

BERMUN XXXI – November 2022

10 Students from BISJ MUN Society recently took part in BERMUN XXXI, an internationally regarded Model United Conference held in Berlin. Students had the task of representing countries in a simulation of the United Nations, where they worked over four days to provide solutions to some of the world's most pressing issues in peacekeeping, from counter-terrorism to nuclear energy. Students were hosted in the Friedrich Ebert Stiftung, Latvian Embassy, John F. Kennedy School and Freie University of Berlin.

Our delegates and their issues for debate were:

Aleksandar Koychev [Y11]: Delegate of Australia, Environment Committee

Issue 1: Nuclear Energy and Peace building

Issue 2: Promoting Peace via Environmental Protection

Huzaifah Akbar [IB1]: Delegate of Australia, Social, Cultural, and Humanitarian Committee 2

Issue 1: Toleration and Reconciliation

Issue 1: Preventing Violent Extremism

Jùlia Bueno Garcia [Y10]: Delegate of Zambia, Historical Security Council

Issue 1: Iran-Iraq War: August 21, 1988

Issue 2: The Kurdish Genocide, 1988

Mayar Abdul Nnabi [IB1]: Ambassador of Denmark, Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC)

Issue 1: The Weaponization of Economic Interdependence

Issue 2: Privatization and Nationalization in Peace building

Rutajit Mohanty [IB1]: Delegate of Australia, Social, Cultural, and Humanitarian Committee 1

Issue 1: Toleration and Reconciliation

Issue 1: Preventing Violent Extremism

Sami Sareshwala [Y9]: Delegate of Germany, Junior MUN

Issue 1: Counterterrorism

Issue 2:

Sulaiman Zain [Y11]: Delegate of Australia, Special Conference

Issue 1: Assessing Intervention in Foreign Conflicts

Issue 2: Improving Policing in Peace building

Tarik Hashem [Y9]: Delegate of Australia, Junior MUN

Issue 1: Counterterrorism

Issue 2:

Yusra Patni IB1: Ambassador of Australia, Disarmament Committee

Issue 1: Managing the International Legal Arms Trade

Issue 2:

Zoya Siddiqui [Y10]: Ambassador of Zambia, Historical Security Council

Issue 1: Iran-Iraq War: August 21, 1988

Issue 2: The Kurdish Genocide, 1988

Students were accompanied by

- Ms Rachel Henwood, Director of BISJ MUN
- Mr Michael Kidman, BISJ Advisor

Trip itinerary:

Day 1: After arriving in Berlin, we walked to the Brandenburg Gate, Memorial for the murdered Jews of Europe and Reichstag.

Day 2: Morning visit to the East Side Gallery Berlin Wall before the Conference Opening Ceremony held at the Friedrich Ebert Stiftung. Guest speakers included the American Ambassador to Germany and German Foreign Minister. Yusra Patni, IB1, delivered an opening speech to the whole conference on her country's stance on the conference topic.

Day 3: Conference Day 1 involved lobbying and merging from 8.30am to 5pm. The evening was spent at the Christmas Markets in Potsdamer Platz

Day 4: Conference Day 2 from 08.30am to 5pm voting on amendments and resolutions. The evening was spent at Berlin Mall.

Day 5: Conference Day 3 saw voting on resolutions, before moving to the Freie University of Berlin for the closing ceremonies, where Yusra Patni (IB1), Mayar Abdul Nnabi (IB1) and Zoya Siddiqui (Y10) carried flags for their respective countries.