

**MUNASH**

**28 - 29  
SEPTEMBER  
2020**

**2020**

**MONASH  
INTERNATIONAL  
AFFAIRS SOCIETY**

**MONASH MODEL UNITED  
NATIONS**



# CONTENTS

**02**

2020 OVERVIEW

**03**

STATISTICS

**04**

HIGHLIGHTS

**06**

POLICIES

**17**

SUMMARY



## 2020 OVERVIEW

The 2020 Monash University Model United Nations Conference was the first Australia-wide, and regional, Model UN (MUN) hosted since the beginning of the COVID-19.

Due to restrictions in Victoria, the conference was adapted to an online forum, utilising Zoom, the Google Suite, and custom MUN software to try and replicate the MUN environment. This also included further technology training for our volunteers so the sessions could be seamless.

The 2020 conference involved a secretariat of 10 members, along with 12 committee chairs, and additional assistance in relation to Zoom moderating, skills sessions, and socials.

Each member of the organising team had been preparing since May for the conference, changing plans due to COVID-19 restrictions in Victoria being enforced July.

The six committees all discussed crucial and topical issues. The students in each presented multiple responses to problems they faced, along with managing various crises that were given to them during the conference.

Due to the hard work and dedication of our volunteers and secretariat, the conference was a success. The tireless months in the lead-up, along with the flexibility of the conference due to present circumstances, meant that proceedings were well coordinated.

KEY STATISTICS

125

PARTICIPANTS

5

AUSTRALIAN STATES

5

COUNTRIES

10

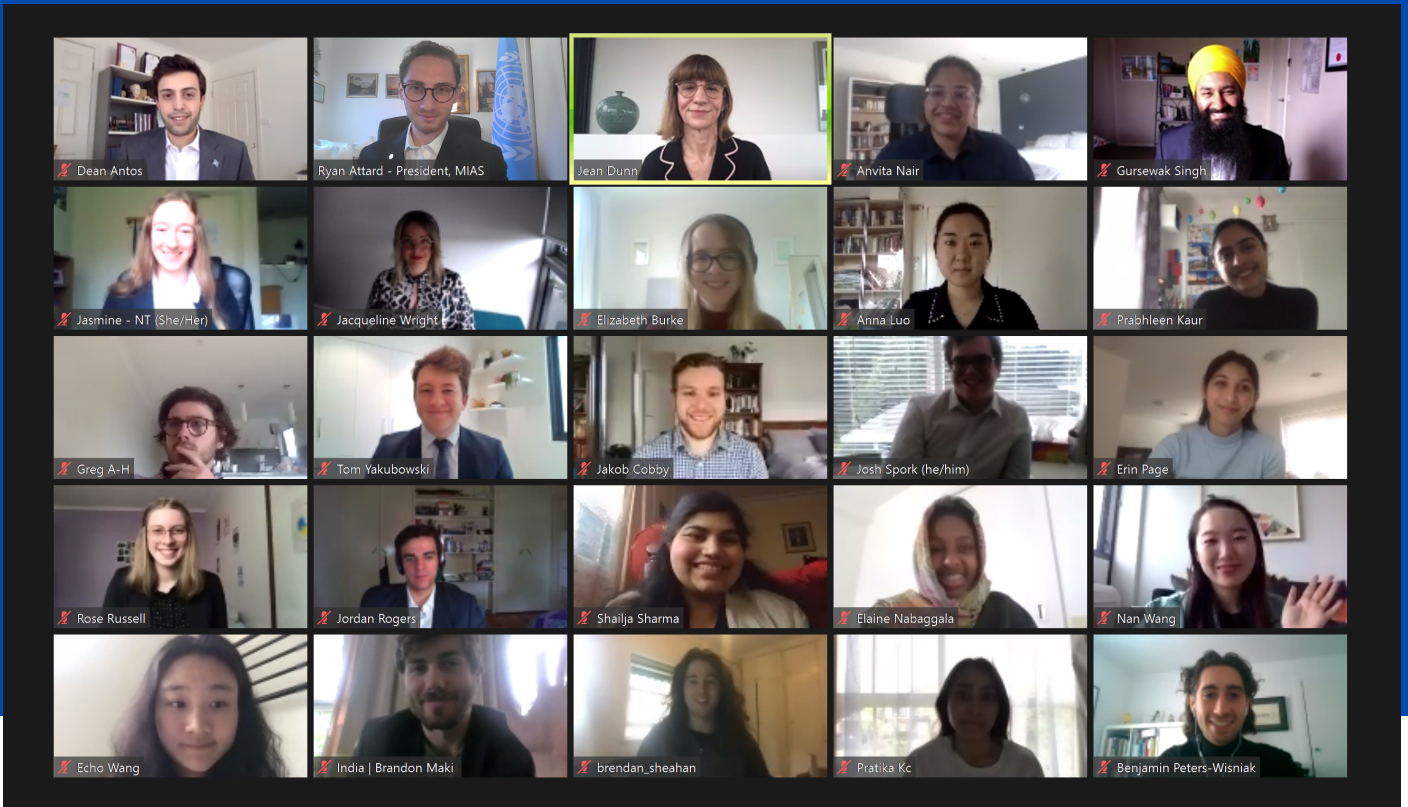
RESOLUTIONS

15

HOURS OF DEBATE

16

GUEST SPEAKERS



## HIGHLIGHTS

### Opening Ceremony

The opening ceremony for MUNash 2020 was the largest of its sort. Due to being online, geography was no constraint and we had speakers from around Australia and around the world.

### Participants

Due to the conference moving online, we had participants from other cities in Australia and other countries in the Asia-Pacific participate. This was the first time our conference had international participants.

### Skills Sessions

On our second day, we held two skills sessions relating to diplomacy. The skills sessions presented our students the chance to learn about more practical skills required by individuals who want to have a career in diplomacy and public relations.

### Socials & Networking

Trying to replicate in person conferences, the delegates in attendance had the chance to meet fellow like-minded students and build connections. This was done through fun activities and chances for them to casually chat.



## POLICIES

### **Joint National Cabinet of Australia and New Zealand**

This committee involved students simulating a joint meeting of the leaders of each state to develop a policy on the travel bubble between Australia and New Zealand.

The delegates also had to face issues regarding the fluctuation of COVID-19 cases in certain Australian states and political instability, with some state leaders replaced.

The delegates drafted two resolutions. This included provisions relating to COVID-safe travel, measures for closing states in the case of spikes in cases, monitoring requirements, potential expansion of the bubble, and stages of implementation.

### **Security Council**

This committee involved students simulating a discussion on the India-China Border Dispute.

The delegates had to answer questions relating to ways and measures to calm tensions on the border, and try and develop a long-term plan of monitoring and administering the border.

Delegates found it difficult to accomplish this due to the tensions between the two members, with China's presence in the chamber making discussion difficult.

### **UN Human Rights Council**

This committee involved students simulating a meeting of the UN Human Rights Council for the purposes of outlining the ethics of facial and biometric data.

The delegates had to respond to issues relating to technological advancements, along with the constant shifts in the use of the tech, pressures faced by countries, and the regulation of private entities.

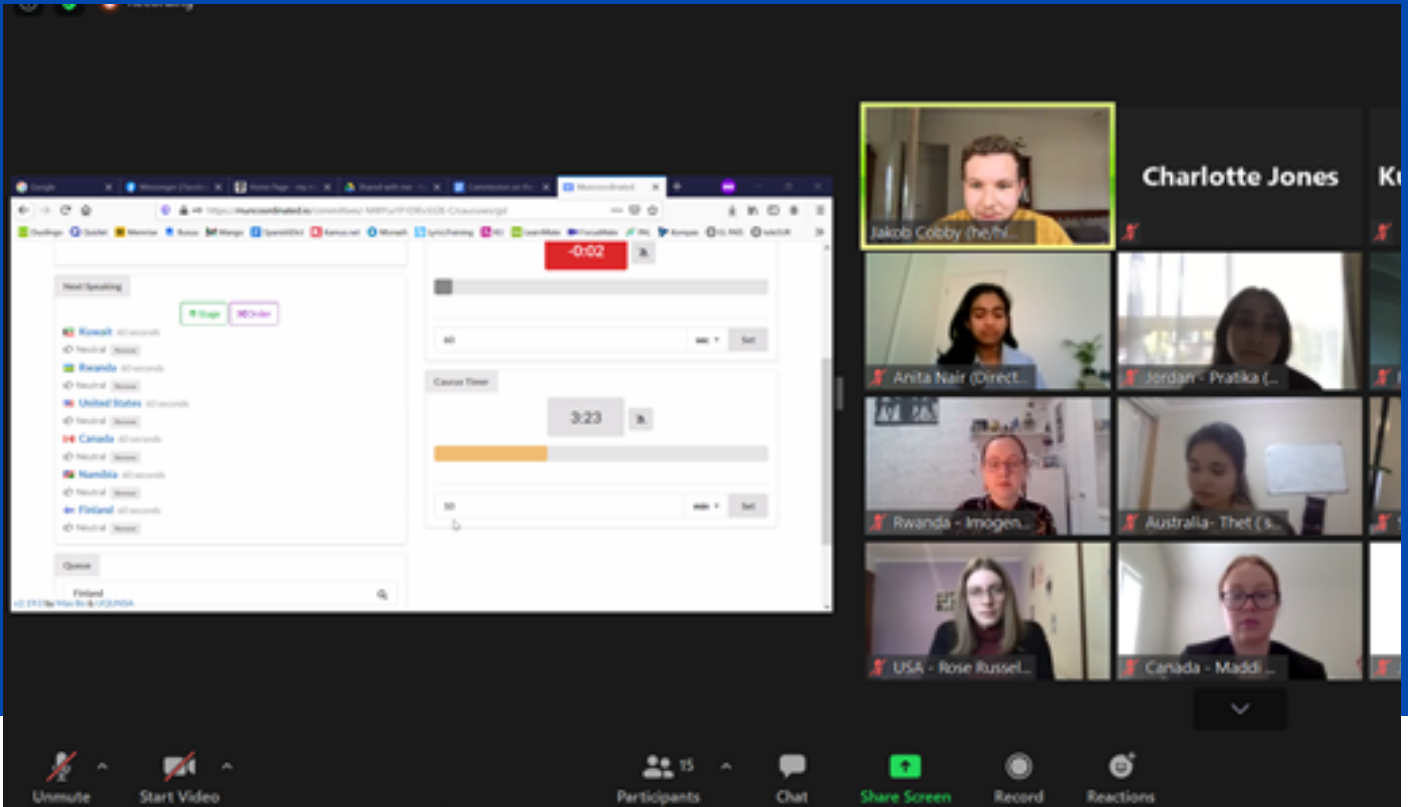
Delegates provided guidance to member-states through the creation of ethical guidelines, along with how they could be implemented, and the responsibilities of all private entities in the handling of this data.

### **Commission on the Status of Women**

This committee involved students discussing the broadening of women's citizenship, leadership, and political participation in transition countries.

The delegates had to answer questions relating to the involvement of women in civil society, educational provisions for girls, and ways for nations to foster women's participation in the institutions of government.

The delegates resolved to make a plan to guide members in the implementation of education standards, along with the creation of pathways for a generational change so women feel more comfortable in the institutions of government.



## POLICIES (CONT.)

### Crisis Council

This committee involved students discussing the topic of the 1962 Cuban Missile Crisis, with each student taking on the role of a U.S. Cabinet member or a Cuban official.

The delegates had to respond to various crises and avoid nuclear war between the Soviet Bloc and the United States. This also included the creation of a plan of action in which students would seek to bring a cease to the heated tensions.

The Council did avoid crisis and global nuclear war. Delegates made a plan to ensure the removal of nuclear warheads from key strategic positions so to protect mainland United States, Russia, and other key outposts.

### Internet Governance Forum

This committee involved students discussing the impact of mass social media in influencing elections and politics. This was based on recent issues relating to the 2016 U.S. Election and Brexit Referendum.

The delegates were required to respond to pressures on domestic institutions, along with the use of technology in protecting electoral integrity, and forms of monitoring by international institutions.

Delegates outlined plans for a set of guidelines which would form the basis of domestic laws. It was also recommended a global monitoring service be created under the UN.





## **THANK YOU**

The Monash International Affairs Society and the Secretariat of the Monash University Model United Nations wants to express gratitude to everyone involved in the running of the 2020 conference.

We look forward to seeing you all in 2021, hopefully for an in-person conference.