

King's Christian Collegiate
Model United Nations
UNCTAD



UNHCR

**The UN
Refugee Agency**

Delegate Guide

Dear Distinguished Delegates,

It is our pleasure to greet you to the seventh annual King's MUN conference! Since the beginning of our journey in 2013, King's MUN has created the opportunity to debate and learn more about the world. With a range of committees branching from tutorial to advanced, delegates with all levels of experiences have an opportunity to grow their MUN abilities.

Model United Nations is an internationally recognized forum for debate that simulates the United Nations. Delegates from around the world are encouraged to debate and attempt to resolve pressing issues that affect the global community. Through MUN simulations, students are able to develop and refine their skills in research, public speaking, critical thinking, and writing, amongst other practical skills that can be extremely useful in future endeavours.

This year the world has completely changed, the COVID-19 pandemic has affected many ways of life. The new world of social distancing has led to significant changes in the world, including King'sMUN having its first ever online conference. At King's Christian Collegiate, we have come to recognize the significant impact that Model UN has had on our students and have dedicated ourselves to growing our own club as well as spreading our knowledge and passion to schools and communities. In light of the pandemic, our network has greatly expanded, increasingly becoming involved with conferences and summits around the world. Through developing our awareness regarding international and geo-political relations, we have been able to deepen our insight into some of the world's most compelling issues and encourage conducive and beneficial discussions around these topics.

Since the beginning of our Model UN journey, we as Secretary Generals have been able to strengthen our academics, improve our interpersonal skills, and develop a more complete worldview and appreciation for international cultures and populations. We are so proud of how inclusive, supportive and dedicated our group has become and cannot wait to see King'sMUN continue to grow exponentially in the upcoming years. Even with the extremely different circumstances we are currently in, we strongly believe this conference will be an amazing experience, and hope that you can walk away with a greater knowledge of the world and stronger skill sets.

We are once again extremely excited to welcome each and everyone one of you at the seventh annual King'sMUN conference. We look forward to seeing you on Friday February 26th and Saturday, February 27th, 2021.

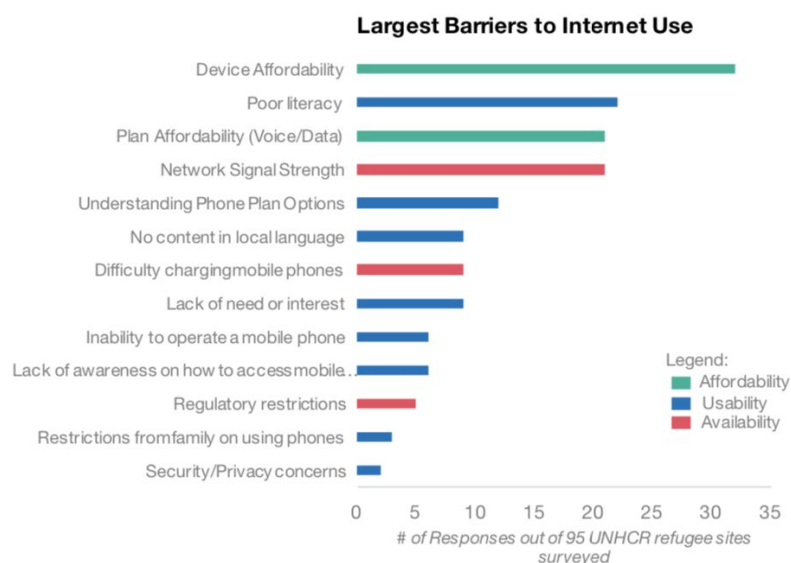
Sincerely,
Ivana Gotovac and Zeeshan Pervaiz
Secretary General, 2020/2021
King'sMUN

Background Information: The United Nations Refugee Agency is an organization that works worldwide helping refugees create an enhanced life for themselves. The UNHCR is committed to playing its role in saving lives and maintaining the rights of all refugees. The History of The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees began in 1950 when many Europeans were displaced by the impact of the Second World War. Millions of people were forced to leave their homes while others lost theirs altogether. The office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees played a large role in assisting the refugees for three years, which is essentially why the UNHCR was created.

The organization continued its work by helping to resettle Hungarian refugees that were forced to leave their homes in 1956 during the time of the Hungarian Revolution. Making their way to Austria, they were identified to be asylum seekers. The UNHCR's efforts are what helped create the best response for alternative organizations when dealing with the refugee crisis' in the future. The UNHCR has put in over seventy years of work, aiding over fifty million refugees. The organization's immense efforts are what have given refugees a chance at better lives.

Topic 1: Empowering Refugees Through Technology

Technology can be an empowering source to help refugees in many different ways. It allows people to become more self-sufficient and informed. Regardless of this fact, according to the UNHCR, “refugees are still 50 percent less likely than the general population to have an internet-capable phone, and 29 percent do not own a phone at all” (UNHCR, 2020). The real challenge that refugees face is the overall connectivity cost as “refugees often spend up to a third of their disposable income on staying connected” (UNHCR 2020)



Largest Barriers to Internet Use for Refugees.

EMPOWERING REFUGEES THROUGH TECHNOLOGY

Technology has the power to change refugees' lives all across the world. Technology provides refugees with the tools that can tackle the challenges of having an online platform in which asylum seekers and refugees are given the opportunity to reach services from the governments and organizations like UNHCR's websites. Furthermore, staying connected with relatives who could potentially help them throughout the process and giving them proper directions by using applications such as maps, keeping necessary documentation on their cell phones. Accessing financial services such as cash assistance and knowledge to find job placement can be helpful tools as well. Lastly, the ability to have a digital identity and accessibility to online education, especially during COVID-19 can influence the empowerment of refugees with technological tools.



By having access to technology, refugees are able to get a quality education online. In 2020-2021, we have been overpowered by a pandemic that has taken 90 percent of students out of school. Technology provides an alternative for refugees who are unable to attend school. This directly affects SDG 4 quality education and its specific target universal literacy and numeracy. Universal literacy and numeracy are more achievable when access to online education is continuously more attainable for both adults and children who can be taught to read, write and complete basic numerical concepts.



When given online access through technology, simple things such as finding jobs are more reachable to those that need it most. This works towards SDG 8 decent work and economic growth, and its specific target substantially reduces the proportion of youth not in employment, education or training. When refugees can search for jobs, schooling or training for themselves and/or their family members, they have more access to more opportunities. Overall this can have an immense impact on the amount of youth and adults that are employed, enrolled in an education etc.

FURTHER QUESTIONS FOR DELEGATES TO CONSIDER

1. How can refugees have access to technology before they migrate?
2. How can technology be cost-effective yet adequate at the same time?
3. With which internet providers and how will partnerships be formed so refugees can have more affordable and accessible internet?

Focusing on the empowerment of refugees through technology helps both individualism of refugees and helps the country guesting with them. When refugees attain technology, so many more tools are easily accessible to them, which can overall help to tackle several sustainable development goals.

Sources:

[Home | Sustainable Development](https://sdgs.un.org/Home). (n.d.). Retrieved January 08, 2021, from <https://sdgs.un.org/>

[United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees](https://www.unhcr.org/about-us.html). 2020. About Us. Retrieved January 08, 2021, from <https://www.unhcr.org/about-us.html>

[United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees](https://www.unhcr.org/events/campaigns/5fc126394/empowering-refugees-through-technology.html). 2020. Empowering refugees through technology. Retrieved January 08, 2021, from

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Sources to Help You Get Started:

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