



Delegate Handbook



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Letter from the Secretary General

The Covid-19 pandemic has brought about a lot of change. It has not only impacted our day to day lives but also disrupted the world trade and movements. Amidst all this chaos, we have seen a substantial rise in the use of technology, which has already woven itself into the fabric of our everyday lives. Affected parts of the world have been able to move their education facilities online and businesses have had their employees telecommute from home. We are using social media to connect with others, lifestyle apps to shop, and informing ourselves about current affairs through the news media. Though we can see a rapid evolution of technology and innovation, the governments seem not to be able to keep pace with regulating the technologies just as rapidly. Governments need to urgently establish how and to what extent these new technologies should be regulated. If this key player in our lives is not properly regulated, we, the consumers would have to bear the consequences.

An example of how tech companies are already taking advantage of provisional regulations is them capitalizing on users' data and allowing the spread of misinformation. This can most evidently be seen through the example of social media.

Since most social media applications are free of charge to the user, conglomerates have become profitable through a contemporary business model. These companies have third party firms pay for the app, so that they can use the social media space as a marketing platform for their products. One way by which social media firms convince third party firms to invest in them as marketing platforms, is by displaying engaging content to the users. The longer the user stays on the app, the more the third party can advertise their products to the user and the more the social media firms get in return.

The problem with this is that people tend to be engaged with content that is captivating, which is radically for or against a particular cause. This causes social media platforms to suggest things that users would want to watch, even though the content of that post might be completely wrong. As a result, there are lot of misinformation and dissatisfaction in our society. According to recent studies, misinformation travels 6 times faster than real information on social media. The social media firm knows, based on the previous engagement of the user, what the likes and dislikes of a user are. Using this data, algorithms suggest specific content to increase the user's screen time and display advertisements of relevant products.

The spreading of misinformation has already started showing its consequences during the Covid-19 pandemic, with a lot of "fake news" floating around about the virus itself, which poses as a serious public health threat as people are trying to sieve facts from fiction. Immense political polarization is also a consequence of this new business model of technology firms through the spread of hate speeches.

At MUNESRM 2021, delegates are going to discuss whether social media firms should allow posts on the internet which spread misinformation. Or whether that violates a

fundamental human right of the freedom of speech? Also, should social media firms be allowed to have access to the consumer's data, or is it breaching their privacy?

It is well recognized that technology needs to be regulated, but how should governments tackle this? After all, our governments were designed to protect workers, not data. If some kind of blanket regulation is imposed on all countries, then the national sovereignty of several countries will be attacked, undermining the purpose of the UN. However, if countries are left to adjust regulatory measures themselves, then third party vendors would pay a lot of money to countries with weak regulation for the data of their citizens. This would encourage other nations to lower their regulations as well. Furthermore, this will grow an environment of corruption. Even if a UN body were in charge of scrutinizing countries that have lower regulation to ensure that they are not providing any incentives for vendors to buy data of their citizens, it would undermine a key principle of the UN which is to treat each nation as fair and equal.

Not only this, the UN also has to tackle the divided stance on this issue. Some countries are of the opinion that technology should not be regulated at all as this undermines the purpose of a free market and impairs the economy. If technology has strong regulations, then companies will have less of an incentive to bring new innovations in the market.

At MUNESRM 2021, delegates will also be discussing how the framework of the regulation of technologies should be constructed so that the UN principles are not attacked. The framework also has to hold the spirit of innovation upright.

The complexity of the issues at hand really highlight the fact that there is a lot of action that needs to be taken by governments urgently.

Instead of dismissing these problems or stopping the use of technology, we need to spark a global conversation about how we as users should use technology responsibly and how governments should regulate the technology, for it to become a safe and dependable medium of information and communication to users.

Technology has certainly helped us overcome the hurdle of hosting a Model United Nations conference during a global pandemic. This conference will be held a bit differently, all online. At MUNESRM 2021, delegates will come together to discuss this year's special theme and work to amend the past and craft the future. Don't forget to sign up on MYMUN for a position as a chair or delegate and join us to discuss the world's most pressing issue we face today and be united in a worldwide web!

Sincerely yours,

Shriya Rastogi and Stav Oppenheimer

Secretary Generals of the MUNESRM 2021

Conference Schedule

Friday

15:00-17:30	Opening Ceremony
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Saturday

9:30-12:30	Committee Session 1
12:30-14:00	Lunch
14:00-16:30	Committee Session 2
17:00-18:00	Delegate Social

Sunday

9:00-12:30	Committee Session 3
12:30-14:00	Lunch
14:00-16:00	General Assembly

Guest Speaker: Julia Machin

Julia has 30 years' experience as a lawyer in Capital Markets, both in private practice and in-house, in London and in Sao Paulo. Julia assumed the role as Knowledge Lawyer (PSL) at Clifford Chance 20 years ago. During that time, Julia has participated in various industry working groups (including ICMA, AFME, the Bank of England and London Stock Exchange), appeared on industry body conference panels and written numerous articles, including the Listing and Public Offers chapter in the last two editions of the Financial Services Law text book published by Oxford University Press.

Keynote Speaker: Ulrich Kelber

Ulrich Kelber was born on the 29th of March 1968. Ulrich Kelber has been the federal commissioner for data protection since the 7th of January 2019. He is married and has five children. The computer scientist worked after graduation at the research center for technology and later in a software company.

In September 2000 he was voted into the German parliament and represented his hometown Bonn until January of 2019. From 2005 until 2013 he became a representative of the SPD and coordinated branches of politics such as consumer protection, nutrition, agriculture, environment, protection of nature and sustainability. Between December 2013 and April 2018 he was a parliamentary state secretary in the federal ministry of justice for consumer protection with specific focus on data protection.

Committees and Issues on the Agenda

Theme: Ensuring the protection of an individual's data

ECOSOC

- Protecting individual rights to privacy in the digital age.

Human Rights Council

- Preserving the freedom of expression and human rights on social media Basic Conference Rules.

Conference Rules

Dress Code

MUNESRM is a formal event that follows the category of “western business attire”.

For girls, this means a pantsuit or costume with a blouse or a smart dress with formal footwear.

For boys, this means a full suit with a tie or a bow as well as formal footwear.

All delegates are expected to not wear anything too revealing or disrespectful in any way. Jeans are not acceptable. If the dress code is violated, delegates may be excluded from the committee session until they dress appropriately, or face punishments by their chairs.

Consumption of Illegal Substances

During committee sessions, it is strictly forbidden for all delegates to consume alcohol, drugs, or other illegal substances. Being under the influence of these substances will lead to an immediate expulsion from MUNESRM.

Respectful Behavior

Each and every delegate is expected to act in a respectful manner during the entire conference. Racially discriminating remarks, vulgar language and impolite behavior towards other delegates, chairs or administration staff will lead to disciplinary measures or an expulsion from the conference.

Behavior during the Video Call

As this year the conference takes place digitally, the delegates are required to have their cameras turned on at all times.

Meet the Executive Team 2021!

Secretary Generals



Secretary General
Stav Oppenheimer



Secretary General
Shriya Rastogi



Deputy Secretary General
Elias Eichhorn

Team of Administration



Co-Head of Administration
Maya Van de Sande



Deputy of Administration
Talia Asar

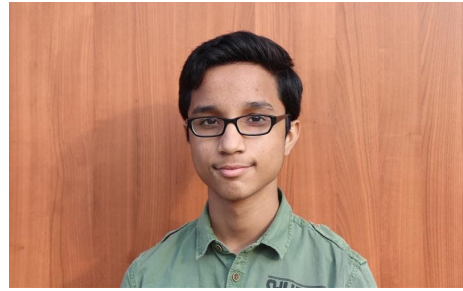


Co-Head of Administration
Leah Westberg

Team of Communication



Head of Communication
Yara Fallouh



Deputy of Communication
Shineyu Chandra

Team of IT



Co-Head of IT
Nikita Voigtländer



Deputy of IT
Simon Hilger

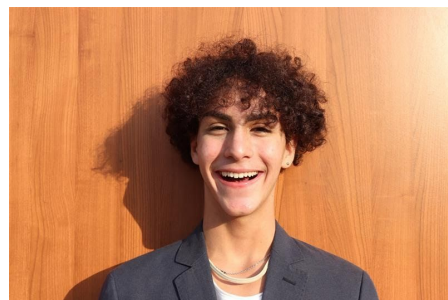


Co-Head of IT
David Vogenhauer

Team of Hospitality



Head of Hospitality
Sophia Martinsson



Deputy of Hospitality
Eric Samuel

Team of Press



Head of Press
Lena Jean LaRock-Mueller



Deputy of Press
Nikolas Junila



Deputy of Press
Kseniya Korabelnik

Team of Finance



Co-Head of Finance
Jeremy Hill



Co-Head of Finance
Benedikt Cresswell



Deputy of Finance
Hannah Martinsson

The Executive Team 2021 wishes you a fruitful conference!

