



NYC iSchool

iMUNC 2019

Background Guide

iDRUG



International Drug Resistance Uprising *Guerilla*

Chairs: Gio Torres-Lorenzotti & André Eisenberg

iMUNC 2019

26 January 2019 | SoHo, Manhattan



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Other Staff:

Dear Delegates,

Welcome to iMUNC 2019! I am Gio Torres-Lorenzotti, the co-chair and a senior at the NYC iSchool. This is my second year in Model UN, and I have been able to experience the value it poses to my life and how evaluate different global crisis. In my club, I am the financial officer. As a low-income, first generation Latina, I believe in making Model UN more accessible to everyone regardless of their background. Hence, my passion being my club's finance officer.

Outside of Model UN I intern at the NYCLU and work toward educating other peers and working on different city policies. I pride myself on the activism work that I have done and strive to continue to do in college. I intend to follow these passions by exploring International Relations as a major and hopefully pursue being a lawyer

All of us at the NYC iSchool are very excited for you to take part in our conference. iDRUG committee is particularly unique because of how we are incorporating global concerns with a twist of fantasy into this crisis. Our goal as chairs is to give delegates freedom for exploration, collaboration, and creativity. Further, this topic is particularly personal to me because my parents are both immigrants from Uruguay. While this committee does incorporate some aspects of fantasy, please maintain respect for this topic as the growing drug epidemic throughout these regions is a very real thing.

Please feel free to reach out with any questions or concerns you have before this conference. I look forward to meeting all of you and seeing the work you produce throughout this committee session.

Warm regards,

Gio Torres-Lorenzotti | giovanal@nycischool.org



Dear Delegates,

Welcome to iMUNC 2019! My name is André Eisenberg, a senior at the NYC iSchool and I am a co-chair of the iDEAL committee. This is my third year as a Model UN club member, and my first year as an iMUNC chair. I have grown to love Model UN because of the simultaneous challenge that all delegates face: staying loyal to your country's stances while collaborating with other delegates and being productive in your committee. My experience in Model UN has been a played a big role in my plans to major in International Relations in college.

Aside from Model UN, I love soccer (I'm a big Tottenham supporter) and I am the captain of the iSchool soccer team, I play the Saxophone and Clarinet in our school Jazz Ensemble, I run triathlons, and I love going biking in NYC! My favorite genres are Rock, Jazz, and Samba.

While both Gio and I intend for this committee to be exciting, we ask you to be conscious that this is a real problem in South America and innocent people continue to die today as a result of violence related to drug cartels. These issues are especially important to Gio and I as both our parents are South American and several of our relatives encounter drug cartel violence frequently in their daily lives. I look forward to meeting you all and watching you debate in January!

Warm regards,

André Eisenberg | andree7@nycischool.org



Dear Delegates,

The iSchool Model United Nations Conference specializes in creativity and uniqueness. By participating in our year long club we had the opportunity to create iMUNC for you to have an incredible model UN experience alongside members from all 5 boroughs, we are able to build and run an engaging and educational conference to help you become better delegates.

iMUNC was created last year and was a resounding success so we felt we should continue with what we did then: Chair and delegate independence. We pride ourselves on giving massive delegate freedoms in order to make sure that a story is told not just by the chairs but by delegates. Our theme this year of diplomacy under pressure will create an environment where delegates will be interacting with the world and act in its chaos. We hope to give delegates the opportunity to react to high stakes high risk situations where they are the deciding factor.

With seven committees with OC, Shows, Movies, and books we pride ourselves on our creativity. iMUNC 2019 will embody leadership skills, collaboration skills, diplomacy, Creativity (and a tiny bit of chaos).

A special thanks to our entire Secretariat for making this possible!

Sincerely,

Carmen Simons

Secretary General

Lucas Kulin

Secretary General

Alliyah Logan

President

Lily Krug

President



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Committee Mission

Delegates should focus on coming to comprehensive solutions to the spreading drug epidemic and political instability of this crisis. Considering past actions taken towards similar issues is imperative to effectively understand the cause and effect relationships. By the same token, while awards have an instant gratification effect to it, at iMUNC we have emphasized the importance of learning and collaboration. This committee is a place to really learn and improve your MUN skills so awards are deemphasized as part of our committee mission.

iDRUG Geographical Setting

This committee will be taking place in an underground cave in Chile called Cueva del Milodon. The delegates from these various countries in the committee are not safe, hence the secrecy of the location. With the growing tensions in these countries (predominantly those of Latin America), the United Nations has ensured this location will provide delegates with optimal security and protection. It should be noted that in the cave where the meeting is taking place, there is strictly no cellular service of any kind. This isolation can pose a challenge to this committee particularly when it comes to receiving crisis alerts. However, in the cave, the chairs have access to a projector. There will also be peace keepers nearby to both ensure safety and deliver any urgent news. It should also be noted that while this still is a public cave opened to any visitor, there has been a section of the cave completely cut off for this committee meeting.

General Background

Pre-Columbian Period:

South America is surrounded by the Caribbean Sea, the Atlantic Ocean, and the Pacific Ocean.



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Three main peoples make up the present-day population of South America: American Indians; descendants from Spanish and Portuguese; and Africans, originally imported as slaves by the colonizers.

Before the beginning of European conquest in the early 16th century, Latin America was occupied by diverse Natives most of whom civilizations practiced agriculture. The societies with the densest populations tended to be located along the Pacific Ocean coast. Those with lower population densities were located away from the rivers and mountains near Patagonia and southern Chile.

In the 1500's the Spaniards established their influence in the region with the *encomienda* system, consisting of a grant by the crown to a conquistador of a specified number of Natives living in particular areas.

Shifting Politics and Population Diversity in 20th and 21st Centuries:

In the 20th Century, the growing importance of investment from abroad triggered nationalist sentiment already strong among intellectuals and the anti-imperialist sentiment provoked by U.S. intervention around the Caribbean and in Mexico. Cultural nationalism was associated with conservatives who praised the European heritage as a shield against corrupting Anglo-Saxon influences, while the leading anti-imperialists tended to be leftist.

Among population classifications, Rural workers still made up the largest single group, but those loosely referred to as 'peasants' could be anything from independent owners of small farms, to hired workers of large plantations with different degrees of autonomy and different links to different markets, they were far from a cohesive social sector. What such rural workers most had in common was the inadequate access to government services and horrible standards of living. A socio-economic gulf separated these rural workers from traditional large landowners as well as from the owners or managers of commercial agriculture businesses.

The 1980's witnessed a generalized economic crisis in Latin America, triggered in large part by domestic mismanagement. Countries consequently put their trust in neoliberal approaches favouring a free flow of trade and investment and reduction of the role of the state. All monarchies became democracies by 1990 in large part to the economic crisis.



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Latin American free-trade arrangements moved forward with Mercosur which was organized in 1995 by Brazil, Argentina, Uruguay, and Paraguay. It was founded to establish a bilateral commission to promote the integration of their economies. Country after country sought to privatize state-owned companies and social security systems.

Drug History in Latin America:

Multiple Latin American countries have seen governments actively involved in the illegal drug trade in the 1970s and 1980s. There were ‘cocaine coups’ in Honduras and Bolivia which brought such governments to power. The Panamanian President from 1983 to 1989, Manuel Noriega, who was later proved to be a drug trafficker, was in power for so long with strong CIA support.

A political Colombian scandal revealed links between the Colombian government establishment and the Colombian Defense forces, a military group responsible for killing tens of thousands of Colombian civilians, which controls over 75% of the Colombian cocaine trade. The illegal drug trade in Peru officially lasted until 2000 shaped by the involvement of the country's intelligence service since 1990.

In 2010, investigations concluded that the Mexican Sinaloa cartel had used bribery to co-opt the federal government and focus the government's anti-drug efforts on its competitors. The Guadalajara Cartel prospered largely because it enjoyed the protection of a CIA asset

In Colombia, tens of thousands of people were killed in a twenty year war against cartels, while the Mexican government's war against cartels has led to more than one hundred thousand Mexican deaths and disappearances since the early 2000's. While violence due to drug cartels continues to be rampant, many impoverished South Americans collaborate with cartels as they find it to be the only way to secure a sustainable wage.

Extension of Drug History with More relevance to iDRUG

The war on drugs has grown influentially out of Venezuela. In March of 2017 Venezuela experienced a growing number of mafia and gangs parading the streets. Over the course of



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March, these individuals gained massive public influence to the point where they started having an effect on the political climate. Not only was a large portion of the population roaming the streets high off of mainly cocaine, there was rumors that the government was in on the increasing drug usage. That all took a turn when the drug lords staged a coup of the government which began to influence other countries.

The domino effect has been observed by many local journalist to closely resembles the build up in Tunisia before the Arab spring occur: political instability, government corruption, and enraged citizens.

Current Situation

This committee is set in June of 2019. That being said, modern technology is applicable, and we urge delegates to be realistic about the new technologies that could potentially be created in the next six months. Aside from that, six months into the future had painted a very different landscape for Latin America. As inflation in Argentina is growing and political instability in Brazil is worsening, surrounding countries are being affected. Throughout Latin American there has been a large increase in drug usage which has vastly been attributed to the political instability. While the war on drugs in countries such as Columbia and Mexico have been a concern for many years, it is rapidly spreading into other Latin countries causing havoc.

Latin American countries are scrambling to regain control over its inhabitants, especially because the majority of these countries populations are high on drugs. These countries are increasingly being faced with scandals about potential corporation the government has had in this growing drug epidemic. It should be noted that there have been many rumors of government



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corruption in countries such as Paraguay in relation to the drug war. Further, there continues to be commentary on government corruption that should further be investigated in this crisis.

We urge delegates to consider the existing bloc - Mercosur. This bloc is comprised of many Latin American countries that seeks to address both economic and political relations. This alliance has played major roles in establishing how these neighboring countries trade with one another. Additionally, policies established by Mercosur, are influential to the current war on drugs and how trade occurs.

While in the past Mercosur has been successful at mitigating tensions between Latin American countries, the growing drug epidemic is hindering the political alliance between countries. However, this is not by any means the first time this geographic region has experienced such widespread political instability. We urge delegates to delve deep into previous occurrences of political instability and how it has affected different countries within Latin America. By gaining a comprehensive understanding of the cause and effect relationships between previous instances, it will allow delegates to be better versed in working towards solutions.

Questions to consider:

- What history has your country had with drug and mafia?
- What major drug traffickers or drug cartels have been the most influential throughout Latin America?
- In what ways has your country previously been affected by drugs?
- What responses have Latin American countries such as Mexico and Colombia had against the drug epidemic in their countries?



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-How has political, social, and economic corruption affected your country?

-Why has trading drugs becoming so easy? (here is a good place to explore how drugs are trafficked)

Research

Please read the background guide in full. Although we are not expecting providing links to websites, throughout this background guide there are important remarks that allude to where you should research. Additionally, please become familiar with crisis producers. We will briefly go over it in the beginning of committee, however, to ensure fruitful debate, we ask that you review it before-hand.

List of Delegates

Bolivia

Peru

Dominican

Argentina

Chile

Republic

Brasil

Mexico

Panama

Ecuador

Canada

Guatemala

Uruguay

Guyana

Nicaragua

Paraguay

Suriname

El Salvador

Colombia

Cuba

Costa Rica

Venezuela

Jamaica



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Honduras

Barbados

Bahamas

Haiti

Dominica

St. Kitts and Nevis

Belize

Trinidad and

Antigua and

Grenada

Tobago

Barbuda

Documents

This committee may utilize the following documents:

- Directive: A formal action taken by committee members and, which must first be voted on
- Communiqué: A formal message from a committee or delegate to be communicated to other bodies, and must have a majority vote
- Press Release: A statement from a committee or delegate that they want expressed to the public. If sent from the committee, press releases must first be approved through a vote.
- Individual Action Order: Actions that are taken by an individual delegate that is reflected in their portfolio powers
- Crisis Notes: A note that is the dominant medium for taking individual action in committee by using your portfolio powers.

Sources (you may choose to consider these while conducting your research):

<http://www.worldtradelaw.net/document.php?id=fta/agreements/mercosurfta.pdf>

<https://www.cfr.org/backgrounder/mercosur-south-americas-fractious-trade-bloc>

<http://www.drugpolicy.org/issues/international-drug-war>

<http://www.worldometers.info/geography/how-many-countries-in-latin-america/>

<https://www.businessinsider.com/heres-how-drugs-are-getting-smuggled-from-south-america-to-the-us-2017-9>

<https://www.cnn.com/2017/01/18/world/joaquin-el-chapo-guzmn-fast-facts/index.html>

<http://www.drugpolicy.org/issues/international-drug-war>

<https://www.britannica.com/biography/Horacio-Cartes>



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