

CANIMUN

INTERNATIONAL PRESS FORUM &
CIVIL SOCIETY NETWORK

BUILDING PEACE IN A
DIVERSE WORLD

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United Nations Association in Canada
Association canadienne pour les Nations Unies

INTRODUCTION

Dear CANIMUN 2019 delegates,

Welcome! It is with the utmost pleasure that we greet this year's delegates, from those who have traveled far, to those who have lived here in Canada's capital their whole lives. CANIMUN, otherwise known as the Canadian International Model United Nations, is among one of the largest Model United Nations conferences in the country and we are exceptionally proud to be hosting it here in the nation's capital, Ottawa.

The committee would like to take this opportunity to introduce the Director of both the International Press Forum (IPF) and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGO's). Asha Swann was born in the United States but has lived in Canada her whole life, spending nearly ten years in Ottawa before eventually moving to the Greater Toronto Area where she attended Sheridan College, studying Journalism. A recent graduate, Asha found a passion for politics and writing. While at school, she reported on many news events, even visiting Toronto's Queen's Park to interview passersby during a protest. While this is her first year working with CANIMUN, she is very excited to use her passions to help illustrate this event.

The committees are very grateful for the organizers of CANIMUN and the United Nations Canada for making this event possible, and helping students get involved in international politics.

Sincerely,

Asha Swann

Director of International Press Forum & Civil Society Network



HISTORY OF THE IPF/CIVIL SOCIETY NETWORK

Generally speaking, the International Press Forum (IPF) is not one of the typically seen committees in the United Nations. On the contrary, it is specific and unique to CANIMUN. The purpose of the IPF is to gather all the news organizations reporting at the conference in one place. One of the most important aspects of the IPF is to have **deviser** news agencies. There are dozens of reporters from different organizations all around the world who will be using their unique skills to write and report on events happening during the CAINUM conference.

As mentioned in the above paragraph, IPF was created specifically for CANIMUN. However, this does not mean that the United Nations does not recognize journalists and reporters. In fact, the UN has had journalists coming to conferences for years, always striving to create the most authentic and honest stories, full of integrity and ingenuity. Over two decades ago, in 1993, the UN General Assembly made public their recognition of those working for international news agencies. As a result, May 3 was declared as World Press Freedom Day. On this day each year, international journalists are noted for their hard work and responsibility.

Journalism, the concept of writing and transmitting news stories, has existed almost as long as language. Even before the printing press, ancient scribes used to write down the information that travelers, fishers, sailors, and merchants brought back after their voyages. Once the printing press was created in 1439, there was a huge increase in the amount of information being created and written. For hundreds of years, up until Renaissance Europe, the printing press thrived, allowing stories and news to be passed down (with more accuracy) across generations. Unsurprisingly, this improved the development of languages and improved literacy rates. In the 1600's European societies began to release the very first print newsletters. Primarily, the topics included military information about the current wars, diplomacy, and gossip. That being said, French sociologist Jean K. Chalaby wrote a book called "The Invention of Journalism," which argues that the concept of journalism is actually a relatively new invention, due to the amount of informational inaccuracies that occurred prior to the 19th century. It has only been somewhat recently that journalists and news writers have been separated from their government, aiming to produce information without biases and remain objective to truth.

Outside of CANIMUN, the UN recognizes the importance that the Civil Society Network (CSN) plays. More informally known as NGOs (Non Governmental Organizations), those involved with CSNs are key to the conference. For decades now, these organizations are usually non-profits, filled to the brim with average people looking to make a difference in the world. The Civil Society Network is very happy to announce that 20 NGOs will be in attendance at this year's conference.

NGOs have a long and exceptionally diverse history. It is impossible to say exactly when a group of people not involved in formal government grouped together to enact change. Arguably, one could say that as long as the government has existed, people have been working on their own to create something. Many of these groups were religious organizations, taking their goals across country borders. Some of the most influential (and in some ways, beneficial) NGOs were those dedicated to anti-slavery movements in North America in the 18th and 19th centuries. In 1863, after witnessing the horrific Battle of Solferino, wealthy Swiss philanthropist Henri Dunant founded the world-famous Red Cross, dedicated to helping those plagued by natural disasters internationally. However, the term non-governmental organization was only formally coined by the United Nations shortly after the end of the second

World War. Both World Wars brought on the popularity of NGOs, with the creation of organizations such as the International Council of Women and the International Cooperative Alliance. Today, the Global Journal estimates there are over 20,000 NGOs internationally, but due to the groups varying in sheer number of members and location, it is impossible to say exactly how many exist.

WHAT TO EXPECT

IPF consists of a team of journalists. Throughout the conference, each journalist will be taking notes, taking photos, recording audio, and asking questions to delegates to create their stories. They will use the information learned during the conference to create articles, which will be published daily in the CANIMUN Gazette. Delegates will also be updating the official CANIMUN social media accounts with the events of the conference, live as it happens. Journalists will be creating articles in either English or French. The Gazette will be printed into physical copies and distributed daily to all participating delegates throughout the conference.

The Civil Society Network will also be in attendance each day at CANIMUN. During the conference, there will be a delegate representing each non governmental organization. They will bring forward points and perspectives on the issue that their organization represents. Participants can expect a lively debate and ample discussion from both committees. These delegates are also expected to participate in the crisis mode.

WHAT TO BRING

- Journalists will require the following:
- Camera/Camera phone
- Tripod (optional but highly encouraged)
- Audio recorder (can be phone app, but external recording device is recommended)
- Notepad/pens/pencils
- Any necessary charging equipment
- Any necessary storage equipment (USB, memory card, etc)
- Laptop
- Earphones

PARTICIPATING NEWS AGENCIES

- Associated Press
- CNN
- BBC
- Reuters
- Al Jazeera
- Politico
- Fox News
- New China News Agency (Xinhua News Agency)
- MSNBC
- Global News
- CBC
- CBS

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- The Rebel Media
 - The Guardian
 - The Korean Central News Agency
 - Indo-Asian News Service
 - Agence France-Presse
 - Agência Brasil
 - Public News Agency of Ecuador and South America (*Agencia Pública de Noticias del Ecuador y Suramérica*)
 - Bloomberg
 - Kenya News Agency

PARTICIPATING NGOS

- Greenpeace
- Danish Refugee Council
- Doctors Without Borders (Médecins Sans Frontières)
- PETA
- Human Rights Watch
- Amnesty International
- Rainforest Alliance
- Femmes Africa Solidarité
- Root Capital
- International Alert
- International Centre for Transitional Justice
- Portable Light Project
- Injaz al-Arab
- CeaseFire
- Reporters Without Borders (Reporters Sans Frontières)
- Ashoka
- WWF
- Global Witness
- OneWorld Health
- Geneva Call

POLICY OF EACH NGO

GREENPEACE

The three main campaign areas of Greenpeace are transforming energy (working with the public, lobbying governments and putting pressure on corporations to shift from oil and nuclear to renewable energy), protecting nature (working to protect biodiversity in all forms), and living sustainably (pushing to reduce overconsumption, sustainably farmed agriculture and reducing the amount of chemicals in today's products and manufacturing processes).



DANISH REFUGEE COUNCIL

Denmark's largest NGO. The organization works with humanitarian, development and peacebuilding activities to ensure a dignified life for refugees, the displaced, and displacement-affected people. Focuses in ten areas including protection (rights of displaced, child protection initiatives, legal aid, land and property rights, prevention of sexual and gender-based violence) shelter, operational services (humanitarian surveys and studies), income generation (business grants, life-skills training, literacy and numeracy training), food security, Community Infrastructure (physical infrastructure like roads, bridges, community centres), emergency water supply, violence reduction, clearance of mines, and educational support.



DOCTORS WITHOUT BORDERS (MÉDECINS SANS FRONTIÈRES)

Doctors earning little to no money traveling and giving impartial medical aid in conflict zones. MSF offers assistance to people based solely on need, irrespective of race, religion, gender, or political affiliation. MSF is also widely known for their incredible communication skills, often being allowed to enter warzones where no one else is able to. Over 90 percent of the organizations' income comes from private donors giving small amounts. Tens of millions of lives have been saved due to this organization.



PETA (PEOPLE FOR THE ETHICAL TREATMENT OF ANIMALS)

PETA is the largest animal rights organization in the world, with more than 6.5 million members and supporters. The organization focuses its attention on the four areas in which the largest numbers of animals suffer the most intensely for the longest periods of time: in laboratories, in the food industry, in the clothing trade, and in the entertainment industry. PETA works through public education, cruelty investigations, research, animal rescue, legislation, special events, celebrity involvement, and protest campaigns.



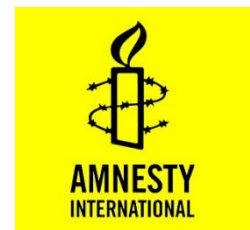
HUMAN RIGHTS WATCH

Human Rights Watch is a nonprofit, non-governmental human rights organization made up of roughly 400 staff members around the globe. Its staff consists of human rights professionals including country experts, lawyers, journalists, and academics. Annually, the organization publishes more than 100 reports and briefings on human rights conditions in some 90 countries, generating extensive coverage in local and international media. HRW does not accept government funds, directly or indirectly, or support from any private funder that could compromise our objectivity and independence. Similarly, it does not embrace political causes, are non-partisan, and maintain neutrality in armed conflict.



AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL

Amnesty International is a global community of human rights defenders based on the principles of international solidarity, effective action for the individual victim, global coverage, the universality and indivisibility of human rights, impartiality and independence, and democracy and mutual respect. The organization is independent of any political ideology, economic interest or religion. Amnesty International lobby's governments, and other powerful groups such as companies. Making sure they keep their promises and respect international law.



RAINFOREST ALLIANCE

The Rainforest Alliance is a growing network of farmers, foresters, communities, scientists, governments, environmentalists, and businesses dedicated to conserving biodiversity and ensuring sustainable livelihoods. The organization is an international non-profit working to build strong forests, healthy agricultural landscapes, and thriving communities through creative, pragmatic collaboration. Members of the organization join forces with individuals to rejuvenate agricultural landscapes conserve forests, foster sustainable livelihoods and build climate resilience across vulnerable regions; transform business practices and drive supply chain innovation, and engage consumers in positive change.



FEMMES AFRICA SOLIDARITÉ

Founded by African women leaders to prevent and resolve conflicts in Africa and to empower women for leadership in peace-building. The FAS philosophy is that every woman in Africa can play a role to achieve peace and improve their quality of life. Women are not perceived by FAS as passive victims: They are acknowledged as key civil society agents with enormous potential. Women, in the FAS vision, can make a big difference towards a new social order that guarantees the respect of women's rights and women's equal responsibility for and equal access and opportunity to participate in decision-making.



ROOT CAPITAL

Root Capital partners with businesses to improve agricultural practices around the world. The organization financially invests in the growth of agricultural enterprises so they can transform rural communities. These businesses purchase crops such as coffee, cocoa, or grains from thousands of smallholder farmers. They connect members to markets and help improve their farming practices. With the growth of this small businesses, these businesses then become engines of impact that can raise incomes and create jobs, empower women and young people, sustain peace, and preserve vulnerable ecosystems. Root Capital works in Latin America, sub-Saharan Africa, and Southeast Asia.



INTERNATIONAL ALERT

International Alert is one of the world's leading peacebuilding organisations, with over 30 years of experience laying the foundations for peace. The group works with people directly affected by conflict to build lasting peace. Our mission is to build a more peaceful world by working with people directly affected by conflict to find peaceful solutions, shaping policies and practices to support peace, and collaborating with all those striving for peace to strengthen our collective voice and impact. The organization aims to prevent the outbreak, escalation, continuation and recurrence of conflict.



INTERNATIONAL CENTRE FOR TRANSITIONAL JUSTICE

ICTJ works across society and borders to challenge the causes and address the consequences of massive human rights violations. Transitional justice refers to the ways countries emerging from periods of conflict and repression address large-scale or systematic human rights violations so numerous and so serious that the normal justice system will not be able to provide an adequate response. The aims of transitional justice will vary depending on the context but these features are constant: the recognition of the dignity of individuals, the redress and acknowledgment of violations, and the aim to prevent them from happening again. The ICTJ focuses on four types of “approaches:” Criminal prosecutions for at least the most responsible for the most serious crimes, “Truth-seeking” (or fact-finding) processes into human rights violations by non-judicial bodies. These can be varied but often look not only at events, but their causes and impacts. Reparations for human rights violations taking a variety of forms: individual, collective, material, and symbolic. And lastly, reform of laws and institutions, including the police, judiciary, military, and military intelligence



PORTABLE LIGHT PROJECT

The Portable Light Project enables people in the developing world to create and own energy harvesting textiles, providing the benefits of renewable power as an integral part of everyday life. Portable Light is a distributed, mobile energy infrastructure that provides people in the developing world with the ability to access clean energy and light — anytime, anywhere. The Project aims to leverage the smallest useful increment of clean energy for its maximum social benefits. Portable Light embeds flexible photovoltaic material, LED lighting and USB power



into a portable, rugged solar textile kit that can be created by partner communities using local materials and textile craft traditions.

INJAZ AL-ARAB

By developing relevant, hands on training and mentoring programs for Arab youth and connecting them to business leaders to serve as teachers and role models, INJAZ strives to accelerate young people’s ability to contribute to the economic development of their nations and regions by becoming business leaders and entrepreneurs of their local communities. INJAZ aims to inspire and prepare a generation of Arab youth to utilize their natural talents, inspiration, passion and determination to become the business leaders and entrepreneurs of tomorrow.



CEASEFIREPA

CeaseFirePA is a statewide organization working with mayors, police chiefs, faith leaders, community organizations, and individual Pennsylvanians to take a stand against gun violence. Through outreach, education, coalition building, and advocacy, the organization works to reduce gun violence and gun tragedies in our communities, stop the flow of illegal guns onto our streets, and keep guns out of the hands of people who should not have them. demands systemic solutions, focused on regulation, policy, enforcement, economics, education and public health. Mainly, the work focuses on policies related to access to and regulation of firearms, but also engages in efforts and partnerships to address the other facets required to solve the problem of gun violence.



ASHOKA

Ashoka strives to shape a global, entrepreneurial, competitive citizen sector: one that allows social entrepreneurs to thrive and enables the world's citizens to think and act as changemakers. Ashoka searches the world for leading social entrepreneurs and at the launch stage, provide these entrepreneurs—Ashoka Fellows—a living stipend for an average of three years, allowing them to focus full-time on building their institutions and spreading their ideas. Ashoka works to define and strengthen the field of social entrepreneurship through Idea Spread and Education programs, including spreading the innovations of both individual social entrepreneurs and those developed cooperatively among social entrepreneurs working on common or related problems. This includes publications, professional training of social entrepreneurs in communications, and Ashoka's web presence.



REPORTERS WITHOUT BORDERS (REPORTERS SANS FRONTIÈRES):

Reporters Without Borders (RSF) is the world’s largest NGO specializing in the defense of media freedom, which they regard as the basic human right to inform and be informed. RSF defends journalists (both professional and non-professional) who may hold opposing views as long as they are committed to reporting reality as they see it, in an independent manner. Freedom of information, according to the organization, is a force for transparency and efficiency in state and private-sector procurement and state assistance for development. That being said, it is essential for the coherence of public policies, the prosperity of private enterprises, and sustainable growth that respects the balances in nature and human society.



WWF

The mission of the World Wildlife Fund (WWF) is to stop the degradation of the planet's natural environment and to build a future in which humans live in harmony with nature, by conserving the world's biological diversity, ensuring that the use of renewable natural resources is sustainable, and promoting the reduction of pollution and wasteful consumption. WWF has 2 approaches for conserving biodiversity; conserving the Earth's most outstanding places, and; conserving species that are particularly important for habitat or for people. Some goals for the WWF are to always be independent, multicultural and non party political, to use the best available scientific information to address issues and critically evaluate all its endeavours, to seek dialogue and avoid unnecessary confrontation, to build concrete conservation solutions through a combination of field based projects, policy initiatives, capacity building and education work, and to involve local communities and indigenous peoples in the planning and execution of its field programmes, respecting their cultural as well as economic needs.



GLOBAL WITNESS

Global Witness campaigns to end environmental and human rights abuses driven by the exploitation of natural resources and corruption in the global political and economic system. The organization makes a point of taking a stand against individuals, governments and companies who benefit from corruption that drives environmental and human rights abuses around the world. They are also known for fearlessly confronting corruption and challenging the systems that enable it. Some past tactics include: secret filming, satellite imagery and drone footage, data analysis, and anonymous sources.



ONEWORLD HEALTH

OneWorld believes that everyone deserves access to the best health care possible, regardless of economic or insurance status. To that end, they provide a vast range of services in health care, dentistry and behavioral health. The group focus on meeting the primary health care needs of the community, and maintains an open-door policy, providing treatment regardless of an individual's income, insurance coverage, without differentiation or consideration of race, sex, disability, national origin, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity, immigration status or ability to pay. If you are without insurance, the organization bases their charges on a sliding fee scale. They require proof of one month's worth of income to determine the fees for services rendered.



GENEVA CALL

Geneva Call is a neutral and impartial non-governmental organization dedicated to promoting respect by armed non-State actors (ANSAs) for international humanitarian norms in armed conflict and other situations of violence, in particular those related to the protection of civilians. Geneva Call is currently focusing its efforts on banning the use of anti-personnel mines, protecting children from the effects of armed conflict, prohibiting sexual violence in armed conflict and working towards the elimination of gender discrimination. Geneva Call subscribes to the humanitarian principles of neutrality, impartiality and independence, and seeks to ensure transparency by informing stakeholders, including the States concerned, of its engagement efforts with ANSAs.

