

CONFLICT IN GAZA AND ISRAEL

UN Secretary-General concerned with the continued violence in Gaza and Israel. Calls for restraint and a ceasefire of hostilities.

AMUN KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Mr. Ibrahim O. Dabbashi, Permanent Representative to Libya, will be visiting AMUN on Sunday to share his thoughts on the Arab Spring.

2012 IS THE YEAR OF THE COOPERATIVE

The focus on Human Need rather than Human Greed is the driving force behind Cooperatives as a value based business model. How can you help?

Top Regional News for UN

PRESIDENT OBAMA TO VISIT BURMA

1 President Obama, fresh off of his reelection bid announced that he would visit Burma, or Myanmar as it is also known. Mr. Obama was visiting to highlight the democratic reforms enacted by the new military-backed civilian government. A prisoner amnesty was announced after the visit was booked, but human rights groups are criticizing the release as insufficient.

WAR COURT ACQUITS GENERALS

2 Appeals judges have overturned convictions of two Croatian Generals who were accused last year of murder, persecution and plunder. Both generals have claimed they did not deliberately attack civilians in the Krajina towns.

NIGERIA CLAIMS IBN SALEH IBRAHIM KILLED

3 The Nigerian Army has claimed that Boko Haram commander Ibn Saleh Ibrahim was killed. A spokesman claimed the Army has killed Ibn Saleh Ibrahim, a top Boko Haram commander in Maiduguri. Boko Haram, a militant Islamist group, has killed hundreds of civilians in Nigeria since 2009.

SIERRA LEONE ELECTS NEW PRESIDENT

4 Amid UN calls for impartial elections, citizens in Sierra Leone will select a new President, as well as members of parliament and local elected leaders. The UN Peacebuilding Commission has pledged support but remains concerned about ensuring a fair and transparent electoral process.

SYRIAN REBELS SEND AMBASSADOR

5 French President Francois Hollande met with leaders of the National Coalition of Syrian Revolutionary and Opposition Forces and agreed to accept an Ambassador from what France has termed to be "the sole representative of the Syrian people."

ABORTION DEBATE IN IRELAND

6 Ireland's anti-abortion laws have faced criticism after the recent death of Savita Halappanavar after being denied an abortion. Halappanavar and her husband asked doctors at Galway University Hospital for an abortion after being informed that she was having a miscarriage. Current law states that as long as a fetal heartbeat could be detected, an abortion is not legal in the Catholic country. Halappanavar died three days later from septicemia, a blood condition. Lawmakers are now looking into the role current abortion laws may have played in her death.

XI JING PING LEADS CHINA

7 Xi Jing Ping was recently chosen to be the new head of China. This is a once-in-a-decade leadership change that is very important in China and now the world as well. This leadership change was seen as a rebuke to Hu Jin Tao, as his choices were all rejected for the top leadership body of China. The leaders are all political conservatives, so political reform is unlikely.



AMUN International returns to the Sheraton Chicago Hotel and Towers for the 23rd annual Conference. Welcome all! Now let's start changing the world.

STAYING IN YOUR LANE - UNDERSTANDING PURVIEW

It's the UN's way of saying we are working towards a common goal.

*By Kayla Schmidt Osborn
Under-Secretary-General, Home Government*

Whether in driver's education, on a shooting range, or in dividing a group's tasks, the command to "stay in your lane" is restrictive and confining. It also ensures that no one's toes get stepped on, that others stay in their lanes. It serves the greater good, so an over-arching goal might be accomplished. So it is with purview. It is the UN's way of saying "we [the nations of the world] are working toward a common goal, but everyone has a piece to develop." Together, these pieces might add up to a spectacular whole. Purview defines the scope of a topic that each committee, council, or commission can address. Pur-

view is about staying in your lane.

AMUN strives to simulate the United Nations in New York as realistically as possible, and this philosophy requires careful attention to purview. AMUN Secretariat members review draft resolutions, reports and amendments to ensure they fall within purview. This is particularly important within the General Assembly, where the Main Committees are assigned specific areas of concern, and delegations are careful to not let their topics overlap.

For example, if the general topic under discussion is conflict in Sub-Saharan Africa, the GA Plenary may discuss the topic as a whole, but its Main Committees would focus on specific aspects of it. The First Committee might discuss how to reduce illicit trafficking in small arms and light weapons. The Second Committee could discuss

the role of microcredit and micro-finance in reducing intra-state conflict, while the Third Committee might address hunger or education. Each committee (and the Representatives therein) would be quite careful not to expand the discussion of any topic beyond its mandate.

As you work, make purview part of your negotiations. If you have questions about purview, several resources are at your disposal: First, the *Issues at AMUN* handbook contains brief explanations of purview (at the beginning of each simulation's background guide) and second, Rapporteurs and Home Government staffers are specifically trained to help ensure resolutions and reports are within purview. Don't hesitate to put these resources to the test, and remember, stay in your lane!

ISRAEL AT THE GATES

By Adam Cross

Faced with rocket attacks targeting both the financial and cultural capitals of its nation, Israel massed troops along its border with the disputed Palestinian territory of Gaza. As Tel Aviv is under aerial assault for the first time since 1991 and Jerusalem for the first time since 1970, the Israeli cabinet approved the call-up of 75,000 reservists while tanks and armored personnel carriers amassed with thousands of soldiers outside of Gaza.

Since hostilities re-blossomed Wednesday, Israel has countered the 500-plus rockets fired by Hamas with what it terms as "surgical strikes," specifically aimed at minimizing civilian casualties. Despite this goal, over 450 surgical strikes have resulted in a death

toll of 39 Palestinians composed of both militants and civilians. At least eight children are among the dead. Across the border, the strikes have terrorized the Israeli citizens but yielded few casualties. Two women and one man died after a rocket hit an apartment in Kiryat Malachi in southern Israel.

Egyptian Prime Minister Hisham Qandil visited with Gaza's Hamas leadership stating, "What I am witnessing in Gaza is a disaster, and I can't keep quiet. The Israeli aggression must stop." He further vowed that Egypt would do whatever it could to broker a ceasefire. Meanwhile, Egyptian President Mohamed Morsi lashed out at Israeli aggression vowing, "We will not leave Gaza on its own."

EU Minister of Foreign Affairs,

Catherine Ashton, declared, "Rocket attacks by Hamas and other factions in Gaza . . . are totally unacceptable for any government and must stop. Israel has the right to protect its population from these kinds of attacks." She urged Israel to respond proportionately and appealed for both sides to avoid further escalation of the conflict.

"All sides must respect their obligations under international humanitarian law in this regard," U.N. Secretary General Ban Ki Moon stated. The Secretary General urged a peaceful resolution to the conflict and also announced plans to personally visit the region in the near future.

Will the world see a repeat of Operation Cast Lead in 2008/2009, or will cooler heads prevail?

SG WELCOMES ALL TO THE 23RD AMUN CONFERENCE

You will shed your college-student exteriors to become the distinguished representatives of your respective states.

*By Jacqueline E. Whitt
Secretary-General*

I started doing Model UN in high school—I thought it might gain me favor with a hard-to-please AP European History teacher, plus, what else were nerdy girls supposed to do? I vividly remember representing Saudi Arabia, China, the United States and Belgium at various conferences. Then I started a Model UN club in college, and have been working with AMUN since I graduated in 2003. I've been doing this for a while, and I still can't get over the thrill of seeing a sea of placards, hearing intense negotiations, the sleep deprivation, and the crack of the opening gavel.

Whether this is your first Model UN conference, or your fifth, or your fifteenth, Welcome! We are about to enter into an alternate reality for the next four days—you will shed your college-student exteriors to become the distinguished representatives of your respective states. Secretariat members leave behind their lives as students and professionals to become researchers, simulation directors, rapporteurs, and chairs.

Together, we have the opportunity to have serious conversations about big, important topics. We get to try our hands at negotiation and consensus building around some of the world's most vexing problems. My hope is that your thinking is not bound by convention or cultural bias; I hope your conversations this week give you new insights into the way the world works and into the lives of the seven billion people who inhabit it. I hope you walk away from this Conference more excited and intrigued by the potential of diplomacy for solving international conflicts.

Work hard in the coming days. I do not expect that we will begin to solve all—or even most—of the issues laid out before us, but I believe we may uncover a place to start. And if we are to fail, let it not be a failure of imagination or a lack of effort.

DO YOU KNOW YOUR AMUN SERVICES?

Home Government (Level 2, Missouri Room) is your source for any information you need to accurately request your country's position. You can also request a speaker from organizations not represented at AMUN, such as the IAEA or the American Red Cross.

The International Press Delegation (Level 2, Colorado Room) is your source for the *AMUN Chronicle*. You can request a press conference, deliver a press release or submit a personal ad. You can also ask for a reporter to deliver breaking news or request an interview.

Delegate Services (Level 2, Arkansas Room) is your home for resolution writing and submission. You can use computers to draft your resolutions, and, once you are done, submit them to your committee's Rapporteurs. Delegate Services can also print you *limited numbers* of copies for a small charge.

COUNTRIES TO BE RECOGNIZED FOR POSITION PAPER COMPLETION

University of Mount Union,
Afghanistan
Southeast Missouri State University,
Algeria
University of Arizona, Argentina
Indiana University - Purdue
University Fort Wayne, Armenia
University of Central Missouri,
Australia
Central Michigan University,
Azerbaijan
Carthage College, Belarus
Riverside Community College,
Belize
Purdue University Calumet, Bolivia
University of St. Thomas, Botswana
University of Wisconsin - Madison,
Bulgaria
Western Kentucky University,
Burkina Faso
University of Wisconsin - Madison,
Cameroon
Aquinas College, Canada
East Texas Baptist University, Chile
Aquinas College, Croatia
Grand Rapids Community College,
Czech Republic
University of Wisconsin - Madison,
El Salvador
University of St. Thomas, Ethiopia
Westminster College (MO), France
University of Dayton, Guam
(United States)
Baylor University, Iceland
Alverno College, India
Park University, Indonesia
Saginaw Valley State University, Iraq
Muskingum University, Israel
Loyola University, Italy
Saginaw Valley State University,
Jamaica
Truman State University, Kazakhstan
Anderson University, Kuwait
Phoenix College, Liberia
Indiana University - Bloomington,
Malawi
Luther College, Mongolia
Prince Georges Community College,
Morocco
College of Wooster, Myanmar
Valparaiso University, Namibia
Millikin University, Norway
Southeast Missouri State University,
Oman
Columbia College, Pakistan
University of South Dakota,
Palestine (Observer)
Truman State University, Panama
Wichita State University, Paraguay
North Central College, Peru
University of Wisconsin - LaCrosse,
Portugal
University of Wisconsin - Madison,
Romania
Eastern Michigan University,
Russian Federation
Northern Kentucky University,
Saudi Arabia
Drake University, Senegal
Indiana University - Bloomington,
Somalia
Missouri Southern State University,
Spain
Elmhurst College, Syrian Arab
Republic
Gordon College, Tajikistan
University of Cincinnati, The
Former Yugoslav Republic of
Macedonia
Coe College, Turkey
College of Wooster, Turkmenistan
Westminster College (PA), United
Kingdom
Augustana College, United Republic
of Tanzania
University of Central Oklahoma,
United States of America
Valparaiso University, Uruguay
California State University -
Sacramento, Viet Nam
Howard Payne University, Zambia

SAFETY AT AMUN AND IN CHICAGO

By Shannon L. Dunn
AMUN Executive Director

We at AMUN strive to provide a superior hands-on educational experience for participants. To ensure that everyone in your group, including Faculty Advisors and Permanent Representatives, are able to focus on the experience, we have some simple suggestions for your own safety and that of everyone in your group and at AMUN.

As a starting point, I encourage you to review the Safety at AMUN information on page 33 of the Conference Program. These suggestions should be the starting point when you are considering your safety and that of the people around you.

Stay Hydrated

Large conference hotels are no-

toriously arid. You may feel as if you have trekked across a desert by the time the Conference closes. You will need to drink significantly more water than normal to stay hydrated. Be careful with dehydrating drinks. Consumption of beverages such as coffee, soft drinks, energy drinks and alcohol may have a dehydrating affect. Drinking these, especially more than you typically would, will contribute to the problem.

In the past we have seen many representatives get sick as a result of dehydration. Increase your water intake and reduce your consumption of other beverages to stay healthy.

Theft

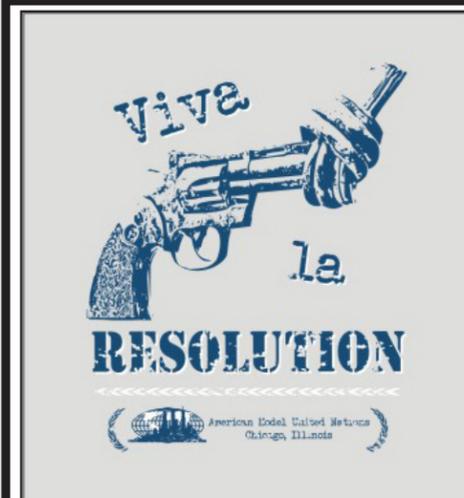
Enterprising thieves will dress up in suits in order to blend in with

the crowd at large conferences. They can quickly sweep through a room and snag phones, purses, laptops and other valuables. Be aware of people who are not wearing AMUN Conference credentials and immediately report them to a member of the AMUN Secretariat.

General Safety

Always be sure that someone from your group knows where you are, and use the buddy system when leaving the hotel, especially at night.

Please help AMUN make the 2012 conference a safe and fun experience for all. Feel free to contact us if you have any questions or concerns at any time.



THE POPULAR AMUN T-SHIRTS

The "Knotted Gun" sculpture is an internationally recognized symbol of the UN and peace, now available as a shirt. AMUN also offers the classic "Got Peace?"

Quantities are limited, so head by Conference Services soon to get yours.

Men and women's styles are available for purchase.

WHO ARE THOSE PEOPLE WITH BLUE BADGES WANDERING AROUND MY COMMITTEE?

By Kellymarie Ziemann
Director of Rapporteurs

Walk into any of the General Assembly committees or Economic and Social Council commissions, and you will immediately see Chairs and Vice Chairs, or Presidents and Vice Presidents, sitting in front of the room, usually with a microphone, presiding over the body. But who are those staffers with the blue badges sitting off to the side? And why are they wandering around the committee/ council room, listening to all of your caucusing?

Distinguished diplomats, that is your Rapporteur Department. If you are an AMUN veteran, you may remember this as the place where you take all of your resolutions and amendments for processing and approval. Indeed, that is a major function of this department. Rapporteurs examine every draft

report, resolution, and amendment to ensure that it is within purview (see article, page 1); in proper AMUN format; and is clear, cohesive, and free of grammatical error. They may ask you to make corrections to your draft (which is why they always ask you for two copies of anything that they are editing) to ensure that all of the documents that come before the body are of the highest possible quality. They also keep track of all of the documents, so if you need to know the status of any draft, your Rapporteurs will be more than happy to share that information.

But the Rapporteur Department does much more than manage paperwork. Often, you will see Rapporteurs circulating during suspensions, listening in on informal debate. Because so much work gets done outside of formal session, staff should be available to assist

there as well. Specifically, Rapporteurs may clarify a procedural issue, suggest an alternate perspective, or suggest a possible role player who might be helpful. They may point out additional collaborative partners based on drafts they have edited or conversations they have heard. They also know a thing or two about the rules, specifically as they relate to reports, resolutions and amendments. Essentially, if you find yourself having any conversations that begin with "I wonder if..." or "maybe we could..." seek out a Rapporteur, who can help you make sure that you are on the right track. They can answer most questions, and if you happen to come up with something that they can not answer, they will be more than happy to point you in the direction of someone who can.

Have a question?... Need Directions?... Or Want to purchase some exciting memorabilia to commemorate your AMUN experience?

Come visit **Conference Services** Located on the Ballroom Level!

AMUN staff can give you helpful information regarding nearby restaurants, places of worship, tourist information about Chicago for your free afternoon, and all things related to the Conference. The staff will be able to answer your Conference-related questions and will have extra Conference handouts and handbooks available.

Don't forget to submit personal ads to IPD to be published in a future AMUN Chronicle

DIPLOMATIC ATTIRE: IT SUITS YOU!

Pages 3-4 of the *AMUN Rules & Procedures Handbook* outline the dress code.

By Kellymarie Ziemann
Director of Rapporteurs

Welcome to Chicago! Hopefully your bags made it with you, and if you packed well, they are filled with all sorts of Conference-appropriate western business attire (or, as we at American Model United Nations like to call it, AMUN fabulousness). But what is "appropriate," why does it matter, and what should you do if you have not brought enough of it with you?

First, let's start with what we mean by "appropriate." As noted on pages 3-4 of the *AMUN Rules and Procedures* handbook, AMUN's dress code is defined as follows: Western business attire is a business jacket or suit, dress slacks (or a skirt for women), dress shirt (with a tie for men), and dress shoes. Attire should follow the rule of being appropriate for visiting an embassy. Clothing explicitly forbidden from formal session includes t-shirts, jeans, shorts, hats, athletic shoes, clothing containing any form of commercial advertising; shirts or dresses that expose excessive bare skin on the chest or stomach; and clothing that reveals undergarments in any way, including being too tight. Sweaters are generally considered too casual for western business attire.

You have entered this conference in the role of distinguished diplomat, and as such, you are expected to behave in a way that fits that role. It should follow, then, that you would also be expected to dress the part. Professional dress helps demonstrate the respect you have for your fellow Representatives, Secretariat members, the distinguished guests of the Conference, and yourself.

If you did not bring enough western business attire to get you through all formal sessions (including Tuesday's closing Plenary), fear not! We have some suggestions for you. The first place to turn is to your delegation. I myself have had to borrow a suit jacket or two from my colleagues, and no one was any the wiser. If you just need a tie or a scarf to come into compliance, please visit the Conference Services (CS) desk, and they will be happy to let you borrow something from the tie and scarf box. If you do find that you are in need of some last-minute shopping, CS can also direct you to nearby shops. Whatever you do, though, please make sure that you do come to formal sessions properly attired, or one of our Secretariat members may gently pull you to the side and ask if you would consider changing. Please be respectful, as AMUN reserves the right to refuse admittance to the conference floor to any Representative who is inappropriately attired or who violates the above provisions.

We have no doubt that you will all look fabulous at Conference. So, we challenge you to step up your western business attire and be AMUN Fabulous!