How do I get involved as a delegate?

What does a delegate do?

As a delegate you play a vital role in every Model United Nations (MUN): You represent your assigned country as well as its values and positions in one of the committees, where you debate political issues of fundamental importance.

Before the conference you are expected to write a position paper, addressing the issues debated in your committee.

During the conference you will write and debate resolutions, forge alliances with other countries and sometimes even prevent nuclear wars. Even though you will discuss serious topics, there is still plenty of fun to be had at an MUN conference, for example you can take part in the social events.

There are only few requirements for becoming a delegate: You should be at least 15 years old, have an interest in political, social and economic issues and you should feel comfortable to actively participate in debates in English.

How do I register?

Students of Gymnasium Klosterschule can register for AMUN 2018 through a registration form, which has to be turned in by **May 3rd** in the school's secretariat (Schulbüro). We will be handing out those forms throughout February, March and April or you can download it <u>here</u>.

Students from other schools can pre-register by filling in <u>this</u> form and sending it to conference.manager@alstermun.org by **April 16, 2018**. The final registration will take place once we assigned the delegations to every school. Final registration will end on **June 15th, 2018**.

Please note that there is a conference fee of \notin 25 to be paid, which covers all expenses at the conference such as lunch, a badge, the social events, the conference booklet etc. If you have trouble paying this fee, please do not hesitate to contact us, since we wish to provide an equal opportunity for everyone to take part.

What about missing school? (Only relevant for students from Klosterschule)

As you will be missing three days of school, you will need your class teacher's/tutor's and a parent's permission to participate. Also, you are responsible to tell all your teachers when you will be missing their class and to catch up on all the work. It is **not their job** to give you all the information, sheets etc., it is **your job** to ask for it!

If you have a **test or an exam** during the conference, please work out with your teacher **in advance** when he or she allows you to retake it.

Please be aware that ditching the conference is the same as ditching class and it will be reported to your class teacher/tutor!

What to bring, how to act and to prepare?

For *students from Klosterschule* there will be a preparation meeting in June with all the information you need. If your school is in the Hamburg area and you would like to have some help

preparing your students, please do not hesitate to contact us and we will see if can manage to come to your school.

Everyone else we would like to ask to read our <u>Rules of Procedure</u> to get further information about the dress code, the rules of the debate etc. If you want any more information on how to write your position paper, please click <u>here</u>.

It generally makes sense to bring your laptop or tablet along to the conference, as you will be writing and researching throughout it. We will be taking care of lunch and will also provide water, coffee and tea during the debate. However, it might make sense to pack some snacks for in between. Also, having two pairs of shoes can come very handy, if you get blisters from looking very important in your uncomfortable business shoes ③

If you have any further specific questions, feel free to contact us.

Information for students from outside of Hamburg:

- Public Transportation

In Hamburg, we are really lucky to have a mostly reliable public transportation system which takes you anywhere. Gymnasium Klosterschule is located very close to central train station and can be reached with all HVV trains. The closest train stations are "Berliner Tor" and "Lohmühlenstraße". Here is some information on which tickets to get for your stay: http://www.hvv.de/en/tickets/single-day-tickets/overview/index.php

- Host Families

We have been quite lucky to always be able to host a certain number of students from abroad. As we want to keep it this way, here are some simple guidelines to follow for you stay:

1. Obey their rules!

Since they are so generous to let you live with their family, the least you can do is obey to their rules, even if it means you'll be late for your beloved MUN-party because of the family dinner. Also, we are aware that Hamburg is a very attractive city to party. Yet, we sincerely ask you to adapt to your family. If you have a host sibling your age that wants to go for it, show you around and the parents allow it – great, but if they just want to spend some time with you or they simply do not allow it, please accept that.

2. Don't expect too much!

This is not to say that you should be okay with sleeping in a dumpster. ⁽²⁾ However, we hope it's needless to say that you can't expect your own room. All we ask of the host families is to offer you a bed, breakfast and dinner. And while most families will do more (and maybe expect more from you as well), please don't be disappointed if this is not the case.

3. Be nice!

We shouldn't have to say this, but sometimes we feel that it's still necessary – be nice! We know it's scary to live with strangers for four days, but we assure you, it will be a lot easier if you're nice and open-minded. Yes, the conference is exhausting and after a long day of debating and maybe an evening event you won't feel like telling strangers about your day – do

it anyway. You might be tired the next day, but you'll also feel more at home if you actually take the time to get to know your host family and maybe even make friends for a lifetime. Also, don't forget to communicate! Often the problems we had deal with could have been solved by communicating a little bit better. To break the ice in the beginning, why not get them a little gift or some sweets from your home to show your gratitude? They'll love it!

4. Anything not so nice?

While we just preached to be nice and adapt to your host family, of course, some things are not okay and we are very well aware that some things can go wrong on the host families' side too. If this is the case and you have trouble with anything concerning your host family, please don't hesitate to contact our Accommodation Manager. We hope you have a pleasant stay!

- <u>Hotels</u>

If your delegations would rather stay at a local hostel or hotel and you need help finding affordable options, please feel free to contact our Accommodation Manager.