

A Report On: Haifa University Model United Nation Society Delegation

To

Münster University International Model United Nations Conference 2019

To whomever it may concern,

Haifa University Model United Nation Society has recently sent, from the 21st till the 30th of March 2019, a delegation to MuiMUN 2019 MUN conference in Münster, Germany. Here is a report presenting further details.

Münster: We landed in Düsseldorf International Airport on March 21 in the evening. Although we had a tiring hour and a half train ride to Münster, we insisted on walking around the refreshing city while looking for a suitable restaurant to grab a bite after a long day's travel. Even though it was dark and late, the glamorous city instantly captured our hearts as we enjoyed our first night sitting beside a lovely lake.

The following morning, we decided to take our free time to study and prepare ourselves for the conference. We only left our studies in the hotel to grab food. The conference began the next day and we were in hopes our preparation was enough. The university campus in Münster was astonishing. The main building was situated between two green parks and a beautiful lake. What I found special about the faculty buildings was that they were inspired by 18th century architecture and were simply breathtaking. Schloss, where the conference took place, was the most fascinating.

The conference organizers and secretariat coordinated a professional conference in an entertaining manner. Our delegation participated in top committees which dealt with issues such as: rape, torture, and murder committed by Blue Helmets, Yemeni Civil War, and more. The conference made sure we had a full schedule as we attended a village party, went pub crawling, toured around the city, and had an unforgettable goodbye party on our last day.

After long debates and countless hours on profound research, the conference came to an end. We sat through the closing ceremony on the 28th of March where the winners of different awards were announced. Three members of our delegation won a distinguished delegate award, which is equivalent for being the best delegate in their committee. We complemented our wonderful week by celebrating our committees' accomplishments in our goodbye party while also saying goodbye to friends who we will never forget.

Frankfurt:

The next morning, we took the bus leaving the captivating city, cherishing our memories of a full-packed week and leaving behind marvelous friends we met along the way. We arrived in Frankfurt in the afternoon. We were happy to find our hotel was a two-minute walk from Frankfurt's main train station. As previously planned, we met with Nicola from the German Friends Association. Nicola Teuber organized and facilitated the funding of our whole trip. Accompanied by Nicola, we went to a popular newspaper in Germany where we were interviewed about our week in Münster. We were asked numerous questions about how a diverse group of different ethnicities, backgrounds, religions managed to put our differences aside and coexist throughout our trip. In addition, we spoke about Israeli social relations, politics, and what divides us. After our interview, we went to meet the DIG Forum Frankfurt and its Junges group. We retired to a cozy restaurant and started to truly know the amazing people we were spending our time with. We explained what we liked about the Münster conference and they shared their memories of their visits to Israel. Even though we were having an incredible time, it was time for us to head back to our hotel. We needed to get some rest for the strenuous day ahead.

Unfortunately, the following morning, I felt ill. I had to stay at the hotel for the day. Without me, the group, including Nicola, started their day by visiting the Anne Frank Educational Center. The center is located in the Dornbusch neighborhood; Dornbusch is where Anne Frank lived before she immigrated to the Netherlands. At first, the group headed to the meeting room where they conversed with the center's guide about the center's aim to promote tolerance and educate about consequences of discrimination and racism. Soon after, they were handed tablets which contained historical backgrounds about different influential characters throughout history. Each individual influenced the world by making a change that made the world a better place. Each character had a station showing a description about their life journey as was shown on the tablets. One of the stations told Anne Frank's life story. The group went around Anne Frank's house and witnessed where she would write her diary during the holocaust. The integration of technology (tablets) and the preserved history together made it one of the most insightful tours they had.

After saying goodbye to Nicola, they grabbed food and went on to Frankfurt University, where we were to meet with Tibor and Basti. Both Tibor and Basti are part of the DIG forum. They explained that the main building of the university once belonged to a company that produced chemical materials and Zyklon b gas that was used by the Nazis to murder people in the extermination camps during the Holocaust. After World War II, the government decided to donate the building the University of Frankfurt in order to rectify the disreputable history while also maintaining its history. The notes and messages hanging on the building entry had the names of the people who lost their lives as a result of the company that produced the gas. The delegation continued with Tibor and Basti to a nearby bar, ending our enriching and educational day by saying goodbye to our friends from the DIG and returning to our hotel.

The next day, we headed back to Tel Aviv via Ben Gurion Airport.

In conclusion, feeling ill on the first night in Frankfurt was not a great experience and I missed out on various important activities especially the quality time with the delegation. However, the conference was an extremely educational experience. The individuals we met made a remarkable impact on the trip and they will not be forgotten. The conference was both challenging and pleasurable which makes it an MUN conference of the highest order. Going home with three awards was definitely a pleasant way to go home. Our time in Frankfurt with Nicola and the DIG was nothing short of inspiring and spectacular.

Overall, we will undoubtedly treasure the memories we had in Germany.

We, in the delegation and the society, sincerely appreciate our hosts, the DIG, for all their generosity throughout the marvelous day. We would also like to express our genuine gratitude and thanks to the German Friends of Haifa University and the ZEIT Foundation for their generous sponsorship and support that included travel and participation expenses among other things. Without them, none of this unforgettable venture could not have been possible. The delegation to the MUIMUN 2019 conference was an incredibly positive experience and we are looking forward to sending future delegations to Germany.

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