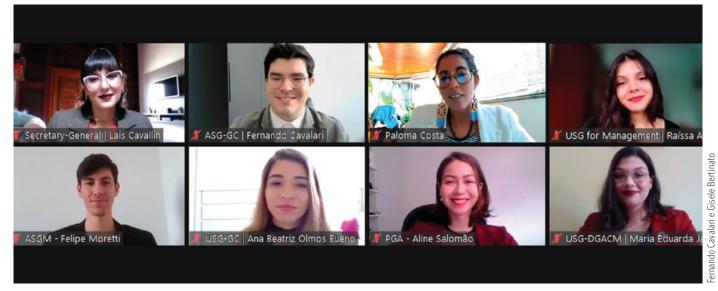


## **Right to Development: Rise for All**

Youth Advisor on Climate Change, Paloma Costa, shows that the future depends on collective action!

By Yasmin Almeida and Eduardo Bueno



FAMUN 2021 Senior Secretariat with our Special Guest: Ms. Paloma Costa

The 35th anniversary of the United Nations (UN) Declaration on the Right to Development takes place in 2021, an occasion not only to celebrate an international milestone but also to reaffirm the right to development. Defined in Article 1 of the Declaration as "an inalienable human right by virtue of which every human person and all peoples are entitled to participate in, contribute to, and enjoy economic, social, cultural and political development, in which all human rights and fundamental freedoms can be fully realized", the right to development is directly linked to the promotion of human rights for all peoples and societies.

FAMUN 2021 aims to connect the right to development in the context of the campaign "Women Rise For All". The campaign was launched by women leaders of the UN in 2020, aiming to call out leaders to promote shared responsibility in the global recovery of the COVID-19 pandemic. Regarding this specific campaign, Lais Cavallin, the Secretary-General of FAMUN 2021, stated that "as a woman in a leadership position, I consider the theme of this edition to be extremely important because it reinforces solidarity to save lives and protect our society and people. We are stronger together!".

To discuss the theme of our conference this year, we had the honor to welcome Ms. Paloma Costa at the FAMUN Opening Ceremony. Paloma is an environmental activist and the only Brazilian to take part in the UN Secretary General's Youth Advisory Group on Climate Change. She works as Advisor at Instituto Socioambiental and she is responsible for bringing a youth perspective in actions for combating climate change and promoting socio-environmental rights.

With an inspiring speech that highlighted the role that youth has in building a new path for our society, Paloma stated that young people must assume leadership in protecting Earth and encourage their communities to take concrete action in three spheres: the individual; the collective; and the political. In the individual sphere, people need to change their habits and their patterns of consumption, in order to assess what is really worth it and what is necessary to consume, creating self-consciousness of your impact in the world.

However, Paloma stressed that those individual actions are not enough: it is necessary to make changes in a collective way. Communities must engage and promote debates and awareness-raising conversations among various groups, demanding actions to protect the main sources of life: our forests, rivers, oceans, and our biodiversity. This collective action needs to be combined with the political sphere: we have to demand from political representatives at all levels that they must be held accountable for preserving life on Earth.

In sum, the main advice from Paloma to FAMUN 2021 participants is that youth is not the leader of the future: on the contrary, young people are leaders of the present, because building a better environment for the future requires actions today.

# Highlights from the General Assembly

#### UNGA 1

By Carlos Augusto M. Barros

The delegation of Cuba delivered an inflamed speech at the General Debate, reminding that the consequences of the United States embargo are still felt by Cubans and are the reason for great difficulties in improving access to energy and in the transition to clean and safe sources. In this sense, the declarations from developing countries showed cohesion of interests and views, as regional asymmetries in the access to energy were brought into attention. The delegations also emphasized the need for technical and financial assistance from developed countries in order to increase access to clean sources in their national energy sectors. To foster this access, the delegate of Argentina proposed the decentralization of energy production, which demands analysis of the conditions and natural resources available in each country, and the devising of a plan that considers regional disparities and aims at surpassing them. The European countries highlighted that the debate must also focus on human needs. Pointing to its national advances on clean and renewable energy access, France reinforced the commitment with the 2030 Agenda and Germany mentioned its investments in African countries. Finally, the most surprising speech was of the United States' delegation, who took the blame for the regional asymmetries and apologized for this scenario. He also stated that the United States will reduce as much as possible the emission of greenhouse gases by 2050 and will invest in private companies that are committed to the use of clean energy.

### UNGA 2

By Victor Pamplona

In the General Debate, delegates delivered their opening speeches, which reflected their concerns with climate change effects and the urgency of rethinking the energy system on a global scale. In order to tackle the challenges imposed by climate change, the delegations showed their commitment to the use of renewable energy. Developing countries, such as Nepal and Sao Tome and Principe, stated their eagerness to increase the use of renewable sources in their national energy sectors, highlighting their local possibilities, such as solar and wind power. Nevertheless, they addressed the importance of financial aid and technological transfer from developed countries. They also highlighted the need to involve private companies in these discussions. Even though some developing countries are transitioning from non-renewable energy sources to renewable and sustainable ones, they have a long journey ahead, since the percentage of energy access of their population is very low, as is the case of Sao Tome and Principe. The G77 and Western Europe showed their inclination to collaborate and aid other countries to achieve sustainable energy both regionally and globally. However, some countries were less eager to discuss alternative energy sources. The delegation of Russia, for instance, stated the importance of nuclear energy for its energy sector. This shows how the debate between developed and developing countries and the asymmetries in their access to resources and energy will be hard, but necessary for advancing SDG 7.





Caio Silva da Costa Braga, delegate of the United States



Beatriz Frare Belgini, delegate of Cuba from G77

# **Highlights from the Human Rights Council**

### HRC – High School

By Carlos Augusto M. Barros

The Special Rapporteur pointed out the growing number of people in humanitarian situations, in which women and girls are the most affected ones. In contexts of humanitarian crisis, women and girls are affected by hunger, food insecurity, lack of access to health services and education. She highlighted the current situation of Venezuela in which the economic embargo is promoting a humanitarian crisis, forcing women and children to flee to neighboring countries. In this process, they are usually threatened with gender and sexual-based violence. On the other hand, the Special Rapporteur noted the refugee women in Bangladesh that are taking the lead in preventing COVID-19 in Cox's Bazar. The Concerned States recognized the importance of improving national policies to protect the rights of girls and women. The delegate of Bangladesh urged for the collaboration of all nations in financing housing programs and providing physical and mental health assistance to women in humanitarian situations. The Council already demonstrated consensus on some issues. Member States recognized that specific legislation is absent for women in risky situations, and also the need to enlarge female participation in international and political discussions, so they can be agents of transformation in their communities. Bangladesh highlighted that international cooperation is necessary to integrate women in conflict resolution, while Japan stated that international organizations need a more incisive stance to protect refugee women, and addressed the country's programs to promote gender equality.

### HRC – University

By Carlos Augusto M. Barros

The Special Rapporteur opened the first session of the FAMUN University Human Rights Council by calling attention to the consequences of the pandemic on the situation of refugee women and girls around the world. The need for humanitarian aid has increased and, now more than ever, it is essential to create measures to include women in the response to emergencies in their communities. Therefore, the COVID-19 pandemic was a recurrent topic in the speeches delivered during the session. States reaffirmed their commitment to reducing the effects of the sanitary crisis on the rights of women and girls in humanitarian situations. Venezuela recalled how the economic embargoes imposed by several States have negative social and economic impacts on the country, increasing the number of Venezuelan refugees. As a way to prevent those situations in the future, during the proposal of amendments, financial assistance programs were cited to offset economic embargoes that make humanitarian assistance unfeasible. Furthermore, the delegates stressed the need to work together with the UNHCR to help refugee women and girls. In the discussions of the amendments, the countries of Latin America and Europe highlighted the importance of sex education in schools to improve gender equality. As for the Asian countries in the Pacific, most of the discussions were centered on women trafficking. Besides this issue, the group also proposed amendments regarding the protection of women and girls in situations of natural disasters.





Marisa da Silva, delegate of Bangladesh



Cairo Guimarães, delegate of India from the Asia-Pacific group

## In Memoriam



Murilo Concon, as Senior Secretariat of FAMUN 2016

## Coming up next...



SUNDAY, 5 SEPTEMBER 2021

### **High School**

09:00 - 10:30	Session 2
10:45 - 11:30	Head Delegate's Meeting
10:30 - 14:00	Lunch Break
14:00 - 15:30	Session 3
18:30 - 20:00	Live Social Event: Delegamer

### University

11:00 - 12:30	Session 2
12:30 - 16:00	I Lunch Break
15:00 - 15:45	Head Delegate's Meeting
16:00 - 17:30	Session 3
18:30 - 20:00	Live Social Event: Delegamer

Today we lost one of the most incredible members of the FAMUN family: Murilo Concon Risso. Murilo started his International Relations studies at FACAMP in 2014, and as soon as he entered college, he participated in FAMUN as a delegate. Then, he joined the FAMUN Secretariat team in 2015, as the Director of the Organization of American States. His passion for MUNs led him to the very real UN in NYC in 2015, when he took the WIMUN approach workshop and was the first FAMUN Secretariat member to bring this approach to FAMUN.

Naturally, he assumed the role of Senior Secretariat in FAMUN 2016, and that edition was marked by his charisma and eagerness to teach all participants the importance of consensus. Murilo was a wonderful human being who truly impersonated the values of FAMUN: the respect for all people, the cherish of diversity, and the passion for humanity. Thank you, Murilo! We will never forget you and we will continue to preserve your legacy through FAMUN.

## Sing with FAMUN!



## Solar Power

Here comes the sun *Beatles* 

**Everybody wants to rule the world** *Tears for Fears* 

Hello future

#### Walking on sunshine Katrina & The Waves

### FAMUN 2021 DEPARTMENT OF GLOBAL COMMUNICATIONS

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