



BEIWATCH

BEIMUN XXIV

PRE-CONFERENCE ISSUE

MARCH 3, 2017

Welcome to *BEIMUN XXIV*

By Sunny Lee

It is that time of the year again for delegates to bring out their formal attire and demonstrate their astonishing public speaking skills. With an open and optimistic mind and the desire to make a difference, new and returning delegates as well as chairs and officers will gather in Beijing for the twenty fourth annual BEIMUN conference. Over the course of three days, delegates will voice their opinions with passion, revolving around this year's theme of Growth and Duality. In addition, students will receive the chance to prove their ability to research, lobby, debate, and build an effective resolution for global issues. Aside from debating, delegates will also have the chance to make new friends from other schools. Charles

Chang, President of the Advisory Panel, expresses his excitement for the upcoming BEIMUN conference: "I am feeling quite excited because it will be amazing to see the culmination of everyone's hard work put into action."

Every BEIMUN conference provides students with the opportunity to take part in heated discussions regarding global issues that we face today. Delegates new to BEIMUN may take this as a chance to explore and familiarize themselves with the MUN procedure, while veterans continue to develop their leadership skills and confidence when speaking at the podium. Newcomer Evelyn Li of the International School of Beijing, expresses her current feelings: "I am really excited for BEIMUN and scared at the same time because I do not know how my performance is going to be, but I hope to improve as a speaker and learn a lot more about the issues that we are going to be discussing at BEIMUN."

Claire Yip, Assistant President of the Environment Commission 2, summarizes BEIMUN as "an enriching experience that helps develop each delegate's speaking skill, but most of all, allows them to learn more about themselves in greater depth." Beiwatch wishes the delegates and all other participants the best of luck for the challenging, yet exciting BEIMUN Conference XXIV.



HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

By Misato Fujii

"A world where everyone has a decent place to live." - Habitat for Humanity

In a world of political divisiveness, societal inequality and rising poverty, how do we achieve unity of "everyone" that Habitat for Humanity addresses? There is a growing discrepancy in the quality of life amongst communities around the world as it continues to proceed to develop towards stronger modernization. While we continue to believe we are advancing, too often do we neglect the gap that also continues to grow with every step we take in progressing towards our future. And yet, for some reason, this 'future' that we so prudently mention, does not seem to consider the well-being of every individual.

Habitat for Humanity is a non-profit organization that addresses the issue of the growing gap. They strive to spread the quality of having a decent shelter—a place to feel safe and secure—to all those who are lacking the unquestionable necessity that we call, "home." The organization emphasizes the need for the principle of sustainable and transformative development as this in turn promises security and quality to people not only in developed coun-

tries, but also developing countries. Habitat recognizes that families and individuals are barricaded from healthier and sustainable lives due to the mere lack of support they are given to work with; hence they direct their point of focus on constructing and opening up the solid foundation that is needed as a starting point for better ways of living.

The mission they aim to achieve is "seeking to put God's love into action" which in turn "brings people together to build homes, communities and hope". A major aspect of Habitat's composition are the volunteers that help Habitat to do what they do – building houses for those in need of a home. From my own experiences volunteering, I feel that the connection Habitat is able to make between those who are more wealthy compared to those who do not have as many opportunities, is a great way of creating a 'bridge.' In 'bridging' the wealth gap, we need to remember that there is a lot that developed societies can learn from the developing. I personally believe that Habitat has reminded us to appreciate how important homes and our fortunate (continued on page 3...)



Photos by Shermaine Diong and Maya Lu

Artwork by Aidan Murphy

Layout by Karina Zeng

PEIJING

WELCOME TO BEIJING

By Angela Liu

Welcome to Beijing, the capital of the most populated country in the world, the international hub of cultural, economic, and political affairs, and home to one of the oldest civilizations, with years of history. The city itself is divided into 16 urban, suburban, and rural districts, and the International School of Beijing is in one of the suburban districts called Shunyi, which is also heavily populated with expatriates. This bustling metropolis brings together, in perfect harmony, a blend of ancient cultures and the latest technologies, offering a myriad of experiences for tourists and locals alike. However, before experiencing these countless possibilities, its crucial to keep in mind that Beijing is indeed one of the most polluted cities in the world, and health precautions such as wearing pollution masks are strongly recommended.

The highlights of Beijing range from cultural experiences to modern galleries or malls to the hundreds of different cuisines. For those wishing to peer into the complex history of China, the seven famous UNESCO World Heritage Sites-The Temple of Heaven, Summer Palace, Forbidden City, the Great Wall, Ming Tombs, Zhoukoudian, and the Great Canal—are must-sees. Another landmark are the intricate "hutongs", the neighborhood of ancient China, that are slowly being demolished to make space for new infrastructures. Despite that, an area has been preserved and revamped into a series of shops, cafés, and restaurants: Dongcheng district's Nanluoguxiang. This area has street food from all over the world

and delicate boutiques can be found nestled in its cozy nooks and crannies.

For more modern infrastructures, Beijing also offers a variety of sizable shopping malls, often housing many popular western stores. A few recommendations that are popular amongst international students in Beijing would be the megamall Indigo, the notorious Sanlitun, and the westernized Solana.

For the artistic, Beijing also offers both Chinese and western bookstores and art galleries. 798, the heart of avant-garde Chinese art, was built from dwindling storehouses, and its numerous galleries exhibit art from some of the most well known artists such as Zhang Xiaogang, Fang Lijun, and Yue Minjun. Asides from its extraordinary exhibitions, it also holds a wide collection of petit cafés, bookstores, restaurants, and gift shops.

Beijing cuisine's signature is its bold flavors, especially famous for the Peking duck and Zhajiang noodles. Its vast array of snacks and street food include "Bingtanghulu" which is candied hawthorn skewers, "Jianbing", savory crepes, cumin lamb skewers, and honey roasted chestnuts.

Filled with both historic beauty and contemporary technology, Beijing is a city characterized by its temples, palaces, "hutongs", but also its glass towers. Linked conveniently by its underground subways, Beijing offers for you personally to explore and see the step-by-step process of how an ancient city morphed into a metropolis.





INTRODUCTION TO ISB E 题

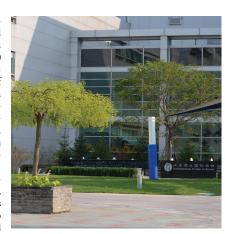
By Mina Kang



Founded in 1980, ISB (International School of Beijing) is an independent, non-profit, co-educational day school for students in Pre-Kindergarten through Grade 12. In its diverse student body, more than 50 different nationalities are represented. ISB developed a curriculum that reflects the best practices of international schools around the world, focusing on Learning21 skills, which require students to understand concepts of innovation, creativity, communication, collaboration, global thinking, and leadership. As the first international school to be established in Beijing, it is recognized as a leading learning community of the 21st century.

ISB and its community embody the value of global-mindedness, just like its Learning21 curriculum, aiming to foster diversity of thought among students in our increasingly interconnected world. It also aims to engage students in meaningful global and local experiences as an international school based in China. Through collaborations with parents and external relationships, it strengthens its academically rigorous and engaging learning environment to fully develop each student's unique potential.

Hence, the twenty-fourth session of BEIMUN (Beijing Model United Nations) is sponsored by and located in ISB. With this sponsorship, ISB strives to fulfill the purpose and goals of BEIMUN - offering an opportunity for participating students to experience the merits of Chinese culture, and widening



their perspectives on the world.

Furthermore, with a 32-acre campus located in Shunyi, ISB provides the best learning environment that is essentially an extension of its learning philosophy and vision: to nurture the intellectual, physical, social and emotional development of its students. It hopes to provide the best possible environment and opportunities for this year's conference as well and continue its legacy as one of the leading Model United Nations conferences in North Asia for more than twenty years.

Photos by Maya Lu and Vivian An

Layout by Anagha Sridhar

GRUMTH and DUALITY

By Johnny Zhou

Like gravity, globalization pulls everything together. We are heralding this 'era of globalization'- creating an amalgamated and condensed world marked by cultural cohesion and international trade. We are the forebears of global telecommunications-of artificial intelligence on an unprecedented scaletreading into the future boldly and bravely. And as residents of the first world, we reap the benefits of this process- our fortunes granted to us by our newfound interconnectivity. Look at the conference around you; hundreds of students coming from dozens of schools around the world. At your environment; computers designed in the United States, created in China, assembled in Korea, and put into your hands. The world of globalization has been great for us; however, we're assembled here at BEIMUN to go beyond our myopia: to understand the problems of global growth and to extend our compassion and aid to contribute to the mosaic of the human condition around the world.







Invariably, the benefits of increased global cohesion are not shared by all. Following the industrial revolutions of China, India, and Mongolia, air pollution has become a significant issue, affecting the livelihoods of all those residing within these count ries. Moreover, in our connected, technological age, the issues of poverty from decades prior are becoming more severe and exacerbated by a digital divide. From children in China's countryside unable to afford the internet to the millions in Africa oblivious to these technologies, our world has separated those aware and those unaware of our 'E-World'- one that has, in many nations, superseded the world of our realities. And as our technologies become ever-more sophisticated, they will further be left in the dust.

I recall visiting a local Chinese village an hour away from the International School of Beijing for a cultural immersion unit in eighth grade Mandarin class. Over the course of those weekends, we navigated the narrow alleyways of dirt and stone to con duct house visits, culminating in the lessons we prepared for the students there. I brought up the sharp juxtaposition between the crumbling building and state-of-the-art computer systems to their principal, who sadly remarked, "what we lack here is not just hardware, but software." He described how the local government had provided a slew of resources: new blackboards, PE equipment, and computer systems to little effect. "Everyone who leaves here feels little reason to come back, so what use is a computer when there's nobody here to teach with it?

And though our world is growing, we must con sider the livelihoods of those left behind. Statistically, society is improving in the aggregate; however, an unintended byproduct is this increased social stratification in which the disparity between the lower, working, and upper classes are becoming increasingly permanent. And though society seeks to help those left behind, it often chooses to skew the results of a dilapidated system - providing computers without teaching children how to use them to compensate for leaving them behind- rather than choosing to tackle the root issues: alleviating poverty by teaching and educating children how to escape this viscous cycle by targeting the system.

Ultimately, our world today is characterized by growth and duality. We are living in an age of rapid development and change, and around the world, we have seen drastic improvements of physical infrastructure and the opportunities granted to previously marginalized people. However, in such a full tide, we need to consider the ramifications of such growth; that those left behind will soon go. Solving these issues is essential for the stability of our world, and beyond all, it is our responsibility to minimize these global divisions, and to develop in a way benefitting for all.

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

By Misato Fujii

(...continued from page 1) lifestyles are. Consequently, it strengthens our communities and allows us to see the bigger picture of the kind of world we live in.

We cannot run away, ignore, nor turn a blind eye to the very origin that is pulling us down from rising. We must recognize the challenge we are all responsible for; creating a connection of similarity for all people in any nation, resulting in numerous opportunities and possibilities for the kind of growth that we are striving to see for our world - a place where basic fundamentals and development to living are not eradicated for those in developing societies.



"Our mission, vision and principles." Habitat for Humanity. Habitat for Humanity International, n.d. Web. 24 Jan. 2017

Photos by Maya Lu and Shermaine Diong Artwork by Nicole Bae Layout by Jenny Cha

A SUCCESS

WHY BEIMUN MATTERS

By Johnny Zhou

In the Bhagavad Gita, Lord Krishna says, "to the illumined man or woman, a clod of dirt, a stone, and gold are the same". In a world divided on socioeconomic, political, racial and religious grounds, society holds stereotypes and prejudice against those who speak and act differently from social norms. Too often are we afraid of those different from us—take the current Trump and Brexit movements, precipitating a zeitgeist of exclusion as an example—and perhaps this where both the practicality and *value* of MUN come to play.

In essence, the United Nations seeks to instill acceptance across our international community and emphasize the collective need for us to embrace the virtues of those from different creeds. Similarly, BEI-MUN strives to reinforce these values and to spread them, bringing together hundreds of vibrant delegates from around the world in order to disseminate the relevance of today's political movements and reflect upon the ever-increasing need for us to emphasize communal acceptance. Because in MUN, as we all don our suits and adopt a peculiar vernacular, no matter what country we represent nor the clauses we advocate for, we are all the same: seeking to improve the circumstances of *everyone* in our global community as dirt, stone, or gold alike.



And beyond all, the theme of this year's conference, *Growth and Duality*, characterizes what we have taken (or for those of you new delegates – what you will take) from our MUN journeys. Whether this be your first or last conference, *reflect* upon the progress you've made over the years. I vividly recall my first MiniMUN conference from six years agostuttering as I gave my opening remarks without example to follow–and my first Beiwatch experience from four years back–struggling to keep pace with the deadlines as I mustered to create cumbersome

and awkward sentences. Though our muscles may still twitch involuntarily from the nerves of speaking in front of hundreds and our mouths still fraught with the rigid grimace of having no idea of what to say, for me, participating in BEIMUN has vastly boosted my confidence for speech and writing, as I'm sure MUN has for you. And no matter how the conference goes, BEIMUN will nonetheless provide snapshots of our progress, and with them, proof that we will continue to improve as the years go by.

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Tips For **MUN** Success

By Anna Brenner

In order to be the best delegate you can be, there are many things to keep in mind when in, or preparing for, a MUN debate. The following is a list of the top 3 tips I have collected from various sources that will help you live up to your full potential.

1. COME PREPARED

This is perhaps the golden rule that any MUN delegate should keep in mind if they wish to succeed. You should fully understand the topic of debate as well as the stance of the country you are representing. A key to a persuasive speech is a strong opening statement that will capture the attention of the other delegates. Also, it is smart to come prepared with your delegation's weaknesses, and not only strengths. This way if you were to be attacked by other delegates, you will be ready for them. Receiving criticisms impact you, therefore be sure to prepare rebuttals and refute them. Inabilities to refute may weaken your stance on the issue.

2. MAINTAIN DIPLOMACY

A valued debate should have two opponents who respect each other. For example, during presidential debates, candidates usually start out with shaking hands or exchanging compliments, then getting down to business. This way, you are not only less likely to be targeted, but also more likely to win the debate. The delegate of Angola from THIMUN Singapore 2015 expressed: "the delegate wrote derogatory, and even threatening notes... Albeit the debate continued during the commotion, everyone was inevitably distracted. Of course, this made everyone quite annoyed, thanks to the delegate".

3. $BEST\ DEBATER = BEST\ LISTENER$

In order to be successful in debates, you must listen. The best debater is not necessarily the one who speaks the most, but the one who can speak under the context of what other delegates are saying. Best listeners can find contradictions in different speeches of other delegates, and remind them of something they have said beforehand. If you do not listen carefully, your speech will be void. This point emphasizes the absolute importance of coming prepared, as you can listen to other delegates instead of formulating your own speeches.







Photos by Vivian An Artwork by Aidan Murphy Layout by Ellie Lee

Landslide of GOVERNMENT MISDEEDS

By Hyoree Kim and Johnny Zhou

In incredible fashion, Republican candidate Donald Trump has completed a *David and Goliath* campaign to claim victory in the 2016 Presidential Election, thereby becoming the 45th President of the United States. Throughout the campaigns, swerves were drawn to his promise of economic growth and national security, both of which he is determined to fix using "the smartest [and] best people". And though he is pledged to increase America's military budget and build a wall that would keep illegal immigrants from entering the country, they have yet to be fulfilled, fueling the strong opinions that millions of those have against Trump and his ideas.

The past few years have been characterized by political unrest: from President Park Geun-hye's involvement in her corruption scandal, Kim Jung Un strengthening his iron grip on the North Korean regime to President Rodrigo Duterte announcing the Philippines' split from a decades-long relationship with the United States. However, nothing else has captivated the world's media to the extent of Trump's success, which has precipitated the exclusive, media-orientated movements of Brexit and the French and Italian Presidential Elections. His campaign slogan, "Make America Great Again", leveraged his own success in business to convince the population that he could revitalize the American economy and improve trade agreements with Mexico and Canada. And though the polls constantly had Democratic candidate Hillary Clinton ahead, Trump's claims resonated with the Americans whom rejected Obama's



claim in his 2004 DNC speech, which stated that "there is not a black America and a white America and Latino America and Asian America: there is the United States of America."

Opportunistically, Trump capitalized on the Obama administration's failings to remove all troops from Iraq and Korea and deal with the increasing terrorist attacks from ISIS in order to divide an equally split population. And though his constant fallings with the media—amplified by his personal

attacks on his political rivals—would have derailed any other candidate, Trump and his success were fueled by them: emphasizing the failings of political correctness by drawing from America's dissatisfaction toward its changing role in today's China-led economy and its steadfast deterioration over the past decade. Nonetheless, we should remain optimistic in the midst of his presidency; to give him the youthful, international support he needs, and to trust his endeavors to revitalize the United States.

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A Beginner's Guide to MUN JARGON

By Annie Li

An MUN conference can be a somewhat overwhelming yet unique experience, especially for newcomers. Hundreds of delegates from different schools and elaborate floor plans of committees floods the senses to create a memorable experience of passion and energy. Perhaps though, the most unforgettable aspect of MUN is the sophisticated vernacular it uses. To outsiders, the words sound like a foreign twin of English, but to the experienced, they know that MUN dialect aides in the productivity and professionalism that are the hallmarks of conferences.

Without further ado, for delegates, admin, press team, and whom it may concern, here is a sample of commonly used terms in MUN and the in-context definitions:

ADMIN – an often overlooked role in a MUN conference, admins ensure that everything is running smoothly in order for delegates and chairs to

focus on their roles. Jobs include sorting name tags, organizing lunch tickets, printing papers, passing notes in committees, and so forth.

CHAIR- the moderator of discussions, a chair's role ranges from keeping time to reinforcing the rules of a discussion. Chairs often sit at the front of a room and ensure that debates are flowing smoothly to maximize efficiency.

CRISIS – an instance in a committee in which chairs present a complication to simulate real-world crises. Delegates are usually required to think and adapt quickly to solve the problem at hand.

FLOOR – an abstract concept, generally signifying, in formal discussions, the opportunity to speak. Commonly used and heard in the phrase to "have the floor". In formal debates, only one speaker may have the floor at any given time.

PLACARD - a plastic signage that indicates a

delegation or position that also contributes to the organization of a debate. The common phrase used by a chair when moderating a debate is "delegates whom wish to speak, raise your placards high".

RESOLUTION – referred to as "reso" by some, is the goal committee debates. Finalized after impassioned discussions from diverse perspectives of delegations, it proposes changes that are to be made and actions that are to be undertaken in order to better the world.

SPEAKER'S LIST – a list and order of delegations that are to take the floor in a committee debate, used by chairs.

YIELD – the way that one chooses to use the remaining time upon speaking. Essentially, a term used as indication one has completed his speech and is returning the floor to delegates, chairs, or questions.

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Layout by Sunny Lee

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HIGHLIGHTS OF 2016

As we enter 2017, let us take a look back at the 2016: a thought-provoking year filled with peaks and valleys. From many loved public figures passing away such as David Bowie, Carrie Fisher, George Michael, Gene Wilder, Muhammad Ali and many more, to North Korea conducting nuclear tests and gaining global condemnation; from Global CO2 levels hitting its maximum, to the fight for the South China Sea, 2016 definitely contained many negative events. However, the negatives of the year only highlighted the positives. Gay marriage was legalized by the U.S Supreme Court, and The Paris Agreement was ratified by the U.S and China. Let us look at some of the most significant events of 2016 in chronological order.

On January 28th, the World Health Organization announced a potential outbreak of the Zika Virus in 19 other countries including the Americas. A number of countries issued travel warnings, as well as have taken the unusual step of advising their citizens to delay pregnancy as the disease can cause birth defects. The outbreak also raised concerns of the health of athletes and sports-lovers who will be heading to Rio for the Olympics in August. On February 7th, North Korea violated multiple UN treaties and prompted further condemnation from around the world, including China, by launching a long-range rocket into space. On March 22nd, three bombings in Brussels, Belgium took place, killing at least 32, and injuring at least 250, with ISIS claiming responsibility for the attacks. This event further brought to light and emphasized the seriousness of cultural conflicts of the 21st century. On April 2nd, military clashes between Armenia and Azerbaijan in Nagorno-Karabakh killed at least 193 people, the heaviest violation of the 1994 Bishkek Protocol, which terminated the Nagorno-Karabakh war.

On May 19th, EgyptAir Flight 804 disappeared with 66 people on board en route from Paris to Cairo. This aircraft was later discovered in the Mediterranean Sea with no survivors. On June, 23rd the British citizens voted to leave the European Union, which has then sparked a worldwide debate on the pros and cons, as well as deliberations regarding the legitimacy of intergovernmental organizations. On July 26th, Solar Impulse 2 became the first solar-powered aircraft to circumnavigate the Earth. Starting on August 5th, and ending on the 21st was the The 2016 Summer Olympics held in Rio de Janerio, Brazil, with the athletes of the United States earning the most gold medals. On September 9th, the government of North Korea conducted its biggest nuclear test and violated multiple UN treaties. This act again caused North Korea to gain further condemnation from the world. On November 7th, the United States presidential election for the 58 quadrennial American president took place, where Republican Candidate Donald Trump was controversially elected. On December 9th, 234 members of the 300 members National Assembly of Korea of voted to impeach Korean President Park Geun-hye who has been involved in various political scandals and suspend her from office.

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Every day, people encounter many stress factors and often find them difficult to diminish. In these times, the first step that should be taken to destress is to take a step back and relax. This relaxation time can be used freely. People can distance themselves from social media and meditate, as taking time to focus on themselves is very helpful.

The next step that should be taken is to stop procrastinating. Procrastination is the act of delaying tasks, and when people procrastinate, they find that their work eventually piles up and causes more

stress. To stop procrastinating, people can create schedules that organize time wisely. In this process, people should not be too ambitious and try to finish everything without breaks. If schedules are too packed, then the owners of the schedules will become even more stressed and will not be able to perform as well. To create a schedule in a nutshell, one should order tasks in the sequence of their importance, and then assign specific time slots for each task.

The final method to distress is to meet and spend time with others. Engaging in hobbies releases a







chemical in the brain called dopamine. Dopamine is released when a person is feeling joyful, and having fun with friends is the best way to activate it. This method will not only instigate joy, but also positively impact the quality of future tasks.

The ways listed above are not the only ones that are possible in relieving stress. Although excessive stress can be mentally detrimental, it should be noted that stress is inevitable. To address this stress, one can take a step back, make a realistic schedule, and remember to engage in pastimes.

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Artwork by Aidan Murphy Layout by Annie Yang

INTRODUCING BEIWATCH

By Angela Liu

Beiwatch is the resident newspaper team for the BEIMUN conferences. We work tirelessly behind the scenes to produce the newspapers that keep delegates updated on the debates and current events and entertained through our satire articles and amusement section. Our aim is to document and preserve the accomplishments, but also frustrations, of delegates, and capture the highest and lowest moments of the rigorous debates.

Beiwatch hinges on its reliable core team, comprising of teacher supervisor Ms. Enas Abdallah,

our editor-in-chief Johnny Zhou, our assistant editor Candice Shi, and our text editor Anica Song. The core team first brainstorms topics and headlines for the reporters to write about and the photographers to focus on, ranging from imminent subjects on the debates to more lighthearted topics such as "What's Inside A Delegate's Bag?" Each article is assigned a reporter, artist, and photographer, and after an hour or so of frenzied and focused writing, drawing, or photographing, the final products are sent to their respective editors. Finally, after all the photographs

and articles have been compiled, the layout crew begins to format the pages into what delegates and chairs will see.

So maybe as you pick up a paper out of interest or peer into the room of reporters fiercely typing, artists engrossed on their tablets, photographers sorting through photos, the layout crew carefully arranging each page, and editors criticizing like Gordon Ramsey, you will understand the strenuous yet prideful work that goes on beneath the words and images you see on our pages.





WHO'S NEXT: UN SECRETARY GENERAL 2017

By Mina Kang

On the 13th of October 2016, the General Assembly appointed the former Prime Minister of Portugal, António Guterres as the next United Nations Secretary General to succeed Ban Ki-moon.

The selection and appointment process involved public discussions between the candidates, UN Member States, and civil society representatives. During these so-called informal briefings, the candidates presented their vision statements and answered questions on how they would promote sustainable development, improve efforts to create peace, protect human rights, and deal with huge humanitarian catastrophes. (UN News Centre) Having 13 'encourage' votes and 2 abstentions, Guterres was chosen among 13 candidates to be the world's top diplomat for the next five years.

Guterres is best known for his humanitarian works on the frontlines of armed conflict and some of the world's worst refugee crises-including those of Syria, Afghanistan, and Iraq-as the UN High Commissioner for Refugees. Now, as the UN Secretary General, he declares that alleviating the suffering of vulnerable people, the refugees and those in conflict zones in particular, and gender equality will remain as key priorities for him during his tenure. He further reiterated his values of peace, justice, human dignity, tolerance, solidarity, and his belief

that humanity's "tremendous asset" is its diversity (UN News). Moreover, during the appointment, Mr. Ban Ki-moon told the assembly that Guterres is a "wonderful choice to steer this Organization as we build on the progress of the past decade, while addressing the insecurity and uncertainties of today's world." Additionally, he praised Guterres for his political instincts, which align with those of the UN: cooperating for the common good and as a man of compassion in the diplomatic circle.

The key question here is: will Guterres make a difference during his tenure? According to UK ambassador, Matthew Rycroft, he is expected to play a more prominent role, "taking the UN to the next level in terms of leadership", and being "a moral authority at a time when the world is divided" (US News). However, voices expressing mixed feelings about the result echoed strong sentiments among Eastern European nations that it was their region's turn to produce the next Secretary-General based on the informal notion of a rotation system.

All in all, it is of utmost importance that António Guterres, as the next Secretary General, serves the global community with dedication and becomes the voice of our collective conscience and humanity through the approaching dramatic problems of our complex world.

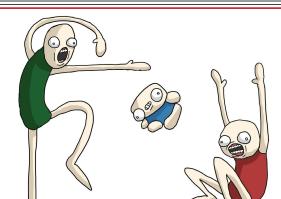


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Photos by Shermaine Diong

Layout by Mina Kang



WORD SEARCH



WORD BANK

BEIMUN Politics
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Spot the differences!

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