then stated “aid should be for everyone around the world, not just New York”. The USA agreed with Ireland and said it will “unify everyone and make the world happier”.

The topic of more funding for sporting events also came up in their resolution. China stepped in and asked 'why can't we use the stadiums we already have as it would save money and be better for the environment?'

The USA and Russia then got into an argument whereby Russia asked 'would the USA not agree that sports events should only be held if there are sufficient facilities and if it is a tradition to play that sport in that country?' The USA disagreed and stated that 'tradition or no tradition, sports events should be held anyway.'

The UK then started to argue that different methods of organising events should be found other than building new facilities. This would be better for the environment. The Republic of Korea wanted to know if the UK agreed that facilities should be built in an Eco-friendly way.

In the end, after much debate and a lot of compromise, the countries managed to agree on the major issues and this resolution was passed with the majority of the delegates from a variety of countries voting for it. Well done to the delegates of GA2 for working together to find a way to move forward.

The Taliban and the UN, are they a match ?

There was a heated debate between the Republic of Korea, the UK, Canada, Netherlands and the Russian Federation. The big question was – *Should the Taliban government be given a seat in the United Nations?* Well it was very controversial!

The Netherlands stated that 'The Taliban do not respect the human rights of women!' Canada agreed and asked the UK to 'recognise that the Taliban is a terrorist group,' but the Republic of Korea argued for a different approach saying that 'That was in the past and all past actions should be forgotten about.'

The Russian Federation believe that the Taliban should be accepted by the international community, but the Netherlands and Canada strongly disagreed. Canada claimed the Taliban government 'are not Democratic and have made no effort communicating with the United Nations, therefore they should not be given a seat at the conference.'

New Planet...New Rules!

Sweden led with a very interesting discussion in the GA4 SPECPOL committee today, with the delegate proposing research on finding other habitable planets.

This research would prepare humanity for what would happen in the event of an emergency evacuation of Earth. The Scandinavian country stated 'humans should enforce peace and there should not be any fighting over territory'.

When asked about nutrition, Sweden replied by saying that 'We would bring our own nutrients from Earth to any new planets found.'

The delegate of China was quick to question this, however, and stated that eventually the food brought from Earth would run out.

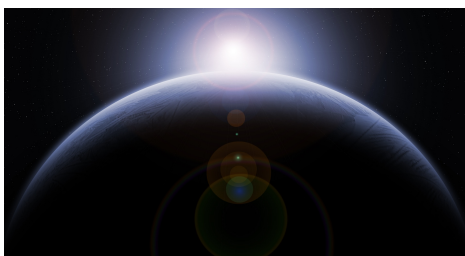
The delegate of Sweden proposed growing food on the new planets, which was met by concerns from Germany, who asked 'What if the soil on this planet was not suitable for agricultural practices?'

The Swedish delegate stated that they were not prepared for these questions, and the chair moved onto the next clause: 'If extra-terrestrial life forms are found, they are not to be colonised.'

Israel was swift with their points of information, bringing up the situation that these life forms may attack us. Would we defend ourselves, or would we remain peaceful?

This is where the debate became heated, with Sweden not backing down from their peace-maintaining stance. The UK joined in too, questioning clause one, which was to not fight over territory. Sweden was under a lot of pressure, but defended their clauses well.

In the end, Sweden's resolution was passed.



MUN votes for extra tax to help the homeless!

In GA3 there was a raging debate between many of the delegates including those from the USA, the UK, India, Greece, the Republic of Korea, France and Russia.

The debate was about whether we should raise the tax rate to give money to the Hunger crisis and Homeless people, Greece was the country who proposed the idea and many countries agreed including the USA and the UK

However, the Republic of Korea was against this idea and worked hard to persuade everyone not to support it.

Their argument was that about 80% of the money should go to this cause, but the other 20% should go to raise awareness about the hunger crisis.

Sweden was against the Republic of Korea and then Russia chimed in claiming that the extra tax would do more harm than good to the world by making countries poorer while will homelessness will increase anyway. In the end the extra tax won and everyone was hopeful that this will have a positive affect.



Behind the scenes!

Have you ever asked yourself 'what goes into the making of a newspaper?' To make these articles many, people worked extremely hard to get it done. Here is what happened behind the scenes - with the aid of technology, we have been able to host a digital MUN with almost 200 students and teachers joining from secondary schools from all across the country.

The Press Team produced this paper and everything in it, from the wordsearch to the interviews. We would like to extend a big thank you to the people who actually ran the event and the people who are part of MUN. They did most of the work and did all the acting and the role-playing and the debating.



Behind the scenes here at ETSS Wicklow today, we were digital nomads roaming between all the general assemblies and conferences in search of the 'Big Scoop' for the day!

We were frantically writing and brain storming, emails flying left right and centre, focusing on communicating and working together as a team to ensure we can produce the best written articles we could in order to give you, the reader, the inside story.

Press Team members : Bobby, Harry, Rosie, Mario, Ioanna, Rada (teacher support - Kevin).

Delegate Discussions

Cork Educate Together Secondary

School: Delegates from CETSL have shared some insights into their preparation for the MUN conference. In an exclusive with 'The MUN Express,' we asked the delegates what they were looking forward to the most about the conference. CETSL delegates explained that it was 'The opportunity to do something different from a regular school day. It's always fantastic to experience a school day in a new and exciting way! The skills we learn will open up opportunities to do these abroad one day.' We love to see this attitude, and there's no better place to learn than at MUN!



Stepaside ETSS

We spoke with Stepside ETSS and asked them the same question, here's what they thought: 'The most challenging aspect for us has been having to prepare things like the resolutions alongside having to do other schoolwork. This is

definitely one of the biggest challenges any delegate will face, the balance between school work and preparation for the conference. These skills are beneficial both inside and outside of school life and are a fantastic area for any student to improve upon!

BLACKROCK ETSS: We asked the delegates from Blackrock ETSS 'What country are your delegates representing? Who are your allies and who are you most apprehensive about encountering during the conference?' Here's what they had to say 'We are representing China - we talked to the Russian Federation in the training days and we seem to be allies. We think North Korea will be an ally too. In terms of who I am apprehensive about, well Spain have very strong speakers and also the US will be a big challenge for us.' Blackrock ETSS visited the Chinese Embassy as part of their preparations.

Interview with Susana Nunez - Education Officer From Educate Together Head Office

We had the opportunity to interview Susana Núñez, the Education Officer for Educate Together.

When we asked her what she thought was beneficial about the MUN, Susana stated that '*MUN is really inviting everyone involved to develop and use new skills to do with listening and cooperation.*'

Susana likes the power of Model United Nations to help delegates '*look at the world with a global lens*'.

We asked Susana what her favourite part of her job at the Head Office was.

Susana let us know that she loved everything about her job, especially the main part of her role, supporting students, teachers and schools.



Susana said that the MUN is an excellent way to bring all the students of the network together and also to allow them to connect with students from other networks too.

She talked about Ethical Education, and how, like the MUN, it is not just one subject, but covers every area of learning throughout the curriculum.

'They both help us to see the world from the perspective of others across the globe.' This is really important for us in the future because in the end, we are all citizens of the world.

Interview with Steven Matthews TD



quality issues. Steven Matthews stated that "We need to be brave and take the actions needed."

Before becoming a TD, Steven Matthews was a railway electrician. The TD said that he was very passionate about the environment, and he wanted to make use of his qualifications to speak up about the issues involving climate change, which is one of the green party's main focuses.

Steven Matthews gave all listeners food for thought today with his discussions about climate change and what that means for us as a town, a county and as a country.

As we can see from Steven Matthew's TD talk this morning, he thinks very highly of the Model United Nations, he stated that it is "Fantastic" and showed great enthusiasm when speaking with students. One of the core aspects of the conference Steven Matthews highlighted was the need to 'listen' and to be respectful when listening to the opinions and discussions of the other members of the conference.

Steven Matthew's resolution would be to take action, specifically on climate change. We have a lot of science and knowledge key to tackling air

He also motivated us that we can make a difference. We have the ability to change things by getting more involved in school and community life.

Interview with Stephen Donnelly TD



After the closing ceremony, we spoke with Minister for Health Stephen Donnelly. We asked him the following questions and here's what he had to say: **'In your opinion, will participating in MUN be beneficial for any particular career paths?'** Minister Donnelly spoke on how conferences such as the MUN where 'beneficial for all career paths' and that it teaches us important life skills along with giving us 'different outlooks and perspectives' **'As a TD, would you say that the debates taking place in the MUN are similar to those that happen in the Dáil?'** Minister Donnelly commended the delegates taking part in the MUN on the calibre of discussion being had during the conference. Minister Donnelly remarked that 'you (Students)

are having the really important debates' and that students are *'the best to discuss these big issues and have these debates with'*. Minister Donnelly also noted that it was ideal that students are having important and genuine debates about our future.

The final question we brought to Minister Donnelly was **'Do you have any advice for students?'** **Minister Donnelly encouraged all young people to seek out change and be the ones to 'demand change'.**

He reminded us that change is not as sudden as we would always like it to be. He encourages all young people interested in both politics and MUN to 'Be the change you want to see in the world , have patience, have resilience and see it through'

These are really inspirational words that can motivate us to keep learning more about the problems that need to be solved in the world today and more about the difference we can make in our lives.

Blackrock ETSS Embassy Visit

On Tuesday, 29 March, the model United Nations team of Blackrock ETSS visited the Chinese embassy in the hope of finding out more information from the perspective of a government worker. I as a part of the Model United Nations team am extremely grateful to have had such an opportunity and we were given a lot of new information about China, the delegation our school are assigned to, that will help the delegates during model United Nations.

Many members of the delegation voiced their own opinions about the visit and one student even stated 'I was very pleased to visit the embassy because I got to listen to the views of someone from the government, which provided us with a lot of reliable information.'

A teacher currently helping organise Model UN at our school and looking after the students taking part in it commented immediately after the visit that *'the embassy is within walking distance of our school, I thought it would be a good idea to contact them to see if we could visit them. The students submitted questions they wanted to ask connected to the various committees they are assigned to and now they are planning to ask them during our visit.'*

This is what happened at the conference. Overall everyone on our team was glad they got a chance to visit a place with this much reliable information all put together. This trip was exceptionally beneficial to our progress and everyone was grateful for such an informative tour at the embassy. All of our delegates had a great conference after this!

MUN Horoscopes

Capricorn <i>Due to Capricorn's down to earth nature, you will remain calm and collected during hot-headed debates. Good job!</i>
Aquarius <i>You will have trouble working with your allies today and may end up striking out on your own. That could lead to trouble, so watch out!</i>
Pisces <i>Pisces have a tendency to be very calm and relaxed on most days. During a heated, fast-paced debate, though, this could be a disadvantage. However, if you eat the right breakfast , you never know what you could achieve.</i>
Aries <i>If you're an Aries, you're in luck! Aries are natural leaders, and you will earn the respect and support of your fellow committee members easily, and will lead your committee to pass your resolution.</i>
Taurus <i>Taurus will need a good team. You work best with others, and will need extra support on a tense day. Your allies will help you today, so make sure you work with them.</i>
Gemini <i>Gemini will use their acute decision-making skills to come out on top in tricky situations. Your ability to work as part of a team though leaves something to be desired, so remember to put the work in today and you'll go far.</i>
Cancer <i>Oh no! Cancers will have a bad day today. Your emotional personality may overpower your debating skills and could lead to some undiplomatic outbursts.</i>
Leo <i>Leo's determination will take you a long way. You care about your teammates and will always have their back, especially in a tough situation.</i>
Virgo <i>Virgos can sometimes be pessimistic, and this side of your personality will really show today. If you're a Virgo, try to look on the bright side, and think about all the sides of a resolution before you make your decision.</i>
Libra <i>Libras form their own opinions very easily, and have difficulty changing their minds sometimes. This can be a bad thing, but it's good to have a strong opinion when it comes to debating. Libras will have a good day overall.</i>
Scorpio <i>Scorpios are very passionate people, and they are determined to succeed. This is a great mindset to have, especially in a debate. Sometimes, though, a Scorpio will make decisions too quickly, without thinking enough. This could prove to be a tough obstacle.</i>
Sagittarius <i>Whatever you do... DON'T. WEAR. GREEN.</i>