

## The Mediterranean Model United Nations (Medi.m.u.n.)

A group of twelve students represented the delegation of our Lyceum to the International Medi.m.u.n. Conference, which took place at the European University between the 8<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> February 2019. Delegates were chosen based on an in-school essay competition. 45 students from all classes took part, the top 20 candidates had a personal interview from which the team was selected.

This year for the first time in the history of Medi.m.u.n. a student from a government school was chosen as a committee Chair. Our student Nicoletta Oratiou, chaired the Special Conference on the Child. This year Medi.m.u.n. was collaborating with the non-profit organization Hope for Children. The resolutions approved by the Medi.m.u.n. Special Conference on the Child are going to be forwarded to the secretariat of the United Nations for future consideration.

Our school was also represented with three students in the special committees. These are reserved for experienced debaters only. In the Historical Committee by Elina Marcou (C21), in the Special Conference on the Child by Annita Skoullou (C32) and in the International Court of Justice by Anna Nishiotis (B34).

In the four General Assemblies our school represented Chile and Chad. Our delegates were: Irene Erotocritou (A11) and Annie Tziakouri (A22) in General Assembly 1, Nikitas Andreou (B34) and Antonis Paraskeva (C42) in General Assembly 2, Charis Martoudi (C11) and Anna-Maria Papachristou (C21) in General Assembly 3, and Christy Georgiou (B11) and Ioli Nicolaou (A11) in General Assembly 4.

All students worked hard to prepare for the conference in their free time at home and by attending the Friday afternoon Medi.m.u.n. debating club, chaired by Nicoleta Oratiou.

During the Conference, the Dazoo delegates took an active role in the debates both as main submitters in favour of their resolutions, or speakers against the resolutions of other teams, raised points of information and replied to points of information raised against theirs. Five out of the seven resolutions submitted by students of our school were passed.

Congratulations to all! Our Dazoo Medi.m.u.n. team was amazing! They succeeded in their respective committees and we are very proud of all their hard work and determination!



We proudly present our Dazoo 2019 Medi.m.u.n. team: (from left to right) Anna Nishiotis, Elina Marcou, Elena Loizidou, (Dasoupolis Lyceum Medi.m.u.n. Director), Nicoletta Oratiou, Antonis Paraskeva, Christy Georgiou, Annie Tziakouri Irene Erotocritou, Ioli Nicolaou, Charis Martoudi, Anna-Maria Papachristou, Annita Skoullou and Nikitas Andreou.

### **The Medi.m.u.n. experience from a Chair's point of view**

This year's Medi.m.u.n. was even more special than the past two sessions I had the luck of attending as a delegate. Although this was my third and final year representing our school at Medi.m.u.n., I had the honour of being selected to chair a committee which was unlike any other role I had assumed in the past. As a chairwoman, I had to help the delegates of my committee, *the Special Conference on the Child*, along with my fellow chairwoman, Maria Nicolaou, navigate through their topics which were chosen by the Hope for Children Organisation as the organisation plans on passing the committee's recommendations and resolutions to the United Nations for possible consideration in the future. All three days of Medi.m.m.n. were incredibly rewarding as I got to meet my delegates in person, discuss current political issues, be in charge of the debating procedure and end my Medi.m.u.n. experience with a thousand happy memories. In the past three years, Medi.m.u.n. has helped me grow as a person, become more open-minded and accepting of different points view. It helped me improve my public-speaking skills and exposed me to a great deal of other opportunities and I would highly recommend to everyone. Finally, I would like to say that none of this wouldn't be possible without our Medi.m.u.n. director, Mrs Elena Loizidou. I am forever grateful to her for everything that she has done for me and all of her students and keeps on doing on a daily basis regardless of how tiring and stressful it can get!

**Nicoletta Oratiou, C34**



Feedback from The Dazoo Medi.m.u.n. Delegates:

Joining Medim.u.n. has enabled me to practise my English and improve my debating skills significantly, in a very competitive environment.

The preparation process was rather difficult. However, attending the Dazoo Medi.m.u.n. debating club on Friday afternoons has helped us enormously. The actual conference was an incredible experience. I got the opportunity to meet many students that I probably wouldn't have had the chance to meet under other circumstances. I also had the opportunity to put my teamwork skills to the test and have gained a lot of confidence in myself.

The conference has a dress code and all delegates have to be formally dressed and look very professional. I enjoyed wearing trouser suits for the Conference and it was also very pleasant to see smartly dressed teenagers of my age, trying to resemble the ambassadors of their allocated countries.

It was so rewarding to see all my hard work pay off and I can't wait for next year's Medi.m.u.n. Conference, so I can experience it all over again!



**Ioli Nicolaou, A11**

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This year I was given the opportunity to represent our school in the 19<sup>th</sup> annual Medi.m.u.n. Conference. I took part in General Assembly 1, which focused on issues about international peace and security. We explored topics relating to the recruitment and exploitation of child soldiers in conflicting areas, the arms race in outer space and weapons of mass destruction. I have learned a lot about these three issues on the international arena. I have also learned how to approach a topic from different perspectives and attempt to provide effective solutions to issues that affect us all. I have developed my communication and cooperation skills as we had to work in groups during the preparation period and in the actual conference. Also, I became aware of the variety of tasks undertaken by the United Nations and the positive impact the United Nations have on a global level. I realised how much effort and coordination are required for the promotion of ethical values, which will enable us to have a better, brighter and more peaceful future.

Last but not least, I crossed paths with other students, that have the same interests as I, both from public and private schools in Cyprus and abroad, whom I am still in contact with. I am not going to lie, the preparation for the conference was exhausting, and I personally felt like giving up at times. Yet it was one of the best experiences I have ever had. I will certainly want to be a part of the conference next year and I will certainly encourage other students to do so, as well.



**Annie Tziakouri, A22**



**Medi.m.u.n. Plenary Session, Day 3**