



BEIMUN XXXII

*The Cost of Progress:
Looking into Pandora's Box*

January 10 - 12, 2025



北京顺义国际学校
INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL OF BEIJING

BEIMUN XXXII

Hosted by the *International School of Beijing*
Prepared by the BEIMUN Secretariat

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Foreword from the Secretariat

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Dear all,

We're delighted to announce that the 32nd annual Beijing Model United Nations conference. BEIMUN XXXII will take place in-person at the International School of Beijing from January 10 - 12, 2025.

The BEIMUN Secretariat will be hard at work preparing for the upcoming conferences. All the information including committees, topics, chair applications, and more have been released on our website.

This year's theme is The Cost of Progress: Looking into Pandora's Box. An explanation for the theme can be found in a later section of this letter.

BEIMUN has a proud history of serving as a platform for thoughtful debate and timely discussion amongst the leaders of tomorrow. We are excited to to see you join us in this engaging experience next January.

Sincerely,

Secretariat of the 32nd Annual Session of BEIMUN



Kelly VanJ



Statement of Purpose

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"The Model United Nations program in Beijing is an extension of The Hague International Model United Nations (THIMUN). As an affiliate, BEIMUN seeks to reflect the ideas and principles of a peaceful post-Cold War world. The Coordinators of the program believe that this world order more accurately reflects the original motives of the authors of the 1945 San Francisco Charter than events following the Potsdam Conference of the same year. It is our hope that BEIMUN will continue to act as another regional centre of THIMUN conference affiliates helping to revitalize the original ideals of the United Nations.

Current events confirm that the attitudes and voting patterns of the United Nations members are changing. Hence, at BEIMUN, the diplomat of any member state, no matter how large or small, rich or poor, who exercises independence of character and a critical mind, can truly serve his nation honorably in a great experiment in world community. The individual delegate's efforts at communication and behavior will be the most important factors in the drive for a better world and a quality MUN conference. Any delegate who sits idly by weakens his/her own nation's significance in this simulation and therefore the forum as well.

MUN teachers have the daunting instructional task of destroying stereotypes to free students to think and communicate both as delegates and diplomats of a world community. Those with so called non-essential countries, and those with spotlighted countries have equally difficult tasks. Some of you, who view the conference and events on the world stage, think they know the correct position of the spotlighted countries, and that the other countries have little or nothing to contribute. The history of the United Nations in the 1980's, points to the folly of such thinking. This attitude must be overcome if schools are to contribute to establishing the best precedents for future world citizens.

We ask for your understanding, cooperation, and quality work in preparation and participation in order to uphold the principles described above. Victory belongs to all of the delegates at the conference who negotiate the best solutions possible to the most complex issues of this new era in which we live. I do believe that the day is coming when THIMUN and their affiliates become the voice of the youth of this planet and that you, BEIMUN delegates, will have the opportunity to contribute to the shaping of our world."

– Irwin Stein, Founder of BEIMUN, January 1993

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About the International School of Beijing

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The International School of Beijing (ISB) is a private international coeducational day school located in Shunyi District, Beijing, China. ISB has a history of excellence that spans more than 40 years. We are proud of our vibrant, culturally diverse community, where each day 1,650 students representing over 50 countries engage in challenging and joyful learning. Research-based programs, high-quality teaching, and outstanding and ever-improving facilities mean students at ISB are being prepared for success in a world that keeps changing at a breathtaking pace. To learn more, visit <https://www.isb.bj.edu.cn/>.



Conference Theme

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The Cost of Progress: Looking into Pandora's Box



The turn of the millennia will usher in a new age of human civilization. What happens in this century will have long-lasting impacts for millennia to come as humanity reaches for the stars. The 21st century promised to be a new golden age of society. It has not turned out as expected. Instead of economic prosperity, it faced some of the worst combinations of financial and societal crises in history. Instead of scientific enlightenment, it became struck by a solid reactionary movement fueled by fear and politics against medicine and technology. Instead of a new century of unprecedented levels of peace, it has produced worse conflicts and humanitarian disasters than many in the Cold War.

Drawing from the ancient Greek myth of Pandora, who inadvertently unleashed suffering upon the world despite initial intentions of curiosity and gift-giving, we can underscore the unforeseen consequences that accompany progress. Progress, while heralding remarkable benefits of technological innovations, improved healthcare, and economic development, can also bring about significant drawbacks. These include environmental degradation, social disparities, and ethical dilemmas that challenge our moral frameworks. The duality in progress highlights that with each step forward, there is often a hidden cost that must be considered. By examining progress through the lens of Pandora's Box, we are reminded to approach future developments with both optimism and caution, ensuring that the pursuit of progress does not unleash new forms of adversity upon society. Only by accepting the reality of this distressing chapter and the burdens of global citizenship can humanity, united in history and destiny, ultimately realize the promise once made of this new era.

Committee & Topics

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General Assembly (GA1)

- Developing frameworks for the safe and sustainable utilization of space resources for socioeconomic benefit by private and national space programs
- Addressing the continued threat of piracy towards international shipping

General Assembly (GA2)

- Developing strategies to sustainably manage natural resources for economic growth in mountainous regions of LEDCs.
- Combating the influence of drug cartels in less economically developed nations

General Assembly (GA3)

- Regarding the rise of scientific and medicinal distrust and misinformation
- Examining the risks and consequences of human genetic engineering

Disarmament Commission (DIS)

- Establishing the role of international organizations in promoting disarmament and non-proliferation in the Middle East
- Addressing the human rights violations in the territory of West Papua as a result of arm proliferation in political groups

Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC)

- Addressing job displacement due to automation and artificial intelligence
- Reducing corruption and inequality in the distribution of new technologies in LEDC's

Environmental Commission (ENV)

- Examining the impacts of climate change small island states and coastal regions
- Measures to address the environmental impacts of fast fashion

Human Rights Council (HRC)

- Examining human rights implications of mass surveillance in the digital age
- Addressing the rise of hate speech due to the increase in digital media usage

World Health Assembly (WHA)

- Improving maternal health systems to address heightened birth mortality rates in LEDCs
- Addressing the safety concerns of technology and artificial intelligence implementation in healthcare services

Security Council (SC)

- Israel-Hamas War
- Situation in Sudan

Historical Security Council (HSC)

- The Hungarian Revolution (1956)
- The Suez Crisis (1956)

International Court of Justics (ICJ)

- Armed Activities on the Territory of the Congo (Democratic Republic of the Congo v. Uganda) 1999-2022
- Whaling in the Antarctic (Australia v. Japan: New Zealand intervening) 2010-2014

Crisis

- Leave or Remain: The Battle for No. 10 Downing Street:
 - The year is 2019 and Theresa May faces the House of Commons in the debate not just about the Brexit Bill that she wishes to see passed, but also the continuation of her leadership of the Conservative Party and the survival of the Conservative Party against votes of no-confidence against her and the party as a whole.

Registration and Deadlines

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June 17, 2024: Form 1 opens, Chair applications opens

September 24, 2024: Form 1 closes, chair application closes

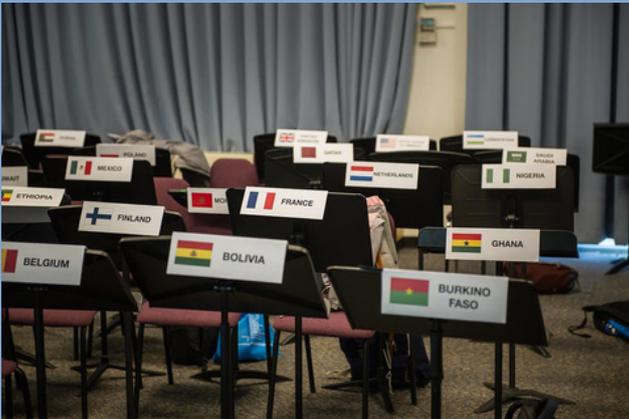
October 18, 2024: Form 2 opens, chairs announced

November 18, 2024: Form 2 closes, chair reports due

November 29, 2024: Final changes to Form 2

December 13, 2024: All payments due

January 10-12, 2025: BEIMUN XXXII



"I truly enjoyed the very well-run online conference. The conference was well organized and overall I loved it! Thank you for all of your hard work!"
- Feedback from BEIMUN XXX

"Thank you for all your incredibly hard work throughout the conference, from patiently dealing with tech issues to doing all the behind-the-scenes work to coordinate between 300+ delegates. [We] look forward to participating in the future!"
- Feedback from BEIMUN XXX



Conference Details

BEIMUN XXXII will be an offline conference taking place at the International School of Beijing. The conference fee will be determined in August 2024.



INVITED OFFLINE

Although BEIMUN XXXII will be an offline conference, delegates will be allowed to use technology during the conference.

Lunch and snacks will be provided by ISB.



FAQs

Q: When does BEIMUN XXXII take place?

A: BEIMUN XXXI is a three-day conference, taking place from January 10th to 12th, 2025.

Q: Will BEIMUN XXXII be entirely offline?

A: Yes. BEIMUN XXXII will be a completely offline conference.

Q: Who can attend BEIMUN XXXII?

A: BEIMUN XXXII is a high-level conference designed for high school students. Any school interested in participating in the conference can apply. Students must attend as a part of a teacher-led delegation from their school. More details will be on the official BEIMUN website.

Q: How do I register for BEIMUN XXXII?

A: Form 1 for BEIMUN XXXII will be available on our website www.beijingmun.org under the "Registration" tab.

Q: What is the language of the conference?

A: The conference will be conducted in English.

Q: What are the registration deadlines?

A: The final due date for Form 1 (pre-registration), in which schools are required to provide an estimate of how many delegates and directors they intend to bring to BEIMUN XXXII, will be updated by the end of June.

Q: Is BEIMUN XXXII free?

A: No, as this is an in-person conference, we will be charging a conference fee to all participants, including Directors.

Q: Can students from participating schools apply for leadership positions?

A: Yes. While the secretariat and head admin positions are always held by ISB students, students from other schools may apply for chair positions through the Student Officer Applications page under the Registration tab on our website.

Q: Does BEIMUN follow THIMUN rules of procedure?

A: Yes. BEIMUN is a THIMUN-affiliated conference, and all debate is run according to THIMUN protocol.

For any additional questions/ concerns, please refer to the FAQs section on our website, <https://www.beijingmun.org/faq>, or send us an email at mun@isb.cn



