

UNSC delegates,

As your co-chairs, we would officially like to induct you into Security Council YUNMUN XXX.

My name is Noa Eliach, and I will be serving as one of your co-chairs for this year's conference. I would like to introduce myself before the conference so here goes- I was born and raised in Woodmere, New York, searched the yeshiva league far and wide for elementary schools, and ultimately made Shalhevet High School for Girls (no, not the one in LA) my home for high school. After four wonderful years there, I made my way to Migdal Oz where I had the incredible privilege and opportunity to learn Torah on a serious level. I am currently a senior at Stern College where I am majoring in Political Science with the intention of going to law school. Some fun facts about me: my middle name is just the letter B, I figure skated for 11 years, I have never had my ears pierced, and I have traveled to 17 different territories (if any delegates can take a stab at which 17, I will be EXTREMELY impressed).

As delegates of Security Council we know that it is imperative to list my YUNMUN credentials. This year will be my 6th YUNMUN conference, and I am very much looking forward to spending it with you all. My YUNMUN journey began as a 10th grade delegate on CTC, continued there for 11th grade (yes, I did take home an award), before moving onto MES my senior year. As a Yeshiva University student I have been privileged to serve as the administrative assistant on the World Food Program, and most recently I served as an Undersecretary General at YUNMUN XXIX. I am excited to be chairing the esteemed Security Council at YUNMUN XXX and I am looking forward to rigorous discourse, debate, cooperation, collaboration, and hopefully resolution.

It was one cold and wintry morning, when a slightly younger version of your Co Chair, Zahava Fertig, a sophomore at Midreshet Shalhevet High School for Girls, made her way from a remote hamlet in New York¹ to her first Yeshiva University National Model United Nations Conference. It was on that day that her life was changed forever.

Representing the country of Australia in UNEP, I learned what it meant to be a part of something bigger than myself. I learned to develop my thoughts into coherent and concise statements. Using my persuasive skills, I collaborated with new allies and friends, some of which are current members of the YUNMUN staff today. I continued to participate in YUNMUN during my junior year in UNRA and my senior year in UNDP. After a brief hiatus in Israel (MMY), I returned to YUNMUN, then as the Administrative Assistant for CTC. Perhaps now you can understand why I take Model UN so seriously and why I expect each and every one of you to do the same.

¹ Referred to by the common folk as Woodmere.

We, as the Security Council, have been charged with the responsibility of “maintenance of international peace and security.”² Thus, we have a tremendous obligation to ensure stability among the international community. “With great power comes great responsibility.”³

This year the Security Council will be tackling two very different issues. One issue we will be examining is grounded in both philosophy and political debate. For our first topic we will be going back to the UN charter, the inception of UNEF, and the institution of R2P in order to examine peacekeeping. We will analyze its strengths and weaknesses and ultimately reform the institution. We challenge you, delegates, to think about conflict resolution on both macro and micro levels in order to effectively reconstruct UN Peacekeeping at its core in order to make it the most productive it can be. Additionally, unlike in years past, the Security Council will be shifting its attention away from the Middle East, and will rather be addressing the ever pressing crisis in Venezuela. Venezuela is in a current state of political turmoil that has led to economic, social, humanitarian, and refugee crises. As time goes on the country’s basic infrastructure continues to collapse; thereby, creating a ripple effect in neighboring South American countries.

We expect every delegate to come to committee well versed in the UN Charter, UNEF, R2P, peacekeeping missions and their history. Moreover, we urge every delegate to do thorough research on Venezuela's political history, and to take a closer look at their elections, economy, and now, the humanitarian crisis.

It is important to note that over the duration of the conference you will be representing your country's stances, policies, and opinions, not your own. The chairs will be familiar with your countries' positions and those who deviate from them will be penalized.

YUNMUN serves as an amazing opportunity to hone in on research skills, public speaking skills, team building, partnership, theorizing, and ultimately resolution building. Please take this opportunity to work as individuals, and on the conference itself, a cohort.

Feel free to reach out to us at neliach@mail.yu.edu and sfertig@mail.yu.edu with any questions, comments or concerns.

Looking forward to an intense, fun, memorable, and productive conference.

Noa Eliach & Zahava Fertig
Co Chairs, United Nations Security Council
YUNMUN XXX

² <https://www.un.org/en/sections/un-charter/chapter-v/index.html>

³ Voltaire