

Ups, we did it again.



W E N T



Last week we attended another MUN conference, **Model United Nations of Hamburg (MUNOH)**, organized by students of our neighbouring school Gymnasium Meiendorf.

We participated with the largest group of all schools: 26 delegates, 4 chairs, 2 Ad-Staffs and 2 MUN-Directors, and more than half of our students also hosted a student from another German schools, from Aichach, Augsburg, Berlin and Erlangen, or from a school from another country such as Belgium, Cyprus, Denmark, England, Greece, Italy and Poland.



It started with the Opening Ceremony which this year took place in our Town Hall and was introduced by a speech of our Major, Olaf Scholz. And the ceremony itself in the 'Großen Festsaal', where the ambassadors of each delegation delivered their opening speeches, was very impressive. The following days were spent on lobbying and debating in nine forums on various topical issues of the world such as:

- The safety of aid organizations in crisis areas
- Preventing the spreading of waterborne diseases
- Conflicts between national code of laws and the practice of the Shar'ia
- The right to seek asylum by guaranteeing safe travel
- Finding measures to prohibit the privatization of water, ensuring access to water especially in poor regions
- Measures to eliminate the gender gap.A 6:
- Implementing the human right to water and sanitation
- Finding international regulations on marriage of homosexuals and their acceptance
- Prohibiting torture as a legal penalty
- Preventing the extinction of water species with a special focus on effects caused by tourism
- Decelerating the process of desertification
- Sinking groundwater levels due to the deepening rivers for economic trade
- Eliminating the organ trade on the black market with a special focus on refugees
- The structure of the Security Council
- The effectiveness of UN peace keepers in crisis areas
- The dispute of the South China Sea focusing on territorial claims
- The influence of Boko Haram with a special focus on children.

But we did not only work, we also made new friends and had a lot of fun at parties and meetings in the evenings. But most importantly we have changed: We learned a lot about ourselves, about how to deliver speeches and how to debate, and that we can make a difference if we get active, if we care about the world's problems.

Sunday afternoon the conference ended with a lot of interesting speeches and inspiring songs, John Lennon's 'Imagine' and Michael Jackson's 'Man in the Mirror', at the Closing Ceremony in the Steigenberger Hotel. Five days full of intensive work and new and important experiences were over.

Was it worthwhile? Absolutely!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!! **We will do it again!**