

Dear Delegates,

Welcome to YUNMUN XXXII! My name is Leia Rubinstein and I am this year's chair for the African Summit committee. This year's conference is going to be AStounding (I tried) and I am so excited to meet all of you!

Just to introduce myself, I am from Teaneck NJ, went to Ma'ayanot for high school followed by a year at Sha'alvim for Women. This is my second year at Yeshiva University, where I am majoring in Biology and minoring in English, with the hopes of becoming a doctor. Aside from YUNMUN, I am also involved in START Science, Gift of Life, the YU Observer, and am a tutor for the Beren Writing Center. This is my second time at YUNMUN; last year I was the administrative assistant for WFP.

The African Union, a continental body of the 55 countries of Africa, has the mission to create an "integrated, prosperous and peaceful Africa, driven by its own citizens and representing a dynamic force in the global arena." It was created in 2002, with the goals of removing any colonization and apartheid, promoting unity among the African states, cooperating together for development of Africa, and collaborating internationally with the support of the United Nations.¹

Your job is to work together with the other countries to develop a plan to address some of the most pressing issues that Africa is currently facing. I am certain that you will use your knowledge, creativity and ability to work together to come up with solutions to give those living in the African continent access to desperately needed clean water and improve healthcare disparities throughout the continent.

This year the African Summit committee will be operating as a technology committee. While we will be using technology to enhance the conference experience, other aspects of YUNMUN consistent with tradition will remain intact. For more information on technology committees, please see the YUNMUN website.

¹ <https://au.int/en/au-nutshell>

Please keep in mind that you will be representing the viewpoint of your respective countries and not your own personal opinions on the matters. Be sure to educate yourself on your country's history and policies to be adequately prepared. Additionally, I would like to remind everyone that all papers will be submitted through Turn-it-in, so please make sure to properly cite all sources and avoid any forms of plagiarism.

Don't hesitate to reach out! I am super friendly and would love to hear from all of you, even if you don't have specific questions and just want to say hi! My email is lrubins1@mail.yu.edu. Good luck and can't wait to see you all at the conference!

Leia Rubinstein
Chair, AS, YUNMUN XXXII

P.S. You should also familiarize yourself with the song Africa by Toto as this will be integral to your success at the conference.