



SECRETARIES-GENERAL

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Dear delegates,

My name is Marta Di Federico, and I am incredibly excited to be serving as your CPD Director for Session I this year. I was born and raised in Rome, Italy. For a few years now, I have been living in Sweden, where I am currently completing my final year of a double bachelor's degree in political science and Middle Eastern and North African studies at Stockholm University.

My MUN journey began a few years ago, when I attended my first conference (NHSMUN) as a delegate in DISEC, representing Liberia. Since then, I have had the opportunity to experience MUN from a different perspective through the role of Assistant Director in other conferences. This session marks my first time directing a committee and I could not be happier to share that experience with all of you!

Outside of university and MUN, there are quite a few things that occupy my time. I love watching movies and TV series, listening to music, and travelling. I have always found that being somewhere new has a way of changing the way you see both the world and yourself. Meeting people with different backgrounds, experiencing different cultures, and stepping outside what feels familiar have shaped many of my own experiences and taught me to approach new places and people with curiosity and an open mind. I think that is part of what I love about MUN as well: it gives us the opportunity to encounter perspectives beyond our own and to learn from them.

As your Director, one of the things I care about most is creating a committee where everyone feels comfortable participating. MUN can certainly be challenging, and sometimes stressful, but it should also be exciting, rewarding, and most importantly fun. As you prepare for the conference, remember that preparation is not about memorizing every fact or arriving with every solution already figured out. Come with questions, ideas, and, most importantly, an open mind. Some of the most interesting moments in committee will come from conversations and perspectives that you could not have anticipated beforehand. Trust the work you have done, be curious, and be willing to adapt.

I am very much looking forward to meeting all of you, hearing your ideas, and seeing what you bring to the committee. If you have any questions or concerns while preparing for the conference, please do not hesitate to reach out!

Best,

Marta Di Federico
Director, Commission on Population and Development
Session I
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Dear Delegates,

I am Grace Farley, and I hope all of you are as excited as I am for NHSMUN 2027! I will be serving as your CPD Session II director. I grew up in East Asia (South Korea, China, and Taiwan) following my parents' jobs as teachers but am now living in Gambier, Ohio, for college. I am a sophomore at Kenyon College, double majoring in International Studies and Chinese. I am hoping to someday go into either international politics or teaching. If you have any questions you are welcome to ask me anything.

I have been doing Model United Nations since seventh grade, but did not attend NHSMUN until much later. My junior year of high school was the first year my school attended NHSMUN post-Covid. I attended NHSMUN in SOCHUM, representing Indonesia. This was a very daunting experience, as the format of MUN in the United States is very different from the format I'd been following in Asia. My senior year I was the only returning member of my school's team and I had to help teach my entire team how to prepare for NHSMUN. This experience is a large part of why I wanted to pursue leadership positions at NHSMUN once in college. I wanted to support delegates like myself who were struggling but determined to do well at NHSMUN. Last year was my first year on staff. I had an incredible time as the assistant director for UN-HABITAT during Session II.

A little bit about me: I love painting and doing puzzles and have started to really enjoy lifting. My parents are both teachers, so I grew up getting little lessons about politics and history at dinner from my dad (a history teacher), and learned compassion from my mom (an academic support teacher). I didn't realize until recently how much this influenced my academic pursuits. Their role as teachers has also pushed me to continue MUN and is a large part of why I wanted to become a director at NHSMUN.

My intention as your director is to make this committee and conference as a whole an educational, enjoyable, and memorable experience. My priority is that all delegates find confidence in debate and learn, both more about the topics at hand and about their ability as a delegate. As you read this background guide, be intentional. Assess both your own personal understanding and positions as well as the position the country you are representing would hold. These stances may not align, and that is where you are challenged and pushed to do your best during Model UN. One of my favorite parts of participating in NHSMUN during past years has been meeting people from around the US and the world that I am still friends with today.

Finally, I hope you all find this background guide helpful. I am always available to answer any questions you may have; please feel free to reach out. I cannot wait to meet all of you!

Grace Farley

Director, Commission on Population and Development

Session II

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