

*"For Capitalism, war and peace are nothing but business" – Karl Liebknecht*

BERLIN INTERNATIONAL MODEL UNITED NATIONS

## Gossip + Tweets

- "I can't handle the stress of being emotionally involved" DSG on why he doesn't watch GoT: is that applicable to his dating life?! [#BerlinMUN17](#)
- Caution, slippery: the mood in the AC may be a bit frosty [#BerlinMUN17](#)
- Rumour has it Chairman Mai resides in the COP23
- "#ICJ is very boring...do law studies steal happiness?"

## Inspiration from the SG

"People often say that motivation doesn't last. Well, neither does showering, that's why we recommend it daily" – We hope this quote inspires you throughout your day.

## Quotes

"People in the future won't call it the Party Animal Award- they will call it the Franz Award" – Franz (EC-Chair)

Chairs on someone not having Facebook: "She must be fucked up...but she seems totally normal" [#SoConfused](#) – Chair debrief

## Event

- 90's Theme Club Night 9pm at *James June –Karl-Marx-Allee 93, 10243* Directions: 21<sup>st</sup> Century and Google Maps (detailed directions are in the Delegate Handbook page 7)

## **Is the European Council Working for or Against the People?** by **Océane Gougeon**



*The first debate of the European Council on the 14th of August*

*seemed full of promises even before it started, as its topic (the future of the European Union) should definitely be more about its people than about satiating the great engine of capitalism. But yet again, the debate quickly shifted towards increasing a so-called «defence budget» and strengthening external border controls, thus forgetting the crucial social aspect the EU desperately needs.*



The debate for a united and fairer Europe rapidly switched to the redundant ultra-liberal topic of military spending and severe border control. France immediately set the tone by bluntly declaring that the member state would like the European Union to concentrate its efforts on a common defence policy, as well as a shared external border control and a revision of the immigration and asylum policy, all of this by 2020. It appears clear that this new so-called «pro-Europe» leader knows what he wants, and that is far away from seizing the means of production and redistributing it to their true owner: the people.

Even though Germany tried to re-center the debate on economics (no surprise there), France pushed further and went to the point of suggesting that a hypothetical European army should reach the same level of influence and power as NATO. Maybe afraid of not being blatantly disappointing enough, the French delegation pushed its isolationist stance further by implying a hierarchy between a «real refugee» and an «economic immigrant». We leave to you the leisure of guessing which one stands on the bottom of the asylum merit scale in the eyes of the country of «Freedom, Equality, Brotherhood».

At the end of the day, a working paper was taking shape, and the only preoccupation that came out of it was, as ever, how to keep fellow humans as far away from us as possible.

## **A Comment on Sabre Rattling in the Arctic Council** by **Karina Blommen**



The Arctic is threatened by climate change and the ice is melting rapidly. Animals, indigenous populations and the disadvantaged lower classes from all over the world, especially the working classes from developing countries, suffer from the consequences that issue from global warming.

What the capitalistic countries of the Arctic Council want is an agreement on shipping routes through the Arctic Ocean – for commercial reasons. Since the Arctic will warm up twice as fast as other parts of the world, these new shipping routes will arise - bringing new opportunities for economic leaders. Who will profit from that? US-American industries which thrive on the expansion of the oil economy.

The representative of the Russian Federation stressed in her debates that the U.S. wants more than it is entitled to, since the U.S. has not ratified UNCLOS (United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea). This is why mainly Russia, Canada and the U.S. debate about infrastructure and funding of building ports, deep water harbours and a logistic system that makes shipping safer, cheaper and faster. Highly underrepresented are arguments from local communities and the indigenous population, meaning arguments on the concrete territorial disputes, environmental protection and the effects on the settlements of these communities. As there are only a few ships that are able to cross the Arctic Ocean now, it would be more sustainable to concentrate on climate issues and try and save the world instead of thinking about capitalistic profit.

## Trying to Change 90's Mistakes

by Elena LHSCobo



The Rwandan genocide of 1994 occurred between April and July because of the attempted extermination from the Hutu against the Tutsi; what happened those months was that the Tutsi population was almost eliminated - it was an ethnic cleansing.

The conflict was a huge massacre in which some countries took part just to try to stop and control it. This was not the position of the US, who acted as if nothing happened at all and surprisingly did not take the opportunity to jump into the conflict.

The delegates of the HSC had the chance to assist to a kind of masterclass yesterday evening; it was at the hand of Sarah Brockmeier, a project manager at the Global Public Policy Institute in Berlin and a worker on the UN Peacekeeping. She gave a complete vision of Rwanda's Genocide and provided the journalists with enough information to use for the rest of the BerlinMUN conference. This talk was the initial energy "Agrentina" (gr is the new rg), the Soviet Union, the People's Republic of China and the rest of the delegates of the HSC needed for starting this days of conferences.

We will see what the delegates make of their new knowledge. Will the US take part now they that have a second chance? Maybe they could do better this time, maybe.

## "Nothing Can Have Value Without Being an Object of Utility"

by Katharina Keuken

At the first day of the conference the Committee is practising on the



topic is Karaoke. The table is clearly in different positions. Karaoke could benefit to people as it releases stress but on the other hand it goes hand in hand with clubbing and the consumption of alcohol...

Everyone eagerly anticipates the Karaoke-Bar tomorrow, even though some Judges and Defendants are partly the opinion that most people who do karaoke should not sing as they can not sing...but the honourable judges and defendants are ignoring the fact that what is legally allowed by the state should be available to everyone.

This morning the Committee started working for real. Defendants are well prepared and motivated. Speaking

effortlessly about principles and articles. The judges are sandwiched between The United States on the one side and the Islamic Republic on the other side. The court hearing that will take place this week may be an arduous struggle as the different sides could not be any more opposite.

But no matter who you are, if judge or defendant, everyone is equal – especially in the eyes of the law. This way of thinking was already known and appreciated by Marx. In that sense the chairs are distributing the speakers adequate time, so at least here everyone has equal access to what is allocated to them by the state.

## China and Russian Federation Step Up to the Climate Challenge

by Scarlet Wizard

As the 23th edition of the UNFCCC party began, agenda setting started with the mock debate among member states. The USA representative and UK delegate delivered their speeches in support of green funds as the main basis to reinforce the development of renewable technology.

Mockery can be implicitly heard as China stressed out the importance of more realistic methods to tackle the climate crisis rather than investing billions of funds which will eventually only be use for commercialisation of products. Echoing China was the Russian Federation with a proposal to share materials and frameworks to assist developing countries in improving their green technology.

Agreements should be established between countries. It's not a free market where powerhouses come with their pre-designed system and sell it to those who are willing to pay. A better approach must be found before the issue can solved properly. Therefore, any capitalistic proposals by the USA and its allies should not be taking into consideration as they are assertively repeating the idea of resolutions with profit in mind.

Innovations have been prepared by China with systematic solution to tackling the climate change issue, further enhanced by the Russian Federation's aid in providing better solutions for the council. The geographically vast duo are also willing to open their lands to achieve their goals. Alternative energy and green technology are close at hand with the guidance of the Chinese and Russian Federation to lead us forward in global environment issues.

## NATO in Poland and the Nature of Capitalism

by Aurora Hamm

The start of the glorious October Revolution in Russia was not the start of the international fight against capitalism, but it was undoubtedly the most successful rising of the workers. The Russian people were the only ones whose fire for justice and equality burned bright enough to rise and burn the capitalist regime, serving as an example for all other peoples of the world. International workers are thus forever indebted to the Russian people for their bravery and sacrifice. But even 100 years after the start of the Russian revolution, capitalism still continues to pose a threat to the Russian people. The inherently violent ideology of capitalism, that runs purely on conflict and merciless competition, will always encourage war. NATOs (the ultimate weapon of the capitalist world) last exercise in Poland "Eastern Vigilance", right on the border of Kaliningrad is only one of these examples. The logic of capitalism will inevitably lead to war. Maybe this provocation of the Russian people will not be the start of it, but one of these days capitalism will lead the world back into the horrendous pits of war again.

## Tensions Between Member states?

by Océane Gougeon

Today's discussion about the compatibility of the proposed European Union's budget with the stability

of EU's mechanism raised tensions amongst delegates, as special treatments of some member states, as well as financial aids, were pointed out. Germany praised Ireland for its economic recovery after receiving financial support, and deplored that more countries couldn't follow its example. The German delegation also tried to introduce the idea of «punishing» member states unable to economically recover after receiving financial aid, to which the delegation of Spain hotly responded by «Don't be selfish», and stressed that Germany should remain humble considering its strong exportation.

## Young Joseph Stalin

Not Smiling



Smiling



The discussion then moved to a highly anticipated topic : the «special treatments» of certain member states, notably regarding freedom of movement. The President of the Commission insisted that the EU should be moving towards an equalising of rules between all member states, in order to evolve into a stronger Union. Although the motives of this wish are clearly and shamefully capitalist oriented, the position of the President stands deeply appreciated.