

Dear Esteemed Delegates, Advisors, and Guests,

Our Model UN team at Arizona State University has been working passionately and diligently for the past several months to bring you a completely rebranded version of our annual high school conference. We have worked tirelessly to incorporate all of the feedback we received from advisors and delegates alike this past school year, equipping our conference with training workshops, feedback sessions, unique committees, and more. In turn, it is my great honor and privilege to formally invite you all to the 13th Session of our Annual High School Conference, hereby denoted as SunMUN, to be held on November 18-19, 2022 at Arizona State University.

Our new name SunMUN is an ode to our college mascot of Sun Devils, so please note that our predominant name will no longer be ASUMUN. Moreover, to go hand in hand with our new and improved conference, I am pleased to bring you our brand-new website, designed by yours truly, at the link: <https://sunmun.info/>. On this website, among a multitude of other resources, one can find a comprehensive delegate handbook to help delegates navigate ASU-specific conference protocols, rubrics we use to grade delegate performance/position papers, etc. **But most importantly, you can register your team today at our website!** All important deadlines are detailed on the website, so please be sure to keep an eye out for those dates when registering your team.

For those of you who may not know me, I will briefly introduce myself as well. My name is Ritisha Das, and I am a junior enrolled at Barrett Honors College, ASU. I have enjoyed MUN for the last five years of my life, my first conference being the 2018 MUN Conference at ASU as a high schooler and my most recent one being at the 2022 Europe Conference in Zurich, Switzerland as a college sophomore. Alongside my incredible officer team, I have headed the complete post-pandemic reconstruction of our MUN team here at ASU, navigating hybrid conferences and our first in-person conference since the pandemic last school year! And it is with this vigor, we are proud to launch 2022 SunMUN. As someone who has been able to experience both the delegate and chairing components of conferences at ASU, I am looking forward to sharing our vision with all of you this November!

This year's theme is "Fostering Democracy & Protecting Individual Rights" and it aligns with the imperative conversations we, as a global community, are having in real-time as we witness the erosion of democratic institutions and individual protections internationally. Lines that carefully marked where the power of the member state extended and the power of the individual began have blurred beyond belief. It has the international community wondering when it is appropriate for other nations to step in to protect such individuals. SunMUN hopes to tackle those complex issues in its five committees.

General Assembly will confront the topics of "Guarding Against Democratic Backsliding", "Eliminating Corruption in the Democratic Process", and "Strengthening Democratic Institutions". Economic & Social Council addresses "Equalizing Access to Public Healthcare", "Responsibility of Funding for Sustainable Development Goals", & "Reducing Inequality in All Forms". The Human Rights Council deals with the "Uyghur Muslims in China", "Protecting Freedom of the Press", and "Inclusive Political Representation". Security Council, as always, will determine their agenda after voting during the conference and for the first time in SunMUN history, we are conducting a Historical Committee. This committee will reenact the global order in a 20-nation committee during the early stages of the Arab Spring. Its time period will begin on February 17, 2011, when protests sprang across North Africa and the Middle East. It is a unique opportunity to explore how a key pro-democracy and anti-corruption movement played out historically and how such patterns may inform how we deal with the erosion of democracy today. Please note our issue books for the aforementioned topics will be uploaded to our website by August 7th, 2022.

SunMUN is also excited to introduce our chairing application where we will be picking five passionate experienced delegates to chair alongside our college team. SunMUN always strives to provide multiple learning opportunities for the enthusiastic high school MUN community of Arizona and hopes to further enhance this conference experience by allowing delegates to chair. Moreover, given the fluctuating nature of COVID-19, our top priority is to challenge students to think critically about social, historical, political, and security issues in a safe accessible manner. This is why, as per ASU guidelines, we will be requiring masks for all indoor spaces at ASU and be monitoring the pandemic closely for any changes.

But with that in mind, we are truly looking forward to welcoming you all to SunMUN 2022 this November! Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or require any additional information. Thank you.

Warm regards,
Ritisha Das
Secretary-
General
SunMUN 2022