

CVMUN News

Written by the Press Corps Committee



Fourth Session

The Champlain Valley Model United Nations Conference has come to a close, what do delegates have to say about it?

By Jonathan Ellison, Al-Jazeera

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The last moments of CVMUN are upon us, and with them comes plenty of stories about the experiences the delegates have had. We here at Al-Jazeera have decided to collect answers from delegates of every committee we could on their experiences in their two days spent here. Answers varied, but overall the general response was overwhelmingly positive. We have enjoyed our time greatly here in the Press Corps, and we would now like to share what some of you said about your time here, so without further ado, let's get into the interviews.

*Please note that we tried to get responses from the UNODC but were not able to reach them at an appropriate time, sorry!

Each delegate interviewed was asked the same two questions:

1. Did you enjoy your time here, and if so, why?

HRC-

Equality Now: I have been having a splentabulous time! (Great word choice)

Oman: I enjoyed it a lot.

Kenya: I enjoyed it greatly, it was nice to see how people came out of their comfort zones to speak.

Russia: I think this is one of the most enjoyable committees I've had, being the opposition has given me a new perspective on how these conferences work.

Iraq: I enjoyed it, I liked how with a smaller committee you could connect with people on a personal level, and get more people talking.

DISEC-

Iraq: It was pretty good, I enjoyed learning more about how this works, it's my first time and I enjoyed getting to know more about debate.

Security-

China: I enjoyed how with the way such a small committee was run, everyone got to speak and interact more.

Pakistan: I like how this committee was smaller so it's easier to chat and share their opinions and have their voice heard.

Israel: I do like the smaller factor, it allows for more personal discussion among countries, and more deeper and comprehensive conversations to happen.

UNEP-

Chile: I have greatly enjoyed being a part of my committee, I like that we can have intellectual conversations and strong debate, I appreciate the open mindedness.

United States: I enjoyed the committee, I think everyone was able to work together easily, I just wish that our timeframe had been shorter as we were able to get through it fairly early.

2. Do you think your bloc has done well, and if so, what did you enjoy most in terms of working with them?

HRC-

Equality Now: Yes bro! (A man of few words, this one is)

Kenya: I'm fully confident my bloc is going to succeed in our goals, we communicate very well.

Iraq: This year being on the side of the smaller bloc has added more of a competitive edge.

DISEC-

Iraq: many people in my bloc are very helpful, informed, and well educated.

Security-

China: I enjoyed how everyone stuck to their position, and how both sides were able to stay diplomatic and civil.

Pakistan: My bloc has a great work ethic for coming up with solutions quickly, and I feel like everybody gets to be heard well in my bloc.

UNEP-

United States: I think our bloc succeeded mostly in communication and being knowledgeable about what we were discussing, overall there was a lot of good delegation between the bloc and knowing where everyone fit best

A note from the author/reporter/editor of Al-Jazeera

I'd like to take a moment to thank everyone that I had the pleasure of meeting/working with at this conference; this was my first time trying Press Corps, and thanks to all of you I had a wonderful time. So again, thank you. Thank you to my chair people for keeping the committee going despite all our complications. Thank you to the Secretary General for working hard and even allowing me to be a part of a crisis. Thank you to all the chairpeople, delegates, advisors, and other people I got to speak to for doing so well with cooperating and giving me their time for interviews, and thank you to anyone else who helped me in any way during my time at CVMUN. I have loved every second of this conference, and it wouldn't have been nearly as enjoyable without all of you.

-Jonathan A. Ellison

DISEC in Disarray

Logan Dearborn, Russian News

In the DISEC committee, mergers and choosing who will become authors has caused the relationships between blocs to sour even further than before.

Prior to the controversies that rocked the committee, DISEC held a dance battle and a karaoke competition. Was this ignorance of the larger issue at hand symbolic of what came next?

Initially, the RISE bloc aimed to merge with ICE, and isolate IBC so as to pass at least one resolution. However, ICE did not want to partner with RISE and instead wanted to merge with IBC, the bloc they were originally a part of early in Day 1. IBC was accepting of a merger with either bloc, as aspects of the IBC resolution was similar to both RISE and ICE.

Finally, delegates such as Denmark, Cuba, Germany, and Indonesia organized RISE and IBC to be merged. However, this did not come without problems. The first issue with this merger is that members of both groups did not want to merge. Delegates from both RISE and IBC left to join the ICE bloc. Another issue came with author permissions. Both IBC and RISE had authors for their working papers that wanted to stay as authors for the team's resolution. This caused even more disagreements between bloc members. DISEC is now split between two factions fighting against the same issues, but with different solutions. It will be a challenge to pass a solution with this much division between blocs and within blocs.

On a more positive note, TASS held its final press conference with the UNHRC committee. The two blocs of that committee, C-PRAISE and USME developed two very different solutions towards the issue of modern-day slavery and human trafficking. C-PRAISE, which included delegates from Japan, Nepal, and elsewhere, focused on the immediate resolution to the issue, using pre-existing laws from the UN as well as providing visas to victims of human trafficking. The USME bloc, led by Russia, proposed a 5-year solution. First, some restrictions on forced labor were lifted. However, human traffickers were required to enter into a database that informs the home country on the status of said traffickers. The traffickers would be required to pay up to a 60% income tax to the home country, in order to dissuade further trafficking, without making it straight up illegal. An unique approach such as this may seem detrimental on the surface, but there is a real possibility that this resolution could make the difference that this world needs.

In the UNEP committee, the delegates have already chosen a resolution to follow. They have chosen the REFA bloc. Not only have they chosen the bloc which Russia helped to build, but their resolution was also passed unanimously by everyone present in the committee. The NNN bloc, on the contrary, did not face the same success and received minimal votes from the delegates. Nevertheless, REFA's resolution will help move the world forward into a new age of nuclear energy.



Liers? ...Or Truthers?

Written By: Press Corps Chair Azra Gul

We got called into a press conference to hear and write about a heated issue within the DISEC committee. We had two delegates rushing to come to see us to publish a paper about the deceit portrayed by one of the blocs within the committee. Allegedly, the two blocs' resolutions were very similar, too similar. Which led to them allegedly creating an agreement between the two blocs. Which stated that both blocs would vote on the passing of both papers/resolutions. Voting for ICE bloc starts, and everyone votes for its passing, but apparently the ICE bloc backed out on the voting for the RIB bloc's paper. Holding the paper back. Most members of ICE bloc deny there was ever any agreement between the two, and believe that it was perhaps a misunderstanding, Except for Japan, and united states. They said they had heard about the agreement and tried voting for the RIB bloc, but since no one else on ICE voted, their efforts went down in vain. We had many delegates, like Saudi Arabia and Panama, that stated that the two original delegates' claim was exactly what happened. France stated that one bloc outright outsmarted the other. Some delegates kept insisting there was no official agreement between the two. Then, there were a lot of back-and-forth disagreements, tensions were high in the room. We then asked if there was a completely unbiased opinion in the room, and all fingers pointed to the chair, Tony. He stated if anything, there was at most a promise made between the blocs. Our news reporter then left ICE bloc shocked when he asked, "so you guys are okay with breaking promises?". Which got reactions out of the ICE bloc, giving even more evidence that there was in fact a betrayal between these delegates, and a consensus that ICE bloc did deceit and take advantage of RIB bloc's trust.