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Reporting Live from the Best Conference Ever

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For a Better Future Unite Against Polarisation and Extremism

By Michail-Petros Kyriakou

It is prevalent that political polarization and the extremization of ideologies are posing a serious threat to modern society. The manifold effects of such phenomena include holding back democracy, reducing trust in institutions, and creating divisions among the people that may further escalate into conflicts or violence.

While diverse opinions and beliefs exist among individuals in society and in the political landscape it is a necessity for the diametrically opposed camps to compromise. Using hateful speech or violence will not solve the issues, but lead to more unrest. Consequently, it is essential for these groups to engage in constructive dialogue to address a range of topics. Such challenges require strategic responses that build trust through dialogue while addressing the socio-economic circumstances that give rise to division and extremism.



Various economic factors are linked to the issue of polarization. The growing gap between the wealthy and the poor exacerbates feelings, like alienation, resentment, and dissatisfaction. Many Politicians often exploit these sentiments to further deepen division. Additionally, other elements that contribute to the growth of extremism are job market shifts and economic dislocation due to automation, globalization, and outsourcing. Many factories have been relocated to third-world countries where labour and production costs are significantly lower, leading former factory workers to unemployment and the areas where they were previously located to economic recession. The government should invest in low-income and marginalized communities, in order to help reduce economic disparities. Infrastructure development, affordable housing initiatives, and access to quality education are key ways to support these communities and improve their living conditions.

The media plays a significant role in battling polarization. Stricter regulations should be enforced on false or manipulative information and fact-based journalism should be encouraged. In addition, students have to be introduced to media literacy courses, in order to be able to identify fake news and credible sources.

Cultural and demographic shifts, including immigration and globalization, play a crucial role in the increase of radicalism. In the last years, there have been major waves of illegal migration mainly into Europe and the USA. A large number of immigrants are not willing to integrate into the societies. Many locals are concerned that the migrants' customs, languages, and religious practices are incompatible with their traditions and values leading to further distress.

Globalization fosters the concept of a global community in which individuals are interconnected on a worldwide scale. However, some individuals feel that this broader perspective threatens their sense of local or national identity. All these problems mentioned above lead to the rise of polarization and extremism. In order to create an environment of mutual respect, understanding, and collaboration between the migrants and the natives, the government or organizations can launch public education campaigns to highlight the positive contributions of migrants. On top of that migrants can be provided with language classes, vocational training, and access to education in order to help them integrate more effectively into the local economy and society. In conclusion polarization and extremism threaten to destabilize not just communities but whole countries. Therefore this struggle must be combated through dialog and understanding, investing in marginalized communities, and regulating media to combat misinformation. Promoting integration and respect for migrants is also essential. By embracing inclusive policies and addressing the underlying causes of extremism, we can bring people together, reduce division, and create a future where cooperation and understanding thrive.



An Interview with Prof. Dr. Chaionoglou

1. What got you interested in the world of democracy?

Diplomacy is a unique tool to advance national interests in the international sphere. It is also a tool of bringing states closer and regulating their external relations. As states have competing interests, diplomacy is important to protecting each state's sovereignty without resorting to the use of force. It is interesting to observe how states (super powers, middles and small states) are using diplomacy to regulate international affairs and to become norm-entrepreneurs across the international community!

2. How do you think diplomacy can help achieve world peace?

Diplomacy is the tool to resolve disputes and avoid conflicts. The UN Charter is very clear in stipulating that the all diplomatic tools must be exhausted before states resort to the use force! This way diplomacy is serving the maintenance of international peace and security!

3. Do you have a piece of advice for the young people here today?

The youth should be involved in decision-making and receive training throughout their education in order to be able to resolve disputes in a peaceful and diplomatic manner. Students participating in simulations of the UN and other regional organizations are benefiting from being exposed to the rules of international law, i.e. the prohibition of the use of force, the protection of human rights, etc, from a young age. This way they become responsible citizens of their country and of the international community. And this way they will be safe from misinformation campaigns and nationalistic narratives that are equally dangerous to individual states as well as to the international community. Trust in the rule of law and the global governance structure that has been set out the UN must not be compromised by misinformation campaigns and nationalistic narratives.

4. What traits do think a successful diplomat should have?

Diplomats should have knowledge of international law and an understanding of the cultural and historical context of the conflicts that have taken place or are taking place now. My advice to people who want to pursue this diplomatic career would be to learn as many languages as possible and to travel as much as possible in order to acquire intercultural competences and communication skills. Additionally, empathy and being compassionate are required as well for the job! Diplomacy is about building bridges and fostering peace!!!



The Mediterranean-A Migrant Graveyard

By Maria-Arsenia Zachopoulou

For most of us, freedom and a safe home are blessings we often take for granted. Yet for many, these are privileges denied and they are forcing to leave their homes in order to survive. The Mediterranean has become a perilous route for migrants, driven off of their countries by conflict and poverty, who are seeking refuge and a better future in Europe. While their journeys are fuelled by hope, they often end in tragedy.

Given that this year's conference's theme is promoting peace and working towards resolving International Conflicts, it is crucial to align immigration policies with this exact goal. In order to address the migration crisis effectively, the European Union must look beyond its borders and adopt a dual approach: providing immediate humanitarian support while also actively contributing to global peaceful efforts.



The migration crisis is a strong reminder that peace does not only mean ending wars. It is also about ensuring dignity, safety, and hope for every individual all around the globe. By striving for peace, the EU can turn the Mediterranean from a symbol of suffering into one of hope and cooperation. This is precisely the challenge that the EU committee must address, finding innovative and collaborative solutions to mitigate the crisis. We eagerly await the resolutions and initiatives that will emerge from this discussion, hoping they will find the way for a more compassionate and sustainable approach to migration



What happens in the Backrooms

Press Team:

You can call us stalkers, but that's just our job. We hide in the shadows, observing everything, and quietly add to your record when you're not looking. Be aware— we almost certainly have a picture of you, whether you know it or not!



Secretariat:

The secretariat is an enigmatic team. Although you may never actually spot them, they somehow possess the incredible ability to be in three places at once, making them the true wizards of the operation.

Security:

If the security team somehow manages not to drop your food, you just might get the chance to eat. Considering their main job is protection, who knew balancing a plate of pastitsio would be their ultimate challenge. P.S. If you didn't forget to follow our social media accounts, you would get the chance to see them in action being the stars of our PR campaign!

@dstmun 🤔



What happens in the Backrooms

Admins:

The admins are essentially the errand boys of the conference, with a degree in door-opening. They might not get the glory, but they certainly deserve some recognition. If it weren't for them you wouldn't be able to send that compliments to the delegate across the room! 😊



Advisors:

Advisors may seem like they're here for a deeper purpose, but let's face it—they're mostly coming for the gossip and the free food. The countless hours they spend locked away in their lounge is a chance to catch up to the latest trends and lingo, so they can communicate with the delegates.

Updates from the Specialized Committees

NAC

NAC focused on the subject of de-escalating tensions in the Western Balkans. During the first hour, delegates engaged in lobbying centred on the subtopic of security concerns related to the influence of the Russian Federation in the region. This was followed by a debate addressing the conflict between the Republic of Serbia and the Republic of Kosovo, as well as the involvement of foreign states in the situation.

SC

The Security Council tackled the critical subject of resolving the territorial dispute in the Kashmir region. Delegates engaged in intense lobbying, aiming to secure support for their respective positions on the issue. The council saw the emergence of two distinct blocks: one comprising France, Japan, Malta, South Korea, the UK, the USA, Slovenia, and Switzerland, and the other led by Algeria, Guyana, Sierra Leone, Ecuador, Mozambique.

HRC

The Human Rights Council examined critical global issues, including ways to protect women's rights under Taliban rule in Afghanistan and strategies for providing humanitarian relief during the Myanmar civil war. Delegates also engaged in lobbying efforts focused on addressing and combating discrimination against Indigenous peoples in North America. This debate led to the formation of two distinct blocs: one advocating for the integration of Indigenous communities into modern society and culture, and another supporting their separation to preserve their cultural specificity.

Crisis Day

NAC

The President of the Republic of Srpska declared autonomy from the central government in Sarajevo, escalating tensions between Bosnia and Herzegovina and plunging the Balkans into chaos.



GA3

The crisis team featured individuals dressed as a judge, a man, and an AI, creatively highlighting the controversy surrounding the misuse of artificial intelligence during elections in a theatrical manner.



GA1

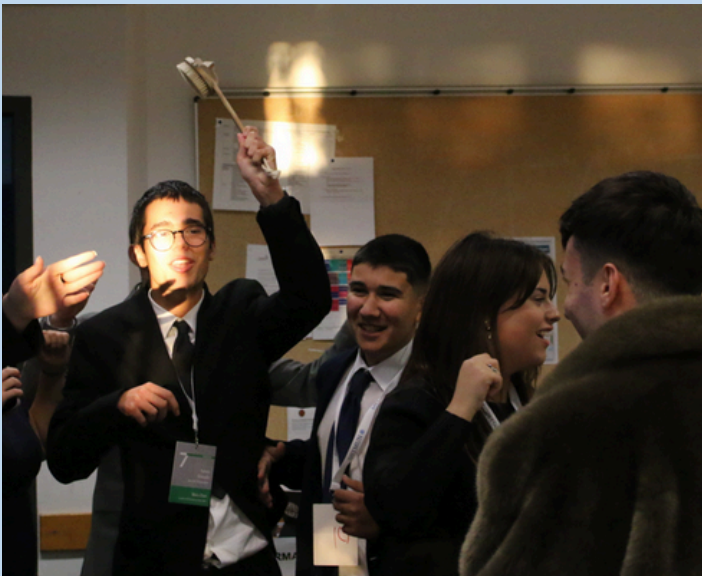
Cluster munitions exploded in Kyiv on November 23, 2024, causing widespread damage and at least 250 casualties. The explosions have drawn international concern due to the dangerous impact on civilians, highlighting the ongoing crisis in Ukraine.



Crisis Day

GA4

Gang members invaded the GA4 with their leader Crack Sparrow, demanding to directly negotiate with the mayor. The delegates were tasked with addressing this high-stakes scenario, exploring strategies to handle the crisis while maintaining public safety and order.



YDF

The president of the French Republic, Monsieur Paris le Pappar Ioannou entered the Youth Delegate Forum protesting the end of migration from and to his country. Following his extreme statements a riot broke out of people screaming to the top of their lungs “Vamonos”.

MUN Lookalikes



MUN Lookalikes

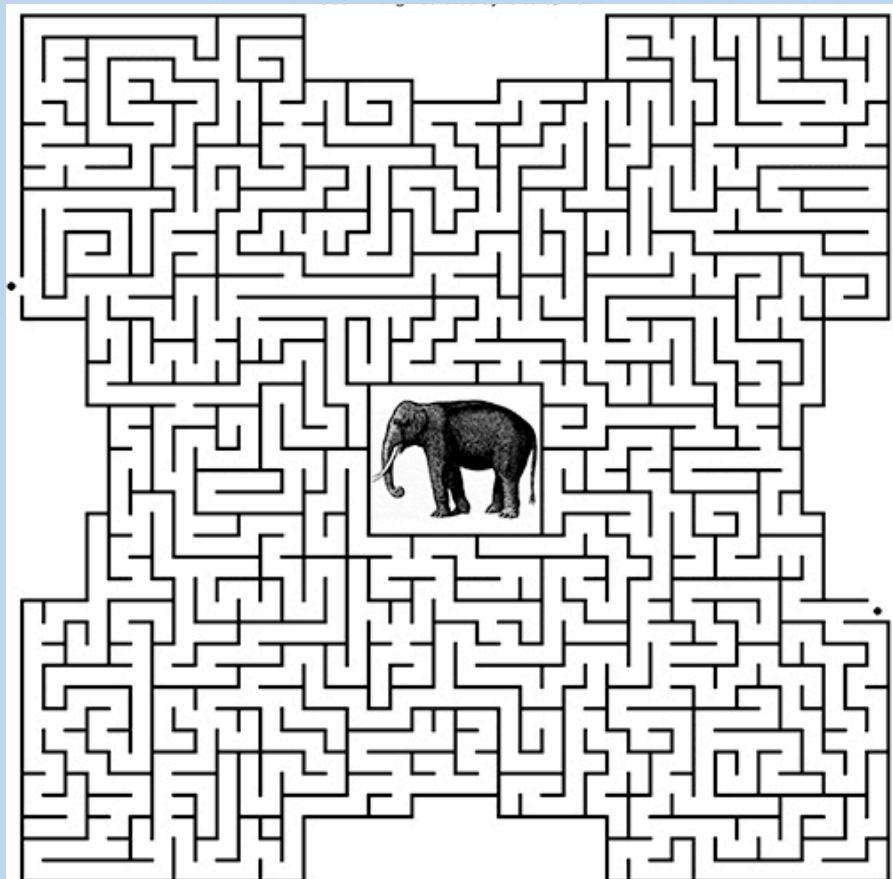


Special moments



Games for when you're bored

	3			7		5		9
		8			3		2	
1			6			4		
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2					9	8		
		3	1				9	



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