

# Argentina

Delegation: Haynes Academy

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**Capital City:** Buenos Aires      **Location:** Southeast South America      **Population:** 45.38

**Country's Leader:** Alberto Fernández

**Form of Government:** Representative democracy

**Official Language:** Spanish      **Other Languages:** English, Italian, Welsh, Portuguese

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## General Assembly

**Student Ambassadors:** Sophie Yeon, Vaishu Kumbala      **Voting Rep:** Vaishu Kumbala

**Percent Undernourished:** 3%

**Major Endangered Species:** Brazilian Guitarfish, Parana Pine, Pampas deer, Eskimo Curlew, Glaucous Macaw, Fossorial Giant Rat, Striped Dogfish, Rabino's Tree Iguana, El Rincon Stream Frog, Jaguar, Hooded Grebe, Short-tailed Chinchilla, Tuco-Tuco, Vizcacha Rat

**Food Security:** Food insecurity is a growing problem due to economic instability and inflation.

**Obstacles to Internet Access:** High rates of inflation and economic problems growing from the start of the 21st century have led to increased poverty and inaccessibility to the internet. A report in 2020 showed broadband prices were too expensive for 27% of Argentine households.

**Natural Habitats of Endangered Species:** The country protects the natural habitats of endangered species by their Native Forest Law, which categorize provinces as red, green, and yellow zones; red zones are considered to have "high conservation values," so deforestation is prohibited. It could improve upon these efforts, as deforestation is such a large issue in South America's second-largest forest, Gran Chaco.

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# Australia

Delegation: Saint Joseph's Academy

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**Capital City:** Canberra    **Location:** located in Oceania between the Indian Ocean and the South Pacific Ocean

**Population:** 25.69

**Country's Leader:** Prime minister Scott Morrison

**Form of Government:** a federal parliamentary monarch

**Official Language:** English    **Other Languages:**

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## General Assembly

**Student Ambassadors:** Emma Bonney, N/A    **Voting Rep:** Emma Bonney

**Percent Undernourished:** 2.5%

**Major Endangered Species:** Keystone endangered species – meaning the loss of this species would be disastrous to their ecosystem – southern cassowary, Gilbert's potoroo, grey nurse shark, Tasmanian devil, red-tailed black cockatoo, Tasmanian wedge-tailed eagle, Northern quoll

**Food Security:** 15% of Australians have experienced food insecurity at least one month in a year. The 10% increase in the number of individuals seeking food relief from charities has caused only 37% of charities being able to meet the full needs of the people they serve; 65,000 people seek food relief and are unable to be assisted by charities. The high cost of living is the main cause of food insecurity; 56% of food insecure Australians say they have been unable to purchase enough food due to unexpected expenses or large bills.

**Obstacles to Internet Access:** The cost and region further exacerbate inequalities that already exist in Australian society. There are concerns that access to internet will continue to depend on education, literacy, and income.

**Natural Habitats of Endangered Species:** The Southern Cassowary's drop in numbers is due to the expansion of farms in their habitat; a project is establishing another 3,300 rainforest trees in the Daintree Lowland Rainforest, which is the largest extent of lowland tropical rainforest remaining in Australia.

The Gilbert's Potoroo Action Group fundraise to assist research and recovery programs, promote public awareness of the critically endangered status of Gilbert's Potoroo, and encourage volunteers to participate in research and recovery programs.

Research is being undertaken by various universities and government agencies in order to increase understanding about their habitat requirements, diet, and movements; in addition, the Grey Nurse Shark recovery team has worked with divers and diving clubs to educate divers on how to behave around Grey Nurse Sharks to help protect the species and its habitat.

The Tasmanian Devil population suffers from the impacts of the Devil Facial Tumour Disease (DFTD) and lost over 60% of their population since the mid-1990s; Studies into a vaccine for DFTD are now underway in an effort to help the declining numbers.

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# Austria

Delegation: Jesuit High School

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**Capital City:** Vienna      **Location:** Central Europe      **Population:** 8917000

**Country's Leader:** Alexander Van der Bellen

**Form of Government:** Parliamentary Republic

**Official Language:** German      **Other Languages:** Croatian, Slovenian, Hungarian

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## General Assembly

**Student Ambassadors:** Nate Costantini, Derek Moore      **Voting Rep:** Derek Moore

**Percent Undernourished:** 2.5%

**Major Endangered Species:** Huchen, White-footed Crayfish, and Orsini's Viper

**Food Security:** Austria is ranked as the 14th most food-secure country in the world. They have made efforts to help less food secure countries like Mozambique to become food-secure. Because Austria is such an agricultural country, most of the food that the population eats is cultivated locally. However, there is a competitive edge to agriculture in Austria. They have instituted many food acts such as the Seed Act, the Pesticide Act, the Plant Protection Act, and the Planting Material Act.

**Obstacles to Internet Access:** One major obstacle in getting internet access in Austria is that of trying to provide service in the many great Austrian valleys. 68% of Austrians live in urban cities. The other 32% are in hard-to-reach areas for service providers.

**Natural Habitats of Endangered Species:** Austria has set aside 28.06% of their land for endangered species habitats. There are 1565 protected areas. However, about 61% of these are less than 1km<sup>2</sup>. These sites include more than 410 species. The protected species are dictated by the EU. The EU Habitats Directive has about 2,500 species on its list, and the EU Birds Directive has about 500 species of birds. Austria is doing an excellent job in their management of endangered species.

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# Bahamas

Delegation: Dutchtown High School

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**Capital City:** Nassau      **Location:** Caribbean: West Atlantic, SE of North America      **Population:** 393248

**Country's Leader:** Philip Davis

**Form of Government:** parliamentary democracy

**Official Language:** English/ Bahamian Creole      **Other Languages:** Haitian Creole

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## General Assembly

**Student Ambassadors:** Brianna Glover, Taylor Sacco      **Voting Rep:** Taylor Sacco

**Percent Undernourished:** 5.6%

**Major Endangered Species:** Bahamian Rock Iguana, West Indian Flamingo, Bahamas Hutia

**Food Security:** As the Bahamas have an isolated food system that heavily relies on foreign imports, recent hurricanes and COVID-19 have resulted in the increase in food security

Natural Disasters that keep occurring leave the prices of food increasing, and the availability decreasing.

**Obstacles to Internet Access:** Although internet access is growing throughout the country, the expense of the internet is an obstacle because some may find internet equipment unaffordable.

**Natural Habitats of Endangered Species:** All Endangered animals in the Bahamas are in protection under the Wild Animals Act.

The country can improve on efforts to stop bringing harm to these endangered species by human interference (destroying their natural habitat) and stopping the introduction of non-native dogs and cats in the country.

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# Bahrain

Delegation: Haynes Academy

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**Capital City:** Manama    **Location:** Middle East of Asia    **Population:** 1702000

**Country's Leader:** Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa

**Form of Government:** Constitutional Monarchy

**Official Language:** Arabic    **Other Languages:** English, Farsi, and Urdu

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## General Assembly

**Student Ambassadors:** Kamar Hachem, Teagan Pethe    **Voting Rep:** Kamar Hachem

**Percent Undernourished:** 8.5%

**Major Endangered Species:** Arabian Oryx, Dugong, Ocellated Eagle Ray, Arabain Sand Gazelle

**Food Security:** No, the country does not seem to have an issue with food security. As a matter of fact, Bahrain is listed in the top 50 most food secure nations worldwide, meaning that most residents regularly have access to foods that meet their preferences and dietary needs. That is no surprise as 99 percent of people in Bahrain have access to drinking water along with the knowledge on how to store food safely. To top it all off, nobody is living at or below the global poverty line; food is something that is very affordable for the residents. With that being said, Bahrain aims to reach the 25th spot of the most food secure nations by 2030.

**Obstacles to Internet Access:** Obstacles regarding internet access in Bahrain include political censorship and risks of cyberattacks. The government authorities blocked numerous websites and even removed content that they saw offensive to them in any way. Citizens were susceptible to jail-time if they posted about topics that were against the government. Additionally, online journalists and activists faced ongoing risks posting on the internet. Possible consequences include extralegal intimidation and surveillance by state authorities.

**Natural Habitats of Endangered Species:** Yes, although Bahrain has a limited wildlife population, the country makes efforts to preserve it. For example, the Al Green Wildlife Park is a nature reserve and zoo that is home to 100,00 planted flora, more than 90 species of birds, and 50 species of animals. It contains endangered species, such as the Arabian oryx and the goitered gazelle. To further expand the efforts, non-governmental organizations should spread the word about these species to try to gain more volunteers to help preserve the species from extinction. For example, these organizations can host community events in which ideas about preservation will be carried out. Although Bahrain made outstanding efforts to keep extinct species, if more people were aware about the issue, there would be an increase in the efforts to make preservations. As a result, endangered species' chances of becoming officially wiped out from the world would drastically increase.

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# Bangladesh

Delegation: Episcopal High School

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**Capital City:** Dhaka      **Location:** South Asia      **Population:** 164700000

**Country's Leader:** Abdul Hamid

**Form of Government:** Parliamentary democracy

**Official Language:** Bengali      **Other Languages:**

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## General Assembly

**Student Ambassadors:** Lucy Pellegrin, Caroline Wilcox      **Voting Rep:** Lucy Pellegrin

**Percent Undernourished:** 9.7%

**Major Endangered Species:** Bengal Tiger, Leopard, Asian Elephant

**Food Security:** 25% food insecurity

**Obstacles to Internet Access:** high service charges, lack of awareness, poor telecommunication systems, government policy, low buying power of potential clients, and lack of institutional support

**Natural Habitats of Endangered Species:** "Similarly, Bangladesh is updating its Wildlife (Conservation and Security) Act, 2012, to protect CITES-listed sharks and rays. The Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS) Bangladesh Program, with support from Blue Resources Trust and Pew, is raising awareness on shark and ray conservation in Bangladesh and why it's important that the Government is taking action to save threatened species." (PEW).

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# Belarus

Delegation: Academy of the Sacred Heart New Orleans

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**Capital City:** Minsk      **Location:** Eastern Europe, East of Poland      **Population:** 9441842  
**Country's Leader:** Aleksandar Lukashenko  
**Form of Government:** Belarus names it as a presidential republic, but it is in fact a dictatorship  
**Official Language:** Russian and Belarusian      **Other Languages:** Small Polish and Ukrainian speaking minorities

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## General Assembly

**Student Ambassadors:** Isabelle DeGruy, Destiny Dixon      **Voting Rep:** Destiny Dixon  
**Percent Undernourished:** It shows that under 5 percent of the population is undernourished, ranking at about 2.5 percent as of 2019.  
**Major Endangered Species:** The Russian Desman  
**Food Security:** No, in the global food security ranking, it is in the top 30. They have adopted a State Agri-business Programme, ensuring environmentally safer agricultural alternatives, and they export produce to about 100 countries. However, due to sanctions placed on Belarus by Western countries, there is a shortage of Belarusian potash fertilizers in the world market, which is detrimental to the entire EU.  
**Obstacles to Internet Access:** As of 2020, with protests due to the recent presidential election, Belarusian authorities have restricted access to the internet and online content. However, around 2012, Belarus implemented a new program, "Electronic Belarus," to help provide internet access across the country.  
**Natural Habitats of Endangered Species:** As of 2014, there is not any evidence of recognition of or legislature addressing animal sentience or prohibition of animal suffering. However, there is some secondary legislation addressing animal slaughtering.

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# Bhutan

Delegation: Archbishop Hannan High School

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**Capital City:** Thimphu    **Location:** South Central Asia    **Population:** 771612

**Country's Leader:** Jigme Khesar Namgyel Wangchuck

**Form of Government:** constitutional monarchy, parliamentary system, unitary state

**Official Language:** Dzongkha    **Other Languages:** Chocangaca Language, Lakha, Brokkat, Brokpa, Laya, Khams Tibetan, Bumthang, Kheng, Kurtöp, Dzala, Nyen, Ole, Takpa, Chali, Tshangla, Gongduk, Lepcha, Lhokpu, Nepali, Sikkimese, Groma, Toto

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## General Assembly

**Student Ambassadors:** Mary Grace Wilson, Molly Compagno    **Voting Rep:** Molly Compagno

**Percent Undernourished:** 30%

**Major Endangered Species:** Pygmy hog, Asian elephant, golden langurs, Indian rhinoceros, flying squirrel, red panda, snow leopard, royal Bengal tiger, wild water buffalo, alpine musk deer, black musk deer, etc

**Food Security:** Bhutan does not have a food security issue. Even so, 88% of children between six to twenty-three months are being fed under the minimum acceptable diet. The country just needs a boost of nutrition because 98% of households are food secure.

**Obstacles to Internet Access:** For centuries, Bhutan avoided the use of technologies and cultivated its own set of traditions and beliefs. The Bhutanese government has been very careful with adopting new technologies- this decision was strongly influenced by Gross National Happiness (GNH) policy. They avoid contact with media that feeds misinformation and provides sensationalism which they believe can be harmful to the GNH policy.

**Natural Habitats of Endangered Species:** Bhutan is committed to protecting its country and the world's environment. The country is protecting 51% of its area most of forested. Bhutan has created a fund to help protect forests called Bhutan for life. It was started in 2018 and has been started in action in protecting the forests. Overall the only problem with environment that Bhutan has is balance between tourism and environment.

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# Brazil

Delegation: Benjamin Franklin High School

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**Capital City:** Brasília      **Location:** Eastern South America      **Population:** 213445417

**Country's Leader:** Presidente Jair Bolsonaro

**Form of Government:** Federal republic under a presidential system

**Official Language:** Portuguese      **Other Languages:** German, various Indigenous languages, Spanish

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## General Assembly

**Student Ambassadors:** Lena Hoover, Akshita Sridhar      **Voting Rep:** Lena Hoover

**Percent Undernourished:** 2.5% of Brazil's population was considered to be undernourished by 2019.

**Major Endangered Species:** The major endangered species that Brazil is home to are the Superagui Lion Tamarin, Kaapori Capuchin, Black Bearded Saki, and the Northern Muriqui.

**Food Security:** Brazil is currently working to solve the issue with food security. In the past, the percentage of undernourished people was very high. To combat these numbers, many policies have been implemented such as Fome Zero (Zero Hunger). Fome Zero had three major tenets. The first part of this program provided direct income to many families facing poverty so that they could better afford food. The second part of the program provided free school meals across the country and the third part of the program supported and trained small scale farmers who weren't able to grow enough food to meet the needs of the population. With policies like these, Brazil was able to reduce the undernourished population greatly.

**Obstacles to Internet Access:** Although Brazil's rate of internet access is relatively high and has increased greatly over the past decade, there's a massive gap between internet access in urban areas and internet access in rural areas. This is due to the high costs of broadband connectivity and equipment, along with a lack of services that offer data/internet plans or even sell the technology in these rural areas. Furthermore, many of the people living in Brazil's rural areas are indigenous communities that have been historically marginalized. This inequity must be rectified, especially so that these communities can gain better educational opportunities.

**Natural Habitats of Endangered Species:** Due to the large amount of endangered species and the rich nature that Brazil is home to, the country has done a considerable amount to protect the habitats of endangered species. Programs such as the Brazilian Alliance for Zero Extinction (BAZE) and The National Strategy for the Conservation of Threatened Species (GEF-Pró-Espécies Project) work to mitigate threats to various species. BAZE (inspired by the international AZE framework) is able to identify and map the sites of species that are home to threatened species, allowing the Brazilian government to better protect them. The GEF-Pró-Espécies Project is focused on integrating the preservation of threatened species into policy and detecting invasive species in habitats as early as possible. Although efforts are already being made to prevent illegal poaching, more surveillance and further action to hinder it could be conducted.

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# Canada

Delegation: Episcopal School of Baton Rouge

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**Capital City:** Ottawa      **Location:** Top part of North America      **Population:** 38200000

**Country's Leader:** Justin Trudeau

**Form of Government:** Parliamentary Democracy

**Official Language:** English and French      **Other Languages:** Mandarin, Cantonese, and Punjabi

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## General Assembly

**Student Ambassadors:** Miniya Malone, Julia Brinker      **Voting Rep:** Miniya Malone

**Percent Undernourished:** 2.5% of Canada is considered undernourished by the world bank.

**Major Endangered Species:** Polar Bear, Atlantic Walrus, Giant Panda, and Tigers

**Food Security:** Canada does have an issue with food security. According to the Canadian government website, one in eight households were food insecure in 2017-18. This amounts to 4.4 million people, including 1.2 million children, making up about 11% of the population at the time. Of that, approximately 875,000 people display severe food insecurity, defined by missing meals, reducing food intake, and at the most extreme going days without eating. This food insecurity is associated with an increased nutritional vulnerability in Canada.

**Obstacles to Internet Access:** Although an overwhelming amount of the Canadian population has readily available internet access, some problems do exist. The most prevalent issue is the urban-rural divide. While Mbps service is available to 98.6 percent of urban households, the same service is only available to 45.6 percent of rural households. In addition, lower income individuals struggle to afford access.

**Natural Habitats of Endangered Species:** Canada has multiple acts passed in order to protect their multiple endangered species. These acts include the Canada Wildlife Act, the Fisheries Act, and the Canada National Parks Act. The Canada Wildlife Act attempts to maintain the essential ecological processes and life support systems, to preserve genetic diversity, and to sustain the utilization of species and ecosystems. This act has been 99% successful in preventing extinction.

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## Eco/Soc

**Student Ambassadors:** Davis Eglin, Emily Berg      **Voting Rep:** Davis Eglin

**Vaccination, Unemployment Rates:** The unemployment rate is 6.0% The vaccination rate is 85% with 79% of people fully vaccinated.

**Rates of Domestic Abuse:** 44% of women who had ever been in an intimate partner relationship about 6.2 million women aged 15 and over reported experiencing some kind of psychological, physical, or sexual abuse in the context of an intimate relationship in their lifetime.

**Leaders in Pandora Papers:** None of the leaders in Canada are mentioned in the Pandora Papers.

**Pandemic and Domestic Abuse:** The onset of the COVID-19 pandemic in Canada brought lockdown measures, school closures and job losses for many, raising concerns about the impact of these stressors on families and a possible increase in family violence. While the latest annual police-reported data on family violence predate the pandemic, they are critical in establishing a baseline for future analysis of how COVID-19 restrictions impacted Canadian families. According to previously released data from 19 police services across Canada, family-related physical assault (-4%) and sexual assault (-10%) were also lower during the first eight months of the pandemic, while family-related incidents of uttering threats rose 2%.

**Unemployment and COVID-19:** COVID-19 caused drastic job loss in Canada, losing over 20 million jobs in just the first two months of the pandemic. The government instituted relief programs that provided direct relief and subsidies to businesses, alleviating job loss. Unemployment is now down to just under 6% after being near 10%. Though unemployment has been decreased, the national debt has sharply risen. Most of the economic problems are more tied to the dangers of COVID-19, where many workers are scared of getting sick. The vaccine distribution has been smooth, other than a few hiccups at the beginning of the rollout.

**Tax Havens:** As of now, Canada does not have any laws regarding tax havens or their shielding. Canada has agreed to a record number of trade agreements, leading some companies to protect assets in Canada, using our reputation and strong economy. Several companies in Canada have moved money offshore to tax havens, restricting Canada's available funds for government programs.

# China

Delegation: ESA

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**Capital City:** Beijing      **Location:** Asia      **Population:** 1402000000  
**Country's Leader:** Xe Xing Ping  
**Form of Government:** Republic  
**Official Language:** Mandarin      **Other Languages:** Cantonese, Shanghainese, Fuzhou

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## General Assembly

**Student Ambassadors:** Max Ross, Liam Majeau      **Voting Rep:** Liam Majeau

**Percent Undernourished:** 10.7 %

**Major Endangered Species:** Lar Gibbon, Black Snub-Nosed Monkey, Giant Panda, Himalayan Brown Bear, Dhole, South China Tiger, Indo-Pacific finless porpoise

**Food Security:** China links its food security closely with its national security. China also believes that the safeguarding of food security is a very important part of the dual circulation strategy, which seeks to attain greater self-reliance within China. Issues with China's food security stem from the massive population of 1.4 billion citizens. With so many citizens it is hard for the food industry to keep up and with Covid-19 China's agriculture industry has suffered a slowdown. The biggest threat to China is its agriculture industry being overtaken by the constantly growing population which threatens to lead to a collapse of the Chinese food system and mass starvation.

**Obstacles to Internet Access:** China links its food security closely with its national security. China also believes that the safeguarding of food security is a very important part of the dual circulation strategy, which seeks to attain greater self-reliance within China. Issues with China's food security stem from the massive population of 1.4 billion citizens. With so many citizens it is hard for the food industry to keep up and with Covid-19 China's agriculture industry has suffered a slowdown. The biggest threat to China's food security is an inability to keep up with population growth, but at the moment China has no outstanding threats to its food security.

What obstacles are there to internet access in your country? \*

China's biggest obstacle to internet access is itself. The Chinese people have internet access but many websites, such as Google and Facebook are blocked due to parameters set by the Great Firewall. The Internet itself is not restricted but many websites are, with around 40,000 internet police employed by the government to enforce the law. China does this to ensure the safety of its citizens.

**Natural Habitats of Endangered Species:** China does take steps to protect its animals and their natural habitats. A total of 980 animals benefit from Chinese state protection. Due to the spread of Covid-19 being linked to exotic animal trade stemming from China the government has begun to take a much more serious look at exotic animal poaching and then trade around it. China has vowed to implement a nationwide ban on wildlife trade and trafficking, with some exceptions left for fur and Tritonal medicine-based business. China has also promised to set up ecological red lines to protect the environments that many animals call home. These efforts have resulted in a 66% increase in prosecution among cases related to endangered species. China plans to take the fate of endangered species, their natural habitats, and the crimes relating to them very seriously.

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## Eco/Soc

**Student Ambassadors:** Cole Littlefield , Max Theriot      **Voting Rep:** Max Theriot

**Vaccination, Unemployment Rates:** Unemployment rate of - 4.24% Population fully vaccinated - 52.2%

**Rates of Domestic Abuse:** 25% of women have experienced domestic violence by their partner

**Leaders in Pandora Papers:** Feng Quiya, a Chinese politician and entrepreneur, has been named in the Pandora Papers for a two million dollar company involved in the trading of U.S. stock.

**Pandemic and Domestic Abuse:** Due to the stress of COVID-19 forcing families to be indoors for an extended amount of time, fights and other altercations have risen in frequency. The nonfinancial stable portion of China has experienced the most drastic rise in the frequency of domestic abuse due to COVID-19 as a result of the economic stress placed on families. As a result of unemployment steadily increasing over the duration of the pandemic, more families are feeling financial pressure. This pressure leads to stress inside the household and increased disputes between, romantic partners. In a report done in the Hubei province near Wuhan, domestic violence reports have tripled since the beginning of the pandemic. Overall the increased time spent indoors due to COVID-19 has affected families and relationships throughout China.

**Unemployment and COVID-19:** China has a relatively low unemployment rate for all ages compared to the rest of the world. While 4.24% of China's total population is unemployed, the age group of people most affected by unemployment is from the ages of 16-24. The unemployment rate for this age group is 13.1% showing a lack of new job development inside of China's economy. The struggle for China to maintain a constant conflict of millions of jobs as more workers become available is a major issue inside of China's economy. China does not require vaccination for employment of any jobs and therefore has no direct correlation. The pressure to vaccinate is still very present in the workplace and China's media is continually using all workers, especially those at high risk, to be vaccinated as soon as they are able to.

**Tax Havens:** Publicly, China does not attempt to create or support tax-havens. In the 2008 CIT Law, China attempted to hinder tax havens as it allowed Chinese tax authorities to combat tax avoidance. The 2008 CIT Law technically allows the authorities to interfere when a company is found to make an arrangement without reasonable business purposes. While the law is meant to stop the formation of tax havens, reasonable business purposes are a relatively loose term that could be left up to interpretation or potential corruption.

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## Security

**Student Ambassadors:** Arun Cacodcar, Charles Blem **Voting Rep:** Arun Cacodcar

**Military Capability:** China spends around 250 billion dollars a year on its military. China holds around 350 warheads and is planning on developing hypersonic missiles. China has around 2 million active personnel, 360 military ships, and 2,000 combat aircraft.

**Major Allies/Treaties:** China's major alliance rests with North Korea under the "Treaty of Friendship, Co-operation and Mutual Assistance" agreement. China became part of the WTO in 2001, which opened up many trade opportunities. China's treaty with Britain, the "Treaty of Nanjing"

**Major Disputes:** 1. China claims Taiwan needs to be reunified and China does not acknowledge its sovereignty. 2. China has previously had a major dispute with the Philippines and Vietnam over its claim of the South China Sea. Recently, The United States has gotten involved

**Security Council Policy Sentiments:** China holds one of the rotating positions for the U.N. Security Council. China's main goal is to uphold the alliance of many countries and hopes the U.N. can be at the core of this. Currently, China sees the U.N. as weak and ineffective because of the deadlocks caused by political disagreement. This has led to delayed reactions to the humanitarian crisis. China wishes to become the main representative of developing countries in the U.N., which would limit the power of major countries in Europe and America. China wants to focus on developing African countries. China has also proposed the U.N. does more to ensure the protection of their peacekeepers. China seeks to establish itself as a dominant influence in the U.N.

**Afghan Conflict:** China has had a cordial relationship with Afghanistan following the Taliban takeover. It was the first foreign country to pledge humanitarian aid to Afghanistan and has funded multiple construction projects. It sought to provide food, water, and COVID-19 vaccines. China has maintained direct communication with the Taliban administration and has met with Afghan officials to discuss plans for Afghanistan

reconstruction. China has made efforts to rally international support and aid for rebuilding Afghanistan, particularly by calling for the international community to lift sanctions and unfreeze Afghan foreign assets. China and other regional states have come together to urge Western powers to engage the Taliban and to provide assistance to the country, China is striving to create a stable government in Afghanistan to further its own connections

**Domestic and International Espionage Laws:** China has extremely strict laws against foreign and domestic espionage. Since 2014, China's laws have authorized a comprehensive security system and it allows authorities to seize property of anyone suspected of doing harm against China. After a past of high amounts of espionage in companies, China has also demanded that companies and other organizations change or stop any people behaving in a way that damages China's values and interests. Any companies that wouldn't follow this command would have their property confiscated by the authorities. These set of laws show China's strict values of defending against espionage.

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# Côte d'Ivoire

Delegation: Haynes Academy for Advanced Studies

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**Capital City:** Yamoussoukro      **Location:** West Africa      **Population:** 27381326

**Country's Leader:** Alassane Ouattara

**Form of Government:** representative presidential democracy

**Official Language:** French      **Other Languages:** Baoulé, Dioula, Dan, Anyin, and Cebaara Senufo

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## General Assembly

**Student Ambassadors:** Neal Tandon, Anashe Gaseller      **Voting Rep:** Anashe Gaseller

**Percent Undernourished:** 15%

**Major Endangered Species:** African Elephant, Chimpanzee, Diana Monkey, Liberian Mongoose

**Food Security:** Côte d'Ivoire has made significant improvements in food security as massive progress has been made in only a short amount of time. From 22% of the people being undernourished in 2010 to 14% in 2019. Although this improvement is disproportionate from region to region as some rural areas have experienced little to no improvement.

**Obstacles to Internet Access:** Compared to the rest of West Africa, Côte d'Ivoire internet access is closer to the global average. However, poverty and energy unreliability are large obstacles to internet access for a significant amount of the population in Côte d'Ivoire.

**Natural Habitats of Endangered Species:** Côte d'Ivoire puts millions in grants and concessional funds towards stopping illegal logging in natural forests, promoting the restoration and conservation of the forests, and making other sources of income for rural communities. Even still the rich and diverse forests and natural habitats of the Côte d'Ivoire are threatened by issues such as deforestation, oil spills, poaching, and pollution.

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# Cuba

Delegation: University Lab School

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**Capital City:** Havana      **Location:** Caribbean      **Population:** 11181595

**Country's Leader:** Miguel Diaz- Canel

**Form of Government:** Single-party Authoritarian Regime

**Official Language:** Spanish      **Other Languages:** English, Haitian Creole

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## Security

**Student Ambassadors:** Isabella Knighten, Guinevere Falcon      **Voting Rep:** Isabella Knighten

**Military Capability:** limited available information; estimated 50,000 active personnel (approximately 40,000 Army; 3,000 Navy; 8,000 Air Force) (2021). The Cuban military inventory is comprised of aging Russian and Soviet-era equipment; the last recorded arms delivery to Cuba

**Major Allies/Treaties:** Growing relationships with China and Russia, as well as stable relations with Venezuela and Bolivia

**Major Disputes:** Guantanamo Bay (America)

**Security Council Policy Sentiments:** Cuba supports an expansion of the Security Council, both in the permanent and non-permanent categories, with the aim of redressing the underrepresentation of developing countries. The membership of the Security Council should be expanded to no less than 26 members. The expansion should include an increase of new permanent members: at least two African countries, two developing countries from Asia and two from Latin America and the Caribbean. Cuba also favors the expansion of seats of the non-permanent member category, which should be enlarged to at least 15 members. We are not in favor of the creation of new membership categories or subcategories since that would deepen the existing differences and foment division within the Council. Cuba has always opposed the existence of the veto power. However, as long as it is not eliminated, the new seats to be created in the category of permanent members must have the same privileges and rights as the current ones, including the veto power, without establishing selective or discriminatory criteria.

**Afghan Conflict:** Cuba neither has been involved in the Afghan conflict nor has a public stance on it.

**Domestic and International Espionage Laws:** Cuba does not have clear or defined laws regarding espionage but does have an intelligence agency that is active internationally.

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# Denmark

**Delegation:** Saint Joseph's Academy

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**Capital City:** Copenhagen      **Location:** Atlantic Ocean, N of Germany; Northern Europe      **Population:** 5834950  
**Country's Leader:** Mette Frederiksen  
**Form of Government:** parliamentary democracy and a constitutional monarchy  
**Official Language:** Danish    **Other Languages:** English

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## General Assembly

**Student Ambassadors:** Hannah Deshotel, N/A    **Voting Rep:** Hannah Deshotel  
**Percent Undernourished:** 2.5%  
**Major Endangered Species:** Agabus Clypealis, Betula Oycoviensis, Egyptian Tem, Greenland Shark, Maraene Whitefish, Polar Bears  
**Food Security:** No  
**Obstacles to Internet Access:** None  
**Natural Habitats of Endangered Species:** Denmark is targeting and aiming for a 70% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions by the year 2030 which will help the country aim for being fossil free by the year 2050.

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## Eco/Soc

**Student Ambassadors:** Caroline Roussel, Lola Avery    **Voting Rep:** Lola Avery  
**Vaccination, Unemployment Rates:** 80.6% are fully vaccinated and 2.8% are unemployed  
**Rates of Domestic Abuse:** About 52% of women in Denmark experience domestic abuse  
**Leaders in Pandora Papers:** none  
**Pandemic and Domestic Abuse:** The pandemic HAS affected domestic abuse in Denmark and a possible solution could be offering more support and therapy to these men and women who have gone through domestic abuse along with the raising of awareness for domestic abuse.  
**Unemployment and COVID-19:** Denmark is not TOO heavily concerned with the 2.8% of unemployed Danish but many of the unemployed percentage comes from ill and wealthy family members not wanting to work so they are there for their children and family members at the end of the day.  
**Tax Havens:** Denmark became one of the first countries to ban companies that are registered in tax havens from accessing financial aid during the coronavirus pandemic.

# Egypt

Delegation: St. Joseph's Academy

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**Capital City:** Cairo      **Location:** Northeast Africa and Sinai Peninsula      **Population:** 102500000  
**Country's Leader:** President Abdel Fattah Al-Sisi  
**Form of Government:** Unitary semi-presidential republic  
**Official Language:** Arabic      **Other Languages:** Saidi Arabic, Nobiin, Beja, Domari

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## General Assembly

**Student Ambassadors:** Jillian Augustine, Olivia Mack      **Voting Rep:** Jillian Augustine

**Percent Undernourished:** 5%

**Major Endangered Species:** Sinai Wild Rose, Saina Primrose, Kleinmann's Tortoise, Sinai Baton Blue, African Wild Dog.

**Food Security:** Agriculture is a critical part of Egypt's economy and because so many Egyptians work in agriculture, overall, most Egyptians have access to food. Agricultural opportunities in Egypt are about more than just food, they are livelihood and empower oppressed groups. Egypt has moderate hunger issues in its population, and food and health are highly correlated. Malnutrition and underweight children are major issues, especially in more impoverished areas. Though less of an issue, obesity wreaks havoc on many Egyptians as well. The COVID-19 pandemic has decreased available food in many areas and hurt so many families that rely on the agricultural industry. Additionally, hunger and malnutrition rates have increased. Currently, Egypt is working to fund more agricultural projects and create more agricultural jobs nationwide.

**Obstacles to Internet Access:** Egypt has poured money into improving national internet access and creating more internet users, and while there has been success, much work is left to be done. The overwhelming majority of internet users in Egypt use mobile devices and have no access to fixed-line infrastructure. Additionally, internet in Egypt and neighboring countries has been slow and unreliable recently. Many issues stem from geographic areas with less optimal conditions for internet. Additionally, it has been suggested that government censorship of internet access has affected the quality and usage of internet within Egypt's borders. Egypt is actively working to increase internet access and quality nationwide. One tactic currently being explored is changing the hardware of fixed-line cables from copper to fiber-optic cables.

**Natural Habitats of Endangered Species:** Egyptian endangered species face the same prevalent threat all wildlife in the country does: hunting. Egypt has a history of problems with hunters with a variety of motives killing wildlife without discretion. Egypt has outlawed the hunting of endangered species and created numerous safe zones for wildlife where no hunting of any animal is allowed. Notably, Egypt has been very successful in halting the capture of dolphins in the area and restoring their populations. Egypt treasure its biodiversity, but many wealthy individuals across the world provide a market for exotic animals to pair with their extravagant lifestyles. This has increased smuggling of a variety of species as well as illegal hunting. Though all the right laws are in place, Egypt struggles on enforcing the protection of many highly coveted exotic animals.

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## Eco/Soc

**Student Ambassadors:** Mariana Cuadra , Sophia Edwards      **Voting Rep:** Mariana Cuadra

**Vaccination, Unemployment Rates:** The unemployment rates of Egypt are 10.45% as of 2020. The vaccination rates of Egypt are: 11.58% are only partially vaccinated, 23.83% have been fully vaccinated, and 35.41% have had at least 1 vaccination shot

**Rates of Domestic Abuse:** According to a survey in 2018-2019, domestic violence was present in 23% of households in Egypt. According to the same survey, 76% of those households had women as a victim. Around 8 million women are at risk of domestic violence each year.

**Leaders in Pandora Papers:** None of Egypt's leaders have been named in the Pandora Papers.

**Pandemic and Domestic Abuse:** Because the pandemic is causing families to stay at home, domestic abuse in Egypt has become a rising issue. A study revealed a 19% increase of domestic violence during the pandemic. To reduce the domestic violence rates in Egypt, government officials should specifically address domestic violence as a definition and its penalties through new legislation.

**Unemployment and COVID-19:** Egypt's unemployment rate has significantly dropped since its spike in 2013, 13.15%. The unemployment rate dropped to 8.1% in the first quarter of 2019, which is good for the economy because a decrease in unemployment results in more demand in the market, more production, and more social and economic stability for the country. But in 2020, 26.2% of people lost their jobs and 18.1% work only sporadically.

**Tax Havens:** Egypt has put a General Anti-Avoidance Rule (GAAR) into its tax system. If the purpose of any transaction is tax avoidance, there will be consequences. We also have penalties set in place for failure to pay taxes by their due dates.

# Federal Republic of Nigeria

Delegation: Lafayette High School

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**Capital City:** Abuja      **Location:** West Africa      **Population:** 206 100 000

**Country's Leader:** Mahamadu Buhari

**Form of Government:** Federal Republic

**Official Language:** English      **Other Languages:** Mainly English, Hausa, Yoruba, Igbo, Fula, and English Creole

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## General Assembly

**Student Ambassadors:** William Swann, Lucinda Stokes      **Voting Rep:** William Swann

**Percent Undernourished:** N/A

**Major Endangered Species:** N/A

**Food Security:** N/A

**Obstacles to Internet Access:** N/A

**Natural Habitats of Endangered Species:** N/A

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## Eco/Soc

**Student Ambassadors:** Mason Osborn, Amanda Hux      **Voting Rep:** Amanda Hux

**Vaccination, Unemployment Rates:** 2.5% vaccinated, 9 percent unemployment rate

**Rates of Domestic Abuse:** 31%

**Leaders in Pandora Papers:** Abubakar Bagudu, Gboyega Oyetola, Dapo Abiodun, Sambo Dasuki, Stella Ogene

**Pandemic and Domestic Abuse:** Domestic abuse in Nigeria is more popular than it should be. Though it is against our constitution, there are some laws that make it legal. There are very few ways to help victims of domestic abuse so the first step would be to make it illegal and create safe homes. Child marriage is extremely high. The United Nations should come up with a compromise with Nigeria.

**Unemployment and COVID-19:** The unemployment rate is extremely high in Nigeria due to the recurring farmer-herder crisis and it is not solely due to COVID-19. Very few people in Nigeria are vaccinated and many vaccines have expired and could not be used. Malaria is a bigger issue in Nigeria. The best alternate route is to educate people in Nigeria because it seems as though people are not taking it seriously.

**Tax Havens:** Nigeria does not have tax havens. Many leaders have been mentioned in the Pandora Papers, including governors, pastors, etc. There are currently no laws in place shielding tax havens or protecting against it. Peter Obi reacted to the Pandora Papers, claimed to be "misleading" Nigerians. Tax evasion is grounds for fines or arrest.

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## Security

**Student Ambassadors:** Isaac Kim, Ethan Bunney      **Voting Rep:** Ethan Bunney

**Military Capability:** 4th most powerful in Africa, 35th internationally

**Major Allies/Treaties:** Closely tied to the United States, Closely tied to the United Kingdom, helped found Organization for African Unity

**Major Disputes:** Cameroon Border dispute (resolved), economic disputes over Oil with Ghana (resolved), Former insult dispute with Libya (potential Ghaddafi destabilizers)

**Security Council Policy Sentiments:** Nigeria considers its membership in the Security Council as beneficial to help achieve world peace. Nigeria has previously bid for permanent security council membership, and with good reason. Nigeria alone has contributed heavily to over 40 separate UN missions and is the 5th largest contributor of peacekeeping troops. Nigeria is crestfallen by the constant veto action by some of the Permanent 5, as many avenues to a better world have been blocked. The criteria for membership should be

about contribution to the United Nations as a whole, elected by the sitting members of the Security Council. We do not believe that the world is fully represented by the United Nations Security Council, Africa requires more. As for reform, the non-permanent member states should be allowed to overrule a veto passed by permanent member states if they can attain a vote of  $\frac{2}{3}$  of all council members.

**Afghan Conflict:** Nigeria does not recognize the Taliban as the official governing body of Afghanistan and we do renounce them for the horrific human rights violations that they have committed. We believe that the U.N. peacekeeping mission should be to reinstate the true government of Afghanistan through any means necessary. We support the US mission against the Taliban and believe that the Taliban upheaval of the government of Afghanistan may spur Boko Haram to try a similar coup d'etat in Nigeria.

**Domestic and International Espionage Laws:** In our country, we have the National Intelligence Agency (NIA). This agency is tasked with carrying out similar roles to the United States' CIA and is strictly organized just like it. We do have problems with state secrets leaking out, and have a potential problem with nepotism in our security ring. Nigeria believes that there should be heavy punishment brought upon those member nations that break the guidelines that have been set in the charter. With that said we believe that the charter should be amended to provide stricter guidelines for peacetime espionage and punishments for those member nations that break the guidelines aforementioned.

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# Finland

Delegation: LSU Lab School

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**Capital City:** Helsinki    **Location:** Northern Europe    **Population:** 5.531

**Country's Leader:** Sanna Marin, Sauli Niinistö

**Form of Government:** Parliamentary Representative Democracy

**Official Language:** Finnish, Swedish    **Other Languages:** Sami, Romani, Finnish Sign Language, Karelian

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## General Assembly

**Student Ambassadors:** Ava Creel, Lucy Nguyen    **Voting Rep:** Ava Creel

**Percent Undernourished:** 3 percent

**Major Endangered Species:** Atlantic Cod, Eurasian Peregrine Falcon

**Food Security:** Finland has a minimal issue with food security, and is one of the most stable countries in terms of food security. With an index score of 82.9 in food stability, this is not an issue for the population of Finland.

**Obstacles to Internet Access:** Very few people in Finland do not have access to the internet. Geographic challenges have limited the accessibility of the internet, however Internet has become declared a right within the nation, and is being expanded to the more rural areas of Finland.

**Natural Habitats of Endangered Species:** Currently, Finland is one of the cleanest countries in the world, with very little pollution in the habitats of these endangered species. This is mainly due to the efforts of Finland's environmental protection agency, which has monitored its forests to ensure that the growth rate is above the annual timber harvest. It has also cleaned most polluted lakes and rivers, protecting the habitats of Finland's endangered species. However, Finland's carbon emissions are still relatively high, which may hurt the endangered birds, many of which Finland is home to.

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# Hungary

Delegation: episcopal school of acadiana

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**Capital City:** Budapest    **Location:** Central Europe    **Population:** 975000000

**Country's Leader:** János Áder

**Form of Government:** Parliamentary republic

**Official Language:** Hungarian    **Other Languages:**

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## General Assembly

**Student Ambassadors:** Braxton Breaux, Peter Romig    **Voting Rep:** Braxton Breaux

**Percent Undernourished:** In 2019, 2.5 % of the population

**Major Endangered Species:** Eurasian Lynx, European Hamster, Great Bustard, Red-Breasted Goose, and Hungarian Meadow Viper

**Food Security:** It is estimated that around 3.3 million of the inhabitants of Hungary are hurt by food security. The ones who suffer the most from food insecurity. A study from the Save the Children Foundation, states that 6.1 out of every 1000 Hungarian children die of hunger before the age of five. The Hungarian government has given an estimated 370,000 children government-gifted meals in an effort to help kids in poverty.

**Obstacles to Internet Access:** Hungary doesn't have many obstacles to access of internet. Hungary is listed in the top ten fastest internets in the world and doesn't face many restrictions and censorship on the internet. The only big obstacle that Hungary faces with everyone getting access to the internet is poverty. Some Hungarians in poverty cannot afford the internet leading some Hungarians without access to the internet.

**Natural Habitats of Endangered Species:** The main threat to habitats in Hungary is industrialization. To combat this, Hungary implemented the NBSAP we aim for social awareness-raising, education, training, and information dissemination, the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from the utilization of genetic resources, and the integration of biodiversity in sectors and their respective strategies, as well as in regional, micro-regional and local planning

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# India

Delegation: Episcopal School of Baton Rouge

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**Capital City:** New Delhi    **Location:** Asian Subcontinent    **Population:** 1380000000

**Country's Leader:** Ram Nath Kovind

**Form of Government:** Parliamentary Government, Federal Republic, Parliamentary Republic, Constitutional Republic

**Official Language:** Hindi and English    **Other Languages:** Hindi, Bengali, Marathi, Telugu, Tamil, Urdu, Gujarati, Kannada, Malayalam, Odia, Punjabi, Assamese, Maithili

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## General Assembly

**Student Ambassadors:** Riley Posey, Ramsey Claire Greene    **Voting Rep:** Riley Posey

**Percent Undernourished:** 14

**Major Endangered Species:** Tiger, rhinoceros, snow leopard, Forest owl, Asian elephant

**Food Security:** Yes

**Obstacles to Internet Access:** Illiteracy, affordability, inadequate electrification and

**Natural Habitats of Endangered Species:** The Wildlife Protection Act of 1972 continues to rebuild these animals prosperity.

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## Eco/Soc

**Student Ambassadors:** Amelia Pleasant, Mia Pulliam and Kathrine Fivgas    **Voting Rep:** Amelia Pleasant

**Vaccination, Unemployment Rates:** As of December 2021, the unemployment rate in India was recorded at nearly 8 percent, an increase from the previous month. While the unemployment rate had significantly declined over the course of 2021 since having peaked in April 2020.

**Rates of Domestic Abuse:** 1 in 3 women are abused

**Leaders in Pandora Papers:** Sachin Tendulkar, Anil Ambani, Kiran Mazumdar Shaw

**Pandemic and Domestic Abuse:** Domestic violence complaints doubled after the lockdown

**Unemployment and COVID-19:** Domestic violence complaints doubled after the lockdown. 1 in 3 women are abused. worsened during the covid 19 pandemic.

**Tax Havens:** In India, tax havens have been a significant barrier towards government expenditure and has had the negative impact of restricting/slowing down the growth rate. Reduction of Tax liability by the usage of Tax Havens also interferes with the Indian government's efforts to implement its economic policies.

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## Security

**Student Ambassadors:** Alexander Engstrom, Emma Engstrom    **Voting Rep:** Alexander Engstrom

**Military Capability:** 1.4 million personnel, third largest defense budget(64 billion US \$), second largest military force and world's largest volunteer army. 2015- Credit Suisse deemes India 5th most powerful military, GlobalFirepower claims them 4th most powerful. 2021 - Indi

**Major Allies/Treaties:** ALLIES: Russian Federation, Israel, Afghanistan, France, Bhutan, Bangladesh, and the United States, Japan

**Major Disputes:** Kashmir, Aksai Chin, Kalapani, Arunachal Pradesh, territorial disputes

**Security Council Policy Sentiments:** India is extremely anti war and seeks to focus on resolving domestic disputes.

**Afghan Conflict:** India is the largest regional provider of aid for Afghanistan. Providing 750 million in military and economic aid.

**Domestic and International Espionage Laws:** Official Secrets Act 1923 held over from the British colonial period. Helping enemy states is strongly condemned. Helping an enemy state includes communicating a model,

sharing secrets and official codes/ passwords. You can't pass or approach any prohibited government station.

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# Indonesia

Delegation: Jesuit High School

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**Capital City:** Jakarta      **Location:** South East Asia      **Population:** 270000000

**Country's Leader:** Joko Widodo

**Form of Government:** Republic

**Official Language:** Bahasa Indonesia      **Other Languages:** Javanese

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## General Assembly

**Student Ambassadors:** Carter Rigney, Leo Congeni      **Voting Rep:** Carter Rigney

**Percent Undernourished:** 7%

**Major Endangered Species:** Javan Rhino, Mahakam Dolphin, Sumatram, Javan Blue-banded King, Sulawesi Forest Turtle, Bawean Deer

**Food Security:** Indonesia has problems with the financial and nutritional values of the food.

**Obstacles to Internet Access:** We, Indonesia, have put forth solid efforts to make internet access more readily available. Even with our best efforts, the lack of existing infrastructure remains a roadblock for widespread internet access in Indonesia.

**Natural Habitats of Endangered Species:** On Dec 8, 2020, the Ministry of Environment and Forestry signed a landmark agreement to prevent deforestation. Indonesia's Emission Reductions Program is trying to stop deforestation. Indonesia has been reducing the destruction of environments.

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# Ireland

Delegation: Captain Shreve High School

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**Capital City:** Dublin      **Location:** Europe      **Population:** 5005636

**Country's Leader:** Michael D. Higgins

**Form of Government:** Parliamentary Democracy

**Official Language:** English and Irish      **Other Languages:** Gaelic

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## General Assembly

**Student Ambassadors:** Elizabeth Watts, Teresa Franks      **Voting Rep:** Teresa Franks

**Percent Undernourished:** It is estimated that 3% of Ireland is considered undernourished. This is roughly 145,000 people in Ireland. This is considerably low.

**Major Endangered Species:** Ireland has many endangered species including the angel shark, Beluga, and Great Bustard. There are over 40 endangered species in Ireland.

**Food Security:** No, less than 3% of the population is considered malnourished. For comparison, over 12% of the United States population is considered malnourished. This is much greater than Ireland. Ireland is considered to be the most food-secure country in the world. Ireland's biggest strengths are having nutritional standards, having food safety net programs, access to financing for farmers, and urban absorption capacity.

**Obstacles to Internet Access:** The Internet is easy to access in Ireland. Some providers include Eircom, Vodafone, O2, Meteor, and 3 Network. Currently 92% of the population has the internet. The country's internet access has increased in the past few years. In 2007 only 57% of the population had internet, the internet access has slowly increased.

**Natural Habitats of Endangered Species:** Ireland's many EU Habitats and Birds Directives that protect the endangered species alive. These conservation efforts have caused a creation of habitat and species protection referred to as the Natura 2000 system. There are 430 Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) protected in Ireland.

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## Eco/Soc

**Student Ambassadors:** Meagan Hill, Emma Grace McInnis      **Voting Rep:** Emma Grace McInnis

**Vaccination, Unemployment Rates:** Among the entire eligible population, which is currently anyone over the age of 12, Ireland has achieved a 90 percent vaccination rate. Currently, as of 2022, the unemployment rates in Ireland are at 5.1% but are predicted to rise to 5.2% like in the past

**Rates of Domestic Abuse:** The domestic abuse rates out of the whole country are 14%, but 1 in 4 women that have been in a relationship have been domestically abused. There have been 24,893 disclosures against women and 4,958 disclosures against children.

**Leaders in Pandora Papers:** So far, according to my research, none of Ireland's past or present leaders have been mentioned in the pandora papers.

**Pandemic and Domestic Abuse:** Yes, the pandemic has drastically affected the domestic abuse rates. The rates have gone up 17% just from 2019, to 2020. In 2020, there were 43,000 domestic abuse cases reported. One possible solution to this problem would be to offer a way for the women and children to get out of that environment, but be able to be socially distanced from others to stay safe from the risk of covid.

**Unemployment and COVID-19:** In Ireland, unemployment rates have been lowest and highest during the COVID-19 pandemic. Ireland's rate of unemployment went down to 10 percent, from 12.4 percent the previous month and reached a pandemic high of 31 per cent in April 2020. Ireland may continue to have high unemployment rates throughout the pandemic but they have also continued to struggle with high unemployment rates since before COVID-19. Seeing this, unemployment rates have still gotten significantly worse since the COVID-19 pandemic started. Although, the economy faces the opposite problem. Gov.ie states that only a small percentage of Ireland's population felt safe flying on commercial airlines, staying in hotels, and dining in indoor restaurants, and these low percentages With that and 65% of the population

still being in a “pandemic mindset”, the economy seems to be greatly suffering. Although, since over 90% of the population is fully vaccinated, these economic struggles stem more from the fear of COVID-19 than vaccination distributions.

**Tax Havens:** Ireland does not have a shield on tax havens. Ireland is one of ten countries in the world that doesn't place laws that shield tax havens. In 2015, Ireland was the biggest country with tax havens in the world. They have more tax evasion and avoidance of taxes than some countries combined.

# Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan

Delegation: Jesuit High School

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**Capital City:** Kabul      **Location:** Middle East with major borders of Iran, Pakistan, and Uzbekistan      **Population:** 38930000  
**Country's Leader:** Hibatullah Akhundzada  
**Form of Government:** Emirate/Theocracy  
**Official Language:** Pashto, Dari      **Other Languages:** English, Uzbek, Urdu, Turkmen

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## General Assembly

**Student Ambassadors:** Hayden Welk, Zachary Gary      **Voting Rep:** Hayden Welk

**Percent Undernourished:** 25.6% in 2019

**Major Endangered Species:** Afghan Tortoise, Afghani Mountain Salamander, Fraxinus Sogdiana

**Food Security:** The Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan has serious Food security issues. The main causes of these issues are drought, conflict, and COVID-19.

**Obstacles to Internet Access:** Due to years of conflict and overall destruction, there are almost no structures supporting internet services outside of major cities. However, in those major cities under the new government (as of recently due to civil unrest), internet access has been restricted.

**Natural Habitats of Endangered Species:** Due to the fairly recent government change, the new Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan, has not shown any opinion on any conservation or protection acts. However, the former Afghan government had its own Environmental protection agency and signed global environmental treaties such as CITES. The government could seriously improve its effort by reaffirming these global treaties and instating national laws on the protection of species.

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## Eco/Soc

**Student Ambassadors:** Preston Rumney, Derek Tsang      **Voting Rep:** Derek Tsang

**Vaccination, Unemployment Rates:** 6.6% of the population of Afghanistan is vaccinated. 11.2% of the population of Afghanistan is unemployed.

**Rates of Domestic Abuse:** 87%

**Leaders in Pandora Papers:** None

**Pandemic and Domestic Abuse:** Prior to the pandemic, Afghanistan already had very high domestic abuse rates because of its conservative society based in old patriarchal traditions. Stay-at-home mandates and economic stress resulting from the pandemic have further increased this problem. Abused women are trapped at home with their abusers and are unable to seek help. As a result of domestic abuse, many Afghan women commit suicide every year. Possible solutions to this problem would involve enabling women to seek help more easily through the telephone or Internet or creating more shelters for abused women.

**Unemployment and COVID-19:** Afghanistan is 25th in unemployment rate among all countries with a current rate of 11%; therefore, unemployment is a large concern for our nation. Afghanistan has maintained an unemployment rate of around 11% for the last ten years, so neither COVID nor vaccine distribution have affected employment opportunities.

**Tax Havens:** Afghanistan has laws in place that shield tax havens particularly foreign Americans.

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## Security

**Student Ambassadors:** Patrick Dowd, Wade Rogers      **Voting Rep:** Wade Rogers

**Military Capability:** Afghanistan has an army of roughly 100,000 men. Afghanistan is also believed to have 2,000 armored vehicles and up to 40 aircraft.

**Major Allies/Treaties:** No country officially recognizes the Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan. However, Pakistan has offered aid to the Taliban in the past and there is speculation of aid from both China and Russia.

**Major Disputes:** The U.S. had troops in the country until September 21, 2021, after almost 20 years with troops in the country. Iran also recently had a border clash with Taliban forces over a "misunderstanding" after some 300,000 refugees escaped to Iran via illegal rout

**Security Council Policy Sentiments:** Afghanistan has no stated opinion on the makeup of the Security Council but wishes for the new government to be recognized by the United Nations.

**Afghan Conflict:** Yes, Afghanistan believes sanctions should be lifted and Afghan assets should be unfrozen. If not, the Afghan economy could free fall, triggering a refugee crisis, which helps no one. In addition, no country should become further involved in Afghanistan militarily. Afghanistan would like international recognition for the new government.

**Domestic and International Espionage Laws:** Espionage is punishable by execution in Afghanistan.

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# Israel

Delegation: Episcopal School of Baton Rouge

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**Capital City:** Jerusalem    **Location:** Middle East at the eastern end of the Mediterranean Sea

**Population:** 9217000

**Country's Leader:** Naftali Bennett

**Form of Government:** Parliamentary Republic

**Official Language:** Hebrew    **Other Languages:** Arabic, Russian, Yiddish, English

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## General Assembly

**Student Ambassadors:** Thomas O'Connor, Carter McLean    **Voting Rep:** Thomas O'Connor

**Percent Undernourished:** 2.5%

**Major Endangered Species:** Buxton's Jird, Dorcas gazelle, Helix texta, Hoogstraal's cat snake, Israel painted frog, Israeli leopard, and Mediterranean horseshoe bat

**Food Security:** Food insecurity has become a major problem in Israel over the last few years, especially after the COVID-19 pandemic with 17% of families not being able to afford the amount or types of food that they need according to the Jerusalem Post. The food insecurity stems from Israel's reliance on other countries for food imports. Rising food prices has led to social unrest in the country, and there have been protests by Israeli farmer surrounding the current food security situation. Many Israeli officials are also beginning to view the growing food insecurity as a national security threat because Israel will not be able to sustain itself through long-term war/conflict. This is particularly of issue to Israel as they are a "small country surrounded by enemies" based on religious feuds. However, these feuds also contribute to the food insecurity problem because Israel cannot make deals with Muslim countries like Jordan, which has a large amount of fertile land, but a small amount of agricultural technology, which Israel has in high supply.

Israel also has an issue with water supply due to its arid climate and the large population of its neighbors. Israel is in conflict with Syria over the Golan Heights and Palestine for the Jordan River, both of which relate to the water supply. This can affect their agricultural production because although they have developed dry agricultural techniques, there will still have issues because of the planet becoming drier and warmer.

**Obstacles to Internet Access:** Because Israel is so geographically small and companies provide broad broadband coverage, it is physically possible for most citizens to obtain internet access, so income/wealth is the major factor inhibiting internet access. Compared to most of the world, Israel is a generally wealthy country, so economics and trade usually rank higher on its agenda than social welfare programs to provide internet access. Israel is economically very liberal and often votes for better trade deals and competition-driven capitalism to decrease prices (like the Communications Law of 1982). Laws allowing for multiple companies to compete to provide internet through antitrust legislation and the recent election of right-wing tech entrepreneur Naftali Bennet to Prime Minister seem to suggest that a strong, free market is Israel's most probable route to expanded internet access.

**Natural Habitats of Endangered Species:** Israel has numerous conservation programs for endangered species, including many wildlife preserves. 22% of land in Israel is dedicated as a national park or protected area, which is impressive considering Israel's high population density and small size (this is often accredited to the prevalence of Jewish faith and the preserves often being Biblical locations). Additionally, Israel contains many diverse ecosystems that are hundreds of miles apart in most countries, and as a result, possesses many varieties of flora and fauna including many subspecies of unique crops. However, even with the Israeli Gene Bank for Agricultural Crops' success after 1979, many tree species still face extinction from pests, and Israeli species face challenges such as pollution and poor agricultural habits like the rest of the world despite the country's success.

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# Jamaica

Delegation: Dutchtown High School

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**Capital City:** Kingston    **Location:** The Caribbean    **Population:** 2740000

**Country's Leader:** Andrew Holness

**Form of Government:** Parliamentary Democracy

**Official Language:** English    **Other Languages:** Jamaican Patois

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## General Assembly

**Student Ambassadors:** Rachel Fereday, Claire Simmons    **Voting Rep:** Rachel Fereday

**Percent Undernourished:** 8%

**Major Endangered Species:** Jamaican Long-Tailed Groundsnake, Jamaican Snoring-Frog, Red-Spotted Galliwasp

**Food Security:** Yes, Jamaica has an issue with food security because of constant threat of hurricanes, droughts, and floods, as well of the lack of availability of essential foods for citizens.

**Obstacles to Internet Access:** Jamaica is a poor country in general, with a very unstable economy and high debt rates. Overall there can be frequent internet dropouts in Jamaica. Jamaica also may not be able to afford high speed internet, with the minimum wage being just \$1.34 in US dollars.

**Natural Habitats of Endangered Species:** Jamaica has numerous animal sanctuaries and wildlife reserves and refuges. However, the deforestation rates are high in contrast to the amount of forest that covers Jamaica. Whether this is caused naturally by hurricanes or by human impact, Jamaica could definitely improve upon these efforts.

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**Capital City:** Tokyo      **Location:** Island East of Asia      **Population:** 126500000

**Country's Leader:** Prime Minister Fumio Kishida

**Form of Government:** Constitutional Monarchy

**Official Language:** Japanese      **Other Languages:** 2 language families are Japonic and Ainu

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## General Assembly

**Student Ambassadors:** Klein Konrad, Mack Thomas      **Voting Rep:** Klein Konrad

**Percent Undernourished:** As of 2019, 2.5% of Japan's population is considered undernourished by the world bank.

**Major Endangered Species:** Some major endangered species that Japan is home to include the Nipponia nippon, Felis iriomotensis, Diomedea albatrus, Ketupa blakistoni blakistoni, Grus japonensis, Felis euphilure, Uria aalge, Rhodeus ocellatus smithi, and Hynobius takedai

**Food Security:** For Japan, food security means increasing the ratio of self sufficiency by increasing the rate of domestic food production. The problem with this in recent years however has been the lack of arable land, roughly around 12% in 2014, and by 2015, the total available cultivated land had drastically shrunken, from 6.08 mega hectares in 1961 to roughly 4.49 mega hectares in 2015. This decline in domestic production had forced Japan into relying on foreign imports. Having realized the vulnerabilities that come with this dependency, Japan has enacted agricultural policies to assist in improving this issue. Some of these include The Food Control Law of 1942, Agricultural Basic Law of 1961, New Food Law 1995, and New Basic Law on Food, Agriculture and Rural Areas 1999.

**Obstacles to Internet Access:** Japan generally does not have many obstacles to internet access overall, having high internet penetration and user rates. As of 2019, Japan has over a 95% internet penetration rate for households and over 90% for individuals, and in 2018, the individual internet user rate was around 80%. Along with a multitude of growing internet providers, as well as low prices, Japan ranks highly among countries with little barriers to internet access.

**Natural Habitats of Endangered Species:** Since 1991 with the Environment Agency first publication of the "Red Data Book of Japan", Japan has enacted many measures to protect the natural habitats of endangered species. The Environment Agency along with prefectural governments and other committees have enacted to implement feeding programs, artificial breeding programs, habitat improvement programs, and continuous and systematized research programs. By 1998, six habitat conservation areas had been established for a few endangered plants and animals, and since then, have been ever expanding.

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## Eco/Soc

**Student Ambassadors:** Aidan Couvillon, Jacques Broussard      **Voting Rep:** Jacques Broussard

**Vaccination, Unemployment Rates:** 79.1% of the Japanese population is fully vaccinated. 2.9% of the Japanese population is unemployed according to November 2021.

**Rates of Domestic Abuse:** The number of domestic violence consultations in Japan reached a record 82,643 in 2020. 76.4 percent of the alleged victims were women.

**Leaders in Pandora Papers:** Masayoshi Son, Japanese billionaire technology entrepreneur Delfo Zorzi, Italian-born Japanese neo-fascist and alleged terrorist

**Pandemic and Domestic Abuse:** Due to the pandemic, many Japanese citizens have been forced to stay home through this rough period. The pandemic has put a lot of stress upon the average citizen creating a sense of anxiety that could often be taken out on a spouse or loved one. One possible solution would be to create an easily accessible hotline for reporting domestic abuse. At a foundational level, another way to prevent domestic abuse is to implement the education of respecting spouses and loved ones while creating a safer home life. In turn, this solution could lead to less stress upon the average Japanese citizen.

**Unemployment and COVID-19:** The unemployment rate in Japan has stayed relatively low throughout the last 10 years compared to many other countries. While many countries have struggled with the pandemic, vaccinations, and work from home policies that affect the workforce, Japan has maintained a constant and thriving workforce and economy throughout the pandemic.

**Tax Havens:** The Japanese corporate tax rate is in the range of 38-39%, much higher than the US, UK, and most other

countries. The temptation to avoid paying this rate of taxes would therefore be strong for Japanese corporations. However, Japan has two different policies to shield from tax havens. The Tax Haven Counter Measure Law taxes the Japanese parent company on the undistributed earnings of their foreign branches. The Japanese government also uses "Economic Logic" to tax Japanese subsidiaries that could reasonably carry out their productions in Japan.

# Kazakhstan

Delegation: Lafayette High School

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**Capital City:** Nur-sultan   **Location:** Central Asia   **Population:** 18754440

**Country's Leader:** Kassym-Jomart Tokayev

**Form of Government:** presidential republic

**Official Language:** Kazakh and Russian   **Other Languages:** English, German, Ukrainian

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## General Assembly

**Student Ambassadors:** Maggie Lai, David Gutierrez   **Voting Rep:** Maggie Lai

**Percent Undernourished:** 2.5%

**Major Endangered Species:** Saiga, argali

**Food Security:** Food insecurity in Kazakhstan can be attributed to a number of causes, including the high percentage of regional incomes spent on food and the low profits associated with maintaining household plots, in which women are the most active participants. This has resulted in part in the poaching of endangered mammals and a wage gap between both men and women and between rural and urban areas. Increased social support for women, increased spending power, and increased agricultural efficiency are crucial in ensuring greater food security for the region. Although further progress is still needed, the total proportion of undernourished citizens in Kazakhstan has declined since 1990 (2.5% in 2019) and Kazakhstan ranked 32nd in the 2020 Global Food Security Index.

With agriculture representing less than 5% of the total GDP, Kazakhstan's plentiful resources and arable land means that it has significant potential to expand from its current role as a major food exporter and contributor to regional food security in the Central Asian area to a major global food exporter. Similarly, its demonstrations of leadership in food security and agricultural technology initiatives—including leading the development of a regional food bank and hosting the fifth International Agrotechnological Summit in 2020—make it well-positioned to play an important part in limiting food insecurity.

**Obstacles to Internet Access:** Kazakhstan is very digitized, with 86% of individuals using the internet. With such prevalent internet access and state support, access to many public services is also significantly increased. Digital education and medical diagnoses diminish disparities between rural areas and urban centers, while digitization of mining, commerce, and agriculture improves yield and effectiveness. Kazakhstan's government has been key in promoting digitisation, with programs promoting e-government and 5G. As such, continued vigilance on the part of the government—through subsidization of Kazakhtelecom (main operator), the implementation of the national security certificate (enables the state to intercept potentially dangerous internet activity), and advanced video surveillance—is critical in continuing to improve national cohesion and progress. Attempts to coordinate terrorist attacks over the internet are therefore prevented by the government's ability to monitor these interactions and ultimately shut down the internet through its connections to Kazakhtelecom in extreme circumstances, such as those of early January 2022. We believe that government digital interception and coordination with internet service providers are vital in providing public services and in protecting the public from internal and external threats to constitutional order.

**Natural Habitats of Endangered Species:** As the largest country in Central Asia, Kazakhstan has a varied landscape that supports a wide variety of flora and fauna. There are many mushroom species endemic to Kazakhstan, and the genetic potential of its floristic biodiversity is significant to many agricultural crops. Its steppes are home to globally endangered species, such as saigas and argali, many of which are refugees from other countries where their natural habitats have been destroyed. In Kazakhstan, these mammals are threatened by poaching from low-income local communities. However, the greatest threat to biodiversity stems from fuel and mineral extractions from Kazakhstan's significant deposits of uranium, metals, oil, and

gas.

To combat these issues, Kazakhstan is a member of the Convention on Biological Diversity, the Cartagena Protocol, and the Nagoya Protocol. The UN Development Programme has also implemented the Biodiversity Finance Initiative (BIOFIN) in coordination with Kazakhstan's Forestry and Wildlife Committee to develop new strategies for protecting and promoting biodiversity, including the subsidization of game breeding to lessen the prevalence of poaching, the creation of tax incentives for ecotourism development, and the promotion of carbon offsets to finance biodiversity projects.

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# Kenya

Delegation: Catholic High School

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**Capital City:** Nairobi      **Location:** Africa, N NE of Madagascar      **Population:** 56215221

**Country's Leader:** Uhuru Kenyatta

**Form of Government:** Unitary Presidential Republic

**Official Language:** Swahili and English      **Other Languages:** Local languages, most from the Niger-Congo or Nilo-Saharan family of languages.

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## General Assembly

**Student Ambassadors:** Jackson Whitlow, George Scully      **Voting Rep:** Jackson Whitlow

**Percent Undernourished:** 24.8%

**Major Endangered Species:** The Tana River mangabey, black rhino, hirola, Sable antelope, and the Roan antelope.

**Food Security:** My country does not have a prevalent issue with food security. Only around 4 million people in my country, less than 10% of the population, are facing food insecurity. This should not be an issue to worry about in the conference.

**Obstacles to Internet Access:** There are few obstacles to internet access in my country. We have more phones than population, so our main obstacle to internet access is a lack of cellular towers.

**Natural Habitats of Endangered Species:** Kenya has many diverse areas of wilderness, such as grasslands, wetlands, forests, and marine ecosystems. Many habitats such as these are monetized for preservation as national parks with tours going through them. The main issue Kenya faces in protecting its endangered species is urbanization. Therefore, to prevent further urbanization, we should further open our borders to encourage emigration if anything. We could also use more eco-conservative housing when considering attempts to expand in building construction.

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## Eco/Soc

**Student Ambassadors:** Elliott Eagleton, Will Schroeder      **Voting Rep:** Elliott Eagleton

**Vaccination, Unemployment Rates:** 15.7% fully vaccinated, ~6.7% unemployed

**Rates of Domestic Abuse:** 40.7%

**Leaders in Pandora Papers:** President Uhuru Kenyatta and family

**Pandemic and Domestic Abuse:** It appears during the beginning of the pandemic, there was a serious rise in domestic abuse cases which peaked during the lockdown period. This is due to a resurgence in an African tradition in which they mutilate the genitals of a young woman as a symbol of womanhood. There are no painkillers or anesthesia involved, and in many cases this results in the girl having to be driven to the hospital. Another part of the issue is the pandemic limiting a person's ability to hold a living wage. This leads to psychological abuse by a spouse or family member. This is a serious issue, and one that I hope will be solved by further promoting the hotline for gender-based violence provided in Kenya, numbered 1195. This also may be prevented by general awareness of the issue, so that the victims barely have to reach out before others know of the issue.

**Unemployment and COVID-19:** My country has a decent amount of unemployment concerns amid the pandemic, however my youth are disproportionately more unemployed than older age groups. Currently, a major issue my country faces is inactivity and underemployment(9-5 wise) in the labor market. My underemployment issues appear to not be from the COVID-19 Pandemic, and many of my issues with underemployment and youth unemployment may be able to be fixed through the promotion of the tourist, gardening, and information and communications technology areas of employment.

**Tax Havens:** My country has no laws that shield tax havens. We in fact have an international financial center within our country. Considering IFC's are often used interchangeably with tax haven, our laws do not prevent such practices.

# Kuwait

Delegation: Episcopal School of Baton Rouge

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**Capital City:** Kuwait City **Location:** Middle East, East of Arabian Gulf **Population:** 3032065

**Country's Leader:** Prime Minister Sabah Al-Khalid Al-Sabah

**Form of Government:** Constitutional Monarchy/Emerate

**Official Language:** Arabic **Other Languages:** English

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## General Assembly

**Student Ambassadors:** Jackson Ezell, None **Voting Rep:** Jackson Ezell

**Percent Undernourished:** 2.5%

**Major Endangered Species:** The Arabian Wolf, Arabian Oryx, striped hyena, and the jackal.

**Food Security:** Kuwait has made food security a huge priority. However, there are issues regarding land for farming and clean water. Most of the fresh water in Kuwait comes from desalinization, a process that was actually first used in Kuwait in the 1950's. But, due to recent water shortages, there have been debates on who needs the water the most. Also, the climate and environment of Kuwait is a hot, arid desert, so land is also very scarce. Then there is the factor of extreme weather such as sandstorms and droughts, which can instantly ruin crops. Regarding the threats of closing of the strait of Hormuz by Iran, Kuwait would have to import most of its food through Saudi Arabia and other countries. In fact, 96% of Kuwait's food is imported because of the harsh climate and agricultural conditions of its landscape.

**Obstacles to Internet Access:** Due to the high urbanization of Kuwait, there are almost no issues regarding internet access except for in the case of the Bedouins. The Bedouins are semi-nomadic and roam Kuwait's harsh desert countryside. The Bedouins therefore do not have good internet access because they are roaming the desert, and the majority of the population (98% in fact) do inhabit urban areas. This also means the Bedouins are often forgotten or left to the wayside.

**Natural Habitats of Endangered Species:** Kuwait has many natural reserves for protecting wildlife and hunting. For such a small country, Kuwait has a startling number of natural reserves (11). There are also many different species of birds that inhabit the marshy coastal islands, and about half of the largest island, Bubiyan Island, is a nature reserve dedicated to helping these birds.

There are also hunting reserves in the west and areas where fishing is not allowing in Kuwait Bay.

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# Lebanon

Delegation: Lafayette High School

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**Capital City:** Beirut      **Location:** Western Asia      **Population:** 5261372

**Country's Leader:** Michel Aoun

**Form of Government:** parliamentary republic

**Official Language:** Arabic      **Other Languages:** French, English, Armenian

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## General Assembly

**Student Ambassadors:** Gabriel Juarez, n/a      **Voting Rep:** Gabriel Juarez

**Percent Undernourished:** 9.3%

**Major Endangered Species:** Mountain Gazelle, Mediterranean Monk Seal, Lebanon Viper, Schreiber's Fringe-fingered Lizard, Sea Turtle

**Food Security:** Because of an ongoing economic crisis the government has lost its ability to pay fuel subsidies it used to keep fuel accessible to the average Lebanese citizen. Political gridlock has led to inaction regarding the crisis and the cost of transportation and electricity has gone up. This hasn't just raised the burden on the consumer but on the shop owners who sell food to the everyday people. This has caused poverty to skyrocket and the price of food to inflate massively. Three-quarters of our people now live in poverty and since 2019 food prices have skyrocketed 628%. This food insecurity is a detrimental problem, putting the health of many of our citizens, including children, at serious risk.

**Obstacles to Internet Access:** Electricity outages are not at all uncommon in the country due to a national lack of fuel. These shortages can range from hours to days in the country's more remote locations. Without a major cash infusion, a more serious national internet disconnection does not seem unlikely as internet providers are quickly running out of money. A national disconnect could lead to national chaos, harming national companies which rely on the internet as well as the army and stop families from communicating across the country. However, as far as the current moment is concerned, the percentage of citizens suffering from internet outages on a daily basis does not exceed 3-4%.

**Natural Habitats of Endangered Species:** Lebanon employs a traditional system of wildlife protection known as Hima. This method centers a community approach to preserving our national wildlife. While these programs in Lebanon protect many unique environmental communities, they could be expanded to better serve the needs of our endangered species. Meanwhile Animal Trafficking has increased since the economic crisis and could be cracked down on with harsher laws and better funded enforcement organizations.

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# Luxembourg

**Delegation:** Haynes Academy For Advanced Studies

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**Capital City:** Luxembourg City      **Location:** Western Europe between Belgium, France, and Germany

**Population:** 642000

**Country's Leader:** Xavier Bettel

**Form of Government:** Parliamentary Representative Democratic Monarchy with a Multi-party System

**Official Language:** Luxembourgish, French, and German      **Other Languages:** English, Portuguese, Arabic, Persian, and Italian

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## General Assembly

**Student Ambassadors:** Ella Vu, Zoe Heim      **Voting Rep:** Zoe Heim

**Percent Undernourished:** 2.5% in 2019

**Major Endangered Species:** European Eel, Sociable Plover Bird, Freshwater Pearl Mussel, and Thick-Shelled River Mussel

**Food Security:** Although hunger in Luxembourg is rare with it being one of the wealthiest countries per capita in the European Union and having a high quality of living, it has had nutritional issues with obesity. Still, the country has taken steps to fight world hunger by donating 9.6 million euros to the World Food Programme (WFP) in 2006, and it is one of the founding members of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), donating around \$2.51 million to the organization between 2009–2019. Only 5% of the population was undernourished by 2011, but by 2014, it was ranked 9th out of 16 countries where 23% or more of the population is obese. The OECD shows that in 2014, only 50% of adults in Luxembourg consumed fruits and vegetables compared to 62% and 57% for fruits and vegetables on average in 28 EU countries.

**Obstacles to Internet Access:** There are not many obstacles to accessing the internet in Luxembourg; you can do it online, over telephone, or in-person. The biggest internet providers in Luxembourg include: POST Luxembourg, Tango, Orange, Eltrona, and LOL. To sign up you'll just need: proof of identification (like a passport), proof of address (registration certificate), and bank account details. To set up the actual connection, you will usually be sent an installation package or arrange for an engineer to install it for you. Most of the households in Luxembourg have access to the internet as the overall share of households in the country with internet access was 3% higher than the average of the European Union in 2020.

**Natural Habitats of Endangered Species:** 134 species and 28 habitats are protected under EU law in Luxembourg. It is a land-locked country bordered by 3 other countries and is the second smallest country in the EU. Still, rapid demographic and economic growth are the lead in pressuring biodiversity and landscapes with higher fragmentation of the territory. For freshwater species, destruction from agriculture intensification and livestock farming and ranching play a role in the struggle of their survival. Other major threats come from residential development, pollution caused by agricultural and forestry effluent and logging and wood harvesting. One of the things Luxembourg has done to preserve threatened species is that on December 11, 2017, the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg committed vital support to the UN Environment's upcoming programme to preserve threatened mountain species by pledging €9 million. Moreover, the City of Luxembourg has addressed the issue of lack of biodiversity as it has instructed a flock of heathland sheep for the maintenance of its orchards and sensitive natural areas (this is called eco-friendly grazing), and at the end of 2008, it has allowed for the tolerance of spontaneous vegetation in the urban environment and forgoing the use of herbicides and pesticides. In 2013, the city also installed hives in the Petrusse valley to produce its own honey along with Eco-friendly bee-keeping and honey production techniques. To improve upon these efforts, the country as a whole could work towards more conscious efforts in keeping biodiversity within

cities alive and reducing the spread of pollution into surrounding aquatic habitats.

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### Eco/Soc

**Student Ambassadors:** Aima Shahid, Gopika Das **Voting Rep:** Aima Shahid

**Vaccination, Unemployment Rates:** The number of COVID-19 vaccination doses administered per 100 people in Luxembourg rose to 176 as of January 11, 2022, the country having administered at least 1,161,000 doses as of January 2022. The unemployment rate averages to 5.6% in 2022.

**Rates of Domestic Abuse:** There are no exact rates currently, but in 2020 the COVID-19 lockdown resulted in an 11% increase to the calls police received relating to domestic violence; the previous already experienced a 14% rise in domestic violence cases.

**Leaders in Pandora Papers:** No leaders from Luxembourg have been named in the Pandora Papers.

**Pandemic and Domestic Abuse:** Yes, the pandemic has drastically affected domestic abuse in our country. Lockdowns increased the frequency and severity of domestic violence and escaping became harder due to it being unsafe. Some possible solutions are 1) more places in violence protection facilities and women's shelters must be made available; 2) pass a law that states that the EU must support member states' measures financially and by helping them to communicate about these measures; 3) setting up specialist support for victims and their children that are able to provide medical assistance and psychological and legal counseling, as well as providing shelters in sufficient numbers; 4) rape crisis or sexual violence referral centers and introducing round-the-clock telephone helplines.

**Unemployment and COVID-19:** In order to tackle this question, we have to look at the different work sectors in Luxembourg. Namely, the services sector, the hospitality industry, the trade sector, the construction sector, and miscellaneous business sectors. To look at the number of people that became unemployed, we took a look at how many sectors experienced bankruptcies. The number of companies in Luxembourg going bankrupt remained stable between 2020 and 2021, with 1,199 businesses closing their doors last year and small enterprises with fewer than five employees mainly affected. As the pandemic drags on, the government has successively extended its partial unemployment scheme and grants for companies directly hit by pandemic restrictions. The services sector accounted for 836 bankruptcies, compared to 882 in 2020; and in the hospitality industry, the number of closures was down from 128 in 2020 to 116 last year. However, more businesses in the trade sector shut up shop, 244 up from 214 the year before and bankruptcies in the construction sector were up more than 20%, from 92 to 112 firms. However, a great percentage of these increases come from older businesses. It is estimated that due to the economic transformation in Luxembourg, the bankruptcy trend among older companies in the grand duchy will continue to be at a high level. In Luxembourg, due to the smaller population of which many are high-income and due to government aid, the pandemic is not the main factor behind the increasing unemployment rates that will result from these older businesses going bankrupt. It is simply because they are reaching a consolidation period.

**Tax Havens:** Luxembourg has taxation at the bottom end of all the permitted scales for a county in the euro zone and a fairly business friendly environment in general. Luxembourg is offering lower than average corporate tax rates, but they are not illegal rates. You can argue that they are encouraging tax avoidance but tax avoidance which is legal. Luxembourg is also a very small country which makes it a lot easier for the country to have tax haven characteristics and still be legal at the same time. In summary, no Luxembourg does not have any strict law regarding tax havens, in fact it is one of the best tax havens in the world. Again, this would not be possible without the benefits of having a small population.

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# Madagascar

Delegation: Lafayette High School

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**Capital City:** Antananarivo      **Location:** Africa: Southwestern Indian Ocean      **Population:** 27690000  
**Country's Leader:** President Andry Rajoelina  
**Form of Government:** Semi-presidential representative democracy  
**Official Language:** Malagasy and French      **Other Languages:** English

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## General Assembly

**Student Ambassadors:** Evelyn Lecky, Zoe Bouillion      **Voting Rep:** Evelyn Lecky

**Percent Undernourished:** 92%

**Major Endangered Species:** Claire's mouse lemur, blue-eyed black lemur, Golden Bamboo lemur, Ploughshare tortoise ring-tailed lemur

**Food Security:** Madagascar does, unfortunately, have an issue with food security. Just in the past year, Madagascar has been ranked in 100th place for food security by the Global Food Security Index. In addition, the country was ranked 164 out of 189 in 2020 by the Human Development Index. This is largely due to both a general rise of poverty in Madagascar, and a continuous three-year drought that has affected both people's employment status and the overall food supply. Due to the poor food security in Madagascar, the country also faces high rates of malnutrition. This problem is reflected in the IPC's 2021 analysis that states that eight Malagasy districts are in phase three, a state of crisis, or worse in terms of food security with one district being at a major risk of famine. Furthermore, the IPC has predicted these conditions to worsen in the future with the percentage of the population in phase three or higher rising from forty-three percent to forty-nine percent. The poor nutritional state entrapping the vast population of Madagascar has particularly affected children under the age of five, almost half of which are in a state of chronic malnutrition. This is the tenth highest rate of chronic malnutrition in this particular age group in the world. The lack of food security in Madagascar is also vividly depicted by the USAID's statistic stating that more than a third of all households in the country lack adequate food at any given time of the year. It is amply clear that Madagascar is in a state of emergency when it comes to food security and the issue must be addressed as soon as possible.

**Obstacles to Internet Access:** Internet access is limited by several factors in the country of Madagascar. Most people cannot afford the aspects needed for internet access. While the cost of \$2.60 US dollars for mobile data seems very cheap, this is simply not attainable for the residents of Madagascar. Minimum wage for the working class of Madagascar is \$50 US dollars per month. So things like mobile data and a single gigabyte of internet (7 US dollars) are unaffordable for the people. Because of this, only 14% of people have access to the internet in the country. Another obstacle of internet access in this country is lack of digital awareness. Due to poor education for the citizens of the country, some do not know what the internet is or how to use it. Internet connectivity is very difficult to navigate in the country of Madagascar. Certain times of the day give stronger connections, while other times take away the possibility of internet access all together. Internet penetration rates in Madagascar are some of the lowest in the world, lying at 15%. Madagascar faces extensive obstacles to internet access and the country as whole must take steps to address these issues.

**Natural Habitats of Endangered Species:** Madagascar is home to a wide array of plants and animals, many of which are unfortunately endangered including various species of lemurs and the Ploughshare tortoise. The reasoning for the endangerment of these various species lies in illegal wildlife trade, deforestation, and forest degradation. In 2003, only 3.2 percent of the island was being protected, however since then Madagascar as a country, in conjunction with other wildlife protection organizations, has increased its efforts to protect its endangered species. These efforts have included the creation of several projects and organizations such as the "Preserving Madagascar's Natural Resources" project created to help combat wildlife trafficking in Madagascar and SCAPES, an organization dedicated to addressing wildlife trafficking through allowing officials and citizens to better identify, monitor and denounce wildlife crimes. In addition to SCAPES, MEEF was also created as an organization in Madagascar that meets regularly to establish priorities in the fight to protect endangered species and how to properly allocate the funds provided. Furthermore, the Malagasy government itself has also put forth efforts to protect its endangered species. For example, the government passed the END Wildlife Trafficking Act which mandates the formation of a comprehensive assessment of the current status of wildlife trafficking in Madagascar in order to better form and implement a national strategy for combating wildlife crime. Although these various efforts have been made to combat the

extinction of several Malagasy species, they have not been entirely successful. Ninety-one percent of the 103 known species of the Lemur are on the brink of extinction, the majority of which are found in Madagascar. Loss of habitat for these animals continues to worsen allowing the continued practice of illegal wildlife trafficking and the worsened condition of endangered species as a whole. These issues must be addressed if there is any hope for these species' respective recoveries meaning that the Malagasy government must do more and increase their wildlife protection efforts.

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# Malaysia

Delegation: St. Joseph's Academy

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**Capital City:** Kuala Lumpur      **Location:** Southeast Asia, East Asia, borders Thailand      **Population:** 33519406

**Country's Leader:** Chief of State- King Sultan ABDULLAH Sultan Ahmad Shah, Prime Minister- ISMAIL SABRI Yaacob

**Form of Government:** federal parliamentary constitutional monarchy

**Official Language:** Bahasa Malaysia      **Other Languages:** N/A

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## General Assembly

**Student Ambassadors:** Kearra Grisby, N/A      **Voting Rep:** Kearra Grisby

**Percent Undernourished:** 3%

**Major Endangered Species:** The Malayan Tiger, Black Shrew, Malayan Tapir, Orangutan, Borneo Pygmy Elephant, Sumatran Rhinoceros, Proboscis Monkey, and Sunda Pangolin.

**Food Security:** Malaysia was ranked 40th out of 113 countries in the Global Security Index. There is food insecurity at the home level. Many adults in homes skip meals or eat less due to financial restraints. Many households with food insecurity get money from the government to pay for meals. Food insecurity in Malaysia is not a huge issue.

**Obstacles to Internet Access:** 91% of citizens in Malaysia use internet. Many citizens use it for education, government, commerce, and entertainment. Many people in Malaysia have opted to use the internet for ordering food as well. Many people have also used it for internet banking. The Malaysian constitution does state that citizens have the right to freedom of speech the government does interfere in slight censorship. No person is allowed to have unlicensed use of a printing press. Previous Prime Ministers have stated that the internet in Malaysia will remain uncensored, but Malaysia does have a national program surveying all internet. The government has also blocked a few apps that they claim violate laws in constitution.

**Natural Habitats of Endangered Species:** Malaysia has many endangered wildlife across the country. A main threat to the wildlife is palm oil deforestation. There is also a lot of poaching with rhinos and wildlife trade adding to the increasing threat on Malaysian wildlife. Malaysia has one of the most diverse ecosystems in East Asia. The Malaysian government has made efforts to enforce wildlife laws, regulations, monitoring to curb poaching and illegal wildlife activities. Many animals are still trafficked, killed, and traded in many different forms.

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# Maldives

Delegation: University Laboratory School

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**Capital City:** Malè      **Location:** Indian Ocean      **Population:** 540542

**Country's Leader:** Ibrahim Mohamed Solih

**Form of Government:** Republic

**Official Language:** Dhivehi      **Other Languages:** English

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## General Assembly

**Student Ambassadors:** Natalie Zito, Reese Ward      **Voting Rep:** Natalie Zito

**Percent Undernourished:** 10.3%

**Major Endangered Species:** Hawksbill Turtle and Green Turtle

**Food Security:** During COVID-19, The Maldives were able to keep the needed essentials. Although regular "wants" would have a shortage for a little while. Stability was not shaken though.

<https://dhiconomist.com/how-to-ensure-food-security-in-the-maldives/#:~:text=The%20Covid-19%20pandemic%20has%20disrupted%20global%20supply%20chains,be%20in%20short%20supply%20in%20the%20coming%20months.>

**Obstacles to Internet Access:** Internet access in the Maldives is widely spread across the island. Around 99% of the island is provided with internet to use. The Maldives does not have many obstacles keeping them from this. Of course, an island will have some difficulty getting fast internet being away from the mainland.

**Natural Habitats of Endangered Species:** The Maldives is a hotspot for tourists, but they thrive for the originality of the beaches. The beaches are clean and well kept. Other than resorts, the beaches are pretty natural. A way to improve the cleanliness is to focus on recycling and keeping tourists in certain areas with limits.

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# Mexico

Delegation: Lafayette High School

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**Capital City:** Mexico City **Location:** Mexico is in the southern part of North America. It's eastern border is the Gulf of Mexico and its western border is the Pacific Ocean **Population:** 128900000

**Country's Leader:** Andrés Manuel López Obrador is currently the 65th president of Mexico

**Form of Government:** Mexico is a presidential federal republic

**Official Language:** Spanish **Other Languages:** Various Indigenous languages are also widely spoken, such as Nahuatl, Yucatec Mayan, and Mixtec.

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## General Assembly

**Student Ambassadors:** Evan Patton, Shiv Banga **Voting Rep:** Shiv Banga

**Percent Undernourished:** 7.2% in 2019

**Major Endangered Species:** Leatherback sea turtles, vaquita porpoise, monarch butterflies, sea cucumbers.

**Food Security:** 10% of the residents in Mexico don't have a sufficient food supply.

**Obstacles to Internet Access:** wide digital divide between urban and rural communities, high internet prices, mobile penetration rate is behind other countries

**Natural Habitats of Endangered Species:** the Ecology Law (Ley de Ecología), General Wildlife Law (Ley General de Vida Silvestre), National Commission for the Understanding and Use of Biodiversity (Comisión Nacional para la Conocimiento y Uso de la Biodiversidad (CONABIO))

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## Eco/Soc

**Student Ambassadors:** Ryleigh Shullaw, Hope Gutierrez **Voting Rep:** Ryleigh Shullaw

**Vaccination, Unemployment Rates:** 59.1% of the population is fully vaccinated with the Covid-19 vaccine and around 4.7% of the population is unemployed

**Rates of Domestic Abuse:** % of women age 15 years and over report to have suffered at least one incident of emotional, economic, physical, or sexual violence throughout their lives in at least one sphere, 58% more domestic abuse calls to Línea Mujeres in 2020 than in 2019

**Leaders in Pandora Papers:** Jorge Arganis Díaz Leal, Julio Scherer Ibarra, Enrique Martínez y Martínez, José Manuel Sanz Rivera

**Pandemic and Domestic Abuse:** 58% more domestic abuse calls to Línea Mujeres in 2020 than in 2019, most likely due to the pandemic.

**Unemployment and COVID-19:** Mexican unemployment surged to 5.3% in June 2020, caused by the pandemic. However, this has now decreased to about 3.5% as of December 2021.

**Tax Havens:** Mexico is combatting tax havens by passing multiple laws. On October 26m several tax laws were changed as part of the 2022 budget. Amendments to the following bills were proposed: the Mexican Income Tax Law (MITL), the Value-Added Tax Law (VATL), and the Mexican Federal Tax Code (MFTC).

# Mongolia

Delegation: Episcopal High School

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**Capital City:** Ulaanbaatar      **Location:** Central Asia      **Population:** 3278000

**Country's Leader:** President Ukhnaagiin Khürelsükh

**Form of Government:** Semi-presidential representative democratic republic

**Official Language:** Mongolian      **Other Languages:** Khalkha; Chakhar; Baarin; Xilingol; Oirat; Buryat

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## General Assembly

**Student Ambassadors:** Tanvi Dhaka, Ainsley Edenfield      **Voting Rep:** Tanvi Dhaka

**Percent Undernourished:** 4.3%

**Major Endangered Species:** Bactrian camels, Altai Weasel, falcated duck, saiga antelope, snow leopard

**Food Security:** Over 65% of households in Mongolia suffer from food insecurity and that number goes up to around 80% in the more central regions of the country. Natural disasters have been a large part of the struggle for food distribution.

**Obstacles to Internet Access:** Most of Mongolia is rural areas and farming which makes internet access more sparse with only around 51% of the population having access. With learning online with covid the inequality between the students learning with internet access versus those without even larger

**Natural Habitats of Endangered Species:** The Mongolian government has taken numerous measures to help its endangered species. Various Mongolian nature parks and reserves have been set up in order to protect animals like the saiga antelope from poachers and to provide a new, safe habitat for animals like the Bactrian camel, who have lost much of theirs. The Mongolian government has also begun implementing breeding programs to help boost these endangered species' populations. The saiga antelope has especially benefitted from these types of programs because its sex ratio has been heavily skewed. The Mongolians have also launched various conservationist projects like the Snow Leopard Management Plan in Turgen and Tsagaan, which has been successful in increasing the snow leopard population in those areas of Mongolia. The biggest threat to these endangered species is illegal wildlife trafficking. Because Mongolia is so large and sparsely populated, much illegal hunting goes unnoticed and unpunished because the government is unable to monitor its vast territory with its few resources. The Mongolians have begun to take steps to hire more personnel to monitor their territory and these illegal activities, which they must continue to do so in order to protect these endangered species.

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# Morocco

Delegation: Haynes Academy

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**Capital City:** Rabat      **Location:** Northwest Africa      **Population:** 37587911

**Country's Leader:** King Mohammed VI

**Form of Government:** Constitutional Monarchy

**Official Language:** Modern Standard Arabic and Standard Moroccan Berber      **Other Languages:** French, Spanish, English, Mandarin, Tachelhit, Tarifit, Tamazight, Hassaniyya, Moroccan Sign Language

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## General Assembly

**Student Ambassadors:** Kaci Cook, Lena Abedali      **Voting Rep:** Kaci Cook

**Percent Undernourished:** As of 2019, 4.2% of Morocco was considered undernourished by The World Bank.

**Major Endangered Species:** Endangered species in Morocco include: the Barbary Leopard, the Waldrapp, the Mediterranean Monk Seal, the Barbary Hyena, the Cuviers Gazelle, and the Spanish Imperial Eagle.

**Food Security:** The moderate to severe food insecurity in Morocco stands at 28%. Morocco is the world's largest source of phosphate, therefore it is needed to help feed the world.

**Obstacles to Internet Access:** There is a plethora of internet censorship in the country, but it is argued who exactly is providing it. However, access to the internet and secure internet servers are regularly available.

**Natural Habitats of Endangered Species:** The NBSAP (founded in 2004) features over 269 different actions and strategic priorities for biodiversity conservation. The Moroccan government has also established Aichi Biodiversity Targets. These deal with forest ecosystems, the rehabilitation of endangered species, the scarcity of water resources, and marine biodiversity. This plan was only supposed to last from (2011-2020), so it is obvious that the country could be doing more.

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## Eco/Soc

**Student Ambassadors:** Faiza Filali, Rakshitha Rajaseakaran      **Voting Rep:** Faiza Filali

**Vaccination, Unemployment Rates:** The vaccination rate stands at 62.6%, while the unemployment rate currently stands at 11.8%.

**Rates of Domestic Abuse:** Official national statistics are not available, however there has been a 40% decrease in the past year.

**Leaders in Pandora Papers:** Princess Lalla Hasnaa

**Pandemic and Domestic Abuse:** Activist and equal rights groups say the government's data conceals a surge in abuse during a lockdown created by the coronavirus pandemic. Creating some sort of physical center/location for abuse victims to seek refuge in and protect themselves from the ongoing difficulties of the pandemic would greatly help.

**Unemployment and COVID-19:** Morocco's unemployment rate has been readily decreasing as the government continues to promote the creation of small businesses. However, major corporations are still owned by conglomerates and business tycoons. The government is still occupied with tycoons that promote practices that are more likely to benefit the higher income. This has not caused any impact on the vaccine rate. Stigma and misinformation are at fault for the lower vaccination rate.

**Tax Havens:** Not anymore. Morocco has been removed from the EU's tax haven grey list after it took a series of measures and enacted new laws aiming to ensure greater transparency.

# Myanmar

Delegation: Lafayette High School

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**Capital City:** Naypyidaw **Location:** South Asia **Population:** 54410000

**Country's Leader:** Aung San Suu Kyi

**Form of Government:** Unitary assembly-independent republic

**Official Language:** Burmese **Other Languages:** English, Mandarin, Hindi

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## General Assembly

**Student Ambassadors:** Holden Soileau, Gwendolyn Abadie **Voting Rep:** Holden Soileau

**Percent Undernourished:** 7.6%

**Major Endangered Species:** White-bellied heron, Baer's Pochard, Spoon-billed Sandpiper Hawksbill turtle, Sumatran Rhinoceros, Fish-eating crocodile, Flatback tortoise, Irrawaddy river shark, Arakan forest turtle, Slender-billed vulture, White-rumped vulture, Sunda pangolin, Black i

**Food Security:** Yes, even though our main export is rice accounting for about 60% of the entire cultivated land area. 26% of people live below the poverty line, with the current pandemic making it harder to obtain food.

**Obstacles to Internet Access:** Currently, the military junta has shut off all access to internet in the country. Previously, about 23.621% of the population had access to internet, obstacles may have included infrastructure and cost.

**Natural Habitats of Endangered Species:** Ecosystems are largely at threat, with central land being essentially "dry" of flora or fauna. We could implement more laws protecting the ecosystem, and execute actions that would attempt to encourage regrowth of said ecosystems.

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# New Zealand

**Delegation:** Patrick F. Taylor Science and Technology Academy

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**Capital City:** Wellington **Location:** Southeast of Australia **Population:** 4991442

**Country's Leader:** Jacinda Ardern

**Form of Government:** Parliamentary democracy under a constitutional monarchy

**Official Language:** English and Maori **Other Languages:** Samoan, Northern Chinese, Hindi, French, Yue

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## General Assembly

**Student Ambassadors:** Emma Potts, Jeremy Amador **Voting Rep:** Jeremy Amador

**Percent Undernourished:** 8.9 percent is considered undernourished

**Major Endangered Species:** Maui Dolphin, Mokohinau stag beetle, Canterbury knobbed weevil, Isoetes

**Food Security:** Currently, New Zealand does not have a current issue with food security, as many as one in five children live in "relative poverty", as food for a family of four can cost 400 dollars a month, not including the costs of other bills. The issue fell down 10 percent pre-covid but has rocketed up 20 percent during the pandemic. Currently, New Zealand is working on a budget to allow 200,000 students to receive healthy meals.

**Obstacles to Internet Access:** Affordability remains the main obstacle for many to access the internet. Especially during the pandemic, many families and individuals felt/feel isolated from the world, the closure of libraries only worsened the feeling. Some put themselves in debt just to access the internet.

**Natural Habitats of Endangered Species:** New Zealand helps to return endangered species to their natural habitats, protect them from external dangers, and restore damaged habitats. For the sea creatures, New Zealand promotes sustainable fisheries, sets up legal protections for dolphins, and establishes protected areas. Overall, New Zealand works to protect and preserve these wonderful animals.

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## Security

**Student Ambassadors:** Phillip Dinh, Daniel Abadie **Voting Rep:** Phillip Dinh

**Military Capability:** Minimal. Our small armed forces are focused on national security, with our Air Force and Navy becoming steadily outdated. It's a Faustian task to attempt any sort of military build up, the smartest option would be to continue to modernize our Navy.

**Major Allies/Treaties:** United States, Australia, Canada

**Major Disputes:** China, Afghanistan (Taliban)

**Security Council Policy Sentiments:** New Zealand has taken many opportunities to change the culture of the Security Council by improving its performance and inclusiveness. New Zealand has also challenged the five permanent members (P5) and their powers within the council. Overall, New Zealand wants the Security Council to be transparent and focused on conflict prevention and resolution.

**Afghan Conflict:** New Zealand's involvement in the Afghan conflict has been minimal, contributing to small peacekeeping and anti-terrorist forces. New Zealand seems committed to a humanitarian and anti-terrorist stance globally, and is militarily aligned with the United States, but is not part of NATO or has any official commitments to NATO.

**Domestic and International Espionage Laws:** New Zealand does not have adequate domestic and international espionage laws. There is little clarity on what New Zealand's laws on international and domestic espionage are.

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# North Korea

Delegation: Episcopal School of Acadiana

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**Capital City:** Pyongyang **Location:** Asia **Population:** 25952573

**Country's Leader:** Kim Jong-Un, Supreme Leader & Grand Marshal

**Form of Government:** A Jucheist, unipartisan, socialist republic under a totalitarian, hereditary dictatorship

**Official Language:** Korean (Muhwaŏ) **Other Languages:** No

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## General Assembly

**Student Ambassadors:** Ali Munshi, Siyeon Joo **Voting Rep:** Ali Munshi

**Percent Undernourished:** 42.4% (as of 2018)

**Major Endangered Species:** Ussuri Tube-Nosed Bat (*M. ussuriensis*), Siberian Musk Deer (*M. moschiferus*), White-naped Crane (*A. vipio*), Red-crowned Crane (*G. japonensis*), Asiatic Black Bear (*U. thibetanus*), Cinereous Vulture (*A. monachus*), Long-Tailed Goral (*N. caudatus*)

**Food Security:** Yes, and it has suffered from the issue repeatedly in the past without any signs of improvement. The infamous famine of the 1990s – also known as the Arduous March or the March of Suffering – which killed nearly half a million North Koreans, was unfortunately not followed by a lengthy period of recovery, but instead suffered from even harsher conditions. In 2021, North Korea once again reported a severe food shortage; however, it is unable to accept any in-country support from the United Nations due to sanction restrictions, funding withdrawals and shortcomings, and quarantine measures. While North Korea has indeed accepted supplies and aid from neighboring China – which happens to be the nation's closest trade partner and primary exporter – the reality and future are still bleak. According to a 2017 report by the Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations, nearly 40% of North Koreans are undernourished, and 28% of children suffer from stunted growth.

The roots of this issue lie mainly in the geography and climate of North Korea, which is dominated by an arid, mountainous landscape that leaves few places for farming. Extreme weather conditions such as erosion, flooding, and typhoons are all a constant and widespread obstacle. When coupled with the lack of modern machinery, such issues have left North Korea's agricultural industry in shambles, forcing the nation to seek external sources and assistance. Nearly 30% of the country's food is imported, and while foreign aid provides a majority of that amount, the funding for such aid programs is limited. As reported by the UN's World Food Program, the nation has received just \$15 million in aid to support a yearly need of \$50 million. Regular donors have largely been scared away by rising political tensions, and would rather not deal with the legal and political consequences that come with supplying aid to North Korea. Should more donors shy away, nearly 195,000 kindergarten students will lose food aid.

The issue of food insecurity is only further exacerbated by struggles with transparency and accountability stemming from the government. A persistent stream of propaganda has insisted that North Korea remain a self-sufficient and economically-independent nation. Additionally, the maintenance of the songbun class system has allowed the government to impose state-sponsored discrimination, leading to unequal food distributions and rampant malnutrition for certain groups of citizens.

**Obstacles to Internet Access:** Internet access is incredibly limited and largely restricted to its most highly ranked officials. In fact, one must obtain permission to own a computer, which must be registered. Anything and everything that is done on the web is monitored, especially when it comes to accessing foreign files or web pages. However, most users – of which there are very few – are unable to venture outside of the limited web without access to a VPN server, which is rare and highly illegal in North Korea.

Instead of the familiar internet that is known to the rest of the world, North Korea has an officially sanctioned intranet named the Kwangmyong, meaning "bright star" in Korean. The software, which relies on

pirated Japanese servers, offers rudimentary email and browsing capabilities. Access to the Kwangmyong is restricted to a handful of computer labs located in the offices of Pyongyang and the universities of smaller outlying cities, which house the only acceptable computers made by the government-run company of Morning Panda. Physical internet connections run either through a single line into China, where they connect to the state-run telecommunications agency Unicorn, or through satellite-based systems managed by the Russian satellite company SatGate. Either way, the connection is slow and outdated, as all North Korean devices – smuggled in through China or Russia – run through a thin bandwidth on aging equipment.

As far as obstacles go, internet access in North Korea is at the mercy of the government. Only around 1,000 high-ranking officials have unrestricted access. The circle is so small that North Korea has just 1,024 IP addresses; in comparison, the United States has more than 4 billion. The purpose of having internet access, even for such a small circle, is purely strategic: a medium for propaganda, an avenue for hacking, and a symbol of status. In North Korea, the internet is not only used to extol a steady stream of propaganda or allow for the infliction of aggressive cyberattacks, but can be seen as a way for high-ranking officials to separate themselves from the masses.

**Natural Habitats of Endangered Species:** North Korea is aware of the numerous endangered species that reside within its borders, but have chosen to focus on other more pressing issues. Fortunately, North Korea has developed an unexpected safe haven for many of these species: the Demilitarized Zone, or DMZ. Fortified by tall barbed-wire fences, riddled with land mines, and devoid of any human disturbance, the DMZ has offered a quiet place for these species to thrive. Especially for the Siberian Musk Deer (*Moschus moschiferus*), White-naped Crane (*Antigone vipio*), Red-crowned Crane (*Grus japonensis*), Asiatic Black Bear (*Ursus thibetanus*), Cinereous Vulture (*Aegypius monachus*), Long-Tailed Goral (*Naemorhedus caudatus*), the DMZ is one of the few relatively “protected” areas in North Korea where they may live safely.

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# Pakistan

Delegation: Lafayette High School

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**Capital City:** Islamabad    **Location:** South Asia    **Population:** 220900000

**Country's Leader:** Imran Khan

**Form of Government:** Federal parliamentary republic

**Official Language:** Urdu and English    **Other Languages:** Punjabi, Pashto, Sindhi, Balochi, Saraiki, Brahui, Shina, Kashmiri

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## General Assembly

**Student Ambassadors:** Rumaan Baloch, N/A    **Voting Rep:** Rumaan Baloch

**Percent Undernourished:** 13%

**Major Endangered Species:** The Asian elephant, the markhor goat, the hog deer, the woolly flying squirrel, the fishing cat

**Food Security:** Yes; 60% of Pakistan's population faces food insecurity, and 44% of children under the age of 5 are chronically malnourished

**Obstacles to Internet Access:** There is an extreme divide between rural and urban areas of Pakistan, and large internet companies choose not to invest in rural areas due to the lack of profit.

**Natural Habitats of Endangered Species:** Pakistan has over 31 national parks, 92 wildlife sanctuaries, 19 wetland reserves, and 160 community reserves throughout the country. In the summer of 2020, the current prime minister, Imran Khan, launched a "Protected Areas Initiative" that will expand the protected areas to 15% of Pakistan's total area by 2023. It was at 12% when his government came to power in 2018, and at the time of the implementation of this initiative, it was at 13%

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## Eco/Soc

**Student Ambassadors:** Anna Skerrett, Madison Bui    **Voting Rep:** Anna Skerrett

**Vaccination, Unemployment Rates:** Vaccine: 45 percent one dose. 34.1 percent fully vaccinated. The unemployment rate was 4.4% in December of 2020.

**Rates of Domestic Abuse:** It is estimated that 70-90 percent of Pakistani women are subjected to domestic abuse

**Leaders in Pandora Papers:** Finance Minister Shaukat Tarin, Minister for Water Resources Moonis Elahi, Senator Faisal Vawda, the family of Minister for Industries and Production Khusro Bakhtiar

**Pandemic and Domestic Abuse:** Throughout epidemics such as the Zika virus outbreak and, now, the COVID-19 pandemic, domestic abuse heightens due to victims of domestic abuse being trapped in their homes with their abusers and having limited contact to family and friends. During the 2020 COVID-19 shutdowns, 399 femicide (The intentional killing of women based on their sex) cases were reported in the Pakistani Province of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. Only 25 calls were received at the police helpline due to the overwhelmed welfare helpline system and stigma against speaking out. With this in mind, a possible solution to the domestic abuse crisis in our country, Pakistan, is creating a more organized and easy to access helpline that can both serve as a helpline for those trying to leave an abusive relationship and/or household as well as serving as an educational tool in order to reduce the stigma around domestic abuse.

**Unemployment and COVID-19:** The government claims that unemployment rates are around 6.5% in the country, however the Pakistan Institute of Development Economics (PIDE) claims that the percentage is closer to around 16%, with 24% of educated people being unemployed at the moment. In addition to that, 40% of educated women remain unemployed. By 2021 during the pandemic of COVID-19, around 20.71 million Pakistanis were rendered jobless, unemployed, or otherwise unable to work or to find work, compared to the previous 55.7 million workers before the pandemic hit.

**Tax Havens:** Pakistan has a 29 percent corporate tax rate on large international, non-resident, companies' income made in Pakistan as well as a 29 percent tax rate on large, resident, companies' entire income.

According to one definition of a tax haven being a country that offers a reduced or no tax liability as a means for attracting large companies to be based in the country, Pakistan would not be considered a tax haven due to the withholding fees placed on non-resident companies and the Controlled Foreign Companies (CFC) legislation discouraging heavily Pakistan-influenced companies from filing as a non-resident company.

# Poland

Delegation: St. Joseph's Academy

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**Capital City:** Warsaw    **Location:** Central Europe    **Population:** 37950000  
**Country's Leader:** Andrzej Duda  
**Form of Government:** Democracy, parliamentary republic  
**Official Language:** Polish    **Other Languages:** Czech, Slovak, and upper and lower Sorbian

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## General Assembly

**Student Ambassadors:** Ella Uffman , Alexandra Hulse    **Voting Rep:** Ella Uffman

**Percent Undernourished:** 2.5%

**Major Endangered Species:** The Apollo Butterfly, Atlantic Cod, Cerambyx Longhorn, and Eurasian Otter

**Food Security:** No, Poland ranks 24th in the world in food security. This doesn't seem to be an issue in Poland. In the areas where food insecurity and hunger are prevalent, the problem is due to poverty. According to the Borgen Project, people living under the poverty line have less access to nutritionally balanced food because it is more expensive to eat balanced meals.

**Obstacles to Internet Access:** Poland's internet access shot up in the last 5 years, going from 26.99 million people with access in 2016 to 31.17 million people having access in 2021. Major obstacles cited are a lack of need (which could perhaps explain the jump in amount of people with access- as COVID-19 hit, the need for internet access increased), too high of a cost to justify getting internet, and a lack of skills that could provide for better internet. Additionally, in 2020, about 1/3 of Poland's companies stated that "digital transformation solutions were too costly."

**Natural Habitats of Endangered Species:** Poland has protected the natural habitats of endangered species through the creation of a network of protected areas and sites in Poland. Poland additionally joined the Natura 2000 environmental network programme, a European organization that aims to create a system for the effective protection of natural habitats and important species. Natura 2000 protection covers 19.5% of Poland's land, and over 32 percent of Poland's land receives some form of nature protection. Between the years of 2004 and 2009, Poland sent the European Commission lists of areas that have been transformed into bird areas and some which have been proposed as areas of Community importance.

Poland could improve upon these efforts through increasing concern for the environment. Poland was exempted from the Paris Climate Agreement on grounds that they could not commit to the "common objective" of the European Union to achieve climate neutrality by 2050. After the UK left the EU, Poland became Europe's second largest source of carbon (after Germany). Additionally, they have 22 major endangered species currently residing there. By increasing the number of reservations, increasing public concern for the environment, and increasing laws and sanctions protecting the environment, Poland can work to lower their place on the list.

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# Portugal

Delegation: Jesuit High School

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**Capital City:** Lisbon      **Location:** Europe      **Population:** 10305564

**Country's Leader:** António Costa

**Form of Government:** democratic republic

**Official Language:** Portuguese      **Other Languages:** English, French

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## General Assembly

**Student Ambassadors:** Aidan Zhang Wang, Frank Marion Young III      **Voting Rep:** Aidan Zhang Wang

**Percent Undernourished:** 3%

**Major Endangered Species:** Moth and Ironclad Beetle

**Food Security:** Yes, Portugal has a problem with food security. 16.5% are food insecure and 3.5% have very low food security. Women, smokers, younger people, unemployed, lower education, and lower-income are particularly vulnerable to food insecurity. There are no food stamps or any government-funded assistance. However, there are food banks.

**Obstacles to Internet Access:** Internet access is something that is prevalent in Portugal but there are still some speedbumps. Particularly in the rural regions of Algarve and Alentejo. Rural areas do not have as great of internet access as urban areas do. Therefore, Algarve and Alentejo have much slower internet access than Lisbon and Azores.

**Natural Habitats of Endangered Species:** Portugal has many different ways of protecting natural habitats. There are 399 protected areas, 167 Natura 2000 sites, 62 Special Protection Areas, and 102 Sites of Community Importance. Natura 2000 is an EU directive that has goals to ensure that the most valuable and endangered species survive in the long term. Portugal could improve upon its efforts by increasing the number of protected areas because Europe is below the average of other parts of the world.

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# Qatar

Delegation: Captain Shreve High School

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**Capital City:** Doha      **Location:** Asia      **Population:** 2881060

**Country's Leader:** Khalid bin Khalifa bin Abdulaziz Al Thani

**Form of Government:** Constitutional Emirate

**Official Language:** Arabic      **Other Languages:** English taught in schools

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## General Assembly

**Student Ambassadors:** Peyton McKinnon, Charlie Fouts      **Voting Rep:** Peyton McKinnon

**Percent Undernourished:** The percent of Qatar Asia that is undernourished is 28.1% of Women between the ages 15 and 49. Qatar's obesity is higher than the regional average of 10.3% for women, and 7.5% for men.

**Major Endangered Species:** Some endangered species in Qatar Asia are coral, stingrays, and an Egyptian vulture. These are groups of corals, birds, and fish.

**Food Security:** Qatar Asia has slipped into fourth place of the Global Food Security Index.

**Obstacles to Internet Access:** In Qatar Asia, internet access is not a luxury. The challenge is to spread broadband across the country. Around only 35% of the country have access to the internet. Due to Covid-19 most schools have been shutting down, and not having the ability to use the internet, and lacking the resources for this. This shows how resources affect the ability for internet in Qatar Asia

**Natural Habitats of Endangered Species:** The Asian elephant is the largest mammal on the Asia continent. The biggest threat to Asian elephants is habitat loss and fragmentation. Economic growth has led to encroachment of their habitats. When elephants are forced into locations of forest surrounded by human civilization, it blocks off some migratory routes. This shows how habitat loss and fragmentation is the biggest threat to Asian elephants.

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# Russia

Delegation: Lakeshore High School

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**Capital City:** Moscow    **Location:** Eurasia    **Population:** 144100000

**Country's Leader:** Vladimir Putin

**Form of Government:** Federal Republic

**Official Language:** Russian    **Other Languages:** English, German

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## General Assembly

**Student Ambassadors:** Kaenan Marquette, n/a    **Voting Rep:** Kaenan Marquette

**Percent Undernourished:** 3%

**Major Endangered Species:** Amur tiger, Central Asian and Far Eastern leopard, snow leopard, bison, saiga, Przewalski's horse, Altai mountain sheep, gazelle, polar bear, Siberian crane, bowhead whale and gray whale.

**Food Security:** Yes, inadequate access to food by certain lower socioeconomic groups.

**Obstacles to Internet Access:** Russian authorities routinely restrict access to sensitive political and social content on the internet, especially in areas of lower socioeconomic status.

**Natural Habitats of Endangered Species:** Russian wildlife authorities have created national parks, nature reserves, and conservation areas to protect the animals from human interference.

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## Eco/Soc

**Student Ambassadors:** Will Snizik, Josh Blake    **Voting Rep:** Will Snizik

**Vaccination, Unemployment Rates:** ~50% of citizens fully vaccinated against Covid-19, ~6% unemployed

**Rates of Domestic Abuse:** ~10% of families

**Leaders in Pandora Papers:** Vladimir Putin

**Pandemic and Domestic Abuse:** Rates have slightly increased. A possible solution is to increase punishments for domestic abusers to further deter would-be abusers.

**Unemployment and COVID-19:** Russia is not overly concerned with unemployment, however, it does not wish to make it not an issue. The majority of Russia's unemployment and general economic concerns do not stem from Covid-19 or vaccine distribution.

**Tax Havens:** Yes, it has a law in place that bans businesses with significant offshore ownership from receiving government support

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## Security

**Student Ambassadors:** Daniel Brammer,    **Voting Rep:** Daniel Brammer

**Military Capability:** Very capable

**Major Allies/Treaties:** India, Kazakhstan, China

**Major Disputes:** Wary of NATO, fear of loss of power because of a transition away from oil and gasoline

**Security Council Policy Sentiments:** Russia is unhappy with the current organization of the Security Council and believes that the country that bears the most nuclear power should be the sole power in charge of the Security Council.

**Afghan Conflict:** No

**Domestic and International Espionage Laws:** Russia does not have laws explicitly against espionage but has laws against certain practices typically used in espionage.

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# Singapore

Delegation: Jesuit High School

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**Capital City:** Singapore    **Location:** Southeast-Asia    **Population:** 5453600

**Country's Leader:** President Halimah Yacob

**Form of Government:** Parliamentary Republic

**Official Language:** English, Malay, Mandarin, and Tamil    **Other Languages:**

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## General Assembly

**Student Ambassadors:** Preston Kuehne, Matthew Poyner    **Voting Rep:** Preston Kuehne

**Percent Undernourished:** Less than 5% of Singapore is considered undernourished.

**Major Endangered Species:** Singapore is home to the Yellow Meranti, Swamp Forest Crab, and Singapore Freshwater Crab

**Food Security:** No, as a developed nation, Singapore is able to keep almost its entire population properly nourished.

**Obstacles to Internet Access:** Currently, over 99% of Singaporeans have internet access, so there are not any obstacles we need to overcome.

**Natural Habitats of Endangered Species:** Yes, Singapore is interested in protecting endangered species and the environment. In 2002, the Singapore Green plan was unveiled which has since monitored pollution, pursued the use of natural gas, promoted recycling, and created many conservation efforts.

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# South Africa

Delegation: Benjamin Franklin High School New Orleans

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**Capital City:** Cape Town, Pretoria, Bloemfontein    **Location:** African continent    **Population:** 59310000

**Country's Leader:** Cyril Ramaphosa(president)

**Form of Government:** parliamentary republic

**Official Language:** isizulu, Afrikaans, isixhosa, sepedi, setswana, English, sesotho, xitsonga

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## General Assembly

**Student Ambassadors:** Thar Htoo, Xindi Liu    **Voting Rep:** Xindi Liu

**Percent Undernourished:** 6.5%

**Major Endangered Species:** Black rhinoceros, African wild dog

**Food Security:** Food insecurity and starvation is one major problem still plaguing South African society today. Due to a combination of conflicts, instability, climate change and general poverty, many families in the nation are finding it difficult to not go hungry. The problem is only exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic, whereby South Africans are increasingly seeing a considerable decrease in their income. According to the borgen project, over 23% of South African households experienced hunger during the onset of the pandemic in the summer, and up to 70% of families depended on government grants.

**Obstacles to Internet Access:** The country of South Africa is home to some of the most exotic and endangered species in the world. As a result the country has a unique role to play in the world to exert extra effort in protecting these vulnerable species and conserving their habitats. To that end, South Africa has made a commitment to sustainable use of natural resources, a priority outlined in the nation's national development plan. In addition, the country has established numerous wildlife reserves in an effort to conserve habitats and protect the wildlife living in the area; more funding from international organizations would be preferable in order for South Africa to expand its program of natural reservation.

**Natural Habitats of Endangered Species:** The country of South Africa is home to some of the most exotic and endangered species in the world. As a result the country has a unique role to play in the world to exert extra effort in protecting these vulnerable species and conserving their habitats. To that end, South Africa has made a commitment to sustainable use of natural resources, a priority outlined in the nation's national development plan. In addition, the country has established numerous wildlife reserves in an effort to conserve habitats and protect the wildlife living in the area; more funding from international organizations would be preferable in order for South Africa to expand its program of natural reservation.

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## Security

**Student Ambassadors:** Thar Htoo, Xindi Liu    **Voting Rep:** Thar Htoo

**Military Capability:** It is the 32nd greatest military strength in the world

**Major Allies/Treaties:** China, US, United Kingdom

**Major Disputes:** boundary dispute between Zimbabwe, no other major disputes

**Security Council Policy Sentiments:** South Africa believe, for the sake of international peace and stability, in addition to the improved well-being of African States, that certain necessary reforms needs to be introduced into the Security council. The country advocates for the expansion of the permanent and non-permanent categories in the security council, including two permanent seats for the African continent exclusively. The country is concerned about rising unilateralism among powerful countries and see those independent decisions being made having negative impacts on other less powerful countries.

**Afghan Conflict:** South Africa is deeply concerned about the ongoing instability in the country as the result of US withdrawal and the Taliban takeover. Unfortunately, the country itself is unable to contribute to humanitarian for refugees who's fled Afghanistan, as the country itself is already hosting numerous other refugees, and is responsible for meeting their needs.

**Domestic and International Espionage Laws:** The South Africa surveillance law forbids anyone from intercepting communications outside of exceptional circumstances, of which those requires a warrant. The law was later deemed unconstitutional, due to the loopholes present in the surveillance law which prevented oversight and allowed the warrant system of the surveillance law to be abused. The deeming of the law as unconstitutional lays the groundwork for amendments to the surveillance law, and is generally seen as a step in the right direction for privacy and freedom of expression.

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# South Korea

Delegation: Haynes Academy

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**Capital City:** Seoul      **Location:** East Asia      **Population:** 51337851

**Country's Leader:** Moon Jae-In

**Form of Government:** Democratic Republic

**Official Language:** Korean      **Other Languages:** Korean Dialects (including Hangul, Gyeonggi, Jeju, Gyeongsang, Jeolla, and Chungcheong), English, and Japanese

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## General Assembly

**Student Ambassadors:** Avishka Fernando, Sophie Labadie      **Voting Rep:** Avishka Fernando

**Percent Undernourished:** 2.5%

**Major Endangered Species:** Some major endangered species that The Republic of Korea is home to include the Siberian Musk Deer, the white-naped crane, the Asiatic black bear, the red-crowned crane, and the long tailed goral.

**Food Security:** The Republic of Korea has very minimal issues with food security. Only 2.5% of South Korea is undernourished, its stunting rate in children is only 3%, and it ranks 29th on the Global Food Security Index as of 2019.

**Obstacles to Internet Access:** While a large majority of South Korea has access to the internet, there exists internet censorship, such as blockage of pro-North Korea sites, subversive content, sexually explicit content, and HTTPS websites. In March 2019, the Korean Communications Commission gave the government authority to shut down any domestic operation of foreign internet-related companies. While this may compromise the freedom of some internet-users, this is done for their own safety as well as national security.

**Natural Habitats of Endangered Species:** To protect the natural habitats of species, South Korea has placed a law prohibiting the hunting/killing of many species of animals. South Korea has also established an area known as the Civilian Zone, a 6 mile wide zone that runs along the southern side of the Demilitarized Zone (DMZ). The DMZ and Civilian Zones are home to many endangered species, some including the red-crowned crane and the Asiatic black-bear, as well as many indigenous plants. These zones act as a buffer and minimize the traffic from the DMZ. Wildlife in these zones rely on the resources and indigenous plants to survive. The Republic of Korea has had to displace some of the natural resources in these areas in order to make it a safer zone for the endangered species to survive in. However, this displacement could affect the ecosystem as a whole because it interferes with its natural resources. A possible way to improve upon this could be restoring the native plants and species to this ecosystem and reintroducing their flow of nature in order for the community as a whole to better thrive.

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## Eco/Soc

**Student Ambassadors:** Shelby Irwin, Advait Ramesh      **Voting Rep:** Shelby Irwin

**Vaccination, Unemployment Rates:** Vaccination rate: 84.4% of the population fully vaccinated; Unemployment: 3.7%

**Rates of Domestic Abuse:** There were 8,982 arrests related to dating abuse in 2020 in South Korea.

**Leaders in Pandora Papers:** Lee Jae Yong, the Chairman of Samsung, has been named in the Pandora Papers.

**Pandemic and Domestic Abuse:** Based on the data, there is no evidence that the pandemic has drastically affected domestic abuse in South Korea; in 2019, there were 9,858 arrests related to dating abuse, but this actually decreased in 2020 with only 8,982 arrests regarding this.

**Unemployment and COVID-19:** There is a very low unemployment rate in South Korea. And while the average unemployment rate in South Korea did increase between 2019 and 2020, it did not do so by much, increasing from 3.78% to 3.94%. There is certainly a correlation between COVID cases and the unemployment rate, as the overall unemployment rates in 2020 and 2021 were both higher the overall unemployment rates in 2016-2019. However, unemployment problems most likely don't stem directly from COVID. For instance, the number of COVID cases increased more from October 2021 to November 2021 than it did from September 2021 to October 2021, yet the unemployment rate increased from 3% to 3.2% from September to October but DECREASED from 3.2% to 3.1% from October to November. This is the case with vaccinations as well. From July 2021 to August 2021, there was an increase in the rate of vaccination, and there was a drop in unemployment rate from 3.3% to 2.8%; however, from November 2021 to December 2021, there was also an increase in the rate of vaccination, but there was a rise in unemployment rate from 3.1% to 3.8%. There are additional factors at work as well.

**Tax Havens:** The Republic of Korea has made many treaties with countries considered to be "tax havens." In order to shield these havens, the Republic of Korea has created income tax treaties to avoid double taxation. International rules involving finance and service have been created to limit profit shifting. South Korea also revised its Act on Tax Reduction to include incentives intended to spur the economy. Corporate tax breaks were eliminated for foreign investors as of December 2018. This new shift has been focused on investment, job creation, and new growth industries.

# Sri Lanka

**Delegation:** Episcopal School of Acadiana

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**Capital City:** Legislative Capital: Sri Jayawardenepura Kotte, Executive and Judicial Capital: Colombo

**Location:** Indian Ocean, off the East coast of India      **Population:** 21553052

**Country's Leader:** Gotabaya Rajapaksa

**Form of Government:** Unitary State, Semi-Presidential System, Constitutional Republic

**Official Language:** Sinhala, Tamil      **Other Languages:** English

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## General Assembly

**Student Ambassadors:** Maria-Sofia Sotiropoulou, Addison Manning      **Voting Rep:** Addison Manning

**Percent Undernourished:** 6.8%

**Major Endangered Species:** Some endangered species: PURPLE FACED LEAF LUNGER - Western subspecies (Trachypithecus vetulus) NELLU RAT (Rattus montanus) BLACK NECKED STORK (Ephippiorhynchus asasticus) PAINTED FRANCOLIN (Francolinus pictus) JUNGLE BUSH QUAIL (Perdicula asiatica)

**Food Security:** The UN has not named Sri Lanka in their top ten countries facing food insecurity.

**Obstacles to Internet Access:** Sri Lanka has blocked all access to social media.

Urban, male Sri Lankans have easier access to internet than their rural and female counterparts.

The Government of Sri Lanka is slowly expanding access to the internet but they also try to block access.

**Natural Habitats of Endangered Species:** The Sri Lankan elephant is protected by law.

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# Switzerland

Delegation: Haynes Academy for Advanced Studies

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**Capital City:** Bern      **Location:** Central Europe      **Population:** 8637000

**Country's Leader:** Ignazio Cassis

**Form of Government:** Nation-state

**Official Language:** German, French, Italian      **Other Languages:** Romansh, Latin

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## General Assembly

**Student Ambassadors:** Alissa Julien, Riley Gulino      **Voting Rep:** Riley Gulino

**Percent Undernourished:** 2.5%

**Major Endangered Species:** Northern bald ibis , insubrian barbel , italian nase

**Food Security:** No hunger is rare due to great welfare programs . Aggressive and good quality welfare programs ensure that hunger in Switzerland is a very rare and easily fixable issue.

**Obstacles to Internet Access:** Very miniscule issues have been found like rare outages similar to many other "advanced" countries

**Natural Habitats of Endangered Species:** Based on the "red list" that many countries use to classify critically endangered or extinct animals, Switzerland has imposed a "green list" to better lay out threats to animal populations. Possibly, yes. While it does help to understand where issues lay, it may not necessarily give a solution to them that may work in the real world

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# The Republic of San Marino

Delegation: St. Joseph's Academy

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**Capital City:** San Marino **Location:** Europe **Population:** 33938

**Country's Leader:** Francesco Mussoni Giacomo Simoncini

**Form of Government:** Republic

**Official Language:** Standard Italian and the Sammarinese dialect **Other Languages:** N/A

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## General Assembly

**Student Ambassadors:** Clara Cole , Avery Scott **Voting Rep:** Clara Cole

**Percent Undernourished:** There is no data available on malnourishment. The country is recorded to have a high income and very low unemployment rates.

**Major Endangered Species:** While the region around San Marino is home to endangered species, San Marino itself is not home to any. San Marino, however, is home to many animals and plants, making it a very biodiverse.

**Food Security:** San Marino does not have any issues with food security due to its small size, small population, and stable economy. COVID-19 lead the government to reevaluate how it addresses food security and public health. San Marino is invested in implementing organic farming and spreading social awareness about healthy eating habits.

**Obstacles to Internet Access:** COVID-19 has slowed down production of the supplies needed to make mobile phones and implementing 5G network. This is not an issue that affects just San Marino, but other countries as well. Despite this AT&T provides internet service to 98% of households in the country. As an enclave of Italy, San Marino's internet access is relatively equal to that of the rest of Italy.

**Natural Habitats of Endangered Species:** San Marino is home to a wide variety of biodiversity despite its small size. Despite not having any endangered species indigenous to our country, San Marino is dedicated to spreading information on conserving the environment. The "San Marino Agenda 21 Coordination", established in 2007, is primarily focused on spreading information and awareness on ecosystem protection, climate change, and renewable energy to schools across the nation. San Marino could improve upon these efforts by promoting other countries to follow suit in the idea of spreading awareness about protecting the environment to the youth.

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# The Republic of Serbia

Delegation: Archbishop Hannan High School

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**Capital City:** Belgrade    **Location:** Balkan Peninsula, Southeastern Europe    **Population:** 6974289  
**Country's Leader:** Prime Minister Ana Brnabic, President Aleksandar Vucic  
**Form of Government:** unitary parliamentary republic  
**Official Language:** Serbian    **Other Languages:** Hungarian, Bosnian, Romani, Slovak, Croatian, Ruthenian

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## General Assembly

**Student Ambassadors:** Chloe Agena, N/A    **Voting Rep:** Chloe Agena

**Percent Undernourished:** 5.7%

**Major Endangered Species:** Albanian Water Frog, Balkan Snow Vole, Bastard Sturgeon, Danube Crested Newt, Danube Salmon, European Mudminnow, Kerch Black Sea Shad, Mediterranean Horseshoe Bat, Star Sturgeon

**Food Security:** Around 40,000 Serbians go hungry every year. In fact, according to the Global Health Index the Republic of Serbia ranks 25 out of 117 qualifying countries struggling with hunger. While this is not the worst, there is much room to improve and Serbia recognizes a serious issue with its citizens' food insecurity. As a country, the Republic of Serbia currently has very little in place to aid in the citizen's food issues and is open to resolutions that would help countries in similar positions reach a greater level of security.

**Obstacles to Internet Access:** Eighty-one percent of Serbian citizens have access to the internet which Serbia is quite proud to state. In general, service in our country is considered reliable and the internet is a fairly unregulated place for journalists and individuals to search. In 2021, the president of Serbia signed an agreement refraining from the use of 5G networks in Serbia to aid in creating a clean network for all internet users. Given our accomplishments, Serbia is open to hearing any resolutions that aid less fortunate countries to get a similar level to access as us.

**Natural Habitats of Endangered Species:** About 60% of Serbia's native plant population is currently endangered. In addition to plants, dozens of endangered animals reside within the country too. At present, Serbia has a Law on Nature Preserve which regulates how commercial sectors interact with protected species, but the past legislation has not slowed the declining biodiversity within the country. Serbia is open to resolutions that protect endangered animals and plants and help the country gain back its valuable biodiversity.

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## Security

**Student Ambassadors:** Matthew Pellittieri, Kaylen Davis    **Voting Rep:** Matthew Pellittieri

**Military Capability:** Serbia spends about 2% of its GDP on military expenditures each year. It maintains roughly 25,000 voluntary active-duty troops in its armed forces (primarily army and airforce). Its weapons are largely imported from Russia and utilize Soviet-era systems.

**Major Allies/Treaties:** Russian Federation, People's Republic of China, Romania,

**Major Disputes:** Kosovo, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Albania

**Security Council Policy Sentiments:** The Republic of Serbia is generally in favor of any Security Council reforms which would increase its ability both to control its own diplomatic relations and increase its participation in regional affairs. These sentiments extend beyond its own wellbeing to the support of other states' efforts for self-determination and active participation on the international stage. As such, Serbia has expressed open support for the likes of India to gain access to a permanent seat on the Council and would act upon those positions if given the chance at this conference. The United Nations, following Security Council Resolution 1244, has maintained a presence in the Autonomous Province of Kosovo and Metohija since 1999, allowing a separatist movement to grow and be supported by outside and often remote states. This is a clear example of why countries like Serbia need a greater say in Security Council matters which involve them. In order to achieve our goals, we would support any endeavor to overhaul the allocation of seats and the adoption of resolutions so as to guarantee that less powerful countries, which are often the subjects of U.N. missions, can actively play a role in the writing, debating, implementation, and/or rejection of efforts which support or violate their right to control their internal affairs and play a role beyond their borders. A country like the Republic of Serbia is owed the opportunity to accept or reject, or at the very least advise on, matters which concern it, its neighbors, and its destiny.

**Afghan Conflict:** Serbia has been involved in the Afghan conflict in many ways. They hosted the Afghan Government-Taliban Negotiations in secret several years ago though Serbian officials did not interfere with the outcome of the

negotiation. The Republic of Serbia also aided the United States in 2003, by sending troops into Afghanistan. The Republic of Serbia eagerly looks for resolutions that aid in the end of the Afghan conflict.

**Domestic and International Espionage Laws:** Espionage is a growing issue within the Serbian government. Many issues have arisen between the Republic of Serbia and Russia as a result of suspected espionage. While Serbian officials are confident that Russian leaders are not behind these issues, they still recognize that espionage is a threat to the country's safety as a whole. Serbia hopes to see the Security Councils' cooperation in putting an end to the growing issue of espionage within each country.

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# United Kingdom

Delegation: St. Joseph's Academy

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**Capital City:** London      **Location:** Europe      **Population:** 68000000

**Country's Leader:** Boris Johnson

**Form of Government:** Constitutional Monarchy

**Official Language:** English      **Other Languages:** Welsh, Irish, Scottish

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## General Assembly

**Student Ambassadors:** Eva Robichaux, Ella Robichaux      **Voting Rep:** Eva Robichaux

**Percent Undernourished:** Only 2.5% of our country is considered undernourished by the World Bank. The percent of the undernourished population in the UK has been the same since 2001.

**Major Endangered Species:** Red squirrels, hedgehogs, and Natterjack toads are all considered endangered species in our country. Each species has different factors as to which their populations are declining.

**Food Security:** Natterjack toads, red squirrels, and hedgehogs have all declined in their populations in the countryside of the United Kingdom. Most of the countryside is advised by organizations such as Natural England, which provides protection and improvement of all flora and fauna of England. Also, there are laws enforced in which the people of the UK must follow when using the countryside to their advantage; most of the countryside is also protected by 14 National Parks and counting, caring for the wildlife that lives in our countryside. As for Natterjack toads, their main habitats include dunes and salt marshes, both of which are declining due to rising sea levels. Ever since the North American grey squirrel has been introduced to the United Kingdom, the now rare red squirrels have been prone to Squirrel Pox, a virus only carried by grey squirrels. Grey squirrels can overcome the virus easily while red squirrels are highly affected by it. While the British hedgehog population continues to decrease for reasons unknown, it is assumed that the increase in agriculture has affected the hedgehogs. Even though agricultural businesses can't be stopped, people continue to take action to save British hedgehogs, as well as all animal populations that are reducing in the British countryside.

**Obstacles to Internet Access:** Though the UK neither struggles with wealth nor the supply of daily needed foods, about 10.6% (which is about 7.12 Mil people) of the population has little to no access to foods that meet their dietary needs and preferences. Food security is a minor issue because of rising population numbers and the bluetongue virus; which mostly occurs in sheep, causing early embryonic deaths, abortions, and shedding of the virus in semen. Though some action has been taken to control this issue, the UK has made some amends to the normal lifestyle to make food more affordable. Factors such as a national minimum wage and free school meals for younger children will help make food more affordable. Furthermore, the UK is making the effort to include healthier foods into the country's everyday diets. Food stamps for those in poverty are present but the Right to Food Act (which ensures no one goes hungry) has yet to be enacted. Locals are trying to do small tasks every day to help those in need but it is not enough. Though the UK does not directly aid other countries in the field of food security, they export buyers of the countries which provide more economic growth for the other countries. Though this has a great impact on them, it does not guarantee nutritious foods.

**Natural Habitats of Endangered Species:** There are approximately 68.4 million citizens in the UK, 90.6% of which are monthly active internet users, and 68.1% of UK citizens have internet access daily. Leaving about 6.4% of UK citizens without internet access, there are 8.6% of adults in the UK who have never used the internet, and 5.9% of adults living in social housing who are offline. Obstacles preventing citizens' access to the internet include lack of interest, high cost/benefit ratio, and lack of appropriate content. A large number of citizens have reported that they do not have access to the internet simply because they have no interest in it. These numbers have fallen as the number of people using the internet has increased in the past years. Yet, as of February 2006, 39% of non-internet users said they did not want or need to use the internet. Those who choose that the cost of internet access does not meet the benefits of it may believe that the outcome of

investing in a high-value product will not be beneficial. It is critical to provide engaging or valuable information for those citizens who report that they do not find interest in using the internet; the existing content's slant toward early adopter's social, cultural, and economic priorities may operate as a significant deterrent to people who want to test new technology. The UK strives for every one of its citizens to have access to the internet, and to achieve that, they must lower the cost and improve the quality of the public services they deliver. Though the UK has one of the highest internet usage rates in the world, the population of internet users is predicted to increase to over 65 million users by 2026; this benefits the country because the internet generates approximately 40,000 jobs, 80,000 enterprises, and €45 billion in gross value added to the UK's GDP.

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### Eco/Soc

**Student Ambassadors:** Grace Dube, Maria Hargraves **Voting Rep:** Grace Dube

**Vaccination, Unemployment Rates:** 71% vaccination and unemployment is 4.2%

**Rates of Domestic Abuse:** 1 in 3 women are abused, 20% of the UK's children live with an abusive parent and 62% are injured

**Leaders in Pandora Papers:** Tony Blair

**Pandemic and Domestic Abuse:** Domestic abuse is a very prevalent problem in the world and in the United Kingdom. 1 in 3 women will experience domestic abuse from their partner at ages as low as 16 and by the end of March 2019, 1.6 million women were abused. This does not count the thousands of children that experience domestic abuse either. 20% of the UK's children live with an abusive parent and 62% are injured. Though action has been taken to lessen these occurrences, it is still a major issue the UK faces. While it is unclear if the pandemic has increased domestic abuse incidents in the UK, domestic abuse incidents have been on an upward trend in the past several decades. If this social crisis is not taken seriously soon, then every person will be left vulnerable to these crimes against humanity.

**Unemployment and COVID-19:** A little over 71% of the UK is vaccinated, and unemployment is at a notably low at 4.2. The more people vaccinated in a country almost directly correlates to a country's unemployment and how well their economy will recover from COVID-19. The United Kingdom is starting to heal, but there are dozens of countries still struggling because they cannot get lifesaving vaccines. The UK highly encourages vaccination on our home front, so we also support getting vaccines out to less developed countries. By distributing vaccines to these countries, our global community could help millions of citizens and neighboring countries.

**Tax Havens:** The UK is not completely innocent in this situation, but there are steps being taken to prevent the problem from spreading further. We are strongly against the actions of some who have chosen to illegally dodge taxes and more than willing to find a solution that will remedy this crisis.

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### Security

**Student Ambassadors:** Jemma Wood, Amelia Brooks **Voting Rep:** Jemma Wood

**Military Capability:** The UK has 198,880 "UK Service Personnel", the army is very equipped and has a strong history with military strength

**Major Allies/Treaties:** United States, Treaty of Paris 1893, France

**Major Disputes:** Revolutionary war, French and Indian War, British Indian ocean dispute

**Security Council Policy Sentiments:** The United Kingdom is content with its position in the security council. As a permanent member, the UK is very involved in selecting the Secretary-General. The UK is satisfied with the privilege to veto the selection of the candidate and the privilege to veto substantive decisions and resolutions.

**Afghan Conflict:** The United Kingdom does not recognize the Taliban as the new government in Kabul, but believes it necessary to communicate in order to solve. The UK allots majority of the Afghanistan conflict on the United States and believes the United States handling is catastrophic and shameful. The United Kingdom does not want to guarantee a commitment in Afghanistan, and will only consider deploying forces in the cases of: attack on British soil, direct attack on British assets internationally, or a large-scale humanitarian crisis. The United Kingdom has evacuated over 18,000 in August 2021. Additionally, the UK initiated the Afghan Relocations and Assistance Policy (ARAP), to give Afghans who work in the UK military and

government permanent residence in the UK. Also passing the Afghan Citizens' Resettlement Scheme (ACRS), which focuses to giving women, children, and religious minorities safety from the Taliban. The Afghanistan aid budget is estimated around 400 million USD.

**Domestic and International Espionage Laws:** The United Kingdom conducts extensive and thorough investigation for all of our federal agents and government employees. Any type of espionage that infiltrates our government's classified and private information is considered illegal and is punishable by death by firing squad. Any federal information exchanged domestically or foreign with intent to disarm, disable, or destroy the system in power is considered a Class A federal offense. Offenses that are legally considered espionage include foreign assassination attempts or foreign attempts to destruct our government, contact with government officials with intent to access confidential information, sharing, copying or trading confidential information with foreign countries. While the UK prides itself on peace and love, any country whose peoples are found guilty with espionage is subject to death by firing squad. Any country who's peoples are found guilty with espionage in the United Kingdom are forced by the UN to subject their own military to perpetrate death by firing squad. When the espionage starts, the shooting starts.

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# United States of America

Delegation: Haynes Academy

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**Capital City:** Washington D.C. (District of Columbia)

**Location:** North America

**Population:**

329500000

**Country's Leader:** President Joe Biden

**Form of Government:** constitutional republic

**Official Language:** N/A **Other Languages:** English, Spanish, Chinese, Mandarin, Cantonese, Hokkien, Tagalong, Filipino, Vietnamese, Arabic, French, Korean, Russian, German, Haitian Creole, Hindi, Portuguese, Italian, Polish, Yiddish, Japanese, Persian, Gujarati, Telugu, Bengali, Tai-Kadai, etc.

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## General Assembly

**Student Ambassadors:** Unmesh Chakravarty, Ben So **Voting Rep:** Unmesh Chakravarty

**Percent Undernourished:** 2.5%

**Major Endangered Species:** Florida panther, Lesser prairie chicken, Devil's Hole pupfish, Bryde's whale, North Atlantic right whale, Monarch butterfly, Delta Smelt

**Food Security:** In 2020, 89.5% of households were food secure through the entirety of the year. The remaining 10.5% were food secure for some time of the year, with 3.9% having very low food security. Fourteen point eight percent of households with children were food insecure, half of which had both adult and child insecurity, while the other half had only adult insecurity, and 0.8% percent of households with children had both adults and children with very low food security. The USA is 9th (tied with France) of the countries in the Global Food Security Index. Although food security is generally sound across the countries, improvements can be made.

**Obstacles to Internet Access:** As of 2018, 92% of all households had at least one computer and 85% had a broadband Internet subscription. In 2019, the USA ranked 3rd (behind India and China) for the number of Internet users. The USA ranks first with 7,000 Internet Service Providers. Urban residents are more likely to use computers and the Internet, with 93% of urban households compared to 89% of rural households. Overall, internet access and usage is very widespread across the country and the most apparent limiting factor is income and economic stability.

**Natural Habitats of Endangered Species:** With bipartisan support, the USA passed the United States endangered species act (ESA) in 1973. The ESA requires the protection of critical habitats and helps develop and implement plans for recovery. Since the law has been passed, 99% of species ever listed on the ESA have avoided extinction. 46 species have even recovered, including the humpback whale, grizzly bear, and the bald eagle. Despite the country's efforts, there is room for improvement. Due to habitat loss, invasive species, and shifting climates, there are 12,000 species in need of conservation help, and 150 species are already presumed extinct. With Americans spending \$140 billion dollars on wildlife-focused recreation each year, it is important to keep conservation efforts alive.

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## Eco/Soc

**Student Ambassadors:** Madison Leishman, Harshita Pattam **Voting Rep:** Madison Leishman

**Vaccination, Unemployment Rates:** The most recent data shows that 76% of the entire population has gotten at least one dose, and 63.5% of the entire population is fully vaccinated. The unemployment rate is at 3.9%, with almost 6.3 million Americans without jobs.

**Rates of Domestic Abuse:** The current rates of domestic abuse vary for women and men in the United States: 1 in 3 women and 1 in 4 men have experienced some form of domestic violence from a romantic partner.

**Leaders in Pandora Papers:** Although no major leaders in the United States were named in the Pandora Papers, certain American organizations, businesspeople, and others were named. For example, Apple Inc. and Nike were name-dropped in the papers.

**Pandemic and Domestic Abuse:** The growing rates of domestic abuse can be attributed to the COVID-19 pandemic as many states enforced stay-at-home orders. Globally the domestic abuse rate increased by 25-33%. In the United States however, directly after states such as Oregon, Texas, New York, and Alabama enforced lockdowns, domestic violence calls increased at rates varying between 10-27%, as stay at home orders may force victims to be in close proximity to their abusive partners. Essential services that may be of assistance to victims are currently at capacity; thus expanding and further funding domestic violence shelters and hotlines may decrease the strain and long-term effects victims face. The United States stands with any resolution that offers solutions to reduce the violence in romantic partnerships.

**Unemployment and COVID-19:** Unemployment rates definitely grew as a direct result of the pandemic, with it surging to almost 13%, or about 8.8 million Americans. Although some people were able to work at home, the numbers of unemployed on temporary layoff, those working part time for economic reasons, and those unemployed for 27 or more weeks increased sharply over the year. The economic expansion that had been taking place for over a decade before March of 2020 suddenly came to a halt, as many lost their jobs and stopped looking for work during the pandemic. The rise in vaccination rates has a direct correlation with the decrease in unemployment rate, as either many workplaces are requiring the vaccine or people feel more comfortable returning to work once vaccinated. Many of the issues with the unemployment rate stemmed from COVID-19, but it has definitely gotten better, as the rate is now 3.9%, a number that is a lot closer to the February 2020 percentage of 3.5%.

**Tax Havens:** While it is not illegal to establish an offshore bank account, it is illegal to hide assets in these accounts in order to evade tax obligations. Banking institutions are required to report balances and activity of American citizens to the Internal Revenue Service. The United States currently has agreements with more than 100 countries in which they agree to report banking activity of United States taxpayers. Some violations of tax laws can result in the IRS seizing up to 50 percent of the balance in the bank account for every year that the account owner failed to report the bank account. Americans are required to comply with tax regulations, including the FBAR. These regulations require account owners to report if they have more than \$10,000 in a foreign bank account. Three of the largest tax havens for United States companies are the British Virgin Islands, Bermuda and the Cayman Islands. In 2010, United States controlled companies reported \$155 in profits in 2010 while their total gross domestic product was only \$10 billion. All in all, the United States has certain restrictions put in place but nothing completely blocking the use of offshore accounts.

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## Security

**Student Ambassadors:** Lily Coats, Brinley Pethe **Voting Rep:** Brinley Pethe

**Military Capability:** The United States is currently the strongest military on the planet and has 1.4 million active duty members, a yearly budget of \$703.7 billion, up to 500 manned ships, and an undisclosed amount of nuclear missiles/power.

**Major Allies/Treaties:** NATO, ANZUS, U.S.-ROK Mutual Defense Treaty

**Major Disputes:** Vietnam War (1959-1975), Gulf War (1990-1991), Iraq War (2001-2011)

**Security Council Policy Sentiments:** The United States supports expanding the Security Council and will support resolutions seeking to do so. As long as the power of the existing member countries are preserved, as well as the effectiveness of the Council as a whole, then it is in the best interest of the U.S. to incorporate more countries into the Council. Furthermore, we believe that any countries that are added to the Council in the future should be politically stable and devoted to protecting international security.

**Afghan Conflict:** The United States has been heavily involved throughout the Afghan conflict; U.S. involvement was prompted by the al-Qaeda attacks known as 9/11. A week after the attacks, President George W. Bush signed a resolution to allow using force on the people behind them. Violence continued, and in 2009, President Barack Obama announced his intent to send more troops into war. In May of 2011, United States forces killed Osama Bin Laden, and in June, Obama announced that he would withdraw 33,000 troops.

This was followed in 2014 by President Obama's announcement of a timeline to withdraw most of the remaining forces by 2016. In 2017, Donald Trump stated that he would not pull troops out; the Trump administration launched air strikes and deployed troops in 2018, around the time that the Taliban began to launch bold attacks. In early 2019, the U.S. and Taliban began talks of peace, but Trump called this off in September. In February 2020, an agreement was signed guaranteeing that the Taliban would not use Afghanistan for terrorism and that the U.S. would withdraw troops; U.S. troop withdrawal was later announced in November. In April 2021, Biden announced that the U.S. would completely withdraw troops, which was a controversial decision, and this was completed in August, leaving Taliban-controlled Afghanistan and, ending, at least for now, United States involvement in the 20 year long conflict.

**Domestic and International Espionage Laws:** The United States of America passed the Espionage Act of 1917, which prohibited obtaining information, recording pictures, or copying descriptions of any information relating to national defense with the intent of hurting or exposing national secrets. There are also military laws in place for those serving the United States regarding the sharing of information that has a large international value. The United States has the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA), which has the primary responsibility of analyzing foreign intelligence and conducting covert action, which may lead to actions by U.S. policy makers.

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# Venezuela

Delegation: Captain Shreve High School

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**Capital City:** Caracas    **Location:** South America    **Population:** 32987000

**Country's Leader:** Nicolas Maduro

**Form of Government:** Federal Multiparty Republic with a Unicameral Legislature

**Official Language:** Spanish    **Other Languages:** Chinese, English, Portuguese

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## General Assembly

**Student Ambassadors:** Louise Johnston, Owen Johnson    **Voting Rep:** Louise Johnston

**Percent Undernourished:** As of 2019, 27.4% of Venezuela's population is considered to be undernourished by the world bank. It is a massive rise from 2.5% in 2010.

**Major Endangered Species:** Some major endangered species in Venezuela are the scissor-tailed hummingbird, eastern mountain coati, merida treefrog, and Venezuela forest pit viper.

**Food Security:** 7.9 percent of the Venezuelan population is severely food insecure. 24.4 percent of the population is moderately food insecure. One out of every three citizens in Venezuela is food insecure and in need of assistance. The FCS indicates that 1 in every 5 households had an unacceptable level of food consumption. 18% of households are reliable on government fundings.

**Obstacles to Internet Access:** The Internet in Venezuela has one of the lowest internet speeds in the world. Its Internet speed was rated at 1.7 Mbit/s which is below the world and regional average. The slow speeds are due to the poor infrastructure of the country. The government started a project called "WIFI for All" but the project failed. Now most of the internet is just focused on younger educated residents as well as the capital city.

**Natural Habitats of Endangered Species:** Due to the economic crisis Venezuela has not been able to do much for the habitats of endangered species. The country does have the largest portion of land allotted for conservation. Even though the land is there, many people resort to hunting anything they can to survive. The government also sells land which leads to mining for things like gold. Though there are options for venezuela to improve their conservation of habitats but with their economic crisis that is not the main focus.

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## Eco/Soc

**Student Ambassadors:** Laura Parker, Ella Davis    **Voting Rep:** Laura Parker

**Vaccination, Unemployment Rates:** 40.44% of Venezuela's population are fully vaccinated against COVID-19. 23.64% of Venezuela's population has one dose of the COVID-19 vaccine. Venezuela unemployment rate for 2020 was 9.14%, a 1.98% increase from 2019.

**Rates of Domestic Abuse:** It is estimated that six out of every 10 Venezuelan women experience some type of domestic violence.

**Leaders in Pandora Papers:** Rafael Ramírez Carreño, former minister of Oil and Mining and former president of Petróleos de Venezuela (PDVSA) between 2004 and 2013. Nervis Villalobos, vice minister of energy during the government of Hugo Chávez between 2004 and 2006.

**Pandemic and Domestic Abuse:** For the month of April 2020, there was a 65% increase in femicides compared to the same month in 2019. Some possible solutions is the establish houses and care centers for these abused women. Somewhere they can go to either live or just escape for the day. That would be protected by law enforcement.

**Unemployment and COVID-19:** The COVID-19 pandemic has compounded the country's humanitarian and economic crisis. Borders with neighboring countries have shut down, schools closed, and hospitals have struggled with staff shortages and supplies. Venezuelan migrants who returned to the country after losing

their jobs abroad in the wake of the pandemic have been unable to earn wages back home.

**Tax Havens:** In Venezuela, many people don't pay taxes. These people include:

- Those who finance government borrowing
- Citizens and companies from thirty countries which are benefited by infamous treaties for the avoidance of double taxation.
- Colombian exporters
- Large-scale businessmen who transfer their dividends to "foundations."
- The oligarchy which owns immense estates and properties
- Large asset owners, whose goods increase in value
- Foreign and domestic capitalists who transfer their profits to tax havens
- The large number of retailers, which do not invoice sales or services rendered
- Those who run lotteries, bingos, casinos, other gambling and betting businesses, human trafficking rings and other illegal enterprises
- Importing companies which benefit from existing tax exemption and duty fee schemes
- The myriad of criminal associations and foreign individuals, such as illegal mining rings.
- Infiltrated paramilitaries, who run violent extraction smuggling and illegitimate trafficking operations,
- Foreign enterprises which benefit from article 29 of the Direct Investment Promotion Act

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## Security

**Student Ambassadors:** Abigail Presley, Jacob Jordan **Voting Rep:** Abigail Presley

**Military Capability:** Ranked at 45 of 140, Venezuela's military strengths include airpower, land forces and naval forces, with 125-150,000 active personnel.

**Major Allies/Treaties:** Russia- Political, Military, and Economic help China- Economic and Political help Cuba- Security and Political help

**Major Disputes:** Guyana- Border dispute that Venezuela did not show to hearing Colombia- "Disorder on the Border", deportation, closing passages United States- accused espionage, US to sabotage Venezuela oil

**Security Council Policy Sentiments:** Venezuela appreciates and acknowledges the help from outside forces, however we feel as if our constitution should be respected and our issues can be solved on our own. Some of the policies are biased and the security forces did not use any deadly force during the border incidents. We are hoping to sit down and decide a future without the help from outside countries, especially the United States.

**Afghan Conflict:** No, Venezuela does not have ties to the Afghan crisis. Venezuela has too many conflicts within its own country that Afghanistan is not a threat to them, they also believe that Afghanistan should solve its own problems.

**Domestic and International Espionage Laws:** We believe in tight security and do not tolerate espionage.

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# Vietnam

Delegation: Haynes Academy

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**Capital City:** hanoi      **Location:** East Asia      **Population:** 98682864

**Country's Leader:** Nguyễn Xuân Phúc

**Form of Government:** unitary Marxist-Leninist one-party socialist republic

**Official Language:** Vietnamese      **Other Languages:** Muong, Cham, Khmer, Chinese, Tai-Kadai, Hmong, French, English, Russian, Czech, German, and Polish

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## General Assembly

**Student Ambassadors:** Drima Patel, Khalil El-abbassi      **Voting Rep:** Khalil El-abbassi

**Percent Undernourished:** 7% as of 2019

**Major Endangered Species:** Siamese Crocodile, Delacour's Langur, Black Crested Gibbon, Black-Breasted Leaf Turtle, Tonkin Snub-Nosed Monkey, Indochinese Tiger

**Food Security:** Yes; the core issue of food security in Vietnam is the problem of poverty. Food supply is pretty full (rice and other food) but there are a large number of people who lack income to buy enough food. The rice farmers suffer a major cost in the food security policy of the Government. Vietnam is notoriously known to have a high level of contamination found in Vietnamese food which justifies public and trade concerns. Without action, these problems are likely to worsen. Each case of food safety that is likely to be exploited by the media, and international urbanization puts pressure on traditional ways of providing food. The primary cause of food-borne illness comes from bacterial contamination, rather than from chemicals. Lack of traceability and cross-contamination are also important factors in food contamination.

**Obstacles to Internet Access:** People living in extreme poverty in ethnic communities living in mountainous regions cannot access the internet. The Vietnamese government prevents service providers without political affiliation or economic clout from selling their services, and regulates telecommunications without any way for the public to see or affect their decisions, which means they are free to censor the internet as they please.

**Natural Habitats of Endangered Species:** Vietnam's current environmental protection regulations hold companies responsible for completing environmental impact assessment reports, tax a wide range of wastes and environmentally harmful products, and subject companies to recycling or monetary compensation obligations with regard to certain products and packaging, Vietnam could improve its efforts by making more operations that use large areas of land/water and produce adverse effects on the environment/landscape such as generating large quantities of waste subject to environmental impact assessment reports.

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# Yemen

Delegation: University Lab School

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**Capital City:** Sana'a      **Location:** Asia (Middle East)      **Population:** 29825964  
**Country's Leader:** Maeen Abdulmalik Saeed  
**Form of Government:** Constitutional republic  
**Official Language:** Arabic      **Other Languages:** Gulf Arabic, Judeo-Yemeni, Sanaani, Ta'Izzi-Adeni, Hadrami

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## General Assembly

**Student Ambassadors:** Sydney LaTour, Bailey Vanhoogstraten      **Voting Rep:** Sydney LaTour  
**Percent Undernourished:** 45.5%  
**Major Endangered Species:** Arabian leopard, Striped hyena, Sind bat, Dorcas gazelle, Mountain gazelle, Sand cat, Nubian ibex, Arabian oryx, Blasius's horseshoe bat, Large-eared free-tailed bat  
**Food Security:** Yes.  
**Obstacles to Internet Access:** Online censorship is extremely prevalent. Democratic Republic of Yemen, the government has filtered content including pornography, news and information from political opposition groups. High costs also kept most of the population offline.  
**Natural Habitats of Endangered Species:** Yemen does not currently have any wildlife reserves and could benefit from creating some.

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## Eco/Soc

**Student Ambassadors:** Sydney LaTour, Bailey Vanhoogstraten      **Voting Rep:** Sydney LaTour  
**Vaccination, Unemployment Rates:** 1% vaccinated, 13.42% unemployment  
**Rates of Domestic Abuse:** no official statistics available  
**Leaders in Pandora Papers:** none  
**Pandemic and Domestic Abuse:** It has not.  
**Unemployment and COVID-19:** No, while unemployment rates have rises due to COVID-19, it has not made a significant difference and Yemen has not had a healthy unemployment rate in this century.  
**Tax Havens:** No.

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## Security

**Student Ambassadors:** Sydney LaTour, Bailey Vanhoogstraten      **Voting Rep:** Sydney LaTour  
**Military Capability:** The Yemeni Army has a total active strength of 66,700 troops.  
**Major Allies/Treaties:** Yemen desires to join the 24-year-old Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC), a sub-regional organization which groups Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Bahrain, Qatar, the United Arab Emirates, and Oman in an economic and security alliance.  
**Major Disputes:** The conflict has its roots in the failure of a political process supposed to bring stability to Yemen following an uprising in 2011 that forced its long-time authoritarian president, Ali Abdullah Saleh, to hand over power to his deputy, Abdrabbuh Mansour.  
**Security Council Policy Sentiments:** The UN body, whose job has been to ensure international peace and security since 1945, is failing to do so in Yemen. A large part of the blame falls on the shoulders of the Security Council member with primary responsibility for drafting resolutions regarding Yemen: Britain, which continues to sell arms to Saudi Arabia, enabling the military forces committing war crimes. The US and France, which have also risked complicity in war crimes by selling weapons to abusive Saudi forces, share responsibility for the lack of principled Security Council action.  
**Afghan Conflict:** Afghanistan, Iraq, Syria, Libya and Yemen not only have extremely poor governance, and high levels of corruption, they are under intense pressure from increases in population, urbanization, and social change that go far beyond their current problems with any given groups of extremists. These problems are so serious that they are likely to lead to further extremism, and civil conflict for at least the next decade.

**Domestic and International Espionage Laws:** Yemen, home to a long-running series of smaller internal conflicts, has been devastated. The Hadi government is largely dependent on its foreign patrons.

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