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# The Delegate

## The lights are on...



The 1st Model United Nations conference organized by Arsakeia Tositseia Schools has just begun. The Ats MUN opening ceremony took place early in the morning into Patras University Conference Centre. There is no doubt that both enthusiasm and anticipation for the upcoming events could be clearly seen on the participants' faces. The first inspiring speech was delivered by the Secretary General, Anastasis Kardamakis. After welcoming the house, he stressed out the need for combining the principals of realism and idealism in diplomatic practice. He also pointed out that the UN might not be perfect but it can still make an impact on the world.

Then, the floor was yielded to the President of Arsakeia Schools, Professor Georgios Babiniotis, who introduced the topic of the conference "Xenophobia & Racism", an acute problem faced in today's society. He referred to the current international affairs such as immigrants' harsh transit into European countries and our society's efforts to address the situation. He laid emphasis on the opportunity offered to students to use the English language debating and juxtaposing on topics of international interest.

Next, Dr. Robert Stern, distinguished lawyer and ICJ Coordinator, took to the podium. He emphasized the importance of preparation which, according to his experience, is what makes you the best delegate. He also solemnly affirmed that there are no winners or losers and he ended up his stimulating speech congratulating the ICJ delegates for their outstanding choice to participate in "the finest extracurricular activity".

The ceremony proceeded with the speeches of Georgios Aggelopoulos, Deputy Dean, University of Patras, Department of Infrastructure & Sustainable Development, Vasilis Kyriakopoulos, Consul of the Netherlands, Stephen John Taylor, Consultant for South East Europe Cambridge English Language Assessment of the University of Cambridge and Aspasia Kontogianni, Head of the English Department, Arsakeia Schools, ATSMUN Director. All the formers expressed their hope for a fruitful and smooth conduct of the conference and thanked all the participants.

*By Ioanna-Maria Marouda*

# Xenophobia and Racism

Xenophobia and racism are two meanings that people often confuse, but in fact they are very different. Xenophobia is the situation when someone fears or dislikes the unknown, usually other cultures and beliefs. On the other hand, racism refers to believing that characteristics and abilities can be attributed to people on the basis of their race and that some racial groups are superior to others. Nowadays, both xenophobia and racism are two phenomena that have turned into serious global humanitarian issues.

The forms of racism and xenophobia in the world history are numerous and have left deep scars in humanity. The most important example is the Jewish holocaust, when approximately 6 million European Jews were mass murdered in concentration camps and forced labor during Second World War. Hitler believed in the supremacy of the Aryan race and Nazi Germany and did not want it polluted by Jewish occupation. Apart from this, there is also the apartheid in South Africa history, when blacks were denied citizenship, quality health care and many other basic human rights. Last but not least, it is necessary to mention discriminations against women, which even in our era have not completely eliminated, as in many countries women still cannot dress as they like, inherit property or give evidence in Court.

But what should be the attitude of the society and individuals in order to deal with the problem of racism and the fear of unknown?

First of all, educational system should encourage diversity and tolerance for different cultures. To prevent future outburst of xenophobia, there should be appropriate education about the historical examples of racism, which we mentioned before. Not only in school, but also in government and industry, positive images of minorities, who are the target of xenophobic attacks, should be promoted.



*"Beneath the armor of skin and bone and mind most of our colors are amazingly the same."*

In other words, in workplaces of any kind all workers should be treated equitably. Except for these, there are things everyone can do by their own to prevent xenophobia. One of these is talking to people with racist ideas calmly about their point of view, by using reasoned arguments, which can change their perspective.

In conclusion, xenophobia and racism are problems that had terrible effects in the past. For this reason society should not tolerate them anymore and take compelling measures to fight against racism. As Aberjhani, an American poet has said " Beneath the armor of skin and bone and mind most of our colors are amazingly the same".

*By Christina Loukopoulou & Aggeliki Politi*

## Brain teasers

1. When I'm young I'm tall,  
when I'm old I'm short,  
when I'm alive I glow,  
because of your breath I die.  
What am I?

2. Why do Chinese men eat more rice than Japanese men do?

3. Imagine you are in a dark room. How do you get out?

*By Olga Theofila*

# A little chat with the Secretary General: Anastasis Kardamakis

*By Aristeidis Aggelopoulos*

***Which do you think are the major problems that European Union is facing today?***

The Eurozone Crisis and the Refugee Crisis. Both have the same ramifications. Dissolution tendencies and the growth of Euroscepticism. People feel that they are governed by EU mandarins in Brussels and the whole EU dream is falling apart from within. In 2016, the EU landscape will change dramatically. One must not forget that we have the British referendum as well, which can deteriorate the way provoked at a European level via the EU.

***How do you evaluate the department of the European Union as for the refugee crisis?***

Not positively certainly. People keep drowning in the Mediterranean, Turkey received EU funds and is procrastinating and southern countries are blamed for the mess. For me the EU must tackle the problem at its roots, which means ending the conflict in Syria and Iraq. Currently, EU Member States plunged in nationalism and selfishness raise walls as they can't handle such a large influx of refugees.

***How do you view the candidacy of Donald Trump?***

Trump represents the wrath of the middle American voter against Washington's establishment. The man is a seller and uses populism to let people believe that under his leadership, America will be greater and victorious. He calls his opponents stupid. What is stupid though, is his plan to build a wall between USA and Mexico. In my view, Trump is dangerous for American democracy. His "I'm not politically correct" motto should be replaced with "I don't know what I'm talking about".



*Anastasis Kardamakis delivering an inspirational speech in the opening ceremony.*

***Do you support the particular candidate?***

In fact I think I feel the "Bern". I think Bernie is the only candidate who can bring change. However, Sanders has a major disadvantage. He is ignorant of many issues such as Foreign Policy and some of his socialist reforms can be extremely expensive. For instance, his healthcare plan costs three times more than what Obama care costed. In any case, I think I'd vote for him because this man has potential and the willingness to allow Americans dream again of a brighter future.



*Anastasis with our journalist Aristeidis Aggelopoulos*

## Student officers

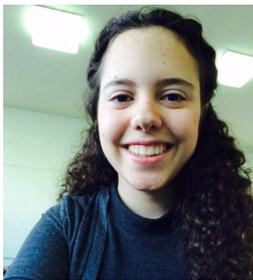


### Eva Alexandrou

- Favorite quote: "Diplomacy is the ability to tell somebody to go to hell in such a way that they will look forward to the trip"
- This is the first time I am serving as a student officer .
- Nelson Mandela has always been my role model due to his determination to achieve his extremely difficult goal.

### Orestis Farmakis

- If I were to spend a day with a single person that would be Barack Obama, since I would like to see how it is to handle all that responsibility and power that such an important position offers you.
- Favorite quote: "Simplicity is the ultimate sophistication" Steve Jobs



### Elli Korre

- Inspiring role model: I believe that each person has to create its own unique path.
- Advice to the delegates: Don't be nervous. I know it is hard not to be, but you need to believe in yourself. You can make it!

### Jolanda Di

- Even if it sounds mainstream, I would love to spend a whole day with the Greek poet Kavafis discussing and writing poetry!
- I think that my most memorable MUN moment was the first time I had to take the floor. The main submitter of the resolution couldn't speak due to her uncontrollable nervous laughter so she yielded the floor to my country unexpectedly. Even though I was anxious, I managed to improvise and deliver one of my best speeches! I was so proud of myself, that was when I realised I love these conferences!



### Anastasis Proios-Doukas

- Favorite quote: "The truly unusual day would be a day where nothing unusual happens" -- Persi Diaconis
- It is my first time as a student officer and I am really excited and glad to be able to participate in this conference . What I am the most excited about is making the conference the most fun for the delegates.

### Nikos Souris

- The first time to have the floor in an MUN Conference. Although my speech must have been somewhat confusing or absurd, in the end I was quite delighted. That experience encouraged me to get the floor again and again stating my point more clearly and concisely and eventually love MUN.
- If I were to spend a day with a single person that would be Irina Shayk .



*By Aristeidis Aggelopoulos*

# Latest news from BBC

US plane strike IS camp in Lybia

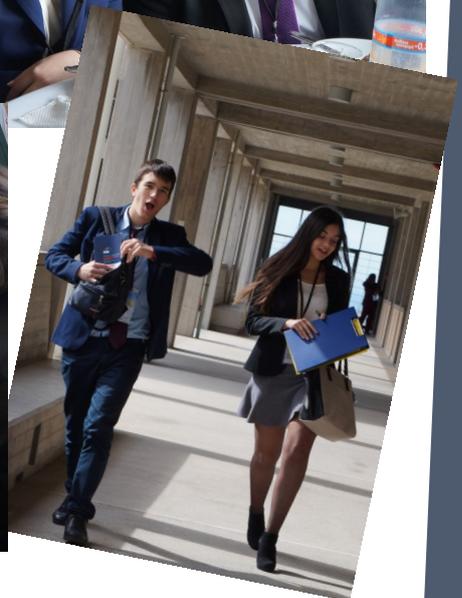
Apple apologises for iPhone 'error 53'

Escaped lion alert in Kenya's capital

Snapshot time!



# Snapshot time!



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