

Abschlussbericht/Final Report **for the National Model United Nations 2026**

Delegation of Guatemala – Christian-Albrecht-Universität zu Kiel



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Delegation of 2026 of the
International Student Commitment e.V.
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Grußwort und Danksagung

Liebe Lesende, liebe Projektpartner:innen, Unterstützer:innen und Sponsor:innen,
es freut uns sehr, Ihnen den Abschlussbericht zur

National Model United Nations (NMUN) 2026

präsentieren zu dürfen. Auch dieses Jahr konnten wir mit Ihrer Unterstützung wieder eine erfolgreiche Teilnahme unserer Kieler Delegation möglich machen. Es hatten 16 Studierende die Chance, an der NMUN 2026 in New York mitzuwirken. Unsere Delegation und auch einzelne Teilnehmer konnten dabei mehrere Auszeichnungen gewinnen. Unsere Partizipation ist eine wertvolle Erfahrung für die Gruppe und jeden Einzelnen, die nur durch Ihre Unterstützung und finanzielle Förderung möglich wurde!

Der folgende Bericht ist auf Englisch verfasst, sollten Sie eine deutsche Version wünschen, reichen wir diese gerne nach.

Wir wünschen Ihnen viel Spaß beim Lesen unseres Abschlussberichtes!

Mit den besten Grüßen

Die Head Delegates der Kieler Delegation zur NMUN 2026

Kaja Heins, Lara Klein, Leyal Choueib, Nimra Khan

Wir danken unseren Sponsoren in alphabetischer Reihenfolge:

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Delegation - Wer sind wir?

Kaja Heins (Head Delegate)



Participating in NMUN last year was an amazing experience that taught me about diplomatics, public speaking, and discussing, but also helped me grow as a person in general. This experience as a delegate made me want to give back and convey all those valuable lessons, so I chose to become a head delegate to this year's delegation. Being a head delegate was a completely different experience than participating as a delegate, but it was really fulfilling non the less. Between the planning and organizing it was astonishing to see how much the delegates improved and were able to showcase their skills.

Currently, I am in my sixth semester of studying medicine at CAU, and participating in Model United Nations was something I pursued to balance the number of natural sciences in my studies. Taking part in NMUN has not only taught me how to deliver speeches effectively, write in more formal English, but, most importantly, provided me with the incredible opportunity to have an approximation of what the UN does. The UN does not only stand for an organization where Member States come together to discuss problems and try to find common solutions, but it can be the last place where parties of conflict talk to each other, making it a symbol of hope.

Lara Klein (Head Delegate)

"The United Nations is our only great hope for a peaceful and free world." - Ralph Bunche

This quote perfectly describes my first impression of the United Nations and my passion for it since the 10th grade. It was in our Politics & Economics class that I first learned about the values of the United Nations and its mission for peace. Since then, a fire has been burning in my heart to shape the future of international politics and international law. To be part of this one great hope.



Now, six years later, I am studying law and had my focus on International and European Law, I regularly attend events on international law and politics, and most importantly, I was a part of NMUN 2025 as a delegate and NMUN 2026 as one of the four head delegates. A dream for the 16-year-old me. Through this project, I've had the chance to delve deeper into diplomacy and international politics and gain insights into my dream career. I am more certain than ever that I have chosen the right path, and I intend to contribute my heart and knowledge to this field.

This project has helped me grow, improve my speaking and writing skills and my critical thinking in the field of international politics. I truly believe that it will benefit both my law studies and my career, as I plan to apply for an internship at the United Nations after law school. I believe the NMUN is an amazing opportunity to prepare for this.

Leyal Choueib (Head Delegate)

"I can always choose, but I ought to know that if I do not choose, I am still choosing." – Jean-Paul Sartre



This quote has always resonated with me, shaping my approach to life and decision-making. At the age of 15, I chose to spend a school year in Beirut, Lebanon. However, due to unforeseen circumstances - Covid-19, a revolution, and the devastating port explosion - I ended up staying for two years. This experience profoundly impacted me, exposing me to the critical role of diplomats and the immense efforts of the German government in supporting its citizens abroad.

Inspired by this, I delved deeper into the field of diplomacy, developing a clear plan to pursue a career as a diplomat. Currently, I am 22 years old and in my sixth semester of law studies, actively engaged in the NMUN Project, and have just completed my exchange year in my fifth semester. Following that, I will specialize in International and European Law at Christian-Albrecht University.

The opportunity to attend the United Nations in April 2026 and participate in the world's largest Model United Nations conference again as a Head Delegate will further expand my understanding of diplomatic engagement, enhance my teaching skills, and strengthen my ability to represent diverse perspectives on a global stage. This experience is another crucial step toward my goal of contributing to international cooperation and diplomacy.

Nimra Khan (Head Delegate)

My name is Nimra Khan, I'm 27 years old and currently in my 8th semester studying Political Science and Education. As the eldest daughter in my family and the first to pursue a higher degree, this path hasn't always been easy, but it's been an important opportunity for me. Over time, I've developed a strong interest in international relations and international law, and I'm planning to continue in that direction with a master's degree after I finish my studies.



Growing up, I started to realize that being involved in politics is often a privilege, even though it really shouldn't be. I've always been curious about how decisions are made, what influences them, and how they end up affecting people beyond just one country.

One thing that's especially important to me is making sure women are represented in political spaces. Decisions that affect women should include their perspectives, and that's something I want to keep advocating for in the future.

Taking part in the National Model United Nations has honestly been a huge privilege. In 2025, I was a delegate in the OPCW committee, which gave me my first real insight into how international diplomacy works in practice. This year, in 2026, I've come back as a Head Delegate, which has been a completely different experience and comes with a lot more responsibility.

Being able to be part of NMUN twice means a lot to me. It's not something I take for granted, and it's strengthened my interest in international politics and the path I want to continue.

Alice Scheer Coelho (CND)



My name is Alice Scheer Coelho, and I am a Brazilian LL.M. student in International Law at Kiel University. I came to Germany to pursue my master's degree, and participating in NMUN 2026 became one of the most meaningful experiences of my academic and personal journey so far.

Coming from the countryside of Brazil, arriving in Kiel already represented a major turning point in my life. What made this transition even more remarkable was the fact that, only one month after my arrival, I was already beginning the NMUN preparation process. From the first meetings onward, we were introduced to a demanding but rewarding routine centered on public speaking, diplomacy, negotiation, and policy research. Over the course of more than five months, this preparation required consistency, discipline, and openness to growth, and it taught me not only how to represent a country in a formal multilateral setting, but also how to communicate with greater clarity, think more strategically.

Honestly, one of the strongest parts of this journey was the quality of the preparation itself. Our heads played an essential role throughout the process, because they did much more than explain the conference rules or guide us through the structure of debate. They created an environment in which we were encouraged to develop our own voice and strengthen our arguments. Their support gave us the confidence to keep improving, and it unquestionably shaped the way I approached the conference in New York.

At NMUN NY 2026, I had the honor of representing Guatemala in the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, and this choice of committee carried meaning for me. Before starting my LL.M., I worked as a legal intern in a Brazilian criminal court, where I dealt mostly with drug-related cases, and for that reason the themes discussed in committee were not just distant or abstract. Besides, representing a Latin American country in discussions on drug policy, international cooperation, and social challenges gave the experience a personal dimension and made my participation feel even more grounded.

During the conference itself, my partner and I remained very engaged in the debate, bringing motions, staying active on the speakers list, and participating consistently in the formal and informal dynamics of the committee. I personally delivered four speeches, and each of them marked an important step in my development.

Another moment that left a deep impression on me was visiting the United Nations Headquarters. Being in that space carried symbolic weight, and, as a Brazilian, it was meaningful to stand in a place whose architectural history was shaped in part by Oscar Niemeyer's contribution. At the same time, meeting students from all over the world and feeling the recognition associated with being part of Kiel University's delegation gave the entire experience a sense of purpose.

In the end, NMUN 2026 sharpened my public speaking, negotiation, teamwork, and consensus-building skills, which I will carry forward into my professional path, while also developing my commitment to international law, diplomacy, and global cooperation.

Anna-Sophie Bölck (NPT)

Participating in NMUN 2026 has been one of the most enriching academic and personal experiences of my studies. As a law student specializing in Public International Law, I was able to move beyond theory and actively engage with the realities of international diplomacy.

Throughout the conference and the preparations, I gained valuable insights into how international cooperation works in practice. Representing a country and learning about it, in this case Guatemala, drafting position papers, and negotiating resolutions strengthened not only my legal reasoning but also my communication and negotiation skills. This experience has brought me closer to my long-term goal of working for an International Organization and confirmed my aspiration to pursue a career at the intersection of law and global affairs.

NMUN 2026 has also had a lasting impact on my academic journey. It motivated me to continue my studies with even greater determination, as I was able to see how the concepts of international law are applied in real-world contexts. The project has deepened my interest in my field and reinforced my commitment to advancing in my studies.

Beyond the academic dimension, my time in New York made this experience truly unforgettable. The city's international spirit, combined with the dynamic atmosphere of the conference, created an inspiring environment. Most importantly, I met incredible people from all over the world and formed friendships that I believe will last a lifetime.

In conclusion, NMUN 2026 has significantly contributed to my personal growth, academic development, and professional orientation. I am sincerely grateful to all sponsors who made this experience possible. Your support has helped me take an important step toward my future career path.



Axel Brilliant Effendi (GA1)



I would like to express my sincere gratitude to our Kiel Delegation team, our Head Delegates, our sponsors, the National Model United Nations (NMUN) New York Conference A 2026 committees, Kiel University, Kiel University of Applied Sciences, and all individuals who contributed to making this project possible.

As Nelson Mandela once said, “It always seems impossible until it's done.” Growing up in a middle-class environment in Indonesia, the idea of participating in an NMUN conference in New York would never have crossed my mind. Having the opportunity to travel the world, engage in international discussions, and experience diplomacy first-hand has therefore been truly meaningful to me.

During the NMUN conference, I actively participated in diplomatic exchanges, negotiations, and resolution drafting processes. These experiences allowed me to further develop essential skills such as public speaking, critical thinking, negotiation, and intercultural communication. Engaging with delegates from diverse backgrounds also deepened my understanding of global challenges and the importance of multilateral cooperation. Beyond the formal conference sessions, the overall program provided a comprehensive and well-rounded experience. The opportunity to visit the United Nations Headquarters, engage in informal exchanges with fellow delegates, and participate in post-conference reflections significantly enriched the learning process. These elements complemented the academic simulation and contributed to a deeper and more personal understanding of international diplomacy.

What I value most from this experience is the personal development it fostered. Navigating complex discussions, adapting to different perspectives, and working under pressure have strengthened my confidence and resilience. It has also reinforced my belief that meaningful progress in global affairs is achieved through dialogue, cooperation, and persistence. On a personal level, this journey has inspired me to remain engaged in international issues and to continue developing the skills necessary to contribute constructively to society. It has shown me that even small steps can lead to meaningful change when combined with collaboration and determination.

It is also important to emphasize that such experience would not have been possible without the financial support provided by the sponsors. Their contribution played a crucial role in enabling participation and ensuring that opportunities like this are accessible to students from diverse backgrounds. It contributes to shaping globally aware and responsible individuals. I am deeply grateful for the opportunity to be part of this program and sincerely appreciate the trust and support provided. I strongly encourage the continued support of initiatives such as NMUN, as they play a vital role in fostering the next generation of globally minded individuals.

Carlotta Meyer (ECLAC)

“You are not only future diplomats. You are civil diplomats.” – Sectary General of NMUN 2026

These words from the Closing Ceremony have stayed with me ever since. They were not simply a farewell message, but a call for action: to carry diplomacy beyond conference rooms and into everyday life. To connect people. To build bridges. To remain hopeful even when multilateralism is questioned.

Participating in National Model United Nations 2026 has been one of the most formative experiences of my academic and personal journey. Through NMUN, I gained a far deeper understanding of the United Nations, about its global reach, its limitations, but also its immense potential. At a time when multilateral institutions are increasingly challenged and their relevance questioned; this experience strengthened my conviction that we must not give up on international cooperation. The UN is not perfect, but it remains one of the most important spaces where dialogue prevails over division.



I am especially thankful to have traveled and learned within our delegation. I found not only colleagues, but friends and people who share the same optimism and curiosity about the world. Working with individuals from diverse academic and personal backgrounds within our delegation, and meeting delegates from

across the globe in New York, broadened my perspective immensely. It was inspiring to collaborate with people who approach global challenges from different cultural, political, and intellectual viewpoints.

Personally, NMUN challenged and strengthened me in many ways. Representing China during our preparations was a particularly demanding experience. It required me to step into a perspective that did not always align with my own views. Yet I learned a lot from this through this challenge. I learned to argue diplomatically, to understand positions beyond my own convictions, and to write and negotiate under significant time pressure. I developed greater confidence in public speaking and sharpened my ability to express complex ideas clearly and strategically.

Most importantly, NMUN showed me that diplomacy is not limited to official positions or future career paths. Not all of us will become professional diplomats. But as the Secretary-General of NMUN emphasized, we can become civil diplomats. Individuals who carry empathy, dialogue, and bridge-building into civil society. This idea has given me hope and strength. It reminded me that this experience matters beyond the conference itself.

I leave NMUN not only with new skills and unforgettable memories, but with a renewed belief in cooperation and a strong desire to contribute positively to the world around me. For that, I am deeply grateful.

Charlene Glaeser (ECLAC)

“The greatest danger to our future is apathy.” - Jane Goodall



When I first read this quote, it felt less like a warning and more like a personal challenge. Apathy, to me, is the quiet surrender to the quantity of problems. When the complexity of the Earth’s problems becomes an excuse not to act. My response to that challenge has been to study the systems that drive those problems: first, socioeconomics in my undergraduate degree and now environmental and resource economics in my master’s degree.

My academic path has always been guided by a conviction of doing something about the most pressing challenges of our time: inequality, food insecurity, especially considering fisheries, as well as climate change. These are not separate, individual crises but deeply interconnected ones.

When I first encountered Model UN, I recognized it as a space where that conviction could be tested against the complexity of the real world: where policy meets diplomacy and where ideas must survive negotiation.

Representing Guatemala in the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean was a defining experience for me. I had to deeply understand a country navigating deeply rooted structural inequality, chronic child malnutrition and limited healthcare access. Engaging with delegates from across the globe, building alliances and shaping a working group on school feeding legislation showed me how international cooperation is not just an ideal but a practice that demands preparation, empathy, strategic thinking and especially patience.

This experience has sharpened skills I consider essential for my future: the ability to translate complex economic and political realities into compelling arguments, to listen despite differences and to seek solutions that are both ambitious and grounded. These are exactly the skills I intend to bring to my work in environmental and resource economics. A field where the stakes could not be higher and where the bridge between research and policy has never been more urgently needed.

I leave this conference more certain than ever that economics, diplomacy and sustainability are inseparable in every way.

David Wolske (GA3)



I am David Wolske and I am studying math in my 10th semester now. The Model United Nations project and political work is something very uncommon in my field of study. Therefore, I didn't know much about the UN or even the project when I applied. I just knew that I was interested in politics and shaping the future of the world for better. When I got accepted, I was equally happy and surprised, because I didn't expect to be able to compete with all the law and politics students that seemingly fit way better than me. But the preparation and the conference itself showed me that my skills in math were extremely useful and even necessary to form new practical applicable ideas. Math is a study of truth and objectivity and that is something often missing in modern politics.

Throughout the training I learned a lot. I gained better knowledge of the UN's inner systems and the complicated mandates of each committee, council and office, I learned the importance and function of the diplomatic code of conduct and diplomatic behavior, I practiced my public speaking skills and majorly improved my English vocabulary, I found a confidence in myself and my skills that I never knew I had in me, but most importantly I saw the vision for a better world that once was the reason for the founding of the United Nations and still is the reason for the importance of them today.

This spark of hope that brought humanity together is something that I took with me as a guiding principle. The belief that a world in peace, equality and freedom is achievable. This idea and vision was only enforced by the conference itself, where I found many different people from all over the world, with very different worldviews and opinions, who were united by this vision and inspiration, that is the UN.

The conference itself felt like a dream come true. Writing and holding speeches, discussions over working papers and finding compromise to overcome differences felt very natural for me. They were made easier by the people I met at the conference, who were equally invested and ambitious in their aims for the conference. In the end my preparation got honored with a position paper award and, collectively with the rest of my delegation, a distinguished delegation award.

I am very grateful to be able to experience something like this. This experience changed my life on a professional and personal level. I am grateful for all the sponsors, that made this project possible, grateful for the thorough training the head delegates put us through and grateful for all the people I met at the conference, from whom I learned so much.

Gözde Karahan (UNHCR)

Participating in NMUN New York 2026 as part of the delegation of Guatemala in the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) has been one of the most impactful experiences of my academic journey so far. As a master's student in Migration and Diversity at Kiel University, currently in my fourth semester, this project was closely connected to my field of study, yet still far outside my comfort zone.

At the beginning, I was unsure whether I should even apply. Living in Hamburg and commuting to Kiel already requires a lot of organization and the additional workload of NMUN, including preparation sessions and weekend trainings, seemed challenging.

Looking back now, I am incredibly grateful that I decided to take this step despite the effort. The intensive preparation phase, especially the weekend sessions, played a crucial role in building my confidence and ensuring that I felt well-prepared throughout the conference.

Representing Guatemala in UNHCR allowed me to engage deeply with topics such as forced displacement and refugee protection, which are directly linked to my academic interests. The process of researching, writing my position paper, and preparing speeches required a high level of discipline and commitment. Receiving a Position Paper Award was therefore a particularly meaningful moment for me, as it reflected the effort and dedication I had invested in the preparation.

The conference itself challenged me in many ways. Holding my first speech in front of a large audience was a significant personal milestone. Despite the initial nervousness, I managed to deliver my speech with confidence, which showed me how much I am capable of when stepping outside my comfort zone. Another unforgettable moment was the closing ceremony at the United Nations Headquarters, where I was recognized for my work. Standing in such an inspiring environment made the entire experience feel even more meaningful.



Beyond these highlights, NMUN helped me develop important skills that will be valuable for my future. I became more confident in public speaking, improved my English significantly and learned how to work effectively under pressure while collaborating with people from different cultural and academic backgrounds.

In conclusion, NMUN New York 2026 was not only an academic opportunity, but also a transformative personal experience. It strengthened my confidence, broadened my perspective on global issues and reinforced my motivation to continue engaging with topics related to migration and international cooperation. I am truly grateful for this experience and will carry its lessons with me into my future academic and professional path.

Hanne Katrin Martinsen (NPT)

Taking part in NMUN New York 2026 as part of the delegation of Guatemala in the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty Committee was honestly one of the best and most unforgettable experiences of my life. If someone had told me one year ago that I would soon be in New York City, visiting the United Nations Headquarters and debating international issues, I probably would not have believed it.



The journey already started long before we arrived in New York. The preparation phase for NMUN was intense, but also incredibly rewarding. Researching Guatemala, learning about the country's political positions, understanding the topic of nuclear non-proliferation, writing papers, and preparing speeches taught me a lot. It showed me how much work and commitment are necessary before stepping into a conference room. At the same time, it made me more disciplined and confident in my own abilities.

During the conference itself, I was challenged in so many ways. Speaking in front of hundreds of people was something I never imagined myself doing, but it became one of the moments I am most proud of. I learned how to stay calm under pressure, work with deadlines and still deliver my best even in stressful situations. It pushed me out of my comfort zone and made me realize how much I am capable in these situations.

What made NMUN even more special were the people I met. Working together with delegates from all over the world, discussing ideas, negotiating, building trust and finding common solutions was such a unique experience. It was inspiring to meet so many ambitious and open-minded people.

I am especially thankful for the Kiel delegation. Sharing this whole experience with them made everything even better. From the preparation time to the long conference days in New York, we went through every challenge and every success together. Their support, motivation and the fun we had as a group are memories, I will always keep with me.

Another highlight was visiting the United Nations Headquarters. Standing in a place that I had only seen on tv or read about before felt surreal. It reminded me that international cooperation and diplomacy are real and important, and that young people can also be part of these conversations.

In the end, NMUN New York 2026 gave me so much more than academic knowledge. It gave me confidence, unforgettable memories, friendships from all over the world and experiences that helped me grow personally. It was one of the most amazing times I have ever experienced and something I will remember for the rest of my life.

Hilal Esma Tüzgen (CND)

"The United Nations was not created to take mankind to heaven, but to save humanity from hell." – Dag Hammarskjöld



When we visited the United Nations Headquarters during NMUN 2026, I saw this quote written on the wall. In that moment, it became more than just words to me. It deeply shaped my entire journey throughout NMUN in New York and reminded me of the true purpose of diplomacy: not to create a perfect world, but to constantly work for peace, understanding, and cooperation.

I am Hilal Esma Tüzgen, a second-semester law student at the Christian-Albrechts-Universität zu Kiel. The dream of becoming a diplomat has been with me for as long as I can remember. Yet it became even stronger in 2022, when I had the opportunity to visit the Grand National Assembly of Turkey. There, by coincidence, I met a diplomat and had a conversation that has stayed with me ever since.

He told me that if I truly wanted to become a diplomat, I would need to burn for that profession. It is not a regular nine-to-five job, but a calling that requires passion, patience, and the ability to work with people from every background imaginable. Those words resonated with me deeply, because I have always loved meeting new people, understood new perspectives, and building bridges between different minds and cultures.

Participating in NMUN 2026 as a delegate representing Guatemala in the Commission on Narcotic Drugs was therefore much more than an academic project to me. It was a confirmation of the path I want to follow. What inspired me the most was the incredible diversity of people and nations coming together. Delegates from all over the world, carrying different opinions and interests, yet united by the same ambition to find solutions.

Throughout the conference, I grew with every speech I delivered and every caucus I participated in. I became more confident and experienced firsthand how diplomacy works: listening carefully, negotiating respectfully, and finding common ground even between the most different and difficult positions.

My proudest moment was the closing ceremony, when we entered the General Assembly Hall and sat in the seats where real diplomats usually sit. It was the greatest feeling of all time. In that moment, I did not only see a dream. I saw a future that I am determined to work for. NMUN 2026 strengthened my belief that diplomacy is exactly where I belong. It showed me that with dedication, passion, and openness, dreams can become goals and goals can become reality.

Konstantin Knipp (GA3)

“More than ever before in human history, we share a common destiny. We can master it only if we face it together. And that, my friends, is why we have the United Nations.” - Kofi Annan

The greatest problems of our time, countless conflicts, inequality, climate change and many more, cannot be solved by one country alone. The UN stands for exactly that idea: nations coming together to find answers that none of them could reach on their own.

Having studied Political Science and Sociology, I am currently writing my thesis. My studies have not only equipped me with theoretical knowledge but also deepened my understanding of how important multilateral institutions like the UN are to the international system and how fragile that framework can be at the same time.

Although the search for compromise can be exhausting and slow, I see this not as a weakness, but as a necessity. This difficulty is exactly the reason to keep going. It is easy to stay committed when everything runs smoothly. The real test is whether you hold on when it gets tough, and I think that is when it matters most.

Now representing Guatemala as part of the Kiel delegation at NMUN in New York, I worked in the Third Committee of the General Assembly on the topic "Promoting the Rights of Women and Girls in the Aftermath of Conflict." Working on this pushed me to think beyond my own perspective, engage with delegates from very different backgrounds, and find common ground within my Working Group.

Keeping the work aside, this experience gave me something I did not expect in its full depth: the people. I had the honor of meeting so many great individuals from all over the world, each bringing their own story and their own way of seeing things. Those encounters made the whole experience truly special and are something I will not forget.

Surely one of the most unique experiences of my life, NMUN is something I would recommend to anyone who is curious about politics and diplomacy. Not just as something to put on a CV, but as something that genuinely changes the way you think and the way you engage with the world.



Laetitia Struve (GA1)



“The United Nations was not created to take mankind to heaven, but to save humanity from hell.” – Dag Hammarskjöld

International cooperation has always fascinated me, especially the idea that dialogue can create solutions to global challenges. While I am currently studying law without a specific focus on international law, I have developed a strong interest in international politics and legal structures beyond my core studies.

Participating in NMUN marked my first direct experience with international diplomacy and provided me with valuable insights into these processes. It also made me realise how important it is to actively take part in society. Progress depends on individuals who are willing to engage, rather than if someone else will take responsibility. Especially given the privileges and opportunities we have, I believe it is essential to make use of them and contribute.

My experience at NMUN provided me with my first real insight into diplomacy and international cooperation. It not only deepened my interest in these fields but also challenged me to think beyond my academic perspective and engage more actively with global issues. I am very grateful that such a project exists and that I had the opportunity to take part in it.

It has also had a noticeable impact on my personal development. It strengthened my speaking skills, improved my ability to form and impress opinions, and encouraged me to think more critically about complex international issues.

For me, it represents an important step in broadening my understanding and connecting my legal studies with a wider international context.

Marjan Negin Amini (UNHCR)

Participating in NMUN 2026 has been one of the most enriching academic and personal experiences of my studies so far. As a student of History and English, I was particularly excited to apply my academic background to a real-world context. The conference provided a unique opportunity to connect historical perspectives with current political developments, highlighting how closely history and international politics are intertwined.

Throughout both the preparation phase and the conference itself, I gained valuable insights into the complexities of international cooperation and diplomacy. Representing Guatemala in the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), I engaged deeply with pressing global issues such as forced displacement, refugee protection, and sustainable integration. Working on these topics allowed me to better understand the challenges faced by displaced populations and the importance of coordinated international responses.



The experience significantly strengthened my research, writing, and negotiation skills. Drafting position papers, collaborating with other delegates, and participating in formal and informal sessions challenged me to think critically and communicate effectively. At the same time, I learned how to adapt to different perspectives, build consensus, and work under pressure, skills that will be invaluable for my future academic and professional path.

Beyond the academic aspect, NMUN 2026 was an unforgettable personal experience. Meeting people from all over the world, exchanging ideas, and forming new friendships made the conference truly special. The dynamic atmosphere and the opportunity to experience New York City added another unique dimension to the entire journey.

In conclusion, NMUN 2026 has had a lasting impact on my academic development and personal growth. It strengthened my interest in international affairs and confirmed my motivation to further pursue a path that combines my academic background with global political engagement. I am sincerely grateful for this opportunity and the support that made it possible.

Maxi Reichwaldt (CSocD)



My name is Maxi Reichwaldt and I am studying Political Science and Sociology in my fifth semester at the Christian-Albrechts-Universität. I was (and am) so grateful to have gotten the chance to be a part of this year's NMUN26 delegation. I did apply already last year and while I have to say that back then I wasn't ready, this year I was.

We started this experience with week-end sessions that occurred every two weeks. They were very fun and helpful. Our Head Delegates prepared us by pitching the rules and, we held our own little mini-internal-MUNs. This was a great way to practice holding speeches and getting feedback for our work. This MUN was not my first

MUN-experience but I was thankful to have students' "grade" my work and help me get better at holding speeches and at writing position papers.

In New York, I was stunned by how well we were prepared, especially in comparison to others. It was refreshing to notice that we have a chance, even though English is not our mother language. Our Head Delegates and we ourselves prepared us well, so the nervousness eased quite fast.

While holding speeches is still not my favorite activity, I am proud to say that I delivered a few of them and that it gets easier every time. Also, I have learned about myself that I feel very comfortable in the informal sessions. These are just negotiations between all the delegates, and it was quite the thrill to pitch our own ideas to the others and to find ways to make them work out and find compromises, as well!

This experience taught me a lot, academically and mentally. I got the chance to talk to many people from different countries, and it is a Political Science student's dream to ask all of them

how they view their country's politics and society. We were able to talk a lot about domestic as well as foreign politics, history but also daily life.

Nick Luca Weber (UNEA)

„We are a way for the cosmos to know itself.” – Carl Sagan

My name is Nick Luca Weber and along with Tabea I had the pleasure of representing Guatemala in the UNEA committee in NMUN 2026. I study English and Philosophy and am currently on the road to become a teacher. As a teacher, the good health and hopeful outlook of the children of the future is one of my most central academic goals. While the NMUN conference is always a change to meet inspiring people from all academic backgrounds and later call them one's friends, it is also a simulation of real-world problems with the intention of discovering real-world solutions.

It is no secret that the real world currently is in a state of transformation. Such transformations, if done by the loudest and strongest, will be one that can only bring about a world according to the image of the loudest and the strongest. When you think like a hammer however, everything becomes a nail.

The pleasure, privilege and inspiration that resulted from taking part in an institution that has tasked itself with overturning just such a world, in which the loudest and strongest get more say than everyone else and leaving in its place a beautiful system that defines itself by the shared history, companionship and humanity of its members is something I will forever be grateful for to all those that made it possible.

As a student of Philosophy, my view on this current transformation is initially quite pessimistic. H.P. Lovecraft once wrote that “we live on a placid island of ignorance, and it was not meant that we should voyage far”. It lies in our nature to seek for the largest pile of apples, even if they rot under our feet and to make sure that none other has them, even if that means we condemn them to die. Our placid island of ignorance can be seen all around us, in the media we consume, which is owned by a small amount of people that design it in a manner that makes it as addictive as possible and it can be seen in the food we eat, which is owned by a small amount of people that design it in a manner that makes it as addictive as possible. Our placid island is currently dying, which makes us scared, which makes us resort to something we have been taught that gives us comfort, which is to consume. While we grow more scared, we grow more consumptive. While we consume more we are taught, through the media, which is owned by a small amount of people that design it in a manner that makes it as addictive as possible, that we need to consume more to be less scared. And so a spiral of consumption is created that food and media unhealthy but creates such spheres of the economy which aim to create weapons, so that they can create more weapons.

As a student of Humanity and a citizen of the international community I am constantly confronted with the underlying beauty such a transformation could bring. Beauty that will not only be seen, but much rather felt when one walks along the halls of humanity within the United Nations Headquarters in New York City. Cultural artifacts that proud cultures from all around the world have gifted to the UN to attest to our shared humanity in a building that itself has been designed by an international team of architects. It is this fact, that if there is a small space

in the world where humans are first and foremost humans, collaborating in a setting that fosters equality, shared knowledge and a sharehuman history where everyone is allowed to learn something from everyone else, such a place exists and is possible. And if a place that humans 80 years ago could scarcely dream about can be a current reality, then maybe Lovecraft forgot to think about the possibility that some humans on this placid island of ignorance would build a boat, travel and create themselves a bigger placid island of ignorance until this one too would show signs of decay and new need for transformation.

To be part of a simulation about our species most serious attempt at global peace fills me with immense pride. And while this is something to be proud of, attending an event only ever counts as the tip of the iceberg in contrast to those that made this event itself possible. You give students like me hope.

And if I was allowed to tell someone only a single sentence in appreciation, then it would have to be that hope is bigger than all else, since it is hope that gives life to this world in the first place.

Thank you

Nick Luca Weber



Tabea Shirin Tessmer (UNEA)



My name is Tabea Shirin Tessmer, I am studying Biology in the Bachelor of Science program in Kiel and participated in NMUN 2026 in the UNEA committee to better understand the world, the challenges of our future, and the key to them.

Beforehand, I had absolutely no idea what to expect. What I did know was that it would be an incredibly intense, beautiful, educational, but also illusion-shattering and grounding experience, although I approached the anticipated gain in insight with caution. That is exactly what happened: To be honest, I was outside of my comfort zone most of the time, and that is precisely why I am so glad to have participated. I learned that it is worth believing in your ideas and in yourself, even when it feels impossible. My self-confidence and my trust in my own perception have grown significantly thanks to NMUN, but especially thanks to the excellent preparation by our Heads. I also learned that political traps are often presented as great gifts. The sum of several deeply moving encounters with women from the UN and the private media sector affected me profoundly: I realized that everything has a deeper meaning and pursues a goal. That our thoughts are a result of emotions such as fear, and that these emotions are a complex result of representations of reality. Hypothetically, it appears as though external environmental factors and “chance” - even though I do not fundamentally believe in the existence of chance :D - tend to determine which life perspective, and consequently which

emotions, drive a person, in which reality someone lives, and into which specific political camp they are categorized. The answer to such division must be dialogue on equal footing and awareness of one's own control over thoughts and emotions. From these experiences, however, I also take with me, on a deep level, that humanity, sensitivity, and hope must be the response to inhumane, insensitive, and fear-inducing challenges. Privileged people like me must actively keep the door open behind us for the unheard, yet indispensable voices. The (NM)UN is not a place that creates sudden change. Rather, the UN appears to be the fertile ground that makes dialogue and change possible in the first place and preserves the chance for hope. It is a space that simultaneously unites the most inhumane and the most humane aspects of this world: the profound pain of injustice sits alongside transformative hope. Experiencing this will likely change me in the long term, hopefully make me a better person, and highlights reflection as an ongoing process.

Nevertheless, I must note that I have realized that immense potential for change lies within the internal structure of the UN: financial dependencies, the veto of Security Council, and the internal power structure urgently need reform in times when nationally organized problem-solving meets transnational challenges with the potential for annihilation.

I am deeply grateful to everyone involved for this opportunity. I am deeply grateful to live in a world under the arms of the UN and to be able to use these privileges for good.

No one can change the world alone. All of us can begin dialogue with those opinion leaders whom we have previously excluded from our conversations. By this, I do not primarily mean the underprivileged.

With great gratitude and the hope that this project will endure, Tabea Shirin Tessmer

Weronika Mlynarczyk (CSocD)

“Gender equality is essentially a question of power. We live in a male-dominated world with a male-dominated culture.” - António Guterres

This quote reflects the motivation that has guided me throughout NMUN 2026 and beyond. As a fourth-semester law student aspiring to pursue a career in politics, I am deeply shaped by the struggles of women around the world—those who endured injustice, fought for their rights, and made it possible for future generations like mine to speak freely and access opportunities once denied to them.

Representing Guatemala in the Commission for Social Development (CSocD) was therefore more than an academic exercise. The committee addressed the topics of Full and Productive Employment and Decent Work for All and Inclusive Rural and Agricultural Development. I felt particularly connected to the first topic, as issues such as informal labor, lack of social protection, and unequal opportunities continue to disproportionately affect women and marginalized communities.



Throughout the conference, I engaged in debates, delivered speeches, and collaborated in working groups to draft a working paper. This process highlighted the complexity of international policymaking and showed that meaningful solutions require not only strong arguments, but also compromise, patience, and mutual understanding. Working with delegates from different regions made clear how interconnected global challenges are and how essential cooperation is in addressing them.

Even if our work at the conference did not immediately change the world or directly improve the lives of those affected, the experience has profoundly shaped me. It has strengthened my skills, broadened my perspective, and deepened my commitment to advocating for equality. I left NMUN and New York with the hope that one day, I will be able to truly make a difference—to become someone who can actively contribute to improving lives and advancing justice, especially for women whose voices are still unheard.

Unsere Vorbereitung auf New York

08. November 2025

On November 8th, we officially began our first weekend session with the new delegation. The day started with a brief introduction from the head delegates, who shared insights from their personal experiences at the Model United Nations (MUN) conference in New York.

The primary focus of the session was to establish an understanding of the principles and procedures of Model United Nations. We spent the day learning about Position Papers, how to prepare and deliver speeches, and an introduction to the Rules of Procedure.

Position papers are crucial for success at a MUN conference. Researching and writing a position paper not only benefits the author but also allows them to share their ideas with fellow delegates, which is essential for effective preparation before the MUN Conference. We engaged in an exercise to understand the structure and content of a position paper, followed by a team-building activity designed to help attendees get to know each other, as teamwork will be important in the coming months.

We then introduced the process for preparing, writing, and delivering speeches. Some parts of the Rules of Procedure were also covered. Participants engaged in a practical exercise where they delivered speeches on lighthearted topics, such as whether fruits or vegetables are the better food choice. This exercise not only helped improve their speaking skills but also fostered comfort and camaraderie within the group.

Overall, it was a successful day filled with essential information on how to participate in MUN effectively.

09. November 2025

On November 9th, we continued our first weekend session with the delegation. The meeting started shortly after 10 a.m., beginning with an introduction of the United Nations (UN) in general. The heads gave an overview of what the UN is, how it functions and why understanding these structures is crucial for participation effectively at the MUN conference. The group was encouraged to share their own thoughts on what they find interesting about the UN as well as aspects they like or dislike. This was followed by a short discussion on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Around 11 a.m., the participants began a speaking exercise. Each delegate was given 90 seconds to deliver a short speech on a “random topic” chosen by the heads, allowing the delegates to practice speaking in front of a group of people and build confidence for future committee sessions. During this time, the group was also informed that one of the delegates would no longer be part of the team, resulting in a total of 16 delegates moving forward.

After the exercise, the delegation engaged in a name game to strengthen group cohesion. This helped create a more comfortable working atmosphere as the team will be collaborating closely in the upcoming months.

The sessions then moved on to an explanation of formal and informal elements of MUN procedure, with a particular focus on Points of Motion and how they are used during committee debates. After a brief break, the group learned how to write an effective working paper. This included practical examples as well as detailed explanation of the voting procedure within MUN committees. Additionally, sponsorship, pre-ambulatory and operative clauses and other technical aspects of drafting documents, an essential foundation for successful participation in MUN. At the end of the session, every delegate received their assigned country and the topics for the InterMUN taking place in two weeks.

All in all, it was a successful day with lots of information regarding MUN. Great first weekend!

22. November 2025

On November 22nd, we began our very first day of InterMUN, where most members of our delegation experienced a Model United Nations setting for the first time.

The session started promptly at 10:00 a.m., as delegates took their seats representing their assigned Member States. Following MUN procedure, the doors were closed in accordance with the closed-door policy. The session opened with a roll call, during which each delegation declared itself either “present” or “present and voting.” This distinction would later determine whether a delegation could abstain during the voting process.

Afterwards, delegates had the opportunity to be added to the General Speakers’ List, where they delivered their opening statements, outlining their positions on the two topics before the committee.

This weekend’s simulation focuses on the United Nations General Assembly. The topics under discussion are “Protection of and Assistance for Refugees, Returnees and Displaced Persons” and “The Human Right to Safe Drinking Water and Sanitation.”

During the subsequent informal session, delegates engaged with one another to exchange perspectives and identify shared priorities. It quickly became apparent that Topic 2 garnered the majority’s interest. Nevertheless, a further round of formal speeches followed, as not all delegations supported prioritizing this topic exclusively.

The committee then proceeded to a vote, ultimately deciding on the agenda order of “Topic 2 followed by Topic 1.” This effectively meant that the conference would focus primarily on the second topic.

At 1:00 p.m., the committee broke for a one-hour lunch. The afternoon session continued with additional speeches and the introduction and practice of motions. Delegates later returned to informal discussions to begin forming initial alliances.

The session concluded at 4:00 p.m. Overall, it was an engaging and valuable experience. Delegates not only developed their public speaking skills but also learned how to effectively advocate for their positions and negotiate solutions with others.

23. November 2025

On 23 November, we met for the second and final day of the first INTER MUN Weekend Session. After the previous day, we all felt slightly more confident in the procedures and in how we were

going to develop our ideas further. The day began with a formal session, continuing with the speakers' list from the previous day. Both working groups presented their ideas and attempted to form alliances once more. However, as both groups were already close-knit, this didn't really work. Power politics and mistrust were becoming increasingly palpable between the two working groups. The first group consisted mainly of Asian and African Member States, while the second group consisted mainly of European and American States. Both working groups had different approaches to the topic of water as many countries had alternating standpoints.

The working groups got to work shortly after the opening speeches because there was a lot to do. Today was the deadline for the first draft of the working paper, but neither group had really started working on it yet.

In the first informal session, the focus was on establishing the structure and key ideas for the working paper draft. There were still some discussion and debate between the groups, and attempts were made to establish alliances, but these were not fruitful. Both groups were a little suspicious of each other, but these dynamics disappeared during the lunch break, and everyone was nice to each other again. It was interesting to see how everyone could play their role well without letting it take over in the 'real world'. After the break, a few speeches were delivered in a formal session. However, as each group needed as much time as possible for the working paper, an informal session began shortly afterwards. By the end of the last informal session, both working papers had been completed and submitted. Both groups were feeling confident about their ideas and proposals. Everyone is looking forward to next week's vote to see how well they did. Overall, it was a great weekend. We all learned a lot about the procedures and how things work, even if it was mostly by trial and error. Everyone was proud of themselves, and rightly so. It was also great to see us grow together as a team. I think I can safely say that everyone is looking forward to New York even more now.

06. Dezember 2025

On December 6th, we met for the first day of our second and final internal MUN weekend. The session began with a Formal Session in which delegates delivered their prepared speeches on the progress achieved so far. After this, the committee moved into an informal session, where delegates continued working in the two designated working groups, Edward and Jacob.

Both groups received brief feedback from the Head Delegates and the President of the ISC Kiel on their Working Papers. The focus of the day was on further developing these papers using the feedback they had received so they could evolve into draft resolutions.

During the informal sessions, participants continued drafting and refining their Working Papers, incorporating the comments from the Head Delegates. The Delegates also discussed operative clauses, policy ideas, and practical implementation strategies.

Special attention was given to ensuring that all proposals were realistic, well-structured, and aligned with United Nations standards.

Throughout the day, we also received feedback from the Head Delegates and the President on the speeches we delivered and on how to improve them, as this was our last weekend session before GreiMUN and our final chance to practice.

The working phases were regularly followed by short Formal Sessions, where groups shared

progress updates and received guidance for the next steps. The day ended with a final informal session, giving both working groups the opportunity to finalize their revisions, clarify remaining points, and prepare the Working Papers for the next stage of the committee process. Delegates also spoke with members of the other group to present their ideas and build support for the following day's discussions.

Overall, the session was marked by active participation, constructive dialogue, and a strong level of commitment from all delegates.

07. Dezember 2026

On December 7th, we concluded the final day of our first internal MUN. The session began with the first Formal Session of the day where delegates delivered their prepared speeches, followed by an Informal Session with brief feedback from the Head Delegates and the President of the ISC Kiel on our Working Papers.

Afterwards, we continued working on our Working Papers within our respective Working Groups. Many participants noted that writing a Working Paper is challenging at first, but throughout the process we collectively gained valuable experience and confidence. Once the main content of the papers had been finalized, each group began approaching the other delegation to collect signatories. This step is essential, as a Working Paper requires a minimum number of signatories to be accepted as a Draft Resolution.

Following this, the groups discussed their papers in more detail and adjusted certain formulations and proposals to increase support and secure additional signatories. In the next Formal Session, delegates delivered another round of speeches before the Working Papers were officially submitted and accepted as Draft Resolutions.

After the lunch break, we began the Amendment Procedure. Delegates drafted amendments, submitted them, and voted on them during the Voting Procedure. All amendments were handled according to the established Rules of Procedure. In the final voting round, both Draft Resolutions successfully passed.

Overall, the day marked a very successful first MUN experience for all participants. The group gained practical insights into the drafting process, negotiation dynamics, and formal procedures of Model United Nations.

17. Januar 2026

This weekend session marked our first meeting after a longer break. We were initially a little disappointed, as we had planned to travel to Greifswald for the GreiMUN, but had to cancel the trip due to an announced snowstorm. Nevertheless, we were very happy to finally see each other again after the long pause and to continue our preparation together.

During this weekend session, we focused on deepening our preparation for the upcoming NMUN conference and clarifying both procedural and substantive aspects of the conference.

We began the session by updating each other about the winter break and talked about upcoming deadlines, and general announcements. We also discussed our expectations and wishes for the coming months, such as how to develop strong resolution ideas, the preliminary schedule for

New York, the process of amendments, and strategic considerations for committee work.

A short interactive quiz followed, in which we guessed our assigned country. It was revealed that we will be representing Guatemala! We also clarified which committees our delegation will be part of. Afterwards, there was time to ask open questions, particularly concerning rules of procedure, speeches, and the structure of resolutions.

A practical focus of the session was procedural training. We practiced making different types of motions and talked in detail about speakers' lists, speaking time, and the general flow of debate. In addition, we discussed how to structure draft resolutions and subclauses, as well as how to approach cooperation and team building within and between working groups. Moreover, we corrected a position paper made for the GreiMUN together, which helped to understand the important aspects of a good position paper.

Afterwards, we were able to discuss and answer all the questions and struggles that came up in the last weeks which boosted our confidence for New York.

Overall, the weekend session was very helpful in consolidating our knowledge, resolving uncertainties, and building confidence for the next stages of preparation. I believe we are well-prepared and New York and are very excited about the next internal session where we will gain even more practical experience.

31. Januar 2026

On January 31st, our weekend session started punctually at 10:00 a.m. To begin, we held a short ice-breaker activity, as two of our Heads had not yet been able to attend meetings in person due to their semester abroad. This activity allowed everyone to get to know each other better and helped strengthen group cohesion.

Afterwards, we immediately started our internal session. As we were unable to travel to Greifswald for the MUN conference at the beginning of January, we were given the opportunity to use this meeting to continue and apply our preparations. All participants represented the country that had been assigned to them for the Greifswald conference.

At the beginning of the session, each delegate stated whether they were present or present and voting, following standard MUN procedure. Afterwards, delegates delivered their opening speeches and practiced raising motions, which led to our first informal session. The delegates were able to agree on a topic quickly and in the following formal session a topic was officially set by vote.

Throughout the rest of the day, we worked in informal sessions on a joint working paper. As all participants already had prior MUN experience, it was noticeably easier to follow the rules and procedures. Many delegates felt more confident when delivering speeches and there were no difficulties in raising or handling motions.

During the day, some delegates were invited to short meetings with the Heads to receive feedback and an evaluation of the position papers that had been prepared for New York. In addition, profile photos of several delegates were taken for the New York conference.

In summary, the first day of this MUN was very successful. We were able to make good use of our initial experiences and at the same time, we managed to take care of several administrative tasks for NMUN.

01. Februar 2026

As usual, the internal session began on time with a roll call of all the delegates. Unfortunately, some delegates were absent due to illness and other urgent issues. As agreed upon the previous day, the first topic of the discussion at the United Nations (UN) Environmental Assembly (UNEA) was continued: “Transforming Food Systems to Prevent Biodiversity Loss”. Despite the empty seats, the delegates present were enthusiastic about sharing their ideas on the topic through speeches and motions during the first formal session. Everyone could see each Delegate’s progressive improvement.

Since two working groups representing two ideological blocs had discussed the topic before UNEA “The Human Right to Safe Drinking Water and Sanitation” in previous internal sessions in November 2025, the delegates decided to form one big working group this time, as all the Member States present have a similar stance and value system regarding the topic. Besides, most delegates wanted to practice for the upcoming NMUN conference to perform in a larger working group, which could be challenging for individuals to stand up for their own political interests. Even though the core objectives were clear, the delegates had indeed various thematic viewpoints and variable national priorities of the countries they represented. For instance, some delegates promoted biodiversity by conserving regional indigenous crops and empowering local people, while others questioned the effectiveness and efficiency of the proposed solution since their country’s economy depends on a concentrated food market and lacks capable human resources.

Despite some contradictions and occasional disruptive discussions, all the delegates performed well and supported each other. Not only did everyone improve their ability to deliver arguments respectfully, maintain diplomatic manners, and follow UN procedural rules, but also learned more about themselves and their personal capacity. The dynamic in the sessions revealed another benefit that their perspectives were constantly refreshed with new ideas after every discussion with others. However, the internal session is not yet finished and will require an additional day during the next meetings. Although it was in a way exhausting, the delegates were excited for the next weekend sessions and hoped that all the absent delegates would attend to enrich the committee with fruitful conversations.

14. Februar 2026

On February 14th, the delegation began with a formal session at 10:00 a.m. This session served as a necessary preparation for the diplomatic conduct in New York, as well as a fitting substitute for GreiMUN. All participants represented the country that had been assigned to them for the Greifswald conference.

At the beginning of the session, each delegate stated whether they were present or present and voting, following standard MUN procedure. Afterwards, delegates delivered several speeches and once again practiced raising motions. By way of a suggestion from the chair, a few delegates put themselves on the speakers list and began thinking about their upcoming speeches.

Building up on the dedicated work that was done in the prior week, the delegates quickly voted for a suspension of the meeting. The first informal session allowed the delegates to gather and refine last week's working paper draft. Among other things, the draft was still missing both a refined structure for the implementation of a circular economic model and a strategy for possible waste reduction, upon which the delegates began working in teams.

During the next informal sessions, the head delegates spoke to the delegate teams about their Position Papers, as well as constructive feedback on their speech performances.

While the day progressed and formal turned into informal sessions, the previous experience and warm climate among the participants of this delegation enabled a steady progress.

By way of several well-performed speeches and raised motions, the delegates furthermore practiced their know-how for the formal sessions in New York. And with that, this Saturday's session ended, allowing for both a well-refined working paper draft, a thorough, constructive feedback and most of the delegations' pictures to be taken.

15. Februar 2026

On February 15th, 2026, we met for a session focused on the final preparations for New York. After weeks of academic work and simulation practice, this meeting concentrated on organizational and logistical aspects of the upcoming conference.

We began by reviewing the preliminary New York schedule in detail. Delegates were informed about the structure of the conference days, including reporting times, formal sessions, internal delegation meetings and debriefings, as well as planned free time. In addition, we clarified the exact location of each committee within the conference venue and reviewed maps of the hotel and its surroundings to facilitate orientation upon arrival. Delegates were also guided on how to navigate the official NMUN website, including where to find committee updates, conference materials, room allocations, and procedural resources.

A travel logistics briefing was also conducted, during which we confirmed the check-in schedule and discussed basic mobility plans. Since the hotel and conference venue are in the same building, delegates received guidance on internal navigation and daily routines. At the end of this part of the meeting, required documentation and official communication channels were reviewed and confirmed.

After addressing the organizational matters, official delegation pictures were taken, including individual portraits, committee group photos, and a full delegation picture with all delegates and Head Delegates. These photographs will be used to document the delegation's preparation and participation in NMUN.

Additionally, delegates received individual committee feedback on their Position Papers, including reminders about submission deadlines and specific recommendations to improve structure, clarity, and coherence. In parallel, guidance was provided on speech construction, with a focus on timing, clarity, and diplomatic language. Deadlines were set for completing required administrative steps, including filling out internal forms, creating official committee email accounts, and submitting business card information to facilitate networking and professional engagement during the conference.

To conclude this part of the meeting, we conducted team building activities to facilitate communication, interaction among delegates, and strengthen connections, particularly between different committees.

Overall, the meeting addressed final logistics and alignment. With all practical matters clarified, the delegation has now wrapped up its organizational steps for New York.

26. März 2026

March 26 marked the arrival day of the Kiel delegation in New York City. While a small part of the group had already spent a few days in the city before, the remaining delegates arrived throughout the course of the day, completing the full delegation.

Upon arriving, delegates dropped off their luggage at the Hilton Hotel before heading out to explore the city. Some took the opportunity to eat something, while others began discovering New York on their own or in smaller groups.

As the day progressed, a large part of the delegation gradually came together in Central Park, making the most of the exceptionally great weather. Delegates relaxed on the grass, enjoyed iced coffees, and took in the surroundings, a nice start to the trip.

Afterwards, the group split up again. Some delegates chose to remain in Central Park, others continued exploring different parts of the city, and some returned to the hotel to rest and settle in after their travels.

In the evening, delegates spent their time in various places around New York. Several of them visited The Hatch, a club-bar, for a nice evening out, while others chose to stay at the hotel.

Overall, March 26 was a wonderful first day that brought the Kiel delegation together in New York City, full of good weather, good company, and the excitement of what was yet to come.

27. März 2026

On March 27th we started our day early at 9am to make our way to the UN-Headquarters, one of the most exciting parts of our time in New York.

After taking some photos in front of the NMUN sign, we began our journey by foot. Since we had preregistered the security check in went smoothly and we had lots of time before our Headquarter Tour began.

At 11:30am the tour finally started, and we were picked up by our amazing tour guide. She took us through several important areas such as the General Assembly Hall, where an actual session was just being held as well as the Security Council. We had lots of great discussions with our tour guide, and she gave us many valuable insights into the work of the United Nations as well as its history and the ongoing efforts towards peace, human rights and the role of women.

In the end of our tour, we visited the UN gift shop where we bought souvenirs such as pins, pens and sweaters and some of us wrote post cards to send to our friends and family.

After our visit we had the remainder of the day to spend as we wished. Our delegation therefore split into many smaller groups, some going to chipotle for food, some already going shopping, others

visiting more UN landmarks.

As one of the heads wanted to celebrate her birthday, many of us met up in the evening to go into a karaoke bar where we had the time of our life singing „Empire State of Mind“, as well as Taylor Swift Songs and some rap.

Overall, it was an amazing day with lots of insights as well as nice talks and fun free time.

28. März 2026

On March 28, the delegation spent their second day in New York following their arrival on March

26. As no official conference activities were scheduled for this day, delegates had the opportunity to explore the city individually or in smaller groups and enjoy some free time before the start of the conference.

In the morning, a group of delegates began the day by visiting Apollo Bagels, where they had breakfast together. Afterwards, they made their way to SoHo, one of New York’s most well-known shopping districts. There, delegates spent time browsing shops, buying souvenirs, and selecting gifts to bring back home.

Later in the day, the group visited Target for some additional shopping and essentials. They then continued their walk through Chinatown, experiencing the vibrant atmosphere and cultural diversity of the area. From there, they proceeded towards Little Italy, where they explored the neighborhood, took photos, and enjoyed the characteristic architecture and ambience.

Around midday, the delegates had lunch together at an Italian restaurant in Little Italy. This provided an opportunity to relax, reflect on their time in New York so far, and strengthen group cohesion.

In the afternoon, all delegates returned to the hotel. The remainder of the day was dedicated to preparing for the first official day of the conference on March 29. This included practicing opening speeches, presenting them to one another, and making final adjustments and improvements.

Delegates also reviewed their country positions and ensured they were well prepared for the upcoming committee sessions.

In the evening, a group of delegates visited Koreatown, where they had dinner at a Korean restaurant. They also explored the surrounding area, looked at various shops, and spent time walking through the neighborhood.

The day concluded at around 9:00–10:00 PM, as delegates returned to the hotel and went to bed to be well-rested for the start of the conference.

Overall, the day provided a balance between leisure activities and final academic preparation, allowing delegates to familiarize themselves with the city while also ensuring readiness for NMUN NY 2026.

29. März 2026

On March 29, we began the official program of the National Model United Nations Conference in New York. The morning was free of scheduled conference activities, allowing delegates to explore the city and strengthen group cohesion.

A part of the delegation visited the Grand Bazaar, where delegates experienced an international marketplace atmosphere. Afterwards, the group had lunch together and ate bagels. Some delegates then continued to the Staten Island Ferry, which is free of charge and offers a direct view of the Statue of Liberty.

Following these activities, all delegates returned to the hotel in the afternoon to prepare for the upcoming first committee session. This preparation included practicing opening speeches, reviewing key topics, and revisiting important aspects of Guatemala's policy positions.

Shortly before the Opening Ceremony, delegates received their official placards representing Guatemala, as well as their badges indicating their committee assignments and full names.

The Opening Ceremony began at 6:00 PM and marked the official start of the conference. It was moderated by Secretary-General Michael Eaton and included welcoming remarks as well as speeches by members of the NMUN Secretariat and invited speakers. Such as the invited Farrukh Khan whose speech was totally impressing for our whole delegation. One of our delegations also got to ask him a question, what his inspiration in life is. The ceremony introduced the goals and expectations of the conference and emphasized the importance of diplomacy and international cooperation.

After the ceremony, delegates proceeded to their respective committees, where the first formal sessions began. During these sessions, delegates started engaging in formal debate and some delivered their speeches, which was the first time in front of an international audience.

Overall, the day marked the official beginning of NMUN NY 2026. The delegation from Kiel University began representing Guatemala to the best of their abilities, actively participating in discussions and contributing to the work of their committees.

30. März 2026

On March 30th, we started the second official day of the National Model United Nations 2026 Conference with a busy schedule. In the morning, several delegate seminars took place in the Trianon Ballroom. Sessions like "Insights from UN Insiders" and "Navigating Negotiations on Women's Rights at the UN" gave useful insights into how the UN works in practice. Later, there was another seminar about career opportunities at the UN Secretariat, which was especially interesting for those thinking about working in that field in the future.

Even though we didn't have a Permanent Mission briefing this year like some of us did last time, many delegates joined the seminars. The speakers came from different areas of the UN, which made the sessions quite informative and gave a more realistic view of diplomatic work.

For the head delegates, the day began with the first Head Delegates Briefing. These meetings are helpful to exchange experiences, talk about how things are going within each delegation, and address any problems early on.

Since the first conference day started later, this was also the day when many of our delegates gave their opening speeches. While doing check-ins across committees, we were able to listen to speeches in committees like CND and UNHCR, which was great to see.

As usual, we ended the day with our delegation briefing. It's always a nice way to come together, reflect on the day, and hear what everyone has been doing in their committees, since experiences can be very different depending on where you are.

Overall, it was a productive day with a lot of new impressions, first speeches, and shared experience.

01. April 2026

The fourth Day of the Conference began with Committee Session 7 at 08:30 am. All delegates were well prepared for the last official day of NMUN Week A, focusing on finalizing draft resolutions and delivering strong contributions in committee. Delegates actively collaborated with fellow participants, refined working papers, and engaged in negotiations to ensure consensus and high-quality outcomes.

Besides the formal academic work, delegates also took the opportunity to strengthen international connections, exchange contact information, and build networks that will last beyond the conference.

After the morning committee work, the Head Delegates attended the final official Heads' briefing. Important organizational notes were shared, along with very positive feedback regarding the conference. The briefing also provided guidance for the final committee session and the upcoming closing activities.

During Committee Session 8, the final draft resolutions were formally presented and voted upon.

All resolutions submitted by our delegation were successfully adopted. In GA1, a minor procedural issue occurred during the voting process. However, this issue was resolved later in the evening, and the resolution was ultimately accepted as well. This marked a successful conclusion to the academic work of the conference, reflecting the strong preparation, negotiation skills, and teamwork of the delegates.

After the last committee session, the delegation held a final debriefing. Delegates shared overwhelmingly positive feedback, emphasizing that challenges and issues raised during previous days had been addressed effectively.

We were honored to receive two Position Paper Awards, recognizing the academic excellence and preparation of our delegates in UNHCR and GA3.

These awards highlight the dedication, research skills, and professionalism demonstrated throughout the conference.

Following the academic program, the delegation went out together to enjoy a well-deserved meal. Later in the evening, delegates met again at 10:00 pm for the Delegate Dance, providing another opportunity to connect with fellow participants from around the world in a more

informal setting.

The evening allowed delegates to strengthen friendships, expand professional networks, and celebrate the successful completion of NMUN week together.

Overall, the final day of the Conference was intensive, rewarding, and inspiring. It combined academic excellence, successful resolution adoption, recognition through awards, and meaningful international connections.

The day reflected the hard work invested throughout the conference and provided a memorable conclusion to an enriching experience marked by diplomacy, collaboration, and personal growth.

02. April 2026

The last day of the conference was completely free of committee sessions, as they had ended with the voting procedures on the day before.

Instead, in the morning many delegates from Kiel discussed amongst each other their overall success in their committees and working groups. It was clear that our thorough training had paid off, and our delegation was quite successful with finding new ideas, convincing other delegations to agree with them and finally formulating them in the respective resolutions. All the draft resolutions our delegation took part in had passed voting and were now resolutions.

The only official date left for the conference was the closing ceremony in the hall of the General Assembly in the United Nations Headquarters. The ceremony was opened by the President of the General Assembly Annalena Baerbock, who held a speech about the importance of the UN today and her work in reforming the UN to stay modern and functional in the troubled times they are facing today. She was followed by a speech by the Secretary General of the NMUN conference Courtney Indart, who reminded us of the importance of civil diplomacy and carrying out the diplomatic way in our daily lives. The speech was very inspiring and was honored with standing ovations.

After these speeches the award ceremony began. First the individual delegates, who received position paper awards in their committees got honored and after that the honored, distinguished and outstanding delegation awards were announced. Four delegates of our delegation (two groups of two) received a position paper award, highlighting the amount of preparation put in this conference. Furthermore, our delegation received a distinguished delegation award, for our overall performance across the different committees, honoring the hard work put in by each delegate of the delegation.

The ceremony and with that the NMUN conference ended with a motion to adjourn the conference until next year, which just passed with a small majority.

03. April 2026

On the very last day, there were no more events. A final farewell gathering rounded out our experience.

This trip turned strangers into familiar faces, who became acquaintances. Some of us traveled

on, while others returned home. The contrast between this perspective on life and the thousands of other delegates perspectives on their own lives had a particularly lasting effect on the flight home. Reflecting on our own lives, questioning our own perspectives, and honing our ability to listen continues to resonate, but it culminated most powerfully in our farewell.

A farewell that was not a parting from one another, but rather a parting from that perspective. Amidst all our differences, we became a team defined not despite but because of those differences. The farewell was a moment of reflection; in every face, one could see the same person as at our very first meeting - only a little wiser, a little more experienced, with more questions and a greater drive to act.

The last day, then, marked the beginning of a period of personal reflection that will likely continue for a long time to come.

Delegation from the Republic of Guatemala

Position Paper for the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

1. Furthering the Rights of Displaced Persons in the Context of the 2030 Agenda

Forced displacement remains one of the most pressing global challenges of the 21st century. According to the 2024 Global Trends Report published by the United Nations (UN) High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), more than 117.3 million people worldwide are currently forcibly displaced due to armed conflict, persecution, human rights violations and climate-related disasters. This figure includes over 36 million refugees and approximately 73 million internally displaced persons (IDPs), many of whom flee their homes without access to adequate legal protection or durable solutions. As a result of armed violence, persecution and insecurity related to organized crime, as well as the loss of documentation and limited access to basic services, displaced persons face heightened vulnerability to exploitation, marginalization and poverty, which severely restrict their ability to exercise fundamental rights. Protecting and empowering displaced populations is therefore essential for human dignity and cannot be ensured by national governments alone, making coordinated international action indispensable. In this context, furthering the rights of displaced persons is essential to the effective implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The guiding principle of “leaving no one behind” highlights the cross-cutting relevance of displaced persons for multiple Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), including SDG 1 on No Poverty, SDG 3 on Good Health and Well-being, SDG 4 on Quality Education, SDG 5 on Gender Equality, SDG 10 on Reduced Inequalities and SDG 16 on Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions, making the advancement of their rights a prerequisite for broader progress across the SDG framework.

As a nation that simultaneously serves as a country of origin, transit, destination and return within Central America, Guatemala approaches forced displacement as both a national and regional responsibility. Guatemala has been a State Party to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights since 1992, reaffirming its commitment to uphold the civil and political rights of all persons within its territory, including displaced populations. In recent years, the country has experienced increasing mixed migration flows, including asylum seekers and IDPs affected by violence, poverty and climate-related disasters, with women, children and indigenous communities among those most vulnerable. Guatemala recognizes the growing impact of climate-related displacement in Central America, particularly in the Dry Corridor. In response to these challenges, Guatemala has strengthened its national asylum system through the Guatemalan Institute of Migration and the Refugee Status Determination Office by improving registration procedures, access to documentation and legal safeguards in line with SDG 16. In cooperation with UNHCR, Guatemala has established Assistance Centers for Migrants and Refugees (CAPMiR) to provide protection services, legal guidance and referral mechanisms, advancing SDGs 3 and 10. Furthermore, Guatemala actively participates in the Comprehensive Regional Protection and Solutions Framework (MIRPS), promoting regional responsibility-sharing, durable solutions and coordinated reintegration strategies. Through reintegration programs, vocational training initiatives and community-based protection mechanisms implemented in cooperation with local authorities, Guatemala seeks to promote

social inclusion, economic self-sufficiency and sustainable local development in accordance with SDGs 8 and 11.

To bridge the gap between humanitarian aid and sustainable development, Guatemala supports a three-pillar implementation approach built on proven national and regional practices. Drawing on its experience with CAPMiR and the MIRPS framework, Guatemala emphasizes that community-based, institutionally anchored strategies are essential for expanding protection and sustainable integration. Member States are encouraged to replicate these models by strengthening national asylum systems, by first strengthening their national asylum systems as the institutional foundation, upon which UNHCR-coordinated protection hubs and regional responsibility-sharing mechanisms can be effectively established. Guatemala promotes Integration Roadmaps, in accordance with national legislation, to streamline the recognition of professional qualifications, enabling displaced persons to transition into formal employment. Regarding funding, Guatemala calls for predictable, multi-year financing to bolster national administrative capacities, specifically civil registration and documentation systems. Internationally, Guatemala encourages strengthened cooperation between UNHCR and international financial institutions to expand refugee-inclusive development financing that integrates displaced populations into national health, education and labor systems. To achieve this, Guatemala proposes the organization of annual capacity-building workshops for local authorities, in coordination with relevant UNHCR technical units, to promote harmonized cross-border data-sharing protocols. By strengthening inclusive municipal planning and host community engagement, Member States can ensure that displaced persons become empowered and active contributors to their host communities and to the achievement of the 2030 Agenda.

2. The Provision of Sustainable Housing and Settlement for Refugees

Access to safe, adequate and sustainable housing, as affirmed in Article 25 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, is a central prerequisite for the long-term protection and integration of refugees, as shelter conditions fundamentally shape health outcomes, physical security and socio-economic inclusion. According to UNHCR, millions of displaced persons worldwide continue to reside in overcrowded camps or informal urban settlements lacking clean water, sanitation and reliable energy. This structural deficit restricts access to quality education, formal employment and meaningful community participation, effectively stalling development. As displacement increasingly becomes protracted, short-term emergency shelters prove insufficient to support the transition toward self-reliance and durable solutions. In this context, adequate housing constitutes not only a humanitarian necessity but a right anchored in international human rights law. For example, families who remain in temporary camp-based shelters for several years often face restricted access to formal employment due to remote locations, disrupted school continuity and the absence of secure tenure, preventing long-term planning and economic stability. Addressing the housing crisis therefore remains a cross-cutting priority linking humanitarian action with long-term development. Furthermore, the provision of sustainable housing aligns with the 2030 Agenda, particularly SDG 11 on Sustainable Cities, while advancing SDG 1 on No Poverty and SDG 10 on Reduced Inequalities. By prioritizing inclusive housing, the international community makes a long-term investment that reduces vulnerability and strengthens social cohesion through shared infrastructure and mutual growth.

Guatemala approaches sustainable housing as a multifaceted urban development challenge shaped by its geographic position within the Central American corridor, where displacement pressures intersect with existing housing shortages, rapid urbanization and unequal access to municipal services. Recognizing that housing is the foundation of successful reintegration,

Guatemala has embedded specialized settlement measures into its national migration and development policies in close collaboration with UNHCR and local government units. Within the framework of MIRPS and guided by the 2018 Global Compact on Refugees, Guatemala promotes regional responsibility-sharing to harmonize housing strategies across borders. A cornerstone of its national approach is the implementation of the UNHCR Urban Refugee and Host Community Approach, which empowers municipalities to facilitate refugee access to local housing markets and essential public services. This localized strategy is further bolstered by the integration of refugees and IDPs into national social protection schemes, ensuring they are not treated as temporary guests but as emerging members of the community. To modernize this transition, Guatemala utilizes Cash-Based Interventions for housing assistance, which grants displaced persons the agency to secure rental housing within existing urban structures. This method not only reduces the prolonged reliance on isolated camp-based shelter but also stimulates local economies by integrating refugees into the domestic market. These combined efforts underscore Guatemala's strategic commitment to linking sustainable settlement policies with broader goals of protection, urban development and social inclusion.

To advance sustainable housing solutions, Guatemala supports municipal housing inclusion programs integrated into national urban development strategies, combining temporary rental support with participation in vocational training or employment initiatives to promote economic self-reliance. In parallel, Guatemala encourages infrastructure co-investment models linking housing initiatives with improvements in water, sanitation and public services to ensure that both displaced persons and host communities benefit equally. Such programs would be implemented through formal national-municipal agreements with clearly defined responsibilities for planning, rental regulation and service provision. At the regional level, Guatemala supports strengthened coordination under MIRPS through aligned settlement standards and jointly financing proposals for municipalities experiencing high displacement-related impact. Guatemala further encourages expanded voluntary financial contributions and innovative blended financing mechanisms that integrate humanitarian and development funding streams, ensuring that sustainable housing solutions are embedded within long-term urban development planning. By investing in housing infrastructure connected to municipal water, energy and public service systems and by strengthening partnerships with development actors, Member States can ensure that sustainable settlements support host communities, foster local economic development and contribute to the achievement of the SDGs, particularly SDG 11. In line with the durable solutions framework of UNHCR, sustainable housing strategies should support voluntary repatriation, local integration and resettlement, ensuring that refugees' rights and needs are addressed across all solutions.

Disclosure

During the preparation of this work, our delegates used Grammarly to check grammar. After using this tool/service, our delegates reviewed and edited the content as needed and take full responsibility for the content of their position papers. This statement applies to all applications of AI, including basic tools for checking grammar, spelling, etc. (e.g., Grammarly).

Delegation from the Republic of Guatemala

Position Paper to the United Nations Environment Assembly

1. Effective and Inclusive Water Policy Solutions in the Context of Triple Planetary Crisis

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) 13 Climate Action, 14 Life Below Water and 15 Life on Land, as well as SDG 6 Clean Water and Sanitation are threatened by climate change, chemical pollution of water sources and the loss of biodiversity, which is destroying the natural filtering functions of ecosystems and reducing the water-availability. Research from Stanford University demonstrates that the climate crisis has reduced the per capita income in nations of the Global South by up to 30%. Highlighting this crisis, the UN High Commissioner for Refugees attributes 90% of the 21.5 million climate displacements in 2021 to water, while UN Water stresses that women and girls spend 200 million hours daily collecting water, actively preventing the achievement of SDG 4 Quality Education and SDG 5 Gender Equality. A study by the UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization illustrates that this biophysical downward spiral correlates directly with socio-political instability. According to the UN Environment Programme (UNEP), more than 1.6 billion people depend on forests and intact ecosystems. This is particularly critical for Guatemala. Recent UN environment and biodiversity assessments underline that Indigenous peoples protect 80% of the remaining global biodiversity yet suffer most from the loss of their subsistence economy while receiving less than 1% of global climate finance. Failure to implement science-based governance is likely to worsen an already dire situation.

As a primary supporter of UN General Assembly Resolution 64/292, which recognises the right to clean and safe drinking water as a human right, Guatemala demonstrates that systemic thinking promotes local stability and that the biophysical downward spiral can be broken by combining technical precision with social inclusion. According to a United Nations case study on SDG 6, Guatemala's strategy is the monitoring of 249 groundwater wells has stabilised the water supply for 40% of the population in the Pacific lowlands. Furthermore, Guatemala is implementing the goals of UN Environment Assembly (UNEA) Resolution 6/12 on strengthening water policy by linking ecological considerations with social justice through interdisciplinary solutions. Guatemala ensures long term sustainability by conducting over 290 specialised infrastructure studies. Nationally, this has been achieved by implementing integrated water resource management, which combats pollution in affected river basins, secured a safe drinking water supply for 135,000 people and created sanitation facilities for 75,000 residents, which according to the Inter American Development Bank, has shown a particularly positive impact on marginalised indigenous groups. Guatemala has proven that technical monitoring and scientific studies are a prerequisite for social stability. The national strategy is closely aligned with the resolutions of the UNEA and supports international programmes focusing on scientific cooperation.

The Delegation of Guatemala recommends incorporating scientific findings into the fight against social injustice at a political level. To address social tensions, unequal resource allocation, corruption and the marginalisation of vulnerable groups, Guatemala advocates implementing polycentric governance through digital land registries, supported by UN technical assistance to translate international transparency standards into local administration with regard to international law and technical standards. Furthermore, Guatemala proposes

developing bio-digital hydrology to promote bioclimatic cooling and strategic reforestation that stabilizes the latent heat flux, linking real-time ecological data with metal-organic frameworks for atmospheric CO₂ sinks and arid water extraction. To reduce cross-border water conflicts by an estimated 30%, Guatemala is scaling up its successful 249-well monitoring model through international research partnerships, calling on the Green Climate Fund to ensure these technologies remain affordable for developing countries and accessible to rural women and girls. To interrupt the downward spiral of freshwater pollution and protect the natural filtering capabilities of ecosystems, Guatemala urges research and measurement toward a circular water economy that prevents chemical and plastic pollution at the source while consistently reusing wastewater. Guatemala is scaling up its national successes in integrated river basin management as a scalable framework for international application. The transfer of best practices to industrial centres and urban areas will be accompanied by national action plans. Financing could be coordinated by the Global Environment Facility and the UN Water Investment Facility to ensure the development of sustainable infrastructure. Guatemala believes that only a policy which recognises the interconnected feedback system between nature, science and society can stop the “Triple Planetary Crisis” in a sustainable way.

2. Advancing Science and Evidence-Based Policy for a Pollution-Free Planet

The accelerating scale of global pollution constitutes a direct threat to human health, environmental integrity, and sustainable development. Air pollution alone causes millions of premature deaths annually, while marine plastic pollution, toxic chemical waste, and emerging contaminants such as microplastics and persistent organic pollutants undermine ecosystems and food security worldwide. The UNEP has identified pollution as one of the three pillars of the triple planetary crisis, alongside climate change and biodiversity loss, underscoring its systemic and cross-sectoral nature. Science and evidence-based policymaking are therefore indispensable tools for ensuring that responses to pollution are effective, equitable, and adaptive to evolving risks. Previous frameworks such as the Stockholm Declaration 1972, the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development 1992, and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development 2015, setting the SDGs, particularly SDGs 3 on Good Health and Well-Being and 12 on Responsible Consumption and Production, emphasize the necessity of grounding environmental governance in reliable data and scientific assessment. Despite these commitments, significant gaps within scientific knowledge still remain and policy implementation, especially in developing countries where institutional capacity and access to monitoring technologies, remain limited. For Guatemala, a country suffering from severe pollution crises such as the Motagua river, which carries 20,000 tonnes of plastics into the Caribbean annually, the need for science-driven policies is inseparable from areas of public health, environmental justice, and long-term economic stability.

Guatemala has played a key role in establishing science-based frameworks to address pollution, most notably through multilateral agreements such as the Basel Convention 1989 and the Stockholm Convention 2001. Guatemala has translated these global commitments into national action through the strengthening of its environmental and public health institutions, particularly the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources and the Ministry of Public Health and Social Assistance. By way of both the National Policy for Integrated Solid Waste Management and the National Drinking Water and Sanitation Plan, Guatemala has expanded wastewater treatment capacity and introduced scientific water quality monitoring in multiple river basins and urban centers. The measurable positive outcomes, with regard to sanitation coverage, allow for the creation of a best practice example, proving that monitoring systems and precise data collection of pollution sources allows policy decisions to be meaningful and precise. In Guatemala City and other metropolitan areas, national air quality monitoring stations now

provide continuous data used to inform urban transport and emissions policies. Cooperation with international partners and frameworks such as UNEP and the World Health Organisation, has further strengthened Guatemala's technical capacity to collect and apply pollution-related data in policymaking. Despite these advances, progress remains uneven due to limited financial resources, fragmented information systems, and persistent disparities between urban and rural regions.

To address the gap between scientific knowledge and effective pollution control, the delegation of Guatemala advocates for a comprehensive framework that aids the translation effort of real-time pollution monitoring stations into relevant policy at national, regional, and global levels. Since precise data collection from monitoring systems allows aiding the intersection of scientific research and relevant policy making, Guatemala proposes UNEA to urge member states to merge national ministries of environment and health, academic institutions, and local governments research and contribute relevant information to the international community. Pollution monitoring systems in pollution hotspots such as urban centers, river basins, and coastal zones should become institutionalized in order to produce standardized, transparent, and publicly accessible data, beginning with pilot programs. Guatemala proposes to integrate a regional science and pollution policy observatory into the Pollution and Health Unit of UNEP, which could be tasked with coordinating data collection, evaluating best practices, and providing technical guidance to developing countries in Latin America and the Caribbean. This mechanism would link universities, government agencies, and civil society in a shared digital platform for pollution indicators, enabling evidence-based legislative reforms and targeted interventions. Additionally, Guatemala supports expanding financial and technical assistance for laboratory infrastructure, air and water quality sensors, and training programs for environmental officials. By reinforcing scientific capacity and embedding evidence into decision-making processes, Guatemala believes that pollution control can evolve from reactive mitigation to proactive prevention, thereby advancing a pollution-free planet that safeguards both human well-being and ecological resilience.

Disclosure

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Delegation from Guatemala

Position Paper for the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean

The following topics before the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) are Combating Food Insecurity and Malnutrition in All its Forms and Achieving Universal Health Coverage. The delegation of Guatemala attaches great importance to these matters and is looking forward to fruitful discussions on both issues.

1. Combating Food Insecurity and Malnutrition in All its Forms

In order to achieve sustainable development in Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC) with regard to the 2030 Agenda, it is essential to combat food insecurity and malnutrition, as these are fundamental obstacles to implementing the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), particularly SDG 2 concerning zero hunger, with direct consequences for SDG 1 No Poverty as well as SDG 3 Good Health and Well-being and SDG 10 Reduced Inequalities. Food insecurity is defined as the lack of reliable access to sufficient, safe and nutritious food. Malnutrition can take many forms, such as undernutrition and overnutrition, making this a dual crisis rather than a single hunger problem. Food insecurity is both a cause and a consequence of inequality, as poverty and limited access to services affect dietary quality, while malnutrition affects educational outcomes and social mobility. Recent economic disruptions, such as the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, have exacerbated structural inequalities and thereby worsened food quality and access by pushing lower-income households towards cheaper, less nutritious diets. The drivers of food insecurity and malnutrition are structural and cross-border due to trade conditions, price volatility, migration pressures, and supply chains, causing national policies like nutrition standards to be insufficient without the support of regional coordination, shared data, and policy alignment.

Guatemala itself is classified as an upper-middle-income country and has the largest economy in Central America. However, the World Bank Group has estimated the Gini index of Guatemala to be 45.2 in 2023. Therefore, inequality, especially regarding income distribution, remains high. This is one of the strongest causes of nearly 60% of the population experiencing moderate or severe food insecurity, while chronic child malnutrition is a major issue. In response, the government started addressing these challenges in the 1970s through the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (UN). Since then, the government has continuously addressed the issue. The government has begun emphasizing policy reforms and combating these issues. The country has established a framework for the National Information System for Food and Nutrition Security to oversee and implement policies and actions related to combatting food insecurity and malnutrition. Moreover, the government has strengthened cross-sectoral coordination through the Secretariat for Food and Nutrition Security. Guatemala has intensified its efforts to combat children's malnutrition through the Gran Cruzada Nacional por la Nutrición, which prioritizes high-risk groups through a territorial approach in priority municipalities, where integrated packages combine growth monitoring and micronutrient support with especially maternal and child health, linking hygiene measures, social protection and school-based food access. This is complemented by the School Feeding Law, which expands food access for children in their key developmental years.

In continuation of these initiatives, Guatemala emphasizes that food insecurity persists due to several structural factors, inequality being one of them. This is exacerbated by shocks and price

volatility transmitted across borders through supply chains and trade conditions. Guatemala therefore supports a regional toolkit for shock-responsive social protection, which could be developed in collaboration with the UN World Food Programme (WFP) and the World Health Organization (WHO). This voluntary toolkit could include model trigger indicators and guidance for providing temporary financial assistance to low-income households, particularly those with children. Guatemala also encourages other Member States to build on national school feeding programs by compiling and disseminating regional minimum nutrition standards and practical models for accountable procurement to improve the quality of school meals to conquer malnutrition, especially of children, structurally. Considering these ideas, Guatemala calls upon Member States and international partners to work together to align data, financing and implementation so that coordinated regional cooperation can contribute to the sustainable, long-term combat of food insecurity.

2. Achieving Universal Health Coverage

Despite progress made under the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, current efforts remain insufficient for achieving universal health coverage (UHC), which is crucial for the three dimensions of sustainable development, namely social inclusivity, economic development and environmental sustainability. Therefore, UHC is not only essential for fulfilling SDG 3, being Good Health and Well-being, but can also contribute to poverty reduction and achieving SDG 1 through reduced out-of-pocket expenditures. Additionally, UHC directly contributes to better public health outcomes and thereby increased productivity and social protection while strengthening economic and public health resilience. Despite the importance of UHC and existing variations in LAC in their progress towards achieving UHC, there is a comparably low share of gross domestic product spent on healthcare in all LAC countries. It shows that chronic underfinancing impedes progress in addition to fragmented health systems and unequal access to services. In Guatemala, these structural gaps contribute to a high burden of preventable health conditions, with communicable, maternal and nutritional causes accounting for a significant share of mortality, which reveals gaps in primary and preventive care. These challenges disproportionately affect Indigenous People through limited infrastructure for preventive and Primary health care, particularly in maternal and prenatal services. The COVID-19 pandemic further exposed these vulnerabilities, highlighting the urgent need to improve health system resilience to external shocks and the necessity for long-term solutions to achieve UHC.

The international community has long recognized health as a fundamental human right and a prerequisite for sustainable development. This has been supported by Guatemala, for example, in the 1969 American Convention on Human Rights, which recognizes the right to health and access to health services. The 2007 UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples emphasizes culturally appropriate health services and equal access, strengthening the relevance to Indigenous communities. Guatemala has engaged with these frameworks through cooperation with UN entities, for example, with the United Nations Office for Project Services and the Ministry of Public Health and Social Assistance. Through this partnership, Guatemala has strengthened its public health network by improving procurement systems, expanding coverage to rural areas, and achieving significant cost savings in medicines and medical equipment. Further national initiatives include the Crecer Sano Project, implemented by the government of Guatemala with support from the World Bank, which focuses on expanding rural health posts, improving access to free essential medicines, and increasing prenatal and maternal health checkups. Moreover, Guatemala's government health expenditure per capita has been rising steadily in the last decades, but the increases remain insufficient to meet UHC needs. Therefore, further efforts remain necessary to close existing gaps and advance universal health coverage, especially for Indigenous People.

Building on these achievements, Guatemala emphasizes the importance of investing in Primary health care as the foundation of universal coverage, particularly in rural and Indigenous communities. Thus, Guatemala supports the deployment of mobile health training teams operating in LAC and following the example of projects in Colombia funded by the WFP, the UN Children’s Fund, the UN Population Fund and the Pan American Health Organization. With a focus on underserved rural and Indigenous communities, these teams would provide practical training for existing health workers and equip non-medical personnel with essential skills in first aid, pre- and post-natal care and prevention of disease transmission. Where required, the teams would also provide connectivity through mobile internet access and digital tools to improve communication and coordination with national health systems. Additionally, to enhance preparedness for future public health emergencies, Guatemala proposes expanding early-warning systems such as the Early Warning and Response System from the WHO Climate Change and Health Unit to improve accessibility and coverage across LAC. Apart from warning about health risks resulting from extreme weather events, it could include alarm indicators for epidemics and supply and labor shortages. Together, these measures would build local capacity, enhance preparedness through early detection of risks, and strengthen the resilience of health systems in advancing universal health coverage. Through these targeted measures, Guatemala believes ECLAC can meaningfully contribute to strengthening regional health system resilience and advancing universal health coverage.

Disclosure

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Delegation from the Republic of Guatemala

Position Paper for the Commission on Narcotic Drugs

1. Illicit Cultivation, Production, and Manufacture of Narcotic Drugs

More than six decades after the adoption of the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961, illicit cultivation, production, and manufacture of narcotic drugs remain a persistent global concern. This challenge endures despite the reinforcement of the regime through the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971 and the UN Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988. Recent UN assessments indicate that illicit markets continuously adapt to enforcement pressures, increasingly relying on synthetic substances and diverted chemical precursors, which complicate regulatory mechanisms. Moreover, cultivation associated with illicit supply networks frequently endures in regions where licit economic opportunities remain fragile, entrenching structural vulnerabilities that enforcement alone cannot dismantle. The resulting pressures extend beyond public security, affecting institutional resilience and long-term development trajectories. In this regard, the commitments reflected in the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), particularly SDG 1 No Poverty, SDG 3 Good Health and Well-Being, SDG 8 Decent Work and Economic Growth, and SDG 16 Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions, call for responses that address supply chains as well as the socio economic foundations.

As a developing economy in Latin America and the Global South, Guatemala advances a cooperative and implementation-oriented strategy that follows regional realities and the principle of shared responsibility among Member States. In recent years, Guatemala has reinforced its national legal and institutional architecture through coordinated drug policy, prevention initiatives, and monitoring mechanisms designed to strengthen policy coherence and execution. These domestic measures are complemented by sustained regional engagement within Central America and continued adherence to international instruments such as the UN Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988. Guatemala therefore maintains that effective responses must be firmly grounded in national ownership and respect for sovereignty. Although law enforcement remains essential, illicit cultivation often emerges in contexts where stable and licit economic opportunities are limited, reflecting underlying structural constraints rather than isolated criminal intent. Evidence from multiple regions points that eradication measures unaccompanied by viable alternatives tend to redirect rather than eliminate cultivation. Consequently, Guatemala favors Member State-led approaches centered on coordinated implementation and the progressive strengthening of existing mechanisms, consistent with the commitments reaffirmed in the Outcome Document of the 2016 UN General Assembly Special Session on the World Drug Problem, which advocate comprehensive and development-oriented strategies addressing both supply dynamics and their underlying incentives.

Bridging normative commitments with tangible implementation, Guatemala identifies alternative development as a pragmatic and structured pathway to reducing illicit cultivation and production. Guatemala therefore encourages Member States, with technical support from the UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), to scale up structured programmes in rural and transit-affected areas where economic vulnerability persists. These initiatives should expand access to stable licit agricultural production, including coffee, cacao, and staple crops, alongside farmer training, rural infrastructure improvements, and access to microcredit and legal markets.

In line with the United Nations Guiding Principles on Alternative Development 2013 and the commitments reaffirmed in the Outcome Document of the 2016 UN General Assembly Special Session on the World Drug Problem, such programmes should be integrated into national development strategies and supported through voluntary contributions, South and triangular cooperation, and existing development assistance frameworks that prioritize rural livelihoods and poverty reduction. Further emphasizing the importance of incorporating practical monitoring tools, including indicators such as household income levels, crop diversification, and participation in licit markets, allowing Member States to assess impact and adjust policies when necessary.

2. Strengthening International Cooperation to Combat the World Drug Problem

The world drug problem continues to pose a significant and evolving challenge to international peace, security, public health and sustainable development, particularly due to its transnational nature and its links to organized crime, corruption and illicit financial flows. Drug trafficking networks operate across borders and jurisdictions, exploiting regulatory gaps, uneven enforcement capacities and differences in legal frameworks between States, thereby undermining national sovereignty and institutional stability. According to the UNODC, the fragmentation of international responses and uneven levels of cooperation among States have allowed criminal organizations to adapt rapidly to enforcement measures, diversify trafficking routes, and expand into related criminal activities, including arms trafficking and human trafficking. In this context, international cooperation constitutes a core pillar of the international drug control system and is essential for the effective implementation of the three UNs drug control conventions, as well as the commitments reaffirmed in the 2016 UNs GA Special Session Outcome Document. Strengthening cooperation among Member States is therefore indispensable to addressing both the supply and demand dimensions of the world drug problem in a comprehensive, balanced and evidence-based manner, in line with the objectives of the Sustainable Development Goals, particularly SDG 3 on good health and well-being, SDG 16 on peace, justice and strong institutions, and SDG 17 on strengthening global partnerships.

Given its geographic location between key production and consumer regions, Guatemala confronts ongoing challenges related to drug trafficking and its broader implications for institutional resilience and development. Transnational criminal organizations exploit Guatemala's geographic location, porous borders and limited state presence in certain regions to facilitate the movement of illicit drugs, while also engaging in money laundering and corruption that weaken institutional capacity and public trust. In response, Guatemala has prioritized international and regional cooperation as a central component of its national drug control strategy, working closely with UNODC to strengthen law enforcement coordination, judicial cooperation and financial investigations. Guatemala participates actively in regional mechanisms, including cooperation frameworks within the Central American Integration System, aimed at improving intelligence-sharing, joint operations and capacity-building among national authorities. At the same time, Guatemala recognizes that enforcement measures alone are insufficient and has taken steps to integrate prevention, treatment, and rehabilitation into its national response, aligning its policies with the public health-oriented and human rights-based approach endorsed by the international community. Despite these efforts, Guatemala continues to face capacity constraints, resource limitations and the challenges posed by increasingly sophisticated transnational criminal networks.

In order to strengthen international cooperation to combat the world drug problem more effectively, Guatemala supports a coordinated, implementation-focused approach under the leadership of Member States and within the framework of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs.

In this regard, Guatemala encourages enhanced operational cooperation among States, including timely information-sharing, joint investigations, mutual legal assistance, and extradition mechanisms, with technical support from UNODC to ensure consistency with international law and national legislation. Guatemala further emphasizes the need for increased international assistance to strengthen institutional capacity in transit and developing countries, particularly in the areas of border management, financial intelligence and the fight against illicit financial flows. Guatemala underscores the importance of expanding international cooperation on demand reduction, including the exchange of best practices and evidence-based approaches to prevention, treatment, rehabilitation, and community-based support services, in order to address drug use as a public health concern. Further highlighting the principle of shared responsibility, emphasizing that destination countries bear a particular responsibility to intensify efforts to reduce drug demand and to disrupt illicit financial networks that sustain transnational trafficking. Strengthening existing frameworks, mobilizing predictable resources, and deepening cooperation among Member States and regional partners are essential to advancing coordinated responses that reinforce security, development and institutional resilience in affected States.

Disclosure

During the preparation of this work, our delegates used Grammarly as an editor/grammar check. After using this tool, our delegates reviewed and edited the content as needed and take full responsibility for the content of their position papers.

Delegation from the Republic of Guatemala

Position Paper for the Commission for Social Development

1. Full and Productive Employment and Decent Work for All

Considering the objectives of the Copenhagen Declaration and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, particularly Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 8 on Decent Work and Economic Growth and SDG 9 on Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure, Guatemala is concerned to see that widespread informal or precarious employment, forced labor, lack of access to financial services and a growing digital divide are still obstacles to an inclusive and sustainable development. According to the International Labour Organization (ILO) and the United Nations (UN) Development Programme (DP) informal jobs make up around 80% of the available jobs in developing economies, where limited social protection, low incomes, and unsafe working conditions persist. This disproportionately affects women, children, persons with disabilities, and young people. As for Guatemala, approximately 56.8% of all jobs are located in the informal sector, which accounts for more than 22% of national value added. Youth are particularly vulnerable, as 7.5% of Guatemalan young people are not in employment, education, or training, increasing long-term risks of social exclusion and poverty. These dynamics underscore the need for coordinated international action to promote full and productive employment and advance decent work as a foundation for sustainable social development.

Guatemala recognizes the importance of these challenges to be addressed and has in response signed the 1995 Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development and further given a reaffirming statement at the 2025 Second World Summit on Social Development about their commitment to social justice, inclusion and the unrestricted respect for the human rights of all people, without distinction or discrimination. Building on these commitments, Guatemala has sought to translate international principles into concrete national action by initiating the implementation of the National Social Protection System (SNPS) into its social policy framework, which aims to improve coordination among social programs, expand access to social services, and reduce structural inequalities while recognizing the specific vulnerabilities faced by indigenous populations, particularly Maya communities. As part of this process, Guatemala has begun piloting key instruments such as the Registro Social de Hogares (RSH) to better identify vulnerable populations and inform targeted policy interventions. Complementing this approach, the Mano à Mano strategy focuses on coordinated, territory-based interventions to address poverty, informality, and barriers to employment, particularly among vulnerable households and young people. To address the importance of expanding digital infrastructure and to advance SDG 9, the Presidential Commission on Open and Electronic Government of Guatemala has undergone the Digital Readiness Assessment of UNDP, gathering diverse insights to approach digital transformation in the long run.

To address the structural drivers of informality and youth exclusion and to advance the SDGs, Guatemala views the following approaches as essential to advancing full and productive employment and achieving sustainable social development. First, Guatemala emphasizes the expansion of youth-focused transitions from informal to formal employment through cooperation with ILO and the UNDP and the non-governmental organizations Integral World and Life Project 4 Youth. This can be achieved by establishing community-based vocational training and apprenticeship programs in rural and indigenous areas, designed in coordination

with local employers and cooperatives to ensure alignment with labour market needs. Training programs can be implemented through flexible formats and, where appropriate, instructions in Indigenous languages to improve accessibility to decent work. Second, Guatemala supports the gradual extension of social protection coverage to workers in the informal economy through the development of interoperable social registries and contributory mechanisms under SNPS. By linking household-level data from the RSH with social and labour institutions, informal workers can be identified, enrolled in appropriate social protection schemes, and progressively supported in transitions towards formal employment. By improving data collection, targeting, and coordination between social and labour institutions, these measures aim to reduce vulnerability, incentivize formalization, and strengthen long-term social inclusion. Lastly, Guatemala proposes a rural connectivity and digital inclusion initiative focused on expanding affordable broadband infrastructure, community digital centers, and multilingual digital literacy programs, particularly for indigenous communities in order to tackle the digital divide between rural and urban areas. Guatemala remains confident that through strengthened international cooperation Member States can collectively advance full and productive employment as well as decent work for all.

2. Inclusive Rural and Agricultural Development

Considering the objectives of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, in particular SDG 1 on No Poverty, SDG 2 on Zero Hunger, and SDG 10 on Reduced Inequalities, Guatemala recognizes that inclusive rural and agricultural development is essential to addressing global poverty and food insecurity. According to the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs, World Social Report 2024, approximately 80 % of the world's extremely poor population lives in rural areas, where access to basic services such as clean water, electricity, healthcare, education, and digital infrastructure remains limited. At the same time, more than 2.5 billion people worldwide depend on agriculture for their livelihoods, and agricultural growth has been shown to be up to two times more effective in reducing poverty than growth in other economic sectors. Despite this potential, global food systems continue to leave vulnerable populations behind, as approximately 735 million people still suffer from chronic hunger, while smallholder farmers contribute significantly to food production in developing regions yet often lack access to land, markets, and financial services. In Guatemala, these global challenges are clearly reflected, as rural and Indigenous communities experience disproportionately high poverty rates and chronic malnutrition, while small-scale agriculture remains the backbone of rural livelihoods. This interconnected crisis highlights the urgent need for coordinated international action to promote inclusive rural and agricultural development and ensure that no community is left behind in achieving the goals of sustainable development.

Building on decades of international cooperation, Guatemala has consistently supported multilateral frameworks aimed at addressing rural poverty and food insecurity. As a Member State of the UN, Guatemala has endorsed the principles established in the 1948 Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the 1966 International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, recognizing the right to food and an adequate standard of living. In addition, national policies are aligned with the 1996 Rome Declaration on World Food Security and actively apply the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) Voluntary Guidelines on the Right to Food 2004 through its domestic food security strategies. This commitment to multilateral cooperation is further reflected in its support for the General Assembly (GA) resolution 80/157 on Agricultural Development, Food Security and Nutrition and the GA resolution 80/154 on Eradicating Rural Poverty to Implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. At the national level, these commitments are implemented through the National Food and Nutrition Security Policy, coordinated by the Secretariat of Food and Nutrition

Security, which works across government institutions to improve food security monitoring, strengthen institutional coordination, and prioritize rural and Indigenous communities. In cooperation with international partners such as FAO, the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), and the World Food Programme, national institutions support smallholder farmers through rural development programs, technical assistance, and initiatives aimed at reducing chronic malnutrition. Despite this alignment, Guatemala continues to face implementation challenges due to funding gaps, institutional constraints, and limited rural infrastructure, highlighting the need for strengthened international support and coordinated action.

In response to these challenges, Guatemala emphasizes that sustainable progress requires increased investment, inclusive governance, and integrated development strategies. Guatemala proposes expanding access to rural credit and microfinance through targeted public-private partnerships, the establishment of risk-sharing mechanisms, and the development of affordable crop insurance schemes to strengthen financial inclusion and protect smallholder farmers against climate-related shocks. Guatemala further calls for increased international financing through mechanisms such as IFAD and climate-related instruments including the Green Climate Fund to enhance climate-resilient agriculture, particularly in vulnerable regions such as the Central American Dry Corridor, where recurrent droughts increasingly threaten food security and rural livelihoods. In line with the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, Guatemala advocates strategic investment in rural infrastructure, including irrigation systems, transportation networks, renewable energy access, and digital connectivity, to improve productivity and market access. At the national level, Guatemala is actively implementing integrated development approaches through the Gran Cruzada Nacional por la Nutrición and seeks to expand its reach in rural communities by further linking agricultural support, nutrition programs, and social protection mechanisms. Through these coordinated measures, Guatemala aims to advance inclusive rural growth, strengthen food security, and promote sustainable and equitable development.

Disclosure

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Delegation from the Republic of Guatemala

Position Paper for the Non-Proliferation Treaty Review Conference

1. Establishment of a Nuclear Free Zone in the Middle East

The continued absence of a Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone (NWFZ) in the Middle East constitutes a significant challenge to international peace and security, undermining the purposes of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT), which aims to prevent proliferation, advance disarmament, and strengthen international security through verification and cooperation. Although five NWFZs have been successfully established globally, ongoing conflicts and intricate regional security dynamics complicate negotiations, resulting in the absence of direct talks involving all Member States in the region. According to the United Nations (UN) Institute for Disarmament Research (UNIDIR) this leads to deep divisions and reduced trust among the parties, which would be essential for the establishment of a NWFZ and for achieving the objectives of the NPT. This obstacle persists despite decades of international engagement and repeated reaffirmations by the UN General Assembly (UNGA), most notably through resolutions such as UNGA resolution 43/65 on the establishment of a NWFZ in the Middle East from 1988, which proposed the first framework conditions for such a scenario, and the NPT Review Conference, which adopted the resolution 1995/32 on the Middle East which also referred to existing mechanisms such as the International Atomic Energy Agency's (IAEA) safeguard mechanisms and the indispensable compliance with these. An end to insecurity, mutual distrust and the undermining of global non-proliferation norms, which allows for unequal regional application of safeguards and verification standards, can only be accomplished through the implementation of a NWFZ in the Middle East.

As a member of the Treaty of Tlatelolco from 1967, the pioneering international agreement that established the first NWFZ, Guatemala has consistently supported multilateral disarmament initiatives and the complete prohibition of nuclear weapons. Guatemala is one of the key proponents to the Treaty of Tlatelolco, which not only offers comprehensive regulations on the establishment of a NWFZ, but also proven and exemplary internal coordination mechanisms. Due to its persistent success and comprehensive membership of all 33 Latin American States, these mechanisms can be taken as examples of best practices. Guatemala's accession to the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons from 2017 represents a significant advancement in the global movement for nuclear disarmament. In view of the recent developments, Guatemala considers it essential to raise awareness of the progress made so far and to ensure that the issue is not consigned to oblivion. Furthermore, Guatemala strongly supports the existing safeguards and verification mechanisms within the UN system and maintains a comprehensive safeguards agreement with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA). From Guatemala's perspective, existing frameworks demonstrate that progress toward a NWFZ in the Middle East depends not on the creation of new legal obligations, but on the effective implementation of established commitments through trust-building and verification-centered approaches.

Building on existing international frameworks, Guatemala supports a phased approach to advancing the establishment of a NWFZ in the Middle East. First, Guatemala advocates for short-term trust-building measures to enable dialogue without requiring immediate legal commitments in order to revive the stalled process. The reports by the UN Office of Disarmament Affairs (UNODA) and UNIDIR could serve as a knowledge-based foundation for

implementing such measures. To this aim, cooperation with regional experts could be further strengthened by expanding existing UNODA dialogue mechanisms, enabling stakeholders to jointly develop solutions tailored to the region's needs. Cooperation could also promote transparency initiatives and standardized information exchanges on peaceful nuclear activities. Progress could then be presented in the UNODA convened Conference on the Establishment of a Middle East Zone Free of Nuclear Weapons and Other Weapons of Mass Destruction. Second, Guatemala supports strengthening verification practices through the IAEA, encouraging the universal adoption of safeguards agreements and the gradual alignment of Modified Small Quantities Protocols as interim benchmarks, thereby establishing a shared baseline for future negotiations. Lastly, Guatemala suggests negotiations towards a legally binding NWFZ treaty, drawing on the flexible ratification and entry into force provisions of the Treaty of Tlatelolco to enable phased participation while maintaining robust verification obligations. As regional instability directly affects the integrity of global non-proliferation regimes, the establishment of a NWFZ in the Middle East is not solely a regional concern but a matter of collective international responsibility, making coordinated international action both necessary and urgent.

2. Safeguards and Verification Mechanisms for Nuclear Disarmament

The NPT establishes numerous mechanisms enabling the IAEA to carry out safeguards in Non-Nuclear-Weapon States (NNWS) to ensure that all Member States can exercise their right to the peaceful use of nuclear energy in an orderly manner. In addition, Nuclear Weapon States have made many attempts to find compromises among themselves in order to control nuclear disarmament. Nevertheless, many of these bilateral treaties have expired in recent years. The last one being the Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty, which expired in February 2026. As reported by the UN, what remains are approximately 12,400 nuclear weapons globally, many of which far exceed the destructive power of the Hiroshima bombing according to the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization.

Without verification mechanisms, the agreements concluded are merely political promises without any control, and without reliable safeguards, the NPT loses its credibility.

Therefore, full compliance and further implementation of safeguards and verification mechanisms is paramount for nuclear security in order to peacefully coordinate technological progress and changing global dynamics while strengthening international cooperation and trust.

As a NNWS, Guatemala is committed to promote nuclear disarmament through extensive safeguards and targeted and consistent verification mechanisms. Additionally, as a member of the Treaty of Tlatelolco Guatemala strongly emphasizes its far-reaching provisions that complement the obligations under the NPT. For comprehensive compliance, the Treaty of Tlatelolco contains additional extensive safeguards and verification mechanisms, establishing the Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean in Article 7 and an obligation to conclude an agreement with the IAEA in Article 13, aligning with Article III of the NPT. Due to their success, these regulations can serve as best practice for further agreements. Guatemala emphasizes that the credibility and effectiveness of the treaties depend largely on transparency and willingness to cooperate. Guatemala's strong confidence in the existing regulatory framework and institutions is also reflected in Guatemala's support for the UNGA resolution 79/50 from 2024 on nuclear disarmament and UNGA resolution 74/50 from 2019 on nuclear disarmament verification, which also established the Group of Governmental Experts to further Consider Nuclear Disarmament Verification Issues.

Guatemala advocates for a peaceful use of nuclear materials and supports international discourse regarding the military use of it.

Amid heightened geopolitical tensions and the continued role of nuclear weapons as a deterrent, Guatemala urges that rebuilding trust requires refocusing on existing achievements and building on them, with the NPT providing a far-reaching and generally accepted basis for addressing these issues. Additionally, verification mechanisms may be increasingly understood as a shared security guarantee and no longer as a threat to sovereignty. To alleviate concerns about the publication of sensitive information, independent experts may support carrying out these verifications. These experts could be selected at random from a pool of independent experts compiled by UNODA, ensuring the broadest possible representation across the world's regions. The independence of these experts could be ensured by means of an assessment that sets out requirements that must be met in every case. The rotation and random selection principles, within a strictly defined framework, ensure that the process does not become rigid. Furthermore, the experts should not have any active links to governments or defense authorities, be subject to any security mandates, or be under the direct authority or instruction of any national authority. In addition, non-governmental organizations such as the SIPRI could be involved, especially to provide the necessary independent technical knowledge to all Member States, to ensure effective nuclear disarmament verification. Only through comprehensive information, trust can be reestablished and compliance with the NPT be ensured again. In this regard, Guatemala welcomes new ideas and a resumption of active enforcement of the rules on safeguards and verification mechanisms established in the international legal framework. Guatemala reaffirms its commitment to strengthening and operationalizing safeguards and verification mechanisms as indispensable pillars of the international nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation framework. According to the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI) nearly 3,800 are deployed and around 2,000 are maintained on high operational alert.

Disclosure

During the preparation of this work, our delegates used DeepL to research words. After using this tool/service, our delegates reviewed and edited the content as needed and take full responsibility for the content of their position paper.

Delegation from the Republic of Guatemala

Position Paper for the First Committee of the United Nations General Assembly

1. Strengthening International Cooperation in Counter-Terrorism Efforts

As repeatedly recognized by the United Nations (UN) Security Council (UNSC) and the UN General Assembly (UNGA), the urgency of strengthening international cooperation in counter-terrorism is underscored by the evolving, transnational, and financially adaptive nature of terrorist threats. Past UNSC resolution 2014/2178 highlighted the growing threat posed by foreign terrorist fighters and their cross-border mobility, while the UNSC resolution 2017/2396 identified gaps in border security, information-sharing, and traveler data systems that continue to be exploited by terrorist networks. The UNSC Counter-Terrorism Committee (CTC) and its Executive Directorate (CTED) reported the evolving threats due to a more complex, globally distributed, and technologically advanced financing approach for foreign terrorist activities. Terrorism thereby increasingly intersects with organized crime, corruption, and illicit financial flows, weakening state institutions and undermining public trust, especially in regions with limited governance capacity. According to the Global Terrorism Index 2025, the number of Nations recorded terrorist incidents is increasing from 58 to 66, reaching the highest number since 2018. This escalation is accompanied by intensified violence perpetrated by several of the world's most lethal terrorist groups, leading to an 11% increase in fatalities, resulting in 7,555 deaths in 2024. These issues therefore continue to present challenges to the international community, hindering efforts to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), particularly SDG 3 Good Health and Well-Being, SDG 11 Sustainable Cities and Communities, and SDG 16 Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions.

Addressing terrorism, Guatemala aligns its national approach with the existing UN established legal and normative frameworks, including the UN Counter-Terrorism Strategy (UNGCTS) and the nineteen universal legal instruments. Guatemala has criminalized terrorism and terrorist financing under its Criminal Code Article 391 and a Financing Offense Decree 58-2005 law, even in cases where a terrorist act is not ultimately carried out. The Government has strengthened financial intelligence mechanisms in accordance with Financial Action Task Force (FATF) standards, and subjected itself to regional evaluation through FATF of Latin America (GAFILAT) mutual assessment. Guatemala reaffirms its commitment to the Arms Trade Treaty (ATT) by implementing comprehensive national control lists and regulating cross-border arms transfers. Together with the UN Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament, and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean (UNLIREC), Guatemala continues to strengthen its regulatory framework to ensure transparency and accountability and to prevent the proliferation of small arms and light weapons (SALW) that could be used for terrorist purposes. Institutional capacity has further been reinforced through sustained collaboration with the UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) including prosecutorial training, port control units, cybercrime enforcement, and anti-money laundering assistance. Despite the persistent challenges of ensuring proportionality, judicial oversight, and human-rights compliance, Guatemala stays dedicated to confront all kinds of terrorist acts.

Guatemala underscores the need for continued international dialogue and expanded technical support. Building on existing counter-terrorism approaches, including UNGCTS, FATF, GAFILAT, and the ATT, Guatemala promotes the enhancement and strengthening of coordination, implementation, and technical assistance through established bodies, including

the UN Office of Counter-Terrorism (UNOCT), the UNODC, and the CTC and CTED, which facilitate legislative assistance, institutional capacity-building, and inter-agency cooperation in areas such as financial intelligence, judicial coordination, border management, and cyber-related threats. These efforts could be financed through existing voluntary funding arrangements, including UN trust funds, non-compulsory contributions from member states, and partnerships with international development organizations. Guatemala advocates an operational mechanism that ensures effectiveness and efficiency while avoiding duplicative approaches. Implementation support for economically emerging and transit States could be prioritized to reinforce institutional resilience while maintaining compliance with international law. The expected outcomes would be characterized by improved detection of terrorist financing, stronger inter-agency coordination, and more effective prevention mechanisms grounded in the rule of law. Guatemala looks forward to continued multilateral cooperation that strengthens global counterterrorism efforts and contributes to the creation of a peaceful and secure world for future generations.

2. Women, Disarmament, Non-proliferation, and Arms Control

Armed violence and the uncontrolled proliferation of SALW continue to disproportionately affect women and girls, undermining both human security and sustainable peace, and thereby threatening efforts to achieve the SDG 5 Gender Equality and the SDG 16. UN Women reported that an estimated 676 million women and girls lived within 50 km of active conflict zones in 2024, the highest number recorded in recent decades, while more than 4,600 conflict-related sexual violence cases were documented that year, with women and girls accounting for 92% of the victims. UN monitoring indicates that in contexts where such violence is recorded, firearms were involved in approximately 88% of documented incidents between 2022 and 2024. SALW thereby impact women's safety and their role in public life by intensifying domestic violence as well as restricting their freedom of movement, economic independence, and social participation. In addition to these ongoing dangers, women accounted for only about 7% of negotiators and 14% of mediators in formal peace processes worldwide, with women's representation among signatories to peace agreements at around 20%, underscoring chronic underrepresentation despite longstanding international commitments in reference to the UN Women Knowledge Hub, published in 2025. Gender-sensitive approaches in disarmament, non-proliferation, and arms control efforts are therefore critical in achieving equitable security and peace, alongside strengthened women's involvement in peace and security processes.

Empowering women's roles in security and disarmament, Guatemala has implemented national and international inclusive measures. Its government adopted a National Action Plan based on UNSC resolution 2000/1325, developed through an inter-agency roundtable to integrate gender equality into public policy and strengthen women's participation in decision-making, training, and leadership in peace building and the post-conflict context. In response to gendered violence and the proliferation of weapons, approximately thirty officials from the Guatemalan National Violence Prevention Commission participated in a course on gender perspectives in arms control in 2024 provided by UNLIREC to integrate gender analysis into firearms policy and inter-institutional cooperation, assisted by the Guatemalan Presidential Secretariat for Women (SEPREM). The training has strengthened officials' capacity to apply gender perspectives in arms and violence policies, playing a central role in preventing and addressing violence against women by strengthening institutional capacity, reporting, and comprehensive victim support. In coordination with UN Women, the Government has strengthened gender units across state institutions and updated regulatory frameworks within its national strategic plan 2022–2025 and SDG 5. Despite the existing challenges during the implementation due to constitutional deliberations and civilian rights, Guatemala remains committed to reducing the harm caused by

illicit weapons and empowering an equitable society, while promoting continued and expanded international collaboration.

Guatemala stresses the necessity of closer cooperation among Member States to integrate gender perspectives into arms control policies through joint guidelines, shared best practices, encouraging the establishment of national gender institutions where appropriate the governmental institutions similar to SEPREM, and establish specific training in coordination with related UN bodies such as UNLIREC, UN Office for Disarmament Affairs and UN Women. Stronger enforcement measures are needed to address the illicit spread of SALW, including the strengthening of national data collection and reporting mechanisms on gender-based armed violence, with systematic disaggregation by sex, age, weapon type, and geographic location, coordinated among law-enforcement, health, and judicial institutions, to enable evidence-based policymaking, early-warning assessments, and targeted arms control and prevention approaches. Furthermore, increasing women's representation in weapons control and security institutions could be achieved through expanded gender-based education and capacity-building initiatives. Guatemala encourages the development of thorough national policies on arms control that are gender-equal, including the establishment of inter-institutional task forces to monitor and prevent the circulation of illegal and misused firearms, mandatory gender-responsive training for security and law enforcement personnel, and incentive programs to promote women occupy leadership positions in security and disarmament decision-making bodies. Finally, Guatemala anticipates cooperative and active participation of the international community in aiming to foster an environment that actively promotes comprehensive weapon control measures while continuously advocating women's safety, empowerment, and meaningful involvement in all aspects of peace and security governance.

Disclosure

During the preparation of this work, our delegates carefully used Deepl to ensure the clarity, accuracy, and formal consistency. After using this tool, our delegates reviewed and edited the content as needed and take full responsibility for the content of their position papers.

Delegation from the Republic of Guatemala

Position Paper for the General Assembly Third Committee

1. Protecting the Freedom of Religion or Belief

Freedom of religion and belief is a basic human right, as stated in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) from 1948 and further specified in article 18 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) from 1966. The only limit of religious practice is mandated by laws and regulations protecting public safety and order. Nevertheless, the number of Member States in which individuals are subjected to prosecution for practicing their beliefs has risen to 158 of the 193 in 2022, as stated by the Pew Research Center in 2024. This prosecution can take many different forms, ranging from harassment and discrimination up to forced displacement, detention, and death sentences for practitioners. In addition to being a violation of human rights, this persecution results in major global issues. Religious persecution was found to be one of the main drivers of migration. The prohibition to practice their belief freely and the fear of prosecution caused 280 million people to become refugees and flee their home country in 2020. The persecution of religion or the lack thereof is also a major cause of conflict. The right to express their religion is of high importance to most people, which leads them to defend this right by force. These Conflicts are often used to reason for the persecution of certain religions, even though this directly contradicts the Declaration on the Elimination of All Forms of Intolerance and of Discrimination Based on Religion or Belief from 1981, which directly stated that the right to freely choose religion and belief is non-derogable and shall not be suspended even in times of emergency.

The constitution of Guatemala ensures the freedom of religion in Guatemala, by reaffirming the freedom of religion and only limiting the practice at the endangerment of public order. Furthermore, it protects the rights of the indigenous Maya people to practice their religion and to access their historic religious sites. Additionally, the Guatemalan constitution prevents members of the clergy of any religious group from becoming officials, such as president, government minister, or judge, ensuring the distinction between state and church, designed to uphold neutrality and prevent religious persecution. This protection is also included in the criminal law of Guatemala, which criminalizes discrimination against religion or belief. Guatemala has voiced its support for Human Rights on various occasions on the international stage. In 2022, Guatemala affirmed its support for ICCPR in a joint statement on Article 18 of the ICCPR together with several other Member States. Furthermore, Guatemala has been a sponsor of Human Rights Council (HRC) draft resolution 14/L.5, which describes the mandate of the Special Rapporteur on freedom of religion or belief in the HRC. Since more than 80% of the Guatemalan population practices various religions, the protection of freedom of religion and belief is an important goal for Guatemala.

Guatemala is a country with a rich history of indigenous religion. Therefore, it understands the special need for protection that similar religious minorities have and proposes measures to strengthen their protection. These measures should be built around an educational campaign on indigenous religions, developed and distributed by the United Nations (UN) Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), split into two parts, one consisting of school education programmes that could be included in regular education and secondly, a social media campaign as a promotion of knowledge about indigenous religions. Furthermore, the General Assembly should task the Special Rapporteur on freedom of religion and belief with a report

on the state of freedom and protection of indigenous religions. The education on religions is the key to the protection of the many different beliefs, therefore Guatemala proposes to publish a promotional campaign, consisting of short videos of influential religious figures, religious leaders and religious critics, talking about their respective faith and ensuring a fair and balanced view on all the different belief systems. These videos could be published freely on UNESCO's social media platforms. Additionally, Guatemala proposes a joint statement together with the Religion for Peace coalition, a group consisting of representatives of nearly all international religions, which serves as a consultant for UNESCO and more UN bodies, promoting the protection of freedom of belief. Finally, even though the protection of freedom of religion and belief is of high importance, Guatemala urges all Member States to keep the implementation of this protection in accordance with the right to free expression, also ensured by the UDHR.

2. Promoting the Rights of Women and Girls in the Aftermath of Conflict

The period following a war or conflict poses a particular threat to women and girls. Promoting the rights of women and girls is therefore a key human rights obligation and, at the same time, a decisive factor for sustainable peace and human development in line with the 2030 Agenda. A UN Women publication shows that women's participation in peace processes increases the probability of peace agreements lasting at least two years by 20 % and lasting 15 years by 35 %. Furthermore, a major peer-reviewed study finds that peace agreements signed by female delegates are statistically more likely to result in durable peace. It shows an empirical link between women's involvement and sustainable peace outcomes. Not only is gender equality recognized as a fundamental human right, but it also forms two important pillars of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) with SDG 5 Gender Equality and SDG 16 Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions. Societies with greater gender equality tend to be more peaceful and the economic empowerment of women contributes significantly to post-conflict recovery, research has shown. Through its own experiences as a state during and after the civil war between 1960 and 1996, Guatemala is particularly aware of the long-term impact of armed conflict on women, girls, and indigenous people. The traumatic experiences of conflict have shaped a generation of women and continue to have an impact today, particularly in rural and indigenous areas, in the form of a culture of violence and mistrust. Similar experiences have been made by numerous countries worldwide. Guatemala, therefore, recognizes its special responsibility to secure and promote the rights of women and girls and encourages Member States to act.

At the international level, Guatemala has repeatedly demonstrated its commitment to gender equality and the protection of Women's Rights. Guatemala is a signatory to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, 1979, which legally obliges states to eliminate discrimination in all its forms. In addition, Guatemala supports the Security Council Resolution 1325 on women, peace and security. This agenda calls for the protection of women and girls in conflicts and their inclusive participation in peace and reconstruction processes. Guatemala's commitment is demonstrated by its own development of a National Action Plan (NAP) from 2017 for the further implementation of Security Council Resolution 1325. This NAP was developed in collaboration with civil society, women's organizations, and other stakeholders. It strengthens women's rights and opportunities for participation in five areas and also addresses the consequences of the long internal conflict. The more recent Security Council Resolution 2467 from 2019 on sexual violence in armed conflict and Security Council Resolution 2493 from 2019 on women, peace, and security underscore the importance of a survivor-centered approach that ensures access to medical care, justice, and reparations. Furthermore, Guatemala works closely with UN Women to promote programs against gender-based violence and strengthen indigenous women's initiatives. At the national level, legal

reforms and landmark rulings on conflict-related sexual violence during past conflicts reflect Guatemala's commitment to ending impunity and promoting the rights of women and girls.

Guatemala believes that the international community must further intensify its efforts to promote the rights of women and girls in the post-conflict phase. Therefore, the following section outlines three approaches to reduce gender-based violence, strengthening national approaches and empowering women and girls in post-conflict regions. Women worldwide are suffering from sexual and domestic violence daily. Therefore, Guatemala supports a promotion campaign against sexual and domestic violence to protect women from experiencing that kind of violence. In addition, the equal participation of women in political decision-making processes, peace negotiations, and reconstruction strategies is essential to creating inclusive and lasting peace structures. Guatemala wants to support and strengthen the United Nations Institute for Training and Research Programme Women's Leadership for Peace by integrating it deeper into national programmes and community peacebuilding structures. The existing cooperation between UN Women and the Presidential Secretariat for Women, a national action plan for the implementation of UNSCR 1325, is to be expanded. Guatemala is prepared to share the experience gained through this cooperation internationally. Guatemala further advocates for the extension of the Women's Leadership for Peace Programme, particularly in developing and post-conflict economies. These courses or programs often come with high costs, leaving women in poorer regions behind. Guatemala wants to mitigate this by creating a fund to support women in economically disadvantaged areas and encourages Member States to strengthen this fund. Through these coordinated efforts, Guatemala reaffirms its commitment to ensuring that the protection and support of women and girls become a cornerstone of sustainable peace.

Disclosure

During the preparation of this work, our delegates used Grammarly to check the grammar. After using this tool, our delegates reviewed and edited the content as needed and took full responsibility for the content of their position papers.

Komitee Berichte

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)

During NMUN 2026, we, Negin Amini and Gözde Karahan, had the opportunity to represent Guatemala as part of the delegation of the Christian-Albrechts-University of Kiel (CAU Kiel) in the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR). The committee addressed two major topics:

I. Furthering the Rights of Displaced Persons in the Context of the 2030 Agenda

II. The Provision of Sustainable Housing and Settlement for Refugees

Both topics highlighted the urgent need for international cooperation in addressing the growing global displacement crisis, which currently affects millions of people worldwide.

At the beginning of the conference, we engaged in informal discussions with other delegations to identify shared priorities and potential partners. Early on, the committee collectively decided to focus primarily on the first topic, I. Furthering the Rights of Displaced Persons in the Context of the 2030 Agenda, which then became the central focus of our work.

As the conference progressed, multiple working groups were formed, and several working papers developed simultaneously. Within our working group, we collaborated closely with other delegates to draft solutions aimed at strengthening the protection of displaced persons, improving access to rights, and enhancing international cooperation in line with the Sustainable Development Goals.

The drafting process required intensive coordination, as ideas from different delegations had to be integrated into coherent and practical proposals. Both formal and informal sessions played an important role: while formal sessions allowed delegates to present their positions through speeches, informal sessions enabled detailed negotiations and revisions of the working papers.

By the end of the conference, all working papers had been fully drafted and prepared for the final stages of the committee process. This reflected the high level of engagement and cooperation within the committee, as well as the shared commitment to addressing global displacement challenges.

Overall, our experience in the UNHCR committee was both academically enriching and personally rewarding. It provided valuable insights into the complexity of multilateral negotiations and demonstrated the importance of collaboration, compromise, and effective communication. The committee work further strengthened our understanding of global refugee issues and highlighted the crucial role of international institutions in responding to them.

United Nations Environmental Assembly (UNEA)

The United Nations Environmental Assembly (UNEA) at the NMUN Conference 2026 was represented by Tabea Shirin Tessmer und Nick Luca Weber. In this assembly we discussed the topics of:

I. Effective and Inclusive Water Policy Solutions in the Context of Triple Planetary Crisis

II. Advancing Science and Evidence-Based Policy for a Pollution-Free Planet

Education and science are the most effective and inclusive ways of changing a world for the better. The contemporary mechanism of sharing and advancing Science globally is overwhelmingly focused on a charity system. Developed nations give their knowledge to less financially stable ones to advance their own geopolitical standing. The UNEA delegation of Guatemala was looking to change this one-sided approach to science, by offering developed nations the experience of crisis workers by way of an exchange platform. For this reason, topic II was the more accurate choice for us.

The first day saw a general introduction into the conduct and voting process of the conference. After this we went into informal session, where it was on us to now convince the gathered community of topic II. While topic I was chosen, we were able to adapt our method and thus include our interests from topic II into topic I.

On the morning of the second day, we were able to listen to two journalists talking about the current affairs of the United Nations and pose questions that had been burning on our tongues for a long time. After that, three current diplomats inspired us with their dedicated and hopeful attitudes. When the first formal session of the day came to an end, we needed to adapt our strategy to the first topic and form suitable working groups.

We divided into two different working groups to maximize our effectiveness. In the WES group, diplomatic misunderstandings arose between countries of the Global North and South, and in resolving them, all participants rose to the occasion: Everyone gained a deeper understanding of state sovereignty, international interdependence, and shifting perspectives. While countries like Guatemala were fighting for their first water rights, others were already struggling with infrastructure because they lacked a vision, which presented an extraordinary opportunity for growth: Genuine listening has become a virtue and now appears to be the fundamental key to overcoming injustice and restoring the rightful voice that is essential for effective solutions. Everyone quickly became aware of the duality of complexity and simplicity in any solution. Despite our reconciliation, we have now decided together to work exclusively within the LEGOLAS group.

On the last day, we focused on putting the finishing touches on our working paper. Meanwhile, we convinced more delegation of our ideas and were also convinced by theirs. We gained numerous signatories, further strengthening the standing of our working paper. The atmosphere was energetic, overwhelming, and so special that it still gives us goosebumps. Being in a room full of people who truly want to make a difference in addressing the ecological crisis and being able to see that as a unifying consensus, proved to be an incredible success and will forever

remain an inexhaustible source of hope. The working papers were drafted, and a vote was finally taken. All the ideas we had developed beforehand and along the way were part of the resolution we adopted, and we hope that our ideas might find their way to someone who is willing to turn them into real change.

In a Nutshell:

Our committee was marked by the coexistence of great pain and equally overwhelming hope. We will carry this experience in our hearts forever and share it with others. Working for something that both encompasses the goals of the state of Guatemala and the shared goals of a better future for the global community proved to us that egocentric pursuits that undermine other countries interests and dignity through strategy or lies must either be rooted in delusion or a fear of being irrelevant. The success of our pursuit in NMUN 2026 has given us strength to further focus on ridding the world of the root-causes that hinder humanity in moving toward a better future.

Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC)

We, Carlotta Meyer and Charlene Glaeser, were honored to represent Guatemala in the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) at the NMUN Conference 2026.

In this committee, we discussed the topics of:

- I. Combating Food Insecurity and Malnutrition in All its Forms
- II. Achieving Universal Health Coverage

Before the conference began, we aligned our strategy around Guatemala's dual identity: a country with lived experience of structural food insecurity and health inequity, but also one with concrete national legislation, such as the School Feeding Law, to offer as a model for regional cooperation. We were determined to advocate not from a position of vulnerability, but from one of constructive leadership.

In the opening sessions, we were proud that we were able to hold one of the opening speeches, which was grounded in the story of Ixchel, a fictional but representative young girl from Guatemala's highlands. Our speech put a human face on the structural challenges the committee was tasked to address and immediately established Guatemala's voice as one of the important players in this commission.

After talking to most of the other delegations, the agenda was set on Topic I, which aligned with our own priorities. During the informal sessions, we actively sought like-minded delegations for our working group. We found strong potential partners in countries such as Barbados, Paraguay, Argentina, Colombia, Chile and Canada, many of whom shared Guatemala's focus on school feeding, smallholder support and shock-responsive social protection.

When the working groups formed, the committee divided into four sub-groups, where we, as a delegation, split up into two of them: one focusing on trade and regional coordination and the other on school feeding and sustainability. In the first working group we were able to propose the implementation of a warning system, an idea we already showed in our position paper. Within the other working group, we drew directly on Guatemala's School Feeding Law and its local procurement mandate to shape the group's proposals. We advocated for regional minimum nutrition standards, accountable procurement models and inclusive frameworks that specifically addressed Indigenous and rural communities.

Coordinating within the working group brought its share of challenges, particularly in aligning the different emphases of member states and incorporating feedback from the committee's dais. We received valuable guidance to adjust our proposals to ECLAC's mandate, strengthen anti-corruption language and ensure that our warning system proposals included provisions for small-scale farmers. We incorporated this feedback constructively and it ultimately strengthened our working paper.

The topic I was resolved by the committee, which we consider a meaningful outcome and a testament to the collaborative spirit of the delegates. All four of the committees' Draft Resolutions were adopted as Resolutions, two of which we were Signatories of. While time did not permit a full transition to Topic II, a few delegations had the opportunity to present a few health proposals and lay the groundwork for future deliberation.

To sum up: ECLAC was a committee of remarkable depth and engagement. The diversity of delegations, from Small Island Developing States to major economies, made every negotiation genuinely challenging but rewarding at the same time. We are grateful for the thorough preparation that allowed us to represent Guatemala with confidence and for the connections we made with delegates from across the world. It was an experience that has deepened our understanding of multilateral diplomacy, international economics and what it truly means to advocate for those whose voices are most often absent from the table.

Charlene Glaeser and Carlotta Mayer

Commission on Narcotic Drugs (CND)

During NMUN 2026, we, Hilal Esma Tüzgen and Alice Scheer Coelho, had the honor of representing Guatemala as part of the delegation of the Christian-Albrechts-Universität zu Kiel in the Commission on Narcotic Drugs. Alice Scheer Coelho, an LL.M. student from Brazil currently pursuing her postgraduate studies in Kiel, and I had the opportunity to engage in one of the most pressing global policy discussions of our time.

The committee addressed two central topics:

- I. Illicit Cultivation, Production, and Manufacture of Narcotic Drugs
- II. Strengthening International Cooperation to Combat the World Drug Problem

At an early stage of the conference, the committee collectively decided to focus on the second

topic, which then became the core of all negotiations and committee work. This decision allowed delegates to concentrate on the importance of multilateral cooperation, sustainable strategies, and innovative solutions to address the global drug problem.

We joined a working group led by the delegation of Thailand. Within this group, discussions centered particularly on cyber security, the responsible use of artificial intelligence in combating transnational drug networks, and most importantly, the expansion of rehabilitation measures. As representatives of Guatemala, we considered rehabilitation a key priority, given the severe social and structural consequences that drug trafficking and drug abuse continue to have in affected regions.

Throughout the conference, we actively participated in formal debate and informal negotiations, delivering at least two speeches per day. In our statements, we consistently advocated for stronger international solidarity and emphasized that countries heavily affected by the circulation of narcotic drugs require support from states with more advanced prevention and stabilization mechanisms. We also highlighted the current challenges faced by Guatemala and stressed the necessity of long-term assistance rather than purely punitive responses.

Beyond speeches, we contributed substantially to the drafting process of our working paper. We introduced several sub-clauses concerning rehabilitation, reintegration, and access to treatment, ensuring that human-centered approaches remained a visible priority within the resolution. We were also successful in encouraging several Latin American delegations to support our paper as signatories and, in some cases, sponsors.

One of the more challenging aspects of the committee process was the competition surrounding sponsorships. At times, it appeared that certain delegations attempted to place clauses in numerous working papers to secure sponsor positions across several drafts. Nevertheless, this dynamic also reflected the highly engaged and ambitious nature of the committee.

What stood out most throughout the sessions was the exceptionally positive atmosphere. Delegates treated one another with respect, openness, and encouragement. Productive discussions continued even outside formal sessions, creating an environment in which diplomacy was not only practiced procedurally, but genuinely lived.

A particularly memorable highlight for us was our exchange with the delegation of Morocco shortly before voting procedures. They shared valuable insights from their previous MUN experiences and encouraged us after our speeches. Their warmth, professionalism, and openness left a lasting impression on us, and our conversations extended far beyond committee matters into meaningful intercultural exchange.

Ultimately, our working paper was successfully submitted and adopted as a resolution. This outcome reflected the dedication, cooperation, and persistence invested by all participating delegations.

Overall, our experience in the CND was both intellectually enriching and personally inspiring. It deepened our understanding of international drug policy, multilateral negotiation, and the importance of balancing security concerns with humanitarian approaches such as prevention and rehabilitation. The committee demonstrated that sustainable solutions to global challenges can only emerge through dialogue, cooperation, and mutual respect.

Commission for Social Development (CSocD)

During NMUN 2026, we, Maxi Reichwaldt and Weronika Mlynarczyk, had the pleasure of representing Guatemala in the Commission for Social Development (CSocD). Within this committee, we discussed the following topics:

- I. Full and Productive Employment and Decent Work for All
- II. Inclusive Rural and Agricultural Development

Already during the preparation phase, while drafting our position paper, we realized that the first topic particularly resonated with us due to its current relevance and political importance. We focused on the pressing global relevance of employment challenges, particularly in developing countries, where informal labor, youth unemployment, and the lack of social protection remain critical issues. From Guatemala's perspective, decent work is a fundamental driver of poverty reduction, social stability, and sustainable development, and serves as a foundation upon which other development goals-such as rural advancement-can be built.

On the first day of the conference, we actively engaged with other delegations to identify partner states that shared our perspective. By the end of the day, and after careful consideration, the agenda was set and Topic I was selected, as we had hoped.

The second day marked the beginning of the drafting phase, during which working papers were developed. We divided our efforts and engaged constructively in two main working groups. The first group consisted primarily of Latin American and Central African countries. Within this coalition, Guatemala contributed to discussions focusing on shared challenges such as high levels of informal employment, economic inequality, and limited access to fair working conditions, especially for vulnerable groups such as women, youth or indigenous people. This group emphasized the importance of international cooperation, capacity building, and investment in education and vocational training.

In the second working group, Guatemala collaborated with a more diverse set of countries, including European states as well as Saudi Arabia. This group offered a broader perspective on labor market policies, social protection systems, and innovative approaches to employment generation. Guatemala actively contributed by advocating for inclusive strategies that consider the realities of developing economies, while also drawing on best practices from more industrialized nations. Our aspect was digitalization and how to combat digital divide by prioritizing this in our working paper.

Throughout the conference, we regularly delivered speeches to present and refine our ideas in front of the committee. In these speeches, we also highlighted that, while rural and agricultural development remains important, many of the structural challenges in rural areas-such as

migration, inequality, and limited access to education-are closely linked to insufficient employment opportunities. Therefore, addressing employment comprehensively was viewed as a more immediate and impactful priority.

These formal sessions were complemented by informal sessions, during which we continuously worked on improving our working paper and incorporating feedback from other delegations. After approximately two days of intensive collaboration, we finalized our working paper and successfully gathered the required number of sponsors and signatories. This allowed us to proceed to the voting procedure. We were especially proud that our working paper was ultimately adopted by the committee, marking a successful conclusion to our efforts.

The conference concluded with a closing ceremony at the United Nations Headquarters, where final speeches reflected on the achievements of the participants and emphasized the importance of international cooperation. Overall, our experience within the committee was both academically enriching and personally rewarding. It provided valuable insights into diplomatic processes and demonstrated the importance of collaboration, dialogue, and mutual understanding in addressing global challenges.

Overall, this was a great experience, and we learned a lot.

Non-Proliferation Treaty Review Conference (NPT)

During NMUN 2026, we, Anna-Sophie Bölck and Hanne Katrin Martinsen, had the pleasure of representing Guatemala in the Non-Proliferation Treaty Review Conference (NPT). Throughout the conference, we worked closely as a delegation and were able to contribute actively to the committee's discussions and outcomes.

The committee addressed two main topics:

- I. The Establishment of a Nuclear Weapon Free Zone in the Middle East
- II. Safeguards and Verification Measures for Nuclear Disarmament

Already during the preparation phase, while drafting our position paper, we realized that the first topic particularly resonated with us due to its current relevance and political importance.

On the first day of the conference, we actively engaged with other delegations to identify partners who shared our perspective. By the end of the day, our preferred topic was selected, which provided a strong foundation for our further work in the committee.

The second day marked the beginning of the drafting phase, where working papers were developed. We joined a group primarily composed of Latin American countries, as we share a common background through the Treaty of Tlatelolco. This treaty served as an important reference point and model for our ideas on establishing a nuclear weapon Free Zone in the Middle East. Collaborating with students from around the world was both inspiring and highly productive, and we were able to build meaningful connections with motivated and dedicated participants.

Throughout the conference, we regularly delivered speeches to present and refine our ideas in front of the committee. These formal sessions were complemented by informal sessions, during which

we continuously worked on improving our working paper and incorporating feedback from other delegations.

After approximately two days of intensive collaboration, we finalized our working paper and successfully gathered the required number of sponsors and signatories. This allowed us to proceed to the voting procedure. We were especially proud that our working paper was ultimately adopted by the committee, marking a successful conclusion to our efforts.

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Overall, the experience within the committee was both academically enriching and personally rewarding. It provided valuable insights into diplomatic processes and demonstrated the importance of collaboration, dialogue, and mutual understanding in addressing global challenges.

General Assembly First Committee (GA1)

At the General Assembly First Committee (Disarmament and International Security) during the NMUN New York Conference A 2026, the Member States represented by around 200 students from all over the world convened to address the topic “Strengthening International Cooperation in Counter-Terrorism Efforts” and “Women, Disarmament, Non-proliferation, and Arms Control”. In the first informal session, our delegation had the opportunity to speak with many delegates and found that the majority preferred to discuss counter-terrorism first.

The present delegates engaged in substantive debate on enhancing multilateral coordination, capacity-building, and information-sharing mechanisms to effectively combat evolving terrorist threats. The conference provided opportunities to engage in diplomatic discourse through speeches and working group collaboration. The Committee recognized that terrorism remains a complex and transnational challenge requiring coordinated international responses. Delegations, including Guatemala, contributed to discussions both through formal statements and participation in drafting processes. These interactions highlighted the importance of visibility, coordination, and strategic engagement within working groups to effectively shape outcomes and influence the direction of negotiations.

During our discussions in the working groups, some delegations focused on a cooperative approach to counter-terrorism. Others emphasized building on existing UN frameworks and legal instruments, particularly those addressing the financing of terrorism. A key priority was improving real-time intelligence sharing, strengthening border security, and enhancing cooperation with international organizations.

Based on these priorities, we developed a working paper that later evolved into a resolution. It concentrated on strengthening global coordination in counter-terrorism efforts, improving intelligence sharing between Member States, and enhancing capacity-building support for countries affected by terrorism.

What specially makes an MUN conference so exciting and challenging is the constantly

changing dynamic and competitive nature of multilateral diplomacy. Complex topics hugely varied political interests, skeptical and critical minds and time pressure are ever-present. We did prepare a lot for both topics beforehand, including the speeches and the concerns we would like to highlight. However, the dynamic of the discussion and the issues changed very quickly, resulting in what we had prepared became no longer relevant. While efforts were made to ensure broad participation, the allocation of speaking opportunities and motion-setting occasionally presented challenges in achieving fully balanced representation. This underscores the importance of continued efforts to promote inclusivity and equal participation within large-scale diplomatic simulations.

Despite these challenges, the Committee maintained a constructive and collaborative atmosphere. Delegates demonstrated strong commitment to dialogue, compromise, and the pursuit of shared solutions. Informal exchanges and networking further contributed to mutual understanding and reinforced the spirit of international cooperation.

Conclusion:

The work of the General Assembly First Committee at NMUN New York 2026 reaffirmed the critical role of multilateralism in addressing global security challenges. Through active engagement, negotiation, and collaboration, delegates contributed to advancing discussions on strengthening international counter-terrorism efforts. At the end, 16 resolutions have been recognized and voted by the majority to pass.

The Committee highlights the importance of continued international cooperation, inclusive participation, and capacity-building initiatives to effectively respond to evolving threats. The experience further emphasizes that meaningful progress in global security relies on both formal diplomacy and sustained interpersonal engagement among future leaders.

United Nations General Assembly Third Committee (GA3)

We, Konstantin Knipp and David Wolske, were representing Guatemala in the General Assembly Third Committee (GA3) during the National Model United Nations (NMUN) Conference 2026. The general assembly had two topics brought before them, the protection of freedom of religion and belief and the promotion of women's and girls' rights in the aftermath of conflict.

Before the conference began, we decided that it would be in our interest to start with the second topic, because Guatemala's position on this issue was very pronounced. The country has gone through a civil war from 1960 – 1996 and this experience led to laws and decisions being made to especially protect women and girls after conflict. This deep connection to the topic seemed to us to be an excellent starting point for discussion.

Before the conference began, we reviewed the position papers written by the other delegations together and found some possible allies as well as countries whose view didn't really align with ours. Especially the Scandinavian countries including Finland and Iceland stood out through their quality, while also aligning with our own ideas.

During the first formal session it became very clear, that the second topic was not just ours but most of the delegations' favorite. Roughly two thirds of the present delegations held speeches in favor, while the others opposed. After one informal session in which we already contacted the delegations of Iceland and Finland, the motion to set the agenda was brought in and topic two became the first topic to be discussed.

Luckily, we had the opportunity to hold the first speech on this topic in which we presented Guatemala's position and our own ideas for addressing these issues. Our focus was making leadership training programs for women more accessible to enable them to take part in peace negotiations. Especially for people in developing economies the programs related to the UN are often too expensive or not available in their languages. We plan to work on these issues during the conference.

After that introduction most of our work happened in our working groups. We split up between two working groups to increase the range of ideas we could implement in the working papers. One of us joined a group with the Scandinavia countries, which would later become a very international and diverse group, while the other formed a group with other South and Middle American countries.

The first working group created a working paper called Silver that focused on three pillars: monitoring of the status quo, improvement of the situation of women right now and improving the education available for leadership programs for women. We especially worked on the last topic together with the delegations of Burundi, Iceland and Sri Lanka. The working paper Silver later merged with a second working paper, which proved to be a challenge, because of the difference in working processes in the two groups. But these problems could be overcome by mitigating and finding compromise where our ideas misaligned. Finally, both our working papers got drafted as draft resolutions and passed through a recorded vote, both with great majority.

Altogether we had a great experience at the conference and are very thankful for this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity. We learned a lot about politics, people and found confidence in ourselves. We sincerely thank our sponsors, our head delegates and the great people at the NMUN conference for this.

Auszeichnungen



The 2026 National Model United Nations New York Conference

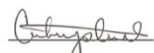
recognizes

Guatemala
Christian Albrecht University of Kiel


for its

Position Paper

GA 3


Courtney Indart
Secretary-General, NY-A




Eric Lowe
Deputy SG, NY-A



The 2026 National Model United Nations New York Conference

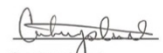
recognizes

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for its

Position Paper

UNHCR


Courtney Indart
Secretary-General, NY-A




Eric Lowe
Deputy SG, NY-A



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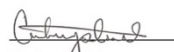
Distinguished Delegation Award

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Unsere Kleine Zeitreise

