Benjamin Winters

CSTD: Welcome Letter

YUNMUN XXXVI

Esteemed Delegates,

Welcome to Yeshiva University's National Model United Nations XXXVI! My name is Benjamin Winters, and I am beyond excited to be your chair this year for CSTD!

A little about me: I'm from Silver Spring, Maryland, and went to Berman Hebrew Academy, followed by two *leibadik* years at Yeshivat *Toras Shraga* in Jerusalem. I'm currently a junior at Yeshiva University majoring in finance and minoring in political science. Outside of YUNMUN, I host the Jewish Professionals Podcast (shameless plug: the most-followed Jewish podcast in the world… second only to *Meaningful People*), I serve as Co-President of YUPAC, I am active in TAMID, and I am President of the Aliyah Network at YU. Most importantly, I am a die-hard New York Jets fan. At the time of writing they're 0-4, but I'm boldly predicting a 13-4 season and a Super Bowl win. We'll see if I end up looking like a *navi* or just delusional.

Outside of school, you can catch me in the YU *Beit Midrash*, the ski slopes out West, or doing the Wim Hof breathing technique (look it up on YouTube, we will be practicing it during committee session BezH). Also, I'm training hard to complete the new "Big Three" in tennis alongside Carlos Alcaraz and Jannik Sinner.

The Commission on Science and Technology for Development (CSTD) is tasked with exploring how science, technology, and innovation can be harnessed to promote development across the globe. This year, we will be diving into two pressing global challenges:

One of the topics we will be discussing is the rise of the global "AI bubble." Over the past few years, billions of dollars have been poured into AI startups and projects[1], with companies racing to release the newest models and tools. While innovation has been exciting, concerns are growing that development is happening too fast, with limited regulation and oversight. Issues such as job loss, misinformation, and safety risks are already becoming clear,

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[1] [NYT: AI Payoff Lags](#)

and some experts warn that the current wave of AI investment may not be sustainable.[2] CSTD must explore how to balance innovation with caution, and whether international cooperation is needed to prevent the bubble from bursting in a way that harms economies and societies around the world.

Another topic we will be discussing is the spread of deepfakes and AI-generated disinformation. As artificial intelligence grows more advanced, images, audio recordings, and videos can be manipulated to look and sound incredibly real. These deepfakes are blurring the line between truth and fiction, threatening elections, undermining trust in the media, and even putting individuals at risk.[3] Delegates must consider whether the UN should push for a global framework to manage and label AI-generated content, forging a balance between protecting public trust and maintaining space for creativity and innovation.

You, as delegates, will be challenged to think critically about how your countries view these issues, and to craft resolutions that balance technological advancement with global equity and security.

I strongly encourage you to thoroughly research these topics so that we can have productive discussions and work together to create resolutions to these pressing issues. When preparing your position papers and slideshows, remember that you are representing your assigned country's perspective, not your own. Please also provide citations and note that all papers will be submitted through Turnitin and AI detectors. Plagiarism (including ChatGPT) will not be tolerated.

If you have any questions, hot takes, or just want to say hi, feel free to email me at bwinter1@mail.yu.edu. (Don't be weird, say hello ;) I am looking forward to reading your position papers, having meaningful debate, and meeting all of you!

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[2] NASDAQ: AI Overspending
[3] PR News: AI and Misinformation

All the best,

Benjamin Winters

Chair, Commission on Science and Technology for Development
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