

MUNIST DAYONE

WELCOME TO THE
6TH DSTMUN

welcome speech
from

*Petros
Salonikidis*

*Worker
strikes*

GA3's flaming
hot topic

*Is it possible for digital
economy to protect the
environment?*

a welcoming speech from the secretary general, Petros Salonikidis

Dear all,

My name is Petros Salonikidis and I have the utmost honor to serve as the Secretary General of the 6th DSTMUN Conference.

It is my pleasure to welcome you all to this session of our Model United Nations conference. The conference dates back to 2018 when the most passionate members of our MUN Club formed a team aiming to expand the internal tradition of MUN conferences in order to give a chance to students from all around the world to gather on the premises of Deutsche Schule Thessaloniki and experience a simulated session of the United Nations - organized by students for students.

As Mahatma Gandhi once said: What we are doing to the forests of the world is but a minor reflection of what we are doing to ourselves and to one another. — Gandhi's quote underscores the interdependence of environmental and human well-being. It implies that our actions towards nature, particularly deforestation, parallel the harm we inflict on ourselves and fellow humans. It emphasizes the profound connection between ecological health and the overall harmony of societies and individuals worldwide.

So, despite our awareness of addressing and solving the numerous conflicts taking place across the globe right now, we have chosen the main topic of this year's annual session of DSTMUN to be "Sustainable Climate Action: Shifting the Focus toward the Environment." Over the course of the last two decades, sustainability has played a major role in improving the quality of everyone's life and in aiming to transform our world. It helps combat poverty, inequality, global warming and many more major challenges.— The United Nations itself defines sustainability as "meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs." — Thus, sustainability encompasses environmental, social, human, and economic dimensions. However, in this year's session, we will follow the path of Mahatma Gandhi and focus especially on the environmental aspect, emphasizing our collective responsibility towards our common habitat.

We must prioritize the need to protect ecosystems, embrace renewable energy, conserve natural resources for future generations, as well as support the wellbeing of every single individual today. In order to ensure a more resilient future for our descendants, there is an urgent need to foster a deeper bond with nature and the environment. This is the only way to mitigate the catastrophic effects of climate change, so that we all recognise the importance of preserving our environment and acting collectively, not individually, for the greater welfare of our planet.

At this year's DSTMUN conference, we strive to encourage debates that help you broaden your horizons and offer you new global perspectives. We strive to encourage open-mindedness and collaboration, both inside and outside the committees. And, of course, we strive to encourage the formation of friendships that will outlast this conference and enable actual productive collaboration in real life on a global scale in the future.

On behalf of the Secretariat of the 6th DSTMUN, I wish you all a lively and challenging conference, filled with the best of memories and creating innovative solutions for a better tomorrow!

Back to the crime scene...

The 6th DSTMUN just started and this year's main theme is "Sustainability", how we can save the environment and prevent further damage.

The opening ceremony began pleasantly with the song "Besame Mucho" performed by two of our DST students. Then the headmaster of DST, Thomas Holgar Reusch came to the podium to welcome everyone to the school and emphasize the importance of the conference. Next the German consulate in Thessaloniki Ms Sibylla Bendig delivered a speech highlighting the presence of diplomacy in the world as a means to resolving global issues. Following that we welcomed two guests and law students at the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Ms Eleni Goridari, president of the UNSOC, and Mr Georgios Raphael Charisoulis who is a member. They both spoke about their society and their past experiences with MUN conferences. They also reminded us how important it is to grab every chance we are given to share our thoughts and speak up. Moreover the secretariat entertained a speech delivered virtually by Mr Dimitrios Vasiliadis. As an expert on the topic he shared his insight regarding climate change and analyzed the consequences of this phenomenon on our planet. Everyone was fascinated by the violin performance of Mario Thomaidis. He played a music piece from Bach that left everyone amazed. The opening ceremony closed with the speech of Secretary General, Petros Salonikidis.

Overall the first day of the conference was a blast!



An interview with Eleni Goridari and Georgios-Rafail Charisoulis

For someone, who has no idea what you do at UNSOC , how would you describe it?

Eleni: Our UN society generally aims to get young people involved with MUN conferences and promotes the ideas of the United Nations. We also help students to become aware of topics with international importance and to improve their public speaking skills and leadership skills.

Georgios-Rafail: Many students in our university haven't participated in MUN conferences in their high school years. Our goal is to give them the opportunity to participate in MUN conferences and to show them that international issues are more interesting than it seems.

How has MUN changed you?

Eleni: MUN conferences have truly changed me. They helped me improve my public speaking skills. I was afraid to speak in public, but after two conferences I wasn't stressed anymore and also it improved my organizational skills, because I learned to do certain tasks in a certain deadline, especially when I was a chair. Lastly, it really helped me improve my social skills. The connections I made through MUN are still with me, I still have a friend, that I met in MUN.

Georgios-Rafail: It improved my ability to think on the spot and helped me become more organized.

to be continued...

Worker strikes

One of the flaming subjects of this year's conference is GA3's topic: "Safeguarding the Rights of Activists and Protesters during Worker Strikes". Let's take a closer look at what our delegates were called to debate on.

1948: the year when the UDHR was proclaimed by the UN's General Assembly. The year when rights became official, they could no longer be ignored or violated - at least not according to UN law - and they applied to everyone regardless of nationality, gender, sexuality etc. Right to education, right to safety, right to protest, for everyone or, in our case, for workers.

Worker strikes make for a way of speaking up and claiming one's rights.

Although recognized by the UN, the right to protest is not always respected, and the cases of peaceful strikes being shut down (sometimes even violently) are not few. Even now, 75 years after the UDHR, protesters in different parts of the world are often exposed to danger while exercising their right.

In this matter, there are two separate blocs. The first consists of countries which recognize one's right to protest, and the second of the countries that do not. Representatives of nations from both blocs are here today to discuss this issue. Will they be able to come to a compromise?

Ani Liatsi

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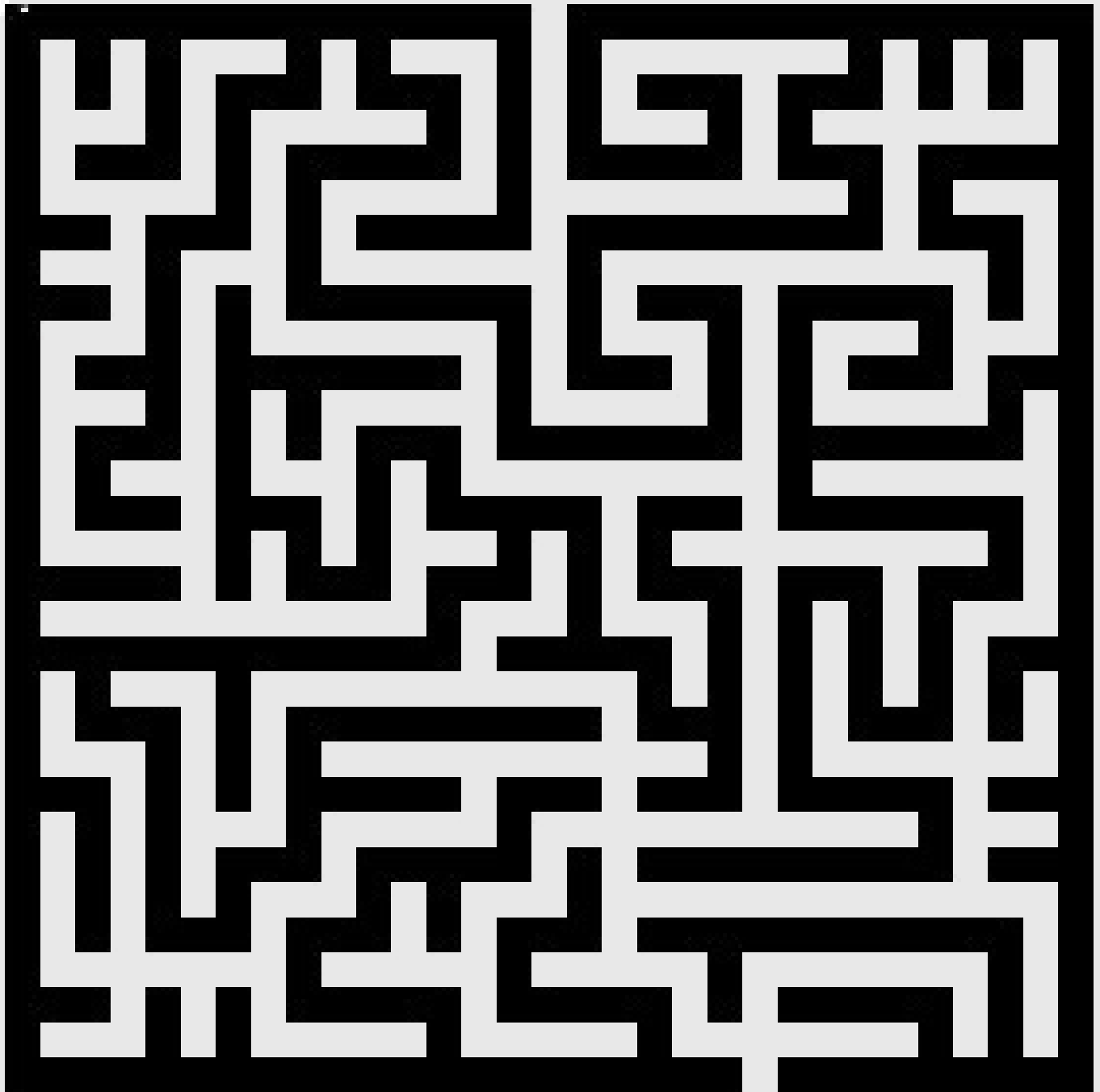
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FIND THE END



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