

# THE GI BUGLE

## *Secretary General's Address*

*"If you need something from somebody, always give that person a way to hand it to you."* – Sun Tzu

For a multitude of reasons, this quote speaks to me; the most important one of them being the fact that it rightly infers that diplomacy may as well be the panacea to all war, crime and bloodshed that we as a society face today. Additionally, why, perhaps, it resonates with me is that it, in its own way reiterates how violence is *not always*, rather, *almost never*, the answer.

For decades, especially since the United Nations came into being – it has been the

dream of many to live in a world where peace is maintained not by sergeants and armies, but by summits and treaties. The reality however, could not be farther away. Every day the world as we know it is a day closer to impending doom; from the possibility of complete militarisation of outer space, to a more horrifying potential world war.

What should our responsibility as young individuals, probably leaders of tomorrow, be then? After numerous protests, discussions, resolutions and treaties, it would now be rather foolish to assume that developments like these can be stopped in a peaceful manner. It is rather easy to feign ignorance and act as if these talks of nuclear weapons, shifting alliances and the ever increasing counts of acts of aggression don't faze us; almost as if they don't matter, at least not to us, since they don't affect us directly at any rate. That approach is neither healthy nor conducive. As limited as our abilities, resources and final impacts may be; any changes caused by the endeavour to make a difference and spark a revolution will go a long way in making sure that no other countries suffer at the hands of extremists like Syria is. I understand that it is rather unrealistic, in the current scenario, to imagine a possibility of a world without war. But what I ask, delegates is, does unrealistic equal impossible? Have we all reached a point in our lives where we feel it is worthless to even try to change the course of things?

We, at Global Influence Model United Nations, are organising this conference to make sure that the answer to that question never turns out to be a unanimous, absolute negative. We believe that one single spark is enough to ignite a flame of change; because we hope – we hope that our successors don't have to witness the horrors in Syria, Rohingya, Yemen and Palestine, amongst other countries. We hope that they don't ever have to live in a world where racism, sexism and rampant discrimination exist. We hope, because if we don't, what else is left to live with?

It is with the same sentiment that I, Pooja Agrawal, Secretary General of GiMUN 2018, on behalf of the entire Secretariat, invite you to join us for a three day conference. As you discuss, debate and deliberate over relevant global conflicts, I implore you to keep in mind the following quote by Ronald Reagan:

*"Peace is not the absence of conflict; It is, rather, the ability to handle conflicts peacefully."*

Keep this in mind as you lobby and converse with fellow delegates to arrive to pragmatic solutions; it is more important now, than ever, that in the face of conflict, we collate our resources to mitigate it, instead of letting it ruminate. We are who we choose to be; and our successors will definitely thank us for choosing to be a generation that decided to actively take charge and make a change instead of turning a blind eye to the same. Having said that, I wish all of you good luck and great success, not just in regards to the conference, but with respect to every endeavour you wish to undertake.

Yours diplomatically

Pooja Agrawal

Secretary General

GiMUN 2018





### *The Rise Of The Kurds*

The committee commenced with the President explaining the rules of procedure to the delegates. The agenda was modified to the Kurdish Question as the delegate of Netherlands raised a point of order stating that the creation of the state was out of the ambit of the Security Councils power. The opening speech was made by the delegate of USA where he stated that the Assad regime in Syria does not care about the Kurdish people to which the delegate of Syria raised a right to reply stating that the statement was offensive to the Syrian government which led to the discussion of who the Syrian delegate will be representing in the council. It was confirmed by the president that the delegate represents the Assad regime. The delegates of Netherlands, Sweden, Turkey and France agreed that they would offer humanitarian aid but the question raised was the method of giving the said aid. The delegate of PRC made a profound statement that the Kurds were not actually a minority during the reign of the Ottoman Empire since they were considered a part of the Sunni Muslim community but now they have become one. A point made by the delegate of Iran was that the country condemns the use of chemical weapons and requests the council to put restrictions on its chemical weapons power.

-Snehi Mehta

### *The Commencement*

On this day of 12th October, 2018, the Global Influence Model United Nations was successfully kicked off. There were four committees present: UNSC, UNHRC, UNICEF, and UNODC. Committees were chosen to be easily researchable for first time delegates. Meaning, each delegate had been provided with equal opportunities to showcase and enhance their talents in the field of public speaking, on a platform which can be graced by all.

This three day event started off with a few wise words from the Secretary General, Pooja Agarwal. She stated that this is not the absence of conflict, rather it is the ability to handle conflict in a good way. She concluded with the statement, "We aim to create diplomats of tomorrow who know how to resolve these conflicts."

The United Nations Security Council is responsible for international peace and security. As such, the agenda of the of GiMUN 2018 UNSC is the "Territorial conflicts in the Middle East with special emphasis on establishment of a Kurdish state." The key factor is the continuous conflicts which affect everyone, whether or not they are present on the territory or the area surrounding it, a fact which was brought up by the delegate of USA.

-Athena Fialho

