



NEWSLETTER

UNITED NATIONS ACADEMIC IMPACT COLLOQUIUM
2018

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Sex Tourism, the Unseen FACE

The World Tourism Organization, a specialized agency of the United Nations defines 'sex tourism' as trips organized from within the tourism sector or from outside the sector, but using its structures and networks with the primary purpose of effecting a commercial sexual relationship by the tourist, with residents at the destination. But social problems arise when particular countries acquire reputation as a destination or become attractive for sex tourism. Sex tourism also supports human trafficking, one of the largest criminal industries in the world. Even if prostitution is legal in a country, human trafficking, sex with a minor, and child pornography are always crimes.

Nearly two million children around the world are victims of commercial sexual exploitation. Children abused by sex tourists suffer not only sexual abuse, but also poverty, homelessness, and physical, emotional and psychological abuse. Thus it is one of the most spoken topics of the hour. Sex tourism may be legal in many countries, but most of the other countries are against it, seeing its darker side. It is very essential to stress upon women empowerment and protection of children. It is very important to let the world know that sex tourism is not only the single occupation available to the whole mob of illiterate women and the lonely kids.

In countries like Thailand, and some parts of the United States of America, sex tourism is legal. But in countries like Niger, Nepal etc., this is an illegal offence. Sex tourism paves way for a lot of STDs and other social problems too. Even though it's an earning for many, people need to understand that it is a social evil. So it's time for the folks to say together a big 'NO' to sex tourism.

-Karthika G S

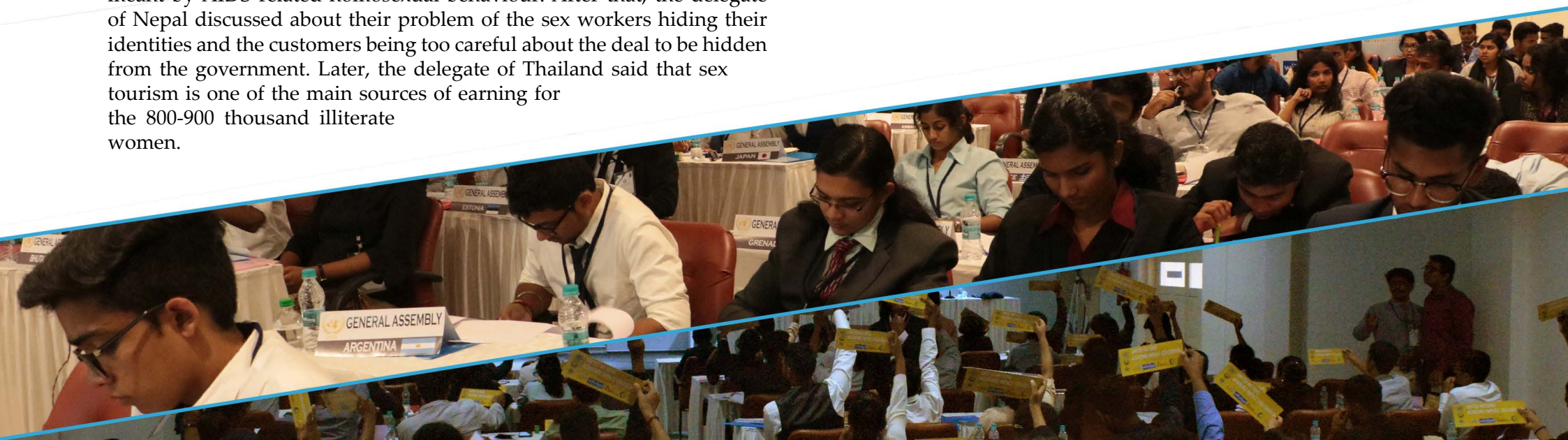
The Dark Webs of Sex Tourism, Debates in the UNGA

The United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) council sessions were held on the 19th of January 2018 from 2.45 p.m. at the Jubilee Hall of TKMCE. The whole session gave a mesmerizing experience to young delegates. The agenda of the council was 'Sex Tourism: Legal, Cultural and Socio-political-economic Dimensions'. The session started with a roll call of delegates, followed by moderated and non-moderated caucuses, and various motions. The first session marked its beginning by the motion call from the delegate of Uzbekistan, whose motion was failed. It was followed by the delegate of Nepal, whose moderate caucus was urged by a formal debate with a General Speaking List (GSL), which was passed by a voting among delegates. Later on, the delegates of China, Nepal, Niger, Thailand, Russian Federation, Argentina, Malaysia, Spain, etc. called for the GSL. Afterwards, the delegates of different nations expressed their views about the legality and illegality of Sex Tourism in their nations. In between, there was a casual talking session among the delegates and the Executive Board.

The delegate of China expressed its view against prostitution and also discussed about their five year plan for AIDS prevention and homosexual behaviour. To this, the Executive Board asked to explain what the delegate meant by AIDS related homosexual behaviour. After that, the delegate of Nepal discussed about their problem of the sex workers hiding their identities and the customers being too careful about the deal to be hidden from the government. Later, the delegate of Thailand said that sex tourism is one of the main sources of earning for the 800-900 thousand illiterate women.

The delegate also said that the young boys of their country are being taught by their guardians that sex tourism is acceptable, which is a major threat to the growing men of the nation. The motion calls of Tunisia, Russia and Greece were failed through voting. Later on, the delegate of Finland called for a motion on 'Child Sex Tourism and Its Effects', which was passed by the other delegates by voting.

Mr. Kalyan Raygalla, Director, UNIC, had a talk with the delegates about the press conference going to be held on 20.01.2018. The Executive Board of the UNGA was headed by its President Mr. Akash Deep Nair, Vice President Mr. Akash Anand and the Rapporteur Mr. Akash Chhabra.





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Rapporteur

Special Story - ECOSOC

In the conference of delegates of UN ECOSOC filled with vibrant personalities and having different views and opinions, the delegate of United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland really stood out and became the centre of attraction.

She was a cheerful person by nature who used each and every criticism & argument to backfire upon the questioner. She did her presentation in an excellent manner and also focussed herself on asking for clarifications on the subjects presented by the other delegates. During the second session, when the sub agenda 'Unequal distribution of wealth' was being discussed, she pointed out that the cause of this is the change in productivity levels of the individuals because of the training that they have received, which could be resolved by providing compulsory education, scholarships etc. She urged the authorities to give financial backup to the creative youth for start-ups to become self-sufficient.

The audience was further amazed when she remained adamant on her decision that the executive be allowed to ask her a single question only.

She was of the opinion that the growing population should not be considered a burden on the economy, as it could be turned to useful human resource, if properly moulded, which could increase productivity levels. She imparted knowledge regarding different subjects.

One can always hope to get precious jewels like her from Conference like this, which targets the same.

-Karthika G S



The ECOSOC Committee on Eradication of Poverty

WHAT?

The Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) Forum, held on 19 January 2018, provided a platform for youth to engage in a dialogue with Member States and share ideas on innovation, collective action and solutions to global problems. It also addressed the concept of “Eradication of poverty”, which is at the core of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

WHO?

The forum brought youth delegates from around the world to TKM Engineering College, Kollam, Kerala - popularly known as “God’s own country”. It gave them the opportunity to engage with policy-makers and other youth delegates and representatives.

HOW?

The event featured interactive dialogues among representatives from youth organizations, high-level and other keynote speakers. A number of sessions were held on aspects of the themes for the Economic and Social Council. “There are over 1.4 billion people living on less than 1.25\$ per day” says delegate of Finland. Today, continued economic development is constrained by the lack of economic freedoms. Economic liberalization requires extending property rights to the poor, especially to land. While in Pakistan, the delegate points out the gender discrimination as a major factor to poverty. In Pakistan women are paid low wages compared to men. Added to that girls are not allowed to pursue education, denied good healthcare and their social relationships and social behavior is also controlled by men. The situation is different for Britain. Here, poverty depends on the difference in productivity levels of the people. Low productivity levels arises due to lack of training. The discouragement of Entrepreneurship is also a major challenge for Britain. So the delegate of Britain forwarded the need of financial help to the Entrepreneurs. Delegates of each country explained the cause of poverty in their respective countries and now it was the time to think of ways to eliminate these causes, which was the next discussion of the committee. Social policy alone cannot eradicate poverty and neither can policies focussing only on the income aspect of poverty. As other policies have direct or indirect impacts on poverty results, poverty eradication objectives must be included in the design of public policy in a cross-cutting manner. On behalf of the opinions from various delegates poverty can be eradicated through Quality education, Gender inequality, Healthcare, Proper water and sanitation facilities, distribution of wealth and so on. But even after accepting these theoretical measures, a question still remains in our minds - Can poverty be completely eradicated?

-Vishnu Narayanan

YOUNG LEADERS ACADEMIC IMPACT COLLOQUIUM
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Day one of Media MUN 2018 was as diverse as the agendas. Itself with slow starts, active participants, enthusiastic Chairpersons, dry discussions and heated debates. But they all had a common theme too in their own ways. It didn't matter whether the participants were talkative or hesitated because at the end of the day, they all came up with ideas.

There were 14 delegates each representing a nation. The main agenda was the maintenance of international peace and security and addressing complex contemporary challenges to international peace and security. To start with, the delegate from Ukraine got the chance to put forth his ideas of bringing this agenda. It was then the turn of countries like Russia, UK, French Republic, China, Senegal, Kazakhstan and others.

The problems of inter-clan warfare were still the main agenda and was addressed by all the different delegates with each of them presenting their own perspectives. The council was affected by the sudden escalation of Russian and Chinese forces and even the surprise attack of a US base in Somalia and the loss of its soldiers' lives and equipments. However, the global conflicts like the Syrian issue were also mentioned. With escalating tensions and with all eyes on the UN council to take necessary action and set the precedent on this issue, we can be sure that the council will have to come on a consensus at some point; even if it would result in further scarring of diplomatic relations between the unified nations.

-Sreebala S



GURMEHAR SINGH SIDHU
Director



MUHAMMAD HAKIM BIN FAIZAL
Chairperson

The Never Ending Conflicts in Middle East Countries

As per recorded data, countries of The Middle East had to face a total of 47 wars in the past 70 years, which points at the extreme political situations and deepening insecurity in the region. Most of the conflicts in the region are caused by various terrorist groups. The growing network of these groups resulted in many people fleeing from their native nations. "Failed leadership, failed governments, and failed policies have brought nothing but catastrophe for the youth and future generations of the Middle East caught up in the region's wars," said Sarah Leah Whitson, Middle East and North Africa director of Human Rights Watch. The country in the most dangerous position in the war zone currently is Syria. The Islamic State (also known as ISIS) used chemical weapons in both Syria and Iraq, causing mass destruction in those countries. The Syrian government, backed by its Russian allies, has used banned chemical weapons, against the IS terrorists. Even though this wiped off a portion of the terrorists, most of the harmful effects were faced by the native people. This issue also caused large scale migration of people from Middle Eastern countries to European countries. The international peace organizations are unable to control the on going battles in these countries and to bring peace to the people of those areas. The United Nations Security Council should take measures to put an end to these conflicts and to also make sure that no problems are caused in the future.

-Adithyan



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Rapporteur

Rohingya Issue

Why did the Rohingyas come into picture? When were they formed? Where did they begin their survival? What are the problems faced by them? Who are they? How could their problems be solved?

To answer the above questions youth delegates from around the world gathered at TKM COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING, KOLLAM. At the opening ceremony, Chairperson Vaivab Das suggested the honourable delegates to focus on three points :-

1. Statelessness
2. Role of their country in the Rohingya issue
3. Addressing the refugee situation regarding Rohingya issue.

The very first speaker was from Kenya. All the delegates from different countries stated that humanity is the factor that requires more concern. In addition to that, they have also mentioned that their countries are providing facilities that can help the refugees thrive and not just survive and also to give them citizenship. They also condemned the army actions on refugees. The main Motto of this conference was to make a decision and to stand firm on it. The mission would be to make refugees to settle down in their own country with peace.

The chair person quoted that "Rohingyas were foreign residents in their country", which means that they were citizens of the country yet they couldn't use the schemes of the government. In addition to this statement delegates mentioned the term "trade embargo" to Myanmar nation and also to concentrate on three points like compassion, security and addressing the root cause of the issue. Delegate from Qureshia spoke about facts which made us think about the main cause of this issue in a different way.

A total of 46 delegates were present for the Conference. During the sessions, motions were mostly denied due to lack of knowledge in it. The discussion also included matters like refugee convention and protocol in South East Asia.

-Kapil

The ROHINGYAN CRISIS - A Slow Genocide

The Rohingya are Muslims native to the northern Arakan region of Burma, which borders Bangladesh. By 1947, the group had formed an army and had approached President Jinnah of newly-formed Pakistan to incorporate northern Arakan into a part of the country that would later form Bangladesh. Experts believe that it was this action that led eventually to the problems between the Rohingya and the Burmese government, who considered the group to be untrustworthy.

The Rohingya were declared “non-nationals” and “foreign residents,” according to a citizenship law established by the regime in 1982, and were denied the right to participate in multiparty elections held in 1990.

Approximately 800,000 Rohingya still live inside Burma, while an estimated 600,000 live in Bangladesh, 250,000 live in Pakistan, and 300,000 live in Saudi Arabia. Around 100,000 other Rohingya make up parts of the population of the U.A.E., Thailand, and Malaysia. The current chaos in the state traces its roots back to the colonial past. Malaysia and Indonesia has officially turned away the refugees claiming to be financially unable to accept them. Bangladesh, being a nation with Muslim majority, has been housing the refugees for years only to order them out of border camps.

The Dalai Lama, former president Barack Obama and former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton asked why the Myanmar government is turning a deaf ear to this crisis. Simply putting, positioning one-self against the Buddhist majority is considered a risky political move. Even Aung San Suu Kyi, the Nobel Laureate who fought for decades for democracy and reform in Myanmar, has been quiet on the issue.

-Sandra Dickson





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