



Feminist  
Choice  
Page 2



THIMUN's  
Growth  
Page 4



A Child  
Migrant  
Page 5



THIMUN  
Profile: Lisa  
Martin  
Page 6

# COMMUNITY VOICE

Pre-Conference

January 24th 2018

Natali Al Jundy  
American School of Doha

## TRICIA SHETTY

Tricia Sheti, the founder of the Indian non-profit SheSays at just 25 years old, and a leader for the UN's Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) has been welcomed as a keynote speaker for THIMUN Qatar 2018.

SheSays is a "youth-led initiative that aims to end gender based discrimination and advance women's rights in India by engaging with the youth and activating them as agents of social change to achieve the UN SDGs".

In addition to educating over 60,000 people through countless educational workshops, Shetty has also successfully raised awareness and created a support

system for survivors who wish to share their stories on SheSays' many social media platforms.

Though it was created and is based in Mumbai, SheSays has created a universally recognized platform made to educate and empower women to stand up to sexual violence in their everyday lives. SheSays has also partnered with universities and private and government hospitals in order to improve and widen the healthcare provided for survivors.

The focus of the organization at the moment is the Criminalisation of Marital Rape, the Right to Pray and the need for Uniform

Civil Code. Shetty is also working to educate and make the public aware of the dangers of gender based violence, consent, and intervention skills

***"in the end, there is no longer a need for companies like SheSays".***

through Sexual Violence Prevention & Education seminars.

She states that her ultimate goal is that "in the end, there is no longer a need for companies like SheSays".



## SDGS AND THE UN

Rayan El Amine  
American School of Doha

A big part of THIMUN's foundation is the creation of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), which include fundamental human rights ranging from achieving gender equality and zero hunger to ensuring access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all.

SDGs are an international set of targets that were implemented and agreed on by the United Nations in 2015. Their incorporation



and what makes them essential to the development of each and every community is their improved sustainability and their ability to address issues that

have proven to be prevalent in every part of the world.

An example of such an issue is the lack of gender

equality in Myanmar and what the UN has done to improve that, as gender equality is central to their work. Since the UN's involvement and the implementation of the SDGs, it has been noted that women now make up 41 percent of paid workers outside of agriculture, in comparison to the 35 percent in 1990. In addition, most regions have now reached gender equality in primary education.

Though there are still prominent discrepan-

cies, specifically in the labor market in these regions, the SDGs plan to eliminate discrimination against women and girls in its entirety by 2030.

As THIMUN's main objective is to be able to come up with resolutions to for current issues in the world, SDGs have proven to help achieve this goal in a durable and effective manner due to its successful encompassing of problems occurring all around the world.



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Press Team**

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Sohaila Sallam

Deputy Head of Press:  
Sara Al Mana

Head-Reporter:  
Rayan El Amine

Reporters:  
Faiq Raedaya  
Natali Al Jundy  
Nafilah Khan  
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Photographers:  
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Evans Ansah  
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Head-Layout:  
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Layout:  
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Head-Video Production:  
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Hadeel Jaber

# FEMINIST CHOICE

Zoya Salahuddin  
Park House English School

Mankind has strived through thousands of years of development. We have lived through times of rejuvenation and times of turmoil, growing from one to a strong 7.6 billion, and have reached an era of soaring technological heights, where improvement is prevalent in all aspects. Within the perfectly imperfect society we have crafted, the existence of flaws is inevitable. At the core of these flaws sits the inequality ingrained into our norms and morals, set into stone by our forefathers and mothers.

Feminism, a revolutionary movement, began to address many of these inequalities over 20 centuries ago. Although the terms 'feminist' and 'feminism' were not widely adopted until the 1970s, the movement had already been active for many years prior - it had developed from a plea for women's inclusion in the upper class to criticisms of the feminine ideal, a concept which continues to plague society to this date. With hundreds of influential leaders pushing forward the necessity for

the equality of the sexes, the movement has reached a pivotal point in the 21st century. Over the years, feminism has surpassed what was thought impossible, breaking through barriers of patriarchy and oppression in many societies. However, even today, many women are still held back by the same inequalities we have worked to break through. Still, although we all evidently lead different lives, it is undeniable that we all stand for the same cause - the equality we deserve.

To the little girls who look up to the women that influence their future, feminism is the ability to achieve what was previously not possible. For many others, it means the right to choose and define yourself, without having societal norms and values force you to conform to a set path. To me, feminism means that I write this article and evaluate the term, and gain the same responsibilities and opportunities as my male peers. At THIMUN 2018, hundreds of individuals arrive from every corner of the world to debate to immerse themselves in the issues surrounding the empowerment of women and



girls in the world today. Thus, we must continue to break apart the barriers that suppress the voices of millions of girls across the globe. We must ask

ourselves, during these three days and every day that follows; what does feminism mean to us? And where would we be without it?

***“Over the years, feminism has surpassed what was thought impossible, breaking through barriers of patriarchy and oppression in many societies. However, even today, many women are still held back by the same inequalities we have worked to break through.”***





# HUMANITY'S FUTURE

Zoya Salahuddin  
Park House English School

Crime: an epidemic that plagues society, making development and advances in much-needed areas almost impossible. With criminal activity increasing every year, it is evident that crime prevention is incredibly crucial to the improvement of living standards across the world. Thus, at the conclusion of the 13th United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, the Doha Declaration was adopted, calling for the integration of crime prevention and criminal justice into the



wider agenda of the United Nations. With the support of the State of Qatar, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) has launched a Global Programme to bring the Declaration into reality.

One of the four interre-

lated—yet equally essential—components of the Programme is Education for Justice; its focus is the integration of crime prevention and the rule of law into all three tiers of education. In order to achieve the inclusive, crime-free societies necessary for the

advancement of humanity, this people-centred approach is vital, making fair and free justice available to everyone.

Indisputably, having interactive and simple means of education on ethics, law and justice will reduce

crime levels by a significant amount. With various crime prevention events taking place in countries ranging from Bolivia to Indonesia, this programme has led to nations joining hands in hopes of a better, safer, and more sustainable future.

***“With the support of the State of Qatar, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) has launched a Global Programme to bring the Declaration into reality.”***

# A LASTING IMPACT

Natali Al Jundy  
American School of Doha

Kari Beck, affectionately called Mrs. Beck by her students, has been participating in Model United Nations for many years now (citing one of her first conferences as the 1995 Hague Conference, where she represented Cameroon!). Yet, as someone who has immersed themselves in such a community, absorbing everything it has to give, and truly becoming a household name among those who have also invested their lives in MUN, there is something unique to Mrs. Beck's loving nature, as well as her ability to attract those who would stray away from Model United Nations to such a unique conference.

In a conversation I had with her, I was struck by not only her humility, but by her capacity to

look to the future. To be able to simultaneously both hold a significant understanding of the past, but also have such an optimistic view of what could be-- it's not just humbling, but also inspiring for any delegate. In fact, when citing her favorite part of THIMUN, she professed, “I think the most powerful piece is when students step outside their comfort zone and represent a country whose policy they don't agree with. Students become more analytical and critical thinkers when their beliefs are challenged.” Yet the most surprising part of our conversation came when I asked her who had impacted her over her time in MUN. Rather than citing some famous celebrity, she chose a local legend: “Lisa Martin is an inspiration. She is one of the most passionate, selfless, focused individuals I've encountered and I'm impressed with all that she



***“Mrs. Beck is the reason I fell in love with MUN, she made it manageable, accessible, and easy, and for that, I am eternally grateful.”***

has accomplished and the difference she has made in so many individuals' lives through her tenure as the THIMUN Q Director.

She will be missed.”

Mrs. Beck's ability to captivate students into joining such a conference is spe-

cial. Her impact may not come from loud speeches or big actions, but rather in the small intimate relationships she is able to establish with students, and that is what teaching truly is. I think concluding this conversation with the words of one of her former students may have the most impact: “Mrs. Beck is the reason I fell in love with MUN, she made it manageable, accessible, and easy, and for that, I am eternally grateful.”



# REALITY CHECK

Sundus Al Adra  
Qatar Academy Sidra

In addition to being a place where students enjoy themselves while honing their interests, the THIMUN conference is also a reality check. When students start preparing for the conference, they're exposed to real-world issues that are being faced by governments and citizens worldwide. As students research these problems and come up with ideas for resolutions, they start to get an idea of how urgent these issues are. They see the impact of these issues on people's lives, and on their governments, which are responsible for coming up with policies to deal with them. As they lobby

and debate, they see how challenging it can be to get enough nations to agree on taking definite action. But most of the time, for local attendees, these issues rarely make a difference in their daily lives after the conference ends. This time, however, it's different. With the Qatar blockade having been in effect for around eight months, we now pay closer attention to political exchanges between Qatar and other nations in the region.

Participating in the THIMUN conference gives attendees a taste of diplomatic exchanges, and how arduous they are. As we sit with our committee groups and brainstorm



to find solutions, we start to appreciate the difficulty of finding solutions that are both feasible and reliable. This shows that Qatar, like other countries facing respective issues, has to consider the different means of resolving the blockade and the proposals

of the blockading nations, deciding whether or not these propositions are genuinely in the country's best interests. When we stand at the podium to present our resolution paper, or lift our placards anxiously to raise points of interest, or furiously scrib-

ble notes to other delegates, we see how painstaking it can be to garner enough support for a resolution to eventually be passed. Since we, as delegates, represent nations, delegates may have to argue according to the nation's interests against a majority, despite the lack of support. The same is true when it comes to the real world and, in this case, Qatar. Qatar stands nearly isolated when it comes to regional support with regard to the blockade. As with any nation, Qatar's actions in a state of crisis determine its values as a country. This MUN conference in the midst of an ongoing blockade reminds us of how diplomacy is more important now than ever.

# THIMUN'S GROWTH

Rayan El Amine  
American School of Doha

To speak of humble beginnings may be a cliché of the successful, but sitting in the vastness of the QNCC, looking at Shell sponsors and close to a hundred different nationalities, I don't care.

Before THIMUN ever even came to the Middle

East, it began in the The Hague in 1968, a small local conference catering to those in the Netherlands who wanted to flex their MUN knowledge. Close to fifty years later, it has been launched in four different nations, with THIMUN Qatar hosting thousands of kids from across the world, joining together to doing far more than simply flexing.

A powerful example

of this is the delegation from Afghanistan, a group of kids whose passion for MUN was so strong, they organized themselves and came to Qatar to be a part of a discussion larger than GH1 or the ICJ; it was a conversation surrounding the future leaders of our planet. THIMUN Qatar not only takes place in multiple languages-- it also facilitates nearly a hundred nationalities, fully operating Administration, Press, and Justice systems, as well as the thousands of kids from around the globe who come to participate.

Still, no uphill story is without its bumps. Overcoming the current blockade of Qatar was no easy task, and it speaks to THI-

MUN's important part in the global context that participants in Dubai and Abu Dhabi were frustrated not because their vacation plans were changed, but rather because they could not

the world today.

This conference may have began as a joint venture between Qatar Academy and the THIMUN Foundation, but now, in its seventh circuit, it is a landmark

***“a group of kids whose passion for MUN was so strong, they organized themselves and came to Qatar to be a part of a discussion larger than GH1 or the ICJ”***

attend the much-anticipated conference held every January. Yet despite this bump, THIMUN continues to expand and to join together groups of kids in an effort to discuss the most important issues in

event for every new year and one of the most important conferences for all generations, joining together global icons, influential leaders, and our nation's future in a single room.





# A CHILD MIGRANT

Nafilah Khan  
Park House English School

He was born in a small town to eternally grateful parents. An only child, he knew nothing of poverty nor pain, until a ceaseless conflict awakened him from his previously care-free life.

As a toddler, he lingered apprehensively in the doorway of his house. He waited for his father, who had vowed to return home, to enter the doorway and hoist him into the air so that he could fly like Superman. That day never came. His father never came home.

One day, in search of water, his mother kissed him goodbye at their neighbors' home, promising to



***“He cautiously approached the bodies only to find his dear neighbors lying lifeless on the sand.”***

return within a few hours. He saw her coming back to the house with a bottle full of water and a smile on her lovely face. He also witnessed her demise when the neighboring building plummeted to the ground after a missile struck it

from above, tumbling down to crush his beloved mother. From that moment on, he felt as little and alone as a single drop of water in an endless ocean. He was exasperated of being given promises that were never fulfilled, he was exhausted of being given false hopes.

His benevolent neighbors insisted he come with them to freedom only an ocean away. He accepted, for he was more destitute than ever; a four-year-old matured far too soon. The ship crawled with disease. The ship's handling by a drunken captain did not make the situation any better, as turbulence was ever-present.

The ship crashed.

He remembered when his mother used to wrap him in her arms so that the tyrannical air of the harsh winter would become numb and the agony caused by the deep scarlet wounds from this ordeal would fade from his skin, even if only momentarily.

He awoke on the shore of a long beach and found the carcasses of the victims to the crash laid near a huge palm tree. He cautiously approached the bodies only to find his dear neighbors lying lifeless on the sand. He wanted to fade, evanesce into the vast ocean, alone this time.



***“He wanted to fade, evanesce into the vast ocean, alone this time.”***



# THIMUN PROFILE

Sundus Al Adra  
Qatar Academy Sidra

Another year has passed, and THIMUN Qatar 2018 has arrived. It seems just yesterday we were gathering for TQ 17, right here in the QNCC. Every year, thanks to the hard work of many, the conference is ready to welcome delegates from numerous schools and nations.

Despite the large number of us that look forward to this conference each year, not many know how much goes on behind the scenes in preparation for this event. Countless students, teachers, and organizers spend hours of time and effort preparing this event. However, without Mrs. Lisa Martin, this conference would not be possible. Mrs. Martin,

international educator, currently serves as the head of THIMUN Qatar, the largest THIMUN conference in the region. She's founded the Model UN program in multiple schools in and out of Qatar, and in 2009, she founded O-MUN, or online MUN. This program enables students that don't have access to a physical MUN program to experience it online. Mrs. Martin is passionate about getting students all around the globe a chance to participate in MUN, and gaining a valuable experience. She once described the THIMUN conference as a "tremendous leadership incubator", which it truly is.

With her relentless support and determination, students in Qatar have been able to organize this THIMUN conference, year after



year, without fail, so that all the students who attend can acquire skills that make them better leaders, communicators, and creative thinkers. Thanks to her efforts, hundreds of

***“She once described the THIMUN conference as a “tremendous leadership incubator”, which it truly is.***



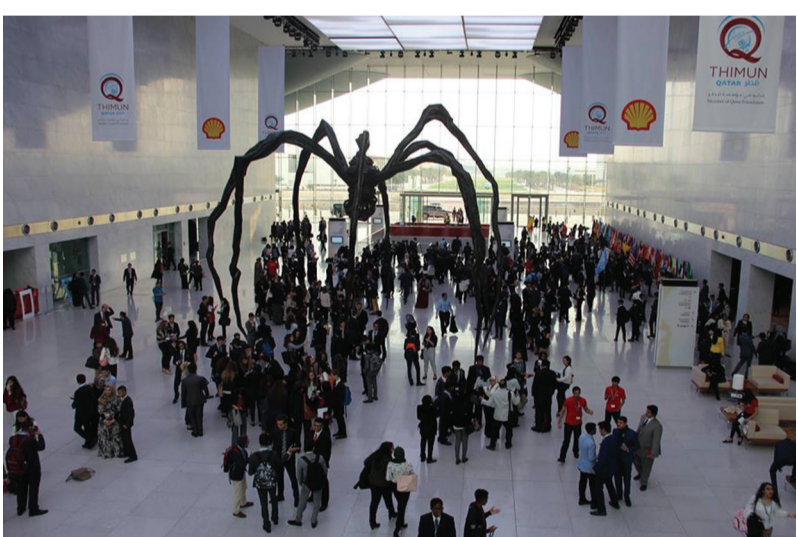
students worldwide have been encouraged through THIMUN, to give more thought to the field of foreign relations, and its importance and power in influencing the very events that shape the state of the reality we live every day.

Most importantly, young people become convinced that they, too, can play an important role in world politics and issues. Today's youth are tomorrow's leaders, and

thanks to Mrs. Martin and the THIMUN team, students in this region now have a grand outlet through which they can explore their hidden talents and develop practical skills in debate. Mrs. Martin modestly states: "I am immensely proud of... their [the student's] ability to host such a tremendous event." While this is not untrue, without her dedication and devotion, this conference would not be possible. Thank you, Mrs. Martin!

***Mrs. Martin modestly states: “I am immensely proud of... their [the student’s] ability to host such a tremendous event.”***







# LIFE AFTER THIMUN

Faiq Raedaya  
Al Khor International School

“Thank you all for attending THIMUN Qatar 2018, we hope to see you again next year!”  
A cacophonous standing ovation ensues and echoes around the hall. One by one, delegates and teachers leave the closing ceremony and depart to their buses, bidding their fond farewells to the exhausting but exhilarating event. What now? Some might consider THIMUN to be just another typical MUN conference. Simply three days of lobbying, discussing and debating. Ordinary lives continue on as per usual; the event – albeit ingrained in their memory as an unforgettable one – ceases to exist as a learning

experience. However, to most students, THIMUN is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to meet new people from all over the world, enhancing an appreciation for the diverse cultures and lifestyles worldwide. Ethnicities, religions and traditions you never knew existed become a part of you. Moreover, having attended a THIMUN conference can help to boost your position in university and job applications, as you will stand out as one whose experience as a delegate has given you well-developed skills in leadership, teamwork, and most importantly, public speaking. Imagine: three hundred faces stare at you, meticulously watching and judging your every movement and statement. Sweat runs

down your neck, your legs wobbling in the frigid atmosphere of the room. Your first few words come out as a trembling stutter. You take a deep breath, regain your composure, and state your position on the currently-debated resolution. An aura of poise is exuded as you flow from one point to another. Fear and anxiety has evolved into impressive confidence. The nauseating pressure of public speaking in front of a massive audience adapts delegates to a much-desired skill in the working world: public speaking. THIMUN is an excellent setting for people to face their fears of public speaking, which helps in supporting their personal growth and building up their self-confidence. Nowadays, in

a hectic world where the general public has become desensitized to tragedies that happen around the world every day, it is easy to dismiss daily calamities and move on with our lives. THIMUN acts as a platform to elevate one’s perspective to obtain an unobstructed understanding and appreciation to these seemingly invisible events. Becoming more cognizant of your sur-

rounding environment helps to build a foundation of awareness and sympathy towards world issues. Being tested in diplomatic situations about your stances and viewpoints allows participants to understand how existing international bodies work and the contribution they can make to the solve issues and challenges that affect our fragile world.



# EDUCATION 4 JUSTICE

Faiq Raedaya  
Al Khor International School

Hundreds of thousands of young people participate in Model United Nations (MUN) simulations across the globe every year. With a wide outreach to students at all education levels, MUN serves as an accessible platform to learn about the UN.

As a part of its Education for Justice (E4J) initiative, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) is looking to tap into the power of MUN to educate students on the concept of the rule of law, and to encourage discussion on dealing with this issue on an international scale.

From 24 to 26 January 2017, UNODC has attended and participated in The Hague International Model



United Nations (THIMUN) conference organized by the Qatar Foundation in Doha, Qatar. The Doha Declaration (A/Res/70/174), adopted at the 13th United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention

and Criminal Justice, emphasizes the importance of educating children and the youth to promote a law-enforcing culture and prevent crime and corruption. To support the declaration, The Education for

Justice initiative – under the Global Programme for the implementation of the Doha Declaration – was established to produce and distribute educational materials in UNODC-mandated areas of crime prevention and criminal justice across the primary, secondary and tertiary education levels. Online tools and academic resource will be made available to access free of charge, whereas workshops, conferences and symposia will be organized for teachers and academics to educate and exchange ideas and research. UNODC was also invited to attend an informal Q&A session with the accompanying teachers. The session served to present the E4J initiative and to receive the assembled teachers’ feedback and comments on

it. The teachers welcomed the initiative, highlighting that tools developed by the United Nations would help to address the often-sensitive topics that relate to UNODC’s mandate in the classroom. The initiative covers several topics of UNODC’s mandate. Primary-level education helps to develop basic skills for solving basic moral and ethical dilemmas. Materials developed will promote these basic values, most importantly integrity and tolerance. Secondary and tertiary-level education seeks to support academics covering organized crime, corruption, terrorism prevention, cybercrime, criminal justice, trafficking of firearms, trafficking in persons, and the smuggling of migrants, as well as on integrity and ethics.



# ROAD TO THIMUN

Nafilah Khan  
Park House English School

Ladies and gentlemen, the long-endured wait has nearly come to an end...the seventh annual The Hague International Model United Nations Conference is just around the corner!

In preparation for this prestigious conference, delegates must make sure that their resolutions are ready for to be debated on. They should also be prepared to make use of their public speaking skills so as to deliver their statements with clarity.

Some practical advice for delegates attending this year's conference from the previous year's delegates: "You really need to know your issues; you need to prepare your resolutions and your speeches. During the conference, just interact and engage because what I regretted in my first THIMUN conference was not saying as much as I wished to. Don't get fazed. You be you, you'll be fine."



**“Know your stuff because other people will know their stuff. There will be people who will research your country and other countries because they really want to stand out and be fully into the debate. Try and be confident, even though that is kind of hard. It's not that bad, especially once you get to know your committee and you are comfortable around them.”**



“Know your stuff because other people will know their stuff. There will be people who will research your country and other countries because they really want to stand out and be fully into the debate. Try and be confident, even though that is kind of hard. It's not that bad, especially once you get to know your committee and you are comfortable around them.”

Student officers' leadership and governing skills should be at their finest. They must now have sound expertise in each of their individual committees in order for the debates they will be chairing to run smoothly.

“I had this great responsibility that if I was given such a big position, I should make the most of it and I should work really hard to prove myself. That's exactly what I did and that gave me confidence to know that if any event or position comes towards me now, I have the ability and skills to cope with it.” Said by one of the student officers at last year's conference.

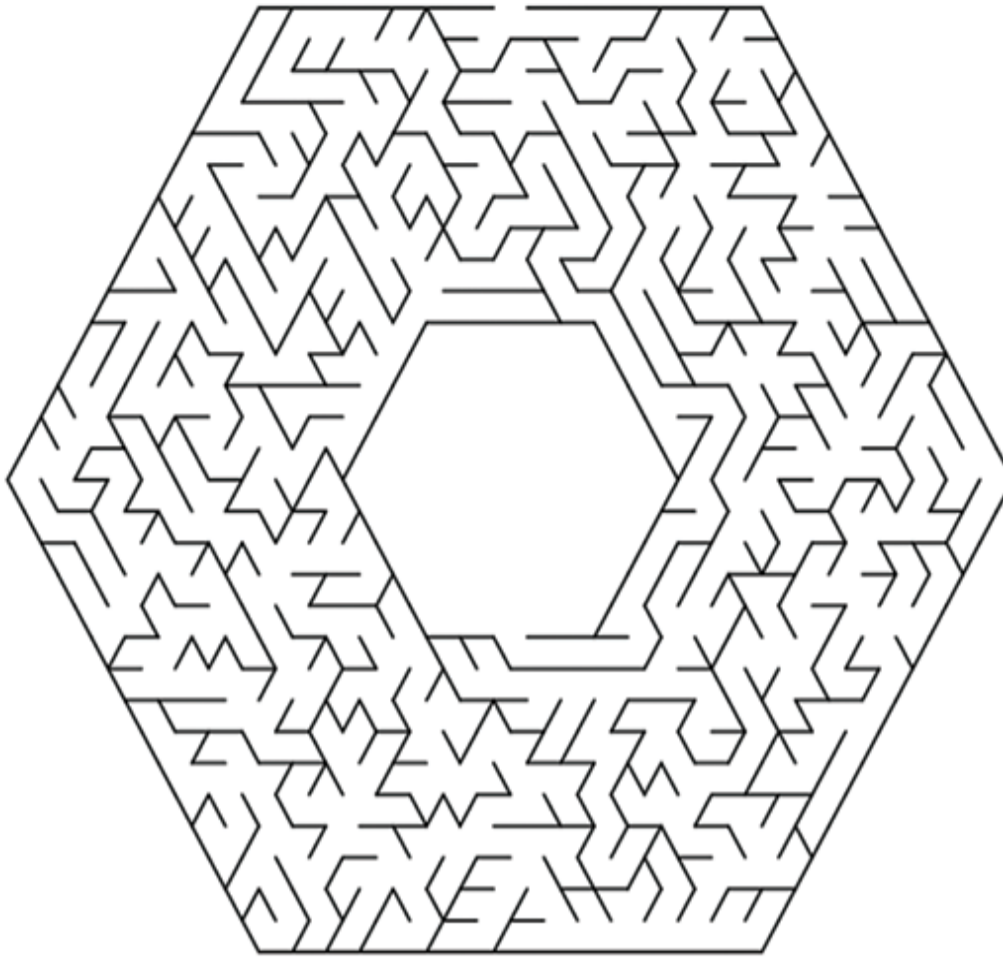
Presentations should be compelling yet still pertinent and to-the-point to keep the interest of the audience. Something invaluable for all presenters at

this conference will be their persuasive and presenting skills.

Last, but certainly not least, everyone attending must get their outfits ready and those stubborn wrinkles in their clothes gotten rid of in preparation for this year's prominent and long-awaited THIMUN Qatar conference.

To end off, a wise saying by a well-known member of the 2018 THIMUN Qatar Executive Committee: “You're spending a lot of money and you're dedicating a lot of time to this conference, so make sure to prepare well.”

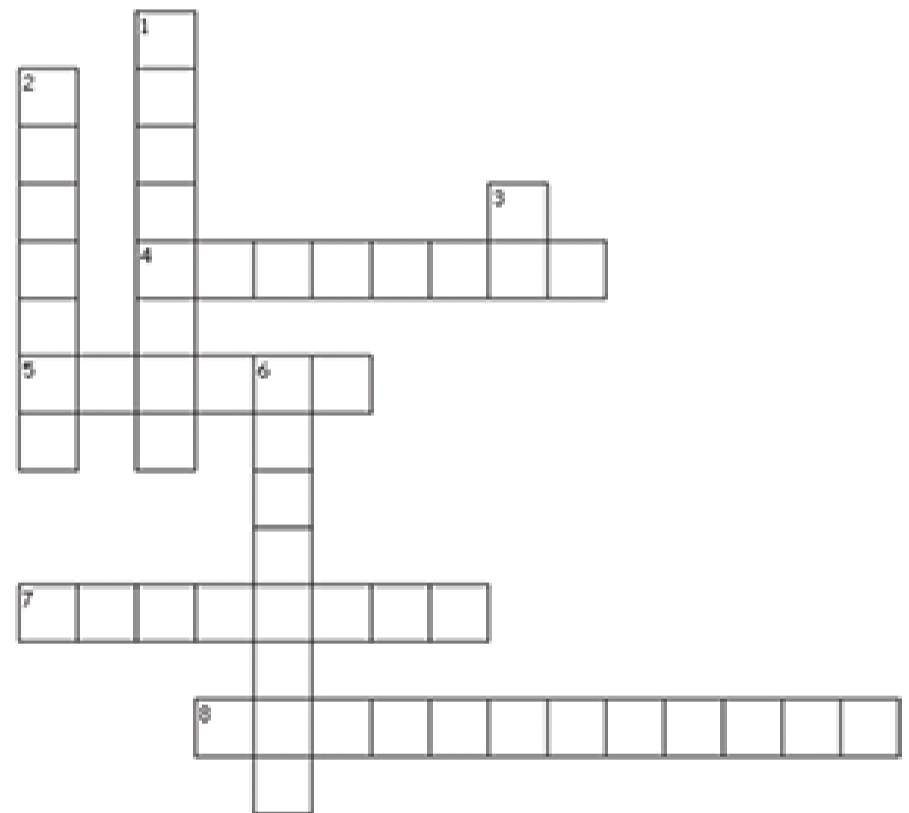




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CHAIR  
 COUNTRIES  
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 THIMUN  
 UNITED



Across

4. when you merge resolutions
5. the people who maintain order in an MUN conference and write research reports
7. a representative of a nation
8. people who try to maintain peace

Down

1. a person that is not involved in the army
2. equitable and fair treatment
3. an intergovernmental organization that attempts to maintain international order
6. people who have been displaced or compelled to leave their nation due to war, persecution, or a natural disaster