



SECRETARIES-GENERAL

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Dear Delegates,

Welcome to the Social, Humanitarian, and Cultural Committee (SOCHUM) for NHSMUN 2027! My name is Michele Nieto Meza, and I am the committee Director for session I of the conference. This is my third year on staff, and I was a delegate of NHSMUN in 2023. That year I attended UNEA and I got the opportunity to speak at the United Nations Headquarters in front of all the delegates of session II. If you have any NHSMUN-related questions, do not hesitate to ask! I will do my best to answer.

I am from Caracas, Venezuela, but I lived in Aruba for 5 years. I graduated from Colegio “Cristo Rey de Attamira” in 2024. Currently, I am in my first year of my undergraduate at Universidad Metropolitana, where I am studying International Studies with a mention in International Economics and International Law, with a minor in Political Thought. Since I was little, I have always been a very extroverted and talkative person. Aside from MUN, I love music and studying. My favorite singers are La Vida Bohème, Frank Sinatra, and Latin Mafia.

Gianluca Rampolla recently said, “Venezuela can’t be explained, you have to live it to understand.” Creating this background guide was a difficult task to do, since it hit so close to home. The topic of “Human Rights Violations in Venezuela” is a very complex topic that also has a very complex solution. Doing this research reminds us why Model UN matters so much, it gives us a voice when remaining silent feels easier. Throughout history, real progress has only ever happened when individuals have had the courage to speak up against injustice and stand firmly for what is right, even when doing so comes with uncertainty or fear. I am also thrilled for us to tackle our second topic, “Improving Global Literacy Rates”. An issue that holds the power to transform lives, unlock potential, and reshape communities worldwide! I cannot wait to see the innovative solutions you bring to the table.

This background guide is just the beginning of our discussion. Because this topic touches on deeply personal and intricate realities, I want our committee to be a space where you feel supported in your learning. If you have any questions about the topic, need guidance on the research, or simply want to talk through the complexities of this guide, please reach out to me. I am always here to help you navigate this experience. Both of these topics should be addressed with the responsibility and decorum that I know everyone is capable of. Once again, I am looking forward to seeing you in committee and seeing your research and enthusiasm reflected in NHSMUN 2027.

Sincerely,

Michele Nieto
Social, Humanitarian, and Cultural Committee
Session I
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Dear Delegates,

I am honored to welcome you all to the 53rd installment of NHSMUN! My name is Ava Tasharrofi, and it is my privilege to serve as this year's Session 2 Director of the Social, Humanitarian, and Cultural Committee.

I have been part of Model United Nations for five years, and I'm dedicated to upholding this commitment with my position as director. I joined Model UN as a sophomore in high school, hesitant to try a new extracurricular that required public speaking and presentation. I remember every feeling: the victories, the disappointments, but most importantly, the valuable skills I learned in diplomacy and creativity. I attended NHSMUN as a delegate in UNICEF and had a phenomenal experience, which propelled me to deliver that same experience back to you all!

I am currently a student at UCLA pursuing a degree in Public Health. I'm born and raised in Los Angeles, so I've loved staying close to my family and exploring the city more. As a Persian-American, I love traveling and learning new languages, and I hope to become a polyglot! Outside of Model UN, I am passionate about health equity and community safety. I've had the privilege of working alongside local Councilmembers and Assemblymembers as an intern, which has lent itself to shaping my perspective of the barriers to health and education that plague marginalized communities in LA. As such, I have a strong connection to both topics for this year's SOCHUM committee, and I hope you all grow one as well through your research process.

While reading this guide, ensure that you are engaging with the topic to the best of your ability by keeping an open mind. The best piece of advice I can give to delegates in this committee is to not just to research, but to understand. The topics of this committee highlight communities that may have been neglected by their respective societies, so ensure that all subsequent actions are done with this in mind.

I hope to make NHSMUN 2027 memorable for all delegates and cannot wait to connect with you all during the conference. I encourage delegates to challenge themselves in ways they may not have anticipated, whether that be delivering quality research in position papers or enhancing your knowledge of the topic. If you have any questions regarding the topics, committee, or conference in general, Michele and I are more than happy to assist you. NHSMUN is marked on my calendar with stars and exclamation points. See you all in March!

Sincerely,

Ava Tasharrofi
Social, Humanitarian, and Cultural Committee Director
Session II
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