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# TORCH

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# Page of Contents

<b>ASEAN + 3: Managing Multinational Transborder Corruption</b>	5
<b>P5 Implicated In “Persian Poppy” Conspiracy</b>	6
<b>UNSC: Hypocrisy Of Solutions?</b>	8
<b>SCO: Uzbek’s Steward President Elected, Civil Unrest Spikes</b>	9
<b>EU Grapples with Staggered Progress and Southward Crisis</b>	10
<b>Nuclear Stockpiling: Checkmate?</b>	11
<b>ARF Addresses East Asia Arms Race</b>	12
<b>Regional Agreement and Cooperation at the ARF</b>	13
<b>UNICEF: Conflict Children</b>	14
<b>Chats with the UNICEF Chairs</b>	15



# Page of Contents

**SMUN 2015: Perfectly Imperfect and Not By Chance** 16

**The World Beneath Our Feet** 17

**Our Insider Scoop with SMUN's Youngest Delegate** 19

**Leaked: The SMUN Confessions Files** 20

**Chat with Director of Socials, Michelle Teo** 21

**MUNpun 101** 22



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# ASEAN + 3: Managing Multinational Transborder Corruption

by Laura Goh, Publications Director

In a plot twist worthy of M. Night Shyamalan, the ASEAN Plus Three Committee shuffled forth with a crisis working paper that made ASEAN look like it would actually take concrete action. Sponsored by Brunei Darussalam, People's Republic of China, Kingdom of Thailand, Malaysia, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Republic of Indonesia and Republic of Singapore; the paper submitted proposed punitive measures for the culprits of the Kra Canal bribery, both the executives and their multinational and government-linked corporations, most notably the public blacklisting of the individuals and their multinational corporations. It also suggested measures that sought to improve existing domestic corruption laws and, at the same time, tried to protect multinational corporations against snap policy changes.

It seemed that ASEAN Plus Three was on the right track, as the Secretary General of the National Anti-Corruption Commission of Thailand paid another visit and seemed pleased with the debate.

Yet somehow, the delegates grew unsatisfied with the paper. Some of the sponsors even disagreed strongly with various clauses of their own working paper

Most controversial was clause 2(b)(i) which sought to encourage the blacklisting of MNCs and individuals found guilty of corruption. "It is vague!" declared the delegate of Thailand, though it was truly anything but. Some delegates were for this clause, though preferring to only prosecute the individuals involved, not their MNCs as the MNCs still pro-

vide a great deal of revenue for them. Debate over this clause continued for a time much longer than necessary.

One of the main points of the paper was the regional consolidation of national anti-corruption frameworks. The existing plans of ASEAN to form the ASEAN Integrity Community that would harness the collective capabilities and resources of the region's governments to fight corruption were revealed. The council grew obsessed with this regional body that hadn't yet come into existence, before veering suddenly into tackling trans-border government corruption, a topic unrelated to the crisis that the delegates had inexplicably brought up. It was clear that the delegates still had great misunderstanding about the theme of the crisis.

They returned to the working paper and fine-tuned it after the break, abandoning ambiguous terms, like "hard" and soft" measures yet still keeping clauses that kept up with the committee's hobby of redundancy. While the heart and intentions of the second draft of the chairman statement were good, respecting the sovereignty of nations and their domestic laws, and made use of existing anti-corruption frameworks; the phrasing of various clauses created a great deal of redundancy.

Still unsatisfied with the draft, the committee slowly removed clause after clause until all that remained were the few passive non-interventionist clauses, pushing away its promising start in exchange for what ASEAN is known for – inaction.



# P5 Implicated In “Persian Poppy” Conspiracy

by Ryan Cheong, Fox News Correspondent

*Damaging WikiLeaks article suggests P5 knew all along about Iranian nuclear force.*

10 June 2015 9am (GMT+8)

A press release today from WikiLeaks News was made available to the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) today and contains information about “Persian poppy”, an encrypted folder containing information on new improvements to technology to increase the yield on weapons-grade uranium. The article implicates the Permanent 5 (P5) in a “conspiracy of silence”, suggesting that the group made a decision to withhold information on Iranian ALVIS technology (a method of potentially weaponising uranium) from the rest of the UN.

This release has so far opened a chasm between the P5 and other Member Nations with the former calling the article “baseless” and affirming the notion that they have “not hidden anything”. America in particular urged “caution” on interpreting the article, questioning if WikiLeaks was even reliable in the first place. WikiLeaks has in recent times been seen by as waging a cyber-war on America. However, the other members of the UNSC are calling for answers from the P5 with some countries such as Jordan going so far as to say “shame on all of [the P5]”.

The article has made its appearance in a time where the UNSC is trying to deal with another crisis: The Iran-Israeli War. The P5 want to shift the UNSC’s agenda to the topic at hand and issued a joint-state-

ment to this reporter: “We are united and willing to impose sanctions and embargoes on Israel to ensure that negotiations take place.” Some countries just do not seem to be on the same page with the P5, with Venezuela laughably calling WikiLeaks an “accurate” source and insisting that this issue needed to be discussed.

With the article now public, the delegate of Israel feels its actions are “justified”, and that Israel will not stop until the “traitors” have their “head[s] on a pike”. She did not however, go on to elaborate on exactly who the traitors were as they were probably afraid of American retaliation.

## War In Middle East Escalates

A special envoy from Iran came to give a fiery speech at the UN, calling Israel a “Zionist regime” and accused the US of doing nothing. All the while claiming that his country’s “Jihad” was actually for “peace”. What the envoy seems to forget however, is that America cannot stand for a nuclear-Iran and that Iran has nuclear power. A point the envoy seems to have swept under the carpet.

An Israeli commando involved in taking down the Iranian nuclear power plant, also came to the table, and called the attack necessary to “ensure survival [of Israel]”. He also accused the US of not being its ally saying that military bases in Iran were ready to attack Israeli forces. The American delegation in response said that he could not support the “pre-emptive strike” taken by Israel, citing that



it lead to a humanitarian crisis; a point which is obvious because a nuclear cloud is now hanging over the heads of the Middle East.

### **Crisis Averted: UNSC Resolution Passes**

10 June 2015 4.45pm (GMT+8)

Resolution SMUN/UNSC/03/1.3 was passed today amid a growing international call for the UNSC to take action against the Iran-Israeli War.

The resolution contains plans for immediate ceasing of Israeli aggression and plans for “punitive” measures should Israel not comply. The Resolution also takes into consideration the nuclear fallout and has authorised NGOs to provide humanitarian aid. It also recommends that the UN send in Hazmat experts to evacuate civilians under the immediate nuclear threat.

Fox News managed to get responses from a few members of the P5. America was “supportive” of the Resolution and hopes that the “crisis can pass” (it probably will, now that America is part of the picture). Russia felt that the Resolution was “indicative of its diplomatic belief” interesting, considering the Crimean situation. China meanwhile was happy that the Resolution was “comprehensive”.



# UNSC: Hypocrisy Of Solutions?

by Zoe Deborah Tauro, Al Jazeera Correspondent

The debates for the UNSC grinded off to a slow start on Day 3. USA took the floor immediately, asserting that they would abstain from relocating or welcoming refugees as clear emphasis had to be placed on her country's needs. Al Jazeera believes that the delegate of USA pleaded a neutral stand, shirking their responsibility, and only providing limited financial aid.

In event the Iran-Israeli crisis is resolved, countries like Iran even have proposed to house refugees; on the condition that it is only a temporary measure. These countries, providing such important humanitarian relief, will only benefit the Iranian refugees until the radioactivity is contained.

After the envoys came to update delegates about the crisis, China's delegate introduced a working paper. It was unfortunately rejected by various delegates due to its lack of specificity, especially in the area of medical treatment which is vital for the refugees to prevent further radioactive contamination. Bosnia's delegate recognised another absence of a solution – in dealing social integration between the refugees and the existing populations, and transport arrangements for them. Definitely, more could have been proposed to resolve the issue of moving the refugees away from the affected sites.

Perhaps the delegate of Ghana summed it up best, "this delegate's (China) working paper is like Swiss cheese – it is full of holes and it stinks" in her short rebuttal to China.

Turkey's delegate then attempted her working paper, with Israel and Sudan offering support only if they were compensated for housing the refugees.

Sudan however presented the most compelling working paper, with even a google maps pictorial with arrows to show how the refugees from Iran and Turkey can be 'safely' brought to Sudan. The delegate of Sudan put across the idea of an 'Open Door Policy' – allowing refugees to opt for permanent or temporary residence. It was further proposed that selling they would sell oil and gold in the international market to assist the refugees.

Al Jazeera believes that the open door policy only points towards Sudan's graciousness and willingness to find a workable solution. While the delegate of Bosnia raised valid points on how the working paper failed to address the issue of medical aid to the refugees, it remains a vast improvement from existing papers in resolving the refugee crisis.

Sudan was trying to help Iran as fellow brothers would, to prevent the refugees from perishing, but unfortunately struggled in some areas of their working paper. Although, the point of Sudan selling their oil and gold to assist the refugees might be problematic. However, Sudan was simply trying to help as a brother's love requires sacrifice at times.



# SCO: Uzbek's Steward President Elected, Civil Unrest Spikes

by Lui Xia Lee, TASS Russian News Correspondent

**T**he Uzbekistan Liberal Democratic Party has acknowledged Abdulaziz Komilov, the Foreign Affairs Minister as the temporary head of state of Uzbekistan in order to stabilize the government and nation following the outbreak of civil unrest.

This comes after tedious discussion among the member states of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) when the untimely death of the official Head of State before Komilov, Islom Karimov, was reported. An election had been called upon to proceed with democratic concept of the country's government but an election date has not been set.

Protests by anti-government groups have clashed with auxiliary polices and turned violent in the capital of Uzbekistan, Tashkent. The civil unrest has spread towards Fergana Valley, near the borders of Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan with almost 10000 demonstrators surrounding various government installations.

The protest broke out as groups questioned the Uzbekistani government's capability to rule after a time when there was no establishment of an interim government and demanded the rule of the country returned to its people. Tension rose further when the notorious riot police "Berkut" indiscriminately began firing on demonstrators in the capital.

SCO member states have stepped in to advise Uzbekistan in this conflict and is currently investigating methods of mediation to ensure the continued

security and stability of Uzbekistan. This is a welcome move to prevent another tragedy like the one in Maidan. Russia has already sent 10000 of its own auxiliary police forces to assist Uzbekistan in maintaining security during this coming election.

"Russia is fully committed to ensuring a stable democratic transition of power," said the Russian delegate when interviewed by the TASS team regarding the role of Russia in the current situation.

China has also provided full-support to the nation in crisis but has been pushing for interventionist acts that go against the spirit of SCO, which advocates the principles of non-intervention and sovereignty. This is an alarming move considering the fact that China has had territorial disputes in the East Asian region. After Uzbekistan's constant rejection of China's requests, China has finally ceased to propose intervention the sovereign nation.

"If you wish to fail, China will not stop you," stated the delegate of China expressing dissatisfaction with the rejection of China's offer to intervene.



# EU Grapples with Staggered Progress and Southward Crisis

by Ambrose Wang Xun Jie, BBC Correspondent

The European Union's sketchy progress into talks concerning the formation of an European army was disrupted by a catastrophic clash in the Middle East at midday. Israeli airstrikes on Iranian military and civilian centres Isfahan and Bushehr were conducted respectively, and the destruction of a nuclear plant in the latter has led to a nuclear fallout of 500 km radius throughout the region.



*Irradiated areas (marked) reaching into Iraq, Kuwait, and Saudi Arabia.*

The fallout was expected to displace a large number of locals and reach the millions, leading to yet another influx of refugees headed towards Europe to seek asylum. Already burdened by the social and economic strain of largely Arab refugees fleeing from recent conflicts, European nations were reluctant to bear another wave of desolate migrants, who would also require medical treatment for irradiation.

Discussions over methods of containing the refugee crisis have taken place, and will likely continue until the day's end. Current ideas gaining traction are:

- A tightening of border controls and immigration policies for EU states,
- Provision of financial and personnel support for Turkey, Armenia, and Azerbaijan, as Europe's buff-

er states, in the hopes of stemming the refugee inflow, and

- Humanitarian efforts to be immediately deployed in force to the affected Middle-Eastern regions.



*The delegate of the United Kingdom leading the debate.*

The EU has almost unanimously decided against military intervention, given that there was not enough reason to justify such a mobilization, and that the issue of a European army had yet to be addressed. The council, however, has agreed to condemn the belligerent actions of Israel. The Russian Federation also interrupted debate to provide an oil-and-gas incentive for non-military interference—its motivations for doing so are still unknown. In response, some points about developing sustainable energy were brought up for discussion.

The council also spent some time acclimatizing to their unique voting procedures, which included a 'qualified majority' vote, weighing a country's vote based on its population size and requiring 65% of the total EU population's agreement to pass. This meant that nations like the United Kingdom, France and Germany combined would make up 45% of the vote and that motions could fail entirely based on their whim. Delegates have been steadily coming to terms with the unusual system, in which their progress has been described as 'heartening' by the Chairs.



# Nuclear Stockpiling: Checkmate?

by Edgar Foo, Xinhua News Correspondent

*Israel's accusations of Iran's nuclear stockpiling only turns the question upon herself.*

Tensions ran high in DISEC as delegates debated on how the council would move forward in resolving the Iran nuclear crisis.

Guided by the unspoken notion of “two wrongs not making a right”, delegates turned the tables, adamantly questioning the delegate of Israel for proper justification regarding Israel’s decision to attack Iran’s alleged nuclear facilities. The delegate of Afghanistan noted that countries should not act on “assumptions and simple insecurities” but rather, build their cases on solid evidence of Iran’s nuclear stockpiling. Even then, war should not be the first option with incriminating evidence. The delegate of the Republic of Korea agreed to this, suggesting that the best check to Iran and Israel’s nuclear stockpiling would be peaceful inclusion of these territories into existing non-proliferation treaties.

The turning point came when the delegate of China rightfully pointed out that disarmament would best be achieved not by debate on principles, but resolved action.

Popular opinion held that the immediate solution would be a ceasefire between Iran and Israel, for fear of recurrence of the crisis.

Resolutions began to emerge, with the delegate of Spain proposing demarcated demilitarized zones (DMZs) in Iran and Israel where peacekeepers could safely operate and moderate all military ac-

tion, as well as the institution of no-fly zones to prevent unintentional acts of war. He reasoned these clauses to be “principled and practically viable in the spirit of international co-operation.”

The delegate of Russia then put forth a more considered resolution which included the option of sanctions and limitations on not just Israel, but also Iran, “knowing that [it] is also a belligerent, and considering how [it’s] nuclear program was the cause of this war”. The sanctions would continue until the said ceasefire could be enacted.

Xinhua stands by Russia in its efforts for peace. Continued warfare would only compromise oil imports which, in turn, restrain China’s booming economy and rapid industrialisation. This is a primary concern for China, which has prioritised economic development in the recent decade according to the Central Government.

Currently, Iranian imports account for 10% of China’s oil demand, and the sale of oil has created prospects for increased trade volume and accelerated investment in infrastructure. Links with Iran also provide access to the Caspian Sea and Persian Gulf which are major routes for energy transportation. With economic assets at stake, peace in the Middle East is imperative.

Indeed, there is the need to find the “Middle” in “Middle East”, starting first with a ceasefire.



# ARF Addresses East Asia Arms Race

by Prasha Maithani, Fox News Correspondent

**T**he ASEAN Regional Forum discussed a resolution addressing the acceleration of the arms race in the Asia Pacific region, sponsored by the USA, Japan, Indonesia, Laos and New Zealand.

The resolution originally constituted fifteen clauses. Nine were discussed. Clause 5(ii), an American proposal for a neutral auditor monitoring military bases, was targeted for removal and voted out of the draft.

The resolution failed to pass by the end of the session due to lack of time. The nations involved in the debate offered several friendly amendments to the resolution, holding several unmoderated caucuses to discuss such alterations.

Member states debated to what extent ARF countries could share military information. Most nations present agreed that military spending can be disclosed, but not breakdowns of expenditure.

A new code of conduct was also introduced to assure fewer incidents similar to the 2010 Senkaku/Diaoyu Islands boat collision, where Chinese fishermen were detained by the Japanese coast guard for approaching the islands.

Mid-debate, the delegate of Indonesia introduced a directive signed by Malaysia, New Zealand and China, urging members to be alert on the movements of any of their citizens involved with the ISIS and other radical organizations.

The US introduced a 'PEACE' summit which 'seeks to deal with territorial disputes in the region in order to increase accountability between regional states...'. This summit would call on the expertise of the UNRCPD (United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific) and the UNODA (United Nations Office for Disarmament and Affairs).

US Defence Secretary, Ash Carter, stated, 'The United States would be the primary security power in the Asia-Pacific region for years.'

The US aims to reduce the acceleration of the arms race and risk of military confrontations in the disputed Asia Pacific regions, and believes that its presence in the region would maintain regional balance and keep sea routes open and conflict-free. The US delegation in the committee agreed to wholly assist the Asia Pacific countries in coming to an agreement.



# Regional Agreement and Cooperation at the ARF

by Tan Yu Jie, XinHua News Correspondent

**D**uring the short time where Xinhua News observed the proceedings of the Asian Regional Forum (ARF) committee, the delegates demonstrated, to the best of their ability, their wit in negotiating with others to advance national agenda and navigating through the regimented Rules of Procedure that define this year's enigmatic SMUN. On the whole, all delegates were willing to work together to come to a satisfactory consensus.

It was initially felt that the Chinese delegates were playing the part to the letter, maintaining China's foreign relations policy in that it wants to maintain amicable relations with all nations.

However, perhaps in being agreeable to so many demands, they were not sufficiently advancing their national interests. One case of particular concern was that China would subject itself to intrusive inspections by external parties. On interviewing one of the Chinese delegates however, they clarified that the clauses passed did not in fact allow external parties to poke their noses into China's military affairs, and that a bilateral agreement would be required in order for any such inspection to occur.

The very phrasing of the topic, The Acceleration of the Arms Race in the Asia Pacific Region, implies that it is a given that there are inherent problems to such a scenario. It was raised in the debate that in attempting to solve the issue, it is important to consider the underlying causes that led to the resulting arms race. Some delegates believed that historical background, unsolved territorial claims, were to blame for the dispute, and as a result the

debate steered towards the validity of such historical views.

The legacy of atrocities past haunts us to this day, creating long-standing grievances. Even in light of countless independent war crime tribunals providing certain findings, some countries continued to deny the facts. Japan maintained that her revisionist history was correct, that the Nanjing Massacre never occurred, and that the international community should come to terms with it to maintain favourable diplomatic ties. Such blatant rejections of what the international community regards as truth is politically disadvantageous.



# UNICEF: Conflict Children

by Yangdup Sherpa, TASS Russian News Correspondent

**D**ebating the ongoing war between Israel and Iran and the children caught in the crossfire, Russia and USA began by stating that these children should be transferred as refugees to countries willing to accept them.

Russia also stated that they would be willing to take in some of the refugees and educate and shelter by stating that these children are the “jewels for the next generation”. Russia also mentioned that, their large air force would make it easier to transport these refugees. But it also appealed to other countries to participate in the effort due to the enormity of the crisis. However, some countries like the US also wanted to play a part in this rescue mission because it would help their standing in the union. Other countries criticised USA for trying to stick their nose into every detail of the debate.

The common concern shared by the delegates was to prevent these children from being recruited as child soldiers. Countries in the Middle East have been notorious for using children in conflict zones, not because of the lack of manpower but to use them as meat shields to reduce the probability of an enemy attack.

Another important point raised was that of health-care provision for the refugees. Many currently do not have access to clean water. This issue was raised by Ghana who asked the other countries to focus on the people already there. Russia offered to send a convoy of trucks to help. However Russia should not have to be so open to refugees especially from Islamic countries. The crises faced by Islamic radical

sympathizers within these communities in Australia and the European nations are a warning against an open-door policy. Russia is large and it needs to focus on its own people before offering assistance to foreign nations.



# Chats with the UNICEF Chairs

by Cassandra Pee and Goh Jing Yi, Press Editors

**I**t was strange when we spotted the three Chairs of UNICEF hanging around outside the conference room, while the delegates were nowhere to be seen. Hakim, Wanrui and E Yang warmly welcomed us into their small circle and explained that the USG Academics, Ingmar, was having a private word with the delegates. Grabbing this rare chance of the Chairs' quiet respite from the rigour of the debates, we sought to uncover the progress of the ongoing discussions in UNICEF and hear their side of the story.

The Chairs were generally satisfied with the quality of the debate, commenting that the delegates did raise several noteworthy ideas during the conference. They pointed out that although some delegates were not experienced, most were pretty decent debaters.

When asked on any disappointing moments, the Chairs unanimously cited one particular example which occurred during the Israel-Iran crisis. The delegates focused on collectively passing a draft resolution on the transportation of thousands of dead bodies across thousands of miles. Instead, the Chairs believed that the delegates should have prioritized working out a resolution to ensure the safety of the remaining living refugees. One Chair mentioned, "and the best part was, they (the delegates) still wanted to create mass graves."

The Chairs hoped to see improvements in the delegates' response to the crisis. They reasoned that the delegates might have prioritized the initial discussion topics at hand before the occurrence of the crisis, rushing to pass a draft resolution for the



crisis so that they could continue their discussions. The chairpersons of UNICEF expressed hopes to speed up the pace of the debate in the committee in order to advance as soon as possible to the next topic on Child Labour.

SMUN' 15 is their first time chairing together. When asked about their time as Chairpersons in SMUN and if it has been awkward, one of the Chairs quipped, "I think that we have pretty good chemistry!"

It was indeed heart-warming to witness the light-hearted interactions between the chairpersons of UNICEF, coloured by their cheeky banter with one another.



# SMUN 2015: Perfectly Imperfect and Not By Chance

by Tan Yu Jie, Press Delegate

In the midst of all the serious, constructive discussion occurring around here at SMUN, I have noticed some amusing quirks that are unique to this SMUN experience, that no doubt help define it.

It has been said since time immemorial that we are what we eat. Surely, fresh ideas and productive brainstorming are the products of what we eat. There is no doubt a correlation between the food you eat and the quality of your thinking. In light of this, it is regrettable that lunch was delayed on a fine Wednesday noon, even if by a few minutes. Maslow's famous hierarchy of needs stipulates that some needs are more important, or are built upon, lesser ones.

James Beard once said, "Food is our common ground, a universal experience." Mark Twain also said, "The secret of success in life is to eat what you like and let the food fight it out inside." There is an overwhelming body of evidence that points to the importance of having and enjoying your food as and where you want, and indeed, there was a dramatic fall in the quality of debate as the hour drew later. More than a few sighs and groans of disappointment were heard in certain committees as it was revealed that lunch would be delayed.

I also find myself entertained by the design of the one of the chairs within the engineering block. Not your committee chairs, mind you. Proudly affixed to each and every one of them is a small metallic badge of sorts, stating "ENGINEERING NUS". I can only speculate as to why this is

so, and I'm unsatisfied by the mundane explanation that it is simply for logistical purposes.

These chairs are unquestionably unique to the engineering faculty, who pride themselves on its design. And what a design it is.

I feel like there is at least some element of innocent mischief in that every time you seat yourself in one of them, a horrid screech resonates throughout the room. Not by chance, but by design. Its designers would not have neglected such a glaring detail, and I'd like to believe that everyone is allowed the discretion to have a bit of fun if they like. Teetotallers would be horrified, but hey, as Ricky Nelson sang, "you see, you can't please everyone, so you've got to please yourself."



# The World Beneath Our Feet

by Ambrose Wang Xun Jie, Press Delegate

*Where will you be when capitalism strikes?*

To eat once a day is survival- and therefore a moral good. To eat twice strengthens the body and allows one to do more for his fellow man- it is thus permissible. To eat thrice a day is greed, and therefore evil. The following documents the evidence of man's growing decadence and the morally decrepit reign of economic anarchy.



Does more, costs less. Meet the free, modern man.



Bureaucrat brandishing his Policy Drafter 3000; the latest tool in proletariat control.



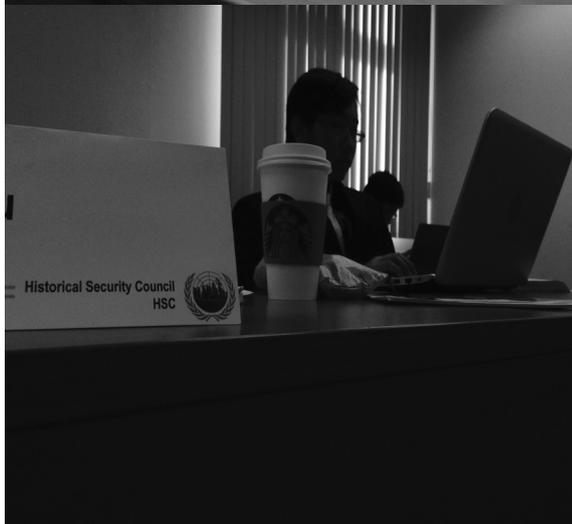
The World Trade and Financial Racketeering Organization gathers to negotiate economic domination.



Imperialist American statesman imposing propaganda unto an unfortunate audience.



The fruits of our utopian nightmare.



Enslavement to coffee.



# Our Insider Scoop with SMUN's Youngest Delegate

by Cassandra Pee and Goh Jing Yi, Press Editors



**D**onning an oversized blazer for his small stature, Jared stood out amidst the crowd of older delegates. At the tender age of thirteen, he carried himself exceptionally well as a delegate, especially since SMUN 15 is his first ever MUN experience. We grabbed the chance to interview him as he walked out of the conference room during the tea break. Beneath his cool demeanour, his excitement was infectious as he professed his love for football and his unwavering support for Liverpool, particularly Coutinho (the attacking midfielder).

Jared has been home-schooled since Primary 1 and enjoys meeting his friends for lessons held at various houses. The half-Irish boy was introduced to MUN by his older brother and his friends, who were experienced MUNners. Debating is an enjoyable process for him, even though he admitted to being afraid to speak in front of all delegates initially.

Jared started acquainting himself with current affairs as early as when he was only 10 years old. He started reading the newspapers for sports news first, then continued perusing other engaging topics.

One of them includes issues on the rights of people, including the children, which had driven him to select UNICEF as his committee. However, when asked if he enjoyed reading books, he quipped, "I like reading the news, but I'm just not into books!"

Below are snippets of our conversation with this young man:

Editors: How do you differentiate yourself from the other delegates?

Jared: I'm young.

Editors: Who is your main enemy in the committee?

Jared: I don't have any; I'm working with everyone.

Editors: How do you find the quality of the debates?

Jared: So far, it's good, but sometimes it goes in circles.

Editors: What advice do you have for the delegates?

Jared: Don't be afraid to speak! I was afraid at first, but I am quite comfortable with it now. Be fun and awesome!

Editors: Who do you want to be when you grow up?

Jared: Do something related to football... maybe interview sports people, or talk about it on TV!

Editors: What is your favourite part of MUN?

Jared: The tea breaks... and making new friends!



# Leaked: The SMUN Confessions Files

by Esther Goh, Press Delegate

**I**n the spirit of Wikileaks, we have decided to disclose classified information which certain delegates have generously provided our agency with. In this leak of the century, great secrets will be exposed. To protect our courageous delegates who have spoken out (lest their safety be compromised), their identities will be kept secret.

As SMUN progresses, certain friendships and ties between countries have been forged. In this spectacular reveal we will publish unprecedented confessions direct from various councils. We hope discerning readers will be able to appreciate the candid nature of this piece.

Without further ado, the confessions are as follows:

“The judge from Uganda in the ICJ is really cute.”

“Someone has a crush on the judge from France in the ICJ”

“This delegate from the UNSC, I heard his name is Edward, is very hot! Too bad he seems taken.”

“I like girls with short hair, especially the delegate of Angola from UNDP.”

“I have an infatuation with a certain member of the Press Corps, a male from TASS”

“I am crazy in love with the delegate of UK in the EU”

“This delegate is enamoured of the Chair of EU, Nicholas”

“Lucas from ASEAN +3 is single and ready to mingle”

“I think The Head Chair of DISEC is handsome”

“The delegate of China in HSC has a very interesting face”

“I love my council (HSC) because we’re productive and united!”

“The delegate of South Africa from WTO seems romantic. I wish he was romantic to me.”

These excerpts certainly will affect the further development of relations within councils. Here at Wikileaks, we wish all delegates every success in their future negotiations with fellow participants.



# Chat with Director of Socials, Michelle Teo

by Edgar Foo, Press Delegate

## COUNTDOWN TO SOCIAL NIGHT!



**T**he academic and intellectual rigour of SMUN culminates in the camaraderie of Social Night that promises to be a night to remember and more.

This year, Social Night will be held at the NUSS Guild House, a choice location to provide delegates with a glimpse of yet another side of the university campus.

Director of Socials Michelle Teo explains that Social Night was conceptualized with the simple goals of allowing delegates to “shed the formalities of debate” and “be themselves”, all to “end SMUN on a high note”.

She shares the exciting line-up: A photobooth will be set up for delegates to take snapshots with newfound friends. There will also be a pageant for select delegates comprising a ‘formal’ and ‘creative’ segment, the former presenting delegates in

all their seriousness, and the latter a chance for them to showcase the fun, quirky sides of themselves.

Additionally, homegrown NUS band Amplified will take to the stage with three invigorating sets. Stringing these together are fabulous emcee-ing and games.

Michelle also reminds that all delegates aged 18 and above are welcome to join the After-Party on Friday. It will be held at f.Club at Clarke Quay and a ticketing booth will be set up at Social Night. Tickets are sold at S\$16 each and entitle the holder to 2 drinks. Delegates can approach the booth for further details.

Get ready, SMUN!



# MUNpun 101

by Edgar Foo, Press Delegate

**I**n the unreal realm that is MUN, there are unique sets of protocol, procedures and MUN-speak that every delegate and chair has to abide by. Not exempt from formal institution is MUN's very own brand of humour---MUNpuns.

While humour comes in many forms, an ordinary knock-knock joke will not suffice unless you're a chair with a gavel. The art of the MUNpun is an exquisite and tasteful one; its formulation requires intellectual heavy-lifting that will challenge even the brightest of minds. Here are 3 quick tips for using MUNpuns effectively:

1) **Do your homework:** Research is important especially in the MUNpun discipline where politics, geography and linguistics meet. There is Norway you can make a good pun without prior understanding of the socio-demographics, policies and issues surrounding your country.

2) **Find your style:** Experts with a Korea in politics will tell you that style is largely Persianal. You Sudan feel pressured to match up to others. Create your own standards. Experiment with different forms in speech, posture and gestures. It is your most comfortable form that makes you India-ering in front of your council.

3) **Know when to give it up:** If you ever end up tongue-Thaid and can't Mecca your council laugh no matter how much you (I)raq your brains, don't keep them Kuwaiting. The best puns aren't forced puns. Humour works best when properly timed and delivered selectively. An excess of jokes might only make you seem Hanoi-ing

earn you an unwanted 'Council Clown' superlative, which may or may not be detrimental to your portfolio. Know when to give it up. (ISIS doesn't.)

To Finnish, a well-placed MUNpun can turn the tide of any debate and lend your case an element of credibility when your council sees how down-to-earth you can be. They are truly an effective tool of rhetoric.

Yet, there are some people who feel that MUNs are not a place for puns. We only ask this of them: Kenya please not diss MUN puns? We're just China be funny and Israeli rude of you to take it so Syria-sly.