



NEWSLETTER

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FAMUN gathers generations to build a new today

Why the intergenerational debate matters to save the planet Earth!

By Paula Almeida and Ana Flávia Miranda



Photographer: Luis Sima

FAMUN 2022 Senior Secretariat meets the students of Maple Bear Paulínia

FAMUN 2022 theme seeks to empower younger generations to take part in changes they want to see in the world. Thus, it is aligned with the International Youth Day 2022 campaign. Celebrated on August 12th, the date called attention to the need to amplify intergenerational solidarity to advance the 2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals.

For one of the co-founders of FACAMP, Luiz Gonzaga Belluzzo, 79, “shared problems require working collectively” and, for that, the elderly must reflect on the difficulties the new generations face and support them. The focus is on softening ageism and building older people’s tolerance for younger people. According to him: “The elderly need to open the way for the young. They must have room to be heard. Intergenerational dialogue and solidarity can lead to a better world”.

Many ongoing challenges we face worldwide, notably the climate crisis, are derived from the lack of collaboration and solidarity between generations. Ageism has detrimental effects on society: Young and elderly voices are not taken seriously. Most of the time, their demands and perspectives are not considered in decision-making processes.

The United Nations (UN) has initiatives to change this reality. In 2007, for example, the organization determined Intergenerational Relations as a priority area as a supplement to the World Programme of Action for Youth

(a UN General Assembly initiative). However, actions to enhance dialogues between the young and elderly are still lagging. William Yotive, Model UN Coordinator of WFUNA, during the FAMUN 2022 Opening Ceremony, stated that the UN is listening to young people, but much more needs to be done. The elderly’s voice is not as loud in the UN as the youth’s. At the same time, young people still consider they are not listened to at the organization.

The dialogue between generations on how to save planet Earth can start at home. Luana Felisati, 7, and Alice Rovani, 6, guest students from Maple Bear Paulínia, said that they learned about the correct disposal of trash with their parents. When asked about their worries regarding the environment, they added: “we should always throw garbage in the trash” and “if people continue cutting trees, soon enough we will not be able to breathe anymore”. However, Ms. Felisati said she usually does not talk to older people about the environment’s preservation, while Alice said that sometimes she disagrees with her parents’ attitude, since they don’t care about nature as much as she does.

By inviting kids to present their worries and demands for delegates simulating Rio-92, FAMUN 2022 is committed to the challenge of strengthening intergenerational dialogue and solidarity. We hope that representatives take their voices seriously when rewriting the Rio Declaration to achieve a more sustainable and equal world.

Highlights from Committees and Councils

High School General Assembly 1

By Maria Eduarda Hefener

In the general debate, delegates made their opening speeches reflecting on the urgency of the protection of stateless persons as a key path to guarantee the international regime for human rights. Delegations emphasized the need for States to raise awareness and diffuse more information on stateless persons. To this end, the Kenyan delegation showed that the lack of legal recognition affects international law, the environment where there is discrimination against minority groups, and had worse impacts with COVID-19. The delegate noted how worrisome this question is for the Kenyan people and claimed for the empowerment of individuals in this situation so that they can be integrated into society. All countries agreed on the need for consensus and on changing national discriminatory laws to end statelessness. In this sense, the delegate from Mexico proposed the creation of an assertive document that guarantees citizenship and thus the basic rights of stateless persons. Finally, the most surprising speech was from the German delegation, which emphasized its historical and humanitarian responsibility towards stateless children: "It is important to think about them, as they are the ones who most often suffer discrimination and do not have access to other human rights".

High School Security Council 1

By Ana Júlia Ansoni

The Security Council began its discussions about COVID-19 vaccine access in conflict zones as expected: highlighting the need to increase security to foster distribution. However, the Ukrainian delegation changed course and shocked the Security Council members as he ripped a photo of people in conflict situations without access to vaccines, questioning the members: "Is life not worth to you?" The Council remained silent as the Ukraine delegate made an emotional speech about their population's suffering in the war pleading that it not be forgotten. Beating behind the bush, the delegation of Russia, avoiding the Ukrainian war, showed a willingness to seriously tackle the problem of vaccination equity and enthusiasm to collaborate with other countries on the debate. However, during the brief discussion on the press elements, Russia and Ukraine had divergent opinions on the topic of a global ceasefire to help cooperate on the vaccination agenda. It is expected that all delegations will engage on this matter while finishing the press elements, focusing on how to help distribute COVID-19 vaccines in conflict areas such as Ukraine, Syria, and Congo.

High School Youth Council 1

By Ana Flávia Miranda

Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) delegates offered enthusiastic speeches regarding building a more sustainable future and fostering youth participation in combating climate change and the current environmental crisis. The CEJ delegation emphasized the use of technologies to ensure food security and air quality during her speech at the General Debate. She recognized it is important to enhance NGOs and youth presence in decision-making processes. YCL said that when it comes to climate change, youth is the most affected group, so young people should have the most say in making the transformations they want to see in the world. Yet, other actors should assume responsibility, especially the private sector. The SYDF delegation brought the Council's attention to its country's situation when she mentioned that 1.7 million Somalis are living in precarious conditions resulting from poverty which makes them more vulnerable to climate change. In turn, the AAS delegate stressed the role of capitalism in intensifying the climate crisis since the current pattern of production emits huge amounts of greenhouse gas, worsening global warming. All NGOs agreed that young people must fight against climate disasters and cultivate the changes they want to see in the future.

Highlights from Committees and Councils

University Youth Council

By Helena Bridi

The debate began with a focus on different ways to fight climate change. The Non-Governmental Organization (NGO) Defensores de la Naturaleza remembered: Climate change is a natural process, but it is highly intensified by human action and mainly by national economic choices. To the representative, protecting national ecosystems is key to stopping this degrading change. Bringing the youth to the center of the action against climate change, the representative from the IYCN stated the need to follow the 2030 Agenda, including environmental education in school resumés. This is an essential measure to capacitate young leaders for a better future. ONG350 and ANYLPSD stressed that youth is not a homogeneous group and pointed out the importance of considering the participation of young people from the periphery in decision-making processes since they are the most vulnerable group to climate change. Tracking the roots of climate change, the representative of AYCC was preoccupied with the use of petroleum derivatives as fuels. For AYCC, climate change can only be fought by changing the energy matrix. Furthermore, NGO representatives debated but did not question the concept of sustainable development and its limitations. Will this traditional concept guide their future discussions?

High School Rio-92

By Paula Almeida

Conducted by the FAMUN Secretary-General and the Rio-92 President, the representative of Brazil, the Opening Plenary of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development of FAMUN was filled with optimism and urgency regarding the environment. The Secretary-General emphasized the importance of building a balance between human development and nature preservation. A group of children also had the opportunity to express their claims and demands about the environment for the delegations. They asked them to “make a change and take care of the ocean” and not chemical products. During the General Debate, Cuba and Papua Guinea stressed the importance of considering the civil society demands for the Rio-92 discussions and decisions about planet protection. The small islands, like Sao Tome and Principe and Malaysia, emphasized the greater responsibility of developed countries to take action to ensure sustainable development, since their societies contributed more to environmental degradation historically. In response, the delegate of Sweden recognized that it is important to share technology with other nations. All delegations reinforced that multilateralism is necessary and the consensus is paramount to achieve sustainable development and save the Earth.

Photographer: Chris Alves



Rio-92 High School delegates were eager to make their statements



Rio-92 University delegates in political groups

Photographer: Luis Sima

Flashes from the campus

Photographer: Gisele Bertinato



FAMUN's Secretariat unforgettable cultural presentation



Baterinos playing at Back to the Future social event

Photographer: Gisele Bertinato

Coming up next...



Saturday, 3 September 2022

High School

- 08:30 – 09:00 | Head Delegate's Meeting
- 09:45 – 10:30 | Session 2
- 09:30 – 10:30 | Faculty Advisors' Meeting
- 10:30 – 11:00 | Coffee Break
- 11:00 – 12:30 | Session 3
- 12:30 – 13:30 | Live Social Event: That '90s Show

University

- 13:30 – 12:00 | Head Delegate's Meeting
- 14:00 – 15:30 | Session 2
- 15:30 – 16:00 | Coffee Break
- 16:00 – 17:30 | Session 3
- 17:30 – 18:30 | Live Social Event: That '90s Show

Voices of Youth

Photographer: Gisele Bertinato



"The future we want must be built right now. We are running out of time to deal with the climate crisis, and all countries and peoples have a responsibility to act now to achieve the SDGs, change our consumption and production patterns and

raise awareness. We can defeat the climate crisis. We can build a better present and future. I am convinced we can build a better present and future."

by Larissa Lyria - FAMUN 2022 Secretary-General

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