



Aiden Harow

UNESCO: Welcome Letter

YUNMUN XXXVI

Dear Delegates of the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization,

Welcome to YUNMUN XXXVI! My name is Aiden Harow and I will be the chair of UNESCO this year. I am very excited to watch each of you display your passion for addressing global issues and your creativity in solving them. Each of you will have the opportunity to exhibit and develop research, public speaking, and collaboration skills in a high-pressure environment. Lean into it and let it bring the best out of you!

A little bit about me: I am from Boca Raton, FL and went to Katz Yeshiva High School. I then spent two amazing years at Aish Gesher in the Old City before coming to YU. I am a pre-law senior studying political science and business. I am also currently working on my law school applications, and would be happy to speak with any of you who are interested in pursuing a career in law about the process! I am very involved on campus as well; I am the president of the Yeshiva Student Union (the overarching YU student council), Head of Education for the YU Political Action Club (which focuses mainly on Israel advocacy and political lobbying), and Managing Editor of the YU Undergraduate Law Review. I have also spent time as a Senior Editor at the YU Observer, and I love writing fiery editorials both there and in the Jewish Link about Israel news and YU developments. I am also a member of the Y-Studs A capella group (check us out on Spotify)!

UNESCO's founding mission is to promote world peace, sustainable development, and human rights through international collaboration in five core areas: education, natural sciences, social sciences, culture, and communication/information. As opposed to other committees in the UN which are focused on achieving peace through security, UNESCO aims to address violence and division at the root: identity. Each society and culture has a unique core identity that serves to both define it and set it at odds with those that define themselves differently. UNESCO seeks to utilize global perspective,



ideological exchange, and common interests to transcend those divisions in pursuit of international cooperation and, eventually, world peace.

Your job as delegates is to represent the identities of your countries. What do they stand for? What are they willing to compromise on and what are nonstarters? In order to achieve the truly global perspective that is at the heart of UNESCO, it is **imperative** that each delegate be **knowledgeable and well-researched about their country's core beliefs, priorities, and current state of affairs.**

This knowledge will be applied to our two committee topics:

1. **The indoctrination of youth in authoritarian regimes**
2. **Media and the spread of misinformation**

Please read both of the topic papers on the YUNMUN website for a better understanding of what we will be addressing. Also, write and submit a position paper on each topic representing your country's stance on these issues.

Our minimum expectation for each delegate is as follows:

- Attendance at EVERY committee session (barring extenuating circumstances)
- Complete knowledge of and adherence to procedure
- Accurate representation of each country's position (not your own)
- All claims and stats must be supported by a verifiable source (no Wikipedia, no AI)
- Plagiarism of any kind will not be tolerated and will result in instant disqualification from awards. **This includes any and all generative AI.** Please put in genuine work and be careful to cite sources.

If you're looking for areas to emphasize during the conference, here is the best path to an award:

- Speak well and speak often. Be well-prepared and intentional when speaking. Do not just speak to get yourself noticed. Ask intelligent questions (not just "I commend...").
- Cooperation is key. When in caucus, seek to collaborate not dominate. Lead by facilitating the inclusion of all of the perspectives in your coalitions.



- Review procedure thoroughly and know it cold. The less time we need to spend on correcting improper procedure, the more time we have to address actual issues.

This conference is going to be incredible and I am so excited to meet you all in February! In the meantime, you can reach me at aharow@mail.yu.edu if you need anything at all. Good luck with your prep and see you soon!

Best,

Aiden Harow

Chair, United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization

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