



2022 PRECONFERENCE

PASMUN TRIBUNE

PROTECTING THE VULNERABLE

Interview With The Secretariat

Written by: Rachel Lu
Edited by: Victoria Lee
Layout by: Anneena Lin

Over the past few months, our student officers have been diligently preparing for PASMUN, a two-day conference usually held around February. The secretariat have been busy handling conference logistics with help from the administrative and tech teams. However, recent rising omicron cases have made it impossible for all delegates to join PASMUN in person. Instead, a majority of the delegates have to join via zoom calls. The hybrid conference is forcing the secretariat to change many of their plans, and poses a challenge for the tech crew, who now have a much bigger part to play. Regardless, the conference will follow largely the same style as last year's hybrid conference, with a few exceptions. There have not been major setbacks regarding the changing format of the conference, and the student officers are hopeful for a successful and smooth-flowing PASMUN.

The number of PASMUN participants this year is larger than the amount in any previous years. However, new activities that can finally be implemented because of the number of delegates, such as delegate social nights, have been postponed due to the omicron breakout. Secretary-General, Anngu Chang, is confident that this year's PASMUN will be a unique experience for all attending delegates. He wishes all delegates to expect what "has always been the backbone of PASMUN – high levels of debate and professionalism," regardless of the format of the conference.

With the conference date drawing near, both the student officers and delegates are under increasing pressure to adequately prepare for it. The secretariat team hope that this year's PASMUN will exceed all expectations and continue to be an event worth looking forward to.



Secretary-General
Anngu Chang



Deputy Secretary-General
Alice Wang

Hybrid Conference

Written by: Megan Lu
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With rising omicron cases all over Taiwan, PAS has taken appropriate precautions and turned their annual PASMUN into a hybrid conference. The conference will be similar to PASMUN '21. Last year's event was also a hybrid conference that had successful turnouts; virtual delegates were displayed on TV screens in rooms, allowing them to participate in debate without their physical presence. This year, in an effort to be cautious of the coronavirus, schools from Taichung and Taipei have confirmed that they will not be attending in person, but rather take part as online delegates.

Though challenging, PASMUN is fully ready to host our second hybrid conference. The administration and technology teams of PAS have already set up our online note-passing websites. The admins are prepared to monitor both online and physical participants in order to encourage maximum participation in debate. And of course, COVID protocols will definitely be implemented due to the large number of delegates attending this year. PAS will take all precautions possible to lower the risk of delegates contracting the virus.



This year's Deputy Secretary-General, Alice Wang, collaborated with the technology team to ensure that the conference goes on without a hitch. Despite only recently switching to a hybrid event, much of the administrative and planning work is already done in hopes of a smooth conference. Wang also assures virtual delegates that they will not be missing out on the conference experience, as souvenirs from PASMUN will be mailed to respective schools after the conference. It is with great hope that both online and physical delegates will engage in fruitful debate, despite the gap between their screens.

CONFERENCE THEME:

PROTECTING *the Vulnerable*

This year's conference encourages the delegates to debate on issues under the theme of Protecting the Vulnerable, a topic that does not divide but rather, unites nations across the globe. To solve global issues, it requires all member nations to offer their opinions and advice. With multilateral contribution, vulnerable communities (those who are exposed to adverse health outcomes, suffering from economic hardships, or facing racial or ethnic discrimination) would be one step closer to security and equality.

Take for example the millions of people who are exposed to contaminated water, poverty, and war. Among these communities, at least 70 million people are displaced, mostly due to poor living conditions and warfare. Now with the ongoing pandemic and its multiple variants, not only are these defenseless individuals more vulnerable than before, but the spread of this contagious virus also affects all people around the globe. From the densely populated refugee camps to the crowded metropolitan centers, all groups of people are feeling the devastating impacts of Covid-19. Ultimately, the theme solidifies the international and interconnected nature of issues associated with war, poverty, and disease.

One of the most recent wars, the Afghanistan War, is demonstrating the ties between individual disruptions and the international community as a whole. After the Taliban took power, there were millions of unemployed and displaced Afghans. As a result of the war's instability, many Afghan farmers are turning to illegal businesses such as opium farming for survival, aggravating drug trade. At the moment, Afghanistan produces 90 percent of the world's opium. Furthermore, the Taliban has been accused of prohibiting women from attending school and of inflicting physical punishments on those who are spotted without being escorted by a male. Human rights violations were not only apparent, but the absence of basic protection put these people in grave danger. Post-war zones, such as Afghanistan, are suffering a significant increase in Covid cases due to insufficient sanitation facilities. These allegations fuel tensions between neighboring states like Pakistan, Iran, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan, and China, all of which have different interests and



political strategies for gaining control of the country. Currently, 2.6 million Afghans are registered in member states such as Pakistan and Iran for safety. During this critical moment, the United Nations has issued a \$5 billion financial appeal to protect and assist the vulnerable within and beyond Afghanistan's borders. To guarantee political stability, the international community and neighboring governments aim to re-establish a legal central authority. Finally, the Afghan War highlights the necessity of member nations working together to address these crises.

This year's theme has been chosen through collaborative effort with the student leadership. It provides a good example of what people do in Model United Nation (MUN), encompassing all committee topics ranging from the treatment of Uyghurs and other minorities in Xinjiang to deforestation in the Amazon rainforest and the global shortage of semiconductors. All of the issues being prevalent debate topics in global politics and the United Nations.

Since there are finite resources, the limit to what member states can do and what they want to do exists. Thus, this theme calls upon delegates to debate and discuss possible improvements to be made on the issues within a feasible yet dilemmatic range.

This year's theme encourages students to express their community and global responsibilities as their delegation. Mr. Zachary Cook, the MUN director of PASMUN 2022, hopes that PASMUN will enhance students' problem-solving abilities and their understanding of the roots to larger global issues. Protecting the vulnerable should remain a fundamental aspect of our lives. Not only does the topic urge delegates to debate their country's stance, but it also reminds us of our duties as global citizens to acknowledge and aid the vulnerable.

Written by: Lea Lu
Edited by: Victoria Lee
Layout by: Allison Liu

THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

Written by: Iris Chen
Edited by: Ariel Lee
Layout by: Jocelyn Ho

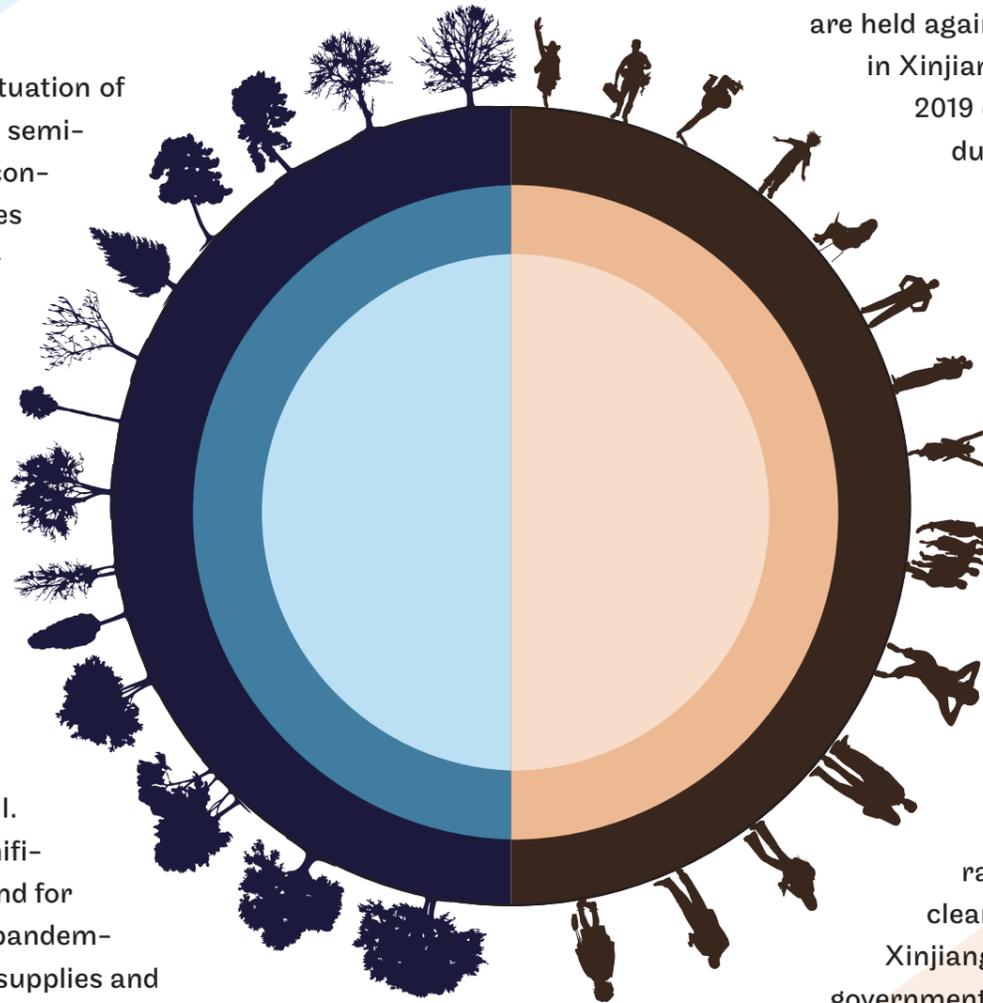
Recently, the global market economy has been drastically affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. The epidemic prompted several supply shortages, inflating the prices of goods and services. These price increases and delayed shipping times brought public attention to issues regarding supply chains. The most common causes of shortages are most likely to be the consumer's demand surpassing the capacity of the production of goods and the lack of redundancy in the supply chain. One industry that has been significantly impacted is the semiconductor industry.

From the outbreak of the coronavirus till the present, the worldwide situation of the semiconductor industry has changed. Initially, the supply chain of semiconductors was formed due to the growing demand for chips from the consumer electronics and computer industry. However, as new technologies (like Artificial intelligence, geotargeting, automation) have been evolving at a rapid rate at a global scale—meaning more advanced chips are demanded—the issue of a global shortage in semiconductors is further accentuated. The global shortage of semiconductors is not just an issue in the supply chain of chips. Such a shortage puts a risk to profitability because of the high barrier to entry in the semiconductor industry. This means there are very few suppliers in the supply chain, making it almost impossible to be production-ready for the growing demands worldwide. Since such an industry engages in many parts of the world and plays many roles in the global economy, the global shortage in semiconductors is an urgent issue waiting to be solved.

The shortage of semiconductors severely affects other industries as well. For example, the automotive industry is one of the industries that is significantly affected by the shortage of semiconductors because of the demand for chips. Furthermore, the medical industry has also been affected by the pandemic. With the shortage of semiconductors, caused a shortage in medical supplies and technologies, which puts millions of patients at risk.

As one of the few suppliers of semiconductors, Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Company, Limited (TSMC) plays an important role in the global economy and is one of the world's most valuable companies: it has a market value of over \$550 billion. Facing the increasing demand for advanced chips, TSMC is responsible for about 92% of production, and is pressing to resolve issues related to COVID production cuts, a drought in Taiwan, and global shipping congestion.

Regarding the global issue of shortage in semiconductors, solutions are urgent and needed. Although the main suppliers, like Taiwan's TSMC, do make measures in alleviating the condition, no one knows how long the semiconductor shortage will last. Measures from the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) are imperative in dealing with an economic problem of this scale.



The Xinjiang region in northwestern China is home to the Uyghurs, a Turkish minority. They have been subject to human rights abuses including being forcefully sterilized and enslaved for labor under the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) in the past eight years.

The conflict between the Chinese government and the Uyghurs has been going on since the 1950s when a large number of ethnic minorities including the Uyghurs fled to the USSR. The Chinese government claim to be flushing out terrorism and extremism from the Uyghur population with the Strike Hard Campaign against Violent Terrorism launched in 2014. This campaign includes many re-education centers built all over the province of Xinjiang, and that number has only increased in recent years. According to experts in the Australian Strategic Policy Institute, at least 380 re-education centers have been built since 2017, and more than a million Uyghurs are held against their wills in such internment centers. Moreover, the birthrate in Xinjiang has dropped drastically by as much as 48.7% between 2017 and 2019 due to forced sterilization, yet the CCP maintains that the drop is due to improved family planning and birth quotas.

In 1996, China launched a Strike Hard campaign in the Xinjiang region to wipe out terrorism. The Chinese police aim to decrease crime rates in the region and keep watch over possible terrorism situations. This campaign follows a riot situation in July of the same year, where the death of two Uyghurs in a situation with Han workers left many Uyghurs indignant and vengeful. Riots began popping up in Urumqi, Xinjiang's capital and left at least 197 people dead and 1,700 injured. In the wake of the bloody riot, the government of Xinjiang has urged Beijing to restore order and peace.

The Strike Hard campaign is the response of the Chinese government after the riot situation. To placate the Han population in Xinjiang, Beijing has cracked down on the region, thereby launching the campaign. The government has also accused separatists in Xinjiang of causing the violent riot in July, though it is unclear whether or not that is true. Human rights groups and activists in Xinjiang have expressed their concern over the campaign, fearing that the government will justify their harsh measures against the Uyghurs for the sake of public security.

This HRC issue aligns fully with this year's conference theme, "Protecting the Vulnerable." Regardless of whether the Uyghurs are truly facing erasure at the hands of the Chinese government or not, they are an ethnic minority and should be protected accordingly.

HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL

Written by: Rachel Lu
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International Criminal Court (ICC)



Written by: Iris Chen Edited by: Ariel Lee Layout by: Anneena Lin

For this year's conference, PASMUN replaced the International Court of Justice (ICJ) with the International Criminal Court (ICC). What's the difference between ICJ and ICC? ICJ is a civil court that deals with disputes among countries, and ICC is a criminal court that prosecutes individuals. In addition, ICJ is the primary judicial branch of the United Nations that deals with wide issues between countries. Although ICC also addresses cases that the national courts fail to act, it is an independent judicial institution that investigates and prosecutes any war crimes, crimes against humanity, and genocide.

Though the establishment of ICC was negotiated within the UN, it was not part of it. Still, the UN and the ICC have a complementary relationship. Article 2 of the Rome Statute states the negotiated relationship agreement. In other words, the ICC entered a cooperation agreement with the United Nations. Over the past several years, it has been clear that it is a duty for the UN to cooperate with the ICC and provide support to it.

The history of ICC is not the only thing that makes it distinct, but also some of the recent cases. This year, the issue the ICC is focusing on is *The Prosecutor v. Dominic Ongwen*. In 2003, The Ugandan Government referred Dominic Ongwen to the ICC Office of the Prosecutor. Ongwen, a commander of the Ugandan guerilla group Lord's Resistance Army, was filed under charges of 70 war crimes allegations of attacking Internally Displaced Person camps in Northern Uganda. He was also charged with violations including sexual and gender based crimes, and the recruitment of child soldiers.

The argument of the prosecutor includes the already conducted investigation on the matter of Ongwen's actions. The prosecuting counsel would have to argue that Ongwen's actions constituted war crimes as per the definition set for in the Rome Statute. On the other hand, the respondent would have to defend the war crime charges by illustrating why Ongwen's conduct in the Lord's Resistance Army has not attained the definition of war crimes.

Jurisdiction also has a large role in this case. The prosecutor would argue that Article 1 of the Rome Statute allows the ICC to step in and try cases in the instance that national courts do not have the ability to do so. The respondent could counter this as Uganda does possess an International Crime Division established specifically for the purpose of trying crimes such as listed in the Rome Statute. The respondent could argue that Ongwen should not be tried in the ICC as Uganda has domestic jurisdiction with the International Crime Division competent enough to try Ongwen's crimes.

Why was the case of *The Prosecutor v. Dominic Ongwen* special? One reason that it was special was that the trial chamber had never been requested for traditional justice mechanisms, such as sentencing and the characterization of reparations principles. Furthermore, forced pregnancy and forced marriage were distinguished in crimes for the first time.

At the same time, this ICC case not only offered new legal insights but also gave a challenging task to the Court in which it was required to deal with a high-ranking member of LRA who grew up being forced to commit acts of brutal criminality. Dominic Ongwen's status as both a child soldier and a commander was definitely a subject to debate and a controversial topic that makes this ICC case more unusual than others.



When in Hsinchu...

Written by: Lea Liu

Edited by: Victoria Lee

Layout by: Zoe Liu

With the countless memorable destinations and restaurants in Hsinchu, deciding where to go may be tough. But with the readily accessible UBikes and bus lines around the county, let us serve as your guide to Hsinchu locations and cuisine.

Finding out what excites you is the simplest method to narrow down where to visit. Consider the Nanliao Fishing Harbor if you want to be close to the oceans. The harbor offers fishing and cycling opportunities, as well as sea food along the pier. The Xiangshan Wetlands are also worth a visit. It is a natural sanctuary, complete with a boardwalk and coastal wildlife such as hermit crabs and egrets. The 17-kilometer Coastline Scenic Area would be excellent for sunsets, coastal creatures, and biking.



On the other hand, for something stimulating, educational, and rich in cultural works, make your way to the Hsinchu Zoo. A place compacted with a diverse range of rainforest animals. Alternatively, you may go to the Hsinchu City God Temple, a historical and architectural site recognized as one of Taiwan's highest-ranking City God temples! You may also visit the TSMC Semiconductor Museum if you want to learn about something Taiwan's famous for.



If you're looking for unforgettably delicious cuisines, Hsinchu has a plethora to offer. The Zhudong Night Market provides you with a variety of traditional Taiwanese delights. Similarly, if you're looking for the special Lei-cha tea and Stone Persimmon, both well-known Hsinchu delicacies, the Beipu Old Street has your back. Aside from that, stinky tofu, Ba-wan meatballs, squid & pork nugget soup, rice vermicelli, spring rolls, and steamed cake are all must-try specialties in Hsinchu. We hope you enjoy your stay with the people of Windy Hsinchu through our serene natural scenery and delectable cuisine!

SCHEDULE

February 19th Saturday

Time	Agenda
7:30-8:10	Registration
8:20-9:00	Opening Ceremony
9:00-9:30	Preparatory Meeting
9:30-11:30	Lobbying
10:30	*Approval Panel Opens*
11:30-12:00	Opening Speech
12:00-12:45	1st Lunch Shift
12:45-13:30	2nd Lunch Shift
13:30-17:00	Debate

Time	Agenda
8:00-11:30	Debate
11:30-12:15	1st Lunch Shift
12:15-13:00	2nd Lunch Shift
13:00-16:00	Debate
16:10-17:00	Closing Ceremony

February 20th Sunday

Important Reminders

1. All participants will have their temperature checked at the campus door each day. In the event of a fever (38° C and up), the participant will be asked to return home. In the unlikely event of a severe fever, the affected participant will be referred to the hospital next door to school. If participants feel ill, we encourage them to stay home and participate through the online option.
2. Badges will be the pass for delegates when returning to the conference on the second day. For security reasons, delegates are required to wear their badges at all times while on campus.



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