

# IMUNION

## THE UNIVERSAL DECLARATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS

Now considered a milestone document for humanity, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) was signed by the majority of nations 70 years ago, after the Second World War.

The concept of fundamental rights has a long history, tracing all the way back to ancient times. The first official act of recognition of human rights was done in 539 B.C., when Cyrus the Great of Persia freed all the slaves a conquering Babylon.

Twenty-five centuries later, the United Nations (UN) was created to prevent horrible atrocities of World War II from happening again. On the 10th of December 1948, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) was approved by the UN General Assembly. Since human rights had been regarded differently by various cultures throughout history, the UDHR was compiled of several past documents to make them into a universally accepted one. They used the proclamations of Cyrus which are known as The Cyrus Cylinder, the Natural Laws of the Roman Empire, The Magna Carta, The British Bill of Rights, the ideals of the American Revolution and the natural rights of the French Revolution to write 30 universal human rights. The UN



YEARS

UNIVERSAL  
DECLARATION OF  
HUMAN RIGHTS

#STANDUP4HUMANRIGHTS

wanted to guarantee the concession of these thirty rights to every individual, everywhere. It wanted the UDHR to allow all people to live in dignity, freedom, equality, justice, and peace. These fundamental rights belong to everyone, regardless of their race, color, sex, language, religion, political views, and nationality.

### IMUNION Press Team

Leonor F.

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Delegates are responsible for any costs resulting from loss or damage to placards/badges during the conference. (placards - 30€; badges - 10€)

Many human rights are yet to be granted to all individuals around the world. The UDHR is seen as a “customary international law” because not all governments have passed all the human rights as laws. Even though it’s been 73 years since the UDHR was ratified, human rights abuses happen constantly in countries around the world.

In the last few years, there have been many human rights violations in countries such as Egypt, China, Russia, and Venezuela, to name a few. For example, Saudi Arabia and the Sunni Arab states entered the Yemen War in 2015. Yemenis have been left without food and 21.2 million are in need of humanitarian assistance. In Venezuela, the difficult economic situation has forced many to flee their country because of lack of access to food, medicine, and

healthcare. In Ukraine, at the border with Russia, pro-Russian groups incited a violent conflict between Ukrainians and Russians, causing the deaths of 10,000 people. Additionally, many illegal refugees and immigrants entering Europe are being deprived of essential human rights.

Derogations and misinterpretations of the UDHR are often made with the excuse that human rights cannot be assured because of certain passing instabilities (e.g. war). As these processes take place at the Security Council level at the IMUN Conference, it is important for countries to debate ways in which human rights can be assured to all humans around the world every day, so that these crises can be fixed.

*Nicole C.*

## The Universal Declaration of Human Rights



# THE PRIVACY LAWS?

On May 25, 2018, a new set of privacy laws came into effect. Better known as the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), the 99-article long list of laws outlines the new regulations on personal data, privacy, consent and other matters. It was approved two years ago by the EU Parliament's Civil Liberties

Committee. During these two years, most organizations had to change some of their policies to meet the GDPR guidelines. As a school which deals with a lot of information about their students, CAISL has had to be careful to follow the new GDPR guidelines.

*Pearl P.*

## HOW THE GDPR AFFECTS CAISL

- CAISL had to get rid of anything that could be classified as personal data. If they don't have explicit consent from the student or any other valid reason for keeping this data, they aren't allowed to keep it. In the end, a total of **1,138 kg of paper documents were destroyed**;
- CAISL had to get rid of all personal information they had of students on online forums;
- Student emails also had to be changed to ensure greater anonymity; personal emails are no longer used for school purposes.
- CAISL needs to be able to prove they have valid permission and reasoning for possession of any personal data;
- The school could get fined for up to 20 million euros (or 4% of their annual turnover) if they break certain rules in the GDPR.

## HOW IT AFFECTS IMUN

- Permission must be obtained to take any pictures of people at the event;
- Without permission, no one can post pictures that include people or information about people;
- Only school equipment (cameras, computers, editing software, etc.) can be used to shoot the video of the event;
- Students filming the event may not use nor keep any of the obtained pictures on their own equipment.

### **BREACHES OF PRIVACY**

- Collecting personal information without consent or valid reason;

The school must file a report to an organization known as CNDP (National Commission for Data Protection, the agency responsible for data protection in Portugal), in case of such breach.

# SECURITY COUNCIL ISSUES

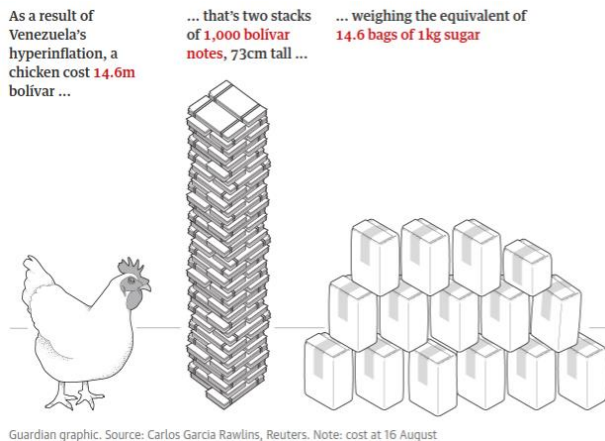
## ***The Economic Meltdown in Venezuela***

President Maduro's poor economic handling of Venezuela has resulted in an appalling economic crisis that is driving thousands of citizens out of the country. According to the National Assembly, the annual inflation rate is of 83,000%. The core of

the issue is oil, which makes up 95% of Venezuela's export earnings. Ever since the price of oil suffered a major decrease in 2014, Venezuela's income has been plummeting. Subsequently, this lack of money caused a decrease in imported goods. Since there were more people wanting to buy goods than there

were goods available, businesses had to raise prices to deal with shortages. As citizens became unable to pay for basic needs, President Nicolas Maduro printed more money, which aggravated hyperinflation. Additionally, both the minimum wage and the VAT were raised, leaving employers at odds with how they would pay their workers.

The near future isn't looking too bright for Venezuela, as the government has resorted to applying a band-aid to a bullet wound instead of fixing its financial issues from the core. The lack of funds being put into infrastructure has impacted the citizens who stayed in Venezuela. There are now frequent power cuts and water shortages, which not only affect homes, but also local hospitals, resulting in many people leaving the country to get access to healthcare. According to the United Nations, 2.3 million Venezuelans fled the country to other South American countries, the US, Mexico, and Spain, in search of a more decent and affordable lifestyle.



### Yemen's Children of War

In March 2015, Saudi Arabia and some Sunni Arab states joined the Yemen Civil War between Houthis and Yemen's government. By January of the following year, 1.3 million Yemeni children were malnourished, 14.4 million Yemenis struggled to find food, and 21.2 million Yemenis were in need of humanitarian assistance, placing the situation in Yemen as one of the world's most alarming current humanitarian crises. Despite the war,



Yemen has undergone a change that has benefitted the citizens' lives in these times of terror – people finally feel safe enough to travel to hospitals.

Unfortunately, this means that hospitals are now overflowing and lack resources to care for all their patients. The World Health Organization is blaming the Gulf coalition for targeting water supplies and hospitals and for blocking seaports and airports for fear of deliveries by the Houthis, a sect of Islam present in Yemen that has been accused of intercepting and halting aid drops. Yemen's cities have been destroyed by landmines and other explosives. Citizens who are trapped in rural areas and villages are unable to reach health centers to help their starving and ill children; and, since 2016, Yemen has lost over 2 thousand lives to the world's worst outbreak of cholera in recorded history.

There are currently a number of local initiatives, such as Save the Children, that are supported by international agencies whose objective is to transport mobile clinics around the country, especially to more rural areas like Hajar and Addis al-Sharqiya, to aid the situation in Yemen.

### **The War in Donbass**

In February 2014, anti-government violent protests erupted in Ukrainian cities Donetsk and Luhansk, with the objective of overthrowing Ukrainian president Viktor Yanukovich. Yanukovich chose to disregard Ukraine's integration into the European Union, a decision that was highly influenced by the threats of Russian president Vladimir Putin. However, this deal angered the local people as they feel they have been robbed of their fundamental right to freedom of speech. Being economically manipulated by Russia, Yanukovich has chosen to ignore the people's outcry, causing them to resort to using violence as more and more protesters die at the hands of the Ukrainian police force. In May of the same year, separatist referendums were conducted by the self-proclaimed Donetsk and Luhansk People's Republics with the objective of legitimizing the establishment of the republics. The results of these referendums were not recognized by any government, including Ukraine's, which dubbed the People's Republics as terrorist groups.

Arsen Avakov, the Minister of Internal Affairs, has said that the separatist problem will soon be resolved, be it through negotiations or by using force. Buildings that

were being occupied by separatists have been taken under state protection and protesters are being treated like criminals. Oleksandr Turchynov, the Ukrainian President, has threatened to launch a military operation to detain members of the People's Republics. An attack was launched on the Donbass People's Militia to reclaim the airfield in Kramatorsk, resulting in the death of four local residents. The deaths of innocent citizens have only fueled the rage of the protesters, both separatist and Pro-Russian, as they immobilize government forces in an attempt to reclaim their rights.

*Mónica N.*



## **THE KEYNOTE SPEAKER**

Every year, the Iberian Model United Nations Conference introduces a Keynote Speaker to inspire all participating members of the conference. This year, delegates, press and Admin are fortunate to have Mrs. K. Nandini Singla be this voice of inspiration.

Madam Ambassador of India to Portugal, Mrs. Nandini comes from a humble background in the southern region of India, Karnataka. Her ambition to make a difference in the world started early on. She has been a driving force for social change almost her entire life, teaching in an elementary school and working at a women's self-help center for

four and a half months in British Columbia when she was just 18. Her experience made her realize how much one of the richest countries in the world (Canada) and one of the poorest (India), could learn from each other.

She completed undergraduate studies in Economics, History, and Psychology and mastered in Political Science and International Relations. After having been recruited for the civil service amongst thousands of applicants, she specialized in the French language and started her diplomatic career at the age of 26, in Paris. She was also the first secretary in the Permanent Mission of India to the United



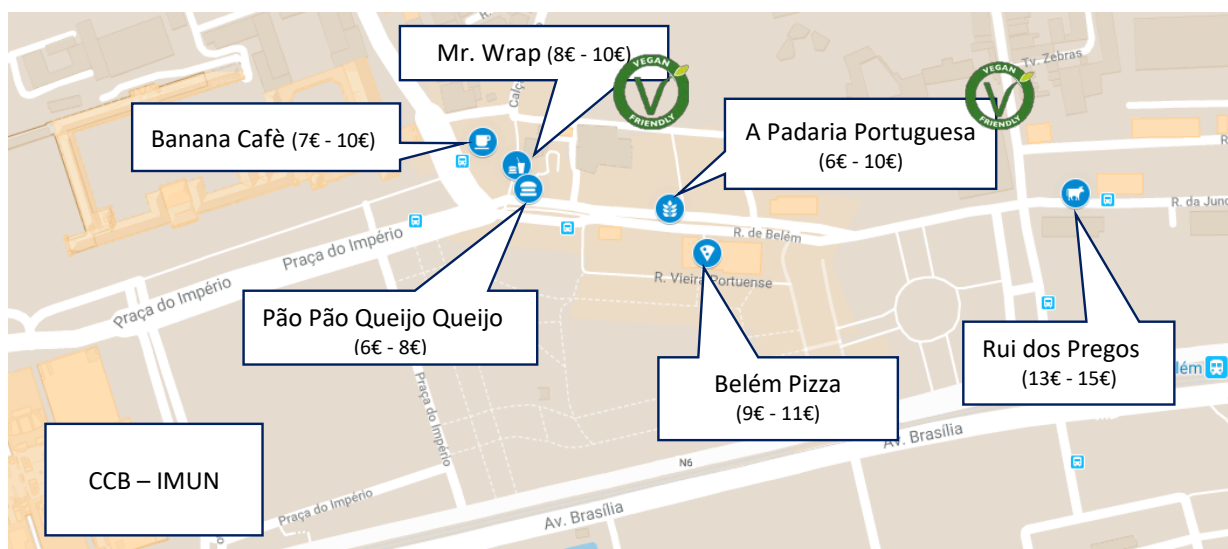
Nations in Geneva between 2009 and 2011 and worked in the Ministry of External Affairs in New Delhi focusing on UN Peacekeeping and UN Security Council issues. She became the ambassador of India to Portugal in July 2016.

Proud mother of two children, Mrs. Nandini is a source of inspiration for many, as she has continually sought to drive social change throughout her professional career

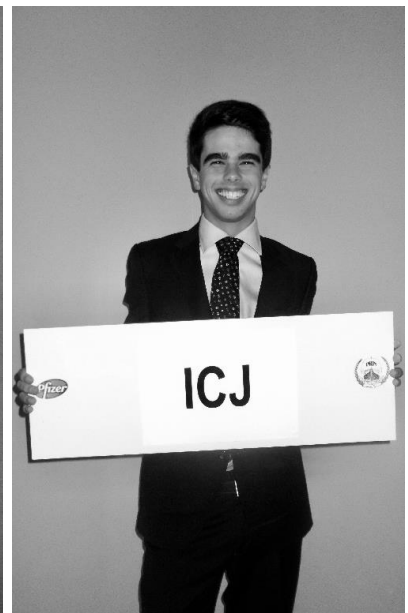
and personal life. The Iberian Model United Nations Conference is privileged to have Mrs. Nandini remind and inform delegates, Press and fellow ADMIN of current world issues, how these are currently being addressed, and, most importantly, how they can be reversed by the youth.

*Leonor F.*

## PLACES TO EAT

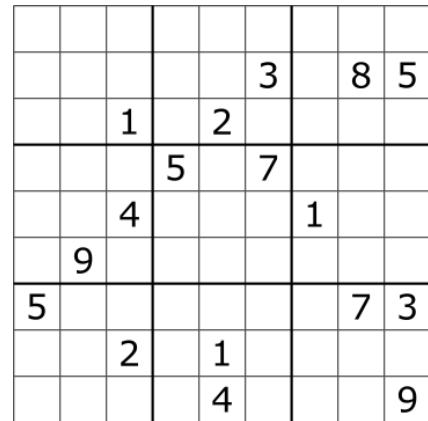
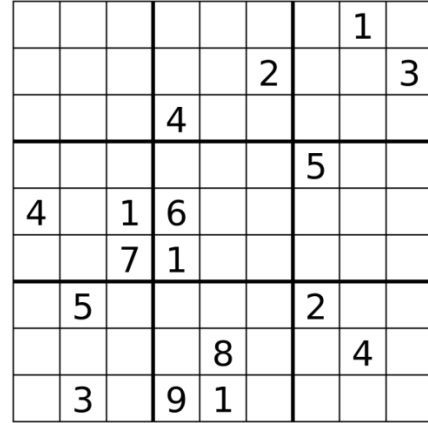
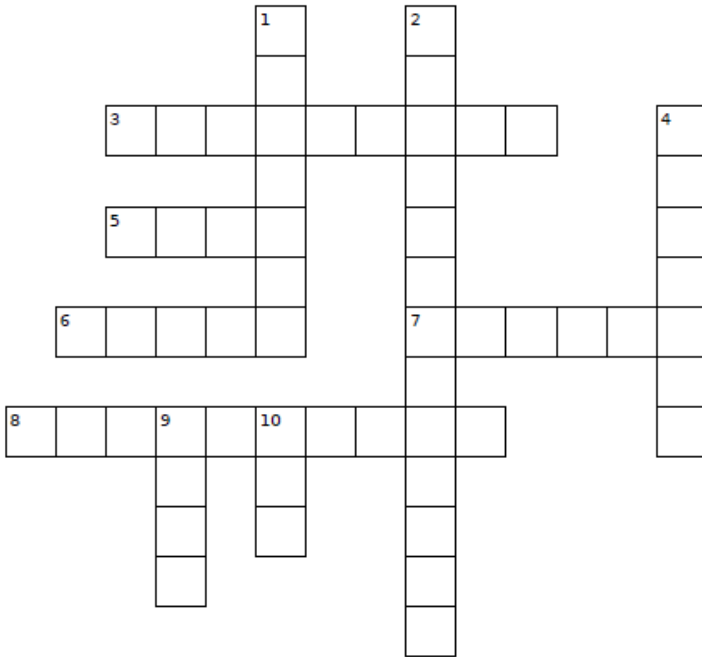


# MEET THE TEAM



**GA** (Sec-Gen.: Davina S. Dep.Sec-Gen: Greg A.); **SC** (President: Vasco G. VP: Gea G.); **SPC** (President: António C. VP: Barbara Z.); **ICJ** (President: João P.); **Admin** (Matias S. & Julia R.); **Press** (Leonor F.)

# ENTERTAINMENT



**Down:**

1. The sixth official language of the UN not listed: Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Spanish, \_\_\_\_\_.
2. Clause that states the reasons for which the committee is addressing the topic and highlights past international action on the issue. (Hint: often these clauses end with a comma)
4. City where the main UN headquarters can be found.
9. True or False? Each of the five Permanent Members of the Security Council have gone to war or invaded a country without Security Council approval.
10. The acronym for the successor of the Millennium Development Goals, put into effect in 2015, being the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

**Across:**

3. This American President was the first to suggest the name "United Nations" in 1941. (Last name only).
5. The first name of the seventh Secretary General of the UN, serving from 1997-2006.
6. Last name of the politician who delivered the longest speech ever recorded in the UN (talking for nearly eight hours) in 1957.
7. The specialized agency of the UN whose purpose is to promote international collaboration through educational, scientific, and cultural reforms.
8. The latest nation to become member of the UN (2011).