

King's Christian Collegiate Model United Nations

UN WOMEN



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:

Before the UN Women committee was created, the UN had challenges trying to promote global gender equality. On July 2, 2010, the UN General Assembly decided to create UN Women, the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women. This branch of the United Nations' main priority is to get women to lead and participate in governance systems, ensure women have income security, decent work, economic autonomy, and that all women and girls live a life free from all forms of violence. The committee was created with the merge of four previously distinct parts of the UN system that work on gender equality and women empowerment. The four branches that were merged were; Division for the Advancement of Women (DAW), International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women (INSTRAW), Office of the Special Adviser on Gender Issues and Advancement of Women (OSAGI), United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM). The purpose of the UN is to provide maintenance of international peace and security. The UN has many specific committees to help with certain issues around the world.

Since UN Women's start, there has been extreme growth in family diversity and relationships across countries. The average age of women getting married has increased. Although women can get married early, women need to focus on education and creating a career. The average age of first marriage increased from 21.9 years around 1990 to 23.3 years around 2010. Women marry earliest in Central and Southern Asia (20.8 years) and the latest in Australia and New Zealand (30 years). The UN Women has made significant changes such as landmark agreements, one being the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, which was the most progressive blueprint ever for advancing women's rights. The Platform for Action's goal is to have a world where each woman and girl can exercise her freedoms and choices, know her rights, live free from violence, attend school, and earn equal pay. The main goal of the Beijing process was to reinforce the activism of the women's movement on a global scale, and was very successful. This process gives people great hope on how to achieve empowerment and equality. UN Women has been working on placing refugee women in decision-making roles, including their needs, policies, and solutions. UN Women are huge advocates in promoting women's roles as first responders during humanitarian crises. UN Women created World Refugee Day, which takes place on June 20, to honour refugees' resilience and determination worldwide.

Topic 1: Protecting the Rights of Refugee Women



In society today, people are continually migrating to escape poverty, improve their opportunities and livelihood, or escape conflict such as the war in their own countries. Women make up half of the 26 million refugees worldwide. As women and girls leave their countries and are displaced, many essential services are not available, making them vulnerable to many risks. The topic of debate needs to be highly focused on refugee and migrant women's needs, priorities and voices as they are often missing from policies designed to protect and assist them.

In the UN, there is a significant lack of committees targeting women's rights. Only 4 percent of projects in UN inter-agency appeals were targeted at women and girls in 2014, and just 0.4 percent of all funding to fragile states went to women's groups or women's ministries from 2012 to 2013. A solution to many women-related issues would be to place more women in decision-making roles. Their needs and realities in policies and solutions designed to address global migration and the refugee crisis make them more sustainable and responsive. The delegates must resolve how UN Women can continue to help women-related issues in a world filled with bias. For refugee women, there is a huge need for help to get them out of their countries and to safety, and delegates need to decide how UN Women can use their resources to help these women. There is a need for protection against refugee women who have been victims of domestic violence, discrimination, and more. Countries from Syria to Somalia to Myanmar, millions of refugee women have fled violent conflict, natural disaster, and political chaos. Women are incredibly vulnerable to physical and sexual violence, along with gender discrimination in refugee camps.



Since 2010, the UN Women committee has accomplished more than they ever thought they could have. The UN Women's flagship report assesses UN Women's economic, demographic, political, social transformation, global, regional, and national data. The report shows that when families are in places of equality and justice, economies and societies unlock the full potential of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and promote gender equality within families. Sustainable Development Goals are 17 global

goals that have a target date to be reached by 2030. To connect SDGs to UN Women, SDG 5 is gender equality, and its goal is to achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls. This SDG is critical to UN Women and other refugee organizations that provide policies and programs to empower women and girls in refugee communities. With high amounts of sexual exploitation, abuse, and harmful practices in refugee areas, it is the UN Women's job to try to put an end to this and help the UN meet the goals of SDG 5. To be specific, SDG 5.5 relates to many of UN Women's goals. SDG 5.5 wants to ensure women's full and effective participation and equal leadership opportunities at all decision-making levels in political, economic and public life. Women who are refugees are often looked down on and not equal when they get to real society. Refugee women are vulnerable to gender-based violence while in transit. UN Women's end violence goal closely aligns with SDG 5.2, which eliminates all forms of violence against all women and girls in public and private spheres, including trafficking and sexual and other types of exploitation. Many refugees that UN Women help have not received any education because of many factors. SDG 4, which is quality education, is working to ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities. It is not just for refugees, but all women struggle to get the education they deserve just because they are women. SDG 4.1 ensures that all girls and boys complete free, equitable and quality primary and secondary education leading to relevant and effective learning outcomes. UN Women promotes equality in education.

Overall, the committee must overcome the challenges that women have been struggling in all around the world, from education, to income to discrimination.

Questions to Consider

1. What are some practical steps that your country can take right now to advance the protection of rights for refugee women?
2. What suggestions do you have for the United Nations women council in their approach to supporting refugee women?
3. How can we prioritize the mental health of refugee women after leaving dangerous conditions?
4. Where does UN Women get their funding, can there be changes to this?
5. What kind of rights are refugee women given in your country?

Sources:

<https://www.unwomen.org/en/news/in-focus/world-refugee-day>

<https://www.unwomen.org/en/news/in-focus/women-refugees-and-migrants>

<https://beijing20.unwomen.org/en/about>

<https://www.unwomen.org/en/where-we-are>

Helpful Resources:

<https://www.un.org/youthenvoy/2013/07/un-women-the-united-nations-entity-for-gender-equality-and-the-empowerment-of-women/>

<https://www.unaids.org/en/aboutunaids/unaidscosponsors/unwomen>

<http://www.mohrss.gov.cn/SYrlzyhshbzb/rdzt/gjzzrcfw/jpzn/201611/W020161101504676188809.pdf>

<https://www.unwomen.org/en/where-we-are>