

Cerritos Fall Conference 2019

3rd SCH



Topic: Xenophobia

Director: Daniel An

October 12, 2019

To Delegates of Cerritos Novice 2019 Conference

Dear Delegates,

Welcome to Cerritos Novice 2019!

It is our highest honor and pleasure to welcome you all to our annual novice conference here at Cerritos High School. On behalf of the Cerritos High School Model United Nations program, we are proud to host another year of this long-standing conference, where you will become more knowledgeable on international issues, participate in intellectually stimulating discussions, and create new and everlasting friendships.

The CHSMUN program continues to compete around the world as a nationally ranked MUN program. Our delegates utilize diplomacy in order to create complex solutions towards multilateral issues in the global community. Our head chairs are selected from only the best seniors of our program, undergoing a rigorous training process to ensure the highest quality of moderating and grading of debate. Furthermore, all the topic synopses have been reviewed and edited numerous times. We strongly believe that by providing each and every delegate with the necessary tools and understanding, he or she will have everything they need to thrive in all aspects of committee. We thoroughly encourage each delegate to engage in all of the facets of their topic, in order to grow in their skills as a delegate and develop a greater knowledge of the world around them.

Our advisors and staff have put in countless hours to ensure delegates have an amazing experience at the conference. Our greatest hope is that from attending CHSMUN 2019, students are encouraged to continue on in Model United Nations and nevertheless, inspired to spark change in their surrounding communities. With 31 high school committees and 2 middle school committees, CHSMUN 2019 will provide a quality experience for beginners to learn, develop, and grow as delegates.

If you have any questions, comments, or concerns, please contact us! We look forward to seeing you at CHSMUN Novice 2019!

Sincerely,

Brianna Roldan and Tess U-Vongcharoen

Secretary-Generals

3rd SCH

Xenophobia

A Note From the Director

Delegates,

My name is Daniel An and I will be your director for the 3rd Social, Cultural and Humanitarian Affairs Committee (SOCHUM). This is my 4th year of Model UN, and I've developed unforgettable memories with my peers throughout each year. Outside of Model UN, I serve as the Executive Board President of the Greater Long Beach Chapter of the American Red Cross, I choreograph and teach dance as an Intern for SOW Gen, I served as a volunteer for students with disabilities in an organization called KASEC, and I am part of the American Cancer Society. In my free time, I love watching anime, and I love eating ramen. I also enjoy dancing and one of my dreams is to travel around the world. I know many of you guys might be nervous, but this conference will help to boost your confidence for future committees. I wish you all the best luck in committee, and I look forward to seeing you all.

Sincerely,

Daniel An

Director, 3rd SCH

Committee Introduction:

The 3rd Social, Cultural and Humanitarian Affairs Committee (SOCHUM), also known as the Third Assembly of the General Assembly, aims to address social, humanitarian affairs and human rights issues that affect people around the globe. Established in 1948, SOCHUM works with various UN/non-UN organizations such as UNHCR, WHO, the Human Rights Council, and numerous NGOs to tackle topics related to the protection of children, indigenous issues, the

treatment of refugees, and the advancement of women. During World War II, SOCHUM created the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and highlighted topics such as freedom, justice, peace, and overall human rights. In A/RES/63/117, created during the 63rd Session, SOCHUM established “Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights.” To add, this resolution emphasizes that, “a State Party shall take all appropriate measures to ensure that individuals under its jurisdiction are not subjected to any form of ill-treatment or intimidation as a consequence of communicating with the Committee pursuant to the present Protocol.”

Background:

Xenophobia can be found in every single corner of the world. The term “Xenophobia” came from the Greek word “xenos” meaning foreigner. Xenophobia is defined as any attitudes, prejudices and behavior that reject, exclude and often vilify people, based on the perception that they are outsiders or foreigners to the community. To expand, these people are obsessed with maintaining their cultural superiority and feel threatened whenever they encounter other people from foreign land.

The root causes of xenophobia are developed by traumatic events and weak upbringings in people’s lives. If a person has encountered a traumatic event associated with foreigners or people from different group, then he/she might also feel xenophobic. For example, people who suffered from wars and domination from other countries can eventually develop terror and hatred for any person from that country. In addition, a weak form of upbringing, which is focused on teaching strict cultural and ethnic practices and implanting the feeling of superiority at an early age, can probably be a major cause of developing xenophobia. Another cause can be enforced isolation from other cultural and ethnic groups since childhood. The person develops a strong learnt behavior that foreigners and strangers are dangerous out of such upbringing.

Examples of xenophobic actions can be found in countries like South Africa, Britain, and France. According to the Consortium for Refugees and Migrants in South Africa, the May 2008 xenophobic attacks — mostly on migrants — ultimately left “62 dead, 670 wounded, dozens raped, [and] more than 100,000 displaced. Millions of Rands worth of property were also looted, destroyed or appropriated by local residents in just over two weeks.” In 1994, there were over

7,780 racially-motivated attacks in Britain, which were related to xenophobia. Also, in 1991, the mayor of Paris suggested that the French workforce consisted of too many “North African welfare bums”, which also showed how xenophobia was taking place in Paris. Xenophobia is an issue because it leads to a decrease in employment rates and violence within society.

United Nations Involvement:

The UN first became involved with the issue of xenophobia by making the Universal Declaration of Human Rights in Paris on 10 December 1948. Translated into over 500 languages, this document consists of different legal and cultural backgrounds from all regions of the world. The Universal Declaration of Human Rights aims to ban racial discrimination by presenting guidelines in which countries are recommended to fulfill. For example, in article 7 it expands upon the protection from all forms of discrimination, “All are equal before the law and are entitled without any discrimination to equal protection of the law. All are entitled to equal protection against any discrimination in violation of this Declaration and against any incitement to such discrimination.”

The UNHCR Resettlement Program aims to provide legal and physical protection for foreigners when they first enter the country. In collaboration with few resettlement/host countries such as the United States, Australia, Canada, and Nordic Countries, this program offers access to basic civil, social, cultural rights for refugees. In addition, the UNHCR Resettlement Program gives job opportunities after interviewing to view qualifications, and arranges for housing of foreigners until they are financially stable.

Organizations have been adopted or created, such as the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, which was adopted in 1965 and entered into force in 1969, the World Conference to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination, which was held in Geneva, Switzerland in 1978 and 1983, and the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance, which was held in Durban in 2001.

However, even though there is the involvement of UN organizations, xenophobic outbreaks still occur in numerous countries because the people living in the country have hatred

and fear of foreigners. Many people developed this fear due to past/historical events, differences in religion, and differences in ethnicity.

Bloc Positions:

Western Bloc: In the past, this bloc welcomed many refugees in times of serious humanitarian crisis. For example, in the year of 2015, the United States of America accepted 69,933 refugees to be resettled. However, as of 2018, the United States of America are accepting at most 45,000 refugees. Due to the tragic terrorist attacks in San Bernardino, California, the public and several members of Congress emitted fear and uncertainty of opening doors to refugees. In order to suspend the entry of these terrorists, the United States ended the resettlement of refugees for “120 days, and lowered the number of refugees to be admitted to the United States in 2017 from 110,000 to 50,000.”

African Bloc: Xenophobic attacks, specifically in South Africa have worsened. Starting in 1994, xenophobic attacks have widely spread in provinces such as Gauteng, Western Cape, Free State, Limpopo, and KwaZulu Natal. In December 1994 and January 1995, armed youth gangs in the Alexandra Township outside of Johannesburg, Gauteng Province, destroyed the homes and property of suspected undocumented migrants and marched the individuals down to the local police station where they demanded that the foreigners be forcibly and immediately removed. The form of leadership within communities could have been the explanation of the xenophobic attacks that occurred in certain communities, which talks to issues of governance. In Africa, the problem isn’t just the foreign nationals and their rights, but it is also about the safety of civilians living in that area. Due to the fact that Africa consists of an abundant amount of refugees, many xenophobic protests and attacks occur in refugee camps. Madelena Hogg, UNHCR’s Senior Operations Manager in Durban stated, “refugees and asylum seekers have often been targeted in South Africa amid an economic downturn as communities blame their struggles on foreigners.”

Asian-Pacific Bloc: Xenophobic actions are widely practiced in the Asian-Pacific. One example of this action is the Yemen Refugee crisis. Yemen and the United States of America have poor

relations between each other, and many of these Yemenis were sent to refugee camps. These refugees were planned to integrate in the country of South Korea, specifically Jeju island. However, South Korea didn't want these Yemenis to come into their country because many Koreans are convinced that the Yemenis are somehow "fake" refugees because they have cell phones and clean clothes. Although not all of these South Koreans thought this way (Jeju People's Coalition for Refugee Rights, works to provide food, housing, and Korean language classes for the Yemenis), hundreds of thousands of Koreans packed the streets to protest against these refugees. Despite the fact that South Korea has #11 largest economy in the world, they still wouldn't accept these refugees. This shows that due to the pride Asia has for its countries, the amount of xenophobic actions have increased.

Latin America and Caribbean Bloc: Driven by the city of Montevideo, Uruguay, the Coalition of Latin American and Caribbean Cities against Racism, Discrimination and Xenophobia accumulates 67 regions from 23 nations focused on battling all types of separation in city-level approaches and programmes. City individuals are resolved to coordinate a Ten-Point Plan of Action into their city methodologies, adjusting existing strategies and presenting new standardizing activity against bigotry, xenophobia and segregation. The arrangement of rules reflects specificities and needs of Latin America and the Caribbean and spreads regions as various as instruction, business, lodging and culture. The Latin American and Caribbean alliance is one of the seven national and provincial social event compacts of the International Coalition of Inclusive and Sustainable Cities – ICCAR.

Basic Solutions:

In this committee, delegates have to primarily find solutions on how to reduce the amount of discrimination that is occurring within countries. This can be done through solutions related to law reforms like Law Against Racism and All Forms of Discrimination, immediate aid such as psychological aid, and education like the Center for Healing of Racism to the public. Although many of these immigrants might not be victims of any forms of discrimination, it is important that these immigrants are able to integrate into the society efficiently. Thus, this can be accomplished by providing them with some form of education, shelter, and food to sustain themselves before integrating into the society. Remember that although some countries do not

provide the necessary human rights to immigrants/refugees coming, it is important that delegates collaborate with one another to amend and accommodate this framework of human rights through the usage of organizations and programs. Solutions should encompass a wide variety of topics that results from Xenophobia, and it is very important that these solutions correspond to the delegates' assigned country.

Questions to Consider:

1. What is your country doing to help solve the issue? Have they helped reduce the amount of xenophobic attacks?
2. How is your country going to reduce the amount of racial discrimination?
3. What rights do immigrants/refugees have that they are not able to exercise?
4. Has your country had any mass outbreaks related to xenophobia? If so, to what group of people?
5. How can your solutions be implemented globally? How are you going to be able to collaborate with other countries with different views on countries?

Sources:

1. *Latin America and the Caribbean | United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization*,
www.unesco.org/new/en/social-and-human-sciences/themes/fight-against-discrimination/coalition-of-cities/latin-america-and-the-caribbean/.
2. *International Journal of Orthopaedics Sciences*, vol. 3, no. 2f, 2017,
doi:10.22271/ortho.2017.v3.i2f.
3. Belluz, Julia. "Fox News Says the Migrant Caravan Will Bring Disease Outbreaks. That's Xenophobic Nonsense." *Vox*, Vox, 1 Nov. 2018,
www.vox.com/science-and-health/2018/11/1/18048332/migrant-caravan-fox-news-dis-ease-smallpox-outbreaks-vaccines-xenophobia.
4. Hirst, Stephen K., and Stephen K. Hirst. "Just a Few Hundred Yemeni Refugees Have Created a National Political Crisis in South Korea." *Slate Magazine*, Slate, 4 Dec. 2018,
slate.com/news-and-politics/2018/12/yemen-refugees-south-korea-jeju-island.html.
5. Leander. "Xenophobic Violence in Democratic South Africa." *South African History Online*, 8 June 2018,
www.sahistory.org.za/article/xenophobic-violence-democratic-south-africa.
6. "Racism, Xenophobia Increasing Globally, Experts Tell Third Committee, amid Calls for Laws to Combat Hate Speech, Concerns over Freedom of Expression | Meetings Coverage and Press Releases." *United Nations*, United Nations,
www.un.org/press/en/2016/gashc4182.doc.htm.
7. "United Nations, Third Committee, Social, Humanitarian, Cultural, Main Body, Main Organs, General Assembly." *United Nations*, United Nations, www.un.org/en/ga/third/.
8. "Universal Declaration of Human Rights." *United Nations*, United Nations,
www.un.org/en/universal-declaration-human-rights/.
9. "Xenophobia : Fear of Foreigners or Strangers - Causes, Symptoms and Treatment." *Healthtopia*,
www.healthtopia.net/disease/mental-health/phobia/xenophobia-fear-of-foreigners-strangers.

