

# Abschlussbericht / Final Report for the National Model United Nations 2024

Delegation of Georgia – Christian-Albrechts-Universität zu Kiel



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# Danksagung/Acknowledgements

Liebe Lesende, liebe Projektpartner\*innen, Unterstützer\*innen und Sponsor\*innen,

Wir freuen uns, Ihnen im Folgenden den Abschlussbericht unserer Kieler Delegation zur *National Model United Nations* (NMUN) 2024 in New York zu präsentieren. Da wir dieses Jahr gleich mehrere internationale Studierende als Teil unserer Delegation dabei hatten, haben wir uns dazu entschieden, den gesamten Bericht auf englisch zu verfassen, um somit auch allen unseren Teilnehmer\*innen gerecht zu werden. Wir bedanken uns schon jetzt für Ihre Unterstützung und Ihr Interesse, ohne die unser ausschließlich von Studierenden in ihrer Freizeit organisiertes Projekt nicht möglich wäre! Wir wünschen Ihnen viel Spaß beim Lesen dieses Abschlussberichts.

Mit besten Grüßen

Die Head Delegates der Kieler Delegation zur NMUN 2024,

Anton Goeser, Emilia Kurilov, Jesse Cramer und Valentin Bartsch sowie der Vorstand des *ISC e.V.*

Dear Readers, partners, supporters and sponsors,

It is with pleasure that we present to you the final report for the delegation from Kiel University to the *National Model United Nations* (NMUN) 2024 in New York City.

Our club, the *International Student Commitment e.V.* (ISC e.V.) is a registered student association and non-profit club at the *Christian-Albrechts-Universität zu Kiel* (CAU). The ISC was founded in 1999 with the goal to provide students of all programs, degrees and backgrounds with an enhanced international experience and to familiarize them with current topics and issues of international politics.

Thus, since the year 2000, a delegation representing the CAU and organized voluntarily by our club members has participated at NMUN, the world's biggest simulation of the United Nations, regularly. During these years, our delegates have represented such diverse countries as: Belize (2000), Mauretania (2001), Slovakia (2002) the United Arab Emirates (2003), Iceland (2004), Moldova (2005), Venezuela (2006), Poland (2007), Somalia (2008&2016), Cambodia (2010&2018), Serbia (2011) Tonga (2013), Georgia (2014), Panama (2015), Vanuatu (2017), Cyprus (2019), Bosnia and Herzegowina (2021 – online), Israel (2022) and Egypt (2023). This year, it was our pleasure to represent the Republic of Georgia for the second time, after 2014.

Our delegation consisted of 16 Delegates and 4 Head Delegates, all of them students at CAU. Although this meant a slight reduction in size compared to last year's

delegation, the quality of work by our entire delegation proved us right in our selection. From the first day to the last, our delegates formed a team that, if it were not real, somebody ought to invent. Besides showing an excellent quality of work and commitment, our team was an incredibly inclusive and supportive bunch that embodied the spirit of international diplomacy with their every action during our shared time.

Over the course of five weekends during the fall semester, the delegates participated in a preparation seminar wherein they learned all they needed to know about the work of the United Nations, the parliamentary procedures of a MUN conference and the skills they would require to slip into the role of a diplomat in New York. The sessions covered such diverse topics as giving speeches, writing a resolution together in small and bigger groups and negotiating a diverse range of global issues in English. Alongside, they did independent research on the diverse topics covered in the various stages of conference preparation and practiced writing preparatory position papers on their own and with a partner. The art of researching for a conference position paper is to not only learn as much information as possible as quickly as possible, but also to know what information is important and which is not. Furthermore, the challenge is to learn how to develop this factual research into concrete solution approaches and positions that can be brought to the international negotiating table.

Our preparation furthermore featured a trip for one weekend to the University of Greifswald, where our delegates participated in the GreiMUN Conference of the Parties. This is a long standing tradition for our students and usually a „trial by fire“ in an actual conference setting. We would like to take this opportunity to thank the organizing staff at GreiMUN for hosting us at their conference once again and for providing all of us with a great experience and some good practice for New York!

That all this preparation really fruited with our delegates was visible very quickly and it is more than deserved that three out of our eight teams were recognised for their outstanding performances in New York City. Namely, our delegates to the GA 3 and ESCAP were honored for their dedicated and intense preparation, receiving awards for their outstanding position papers at NMUN. Furthermore, our delegates in the HRC were honored as outstanding delegates in committee, voted on by their peers.

Overall, all of this amounted to our delegation as a whole receiving the title of *Distinguished Delegation*, the second highest collective award category at NMUN, for the third year in a row.

Although this success was earned with months of work and dedication by our participants, who invested their leisure time and weekends into the project, it would not have been possible without the support of our generous sponsors who we would like to thank once more and who are listed at the end of this report. Our trip to New York City, the experience of not only participating in a UN simulation, but also visiting the actual United Nations Headquarters and getting in touch with real life diplomats as well as hundreds and thousands of students from all around the world, and the costs

of preparation could not be covered by the participating students on their own. A special thanks is due to the International Center at CAU, namely to Ms. Dr. Schmode and Ms. Wilkens, for their financial, ideal and logistical support, hosting us in their facilities for all our preparatory sessions once again.

Our almost 12 months of working on this project have been a truly rewarding and enriching experience and we wish next year's delegation just as much fun and joy in their efforts.

Sincerely,

The Head Delegates for the Kiel Delegation to NMUN 2024,

Jesse Cramer, Anton Goeser, Emilia Kurilov, and Valentin Bartsch alongside the board of the *ISC e.V.*



# Self-introductions

## Head Delegates



Emilia Kurilov

My name is Emilia, I am 25 years old and this year I had the honor to represent Kiel University as the Head Delegate of Georgia at my second National Model United Nations in New York.

Last year I already visited NMUN as a representative of Egypt. I had so much fun as well as an amazing learning experience that I decided to sign up as a Head in order to pass down my experience from last year to a group of new students in 2024. And looking back on all the achievements and personal friends I made during the previous year within our delegation, I can happily say my wish has come true.

Representing Georgia was another highlight for me, as I will start my master's degree at the University of Glasgow in Foreign Relations with a regional focus on the Former Soviet Union. During my studies, I plan to stay abroad in Georgia for one year to conduct research and get to know the culture even better.

NMUN and our university group, the International Student Commitment e.V. inspired me to follow my dreams and pursue a degree in diplomacy, which I am more than grateful for! I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Kiel delegation, our sponsors and especially my fellow head delegates Valentin, Jesse and Anton for this unforgettable time.



Valentin Bartsch

Hello and Moin Moin! My name is Valentin Bartsch, I'm currently 22 years old and I'm proud to be part of the Kiel Delegation for Model United Nations New York once more. Last year I represented Kiel University and the country Egypt in GA2, having Jesse as my committee partner and now as one of my co-head-delegates. Experiencing Model United Nations from another perspective and building up a completely new delegation was something I was really looking forward to.

As a law student focusing on private international law and comparative law, I was always fascinated by the United Nations as an intergovernmental organization, its work and its goal to make the world a better and safer place for everyone. The 2024 delegation is full of motivated, talented

and (hopefully) soon-to-be diplomats who are eager to reach for the same goals and gain a lot of experience and knowledge. I'm glad to be able to share my experience with the fellow delegates and it makes me happy seeing them working, debating, negotiating and building bridges all within the spirit of the United Nations. I couldn't be more proud of our delegation, their performance and personal development and I'm convinced that our delegation will represent Georgia brilliantly. And we as head delegates will do our best, to support them as much as possible!



### Jesse Cramer

Hey! My name is Jesse and I am 22 years old and have just received my Bachelor's Degree (B. A.) in Political Science and History. At the moment I am in my Master studies of Political Science and History. After being a delegate at last year's NMUN and representing Egypt, I had the opportunity to serve this year's delegation as a Head Delegate, giving me the opportunity to pass down my knowledge about (M)UN and to shape the next delegation of Kiel University. It was a great pleasure to see our delegates thrive at the NMUN in New York City by implementing everything we taught the delegates over

the course of the last year.

Besides my work as a head delegate, I also had the opportunity to be the first NMUN-chair of Kiel University, as I was entrusted to chair one of the biggest committees, the General Assembly third committee by the conference organizers.

At this stage, I want to thank the sponsors, the organizers of the conference, the delegates, but first and foremost my fellow head delegate Valentin, Anton and Emilia for an unforgettable time, all the help one could wish for and great comradeship. If I was presented with the choice, even though I now know how much work being a head delegate is, I would do it all over again!



### Anton Goeser

Hello everyone. My name is Anton, I am 25 years old and in my 5th and 7th semesters respectively in my Bachelor studies of Political Science and Musicology. Having been a delegate at NMUN NY in 2023, I knew even before that project was over that I would be thrilled to pass on the skills and knowledge I had acquired through participating in this wonderful experience. Thus, when I was asked if I wanted to become a Head Delegate for this year's delegation, I did not hesitate for a minute and jumped aboard. Although I felt that I had what it takes for the job, I was quite anxious to see whether I would actually be able to pull it off. Witnessing the development that all our delegates have

gone through since we first started our preparations in October has truly been a pleasure and a fulfilling experience for me and is proof that my instinct to return to New York was just right. I can't wait to see our wonderful team representing Georgia in New York; I have no doubt that they will do this job in the best way possible! All this is not least because of the tireless and truly inspiring efforts of the other three Heads, without whom the last couple of months would not have been what they have turned out to be. Thank you to all our delegation and cheers to international diplomacy!

## Delegates



### Greta Luise Ahlmeyer (GA 3)

Hi! My name is Greta. I am 21 years old and study law in the seventh semester at the Christian-Albrechts-Universität zu Kiel.

In November of last year, I completed my specialization in public international and European law.

Since I did not want to immediately start preparing for my exam and wished for gaining some practical experience in contrast to the predominantly theoretical nature of my studies, I searched for something corresponding to do. Given my enjoyment of the thematic focus of my specialization, exploring the world of international diplomacy seemed just fitting. So, when I came across Model United Nations through an email from ISC e.V., my interest was immediately sparked.

So far, I have truly enjoyed this journey: Starting with the social benefits of this experience, getting to know so many new and, above all, interesting and nice faces within our delegation and growing into a team has been a true honor. The preparation sessions were enlightening, providing me with so many new insights into the United Nations and the workings of international diplomats. In Greifswald, it was our first opportunity to apply what we had learned at the GreiMUN Conference, and even though it cannot be denied that the weekend was exhausting, it was most of all, extremely illuminating and lots of fun.

As the challenges of today's world are becoming increasingly global, I consider it very rewarding to explore and familiarize myself with international conflict resolution within this context. Therefore, I am more than excited to now elevate everything to the next level, representing Georgia with my committee partner Timm in GA 3 in New York soon!



### Philine Brinks (HRC)

Moin Moin, I am Philine, 31 years old and I am in the final stages of my interdisciplinary Master's degree in "International Politics and International Law". My interests come together in this course, and I very much hope that my future job will somehow be in this field. Actually, it seems almost logical that with such interests and such a course of study, you should also take part in an MUN at some point. And so, at the end of my university life, I'm actually taking part in the "big" NMUN.

Admittedly, if I hadn't already gotten to know and appreciate most of the delegate heads, many great students and the whole MUN process at KielMUN in 2023, I would probably have been very hesitant to apply for the NMUN project. But after KielMUN, it was clear to me that I had to at least give it a try. And as I said during the application process, there's really no reason not to take part. A project like this only has advantages: getting to know a wide variety of interesting people, learning new, exciting content (outside the normal university, theoretical context), surpassing yourself when giving (spontaneous) speeches etc. pp. And not to forget: the whole thing is fun. Of course there's pressure to submit your position paper on time, to not let the speaker's list run empty during the negotiations and ultimately to pass a resolution that everyone is happy with ... But everyone works together on this project - and that's just great.

I think we are a great delegation, and I am really looking forward to our time together in New York. Together with Mursal, whom I had the pleasure of meeting at KielMUN, we will be working in the Human Rights Council to promote Georgia's interests and try to make the world a little bit better.

I am very excited to see what (different) impressions we will all get from the various committees and what the other students from all over the world will be like. Either way, it's clear that it's going to be an unforgettable time and I would already recommend everyone to take part in some kind of MUN - it's definitely worth it!



### Rina Ciqaki (UNEA)

Hello, my name is Rina Cikaqi and I'm 21 years old.

To work hard at work worth doing was one of my main motives to start my studies at CAU in socio-economics, for it was my greatest wish and still is to work for an aid or political organization in the area of planning and finding solutions. The combination of politics, sociology and economics is a timeless approach to most of the problems we face in the current day. The opportunity that my studies give me is reflected in many

stages, the political, sociological and economic sides of a problem open up a large space of possibilities. In this space, above all, courage and honesty are a big part of the solution. Honesty above all in the aspects of facts reflected in the evaluations of figures and opportunities. Honesty in the current political situations of the various countries and, above all, honesty with regard to the people who have to experience difficult situations on a daily basis.

As it is a human concern to care for the human kind it is another aspect also a personal matter for me, as I'm already a part of the Child Protection Association. As a person with a migration background, I am openly and self-confidently involved in critical issues and do not shy away from speaking about it but also speaking up for it. My parents gave their home, future and dreams up for me and my siblings so the only right way to give back to them is to chase my dreams and work really hard at work worth doing.

For the connection of everything mentioned, the National Model United Nations (NMUN) gives me the possibility to not only expand my knowledge regarding political issues, but also to view problems in this day and age and to learn how to use arguments but especially how to prepare for the discussions of tomorrow.

Together with my wonderful committee partner, Greta Maria, I look forward to representing Georgia at the United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA).



### Greta-Maria Luise Gembris (UNEA)

Hello everyone, my name is Greta-Maria, and I am 19 years old.

I study Political Science and German here at the CAU Kiel. To study German is a personal interest of mine, as I have always loved literature and writing any kind of text. But politics is a field where you can actually make changes with your work. This is the main reason I have started my studies in political science. Before that I was studying law for a year, when I realised that I don't want to only follow the "rules" but make them. And where can you do it when not in politics? So, I am very happy about the opportunity to be part of the NMUN project and getting to not only learn a lot about diplomacy but also to make connections and meet interesting new people from all over the globe.

During our preparation for New York, I already got to meet great people and make new friends, which makes this experience even more magical. All these people contributed to a memorable weekend in Greifswald where we did not only learn a lot, but also got to have a lot of fun. Together with my wonderful committee partner Rina, I am now looking forward to representing Georgia at the United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA).



### Carolin Heiler (IAEA)

Hello, my name is Carolin, I am 26 years old, and I am studying the two Master's programs Environmental Geography and Management and Practical Philosophy of Economy and Environment at Kiel University. Participating in NMUN 2024 is a unique opportunity for me to put the knowledge I have acquired over the last few years of my studies into the context of political discussions.

When I found out about the project, I was in the process of writing my master's thesis. Against this background, the NMUN seems to me to be the perfect conclusion to my studies. I am particularly enthusiastic about learning how issues and conflicts are discussed on a global level and how the process of finding solutions to problems in a wide variety of subject areas works. Both the interdisciplinary nature of the content and the diverse nations that come together at this conference make participating in this project something very special for me. I definitely didn't want to miss the chance to take part and gain experience myself!

We have already gotten to know each other well as a team at the weekend seminars so far and I am looking forward to flying to the conference in NYC with so many great and motivated students! There, together with Adrian, I will represent Georgia's interests in the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA). I have already learned a lot of new things and I am very excited about the time we will all have together as the project moves forward!



### Berit Hein (UNHCR)

Hi, I'm Berit. I'm in the 3rd semester of the Master of Education with the subject combination English and Geography. I am also studying Geography in the 5th semester of my Bachelor of Science. Due to the outstanding leadership of this year's Heads in the application phase, I became aware of the club and the participation in the NMUN. On the off chance and without any idea what to expect, I applied and fortunately got a place in the delegation for NMUN 2024. I had often heard about United Nations simulations, but I couldn't really imagine what they were like. I had always been interested in politics, but I never dared to do anything with it, so when I was introduced to the program, I thought "this is my chance". And I was right, I have already learned a lot in preparation for the NMUN and I am very excited about other topics that I will be able to deal with during the conference. I also find it incredibly exciting to work with people from all over the world, to get to know them and to exchange experiences with them, and I am particularly looking forward to this in New York City. Working with

the Head Delegates and the other delegates has been a wonderful and valuable experience so far, and I would like to thank everyone for that.



### Alev Leddin (ESCAP)

Hello, my Name is Alev, I am 21 years old, and I am thrilled to be part of the NMUN Project 2024. As a second-year law student, I recognize the immense value that this experience brings to my legal education and future career. This year, I am honored to represent Georgia in the *Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific* (ESCAP) together with Gbemi. Engaging in NMUN is not just about simulating international diplomacy; it's an opportunity to develop and enhance crucial skills that are directly applicable to my journey in law. My previous internal experiences at MUN in Kiel and Greifswald proved to me that my intercultural skills have not only been sharpened, but also enabled me to consider complex legal issues in an international context. Through this project, I am actively honing my research skills, delving into the intricate realms of international law, treaties, and diplomatic negotiations. The platform encourages me to articulate my thoughts persuasively, strengthening my public speaking abilities.

Networking is a key element of the legal world, and NMUN provides an excellent opportunity to connect with fellow students, faculty, and professionals in the field of law and international relations.

Therefore, I am very happy to be part of a delegation with which it is not only possible to cooperate well on a diplomatic level, but also to have found one another, especially in Greifswald. I look forward to the International Conference in New York, more MUN experiences and challenges, knowing that these experiences will shape my journey towards becoming a well-rounded and effective me.



### Mursal Said (HRC)

Moinsen everybody!

If talking a lot and commitment are among your best qualities...why not use them to save the world?

My name is Mursal Said, I am 22 years old, and I am studying German and Geography in the second semester of my master's degree in teaching. Being part of a project has always been fun for me, especially because I could offer support and make a difference. During the lockdown, the opportunities to participate in projects were reduced and suddenly, after a few years, I received an email in my mailing

list talking about KielMUN2023. I was already familiar with MUN, as a friend had taken part in it continuously at school. The idea of engaging with culture, business and politics in a completely new way has always fascinated me and is part of my everyday life. So I didn't hesitate for long, signed up and suddenly I was part of it. At the beginning, of course, there were doubts and uncertainties. How should I behave? What's everyone like? What exactly am I doing here? But the adrenaline is pumping through my blood: different people meet and represent a country without having any previous connection to it. Never before have I been able to cooperate, think and act so intensively with people - and in English! The feeling of having made a difference and putting my skills to the test was brilliant. So I wanted to push my boundaries, do more, do more and more was NMUN. Applying for it scared me a little because it felt unapproachable and completely surreal. But I took a chance, tried my luck and got in. Now I'm here and have met both wonderful and diverse people who undoubtedly have what it takes to really save the world.

I am excited to take this step in my life and join the Human Rights Council for Georgia with my partner in crime, Philine. I look forward to the challenges and interesting discussions. I am looking forward to improving my public speaking skills. But most of all, I'm excited to meet different people and see how I will change after NMUN, because one thing is for sure: New York will make each of us grow.



### Vianne Uhl (UNHCR)

Moin! My name is Vianne Uhl, I am 21 years young, and I major in Socio-Economics at the CAU, an interdisciplinary course that focuses on the intersections between economics, politics and sociology. Which is exactly where my interest lies: How does our global society work? How do different areas influence international events? And, most importantly, where can we find solutions?

In the university group I lead, the Transatlantic Student Initiative (TSI), we are trying to find those very answers! We organize events with political figures, academics and people from the field. With this intersectional discussion, the participants always get to see an issue from at least one more perspective. Then more and more members from the Transatlantic Student Initiative began to take part in this exciting project called *National Model United Nations*, so I attended the information seminar and was immediately convinced! The project is the perfect opportunity for me to apply my theoretical knowledge and discuss geopolitics with like-minded geeks from Kiel and the world.

Simulations like this allow you to immerse yourself in situations and gain an unmatched understanding of political positions. I experienced this in a diplomatic simulation during my semester abroad in Canada and it motivated me further to apply for the delegation

of the ISC - and let me tell you: my expectations were exceeded. The amazing Head Delegates not only teach us the procedures and diplomatic conduct, but also show us how to excel in personal growth. Already, through the internal simulation and the simulation in Greifswald, I have been able to grow beyond myself.

For the negotiations, I bring to the table the diplomatic experience from a US Consulate General, the political expertise from the German Federal Parliament, intercultural communication and language skills, as well as knowledge from my geopolitical bookshelf. Together with my brilliant committee partner, Berit, I look forward to representing Georgia at the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR). Georgia has been affected by waves of refugees over the decades, and it is especially exciting now to bring Georgia's unique perspective to an even more special Committee. I cannot wait to see what New York, the city of dreams, will teach me!



### Adrian Hemmati (IAEA)

Hello:) My name is Mohammadreza (aka Adrian), 28 years old and I will soon complete my master program in biological oceanography from GEOMAR, Kiel. While my educational journey has primarily been immersed in the depths of marine and environmental sciences, my passion for understanding and addressing global challenges has led me to participate in the National Model United Nations 2024, with the ultimate goal of honing my skills to contribute meaningfully to international affairs and sustainable development.

My childhood interest in geography and world cultures has fueled my enthusiasm for participating in a learning by doing program organized by ISC e.V., where I aim to enhance my public speaking and diplomacy skills and get ready for NMUN 2024. I believe that this counts as a crucial step in my journey to become a more effective advocate for sustainable development and a well-informed contributor to global conversations. Also, I see the National Model United Nations as a unique platform to bridge my educational background with broader global issues and have the opportunity to network with more people who share the same interests and values as mine.

This year, together with Caro, we will be representing the beautiful country Georgia at the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) in New York.



### Adam Kosumov (GA 1)

Since high school, I, Adam Kosumov, a 20-year-old individual, have been captivated by international politics. What initially sparked my interest was the engaging discourse with my classmates during our economics and political science lessons. I believe the driving force behind this fascination lies in my Chechen background (North Caucasus, Russia). My family immigrated to the Federal Republic of Germany, and I am the first son among five siblings to take the pioneering step toward academia. Following this passion, I currently pursue a Bachelor's degree in political science and sociology, and I am aspiring to attain a Master's in international politics.

In my spare time, I am actively involved in the "SPD" (Social Democratic Party of Germany) Working Group on Migration and Diversity as an elected board member representing the state of Schleswig-Holstein. I view migration as a crucial and transnational issue. Additionally, I play an integral role in the student representation for my academic programs as the elected chief financial officer. Moreover, under the auspices of my party-affiliated foundation, the Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung, I educate students on the mechanics of right-wing extremism, right-wing populism, and the threat these phenomena pose to democracy and public safety. Furthermore, I serve as a board member for the "Transatlantic Studies Initiative," founded by delegate Vianne Uhl.

I perceive the National Model United Nations as a significant opportunity to deepen my understanding of international politics through the practical experience of a diplomat. Post my academic pursuits, I intend to actively shape international relations and contribute meaningfully to the field!



### Alexander Krüger (GA 2)

Hello, my name is Alexander Krüger, and I am currently a student at the Christian-Albrechts-University in Kiel. I'm a student of political science and history in my third semester. My participation in the NMUN project this year can be attributed to my interest in international politics and international relations. The United Nations have always captivated my interest as a platform for international politics. I would like to work in a field regarding international politics in the future.

Being part of the NMUN 2024 Kiel delegation is a unique experience which helps to get a better grasp of international relations and international politics. In addition to that, we learn a lot about the mechanisms the UN utilizes. The members of the delegation are not just honing their skills regarding navigating the

various mechanisms of the UN, but also regarding negotiating and debating with their fellow delegates and holding speeches in front of a large crowd. In New York, all the skills learned during the weekend sessions organized by the International Student Council will be put to the test whilst meeting people from other universities from all around the globe. This will be an ideal opportunity for getting to know various people and sharing a unique experience.



### Oluwagbeminiyi Okusi (ESCAP)

Hello, I'm Gbemi, a 33-year-old pursuing a master's degree in Agrigenomics at the Christian Albrechts University in Kiel. Beyond my academic focus, I've been captivated by understanding people's attitudes towards leadership and responsibility. Acknowledging the pivotal role of effective communication, I've found its broader relevance, especially in the intricate domains of governance and the shaping of societal norms. I learned about the NMUN program through an email invitation. Driven by curiosity, I joined the initial Zoom meeting and swiftly realized that participation was a must for me.

From the very first weekend session, my expectations were not only met but exceeded. We received valuable lessons on confidently expressing our views in intelligent discussions, and equally important, we were taught the significance of building relationships to achieve common goals. The NMUN heads delivered outstanding support, providing training and assistance in various aspects of the program with a relaxed and friendly approach.

I had the privilege of meeting and working with an incredible group of students and engaging in insightful simulations that expanded the boundary of my knowledge.

As part of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), I eagerly anticipate representing Georgia alongside my committee partner, Alev, as a delegation in New York City. I see this as a valuable opportunity not only to engage in diplomatic discussions but also to foster connections, build friendships, and actively contribute to the passing of resolutions.



### Moritz Peleikis (GA 1)

Hello, my name is Moritz Peleikis, 25 years old, and I am currently a fifth-semester student of Economics at CAU Kiel. My academic path is deliberately tailored to incorporate politics and environmental subjects, aligning with my core interests. Politics has played a big part in my life, an interest fueled by family traditions and lively discussions with friends, culminating in the common family ritual of watching the "Tagesschau" at 8:15 p.m. to stay informed and engaged.

My first encounter with a project similar to NMUN was a Rotary Student Exchange Program, which gave me a taste of the intricacies of international diplomacy and the importance of cross-cultural communication. NMUN is important for understanding and simulating the workings of the United Nations, making the complexities of international relations more accessible and understandable.

Networking and recommendations from a friend introduced me to the ISC e.V. project, which sparked my enthusiasm to contribute to and learn from this simulation. I am excited about the opportunity to immerse myself in the NMUN experience, which I view as a stepping stone towards a more comprehensive understanding of global politics.

Looking forward to the dialog and debates that lie ahead, I am confident that the NMUN will be an enriching experience that will strengthen my understanding of international relations and equip me with valuable skills for the future. Furthermore, I am excited to represent Georgia in New York as part of the General Assembly First Committee (GA1) and gaining a deeper understanding of Georgian politics and culture. I also hope to be able to interact with other students.



### Timm Benjamin Reich (GA 3)

Hello everyone! My name is Timm. I am 21 years old and in my third semester of law here at CAU.

As we all know, law is quite a wide field with lots of professions to choose from. Still, in university, the focus is put on more conventional career paths like that of an attorney or a judge. This is the reason I was interested in expanding my outlook on career options in the first place. Then came along an email talking about NMUN in New York. With an already-existing interest in diplomatic pursuits, I had no choice but to apply immediately. Once accepted into the Kiel delegation, the weekend sessions just flew by, and then came Greifswald! In roughly two months, I was able to learn so much about the UN and diplomatic conduct in general. I was also able to work on my English and improve other important skills like holding speeches and negotiating with partners. Being a part of the Kiel delegation has not only granted

me professional advances, but I was also able to meet some very enjoyable and funny people – all of them with one thing on their minds: international diplomacy! Well, now I am here, only a couple of months away from NMUN in New York. I truly cannot put into words how excited I am. Not only do I get to see one of the coolest cities on earth, but I will also meet so many like-minded young individuals from all around the globe. What an awesome opportunity! That being said, I can't wait to absolutely rock GA3 with my committee partner, Greta!

### Linus Uzoewulu (GA 2)



Hello, my name is Linus Uzoewulu, and I am 29 years old. I study Environmental Management. I am thrilled to partake in this NMUN project at CAU Kiel. I consider the NMUN project as an opportunity that other students should attempt to seize because my experience so far, through all the stages of the project, has been fulfilling. I have seen myself grow both personally and interpersonally, thanks to the teaching and guidance of the Head Delegates, as well as the fertile atmosphere they created, enabling swift learning and growth.

Participating in the NMUN project was my first attempt at diplomatic actions. After representing Seychelles in GreiMUN, I felt a new sense of fulfillment. Now, I can relate to some of the world's problems from a standpoint that I have never viewed before, and I certainly feel capable of making quantifiable contributions to solutions to these problems. That is one major takeaway for me from being among the 2024 NMUN delegates. I look forward to the grand encounter in New York, representing Georgia in General Assembly 2, where I hope to put to use all the garnered skills and competencies.

# Daily Reports

## Weekend Session 1



The first day of the first preparatory weekend of the Kiel delegation for NMUN 2024 was a complete success. The day began with an introduction of the association and the officials in the association. Afterwards, the participants were given the opportunity to introduce themselves. This was the first opportunity for the delegates to get to know each other. This general greeting was followed by a presentation of the project itself. After this introductory phase, it was time to start preparing the content. For this purpose, a presentation on the general conditions of a Model United Nations conference was given to the new delegates to ensure that they were familiar with the many things that the participants were to learn during this weekend. This intensive introductory phase was followed by a lunch break, which was used by both delegates and heads to get to know each other a little better. There was a lot of laughter, and the participants helped themselves to the buffet they had brought with them before returning to the content. The next topic on the agenda was speeches at Model United Nations conferences. There are special rules for speeches that every speaker must follow. Besides the "Speakers Time" and the "Code of Conduct", it was also about rhetorical stylistic devices, for example. To make this aspect more interactive, two sample speeches were given. One focused on the correct observance of the rules and one could not be characterized as an ideal MUN speech. As the penultimate activity of the day, the committee and the country allocation for the internal simulation were presented by the Heads. Our first "Weekend Session" was rounded off with an exercise on speeches for the delegates. The delegates were able to try out for the first time what it is like to give a speech in front of a committee and were encouraged by the Chair to follow the strict rules. All in all, it was an extremely successful and

instructive first day, marked by team building, many presentations, but above all fun learning.

## Weekend Session 2 - Day 1



The delegates' first official MUN simulation experience was planned to start by the second weekend session in early November. The chair decided that it would be best for all delegates to directly start with simulation procedure first thing in the morning, which was unexpected for most of the present delegates but perfect practice for what's to come at further MUN conferences. After a quick introduction and handling a few organizational matters, the chair started with the roll call. Unfortunately, four delegates could not attend the first day of our internal simulation but fortunately everyone got introduced to a new delegate, who could not attend the first weekend session. Because at that time most of the delegation was still a little nervous and not as talkative as wanted, the chair prepared a morning-energizer and teambuilding activity to make everyone feel as comfortable as possible. Following the group games, the delegation went back to simulation procedure, everyone taking their assigned seats and getting ready to present opening speeches. All delegates put an enormous amount of work into the preparation of their opening speeches, which was visible through the outstanding presentations by everyone. After the first formal session was suspended, to get into informal session procedure, the chair used the opportunity to share enthusiasm with the group for their great opening speeches. Before starting to find partners and working groups in informal sessions, the commission voted on the agenda and decided that the first topic discussed will be "Addressing the Impact of Climate Change on Peace and Security". Until the lunch break the conference was going back and forth between formal and informal sessions. During the informal sessions the delegates had the opportunity to find other delegates, with similar interests and answers for solving the issue. In formal sessions all members of the commission could express their stands on the matter in speeches, to convince other

delegates to cooperate with each other. At this point, the long lunch break was much needed by everyone, not only to breath some fresh air outside but also to share thoughts about the first exciting experiences being a delegate. This was also a perfect time to get to know everyone better, since during formal and informal sessions this falls a little short. Right after the break the chair again planned a group game so everyone can get back to work as energized as possible. Before going back into formal and informal sessions, the obligatory group picture of the weekend session No. 2 was taken, naturally posing with the Flag of Georgia, which the whole delegation will be representing at the New York MUN in late March next year. During the first formal session after the break the chair introduced new points and motions of procedure, which were already more or less successfully integrated during the rest of the afternoon. Before the first day of the second weekend session ended, every delegate found a working group and together the delegates started on the writing working papers. By the end of the day, all delegates and chairs were exhausted but extremely proud about what was already achieved.

## Weekend Session 2 - Day 2



On the second day of the second weekend session, the NUM simulation of the previous day was continued. After a few organizational issues had been clarified by the heads, the delegation was invited to a warm-up as usual.

Then it was straight into the first formal session of the day. In the speeches, reference was made to the successful formation of working groups on the previous day. Also, the other member states were invited to join the working groups. In the first informal session that followed, the delegates came together in the four existing working groups to further develop their strategy. At the same time, an exchange took place with the other working groups to identify similarities and differences in the concepts. Unfortunately, four delegates were absent on this day again, meaning that not all

represented member states were able to participate in the working group formation. In the next formal session, the speeches clarified which states had joined forces and called for support for their ideas. Before the lunch break, there was a second informal session in which the delegates immediately sat down in their working groups. As the informal sessions on this day only lasted 30 to 60 minutes, it was necessary to concentrate on the working papers during this time. The heads asked the working groups to formulate eight preambulatory clauses and eight operative clauses by the end of the day. As a first step, the initial keywords that had already been formulated the day before. During this informal session, the heads called each delegate individually to the door for a feedback discussion. In particular, the first position paper and the speeches given so far were reviewed. Questions that arose during the bilateral discussion were clarified and assistance was provided, too.

After the lunch break, we continued with a formal session. As the speaker's list was usually very short, the heads often had to point out that the delegates should also contact the chair during the informal sessions to be added to the list. During this formal session, more points and motions were voiced, and the delegates had the opportunity to practice the formal procedures of the conference. In terms of content, the speeches focused more on the other delegates, thanking them or emphasizing their cooperation in the working group. The delegates also increasingly took the opportunity to send messages to their colleagues by note and thus exchange ideas and make contact. A final short informal session was used to finalize the working paper and to check the correct wording and formatting of the clauses once again. The delegates were also asked to prepare a final speech for the day. The speaker's list was interrupted relatively soon by a Motion of Closure of Debate and the debate was postponed to the next weekend session.

## Weekend Session 3 - Day 1



The weekend session of November 18, 2023, was a fascinating experience. First and foremost, we were informed about our topics at GreiMUN, which revolve around climate change and microplastics. Following that, the delegation received new information about various motions. Delegations can now "appeal to the chair" if they feel unfairly treated (only by a note and a  $\frac{2}{3}$  majority), and notably, a motion for a silent prayer was introduced. Regarding the latter, a delegate can call for a minute of silent prayer on a specific topic only before the Roll-Call.

We swiftly proceeded to the speakers' list. As our working papers became more comprehensive, the three working groups began presenting them to each other, fostering cooperation. Following our speeches, the first informal session was set for one hour, enabling us to refine our working papers. With the guidance of our head delegates, we received insightful criticism of our initial papers.

Post the first informal session, the surprise entry of the German delegation occurred. Fellow delegates raised many points of order regarding the 90 seconds allocated for speakers and the priority on the speakers' list. Furthermore, Germany criticized the religious traditions of Islamic Member States, inciting hatred. Unfortunately, the chair did not entertain our objection and dismissed it by stating, "The delegation of Germany is a close friend. The chair does not care." Consequently, many distinguished delegates wrote a note appealing to the chair, citing unjust behavior. Subsequently, it was revealed that the chair had only wanted to test us and did not mean any harm. Nonetheless, delegates were pleased that the chair apologized. Delegates began exchanging information and discussing their preferences for tackling the issue of climate change. Initial possible merging partners were established, and a common ground for cooperation was built. Following that, the lunch break commenced, allowing delegates to recharge for the third round.

After a stressful energizer activity, delegates kept their speeches concise to work more efficiently on their working papers. The merging processes began, and it was strongly emphasized that forming one large group is a possible outcome in the upcoming weekend sessions.

## Weekend Session 3 - Day 2



This Sunday marked the conclusion of the internal simulation. We promptly commenced with the roll call and our first formal session. This session was rather short as the delegates still needed to receive feedback from the heads regarding their working papers from yesterday. There was still plenty of work to do but we could see how the delegates were improving over the course of the simulation.

Right after the feedback the delegates got back to work, and the heads could further discuss and go around to give feedback to the remaining groups. Just before the lunch break the working groups had to hand in the final drafts of their working papers.

After lunch, we skipped the energizer as the delegates were eager to continue working. In big steps we were approaching the last phase of a Model United Nations: the amendments and voting procedure. This meant for us heads that we needed to give some more presentations. Nevertheless, the delegates were attentive and were able to follow the tough content.

After theory comes practice, so we got back to work once again. The delegates continued with their last informal session and started to amend their papers after they had been officially drafted. The voting procedure afterwards was a rather exciting matter. Not all delegations present were in favour of every draft resolution which resulted in one resolution not being adopted. This does not mean the resolution wasn't good enough - this is just how international diplomacy works. Being able to see that the delegates aren't afraid of playing the game and engaging in bold actions to get their

assigned countries' interests across made me proud as a head delegate - Clapping is now in order.

With the internal simulation finally coming to an end we still had an exciting event planned in the evening! To get to know the country that we are going to represent in New York we made a reservation at Medea - the best Georgian restaurant in Kiel. As we were still quite early, the group decided to play a round of "Who is who?" with international figures of politics and history.

Afterwards, we headed straight to Medea, as stomachs started to growl. The food at Medea was exquisite. We had different dishes brought to our table which everyone could choose from - just like it is done in traditional caucasian homes. I enjoyed the evening, chatting with our delegates for the first time in an informal session and laughing the whole evening long!

With the internal simulation concluded, we now eagerly anticipate our journey to Greifswald for our next conference at the beginning of December!

## GreimUN - Day 1



On the 8th of December, the delegations met at 10:15 to start the day at the university. With some complications as it was a very freezing day, the busses got finally started and the trip to Greifswald could start. On the way, the delegations had the opportunity to bond and to get to know each other which is essential for teambuilding and future projects. After the arrival at 2 pm, the Greifswald MUN started quickly at 5 pm. The GreifMUN was held as a Conference of the Parties (COP) with over 20 participants partaking. The COP is the supreme decision-making body of an international convention. Topics of the COP were Climate Change and its impact on Food Security and Agriculture as well as Microplastic and Marine Pollution. But before the MUN could officially begin the Mayor of Greifswald and the Greifswald staff greeted all the

participants. The Delegates of Kiel were all very nervous as it was the first Council with delegates from another university, but each delegate gave an impressive opening speech. The internal sessions in Kiel were essential to the delegations, as they could test out their abilities and limits in a safe space and improve their skills. With that being said the Kiel delegates were very straightforward and shaped the sessions with their passion and interest. Shortly after their speeches, the topic was set to the first topic being Microplastic and Marine Pollution and the second topic was Climate Change and its impact on Food Security and Agriculture. Some delegates were not in favor of the topic arrangement and gave their best to convey the importance of their own and global concerns for food security. The speeches were full of spirits, but their suggestions were overruled. Before the work in the working groups could start, there was a lunch break which enabled the delegates to walk to the Christmas market of Kiel and exchange their impressions as also receiving a well-deserved break. After some „Schmalzkuchen“, discussions and exchanges the first working groups were created. Especially the aspect of marine plastic pollution was set to focus by the working groups. After a long day, the Session was suspended at 9 pm but the day was not over. The Staff and Delegation of Greifswald held a get-together with the Kiel Delegation and staff to initiate more communication and interactions between the delegations as there was little to no time at the beginning of the session to get to know the Greifswald Delegates. The day was very exhausting but also very intriguing and full of new desires.

## GreiMUN - Day 2



The second day of GreiMUN started well with a motivational speech from our head. After a short drive to the beautiful Greifswald campus, we went straight into the formal session at 9am to listen to amazing speeches from delegations around the world and to wish everyone a successful day of negotiations. We quickly found our working groups and got to work! Within the working groups, we adapted the feedback from our

correctors from the previous day. Each delegation focused on their country's perspective and what needed to be implemented to make it a successful working paper. After the first informal session, we listened to a few speeches and heard about the progress of the other working groups. Then we went right back to work to finish our next draft of the working paper. After submitting it, it was time for a lunch break. The first negotiations and the work on the paper made everyone quite hungry, so we fanned out to all corners of Greifswald, enjoying the beautiful city center and the supermarket complex. Next, we used the much-needed energy to convince new fellow countries of the progress in our working groups. Of course, to inform them, but also to pitch them the idea of becoming a signatory in the working groups. Then it was time for the next food break. After a few more rounds of informal and formal meetings, you could tell that everyone was starting to tire. The day had been long, the work hard, the negotiations relentless, and we were all pushing through. At 9 p.m., a motion was finally made to adjourn the meeting until tomorrow to get a good night's rest and start fresh in the morning.

Over the course of the day, each of the delegates became more and more comfortable in his or her role. Speeches became more creative, progress moved faster, and slowly but surely, we all became more confident. This day was crucial in preparation for day three, when we finalized and drafted our working papers; without all the work and effort of day two, we would have lacked the confidence to get all the papers passed - or did we?

## GreimUN - Day 3



The 3rd day of GreimUN 2023 which is also the last day of the conference started with the final motivational speech by Kiel head delegates at the hotel lobby. Then all delegates head to the conference to continue working in their previously formed three working groups. The day started with the formal session at 9 am with the speakers list and speeches by member states which were now more focused on the points of each

working group in order to take the attention from other delegations. Then shortly the first informal session started, and delegates sat in their working group and received first comments and feedback on working papers from responsible people. Then the delegates had time to apply the comments and discuss further points within their working papers and hand it in for the next round of review before lunch time. Also, the delegates were supposed to vote for the “best delegates” on this day and send their votes to the dais by the end of lunch time. The working papers review was repeated 3-4 times for each working group which made it an intense day for delegates to apply the comments and edit the papers. Finally, each working group drafted the working papers by the deadline announced by the Dais and after the drafting process the conference got into formal session. As it was decided that there would be no amendments on the draft working papers, the session directly moved to voting procedure, of course after plenty of speeches by the delegate on the speakers list. The voting procedure was tough as there was no adoption by acclamation and a roll call vote was brought up for all the three drafted resolutions. Also, a division of the question was brought up by the United States delegate for one of the draft resolutions. Finally, all the draft resolutions were adopted with the majority of votes and the session was ended by the chair. Although it was a long and intensive day, most of the delegates were super tired after all. After a short break, the closing ceremony started, and the best delegates were announced (3 delegates were selected in which 2 of them were from the Kiel delegation including the delegates of the Seychelles and the delegate of the United States). The delegates received their prizes by the chair and after some photoshooting and appreciation speeches by the GreiMUN organizers, the conference was finished by showing a cool video clip recorded during the 3 days :)

## Weekend Session 4 - Day 1



The first weekend session after GreiMUN, and the beginning of actual preparations for New York. The International Student Commitment e.V (ISC) have been invited to

appear in the CAU Image Film, thus, the day started 30 minutes earlier with the filming session. Roubens, the Chairman of the ISC was in attendance for the filming, and for subsequent activities of the day. After the film crew got the necessary shots, the session commenced properly with a speech from Roubens about his experience in New York, giving the delegates an outlook of what to expect, including some useful advice. The delegates also used this chance to ask questions about possible scenarios and how to handle them. This speech was followed by a recap of GreiMUN. The delegates gave several positive feedback and comments on some areas for improvement for the future GreiMUNs. The head delegates acknowledged the input from the delegates, commended the delegate's astute performance in Greifswald and gave some comments for improvement. This segment was followed by a presentation by the heads. This presentation was aimed at reviewing the code of conduct and rules of procedure for the conference in New York. Special emphasis was laid on the areas where the procedure or conduct will be different in New York from what the delegates have already experienced in the internal simulation and GreiMUN. This presentation also contained some self-awareness tips and several examples of scenarios which the delegates should be aware of. Another presentation was given by the heads, this time to review the voting procedures and to touch upon areas of it that the delegates needed more clarification on. After this, two simulations of the voting procedure were done, to practice all that have been learned. During the first simulation, the delegates practiced an entire voting procedure using an exemplar working paper. In the course of this, the delegates asked many questions concerning the process and received clarifications on them. Many mistakes made by the delegates were corrected. The second simulation and final segment for the day was a simulation of the process of "amendment" during a voting procedure. Again, using an exemplar working paper, the delegates practiced the process, and received answers and corrections to their doubts and mistakes respectively. Thereafter, the head delegates gave a brief closing remark, and called it a day.

## Weekend Session 4 - Day 2



The second day of weekend session 4 started off with some more general announcements by our head delegates. After that came an exercise where we had to detect mistakes in a pre-written resolution. Although not all mistakes could be spotted during the first read-through, solving this chore turned out to be very motivating. It underlined our understanding of the correct structuring of UN-resolutions, which was, of course, due to our diligent preparation beforehand. Right after, we were given a short period of time to research and create presentations on various topics specific to Georgia. Groups were formed that would focus on general history, the conflicts in South Ossetia and Abkhazia, economics, cultural practices, and many more topics. It was clear that this task was designed to put our research abilities to the test and improve them under pressure. After the given time had elapsed, the presentations were held, and the result was a very informative late morning that gave everyone the necessary baseline of knowledge on Georgia.

When lunch break came around, the first photos of delegates were taken. These would serve as images for the official Instagram campaign as well as personal souvenirs. Since a few delegates were missing on this day, not all committee photos could be taken.

After lunch, we played a debating game. This was not only to keep spirits high after a somewhat exhausting day but, of course, to practice our negotiating skills. First, a topic was chosen, and then each player debating received a dedicated debating style, for example, being angry or laughing all the time. Granted, having to laugh through the entire debate was funny at first, but in hindsight, the game proved to be an important exercise. Though exaggerated, we would practice how to react to different situations and personalities. That was the last activity for the day, and it had been yet another successful weekend session.

## Weekend Session 5



Today marked the fifth and final working session before the journey to New York begins. The anticipation and excitement were evident, as it was decided to combine the originally planned two-day sessions into one long, intensive day, which lasted from 10:00 AM to approximately 7:00 PM. The day started with a small warm-up game to lighten the mood and activate all participants. The game "Journey to Rome" is a group activity where players move around a circle of chairs while music plays. When the music stops, everyone must quickly find a seat. One person will always be left standing, as there is one fewer chair than players. After the game, group photos were taken with the entire delegation and the respective team leaders. Since some participants had been absent due to illness in recent weeks, individual photos of the various committees and delegates were also taken. These photos are not only cherished memories but are also used to print personalized business cards with pictures. Following this, Julia, who flew to New York last year, joined us. She was available to answer all our questions and shared valuable experiences and tips. Julia was able to address many of our concerns and further motivate us for the upcoming trip. A particularly educational and important activity followed: each pair of team members was assigned a United Nations committee, about which they had to create a presentation within 20 minutes and then present it. This exercise was not only helpful in improving our public speaking skills but also deepened our understanding of the various UN committees and their functions. Next, we continued with further preparations for New York. We received general facts and tips for the trip, including information about our hotel location, the best way to get there from the airport, and which attractions are particularly worth visiting. This presentation was led by our team leaders and was extremely informative and helpful. To lighten the day, a humorous vote was conducted: "Who is most likely to?". With questions like "Who is most likely to get arrested?" or "Who is most likely to miss their flight?", this activity brought many laughs. The idea is to reveal the results after the NMUN at a reunion and compare if

we were right. It was a funny and relaxed way to strengthen team spirit. After the votes, a long and very informative day came to an end. Once everything was packed up and the chairs were put back in place, everyone headed home to rest after an entertaining, informative, and exhausting day. This day was not only characterized by intense preparation and valuable information but also by a strong sense of community and a lot of fun. We are now well-prepared and full of anticipation for our trip to New York.

A big thank you to our wonderful heads for the time and effort they have invested in us. Without you, it would have been only half as awesome. Thanks also to everyone else who has made and supported this wonderful journey possible. Thank you very much!!!!!!

## NYC - Before the Conference 1



New York, New York - we finally woke up in the city that never sleeps!

Finally, our journey led us here, here to the peak of our NMUN 2024 experience. Over the last months all of us worked hard at our weekend sessions and in our free time to come here feeling prepared for the conference.

After the arrival we all met at our hotel, the Hilton Midtown, where we saw everyone again, to have a quick get together with a short briefing about the agenda for the day. Besides that, we talked about how excited we are, that we are a little scared as well and just how happy to finally be in New York instead of just talking about it.

When our quick get together was over, we had a bit of time on our hands, before meeting at the United Nations Headquarters, where we had a guided tour and an opportunity to learn about the work and history of the UN. During the tour we had the possibility to ask all the questions we had and could also have a glimpse at the work as well as the rooms, where the magic happens.

It was an amazing experience. After visiting the United Nations Headquarters, we had time to ourselves again to relax and to not only be in New York, but fully arrive. We also were able to check in at the hotel and to have a first glance in our rooms, which would be our homes for the following days. In the evening the last people from our delegation, which we missed during the day finally arrived as well, so all of us could rest and sleep, to be energised for the next days, which were full of work and excitement. But that is a story for another day.

## NYC - Before the Conference 2



Our day off began with a typical New York morning, albeit rainy. As a delegate attending the National Model United Nations Conference, I seized the opportunity to explore the city. Despite the drizzle, the vibrancy of New York couldn't be dampened. My day started with a walk to a nearby café where I indulged in an overpriced but satisfying coffee. The cost was steep, but the rich aroma and bustling atmosphere made it worthwhile.

After enjoying my coffee, my roommates and I decided to stock up on essentials. We headed to a local grocery store, navigating the crowded aisles with our umbrellas in tow. The grocery shopping experience was a stark reminder of New York's fast-paced life, with everyone moving quickly and purposefully. We filled our carts with snacks, breakfast items, and a few treats to enjoy during our stay. The camaraderie with my roommates made this mundane task enjoyable, and we shared many laughs while debating which snacks to buy.

Post-grocery shopping, we made our way to the Modern Museum of Art (MoMA), one of New York's most renowned cultural institutions. The rain had picked up, but we were determined to soak in some art. MoMA did not disappoint. The museum's collection is a treasure trove of modern and contemporary art, featuring works from legendary artists like Vincent van Gogh, Pablo Picasso, and Jackson Pollock. Walking through

the galleries, I was particularly struck by van Gogh's "Starry Night" and the abstract brilliance of Pollock's drip paintings. Each piece told a story, and the museum's layout made it easy to journey through different eras and styles of art. The rainy weather outside created a cozy, introspective atmosphere inside the museum, making the experience even more poignant.

To cap off our evening, we treated ourselves to some delicious donuts from the famous Krispy Kreme store. The warm, sugary donuts were the perfect comfort food after a day of exploration. Watching the lively crowd of Times Square, savoring each bite, and reflecting on the day's adventures.

New York City, with its dynamic blend of culture, art, and everyday hustle, offered a perfect respite before the conference. The rainy weather added a unique charm to our explorations, making this day off a memorable part of my National Model United Nations experience.

## NMUN - Day 1



The 24th of March marked the official commencement of the NMUN 2024 conference, a highly anticipated event that brought together delegates from around the world. In the hours leading up to the opening ceremony, the organizers had meticulously arranged a series of activities designed to enhance delegate preparedness and ensure the highest standards of diplomatic conduct. These activities included conference registration, Chair training sessions, opportunity fairs, and delegate Q&A forums. Each of these elements played a crucial role in readying the delegates for the significant responsibilities they were about to undertake.

At approximately 6 pm, delegates assembled in the Grand Ballroom, where they were treated to a series of inspiring talks delivered by former NMUN delegates and esteemed diplomats. The evening's highlight was a recorded address by United

Nations Secretary-General António Guterres, who passionately urged the delegates to collaborate in their efforts to make the world a better place. He emphasized the vital importance of contributing to the success of the National Model United Nations program, thereby underscoring the broader impact of their participation.

Following the opening ceremony, delegates were introduced to their respective committees, where the real work began in earnest. Delegates engaged in delivering compelling speeches, setting agendas, networking with member states, and forming working groups. The day proved to be both productive and rewarding. Preliminary working groups were established, reflecting the values and positions of Georgia. In several other committees, a deeper understanding was required before forming effective working groups, necessitating a measure of patience and deliberation.

As the day drew to a close, the members of the Kiel delegation gathered in one of the hotel's conference halls for a debriefing session. This meeting provided each delegate with the opportunity to articulate their experiences and reflect on the challenges encountered within their respective committees. The discussions were insightful and set the tone for the days to follow. This day marked not just the beginning of NMUN 2024, but the start of a very eventful and potentially transformative journey for all participants.

## NMUN - Day 2



The 25th of March marked the second day of the conference for NMUN 2024. The work within the various committees continued. The delegates made a lot of progress regarding the different committees.

At Lunch Break, our delegation made its way towards the German house, which functions as the official consulate of the Federal Republic of Germany in New York. There we had the opportunity to ask several questions regarding various topics

concerning the work of the German house in New York, the work within the United Nations, and many more.

After the trip to the German house, the delegation of the CAU returned to the conference, where work was resumed after the lunch break ended.

At the end of the day, the members of our delegation met inside one of the conference halls of the hotel to discuss the progress and experiences made during the day. Every delegate recounted their day and what they were able to contribute to their respective committees.

## NMUN - Day 3



March 26, 2024, was a notably long and intensive day for our team, as our session extended beyond the usual hours. The day was primarily focused on collaborative efforts within our groups to refine and finalize our conclusion. The day was characterized by its length, driven by the necessity to make significant progress on our conclusion. Our session started early and continued well into the evening, reflecting the commitment and dedication of all team members. The extended hours were essential to ensure we could address all critical aspects of our conclusions and incorporate feedback effectively. A major part of the day was dedicated to working within our respective groups. Each group focused on fine-tuning their conclusions, ensuring that they were comprehensive and aligned with the overall objectives of the work. The collaborative environment facilitated the exchange of ideas and constructive criticism, which was vital for enhancing the quality of our work. The nature of the day's activities required extensive group collaboration. Each member actively contributed to discussions, bringing in diverse perspectives that enriched our conclusions. The collaborative sessions were intensive, involving brainstorming, debate, and consensus-building. This process not only improved the content of our conclusions but also strengthened our teamwork and problem-solving skills. During the day, we

received our previously submitted documents back, complete with corrections and feedback from our Chair. One of the highlights of the day was the feedback session with our chair. The chair provided detailed comments on our documents, pointing out strengths and areas for improvement. This feedback was particularly valuable as it offered an external perspective on our work. The chair's comments were constructive and aimed at helping us achieve a higher standard of quality in our conclusions. This feedback was invaluable as it highlighted areas of improvement and guided us on how to enhance our work. Each group meticulously reviewed the corrections and incorporated the necessary changes into their documents. This iterative process was crucial for ensuring the accuracy and quality of our final submissions.

The day also involved several rounds of discussions and debates. These were essential for resolving any discrepancies and for aligning our conclusions with the feedback received. The discussions were dynamic and sometimes challenging, but they played a critical role in refining our arguments and ensuring that all aspects of the project were thoroughly considered. In summary, NMUN Conference Day 3, was an intensive and productive day, marked by extended working hours and a strong focus on collaborative efforts. The day was essential for refining our conclusions and incorporating feedback, ensuring that our final submissions were of the highest quality. The extensive group work, document review, and valuable feedback from our chair were instrumental in advancing our work. Despite the long hours, the day was a testament to our team's dedication and commitment to excellence.

## NMUN - Day 4



The fourth day of NMUN started at 9 am for Timm and I as we represented Georgia in General Assembly Third Committee (GA3). After some quick announcements by the Dais, we went straight into formal session. Most speeches given had a very positive tone and either referred to the hard work the committee had already invested into the different working papers or summed up what the respective working group was dealing

with in regard of content. After an according motion to suspend the meeting by the delegation of the Republic of Azerbaijan, we went into informal session for one hour. In our working group we were struggling with a disagreement regarding one clause, that was neither within GA's mandate nor directly linked to our topic, however unreasonably pushed by one delegation. Just like the day before, we spent a considerable amount of time discussing this issue, but also worked on the unproblematic parts of the working paper. At noon, we took a lunch break until the conference resumed at 2 pm. During formal session I gave our third speech. In light of the issues within our working group, the speech emphasized the goal of the conference: practicing international diplomacy, finding common ground, negotiating and working collaboratively to find solutions for the respective issue. In the following informal session, our working group received feedback on our paper from the Director, also stressing the limits of GA's mandate. After getting back to our group's working place and exchanging thoughts about the Director's feedback, Timm and I realized that the problematic clause would ultimately not be removed from the paper - contrary to our hopes. Feeling stuck, we consulted our heads for advice. Anton suggested to refine the clauses we supported as much as possible, so we worked on that and modified the formatting. Eventually, we made the final adjustments and submitted our resolution as a draft. Despite the explained dissatisfaction with the outcome, submitting the draft felt relieving as it marked a significant step in our efforts. Around us, we heard the other working groups clapping when submitting their draft resolutions. Afterwards, we listened to the final speeches until the Dais gave some last instructions on the voting procedure. Before moving on to voting however, we had one last informal session for amendments, proving a chance for us to amend aforementioned problematic clause. Unfortunately, the amendment could not be accepted by the Dais due to a lack of supporting signatories. Eventually, the debate was closed and the Committee voted on all six draft resolutions. Three delegations moved for a Division of the Proposal to highlight clauses, however all of these motions failed. Even though Timm and I voted against the resolution we had sponsored, it was adopted along with all other draft resolutions by recorded vote. Seeing our long hours of hard work eventually result in resolutions felt very rewarding, creating an atmosphere filled with excitement and relief in the committee room. The Dais gave some closing remarks, thanking us for our efforts before announcing the awards. Among eight other delegations, Timm and I had won an award for our Position Paper. Afterwards, we said goodbye to the other delegations and took some final pictures. Finally, we gathered with the others from our delegation for a debriefing to share and hear about what they had experienced within their committees throughout the day. We celebrated the end of this long day and the end of the main part of the conference with pizza, coke and beer.

## NMUN - Day 5



The 28th of March marked the last official day of conference for NMUN 2024. After having completed their work in committee, all delegates had the opportunity to review and debate the work of all the committees in a General Assembly and in an ECOSOC plenary session respectively. In these plenaries, the outstanding delegations from each of the committees presented the work of their committees in a speech before the plenum was presented with one exemplary resolution from each committee to be debated and voted upon. This procedure meant that our delegates in the Human Rights Council, Mursal and Philine, who had been awarded as outstanding delegates in committee got to speak on behalf of their committee in front of the General Assembly plenum. At the end of the session, all of the resolutions were accepted in the plenary sessions.

After an extended lunch break, we then proceeded to the UN Headquarters, where the closing ceremony for the conference took place in the General Assembly hall. The feeling of returning to the UN and sitting in the seats of real-life UN diplomats in the GA made a deep impression on every one of us, no less because we had secured front row seats for the ceremony. Before the ceremony itself, we used the time to take plenty of photos in front of the Dais of the GA hall, an ever-popular souvenir for NMUN attendees. From aforementioned front row seats, we then were in a prime spot to follow the closing ceremony itself. Next to hearing closing remarks on the conference from the secretariat, we were honored by the attendance of his excellency Dennis Francis of Trinidad and Tobago, the president of the 78th session of the General Assembly who was the keynote speaker for the ceremony and gave an inspiring speech about the role of young people in the United Nations and the role of the UN in shaping a better future for all, for which he was applauded with standing ovations.

One part that was further eagerly expected by all participants was of course the announcements of the Delegation Awards. As in the previous two years, the Kiel

Delegation was once again awarded the title of a „Distinguished Delegation“, the second highest award category at NMUN. Thus, in high spirit, we made our way back to the hotel, making a last stop at the UN gift shop and grabbing a bite to eat on the way. In the evening, we gathered with the entire delegation in the seminar rooms in the Hotel Basement to celebrate our amazing and successful conference week before heading to the delegate dance in a nearby nightclub together, where all delegations met to party and to mark the end of NMUN 2024.

## NYC - After the Conference 1

On the first day after the conference, we treated ourselves to sleeping in and a slow morning. This was much needed as most of us had attended the delegates' dance the night before and stayed up late. Timm and I then went out for a typical New York breakfast: bagels. Therefore, we decided on Liberty Bagels, which offer a variety of delicious homemade bagels and cream cheeses. We enjoyed our breakfast in Central Park before heading back to the hotel. There, we met up with Moritz, Jesse, and Anton and went to Brooks Brothers. Especially Anton and Timm were captivated by the selection of suits, shirts and ties. Realizing they would likely spend hours in the store, the rest of us decided to leave them to their joy and go back to the hotel without them. At night some of us went to a jazz bar called Winnie's Jazz Bar. The band played very well, and we enjoyed the music along with some drinks. After a while, we got hungry and grabbed a Subway for dinner. Then we returned to the hotel, gathered in the lobby with the whole group, and ended the evening by playing some games.

## NYC - After the Conference 2

The last day of everything? Already?? It came so much faster than expected! Although the conference was over and we had two days of leisure time, many of us probably still felt a little exhausted - but happy and proud. Everyone had worked hard and did a great job at representing Georgia in all the committees and a couple of us even got rewarded for our position papers or commitment during the committees.

While some thought check-out was until 10 am, it actually was not until 12 am. What a relief. We didn't do a big goodbye-get-together, since everyone had different times to leave the hotel, and it would have maybe been stressful. But a couple of us had met the night before in the cellar to spend some last minutes together. And most of us went to the delegate dance on Friday and had a blast. Moreover, since we knew we'd meet again in Kiel in a couple of weeks, it was not like we would never see each other again.

Some had to fly back to Germany the same day, others stayed in New York for a couple more days and one group of students travelled to Washington to explore the city. While everyone had different plans, surely, we all had those moments throughout the day, in which we would think back to the conference or the very special visit to the UN General Assembly at the end of the conference.

In the end, it was not the last day of everything (concerning MUN) - many of us committed to the project: either by playing with the idea of becoming head delegate for next year's delegation or by supporting and helping out for the upcoming Kiel MUN. It is safe to say that the international-diplomacy-spirit we all celebrate has left an imprint on all of us.

## Committee Reports

### General Assembly 1



Moritz and I, Adam, were the Georgian Delegation for the General Assembly 1st committee at the NMUN 2024 in New York City. Together, we represented common solutions for the topics concerning international disarmament affairs (and the role of science and technology). In the beginning, Moritz and I were highly engaged while preparing our speeches. Back in Kiel, we were discussing common points and eagerly working on a position paper with a high quality. In the end, we focused on proposals that on the one hand implemented Georgia's national preferences and on the other hand recognized the struggles of the international community.

With the training and the experience gained through the internal simulation in Kiel and Greifswald, the Kiel delegation made its way to the United States of America. At our first stop, the United Nations Headquarters, the Kiel delegation was shown a tour of their lifetime as only a minority of students have the chance to see the United Nations. After our briefing at the German House (the German permanent mission to the UN) we also had the opportunity to meet up with many hardworking German students from Erlangen, Regensburg or Erfurt. We met a German diplomat to the UN and gained carrier insights for the foreign ministry.

The conference days were challenging, especially in the General Assembly committees, because our committees were the biggest. But still, we got the chance to present our ideas and solutions to tackle the current topics and to show our stance at the international arena. As hardworking delegates, we were always in the conference room early before the official start to get to know other delegates from the world. We were establishing connections with people from China, Japan, Italy, Canada and many more. One delegate that stays on my mind till now is from Texas. She did live in Germany until she was 10 years old but moved when her father got a workplace in the USA. We were exchanging our views and basic cultural impressions, especially because of different migration backgrounds.

In the End, our Kiel delegation could successfully form working groups and could agree on common solutions. The Georgian delegation had no issues with the interests of other Member States, because we were forming bonds carefully and we were using highly skilled diplomatic rhetoric while staying inclusive. With the support of our head delegates, that supplied us with water and other snacks in the informal sessions, we were able to perform at our highest capabilities. As we went to the official UN General Assembly, the president of the general assembly at the UN HQ personally called the name of the CAU zu Kiel university and gave us a “distinguished delegation” award for our hard work.

## General Assembly 2



We (Linus Uzoewulu and Alexander Krüger) had the honor of representing the Republic of Georgia in the General Assembly 2 (GA2) this year. The GA2 is the Economic and Financial Committee of the United Nations, also known as the second committee. The topics of this year's GA2 were:

1. Promoting Sustainable Tourism, and
2. Eradicating Rural Poverty to Implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Both topics mentioned above were important to the Republic of Georgia and were therefore in equal part represented in the position paper of the Georgian delegation.

Early on, it became apparent that most delegations present at the conference were in favor of choosing the second topic (Eradicating Rural Poverty to Implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development). Our delegation also felt that this topic was more important to most countries represented in the assembly. Our delegation therefore chose to vote for the second topic.

There were some difficulties at the beginning of the working group our delegation took part in. There were simply too many differing opinions and organizing such a huge group proved to be difficult since multiple delegations claimed a leading position, which hindered coordination. Our delegation stayed true to its goals and stayed focused on the work ahead. Together with a few delegations it was possible to bring structure into the working group by cooperating and focusing on getting the most essential points across.

The atmosphere within the second General Assembly was respectful, professional and constructive. There was a lot of progress being made by the various working groups regarding their respective position papers. The Assembly was comprised of approximately 200 delegates representing not just countries, but also NGOs (Non-Governmental Organizations). At the end of the conference, all proposals were accepted and drafted as draft resolutions.

We are grateful for having had the opportunity of participating at NMUN 2024. We gained plenty of experience regarding the inner workings of the United Nations and the work of a diplomat in general.

## General Assembly 3



We (Greta & Timm) had the honor of representing Georgia in the General Assembly 3rd Committee (GA3) this year. GA3, commonly known as the social, humanitarian, and cultural committee, has the broad mandate of helping protect human rights and fundamental freedoms with the Universal Declaration of Human Rights as its main reference guide. The topics at hand were:

1. Promotion and Protection of the Rights of Children in Conflict;
2. Preventing Violence and Discrimination Based on Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity

*Sunday:*

After the opening ceremony, we immediately headed into our committee room to start session 1. We were lucky to have one of our head delegates (Jesse Cramer) elected as Chair, as he took the rules of procedure very seriously and constantly acted in a dutiful manner. During the first formal session, we were able to get a first impression of some of the other delegations by listening to their speeches. Holding a speech ourselves initiated dialogue during the first informal session. We managed to meet further delegations and get a broad idea of which topic might be favored. Then, the agenda was set in order I., II. As we had also preferred topic I. before II., we were happy with this outcome. After having exchanged ideas on how to promote and protect the rights of children in conflict with many other delegates, we found consensus with the delegation of Uzbekistan. Together, we proceeded to form a group with further similarly minded delegates, which would ultimately lead to a working group in the next few days. Since everything had worked out smoothly for us, we left day one feeling confident and looked forward to the next days.

### *Monday:*

We spent the first half of the day exchanging ideas with more delegations. Having been able to give a second speech helped doing so. Within the group we had formed the day before, we started to combine our ideas and elaborate on them. Then, we found a second group that was keen on merging with us. To do so, we held a meeting, where slight problems arose with the other group regarding a specific clause that called upon Member States to initiate a ceasefire in Gaza. However, in a joint effort, we pointed out that this clause would exceed the mandate of GA3, and the topic currently discussed. After a quick exchange of views, the delegations of those wanting to merge with us were on board to adjust the problematic clause and we agreed to proceed with the merger. Although thinking the problem had been solved at this point, it would bother us again later on.

### *Tuesday:*

This day started with a disappointment: The group we merged with had submitted our paper to the Dais to be corrected. However, it turned out that all of the clauses from our initial paper were missing, allegedly due to “time issues”. Consequently, our clauses had not been corrected. Because of that, our main objective was to paste our clauses into the corrected copy of the working paper. However, this was nearly impossible due to the dreadful Wi-Fi connection, which also hindered further necessary research. All in all, we were forced to sacrifice a lot of progress on that day. Additionally, the Dais’ correction concluded that the already controversial clause concerning a ceasefire in Gaza was not within the scope of the mandate of GA3, just like we had already suspected. Unfortunately, the clauses’ author delegation acted disregarding to the confirmation of our mandate and stubbornly wanted to keep the clause in. This was against the will of most partner delegations. Therefore, the rest of the day was filled with unsuccessful negotiations.

### *Wednesday:*

The 4th day of the conference was mainly spent sorting out the issue of the Gaza-clause amongst others. It seemed like some of the participants lacked a basic understanding of how the UN works, and therefore pushed impossible policies. At this point, we realized that we should have utilized further options for collaboration earlier on and not settle straight away. Despite that, we tried to improve and complement the unproblematic parts of the paper and make the most of the day, especially as voting procedure was only a couple of hours away. Since we were not satisfied with how things were going, we consulted one of our head delegates (Anton Goeser) to discuss our options. He advised us to focus on and improve our parts of the paper. Until lunch break, we polished our paper especially regarding formatting. We then handed it in, and it was drafted as a resolution. As much as we tried to improve on our side, the end result was not convincing. Since many clauses on the draft resolution stood against Georgia’s positions and beliefs, we decided to make an unfriendly amendment

that would specifically cross out the Gaza-clause. This amendment was not accepted due to a lack of supporting signatories. This left us with no other option than to vote against the draft resolution we had been a sponsor to. In the end all drafts, including ours, were adopted as resolutions.

Thursday:

The last day of the conference started with all General Assembly committees and subsidiary bodies gathering for a plenary session. After that, all delegations got together in the GA hall in the UN Headquarters for the Closing Ceremony. An already exciting week came to an end when h. M. Dennis Francis gave his captivating speech.

We can conclude that during NMUN 2024 there were ups and downs. Although we worked long hours for a resolution that we did not want to pass in the end and had a hard time with some of the delegations present, it is important for us to stress that the whole experience was still extremely rewarding. Our preparational work was rewarded with a Position Paper Award. We met some very enjoyable delegates, with whom collaboration was a blast! We also look back fondly at funny moments like two of our head delegates (Emilia Kurilov and Valentin Bartsch) delivering us donuts on so-called “terrible Tuesday” to make it through the day. Altogether, we were able to take away a lot about our working structure and our capacity management, as well as dealing with a variety of people and how to act in difficult social situations.

## Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific



We, Alev Leddin and Oluwagbeminiyi Okusi, were honored to represent the Republic of Georgia in the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) this year. Established in 1947, ESCAP promotes inclusive and

sustainable development in the Asia-Pacific region by addressing poverty reduction, trade, social equity, environmental sustainability, and disaster risk reduction. ESCAP aims to ensure that development benefits all people in the region. The topics for this year were:

1. Promoting a Healthy, Protected, and Productive Workforce in Asia and the Pacific;
2. Addressing the Expanded Riskscape in Asia and the Pacific.

The delegation was well-prepared and eager to address both topics, thanks to thorough training and a comprehensive understanding of the country's position towards the issues. Both topics were important and were equally represented in the position paper of the Georgian delegation. During the first informal session, it became evident that the second topic, "Addressing the Expanded Riskscape in Asia and the Pacific," was favored by the majority of delegates. As expected, when it came time to vote, there was overwhelming support for this topic. The committee was composed of about 50 member countries and associate members.

At the outset of the working group, our delegation encountered a few challenges. In this small group, member states were reluctant to collaborate, as some nations dominated discussions and overshadowed others. Despite these obstacles, our delegation remained committed to its goals and laser-focused on the tasks at hand. Through collaboration with a few willing delegations, we managed to bring structure to the group and effectively communicate the most essential points.

The atmosphere at ESCAP was generally good. Each delegation, representing various countries, came with different levels of preparedness and training. It was evident which countries were ready for the tasks at hand. Despite these differences, we remained steadfast in ensuring our proposals were accepted and drafted into resolutions. A highlight of the conference was collaborating with NGOs, particularly Oxfam International, from whom we learned many valuable lessons. Understanding the unique role of NGOs on the global stage was both interesting and enlightening. While international diplomacy was generally practiced, it was noted that some countries approached the proceedings with more assertiveness than actual diplomatic conduct.

At some point during the conference, we visited the German House, where we delved deeper into the workings of the UN and current geopolitical tensions. Posing challenging questions to a real diplomat provided invaluable insights into the inner workings of international diplomacy. We were graciously hosted at the German House and gained a comprehensive understanding of Germany's position on the global stage.

On the final day of the conference, we were honored to receive the Best Position Paper award. This accolade is dedicated to our distinguished heads for their exceptional guidance in instructing us on the intricacies of drafting exemplary position papers and effectively conveying our thoughts and expressions of international diplomacy. We are profoundly grateful for the opportunity to participate in NMUN 2024, which afforded us

substantial insight into the operations of the United Nations and the responsibilities of a diplomat.

The conference served as an excellent platform to acquaint ourselves with diplomatic work, leaving us highly motivated to engage in further simulations and potentially pursue careers in diplomacy. Moreover, it inspired us to enhance our interactive skills and foster connections with lifelong friends, enriching our experience beyond measure.

## Human Rights Council



Mursal Said and Philine Brinks represented Georgia on the UN Human Rights Council. The Council is an intergovernmental body within the United Nations that deals with the promotion and protection of human rights worldwide. It was founded in 2006 and consists of 47 member states elected by the UN General Assembly for a three-year term. The Council monitors human rights violations, conducts investigations and makes recommendations. Georgia has been represented in the Council since January 2023.

We have prepared for the following two topics:

1. Human Rights and the Use of Private Military and Security Companies, and
2. Human Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

While both topics are highly relevant, we decided to vote for the second topic. Even before the official start, we got to talking to other delegates and tried to find out which way the majority was leaning. After a few opening speeches, it became clear that it would be very close if we voted too early. So, we tried to convince other delegations

at the first informal session that the second topic should be dealt with first. In the end, the Council voted with a (narrow) majority in our favor and for the second topic.

Once this first hurdle had been overcome, we had to find a suitable working group - which proved to be extremely difficult. Our head delegates had already prepared us for dominant delegates who wanted to push through their own proposals relatively uncompromisingly. In the course of Monday morning, we finally had a productive working group that was regionally diverse and worked on different proposals. Overall, Monday was a mixture of intensive work in the informal sessions and many speeches by the delegates. One thing was clear: everyone had a lot to say, and the speakers list would certainly not be empty.

We were also prepared for the so-called "terrible Tuesday", which turned out to be extremely relaxed for us. While there were some more or less aggressive merging attempts from other working groups, which we successfully "fended off", we actually spent a large part of the day waiting several times for the return of and comments on our working paper. In the meantime, our committee emptied out drastically when it was announced that pop star Shakira would be giving a pop-up concert in Times Square. The highlight of the day was definitely the donut delivery from our wonderful head delegates.

After slowly coming together in a group with other delegates, we quickly developed a working paper by Wednesday. As delegates of Georgia, it was particularly important for us to discuss education, which was also the main point of our working group. We therefore spent most of our time explaining the importance of languages and cultures of indigenous peoples in schools to all pupils. However, there were always disputes with other working groups that interfered with our work, especially with the delegation from the Czech Republic. In addition to the disruptions, our working paper was also in great danger on Thursday shortly before the last submission, as a core delegate no longer wanted to support the paper due to a restricted definition. All attempts at diplomacy failed, which frustrated everyone in our small group and ended with Bangladesh withdrawing their signature and support, and even voting against our paper, despite their significant work.

Despite these interventions, our working paper was voted into a resolution, which was a great relief for our small group. The speeches and discussions with the other delegates proved to be fruitful. Finally, the meeting ended with a motion from us, as we had previously announced this to the Chair. We were given the last word, which was a great honor as we also received an award as "Best Delegate". The Chair had also chosen us, together with the delegates from the Maldives, to read out our resolutions to the GA the next day. However, we were visibly stressed as the Chair had given us the wrong information. We were asked to give a speech without any preparation, so our experience ended on an angry and irritated note.

## International Atomic Energy Agency



We, Adrian Hemmati and Carolin Heiler, represented Georgia in the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA). The IAEA promotes the peaceful use of nuclear energy and ensures compliance with nuclear non-proliferation agreements. Its three main tasks are to facilitate the safe and secure use of nuclear technologies, to verify that nuclear materials are not diverted to weapons production, and to promote the application of nuclear science in fields such as medicine and agriculture. The IAEA collaborates with the Security Council and the General Assembly by providing them with critical information and assessments on nuclear issues, which help guide international policy and decision-making. Georgia has been part of the IAEA since 1997.

At the NMUN 2024, the two possible topics were

1. Maintaining and Strengthening Emergency Preparedness and Response, and
2. Ensuring the Safe and Secure Transport of Radioactive Material.

Both topics were of high importance to Georgia and were therefore addressed equally in the position paper.

First, we engaged in discussions with delegations from countries that share similar interests and political goals to gauge their support for each of the two topics. Given Georgia's geopolitical situation and the relevance of radioactive material smuggling through its territory, we finally voted for the second topic. Although, the majority of member states voted on the first topic to be first on the agenda. The Georgian delegation decided to include its priorities concern within the first topic with further negotiations.

After the voting procedure, the formation of working groups then began. As the IAEA is one of the largest committees, we tried to speak with as many delegations as possible and listened to speeches during the formal sessions to understand each country's stance on the issues. In the end, we became part of a very large working group. The working atmosphere was highly productive, enriched by the diverse backgrounds and experiences of the delegates.

In the working group, we focused on the OCs of priorities for Georgia as implementation of more widespread programs for hospital and healthcare staff and also establishment of international information sharing systems to track nuclear disasters and Second, to integrate shared concerns with other member states and come up with a more inclusive and precise solution beside to work closely with the neighbors member states and also the strategic partners of Georgia within the EU.

At the end of the conference, twelve different working papers had been written and were implemented as draft resolutions. During the final voting procedure, all draft resolutions got accepted by the members of the IAEA.

The conference provided an invaluable opportunity to gain insight into diplomatic work, leaving us highly motivated to participate in future simulations and potentially pursue a career in diplomacy. Additionally, it afforded us the chance to connect with individuals from around the globe.

## United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees



The Georgian delegation to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) was represented by Vianne Uhl and Berit Hein at Conference A of the National Model United Nations 2024. The committee addressed two key topics:

1. Mental Health and Psychosocial Support for Refugees and Other Displaced People;
2. Protecting Displaced and Refugee Children.

Both topics were of importance to Georgia and were therefore addressed in the position paper in equal measure. Georgia has made significant progress in promoting the rights and well-being of refugees, particularly given the 1431.3 percent increase in refugees from 1,818 in 2021 to 27,839 in 2022 and the robust Georgian response to the Ukrainian refugee crisis. Further, Georgia is considered a regional leader in promoting mental health and psychosocial support for refugees and displaced persons. For instance, the UNHCR has collaborated with the Georgian government to effectively implement Group Facilitator experts, known as CGFs, who are asylum-seekers or persons under international protection. Consequently, this issue is currently of great concern and has been prioritized before the start of the conference.

From the start of the conference on 24 March 2024, it was clear that most delegations wanted to discuss the second topic. The agenda was set by vote and the second topic was dealt with first. On this day, we got to know the other delegations and familiarize ourselves with the topic. The first working groups (WGs) had already been formed, but Georgia and most of the other delegations had not yet done so. The remaining WGs, including Georgia, only came together on the second day. The highlight on the second day was by far the mission briefing at the German House, where we indulged further into how the UN works in real life and what the current geopolitical tensions look like.

The Georgian delegation wanted to integrate their CGFs program and therefore connected with all working groups to get a feeling for the topics worked on. After indulging further into a working group focused on education, we quickly learned that Russia was not all about education as it claimed. Therefore, thanks to our connection earlier on, we switched to a new WG on the third day, 'Meltdown Tuesday', which turned out to be the best decision. The new working group really focused on education and our CGFs program fitted in perfectly. Besides that, the Georgian Delegation got to be in a leading position, keeping an overview over the paper worked on. This continued on on the fourth day, where the preamb and OCs really started to take shape. Here we also got to put our diplomatic skills to test, when some members of the WG did not participate in contributing to the paper. At the end of long talks, we managed to get a solution working for everyone.

It was also possible to visit the other working groups in the remaining time and to participate with them, especially as a signatory to our paper. At the end of day four, our WG then had a final paper which was voted on and passed. The Georgian delegation was very happy about this and looked forward to closing off the amazing conference at the closing ceremony on day five. With amazing speeches and an even better atmosphere, we left the United Nations headquarters inspired and impressed.

Overall, the UNHCR is more of a small to medium-sized committee with an estimated 80-100 delegates. The two delegates stuck together throughout the whole conference and got Georgian interests across as best as possible. The advantage here also lies within multitasking. While one person stuck with our WG, the other could explain our ideas to other WGs, gaining them as a possible signatory. Fortunately, other delegates also approached our delegation themselves and asked for our signature. One of the biggest differences was the dais, which consisted of very understanding, courteous and respectful members. Overall, a respectful atmosphere was always maintained by them and the work was very pleasant. Even when Israel dealt with some exclusionary actions, taken by other delegations, the chair reminded everyone to stick to the international diplomatic conduct.

The conference was a great opportunity to familiarize ourselves with diplomatic work and left us with a lot of motivation to take part in more simulations and possibly pursue a career in diplomacy in the future. On top, it inspired us to further deepen our local engagement in Kiel and connected us with lifelong friends.

## United Nations Environment Assembly



We, Rina and Greta, were representing Georgia in the United Nations Environmental Assembly (UNEA), discussing the topics of:

1. Environmental Sustainability in the Textile and Fashion Industries;
2. Implementing the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework.

Even though both topics are of crucial importance, we, as the delegation of Georgia, found that the second topic was of higher importance for Georgia, as Georgia is not really active in the textile and fashion industries, but is rich in flora and fauna. The Caucasus region is home to various plant species which are unique to that region.

Furthermore, our view was that the implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework would automatically have an influence on the environmental sustainability in the textile and fashion industries.

Our first impressions after entering the room on the first day of the conference, the 24th of March 2024, were that the committee was far bigger than we had anticipated, as well as our happiness that our room was so beautiful. After an introduction, the work started right away, and the first opening and agenda-setting speeches were held. During the first informal sessions, we had the possibility to find like-minded countries and to convince those with different views with our arguments and ideas. Our core values consisted of: education, prevention, early warning systems, financing, new and advanced technologies, awareness campaigns, and again education, as we see education as the highest good for not only short-term but long-term solutions to a problem. Right after the agenda setting to our preferred order, to start with II. Implementing the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, we were able to give our first speech and state Georgia's stance on the importance of protecting biodiversity and the environment, as Georgia is rich in flora and fauna, which is worth protecting. That was it for the first day.

On the second day, working groups started to form and fewer speeches were given, in order to have more time in the informal sessions to start working on our draft resolutions, as at that point it was more efficient than to hold speeches about work that was not yet done. Creating a working group with other delegations based on common ideas and similar beliefs was the easy part of the task; finding an organized way of working where everyone could bring in their ideas and people would not hinder one another was more difficult. So, our working group decided to split itself into four smaller groups, working on different parts of our working paper, for the most effective and beneficial outcome.

During the third day, we again had the opportunity to present a speech and to share the values, beliefs, and ideas not only from our Georgian delegation, but from the entire working group with the entirety of the committee. This day was the longest and most exhausting day of the conference, but also the most efficient one. Next to working in our own working group on our paper, we were talking to other groups, finding countries to support our draft resolution and even merging with some other working groups to become one, as our values and beliefs were aligned. It was a lot of work to merge the pre-existing papers into one, as the content of each paper was not supposed to vanish, so a lot of writing, reading, and rewriting was done that day.

On the last day, the draft resolutions only needed their finishing touches before they were handed in, but the work wasn't over just yet. We still needed the remaining time for our amendments, as we found phrases non-beneficial for Georgia which we wanted to change. Luckily, we managed to do so just in time before moving into the voting procedure. The voting procedure itself took a lot of time due to the fact that for most of the drafted resolutions it was asked for a recorded vote, instead of accepting the

drafted resolution by acclamation. During the voting procedure, most of the drafted resolutions were accepted by the majority, so they weren't draft resolutions anymore, but became resolutions. After all draft resolutions had been voted on, a few delegations gave a speech on the other topic, before the meeting was adjourned until NMUN 2025.

Our experience in a nutshell: The committee was a lot of work and exhausting at times; nonetheless, the effort was all worth the outcome. By that, we do not only mean the successful adoption of our resolution and amendments, it goes without saying that it felt great, but we also mean all the amazing people from our committee we got to know and formed new friendships with.

# Position Papers

## General Assembly First Committee (GA 1)

### Delegation from Georgia

#### ***Position Paper for the General Assembly First Committee***

The topics before the United Nations (UN) General Assembly (GA) First Committee are I. Relationship Between Disarmament and Development and II. The Role of Science and Technology in International Security and Disarmament. The Republic of Georgia is looking forward to discussing these important topics and is looking forward to the constructive work of this respective committee.

#### **I. Relationship Between Disarmament and Development**

The Georgian delegation is pleased to address the current topic together with the international community. The main focus is on Small Arms and Light Weapons, which must be extracted through confidential methods from households. Additionally, a reallocation of resources should take place, investing the funds freed up by the global decline in military spending into development programs. Addressing the Sustainable Development Goals: 3, 4, 5, 8, 10, 11, and 16 by the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in 2022, the global military spending accounted for \$2,24 trillion, suggesting rising numbers for the near future and affecting the availability of national resources that should be used for socially equitable and ecologically sound development, social justice, and peace instead. Findings from the War Prevention Initiative report that over 20 years, a 1 per cent increase in military spending will decrease a country's economic growth by a substantial 9 per cent. Short-lived economic boosts by war-related industries cannot outweigh the lack of investment and consumption, moreover the displacement of more productive government investment in high-tech industries, education, or infrastructure. Besides, the illicit trafficking of small arms and light weapons (SALW) leads to access by criminal actors with devastating consequences. The past decade recorded 85,148 terrorist attacks involving small arms and light weapons worldwide, responsible for 193,172 fatalities, including an upward trend in both statistics as stated by the International Centre for Counterterrorism. Furthermore, the third and fourth UN World Conferences on Women held in Nairobi (1985) and Beijing (1995) pointed out that fewer resources for development initiatives negatively impact gender equality with women as the most affected group by violence in armed conflicts as noted by Barbara Lochbihler, the former Secretary General of Women's International League for Peace and Freedom. In the redistribution of freed-up resources through disarmament measures, it is also possible to alleviate the crises further exacerbated by conflicts.

By utilizing the resources of the UN Office for Disarmament Affairs (ODA) and the UN Institute for Disarmament Research (IDIR), transparency-building and confidence-building efforts are further supported by the operational arm, the regional disarmament branch, which focuses on specific programs tailored to each country's circumstances. Concerning weapons of mass destruction and other forms of weaponry, Georgia has also never possessed or sought to develop nuclear equipment emphasizing the *Securing our Common Future: An Agenda for Disarmament* introduced by the Secretary-General in 2017 and the coherent need to abolish nuclear weapons. Regarding chemical weaponry, Georgia has received technical assistance from the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons in developing national implementing legislation on the *Chemical Weapons Convention*. Concerning the remaining issue of SALWs, Georgia has initiated three programs since its independence in 1991: A confiscation following the end of armed hostilities in Abkhazia and South Ossetia in 1995-1996, an appropriation in Ajara following the collapse of the Abashidze regime in May 2004, and a general amnesty on surrendered firearms introduced at the beginning of 2005 accounting

for a total amount of 23.350 collected weapons according to the Caucasus Institute for Peace, Democracy and Development and Safeworld.

More specifically, Georgia proposes the introduction of amnesty-based collection campaigns, wherein independent forces, functioning as reliable mediators, sent by the Regional Disarmament Branch should oversee the progress and report to local authorities. The goal is to gain additional trust of owners of illegal firearms, to achieve non-proliferation of SALWs. Furthermore, the IDIR shall research causes for illegal ownership of SALWs by working together with the operational arm of the United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs. By requesting the Development Finance International Group for loans or grants, Georgia addresses the need for further technical support and support for non-governmental organizations to build capacity for monitoring and analyzing security issues as in fundings tailored for struggling Member States (by the IDIR) in Disarmament Efforts. The Georgian delegation is delighted, along with the international community, to seek a consensus on the aforementioned matter.

## **II. The Role of Science and Technology in International Security and Disarmament**

The rapid development of science and technology poses significant challenges to international security and the global disarmament agenda. The problem lies in the dual-use nature of many scientific and technological advances; while they can drive progress and development, they also have the potential to be applied in the creation of advanced weapons systems, including autonomous weapons, cyber warfare tools, and weapons of mass destruction for example. According to the *Stockholm International Peace Research Institute* the global stockpile of nuclear warheads fell by almost 200 to an estimated 12,512 between the beginning of 2022 and the beginning of 2023. On the other hand, the number of operational nuclear weapons began to rise, by 86 to an estimated 9576. This escalation in military technology can lead to an arms race, destabilize geopolitical balances, and undermine decades of disarmament efforts. The necessity for the international community to address this issue is underscored by the fact that the risks associated with these advancements do not respect national borders. Furthermore, the pace at which these technologies are developing often outstrips the ability of individual states to regulate and control their proliferation. This necessitates a cooperative international approach to ensure collective security and uphold international law, including humanitarian law. It is about recognizing that the international community, with the UN at the forefront, must proactively engage with the issue of science and technology in the context of international security and disarmament to navigate the threats and harness the opportunities that these advancements present.

Science and technology contribute to human development and prosperity and are key enablers of efforts to implement the *2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development*. The Delegation of Georgia has actively engaged in the international dialogue on the role of science and technology in security and disarmament, showcasing its commitment to global peace and stability. Adhering to its international obligations, Georgia has become a signatory to pivotal disarmament treaties such as the *Non-Proliferation Treaty*, underscoring its dedication to preventing the spread of nuclear weapons and fostering a safer world. Furthermore signing and acknowledging the importance of the *Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty*. The Delegation of Georgia has also supported the UN initiatives to regulate Lethal Autonomous Weapons Systems and artificial intelligence in the military sphere, advocating for responsible technological growth that prioritizes human safety and ethical considerations. Moreover, Georgia has participated in specific programs aimed at fostering responsible innovation in the field of artificial intelligence, collaborating with respected institutions like the *Stockholm International Peace Research Institute*. Through these initiatives, Georgia contributes to shaping international norms and practices that ensure AI development aligns with disarmament and arms control objectives. By fostering partnerships and supporting UN-led regulatory measures, Georgia reaffirms its commitment to the peaceful application of scientific progress and the global pursuit of international security.

Disarmament efforts for mass destruction weapons have made significant progress over the years, but to strengthen international security in the long term, it is essential that these efforts are pursued with

greater consistency. Therefore, Georgia urges for cooperation at the international level, particularly in the role of science and technology, since it plays a key part in catalyzing innovative breakthroughs in the field of disarmament technologies. Such cooperative approaches enable the pooling of specialized knowledge and resources from different states and organizations, which in turn accelerates the development and implementation of new, effective methods for arms control and the prevention of weapons proliferation. These innovative methods and technologies should then be shared on knowledge exchange platforms to maximize the benefits. Established platforms such as those provided by the UN Institute for Disarmament Research can be used and further expanded for this purpose. They enable the exchange of knowledge and best practices, thus promoting the broad application and further development of disarmament technologies. By disseminating this information, a global network of knowledge is created that forms the basis for progressive and comprehensive arms control, thereby making a significant contribution to strengthening international security. Furthermore, countries with limited financial resources intending to contribute to international security and disarmament should be supported through access to advanced security instruments. This support can manifest not only in the exchange of information but also in making technology patents more accessible and providing financial aid. Utilizing UN-funded programs, such as those offered by the UNDP, financing these solutions, aiding in disarmament and non-proliferation efforts. To ensure Security and effective disarmament, Georgia strongly encourages the international community to devise a solution promptly.

## General Assembly Second Committee (GA 2)

### Delegation from the Republic of Georgia

#### *Position Paper for the General Assembly Second Committee*

The topics before the United Nations (UN) General Assembly Second Committee (GA2) are Promoting Sustainable Tourism and Eradicating Rural Poverty to Implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The Republic of Georgia acknowledges the imperative for robust international cooperation on these pressing issues, and it looks forward to discussing these topics at the upcoming conference.

#### **I. Promoting Sustainable Tourism**

Tourism has become one of the world's largest and fastest growing industries over the decades. Accounting for more than 30% of the world's exports of commercial services and more than 6% of overall exports of goods and services. Tourism has a major and increasing impact on both people and ecosystem services. For many developing countries it is one of the main sources of income, creating and generating much needed employment opportunities for socio-economic development. However, the vulnerability of the tourism sector to the effects of extreme weather, health and economic-related events highlights the need to simultaneously boost the resilience and sustainability of the sector. Given the multi-faceted nature of tourism and related consumption, the sector has strong backward linkages and corollary economic impact on many other sectors, thus, if well-managed, can help address the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) 8, 12, and 14. Georgia is therefore committed to collaborate with fellow UN Tourism (UNT) member States and Member States of the UN on the promotion of sustainable tourism, including ecotourism, for poverty eradication and environment protection.

In line with Georgia's *National Tourism Strategy (2030)* and UNT's guidelines and methodologies for ecotourism development which was published in the framework of the UN-declared *International Year of Ecotourism 2002*, the relevant authorities of Georgia published the *Ecotourism Strategy for Georgia 2020-2030*. This document elaborates Georgia's work plan and a clear-cut roadmap for the achievement of the vision of becoming the leading year-round Ecotourism destination in the Caucasus region by 2030. To facilitate this overarching goal, Georgia is reforming its protected areas through

collaborative efforts with the UN Development Program and funds from the Global Environment Facility, including the project '*Support for Georgia in Protected Area Development*' led by the UN World Tourism Organization, in collaboration with partners like the Georgian National Tourism Administration and the Agency for Protected Areas of Georgia, which aims to enhance national nature protection and tourism authorities' capabilities. Furthermore, considering the nexus of tourism and socio-economic development, the Cash for work scheme has been launched in Georgia's World Heritage property, which provided job opportunities for youths. This initiative is part of UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization's (UNESCO) project, *promoting sustainable tourism and private sector engagement for inclusive community development in response to the COVID-19 crisis* that is being implemented in nine other World Heritage communities in six countries, focusing on improving visitor management, raising awareness of the site's universal value, and includes capacity-building initiatives for staff and local rangers.

Recognizing the substantial value of ecotourism, Georgia recommends a roundtable for fostering conservation efforts in protected areas including the Agencies of Protected Areas of Member States, UNESCO and UNT and other environmental non-governmental organizations to share knowledge, skills, and technological know-how for effective and efficient use of financial means in the spirit of promoting sustainable tourism. Also, the exploration of an innovative funding model represents Georgia's forward-thinking approach to addressing the economic aspects of ecotourism. This model, potentially combining public and private investments, grants, and community contributions, is envisioned to secure financial sustainability and to uphold the hallmark of successful ecotourism offerings—high service quality and a genuine commitment to the well-being of local communities. The tourism sector can leverage these collective resources and expertise to develop and maintain eco-friendly infrastructure, ensuring that the ecological and social impacts of tourism are minimized while concurrently promoting responsible and sustainable practices.

## **II. Eradicating Rural Poverty to Implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development**

The issue of rural poverty is globally significant, with the Republic of Georgia aligning its concerns with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The International Monetary Fund reports that rural poverty constitutes nearly 63 percent of global poverty, reaching 65 to 90 percent in specific regions. The challenges faced by rural populations, including access to education, healthcare, water, sanitation, housing, transport, and communication, are notably harsher than those encountered by urban populations. This persistent rural poverty contributes to population growth and migration to urban areas, necessitating international attention. The key Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) addressing this issue are poverty eradication, ensuring quality education, and fostering industry, innovation, and infrastructure. These goals form the foundation for subsequent SDGs. While Georgia isn't among the most severely affected countries, the nation is cognizant of the challenges associated with rural poverty.

One of the root causes of rural poverty in Georgia is the deterioration of the agricultural sector. Georgia is committed to reach all 17 SDGs set by the 2030 Agenda. In a few decades, Georgia has managed to dramatically reduce corruption and crime, restore the crucial functions of governance, and achieve significant economic growth. Moreover, the innovations in governance and reforms in several areas have been recognized in the region, and by the UN. But the work is far from complete. Keeping in mind that 20 percent of Georgian territory is currently under illegal occupation, the country managed to sustain stable economic growth in 2019 with an annual real Gross Domestic Product growth rate of 5.1 percent. Between the years 2018 and 2022, rural poverty has decreased by 2.5 percent. Georgia is a county which benefited from developmental aid by the European Union regarding agriculture and rural development from 2014 to 2017 in the amount of 55,5 Mio. €. These funds greatly aided Georgia in pursuing the SDGs. Further funds like the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) are beneficial for developing countries, helping to lift people out of poverty, as well as improving the overall well-being of the populace. Earning wages, pensions, and social assistance have played a key role in increasing household incomes and reducing inequality. Future growth will need to generate more

productive employment, while access to quality education will need to be equalized so all can participate productively in the global economy. These changes mainly must take place in rural areas, since these are oftentimes underdeveloped compared to urban centers.

Addressing the issue at hand requires more concerted, innovative, complex, and resolute solutions by the leadership of the Member States, development partners, international organizations and civil society. Georgia remains fully dedicated to this purpose. In order to accelerate the fulfillment of the SDGs, the Asian Development Bank is financing projects and programs that will help Georgia hasten its progress toward its SDG targets under the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Such financing by various Development Banks is key to give counties the financial resources needed to reach the SDGs. Georgia wishes to strengthen its cooperation with the EU regarding the eradication of rural poverty. This may be a viable option for Member States in the vicinity of the EU in order to increase cooperation and share lessons learned from past experiences. Funds like the IFAD should be expanded upon and made accessible for countries in order to further support the development of rural areas. In addition to that, various funds should be created to tackle different topics related to rural poverty. These should especially benefit regions which are currently not part of a supranational organization like the EU or the Association of South-east Asian Nations. Such funds should be used to develop the economy in rural regions which in turn will help to combat rural poverty. In these uncertain times, Georgia is eager and willing to contribute to positive change. Generally, poverty cannot be reduced if economic growth does not occur. Therefore, the international community and its various members must encourage the development of rural areas. Georgia is already contributing to further solutions and hopes to expand this role. But remaining open to advice, Georgia also hopes to share experiences and successes with the family of nations.

## General Assembly Third Committee (GA 3)

### Delegation from the Democratic Republic of Georgia

#### Position Paper for the General Assembly Third Committee

The topics before the United Nations (UN) General Assembly (GA) Third Committee are the Promotion and Protection of the Rights of Children in Conflict and Preventing Violence and Discrimination Based on Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity. Since the delegation of the Republic of Georgia is firmly convinced that both topics are crucial and afford solution seeking within the international community, the delegation of Georgia is looking forward to a constructive working process with the Member States.

#### I. Promotion and Protection of the Rights of Children in Conflict

As children constitute a particularly vulnerable group within society, they are disproportionately affected by the impacts of violent conflicts and therefore require special protection. Their security is not only a moral imperative but also crucial for building sustainable peace and fostering future stability. However, according to statistics of the UN International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF) from 2023, the number of grave violations against children in conflict between 2005 and 2022 amounts to 315,000, solely taking into account verified violations. Further considering that based on UNICEF's figures, also from 2023, 20% of the world's 2.4 billion children population live in armed conflict zones, it becomes evident that the healthy child- and adulthood of an excessive number of children is at risk and immediate action by the international community is required. As a nation with a history of regional conflicts, notably in Abkhazia and South Ossetia, Georgia has been exposed to the effects of conflict on children's well-being, particularly submission to violence, displacement, and loss of family. Given that and Georgia's commitment to international human rights which involves, inter alia, Art. 25 of the *Universal Declaration*

of *Human Rights* (UDHR), the right of everyone to a standard of living adequate for the health and well-being of himself and of his family, Georgia expresses its deepest wish for immediate and concerted efforts to uphold the rights of children in conflict. In order to contribute to the broader global agenda for sustainable development and peace, enshrined in the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and laid down particularly in SDGs 3, 4, 5, 8 and 16, it is paramount to safeguard the rights of children in conflict.

Georgia has proactively engaged in addressing the rights of children in conflict through various mechanisms, reflecting a steadfast commitment to safeguarding children's well-being. On the international stage, Georgia consistently supports and co-sponsors relevant UN resolutions, such as *Resolution 2427* (2018) which advocates for stronger measures to protect children affected by armed conflict. Furthermore, Georgia has ratified the *Convention on the Rights of the Child* (1990) and its three *Optional Protocols* (2000, 2002, and 2014), demonstrating a commitment to fulfilling obligations related to child protection. Notably, Georgia is one of the first countries to endorse the *Safe Schools Declaration* (2015) and thereby dedicates itself to protecting education in armed conflicts and the civilian nature of schools. Georgia has also played a big part in fostering international peace by partaking in global missions targeted toward peacekeeping, such as the Kosovo Force. By incorporating a specific code of conduct that puts emphasis on child protection into its missions, Georgia underlines the importance of shielding children in conflict zones. Additionally, Georgia has been a member of the *Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court* (2002) since 2003 and is therefore committed to prosecuting individuals responsible for crimes against children during armed conflicts. Georgia, moreover, has pursued various diplomatic and political initiatives to seek resolutions to conflicts in the South Caucasus region. Some notable actions include Georgia's involvement in the Geneva International Discussions (GID), a platform established to address security and stability in the South Caucasus region through diplomacy, and its membership in regional organizations such as the Organization for Democracy and Economic Development.

While the Republic of Georgia has already made significant strides in securing the rights of children in armed conflicts, acknowledging the multifaceted nature of the issue necessitates more work on the international level. As a possible solution, a three-step approach could be implemented with regard to conflict prevention, mitigation, and post-conflict treatment. In the realm of conflict prevention, Georgia urges enhanced international cooperation by addressing root causes diplomatically. Emphasizing dialogue by establishing platforms like GID contributes to conflict prevention and, hence, plays a big role in preventing the violation of children's rights in the first place. In ongoing conflicts, the focus

should lie on securing access to humanitarian assistance for children, ensuring quality education despite conflict, and incorporating child protection provisions into peacekeeping operations. Georgia emphasizes the need for international collaboration between governments and non-governmental organizations (NGOs), such as Save the Children, to overcome obstacles hindering the delivery of humanitarian assistance. Thirdly, post-conflict care demands trauma mitigation, reintegration, and rehabilitation for children affected by conflict. Special attention should be drawn to the rights of refugees and internally displaced persons, as displacement of any sort adds an extra layer of vulnerability to children's lives. Solutions could include the establishment of psychological help institutions and the improvement of other social conditions, refinement of living conditions, especially regarding high-capacity durable housing, and the introduction of awareness programs. Ultimately, Georgia encourages the development of comprehensive programs for the reintegration and rehabilitation of children who have survived conflict.

## **II. Preventing Violence and Discrimination Based on Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity**

Worldwide, people identifying as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, intersex, asexual, and other (LGBTQIA+) are massively discriminated against based on their sexual orientation and gender identity (SOGI). The International Lesbian, Gay, Trans, and Intersex Association's State Sponsored

Homophobia Report (2017), summarized by UN Free & Equal, found that a staggering number of 76 countries have enacted discriminatory laws criminalizing private, consensual same-sex relationships. This form of discrimination exposes millions to the imminent threats of arrest, prosecution, and imprisonment. In at least five nations, individuals identifying as LGBTQIA+ even risk the death penalty as a consequence of their SOGI. Such legal frameworks infringe on fundamental human rights laid down in the UDHR, contradicting SDGs 3, 10, and 16. The inadequate access to healthcare for LGBTQIA+ individuals and poorly adapted education, inconsistent with SDGs 3, 4, and 5, intensify the global challenge. Accordingly, urgent action is imperative to fostering an inclusive and respectful society for all.

To address discrimination and violence against members of LGBTQIA+ communities, Georgia has made significant strides. The Republic has enacted anti-discrimination laws that explicitly prohibit discrimination on the basis of SOGI in various sectors, including employment, education, and public services. Furthermore, Georgia has taken steps to enhance legal protection by criminalizing hate crimes targeting individuals based on their SOGI. In addition to legal measures, the Georgian government has initiated awareness campaigns and educational programs. Internationally, a first foundation for safeguarding LGBTQIA+ rights was laid down in 1948 in the UDHR, which grants the right to health and well-being to every person. Then, in 2015, the *2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development* was adopted by the GA, and many of the SDGs acknowledge the need to safeguard the rights of queer people. The UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization plays a pivotal role in upholding the mentioned SDGs. Their *Education Sector Responses to Homophobic Bullying Program* (2012), for instance, provides guidelines for educational institutions to address and prevent bullying based on SOGI. In 2017, the UN Development Programme (UNDP) launched a handbook that offers parliamentarians tools for inclusive reform initiatives. This handbook provides legal advocacy backing to challenge discriminatory laws, enhance capacity of civil society organizations through training, and promote anti-discrimination campaigns to combat stigma. Georgia also voted in favor of the Human Rights Council *Resolution 32/2* (2016), which established an *Independent Expert on SOGI* (IESOGI). The overarching goal of IESOGI is to point out the main drivers of SOGI-based discrimination and violence against LGBTQIA+ persons.

To achieve the aforementioned, IESOGI deemed compliance with the SDGs a suitable reference point. Therefore, three major challenges were identified that need to be tackled in order to realize the SDGs. Firstly, there are inadequate and uneven measures by states to address SOGI-based discrimination and violence. This highlights the need for more comprehensive and consistent actions by states regarding issues based on SOGI. Solutions should include the improvement of legally binding instruments on a national scale by taking into account the guidelines provided by UNDP's Handbook for parliamentarians. However, such policymaking still requires extensive and disaggregated data on the scale and prevalence of SOGI-based discrimination and violence. The absence of such data poses the second challenge identified by IESOGI. In order to achieve comprehensive data, governments, research institutions, and NGOs should work closely and collaboratively to include questions related to SOGI in national surveys and research studies. Furthermore, LGBTQIA+ communities should be engaged and participate in such surveys and research. Involving them in the process would ensure that the data collected is representative of their experiences and therefore of higher quality too. Moreover, participation should be anonymous to protect individuals from violent intrusions. The last challenge is the barriers faced by LGBTQIA+ human rights organizations. Many obstacles obstruct their efforts to promote equality and human rights. This may include stigma and prejudice, which make it hard for them to become officially recognized or find sponsors. Some countries even outright prohibit all activities related to such organizations. To overcome these obstacles, fostering an educated environment that supports equality for all is crucial. Consequently, education and awareness programs in schools and communities should be implemented to challenge stereotypes, reduce stigma, and build a deepened understanding of these issues within society. By making sure that all three challenges are addressed in a proper way, compliance with the SDGs can be ensured, as can the global protection of the rights of LGBTQIA+ persons.

# Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP)

## Delegation of Georgia

### *Position Paper for the Economic and Social Commission for*

### *Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP)*

The topics before the United Nations (UN) Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific include Promoting a Healthy, Protected, and Productive Workforce in Asia and the Pacific along with Addressing the Expanded Riskscape in Asia and the Pacific. The Georgian delegation underscores the profound significance of addressing these matters and is poised to actively engage in collaborative discussions, espousing a cooperative stance and diligently contributing to the formulation of constructive solutions alongside fellow Member States.

#### **I. Promoting a Healthy, Protected, and Productive Workforce in Asia and the Pacific**

In today's dynamic global landscape, the well-being of the workforce stands as a cornerstone for fostering resilient and thriving societies. The challenges and opportunities that accompany these are both multifaceted and complex. The Asia-Pacific region hosts the world's most extensive and varied workforce, encompassing over 2.8 billion individuals of working age, reflecting an unmatched diversity in culture, language, and economic status. This vast labor force is a crucial engine of economic growth and social development, contributing significantly to the region's rapid rise in recent decades. The International Labour Organization (ILO) reported a regional unemployment rate of 5.2 percent in 2022, which, while seemingly lower than the worldwide average of 5.7 percent, only offers a partial view of the significant issue of underemployment and expanding skill mismatch brought about by globalization. Recent World Bank reports highlight a growing global wealth gap, with the richest accruing most wealth and exacerbating economic disparities. Wage stagnation, especially among low-skilled workers, further deepens poverty. Addressing workforce challenges is crucial for economic growth, well-being, and poverty reduction in the region. Without action, development may stall, risking social unrest and reducing global competitiveness. Georgia is committed to collaboratively tackling these issues through ambitious and comprehensive strategies.

Georgia has demonstrated its commitment to enhancing workforce welfare by aligning its domestic policies with global labor standards and actively supporting international frameworks like the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), particularly Goal 8. This goal focuses on promoting inclusive and sustainable economic growth, employment, and decent work for all, resonating with Georgia's legislative efforts to improve labor conditions and economic opportunities domestically. By endorsing such international frameworks, Georgia not only emphasizes its dedication to global labor standards but also sets a precedent for integrating these principles within its national policies. The country has built a strong legislative foundation starting with the Labour Code of 2006, which ensures fundamental workers' rights, and has continued its commitment with subsequent laws aimed at enhancing workplace safety and establishing a comprehensive social safety net. These domestic initiatives, coupled with Georgia's active participation in international efforts to promote decent work and economic growth, exemplify its holistic approach to workforce development. Through these concerted efforts, Georgia not only strives to advance the welfare of its workers but also contributes to the broader goal of fostering a resilient and prosperous workforce across the Asia-Pacific region.

The delegation of Georgia proposes the International Workforce Development and Protection Initiative (IWDPI). This pioneering proposal, inspired by Georgia's own effective strategies, seeks to establish a legally binding framework that recognizes the economic diversity of its members while advocating for universal labor standards. Central to the initiative is the integration of comprehensive education and training programs aimed at bridging the skill gap, thereby ensuring that the workforce is well-prepared for modern economic challenges. The IWDPI emphasizes establishing benchmarks for fair labor practices, including adequate wages, safe working conditions, and reasonable working hours, tailored to fit the varying national contexts of the participating countries. Additionally, it champions the importance of robust occupational health and safety standards alongside the development of extensive social insurance systems, covering pensions, healthcare, and unemployment benefits, to bolster workers' security in times of adversity. The proposal includes a strong enforcement mechanism, potentially under the guidance of an established international organization like the ILO, ensuring adherence to the set standards. By launching this initiative, Georgia aims to unify labor practices across the Asia-Pacific, fostering an environment of economic inclusivity and sustainable development where the prosperity of workers and economic growth are interlinked, with education and skill enhancement at its core.

## **II. Addressing the Expanded Riskscape in Asia and the Pacific**

Georgia is concerned that the amalgamation of natural and biological hazards, exemplified by the consequences of the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) has broadened the disaster riskscape in the Asia Pacific region. This riskscape is exacerbated by the additional impacts of climate change. Environmental concerns, marked by alarming statistics on climate change impacts and biodiversity loss, underscore the urgency of adopting sustainable practices. According to the United Nations Procurement Division, in the year of 2022 alone, more than 7,500 fatalities, impacting over 64 million individuals, and resulting in an estimated economic loss of US\$57 billion, are attributed to extreme weather events. Demonstrating the direct correlation between environmental degradation in the region and its broader implications on global climate patterns. As maintained by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, in 2020, the region experienced a 15 percent rise in unemployment and a 7.1 percent decline in labor income compared to 2019. Studies on the aftermath of global crises emphasize the necessity for coordinated economic strategies and support mechanisms to address disparities and promote inclusive economic growth. Humanitarian considerations, evidenced by the increasing displacement of populations due to environmental and economic factors, require urgent attention. The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees underlines the 14.3 million people, who have been forcibly displaced, the rising challenges of migration, while emphasizing the need for international collaboration to address the root causes and provide sustainable solutions for affected communities.

Georgia has been actively addressing the challenges posed by the expanded riskscape in Asia and the Pacific through a multifaceted approach. In the realm of sustainable development, the Resilience SDG Action Tracker (RSAT), embedded within the ESCAP Asia-Pacific and Resilience Portal, plays a pivotal role. Functioning as a vigilant overseer, RSAT diligently monitors disaster and climate-related Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and indicators drawn from the ESCAP SDG Gateway. Leveraging advanced data analytics, including machine learning and automation, RSAT delivers insightful analyses on the evolving landscape of disaster and climate-related SDG trends across countries and subregions in the Asia-Pacific. In alignment with international frameworks and SDGs, Georgia has focused on shaping national policies that specifically target key issues, including poverty reduction, climate action, and inclusive economic growth. The State Strategy for the Reduction of Poverty and Promotion of Social Inclusion is one such initiative. It focuses on improving social welfare, providing targeted assistance, and creating conditions for sustainable economic growth to alleviate poverty. The Georgia 2020 - National Environmentally and Socially Sustainable Development Program is an overarching strategy that includes climate-related objectives. The country has also engaged in

international agreements, contributing to its climate action efforts. The Georgia 2020 - Socio-Economic Development Strategy is a comprehensive framework addressing economic growth. It emphasizes structural reforms, infrastructure development, and fostering a favorable business environment. Additionally, initiatives such as the "Enterprise Georgia" program aim to stimulate economic growth by supporting entrepreneurship and attracting investments.

The delegation of Georgia proposes the incorporation of the Risk and Resilience Portal within the framework of the Asia Pacific Disaster Resilience Network. This initiative aims to enhance the comprehension of policymakers regarding the interconnected risks emanating from the disaster-climate-health nexus. It further endeavors to furnish evidence-based analytics that can fortify regional cooperation frameworks for the execution of actionable risk assessments. Additionally, it seeks to empower various sectoral ministries with the capacity to formulate risk-informed planning and budgeting strategies. In addition, the Resilience SDG Action Tracker (RSAT) from the ESCAP Asia-Pacific Risk and Resilience Portal monitors and analyzes disaster and climate-related SDG targets and indicators using machine learning. It provides user-friendly data analytics on trends, impacts, and adaptation pathways in the Asia-Pacific region, aiding SDG implementation for resilience across social, economic, and environmental sectors. Within the intricate web of regional connectivity and infrastructure development, the ESCAP Transport Division finances a pivotal force driving progress and prosperity across the Asia-Pacific region. For Georgia, the Division's projects offer a transformative opportunity to enhance transportation networks, unlock economic potential, and foster greater integration into the global economy. Through strategic allocation of resources and targeted initiatives, the Fund endeavors to equip Georgian authorities and communities with the tools and knowledge necessary to mitigate risks and enhance adaptive capacities.

## Human Rights Council (HRC)

### Delegation from Georgia

#### *Position Paper for the Human Rights Council*

The topics before the United Nations (UN) Human Rights Council (HRC) are Human Rights and the Use of Private Military and Security Companies (PMSC) and Human Rights of Indigenous Peoples. Recognizing the urgency to resolve these issues on a global scale, Georgia is committed to resolving these crucial matters through a resolute and mutually beneficial approach, fostering global cooperation.

#### **I. Human Rights and the Use of Private Military and Security Companies**

Conflicts and violence are currently on the rise and, although not a new phenomenon, the privatization of warfare and the outsourcing of military and security functions to PMSCs is increasing at a high rate. Their tasks are expanding and vary widely from the protection of infrastructure or individuals to performing critical combat tasks such as special operations traditionally reserved for national armed forces. Unfortunately, the use of PMSCs has led to an increase of human rights abuses and violations of international humanitarian law in wartime, post-conflict as well as peaceful times. According to reports by the Working Group on Mercenaries, violations include enforced disappearances, summary executions, indiscriminate killings and sexual exploitation and abuse. Since they often work outside any conventional legal frameworks and regulations, spanning multiple jurisdictions accompanied by the lack of a universally accepted definition, they can give rise to issues of legitimacy, accountability and justice-seeking for victims. This can jeopardize the achievement of Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 16 (peace, justice and strong institutions). Already in 1999, the Special Rapporteur on the question of the use of mercenaries recognized the serious problem posed by PMSCs, which take advantage of legal

gaps to expand excessively resulting in dangerous implications for the exercise of human rights. It is therefore imperative that the international community, civil society and the private sector continue to make an effort and to build on reached achievements to better regulate PMSCs and their actions.

The *International Bill of Human Rights* outlines the inherent right to life, liberty and security of a person and set out fundamental principles that govern the actions of all parties involved in armed conflicts, including PMSC personnel. Furthermore, the *Geneva Conventions* define humanitarian rules of war. Article 47 of the *Additional Protocol I to the 1949 Geneva Conventions* offers a definition of mercenaries and prohibits their participation in hostilities as does the *International Convention against the Recruitment, Use, Financing, and Training of Mercenaries*. However, due to a lack of a universally accepted definition of PMSCs, these rules do not apply *mutatis mutandis*. Non-binding instruments, such as the Montreux Document on Pertinent International Legal Obligations and Good Practices for States Related to Operations of Private Military and Security Companies during Armed Conflicts guide States in the use and tolerance of PMSCs. Moreover, Georgia also signed the International Code of Conduct for Private Security and Providers. The role of the HRC is of particular importance being the primary UN body responsible for addressing human rights issues. In 2011, it endorsed the *Nations Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights* in its *Resolution 17/4* which seeks to help PMSCs conduct human rights due diligence and prevent abuses. Since 2010, the HRC has been attempting to create a legally binding document specifically regarding PMSCs and established an open-ended intergovernmental working group (OEIGWG) currently working on the second draft. Georgia itself has witnessed an influx of mercenaries from the territory of the Russian Federation to its regions South Ossetia and Abkhazia, where numerous violations were committed but could not be persecuted due to *inter alia* the difficulty of identifying responsibilities.

Since the voluntary regimes are not sufficient, Georgia is urging all Member States to continue its efforts to overcome discrepancies and work on a solution in order to reach an agreement on an international regulatory framework on the regulation, monitoring of and oversight over the activities of private military and security companies. It is particularly important to the Georgian delegation that the framework not only makes clear the obligations of contracting states but also finds solutions regarding the responsibilities in case of human rights abuses. For its term in the HRC, Georgia wants to focus efforts also on the protection and promotion of the rights of conflict-affected people. With regard to a legal instrument on PMSCs, accountability and remedies for victims constitute a vital aspect that should also be granted particular attention, drawing on *UN General Assembly (GA) Resolution A/RES/60/147* adopted 2005 regarding Basic Principles and Guidelines on the Right to Remedy and reparation for Victims. In order to do so, more human rights monitoring on the ground is necessary. Therefore, inquiries made for the investigative mechanisms available to the HRC, such as fact-finding missions, commissions of inquiry or special procedures mandates should be complied with when affected States make notice of possible human rights violations caused by PMSCs. Similarly, technical assistance and capacity-building provided by the HRC should be made easily available upon request. Last, Georgia believes that sharing the experiences of States in human rights policy making is an important factor while simultaneously upholding close cooperation with all relevant stakeholders, including non-State actors and civil society. All the demand will require greater financial support: since the UN Human Rights budget is already insufficient, extrabudgetary contributions should in its majority remain unearmarked in order remain flexible in the ability to effectively respond to emerging needs.

## **II. Human Rights of Indigenous Peoples**

Human rights should be universal, extending to every individual worldwide. Unfortunately, Georgia has observed in the world a lack of implementation and instances of racial discrimination, particularly against indigenous peoples. To date, international law and the UN have attempted to define this through the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (UNPFII). According to the World Health Organization (WHO), there are an estimated 476 million indigenous peoples, representing 6 percent of the global population. It is extremely alarming that 19 percent of indigenous peoples live in extreme

poverty. The WHO has noted that the life expectancy of indigenous peoples is up to 20 years lower than that of non-indigenous peoples, posing a threat to SDG 1 (ending poverty), 2 (zero hunger), and 3 (good health and well-being). Furthermore, the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs has expressed concern about the endangerment of indigenous languages, with some facing complete extinction. The loss of these languages signifies the erosion of culture, collective memory, and values, contributing to the decline of indigenous cultures. Out of the 6,700 languages spoken globally, 4,900 belong to indigenous communities, with 40% of them at risk of disappearing, thereby endangering the integrity and existence of indigenous peoples. Lastly, Human Rights Watch highlights that racial and systematic discrimination poses a significant threat to achieving SDG 10 (reducing inequality) and 16 (Peace, Justice, and strong institutions), rooted in disproportionate representation in media and educational institutions, hindering the education of youth about history and racial discrimination. These facts emphasize the need to sustain and to ensure indigenous human rights and the education of non-indigenous in homogenous states.

Georgia recognizes the human rights of indigenous peoples, as evidenced by their election to the HRC. In the *HRC Report A/77/53 and A/77/53/Add.1*, Georgia emphasizes the importance of supporting the protection and promotion of the most vulnerable groups, with a particular focus on women, children, internally displaced persons, and conflict-affected people. Georgia is particularly committed to assisting the least developed countries and small island developing states. Its sincere concern and support for all human rights internationally are also acknowledged through active participation in the GA, facilitating *Resolution A/60/L.48*. Georgia emphatically acknowledges and reaffirms the universality and indivisibility of all human rights by actively supporting the promotion of human rights education. With that said, Georgia places great importance on preventing the arbitrary displacement of people deeply connected to their terrestrial homes. This is why Georgia, along with the GA, reiterates the right of return for all displaced persons and refugees, as highlighted in *Resolution A/75/L.99*, demonstrating Georgia's full understanding and support for safeguarding and advocating for indigenous peoples.

It should not be overlooked that addressing the human rights of indigenous peoples requires a solid foundation. This can be achieved through the establishment of a proper and official global definition, collaboratively developed by member states, taking into account Article 1 of Convention No. 169 developed by the UNPFII. This new definition should be promoted and serve as a guideline, aiding in the resolution of issues related to human rights improvement and the well-being of indigenous peoples, as well as their right to reside in their respective lands, thereby fostering a deep terrestrial connection. Georgia recommends further educating civilians, with a special emphasis on youth, about the human rights of indigenous peoples through educators with local indigenous knowledge in educational institutions. This should involve integrating education into the curriculum of various subjects, focusing on enabling children and adults to experience and understand the culture and language of indigenous peoples. Using the United Nations Human Rights Council framework as a guide, states and communities should come together to create an indigenous-friendly and informative curriculum to introduce and strengthen students' knowledge. Every educator should receive thorough training by experts on indigenous human rights, and Georgia emphasizes the importance of involving regional indigenous peoples in developing class materials for educational institutions. Additionally, these institutions should offer language classes specifically for the regional indigenous tongues spoken. This project should be funded by the Convention on Biological Diversity Voluntary Funding Mechanism for Indigenous and Local Communities, with contributions from the state government and the World Intellectual Property Organization Voluntary Fund.

# International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)

## Delegation from Georgia

### Position Paper for the *General Conference of the IAEA*

The topics before the General Conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) are Maintaining and Strengthening Emergency Preparedness and Response and Ensuring the Safe and Secure Transport of Radioactive Material. The Delegation from Georgia considers both issues to be critical and is looking forward to a solution-oriented work process with the other Member States.

#### **I. Maintaining and Strengthening Emergency Preparedness and Response**

Nuclear Emergencies have the potential to cause severe health and environmental impacts, including radiation exposure leading to acute and long-term health issues. It can result in widespread displacement of communities, economic disruption, and long-term environmental contamination. Furthermore, nuclear emergencies might lead to social and psychological stress among affected populations, and it can strain public health systems and resources for an extended period. Given this potentially catastrophic impact of nuclear emergencies, a coordinated international approach for Emergency Preparedness and Response (EPR) is essential. Addressing this on an international level is vital because many emergencies transcend national borders. Collaborative efforts can enhance information sharing, resource mobilization, and coordination during large-scale disasters. Additionally, it allows for the sharing of best practices and technologies, ultimately improving global resilience and response capabilities. The United Nations (UN) provides the right framework to establish standards, guidelines, and best practices for emergency preparedness and response, ultimately enhancing global readiness and capacity to handle unforeseen events.

In case of nuclear emergencies, two UN conventions from 1986 are important: the *Convention in Early Notification of a Nuclear Accident* (Early Notification Convention) and the *Convention on Assistance in the Case of a Nuclear Accident or Radiological Emergency* (Assistance Convention). Additionally, the *UN Code of Conduct on the safety and security of radioactive sources* (COC), approved by the IAEA in 2003, helps national authorities to ensure that radioactive sources are used within an appropriate framework of radiation safety and security. The *IAEA Safety Standards* (SS) consist of Safety Fundamentals, Safety Requirements and Safety Guides. Part 7 of the SS was published in 2015 and deals with preparedness and response for a nuclear or radiological emergency. To share the knowledge on EPR, the IAEA has implemented the *Nuclear Security Training and Support Centre* (NSSC) and the *International School on Nuclear and Radiological Leadership for Safety* (ISNRLS). Both institutions cater to different aspects of nuclear and radiological safety, with the ISNRLS emphasizing leadership development and the NSSC concentrating on security training and support. Also, regional alliances for research, development, and exchange of knowledge have been formed in Asia, Africa, Latin America, and Europe. The *Asian Nuclear Safety Network* (ANSN) from 2002 deals exclusively with topics related to nuclear safety. The seven different European networks are more comprehensive and are formed by the European Commission, not by the IAEA. The *European Training and Education in Radiation Protection Platform* (EUTERP) from 2004 focuses on education, training, and recognition activities in the European Union. Georgia has been a Member of the IAEA since 1996. Since then, the Delegation has actively engaged in international agreements such as the *Early Notification Convention* and the *Assistance Convention*, demonstrating its commitment to global nuclear safety. To implement the standards at the national level, the *Agency of Nuclear and Radiation Safety Georgia* (ANRS) was founded in 2016. During an Integrated Regulatory Review Service (IRRS) mission to Georgia, IAEA concluded adequate integration of the COC and the SS into national laws and action plans.

To maintain and strengthen the EPR globally, a Caucasian, European and Asian Nuclear Emergency Safety Network in the form of a cooperative agreement for research, development and training related to nuclear safety should be formed to be able to respond even better to nuclear emergencies. The design of the network should be based on the model of the ANSN, but on a more supranational level. The aim of the new network should be to find possibilities how the COC and SS can be implemented most efficiently in the context of supranational cooperation. Therefore, Georgia suggests regular meetings, joint training exercises, and information-sharing sessions with regional Member States. The countries of the Caucasian region as well as the other parts of Europe and Asia should build a network as soon as possible, under control of the IAEA general conference. One important advantage for members of this new network would be to share their knowledge and strategies in EPR. Organized and supported by the IAEA, new NSSCs and ISNRLSs should also be built on the supranational level. The aims and structure should be like the EUTERP. Georgia already has a lot of personnel trained in nuclear safety and security by the IAEA. Therefore, Georgia can support the new supranational cooperation by offering training in partner countries. Furthermore, the large variety of plans and strategies within Georgia could be used as blueprints for other countries. To maintain and strengthen the global EPR, it is necessary that all Member States have access to the best systems possible and that all relevant Member States cooperate. These initiatives should be conducted at specific training centers, nuclear facilities, and relevant institutions, with regular evaluations to guarantee their efficacy. As the IAEA will benefit by training programs supporting national governments in their work to foster leadership for safety and security, they are called to invest in this.

## **II. Ensuring the Safe and Secure Transport of Radioactive Material**

Georgia acknowledges the global concern regarding the safe and secure transport of radioactive materials, a challenge that demands urgent attention from the international community. The potential adverse consequences of mishandling radioactive materials are severe, encompassing environmental degradation, health risks, and the potential for malicious actors to exploit vulnerabilities in transport processes. Although Georgia does not have any nuclear industry or radioactive material production, the shipment of radioactive materials to the country has been increased for research activity and the healthcare industry. On the other hand, the geopolitical situation of Georgia makes it a suitable corridor for shipment of goods between west and east. Therefore, the safe and secure transport of radioactive material is highly important to Georgia. Additionally, nuclear smuggling has been a major concern of Georgia ever since the Soviet Union collapsed in 1991. Notably, Georgia has detected the smuggling of nuclear and radioactive materials through its occupied territories which concerns the entire region's security. However, the lack of international presence and monitoring in those regions of Georgia makes it difficult to conduct any type of verification activities which should raise the concern of the international community. It is further worth highlighting that Sustainable Development Goals 3, 14 and 15 are directly affected by an unsafe and unsecure transport of radioactive materials. Therefore, the delegation of Georgia calls on the international community to unite on this very important topic and conclude concrete solutions especially for the Black Sea region.

Georgia, as a responsible member of the international community, has actively engaged in addressing the challenges associated with the transport of radioactive materials. Radiation protection systems in Georgia are based on *Frame Law – no.1674-IS On Nuclear and Radiation Safety*, issued in January 1999. In 2016, Georgia established the ANRS as an independent regulatory body and adopted 20 new nuclear and radiation safety and security regulations and ensured compliance with the IAEA Safety Standards and the Nuclear Security Series. In addition, in 2018, with support from the IAEA, an IRRS mission to Georgia was established and implemented that concluded adequate legal and regulatory frameworks for nuclear and radiation safety and security. Concerning nuclear smuggling, the United States Department of *Export Control and Related Border Security Program* has spent \$18 million to

develop Georgia's capacity to regulate trade and transfer of radioactive goods and equipment and to establish related border enforcement measures. Furthermore, in cooperation with strategic partners, the National Interagency Council of Georgia is responsible to approach implementation of policies regarding radioactive materials safety and security. For instance, the council has implemented a new 10-year National Strategy for radioactive threat reduction and the responsibilities taken under the EU-Georgia Association Agreement. The Georgian delegation highlights the country's proactive efforts in the development of regulatory frameworks to ensure the safe transportation of radioactive materials and seeks more international collaboration for universalization of more comprehensive safeguard agreements and protocols.

In line with Georgia's commitment to promoting global nuclear safety, the delegation recommends the establishment of a collaborative international initiative. This initiative should focus on strengthening the regulatory frameworks, sharing best practices, and fostering cooperation among nations, in the safe and secure transport of radioactive materials. Georgia proposes the creation of an intergovernmental program under the IAEA to support capacity-building programs in the Black Sea region. The so-called program shall facilitate the implementation of advanced technologies for monitoring and securing radioactive material transport which can also empower developing nations who are more likely to be a target corridor for nuclear smuggling. Such a program should also enable them to monitor those activities and safeguard their territories regarding radioactive materials. Additionally, Georgia suggests the development of an international advance real-time tracking and monitoring system which can provide constant updates on the location, status, and condition of the materials during transit, allowing authorities to intervene promptly in case of any anomalies building on the already existing IAEA *International Nuclear Information System* and to enhance transparency and coordination. By fostering a collective approach, the international community can effectively address the challenges associated with the safe transport of radioactive materials, aligning with Georgia's steadfast commitment to nuclear safety and security.

## United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)

### Delegation from Georgia

#### Position Paper for the *United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees*

The topics before the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) are Mental Health and Psychosocial Support for Refugees and Other Displaced People as well as Protecting Displaced and Refugee Children. The Delegation of Georgia considers both issues to be critical and is looking forward to a collaborative and solution-oriented work process with the other Member States.

#### **I. Mental Health and Psychosocial Support for Refugees and Other Displaced People**

In light of the increasing number of global humanitarian crises and the growing population of forcibly displaced individuals, addressing mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) for refugees and other displaced persons has become more urgent than ever. In 2023, an unprecedented number of emergencies were declared, with UNHCR issuing 43 emergency declarations in 29 countries. This increase is linked to the rise in natural disasters, which were the main cause of displacement in 2023 according to the UN. UNHCR projections indicate a continued increase in emergencies in 2024, with the number of forcibly displaced people expected to rise to 130 million worldwide. With that mental health issues occur and need to be prioritized by putting it on the humanitarian agenda. The World Health Organization (WHO) estimates that one in five individuals affected by conflict will experience mild, moderate, or severe mental health conditions, which may include depression, anxiety, post-

traumatic stress disorder, bipolar disorder, or schizophrenia. Further, 22.1 percent of conflict-affected individuals suffer from mental health issues, with one in every five children experiencing mental health conditions during humanitarian emergencies, according to the WHO. Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 3.4 emphasizes the importance of preventing mental health disorders and promoting mental health and well-being. With these realities in mind, the international community must recognise and address the intersectionality of mental health issues with the broader challenges faced by displaced populations.

Georgia has made significant progress in promoting the rights and well-being of refugees, particularly given the 1431.3 percent increase in refugees from 1,818 in 2021 to 27,839 in 2022 and the robust Georgian response to the current refugee crisis. Georgia's coordination with UNHCR ensures access to services and integration support to implement MHPSS Minimum Service Packages (MSP). This underscores Georgia's pivotal role in fostering the mental well-being of refugees and displaced individuals. Additionally, Georgia shares its MHPSS collaborative experience to exchange learnings and best practices regarding the asylum system, as pledged at the Global Refugee Forum in 2019. In 2022, Georgia hosted study visits for the Governments of North Macedonia and the Republic of Tajikistan. Additionally, collaborative efforts between UNHCR and the government are evident in the 2021-2030 Migration Strategy of Georgia. Georgia's approach prioritizes community empowerment, as demonstrated by the expansion of UNHCR's Community Group Facilitator program (CGFs) to enhance communication and information-sharing among refugees, primarily from Ukraine. This program strengthens communities, promotes social inclusion, enhances well-being, fosters self-reliance, and facilitates direct dialogue with authorities. Furthermore, it promotes a better understanding and public awareness of the needs and challenges faced by refugees and other displaced people.

While Georgia is considered a regional leader in promoting mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) for refugees and displaced persons, internationally much remains to be done. First, to bolster MHPSS for refugees and displaced populations, Georgia places a special emphasis on educational online campaigns to combat stereotypes related to seeking psychological help. According to studies conducted by the World Health Organization (WHO), stereotypes, prejudices, and discriminatory behavior towards individuals with mental health problems are prevalent. Funded through the UN Health4Life trust fund and European Investment Bank Group, digital campaigns focussing on combating stereotypes surrounding mental health need to be created and distributed on diverse social media platforms. Age-appropriate content focusing on various prejudices can be distributed. This vast variety of content is necessary to reach refugees and displaced people across different platforms. Second, promoting mental health early on is crucial, and school-based social-emotional learning skills education can help achieve this goal. Georgia advocates for upscaling and strengthening the capacities of MHPSS facilitators financed through the UNHCR, including teachers, school staff, and professionals, to ensure learners receive adequate tools for their mental health and psychosocial well-being. By conducting educational sessions on mental health challenges arising from the effects of war, children can acquire the skills they need to help themselves or others during displacement or as refugees. The Delegation of Georgia believes that educational online campaigns and social-emotional skills education will enhance the effectiveness of current MHPSS measures.

## **II. Protecting Displaced and Refugee Children**

As per the UNHCR, around 43.3 million children worldwide under the age of 18 experienced forced displacement in 2022, constituting 40 percent of the total displaced population. Children who are refugees or otherwise displaced frequently lack access to adequate food, water, and healthcare, thereby constantly endangering their wellbeing in those circumstances. Due to the absence of access to fundamental necessities, displaced children face an increased risk of encountering abuse, neglect, violence, labor exploitation, trafficking, or military recruitment. The UNHCR defines 'refugee children' as individuals under the age of 18 or under the respective national legal age who are refugees, asylum seekers, or displaced persons. Refugee children confront unmet educational needs due to economic,

social, or cultural barriers. In 2020, only 68 percent of refugee children worldwide had access to primary education, compared to the global rate of 90 percent for all children. Therefore, the *2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development* aspires to achieve a fairer and more sustainable global environment by 2030, portraying goals to advocate for the rights of displaced and refugee children, particularly through SDG 4, which focuses on quality education. The 385,000 children born annually between 2018 and 2022 as refugees are only the tip of the iceberg. The coronavirus disease 2019 exacerbated challenges for refugee and displaced children, posing threats to their health, safety, and educational access. The Delegation of Georgia highlights the importance of the cooperation between Member States to help those families and children.

In 2012, the UNHCR adopted its *Framework for the Protection of Children*, which is designed to shield displaced and refugee children from harm while addressing their developmental requirements. These goals can be traced back to the core ideals of the *Universal Declaration of Human Rights* (1948). Georgia has actively participated in addressing the crisis resulting from the conflict in Ukraine within the framework of the UNHCR. Georgia strengthened community-based initiatives to serve, protect, assist, and support refugees which aim to provide education for refugee and displaced children in Georgia. For instance, the UNHCR has collaborated with the Georgian government to effectively implement Group Facilitator experts, known as CGFs, who are asylum-seekers or persons under international protection. They are committed to bridging the gap between refugees and host communities, for example in educational matters. Contributing to the realization of the fundamental rights of Refugee Children in Georgia and their increased opportunities for integration within the host communities. This approach further promotes empowerment and engagement with communities, social inclusion, well-being, self-reliance and direct dialogue with authorities. This way, a better understanding and public attitude for the needs and challenges of the populations of concern as well as the potential that could be used for long term self-reliance and finding long-term solutions is achieved.

Even though the UNHCR's work has successfully increased the enrolment of refugee children in primary education, the number of displaced and refugee children in secondary education remains small. Therefore, the Delegation of Georgia finds it most important to address the issue of quality education for children. The Delegation suggests promoting community-based protection mechanisms, taking into account the Georgian CGF program underneath the framework of the UNHCR. Promoting this community-based approach internationally will create opportunities for all nations to implement the program within their governmental structures. Therefore, handbooks and checklists need to be written and distributed to people in need. Within the next year, those documents should be worked on together by UNHCR staffing and national experts. The Delegation suggests funding for the production, distribution and advertisement of such a handbook to be covered through the *UN Children's Fund* named *Education Cannot Wait*. The CGFs in Georgia have helped many refugees and displaced families and children in local communities as well as deepening the understanding for further measures. The Delegation of Georgia wants to emphasize the importance of international cooperation on this matter. To enhance educational opportunities for refugee children, a community-based approach is crucial and should be adopted by other local communities globally.

## United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA)

### Delegation from Georgia

#### **Position Paper for the *United Nations Environment Assembly***

The topics before the United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA) are addressing Environmental Sustainability in the Textile and Fashion Industries and Implementing the Kunming-Montreal Global

Biodiversity Framework. The Delegation from the Republic of Georgia considers both issues to be critical and is looking forward to a collaborative and solution-oriented work process with the other Member States.

### **I. Environmental Sustainability in the Textile and Fashion Industries**

As the fashion industry booms, the international community is becoming increasingly aware of the significant negative impacts this has on the environment. The UN has expressed deep concern about the industry's alarming clothing and textile waste. Rapidly changing fashion trends and a throwaway culture contribute to substantial resource consumption, water waste, and environmental pollution. In 2018, the UN Economic Commission announced that 85 percent of textiles end up in landfills every year, and laundering certain types of clothing releases large amounts of microplastics into the ocean. According to a 2019 UN report, rapidly changing trends and a throwaway culture contribute to alarming clothing waste, with 85% of textiles ending up in landfills annually. Clothing production's toll includes resource depletion, water wastage, and pollution. The textile and fashion industry significantly contributes to global carbon emissions, surpassing aviation and shipping combined. Harmful chemicals and wastewater production harm air, water, and marine life. The lack of recycling and underutilization results in a yearly loss of \$500 billion.

In alignment with the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), Georgia has demonstrated a strong commitment to ensuring the well-being of its citizens and fostering environmental sustainability. Recognizing the urgent need for change, the textile and fashion industry is taking steps towards sustainability. In 2018, 43 major brands and suppliers signed the Fashion Industry Charter for Climate Action under the UN. The goal is ambitious yet crucial: reaching net-zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2050. This commitment aligns with the broader goals of *the Paris Agreement*, emphasizing the industry's role in addressing climate change. As consumers increasingly understand the impact of their choices, the demand for sustainable practices is growing, further propelling the industry towards environmentally-friendly initiatives. In 2021, Georgia enacted a new Environmental Liability Law, marking a positive step towards promoting environmental justice. Georgia's Environmental Protection Law serves as a foundational framework that establishes fundamental legal principles in the realms of environmental protection and natural resources. The law aims to safeguard and sustain a secure environment for human health, establish a legal structure for shielding the environment from detrimental impacts, guarantee the preservation or enhancement of environmental quality, and ensure an optimal balance of environmental, economic, and social interests within society.

The delegation of Georgia plans to establish initiatives to incentivize the adoption of environmentally friendly and sustainable materials in textile production through an innovative project aimed at reducing the environmental impact of clothing waste. By promoting sustainable practices in the textile and fashion industry, the project focuses on recycling and conscious consumption. It includes educational initiatives to raise consumer awareness and encourage responsible decision-making in the purchase and disposal of clothing. Additionally, it collaborates closely with the industry to promote more sustainable manufacturing and supply chains, thereby minimizing the ecological footprint of the textile and fashion sector. Initiated by the Georgian delegation, it is crucial to acknowledge, at the outset, the paramount importance of international collaboration in the endeavor to cultivate a more sustainable and environmentally conscious future. In summary, the collaborative initiatives outlined underscore the timely imperative for systemic transformation, highlighting the pivotal and collective contributions made by industry stakeholders and consumers alike. Together, these concerted efforts play an instrumental role in guiding the fashion industry towards an elevated commitment to sustainability and heightened environmental consciousness.

### **II. Implementing the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework**

The world is in need of biodiversity, as more than half of the world's population's livelihood depends on it. Biodiversity is important both in water and on land, as it is the habitat for various species. But because of human behavior, like the overexploitation of resources, introduction of invasive species and climate change, now most of the protected habitats and species have a poor or bad conservation status. This clearly shows that biodiversity has to be protected. The Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework is a political act in order to accomplish a better relation to the environment. It has seven programs of work, established by the Conference Of the Parties (COP) at COP15. The key issues to be considered lie in, agricultural biodiversity, island biodiversity, dry and sub-humid lands biodiversity, marine and coastal biodiversity, forest biodiversity, mountain biodiversity and inland waters biodiversity. It consists of global strategies and goals for 2050 with targets for 2030. To act now is the important thing, as biodiversity has a direct impact on human lives. Where biodiversity is reduced, food supplies will grow more vulnerable to pests and diseases, fresh water will become more irregular or short in supply and human health will be put at risk.

The Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework takes measures in favor of the planet's biodiversity. Georgia has some of the most biodiversity-rich parts of the world, as it has various types of different ecosystems. It borders the Black Sea and the Caucasus, which are both biodiversity hotspots and therefore in need of protection. Among countries with moderate climates, Georgia offers 4,130 vascular plant species, which is one of the richest floras on earth. Of this species, about 2000 are of economic value for Georgia, as they provide a variety of purposes. To counteract the problem of hurting the world's biodiversity, Georgia follows a Biodiversity Strategy Action Plan, where besides tackling problems, like chemical pollution, illegal fishing, invasive species and pollution by solid waste, education and public awareness are put into focus, as everybody can contribute to the protection, or not further hurting the biodiversity, which is only possible, if knowledge is given. Furthermore, Georgia has a 5-years eco-tourism development plan for the Borjomi Municipality, in order to protect biodiversity. The relevant National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP), which aims to address the root of the biodiversity loss and focus on communication, capacity building, biodiversity mainstreaming and further activities in order to reduce the expedition of the loss was updated, to aim for an even better outcome.

The delegation of Georgia believes that the implementation of The Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework is a crucial step, which has to be taken in order to protect the environment. The Georgian delegation urges all countries to do everything possible in favor of it, as the implementation heavily relies on action taken on a national level. Therefore, the countries, which are in financially higher positions are asked to support the other countries financially. This does not only mean to support financially weak countries but also most developed or developed countries with natural resources that are important for the entire globe. Also, not only politicians but everybody, especially people with an influence on others should try to inspire more people to act in favor of biodiversity, by acting like role models. Moreover awareness campaigns, national ones as well as UN campaigns should be started in order to teach people what to do and what should not be done to live more in favor of biodiversity, which could be funded by the Environment Fund. In addition to that the delegation of Georgia would like to encourage countries to take Inspiration from the NBSAP and establish a framework like that themselves, as there are valuable strategies in the fight against the loss of biodiversity and complements the work of The Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework.

## Awards



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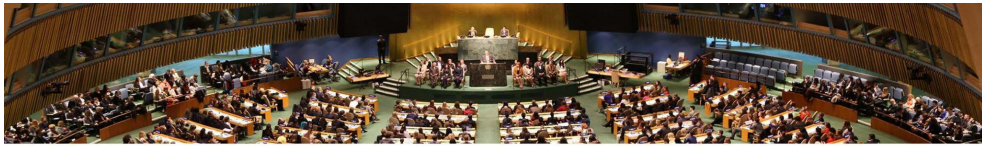
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On behalf of the entire Kiel Delegation 2024 to the National Model United Nations (NMUN), we extend our deepest gratitude for your generous support. Your contributions have been instrumental in enabling our delegation to participate in this prestigious event and represent our university on the global stage.

We are incredibly thankful for the unwavering support of the Förderverein Politikwissenschaft der CAU, Heinz Wüstenberg-Stiftung, Harald-Striewski-Stiftung, Alumni und Freunde der CAU e.V., Haus und Grund Kiel, Murmann Publishers, Reinhard Frank Stiftung, International Center der CAU, IHK Schleswig-Holstein, Rotary Club Kiel Eider, Mister Uhl, and Fach Politikwissenschaft der CAU. Your belief in our potential and commitment to fostering excellence in education have made this experience possible.

Thanks to your generosity, we have had the opportunity to engage in stimulating discussions, learn from experienced diplomats and scholars, and develop our leadership and negotiation skills. We have also gained a deeper understanding of global issues and the importance of international cooperation.

The NMUN experience has been truly transformative, and we are incredibly grateful for the opportunity to have been a part of it. Your support has not only allowed us to participate in this event but has also enriched our academic and personal growth.

We are committed to using the knowledge and skills we have gained at NMUN to make a positive impact on our communities and the world. Thank you once again for your invaluable support.

Sincerely,

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