



MONASH INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS SOCIETY

INSPIRING FUTURE WORLD LEADERS

2023 YEAR IN REVIEW





The Monash International Affairs Society respectfully acknowledges and pays respect to the Elders and Traditional Custodians of the land on which we operate, the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung and Boon Wurrung peoples of the East Kulin nations.

We recognise that sovereignty was never ceded.

With gratitude, we aim to contribute to the ongoing care of Country through our work.

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ABOUT MIAS

Established in 2011, The Monash International Affairs Society (MIAS) is a student-run, not-for-profit international affairs society of Monash University.

With over 300 members from a diverse range of disciplines across Monash, MIAS aims to provide its members with opportunities to engage with the international order and delve into global issues. Our events, including panel discussions and international Model United Nations Conferences, help students hone their public speaking, negotiation, and communication skills.

Monash International Affairs Society is the only student-club in Australia that sends delegates overseas to compete in international Model UN Conferences

We strive to create a hub where our members can develop relationships with international leaders in foreign affairs targeting global issues.

MIAS 3 CORE PILLARS



MODEL UNITED NATIONS

ModelUN events include workshops, MUNash and our international Global MUN program.



ACADEMICS

Academic programs include panel discussions, guest speaking features and young professionals networking night.



SOCIALS

Social events include coffee chats, mentoring programs and first years picnics.

MIAS has three core pillars around which we structure our events and opportunities for students: Academics, Socials, and Model United Nations.

ADDITIONAL PLATFORMS



Further, MIAS runs its publications channel PIVOT, and a podcast series called ATLAS, alongside our Internship and Mentorship Programs, providing a multitude of resources for future leaders to thrive.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



MIAS continues to transform the conversation of International Relations into an accessible space where students can actively engage and debate.

It was a delight to begin my university journey with MIAS and end it as your President. 2023 brimmed with outstanding successes and firsts. We experimented with new event formats, programs, and that means sometimes stumbling to achieve our ambitions. We gave back to the community with the funds we gained. We supported the cause most dear to us. As a student community, we worked with Monash high-level executives and advocated for the student community. Across our work, we stood for what we believed in.

I could not be more honoured of the club and its decade-long history. A generation of students whose passion is united by making International Relations more accessible.

We consolidated our reputation as the leading International Affairs club at Monash University, having won C&S Club of the Year (Category C).

We welcomed over 15 out of 23 female-identifying committee and sub-committee members. Our commitment to empowering marginalised communities is so too reflected in our guest speakers' composition. The profiles of international affairs professionals we platform are consistently women and people of colour.

At MIAS, we transform every challenge into a learning curve. We are committed to community growth. This means, all our programs and events, place student interests and growth at the centre.

As MIAS gets ready to welcome another generation of vibrant leaders, stellar individuals ready to stand for what they believe in, I take this moment to thank the 2023 students, attendees, sponsors and guests.

I am deeply proud to have led a club that exudes such collective warmth.

A profound thank you to the 2023 committee. Your energy and creativity allow MIAS to thrive.

Together, the MIAS 2024 committee will continue on delivering MIAS' core mission, year on year, strength to strenght.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Jerry Nguyen'.

Jerry Nguyen (she/her)
2023 President

2023 MIAS COMMITTEE

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE



JERRY NGUYEN

President
(she/her)



LUCY PORTER

Vice-President
(she/her)



SANDON HAYES

Secretary
(he/him)



ERIN PAGE

Treasurer
(she/her)

COMMITTEE



SUHARA RODRIGO

Model United Nations
Officer
(she/her)



DAVID DAU

Model United Nations
Officer
(he/him)



MICHAEL MAHLIS

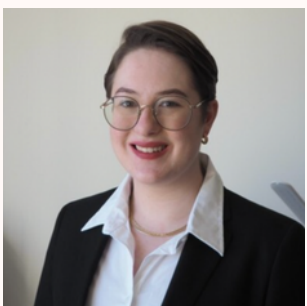
Academics Officer
Careers & Internships
(he/him)

Semester 2



JOSHUA RINDFLEISH

Academics Officer
Events & Faculty
Relations
(he/him)



ERIN GALBRAITH

Academics Officer
Careers & Internships
(she/her)

Semester 1



JACQUI GILL

Socials Officer
(she/her)

Semester 1

2023 MIAS COMMITTEE

COMMITTEE



GAUTAM GEORGE

First-Years Officer
(he/him)



AASHNA SHAH

Sponsorships Officer
(she/her)



ESTHER CHEN

Communications
Officer
(she/her)



BENCE KOVACS

Assistant Treasurer
(he/him)



ANICA RENNER

Socials Officer
(she/her)

Semester 2

PIVOT PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE



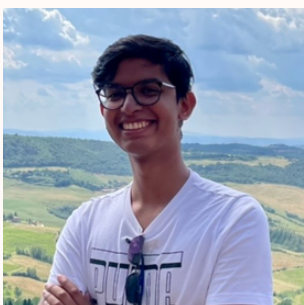
LACHLAN MCKAY

PIVOT Editor-in-Chief
(he/him)



SHANAYA DE SILVA

PIVOT Editor-in-Chief
(she/her)



**AAHIDH
MOHIDEEN**

PIVOT Sub-Editor-in-
Chief
(he/him)



MONIQUE WESTCOTT

PIVOT Sub-Editor-in-
Chief
(she/her)

2023 MIAS COMMITTEE

ATLAS PODCAST



**THOMAS
WAKELING**

ATLAS Podcast
Coordinator
(he/him)

MARKETING SUB-COMMITTEE



**AAYUSHA
LAMICHHANE**

Social Media Moderator
& Copy Writing
(she/her)



NIDHI SOBRON

Graphic Designer
(she/her)



JOALIN LAY

Social Media Moderator
& Content Creation
(she/her)



RUBY BURNES

Publications
(she/her)

AT A GLANCE

INSIGHTS

into our **successes and
achievements**
throughout 2023

HIGHLIGHTS

2023 CLUB OF THE YEAR

MIAS celebrates its second win at the C&S Awards Night, winning 'Club of The Year' (Category C). This award owes special thanks to the 2022 and 2023 Committee for having delivered high-quality student-centred programs and events.

300+ STUDENT MEMBERS

Alongside O-Week and extensive engagement across Monash faculties, MIAS built a diverse membership base of 325 members.

HIGHEST AVERAGE ATTENDANCE ACROSS 18 EVENTS

In 2023, MIAS observed record level student engagement with marketing, contributing to acknowledgement by Monash Students' Association at the Annual MSA Clubs and Societies Awards Night. We receive an average attendance of 72 student members.

FIRST-EVER LAUNCH OF MIAS' ALUMNI PROGRAM

MIAS welcomed the launch of the Alumni Network. This program allows previous MIAS members, committees to stay directly engaged with student members through mentoring, internship and career opportunities.

PLATFORMING WOMEN IN LEADERSHIP

15 out of 23 MIAS committee and sub-committee members were female-identifying, with 3 women in top executive roles.

ACCOMMODATED FLEXIBLE VOLUNTEERING OPTIONS

Flexible volunteering accommodated with many committee members engaging in remote volunteering due to international competitions and overseas exchanges.

INTERDISCIPLINARY MEMBERSHIP AND COMMITTEE

Incredible broadness in committee and membership base, with our committee spanning eleven different degrees.

SUCCESSFUL REBUILDING OF GLOBAL MODEL UNITED NATIONS PROGRAM

Successful re-building of our International Model United National Program and continued strengthening of our relationships with Monash Abroad, Monash Arts, and Monash Business School.

HIGHLIGHTS

MIAS CONTRIBUTION TO CHARITY

We led two successful Bunnings BBQ with the proceeds contributing to student events and programs. In 2023, we strongly believe in the transformative experience of education and thus, donated a portion of our Bunnings BBQ's profits to Shine Cambodia.

HIGHEST SPONSORSHIP DONATIONS TO FACILITATE STUDENT EXPERIENCE

Sponsorships contributed the most revenue to MIAS in 2023. This enabled MIAS to provide a range of accessible and innovative programs and events to Monash University students.

INAUGURAL LAUNCH OF MIAS' PEER MENTORING PROGRAM

MIAS launched its first peer mentoring program: Monash University's first-ever international affairs-specific mentoring program. We received positive feedback from both mentees and mentors that it was beneficial and facilitated their involvement in both MIAS and university life.

PRIORITISATION OF ACCESSIBLE CONTENT

Across all our social media output, we introduced image descriptions and alternative text for more accessible content.

MOST OUTSTANDING MARKETING CAMPAIGN

MIAS won Most Outstanding Marketing Award across all Monash C&S for its WorldMUN Promotional Marketing Campaign. We reached over four thousand audience members.

EXPANSIVE SOCIAL MEDIA OUTREACH

We revamped MIAS marketing (colour schemes, video content, reels) to provide tailored and approachable content. This resulted in a significant increase in following and engagement. We received record-breaking attendance to all our 2023 events.



1000+ INSTAGRAM FOLLOWERS
(40% increase from 2022)



4100+ FACEBOOK FOLLOWERS



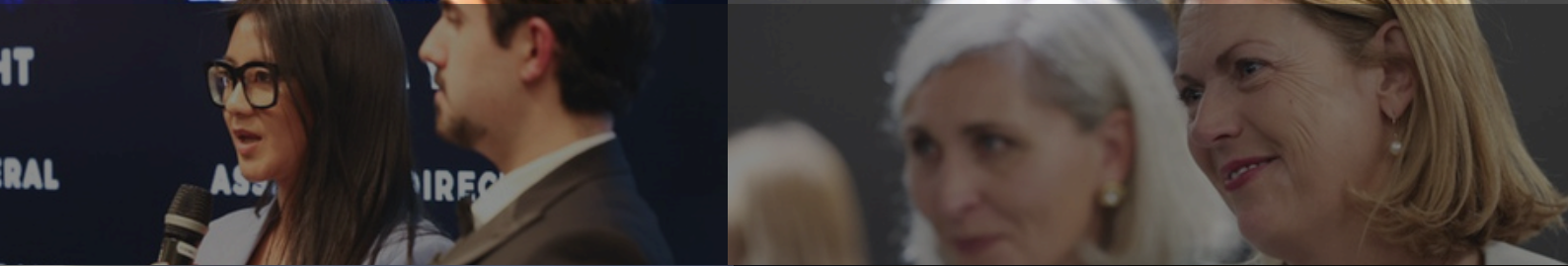
590 LINKEDIN FOLLOWERS



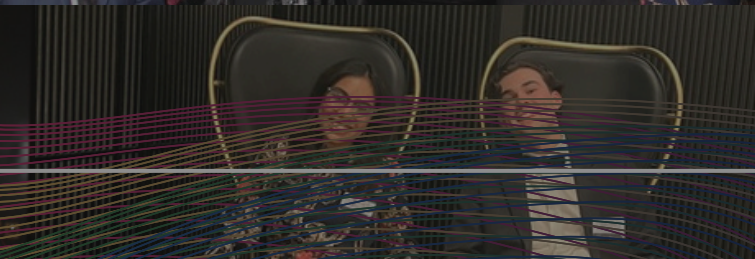
700+ NEWSLETTER SUBSCRIBERS



LAUNCH OF A TIK TOK ACCOUNT



ACADEMICS



ACADEMICS

EVENTS AND FACULTY RELATIONS CAREERS AND INTERNSHIPS



Our academics team this year hosted **4 incredible events:**

DRINKS AND LINKS (Academics & Socials)

We co-hosted our Drinks and Links night with the Arts Students Society at the Richmond Club Hotel. With over 90 students and professionals in attendance the evening was an enormous success. Attendees were able to use the evening to network with young professionals and explore potential future career pathways.



PANEL DISCUSSION: FORCED MIGRATION

In April we hosted Maria O’Sullivan and Ogy Simic, experts in international refugee law and delved into the complexities of forced migration in today’s world including legal and humanitarian considerations, regional challenges and long term impacts.

MEET THE UKRANIAN AMBASSADOR

Together with Jacqui True from the ARC Centre of Excellence for the Elimination of Violence against Women, we had over 60 students join us to hear the Ambassador, his Excellency, Mr Vasul Muroshynchenko provide insights into the Ukraine War, the role of media and propaganda and his experience in diplomacy and advocacy for his people.



EVENT SPOTLIGHT

Diplomatic Gala

With over 90 in attendance, our annual Diplomatic Gala Networking Night was a great success. The evening began with an insightful speech by the Monash Vice-Chancellor Sharon Pickering before we were lucky enough to be joined by panelists Stephen Lysaght from the British Consulate, Cynthia Yuan from the Australian Department of Climate Change, Energy, Environment and Water, and Susie Ho, Director of the Monash Innovation Guarantee, Rich experiences, Office of the DVCE. The discussions provided students with a view into a career in the international relations industry and advice when moving forward after university.

Throughout the night the guests and students were also given a range of opportunities to network. Many interesting and insightful conversations were had and we want to thank the many guests who attended including:

- **Andrew Mendelawitz:** Honorary Consul, Consulate of Guatemala
- **Chuck Li:** Consul, Consulate-General of P.R. China
- **David Copolov:** Pro Vice-Chancellor, Major Campuses and Student Engagement at Monash University
- **Dr. Gabriel Garcia Ochoa:** Global Immersion Guarantee Director, Monash University
- **Emerald Sage:** Head of Intelligence Services at OSINT Combine
- **Eva Hussain:** Honorary Consul of Austria
- **George Andrei Stefan:** Consul, Consulate of Romania
- **Hanna Pappalardo:** Consul-General of Italy
- **Jacob Goldschlager:** Political and Economic Advisor at the US Consulate
- **Lenka Allen:** Honorary Consul of the Czech Republic
- **Manuela Erb:** Honorary Consul of Switzerland
- **Mike McLean:** Acting Consul-General of the United States
- **Min Sun:** Consul, Consulate-General of P.R. China
- **Nasly Bernal:** Consul-General of Chile
- **Paul Guerra:** CEO Victorian Chamber of Commerce and Industry
- **Paul O'Hagan:** Senior Regional Manager at Global Victoria
- **Ralph Abarquez:** Consul, Consul General of Phillipines
- **Roland Jabbour OAM:** Honorary Consul General of the Kingdom of Morocco
- **Sandith Samrsinghe:** Consul General of Sri Lanka
- **Shannon Hick:** Public Engagement Manager at the US Consulate





MODEL UNITED NATIONS

MODEL UNITED NATIONS

3 MUN WORKSHOPS

1 FUN MUN

2 GLOBAL MUN TRIPS

This year was spent rebuilding our Global MUN program, upskilling individuals and seeing a massive increase in MUN popularity with over 180 students attending a MUN workshop throughout the year, our biggest fun mun ever with over 50 participants and our biggest MUNash ever with over 100 participants.

MUN WORKSHOPS

MIAS ran three MUN workshops throughout the year focusing on the three essential tools in a munnors' toolkit - public speaking, negotiations and writing. Participants were taught how to improve their skills in these three areas through learning the theory and then putting this theory to practice with tailored situations developed to allow participants to practice their skills and get constructive feedback.



FUN MUN

In our biggest fun mun ever, delegates fought about the future of the capital and the twelve districts in the fictional world of the hunger games. Amid the assassination attempts and salty speeches delegates were able to have a lot of fun whilst improving upon their munning skills. Both friends and enemies were made in this great event run by our mun officers.



EVENT SPOTLIGHT



MUNASH



MUNash was a great success with over 100 participants and our first ever high school committee which allowed students from across Melbourne to get an insight into university life and MIAS as a club. We are also proud of the cross-university collaboration with RMIT and Latrobe who provided delegates to attend the conference. There was great debate and discussion across all of the committees over the course of the two days and lasting friendships were made during our two social nights.

We would like to say thank you to all of our distinguished guest speakers who were able to provide insights into how MUNash and the skills learnt from participating can be leveraged into a career and opportunities in the international relations field.

- Imogen Kane (2023 Australian Youth Representative to the UN)
- Sandro Demai - CEO of Vic-Health
- Chris King - Chief of Weapons of Mass Destruction at the UN office for Disarmament Affairs
- Eleanor Gordon - UN Consultant and Senior Lecturer in Politics and International Relations at Monash University
- Khrystyna Dmytryshyn: Recipient of the Top Young Ukrainian Diplomat Award 2023

Our seven committees were:

- ECOSOC: The Use of AI in Sustainable Development
- GA 3: Addressing the Human Rights of Indigenous People
- IAEA: Strengthening Measures Towards Nuclear Disarmament
- UNHCR: Improving Employment Opportunities for Refugees
- UNSC: Safeguards for the Protection of Civilians in Conflict
- WHO: Crisis Committee Disaster and Emergency Health Relief

We would like to pay a great thanks to our secretariat who put in hours of hard work into making the conference what it was: Erin Page and Ben Kovacs (Secretary Generals), Vivian Xiao and Kaylah Salvini (USG for Committees), Sithmi Konara Mudiyansele and Isabelle De La Masse-Homsey (USG for Socials), Esther Chen and Tom Sun (USG for Welfare), Aashna Shah (USG for Finance), Aayusha Lamichhane and Joalin Lay (USG for Communications)



GLOBAL MODEL UNITED NATIONS PARIS AND NEW YORK

PARIS DELEGATION:



Both MUN trips this year were a great success with 28 students travelling to New York and Paris to participate in Harvard World MUN and NMUN conferences. Both teams did exceptionally well and we are very proud of all the hard work and dedication that went into preparation for the conferences.



Rose Russell and David Dau (HD), James Liang and Erin Galbraith (LT), Esther Chen, Sandon Hayes, Priya Singh, Aashna Shah, Elina Forsyth, Eric Stone, Malinthe Mallawa, Isabelle De La Masse-Homsy, Eamon Sommerville, Goh Chin Wei



Congratulations to Rose Russell and Isabelle De La Masse-Homsy for winning the Diplomacy award in their committee.



NEW YORK DELEGATION:

Imogen Kane and Kaylah Salvini (HD), Vivian Xiao and Ben Kovacs (LT), Ben Kang, Tom Sun, Harper Massey, Sneha Ramanan, Suhara Rodrigo, Caitlin Graham, Jacqueline Gill, Shanaya De Silva, Phoebe Luong, Sithmi Konara Mudiyansele



Everyone in the New York Team won an award, with the entire delegation winning the Outstanding Delegation Award (the highest award at NMUN). We would also like to recognise the individual achievements of:



Ben Kang and Vivian Xiao: Position Paper Award
Harper Massey & Kaylah Salvini, Sneha Ramanan and Suhara Rodrigo, Catilin Graham and Imogen Kane: Outstanding Delegates Award



SOCIALS

SOCIALS

Our socials portfolio this year witnessed the introduction of the MIAS Peer Mentoring Program, our biggest ever trivia night, AGM, OGM, Drinks & Links in collaboration with Socials and two incredible Bunnings BBQS that allowed the committee and volunteers to bond over the one thing that brings all together: a great snag.

OGM & TRIVIA NIGHT

With over 90 in attendance, our OGM and Trivia Night was a great night to get to know the MIAS family and participate in every IR student's favorite activity: trivia. The competition was tight but one team took it away by only 1 point to win the night



PEER MENTORING PROGRAM

This was MIAS' first year running a peer mentoring program and it was a great success. With over 30 mentees and mentors, our socials team crafted a fun and informative program that helped guide students through their first year in an International Relations degree and make some friends along the way

COFFEE AND COOKIE CATCHUP

Our annual coffee and cookie catchup series was a great way for members of the MIAS community to connect, chat and get to know a little bit more about MIAS as a club.



BUNNINGS BBQS

MIAS ran two Bunnings BBQ throughout the year to raise money and provide a fun weekend activity for MIAS committee and volunteers to get to know each other. Our second BBQ was supporting Shine Cambodia and we managed to raise over \$500 for their important work.

SPONSORS AND PARTNERS

MIAS is a student and volunteer-led non-profit organisation. We are supported by a series of partners and sponsors whose purpose is to invest in young talents. We write with acknowledgement that our external and internal stakeholders enable us to achieve our mission: inspiring future world leaders.

Our student society has achieved spectacular feats and nurtured extraordinary talents. Above all, with the resources provided by our partners, we are able to create authentic discussion space where students and experts gather and debate.

Below, we note our supporters, partners and sponsors with gratitude and thanks.

MONASH UNIVERSITY

Monash University Faculty of Arts
Monash Arts Alumni
Monash Business School
Monash Career Connect
Monash Gender Peace & Security
Monash Abroad

EXTERNAL ENGAGEMENTS

Consular Corps of Victoria
Department of Foreign Affairs Victoria
US Consul General of Melbourne
Bunnings Warehouse

CLUBS & STUDENT SOCIETIES

Monash Clubs & Societies
Monash Society of Arts
Young Diplomats Society
Young Australians in International
Affairs
Australian Institute in International
Affairs



WORK WITH US

INSPIRE FUTURE WORLD LEADERS

CONTACT US



mias@monashclubs.org



www.mias.org.au



[@_mias_](https://www.instagram.com/_mias_)



**MONASH INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS
SOCIETY (MIAS)**

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT AND THANKS



The Monash International Affairs Society wishes the 2024 team all the success. Every year, the committee and the community are dedicated toward uplifting one another.

Supported by Monash University and our supporters, we continue to reflect on how to continue inspiring and investing in future world leaders.