



UNEP

Chair: Albert Lopez-Villagomez

Assistant: Julian Junkroski



LETTER FROM SECRETARY GENERAL

Hi everyone!

Before I introduce myself, I would like to give a quick thank you to everyone that made this possible. Thank you to Dr. Arguelles for her constant support of LelyMUN as a team and for TrojanMUNC I as a conference. Thank you to Ms. Bledsoe for approving this project of the Model UN team and to all of the administration that supported us throughout the way. Thank you to the social studies department for your support in advertising this event as well as for educating us on important world-wide matters as well as to the Lely staff for contributing to our growth as the Lely Model UN team. Thank you to all of our volunteers who are helping us throughout this conference and the biggest of my thank yous goes to my staff. You all put in a lot of effort to make the conference a possibility and have been listening to me talk about the idea of Lely hosting its own Model UN conference since my freshman year. I am very appreciative of all of you (:<3.

My name is Alejandra Ramos and I am your Secretary General for TrojanMUNC I! I am so excited to welcome you all onto Lely's campus for our first ever conference. I have been a Model UN Delegate since my freshman year and have successfully participated in all types of rooms including General Assemblies, Crisis Rooms, and Specialized Rooms. Although I was born in the USA, I lived in Mexico during my childhood so although English is not my first language, I developed my interest in international relations from an early age. Outside of Model UN, I am involved in a variety of activities some of which include debate, teen court, spanish honor society, national honor society, and student government. Outside of school though, I love traveling, listening to Taylor Swift, watching Gossip Girl, and hanging out with friends.

TrojanMUNC I is something very special to me as it is something that I have dreamt of since my freshman year. Since Lely High School is a Title I school, extracurriculars like Model UN are not accessible to many students due to the high prices and fees that come with participating. This was one of the main reasons why I first thought of hosting a Model UN conference of our own and why the Lely Model UN team and Lely High School staff was so supportive in this endeavor. After this conference officially starts, Lely High School will be the only Title I school in the county and one of the few schools on a regional, state, and national scale to host its own model un conference. At first, this conference started off as something that was going to be specifically tailored for Lely students. Having this opportunity to train delegates and introduce students to what Model UN is like is something that will allow students to enrich their social studies knowledge outside of the classroom. Additionally, students will be exposed to world-wide issues and will have to analyze them through different lenses, developing who they are as people. Ultimately though, opening up this conference to more schools will allow these benefits to be applicable to all students that wish to participate.

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TrojanMUNC I, as a result, has a purpose of providing equal access to opportunities for all students that are willing to learn and are driven to succeed. As part of your TrojanMUNC staff, I speak on behalf of all us when stating that we are all more than willing to help you and your team seek out any external resources to help fund your club and to look for more opportunities to help the delegates of your club grow. This conference revolves around the idea of helping one another and establishing strong connections as delegates, as students, and as people.

We at LelyMUN are lucky enough to have delegates that work hard in order to fundraise money for the club as well as the very generous support of The Cooper-Bos Family, the Jack Kent Cooke Foundation, and the Lely High School SAC. With an increase in fundraising and community outreach this year, my freshman year dream will finally come true with the start of this conference and the beginning of TrojanMUNC.

I am looking forward to meeting all of you and cannot wait to hear about the amazing performances that are going to be seen at TrojanMUNC I.

Best of luck and please reach out if have any questions at alejandrarry239@gmail.com or lelyhsmun@gmail.com

Appreciatively,

Alejandra Ramos

TrojanMUNC I Secretary General



LETTER FROM STAFF

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Hello delegates. My name is Albert Lopez-Villagomez and I am your chair for this conference. I have been in Model UN for two years now and am the treasurer for LelyMUN. I have had some great experiences in Model UN and am very happy to be chairing this conference which you will all (hopefully) enjoy. My main goal for this conference is to guide you all through what Model UN is like and to make sure that you as delegates learn the necessities to be successful across a variety of conferences. I am experienced in both General Assemblies and Crisis Committees so if you have any questions about anything please don't be scared to ask. I look forward to reading your position papers and to analyzing the ideas you all present to combat the issues our environment is currently facing.

Hello delegates, my name is Julian Junkroski and I will be your assistant chair for this room. This is my second year of doing MUN and my first time being an assistant chair for a room. I joined MUN to gain a better understanding of what is occurring in our world, and be able to gain new perspectives and views on global issues. I have learned so much in the two years I've done MUN and it has been an eye opening and rewarding experience. I am greatly looking forward to seeing delegates work together to solve the pressing issue of Poaching and the Illegal Wildlife Trade, and hope for our first ever TrojanMUNC I to be the best!

We are both here to support all of you in your endeavors in and outside of Model UN. We believe in equal access to resources and opportunities so please reach out if you have any concerns or questions you would like to address with us.



OVERVIEW OF THE ROOM

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The business of wildlife crime has increased alongside international trade, with millions of animals at risk and many species being driven from endangered to extinct. Poaching at its core consists of individuals seeking profit for subsistence purposes, whether it be as far back as the peasantry seeking exotic animals to sell for bread, or to now with poachers gunning down animals to sell on black markets for big money. Due to the lengthy history, illegal poaching has left a bloody trail of decreasing populations of animals across the world. Whether it be the ivory of elephants, increasing in cultural value, the horns of rhinos, being demanded for the myth of curing cancer, or the animal itself, satisfying rich consumers exotic crave, it is clear that illegal poaching and wildlife trafficking is a lucrative market.



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INTRODUCTION

Introduction

The increasing human population further stresses the natural supply of animals and animal production. Animals in an ecosystem fulfill a certain niche, a role, and when they go extinct or decrease in population significantly; it disrupts this ecosystem creating a domino effect, which more so than not leads to the destruction of said ecosystem. Illegal poaching and wildlife trafficking disregards these concerns for big profits, with wildlife trafficking moving species from a natural location to an unnatural one. This unnatural location may be a buyer's home, or an unregulated market. This illicit trade does not have to follow any official regulations—even health and safety regulations. This is especially concerning when one considers the possible ramifications of having unregulated trade occurring from one nation to another. Exotic pets for some have often been released into unnatural habitats by the owner. These invasive species then disrupt the natural ecosystem, as seen with the Burmese python in the everglades. The global wildlife trade is estimated to deal with about 40,000 live primates, 4 million live birds, 640,000 live reptiles, and 350 million live tropical fish each year. Disease spread, whether it be contact, airborne, or hereditary, is highly likely when illicitly trading at such a degree. Historically, SARS, Covid-19, Monkey Pox, and Avian Influence have had direct ties to wildlife trafficking and illicit poaching. The ramifications of these diseases spread beyond death, as outbreaks typically disrupt a nation's economy and the supply of goods. Understanding this allows one to see a great present issue in wildlife trafficking and the overall global wildlife trade, and how negatively it affects the environment and human society.



SUBTOPICS

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Economic Impacts

Around the world industry has been built and settled upon natural resources and bountiful ecosystems. Careers and, in some cases, whole economies are heavily affected by the exploitation of natural resources, including wildlife. According to the United Nations Environment Program

(UNEP) (2007), half of the world's jobs are associated with fisheries, forestry, and agriculture. Each Industry is negatively affected by exploitation, with overfishing threatening species extinction, poacher-set fires threatening deforestation, and invasive species threatening agricultural yield.

Overfishing

A prime example of illegal poaching Is seen worldwide with Sturgeon: large, migratory, bony fish who are hunted for their eggs to be processed into caviar and sold at a high price. Sturgeons not only provide food for humans, but serve their own niche in their respective ecosystems, conserving biomass and fertilizing the plants at the bottom of rivers and estuaries through their waste. Despite this, illegal harvesting has left most, if not all, species of Sturgeon critically endangered under the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species.

Deforestation

Wildlife trafficking returns with the demand for exotic goods. Poachers employ slash-and-burn tactics to push out elephants, tigers, crocodiles, various bird species, and rhinos. The improper use of slash-and-burn clearing often leads to deforestation, with the increased levels of CO2 reducing the potential for plants to grow back properly. Poachers disregard this concern, seeking the elephant tusks, rhino ivory, crocodile skin, and exotic colorful bird to satiate the buyer, thinking last about the environment or surrounding people.

Invasive species

Invasive species are often the result of exotic buyers absentmindedly releasing their pets into an unnatural environment. The environmental damage from this then impacts the surrounding agriculture. In the U.S. alone, a highly developed nation, invasive insects as well as pathogens estimate to cost almost \$40 Billion a year in product loss. This problem magnifies itself in underdeveloped nations that have less resources to combat these invasive species. Some of these invasive species may include the Burmese python in South Florida.



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Invasive Species (continued)

This large boa constrictor is a massive snake that has devastated the south Florida ecosystem. Another one is the extremely invasive Emerald ash borer, which is from Asia, and has killed millions of ash trees, decimating local forests⁴ and even affecting industries such as baseball bat production which relies on ash trees.

Current Combative Action

As of now, there are global actions being taken to combat the illegal wildlife trade and poaching. One of the forefront organizations fighting it is the United Nation's Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) started by eight countries key to global efforts in primarily combating illegal ivory trade. The committee is the center of collaborative and practical action to conserve African elephants. CITES has implemented actions such as front-line action to respond to wildlife crime and is part of their massive effort to ensure that the wildlife trade is legal, sustainable, and traceable⁵. Many nations across the world have implemented their own combative actions on the wildlife trade, and they work in partnership with the private sector, local peoples, and NGO's to further mitigate the wildlife trade. Some policies used by these nations include incentivizing local law enforcement, policy reform, and reduction actions that are specifically designed to fit the needs and issues of individual countries.



GOALS OF COMMITTEE AND GUIDING QUESTIONS

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The goals of the committee:

- To find an effective way to combat illegal poaching of endangered animals.
- To find a way to severely mitigate the illegal wildlife trade.
- To cooperate with all nations in creating an equitable solution for the issue.

Guiding questions:

1. How can corruption in the political sector be addressed concerning wildlife trade?
2. How will poor and needy families get the money they need to feed themselves and their families if poaching and the illegal wildlife trade is more harshly combated?
3. What are some of the policies and actions that would be needed to successfully carry out or goals?
4. By what means would poaching and the wildlife trade be combated. Would this be done through laws and regulations or through force?
5. How will the majority undeveloped countries that harbor the wildlife trade and poaching be convinced to cooperate with policies put forth to mitigate the trade despite the great economic boost it brings these nations?



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