

Dear Delegates,

Welcome to DISEC. It is such an honor and a pleasure to be serving as the chair of this committee!

My name is Reena Wasserstein. I grew up in Silver Spring, Maryland and attended Berman Hebrew Academy from kindergarten until 12th grade. After that I spent a year learning at Migdal Oz, and am now a senior in YU majoring in political science. This will be my fifth time attending YUNMUN. I was on Middle East Summit twice as a delegate in 2014 and 2015, once on Security Council in 2016 and then I served as assistant chair on UNEP two years ago. Sadly, I was not able to fill my role as chair of MES last year because I returned to Israel for the semester to study at Hebrew University through the Nachshon project.

DISEC (Disarmament and International Security Committee) was created following Hiroshima and Nagasaki, events which shook the world. Never before had this type of force been used; there had never been a weapon which could destroy the world. The first purpose of the committee which is written in its charter is “to maintain international peace and security, and to that end: to take effective collective measures for the prevention and removal of threats to peace, and for the suppression of acts of aggression or other breaches of the peace, and to bring about by peaceful means, and in conformity with the principles of justice and international law, adjustment or settlement of international disputes or situations which might lead to a breach of peace”¹. Under this mandate we are given a clear goal: end aggression and bring peace. This is a huge task, but I know you are all up for the challenge.

As you write your position papers please make sure to include what your country’s current position is and what they view as the next step on a global scale. Once the basic sketches for plans are put forward, the committee can later go into detail and focus on the nuances. Also, please make sure to have proper spelling and grammar.

As delegates you have the important task of representing your country’s views from the moment you start researching until forming coalitions and signing resolutions. Not only is this important in terms of the opinions you present, it affects who you should work with and support. Solving problems by abandoning what your country believes in is not a realistic simulation of diplomacy.

You should do research into both of our topics, as well as your countries in general. The more detailed and thoughtful your research is, the more engaging and interesting the discussion

¹ <https://www.un.org/en/sections/un-charter/chapter-i/index.html>

will be. Additionally, you should be well versed in procedure and be able to use it correctly in order for the committee to run smoothly.

YUNMUN is an incredible time to develop many skills which are helpful as you continue with life. Doing proper research, creating realistic solutions, public speaking, working with others and making friends are all skills that can be honed at YUNMUN. Please take this opportunity and work hard in order to ensure the best experience for yourself and everyone around you.

If you have any questions, comments or thoughts (or want to just introduce yourself) you can email me at rwassers@mail.yu.edu.

Looking forward to meeting all of you and to hearing your thoughts on how to solve the world's problems,

Reena Wasserstein
Chair, DISEC
YUNMUN XXX