

The background of the image is a scenic aerial photograph of a wind farm. Numerous white wind turbines stand tall in a vast, green landscape of fields and pastures. The turbines are scattered across rolling hills under a vast, blue sky filled with wispy, white clouds.

NEWSLETTER

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New generations fighting for the environment

Young activists all around the world take a stand for environmental protection

By Isabela Oliveira

How to combine the right to development and environmental protection is one of the main challenges States face today, since our economic model of wealth generation demands a continued exploitation of Nature in order to sustain the current levels of consumption. During the 1980s, the concept of Sustainable Development was introduced in UN aiming to promote Nature's preservation, considering the needs of future generations. After the 2000s, the debate advanced to discuss how Nature, alongside with humans, should be considered a subject with intrinsic rights, which is the main argument of the Harmony with Nature initiative.

Nature's preservation and protection are the basis for the 2030 Agenda and its 17 SDGs, which need the support of all the people and governments to be truly implemented. The civil society has an important role in this process. Today, there are many campaigns aiming to change the way humans are treating Nature and great part of them is led by the youth. One example is Greta Thunberg, a 16 year old student from Sweden that has been leading a series of school strikes around Europe and other continents to call the attention of the authorities about the urgency of climate change. She started this movement after reading and studying about the consequences from the intense exploitation of the environment, and how this can affect peoples'

lives. Also worrying about future generations, she decided she had to do something that could inform other students and young people, calling them to take action on this important movement.

We do not have to go that further to see interesting initiatives led by young people. Students from Colégio Koelle (in Rio Claro) have a study group to discuss sustainability ideas and practical activities. Last semester, the group was responsible for analyzing how much trash their school produces. The students were really surprised about the results. Heraldo Mauch, a student from Colégio Koelle, said he and his colleagues are reconsidering their consumption patterns and are more aware about the relevance of sustainable practices.

FACAMP also has a study group concerned with Nature's protection. Supported by the UN Harmony with Nature Programme, the group has been studying the importance of recognizing Nature as a subject of rights and how to advance on the implementation of practical actions on this matter. As members of this group, Valentina Politi and Amanda Miyai said they are glad to see their efforts recognized by the United Nations itself, as the SG Report [A/74/236](#) acknowledges the group as an important initiative for promoting lifestyles in harmony with Nature in Brazil.



Amanda Miyai and Valentina Politi, FACAMP students and members of Harmony with Nature study group. Photographer: André Amalfi



Heraldo Mauch (the first on the right) with his delegation from Colégio Koelle. Photographer: Paola Neumann

Voices from the field

UN and academic experts update delegates on their topics

By Enrico Queirazza and Patrícia Neves



Ms. Joice Domeniconi (center) in an interview with the GCOs (from left to right: Patrícia Neves, Laís Daniel and Luiz Netto)

Photographer: Gisele Bertinato

In the first day of FAMUN 2019, delegates had the opportunity to receive information straight from specialists in each topic to be debated during meeting sessions. Having a dialogue with specialists deeply contributes to the discussions, because they highlight priorities and inspire ideas. This kind of inspiration has a sound basis, as the majority of our specialists have experience from working in the field. We had the great pleasure of having with us during the dialogues: Mr. Diogo Galvão (MSF), Ms. Gabriela Cardim (Igarapé Institute), Ms. Giovanna Ayres (PPGRI-STD), Ms. Joice Domeniconi (Observatório das Migrações de São Paulo), Ms. Mariana Santiago (UNIMAR), Ms. Helena Castro (PPGRI-STD) and Mr. William Laureano (United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees - Brazil). They shared their experiences and expectations about the debates and their talks reviewed the necessity of enhancing efforts towards the culture of peace.

One of our fellow specialists, Mr. Diogo Galvão, is a Public Awareness Coordinator at Doctors without Borders, one of the most important humanitarian NGOs. Mr. Galvão had the opportunity to be in South Sudan for six months, where he could develop a research on the occurrence of the diseases in children and how to improve the doctors' efficiency in treating them. While there, he also took care of minor injured children and helped nurses in assisting children who were victims of shootings. Even though he knew what to expect, Mr. Galvão reported he was shocked about the extreme poverty of the South Sudan population. He was responsible for giving first aid against malaria, combating sexual violence, lack of hygiene and other diseases related to this, such as skin and eye infection.

According to him, there were four main challenges while working there. First, the limited access to medical care because people may cross fighter lines. Secondly, combat children malnutrition and the need of feeding families to prevent risky situations. Thirdly, hospitals lacked infrastructure and, consequently, doctors did not have adequate equipment to medical procedures, which adds up to the fourth challenge, which is addressing diseases with few resources available.

Furthermore, Mr. Galvão shared knowledge about how the treatment of soldier children and their reinsertion in society occur. According to the specialist, some children recover fast and are reinserted well in society, while others have psychological traumas, flashbacks, sleep problems, stress, suicidal thoughts and, mostly, they blame themselves for the events they have undergone. Besides that, society does not understand that they were forced to pick up guns and fight, what ends up in exclusion and neglecting of those children. Mr. Galvão told us that the most shocking of this experience was that children, even in a warzone, have hopes and are optimists. Nevertheless, they normally accept they cannot make long term plans because they do not know their prospects for the future.

Mr. William Laureano, a Senior Assistant of Legibility in United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHRC) - Brazil, briefed Security Council delegates. He has been working in the field as an attendant at refugees' campuses in Brazil's frontier with Venezuela. The specialist highlighted the level of emergency in this situation, focusing on immigrants' local integration. He mentioned the reasons for the flow of Venezuelans to Brazil, such as political disagreement, lack of food and basic goods scarcity. According to the specialist, the humanitarian aid goals are organizing the frontier and guaranteeing better conditions to refugees, while ensuring the reinsertion of Venezuelan citizens to a new territory. Moreover, the UNHCR representative informed the number of refugees increased in the last 3 years: currently, around 500 refugees are crossing borders every day. Mr. Laureano was asked about the role of UNHCR in the situation of Venezuela, to what he answered that the institution's duty there is to guarantee a complete monitoring of the process of relocating refugees and also take proper care of Venezuelan children in a refugee situation.

Another specialist was Ms. Joice Domeniconi, a researcher at the Observatório das Migrações de São Paulo who researches qualified migration and development. According her, all migrants should have their rights guaranteed by States and institutions as well. Besides that, she argued about the importance of three main elements to reinsert migrants and refugees into society: the emission of a legal document; integration in societies where they can be able to attend public places; and immigrant empowerment, once it is necessary to listen what they have to say and think about their contribution to society. Also, Ms. Domeniconi drew attention to women's vulnerability in conflict situations, mentioning they face problems with anxiety, depression and fear of adaptation to a different society.

Ms. Gabriela Cardim, a researcher from Igarapé Institute and specialist in the mental health of refugee women, highlighted that gender equality has a positive impact in overcoming women vulnerability. Ms. Cardim showed that most of the problems women face in conflict situations is related to the fact that they were removed from their territory and were reinserted in a new culture. Besides, as Ms. Domeniconi highlighted, Ms. Cardim also called attention to symptoms of anxiety, depression and adaptation to the different environment.

Finally, all topics debated in FAMUN 2019 need to be addressed properly in order to achieve peace through the 17 Sustainable Development Goals. It is crucial to highlight that peace is more than an absence of conflict. More than this, it is solving problems by empowering people in a peaceful way, even after a critical situation of conflict or crisis. Participants were invited to think long-term solutions, making collective efforts looking forward to giving opportunities and best future conditions for all.

These experiences highlight the relevance of the culture of peace. Actions such as being empathic with vulnerable groups, such as women, migrants, refugees and children, and understanding their backgrounds and experiences, can contribute to building a positive peace. We can build a better world integrating, accepting, and mainly respecting people who were forced to leave their countries. Obviously, this is not a recipe of success, but it surely can improve international relations so all peoples can be able to live together.



Mr. William Laureano, from UNHCR
Photographer: Paulo Buscarioli



Ms. Gabriela Cardim, from Igarapé Institute, and Professor Sipereck
Photographer: Gisele Bertinato

HIGH SCHOOL Committees and Councils

UNGA 2C (Migration and Development)

By Laís Fernandes Daniel

Migrants face discrimination based on race, language, gender, property, birth, national or social origin, opinion and religion. Many times, discrimination against immigrants is a scapegoat for governments. Immigrants are usually blamed for the internal problems of a country, such as unemployment or increasing violence.

The specialist Joice Domeniconi, from Observatório das Migrações em São Paulo, engaged in an Interactive Dialogue with delegates about this issue. Because of xenophobia - defined as the hatred or fear against foreign people -, many host societies tend to marginalize migrant groups, socially and geographically. The worst outcomes of discrimination and marginalization are intolerance, violence and the construction of ghettos.

Despite of the difficulties, there are effective ways of combating xenophobia. Member States need to strengthen measures to eliminate all forms of discrimination against migrants by building a culture of peace. It is also important to strengthen the penalty for discrimination and hate crimes and train law enforcement officials to identify and bring such crimes to justice.

Another measure is to create methods against institutional mechanisms of profiling migrants based on stereotypes and any other discriminatory views and measures that are focused on vulnerable groups, especially migrant women and children.

UNGA 2C (Harmony with Nature)

By Isabela Oliveira

The specialist, Miss Santiago, addressed the committee to explain differences between Harmony with Nature and Sustainable Development proposals. While the latter focus on human well-being as a priority, the former considers human well-being can only be achieved if we also protect Nature properly. Delegates were concerned about which measures could be implemented in order to change the current consumption patterns and Miss Santiago explained that considering the cultural aspect is extremely important to address this challenge.

UNSC 1 (Women, Peace and Security)

By Bárbara Marques

The Council highlighted women's role in the prevention of conflicts. One way of engaging women in this process are the Women Situation Rooms, formed by women empowered to be leaders in election processes in Africa. On this matter, Russia stated its agreement with Resolution 2171 (2014), about women and conflict prevention. For Peru, including women in conflict prevention is essential, but the Council is still discussing how to do it. Still, women lack preparation on mediating and resolving conflicts, since they lack training.

UNGA 3C (International Drug Control)

By Mattheus Lopes

Gender is one of the main topics discussed about the world drug problem. Due to women's vulnerability to drug usage, their treatment requires a different health-care approach in order to combat the stigma surrounding them seeking health-care assistance, especially concerning drug related diseases. In an interview with Mexico and Colombia, which are highly affected by the war on drugs, the representatives said that their societies are still in process of reshaping the concept of gender and the equal representation of women.

UNSC 2 (Children and Armed Conflict)

By João Duran

Countries accused of violating international law are investigated by the Monitoring and Reporting Mechanism and the Security Council is responsible to define an approach to solve the matter. During today's session, China argued that more strict sanctions should be enforced in countries accused of perpetrating the Six Grave violations. Belgium, instead, believes that sanctions are inadequate, since governments are not always the ones responsible: non-State actors can also be the perpetrators of crimes against children.

UNIVERSITY Committee, Council and Court

ICJ (Whaling in the Antarctic)

By Patrícia Neves

In the first day of sessions, the agents had their first and second rounds of oral presentations concerning the preliminary objections presented by the agents of Japan, which challenged the ICJ's competence to judge the case. Japan's agents contested Australia's application by affirming that in Australia's acceptance of the jurisdiction of the ICJ, it made a reservation demanding the exclusion of the jurisdiction of the Court from disputed or adjacent areas to any maritime zone pending conflict. Therefore, Japan affirmed that since Antarctica was an area in dispute, the ICJ did not have jurisdiction on the case. They also asked the Court to dismiss New Zealand's intervention, claiming illegitimacy. In Australia's memorial, the agents mentioned the first moratorium in 1986 and said that Japan continued whaling, despite the fact that the country was a signatory of the Convention. New Zealand's agents argued that they had a direct interest on the case and want to give another interpretation relying on the principles of the International Whaling Commission.

UNGA 2C (International Migration and Development)

By Luiz Genizelli Netto

The United Nations Secretary-General, Antonio Guterres, has expressed his concern at the increasing of restrictive and criminalization measures as a way to control irregular migration flows, such as fences, walls, detention centers and collective expulsions. The specialist Joice Domeniconi, from Observatório das Migrações em São Paulo, engaged in an Interactive Dialogue with delegates about this issue. When asked about the criminalization of migration in the United States, she affirmed that the denominations of regular and irregular migrants are a political construction of what regular is and what is not. By framing migrants as irregular, there is a tendency to address migration fluxes as a criminal issue, since it removes the fundamental idea that migrants are human beings entitled to human rights. Ms. Domeniconi concluded that it is in public spaces that migrants will have their rights guaranteed, because that is where everyone will understand that migrants have something to contribute and collaborate for that society.

UNSC (The situation in Venezuela)

By Enrico Queirazza

According to the Brazilian office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), Venezuelans who cross borders are looking for better living standards and new opportunities, since 60% of the population are facing impoverishment. Approximately 25% of Venezuelans are in need of humanitarian support, with 3 million being children. This context is forcing high influxes of migrants to other Latin American countries, such as Colombia, Chile, Ecuador and Brazil. According to the UNHCR estimates, in the last 4 years, more than 4 million Venezuelans have fled the country.

The United Nations Security Council decided to include the issue of migration in its discussions, and Equatorial Guinea highlighted the necessity to better control Venezuelan borders and proposed that the Council should consider creating a Peacekeeping Operation to offer assistance. Russian Federation reinforced the importance of checking the financial capacity of Security Council members before taking any decision involving resources. The Russian representative reaffirmed that any action by the Council should consider and respect Venezuela's sovereignty. China suggested to consider a different approach to solve the crisis: to support an economic solution, since once the economy is recovered, migration is expected to decrease. He also pointed out the necessity of offering support to Venezuelans by the means of promoting humanitarian aid.

Overall, Council members discussed the impacts of American sanctions to Venezuela. They considered how unilateral sanctions, not only from the United States but also from the European Union, undermine Venezuela's capacity to respond to the economic crisis, since it restricts oil exports, which are the main source of funds to Venezuela. Russian Federation strongly condemned sanctions and argued that they should cease to exist, as they aggravate the dire humanitarian situation affecting Venezuelans.

Photo gallery



Our senior Secretariat banging the gavel

Photographer: Gisele Bertinato



FAMUN 2019 SG, PGA and USGDGACM

Photographer: Gisele Bertinato

VOICES OF PEACE

“ We children are doing this for you to put your differences aside and start acting as you would in a crisis. We children are doing this because we want our hopes and dreams back ”

Greta Thunberg, 16-year-old climate activist

“ You are not Atlas carrying the world on your shoulder. It is good to remember that the planet is carrying you ”

Vandana Shiva, Indian physicist and activist

Coming up next



AGENDA FOR TOMORROW 8 September 2019 - Sunday

- 09:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. | Session VI
- 09:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. | Faculty Advisors' Meeting
- 12:00 p.m. - 02:00 p.m. | Lunch
- 02:00 p.m. - 05:00 p.m. | Session VII
- 05:00 p.m. - 05:30 p.m. | Break
- 05:30 p.m. - 07:00 p.m. | Session VIII
- 07:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. | Social Event at FACAMP



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