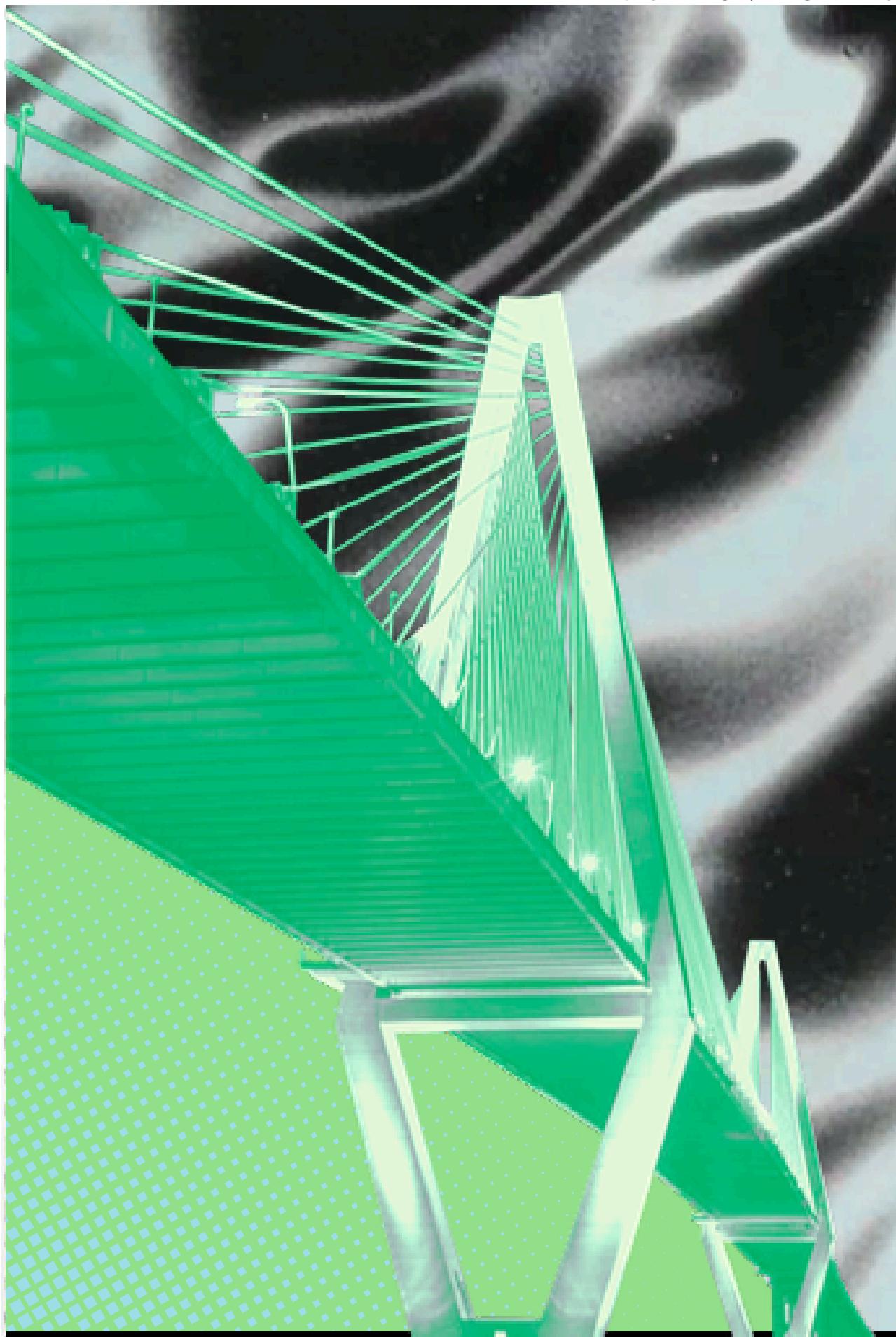


2026

// BRIDGES BEYOND BORDERS



RAVENEL JR. BRIDGE, CHARLESTON - USA

BIGMONITOR

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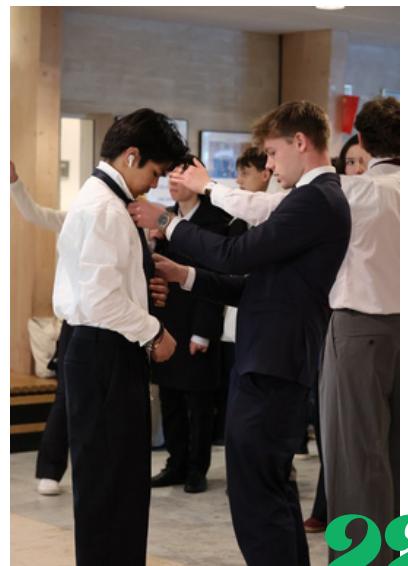
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Siri Yashvi Talanki & Alexandra Solas Juel



LETTER FROM THE *Heads of Registration*

Honourable chairs, distinguished delegates, and esteemed guests,

It has been an incredible learning experience and a huge honour to be the Heads of Registration as part of the organization team of the BIG12 for this year's BIGMUN conference. Having been given the opportunity to collaborate with such an amazing team to make this experience happen, we hope that you will feel the many weeks of effort put into this by the team. Most importantly, however, we truly hope you enjoy this year's BIGMUN conference.

Each badge carried, whether by a delegate, a student officer, or a director, was the product of many emails and many hours of communication to get each of your names and pictures. Seeing everyone here, putting real talented people to the names and photos we've been working with is the best part of this conference for us.

Our year's conference theme of "Building Bridges Beyond Borders" resonates with the process and this conference. Months of communication with directors to build delegations, the fundamental pillars of this conference, have laid the foundation of the bricks for the bridge to this conference. Every week's worth of BIGMUN meetings were full of rigorous decision making with the goal of laying down the bricks of our end of the bridge, and we are grateful that it is being successfully extended to you all.

As the Heads of Registration, we are proud of leading the process of bringing schools together. From chasing form after form, to late hours of communicating with directors, we've strived to make sure the delegates' needs are met. It gives us joy to see the conference coming together, and the students and schools we registered, enjoying the BIGMONITORS and their sandwiches. It is a truly meaningful moment for us to see confirmation that all the forms, badges, and emails have brought people from all over to experience this conference with us. We are so grateful for you all, for all this experience has taught us and the connections we've made. We truly hope you enjoy the conference!

Yours faithfully,

Siri Yashvi Talanki & Alexandra Solas Juel

Heads of Registration

BIGMUN 2026



FROM THE PRESS ROOM: *Going Above and Beyond*

BY MALIN MCKAY

Two days into BIGMUN 2026, the intensity of debate, negotiation, and discussion is already well underway. With this issue, the BIGMONITOR turns its focus toward something just as important as critique and analysis: hope. Going Above and Beyond highlights the people and ideas that push past limitations, whether through activism, innovation, or persistence.



The previous issues have engaged with heavy and necessary topics. Reporting on global challenges, even over a short period of time, can feel overwhelming. This issue does not turn away from struggle, but instead centres on those who continue to act in spite of it, reminding us that progress often comes from individuals who choose to do more than what is expected.

In late November, I had the opportunity to listen to Malala Yousafzai speak about her book *Finding My Way*. Rather than focusing solely on her public achievements, she spoke about the personal reflections that shaped her activism. Years earlier, I was equally fortunate to hear Jane Goodall speak about her life's work and what motivated her to continue advocating for change.



Looking back, I recognise how fortunate those moments were. Many of the names and stories featured in this issue may be unfamiliar, and that is intentional. This issue offers the chance to meet individuals who go above and beyond, not because they set out to be extraordinary, but because they refused to remain passive.

Photos by: Malin McKay, Alanis de Chevalier, Ishawri Chitgopekar, Olivia Emmett



Through these stories, we hope to show that change is not reserved for the powerful or the famous. It begins with curiosity, commitment, and the belief that even small actions matter.



Meet the panelists

Written by Maja Jacobsen

A warm welcome for all to this year's panel session. A panel session is a dynamic forum where experts share diverse perspectives on a **central question**, this year being: **to what extent is there a migration issue?** We are truly honored to introduce our distinguished guests: Marie-Claire Dejean-Pannier, a head in international human resources partnering with the danish refugee council, and Henrik Vigh, an acclaimed political anthropologist at Copenhagen university. Together, they bring a wealth of global experience to our stage.

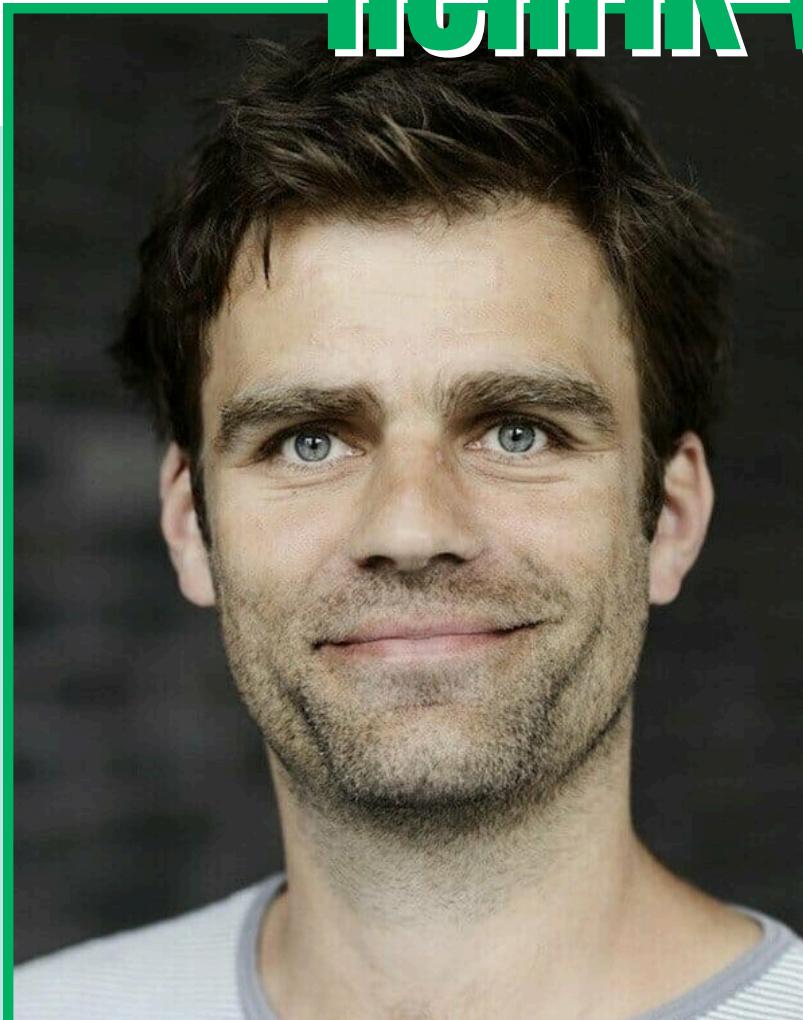
Marie-Claire Dejean-Pannier

As mentioned, is a head of international human resources based in Copenhagen partnering with the Danish Refugee Council. With over 15 years of experience working with human resources, Ms. Dejean-Pannier oversees lots of different aspects such as the HR strategy, policies, and practices for more than 40 countries in mainly North and West Africa. Additionally, she is responsible for ensuring that the HR



function is aligned with the organizational vision, she does this by working closely with senior management, regional directors, and country directors. Ms. Dejean-Pannier also leads and coordinates HR development projects such as organising structure, employee rewards, wellbeing, and capacity building. This year, we are incredibly honored to welcome Ms. Dejean-Pannier and are especially excited to hear her wise words.

Henrik Vigh



is a political anthropologist in the university of Copenhagen. He has a PhD degree in Social anthropology from Copenhagen university. Today, Mr. Vigh works extensively in many different research projects, some of these research projects include investigating youth, mobilization, social navigation, racialization, crisis, migration, legislation, and so on. Most of this research is aimed at how people, especially young men and undocumented migrants, navigate lives shaped by long-term violence, inequality, and instability mainly in Europe and

West Africa. His work heavily contributes to debates on social cohesion, mobility, conflict, and survival in unstable and unequal societies. This year, we are incredibly honored to welcome Mr. Vigh and are especially excited to hear his wise words.

With their combined expertise in human rights, organizational strategy, and the lived realities of global migration, our guests offer a profound look into "**Bridges Beyond Borders**." Their insights will undoubtedly expand our perspectives and inspire new ways of thinking about global connectivity. We invite you to join the conversation, ask questions, and help us explore the vital links that unite our world. We are thrilled to begin this session.

Layout by Daphne Vitus

YOUNG

Written By Elena Gavana

From independently organising youth movements to directly influencing their own countries' climate policies, young activists in 2026 are no longer just asking for change – they are the ones implementing it. Since 2010, there has been a significant shift in how youth involvement is perceived, leading to increased worldwide respect for young changemakers today. This, in turn, will inspire future generations to take action.

An outstanding example of a young individual navigating a major climate issue in her home country is **Licypriya Kangujam**, a 14-year-old girl who has already contributed to a solution for and protested against the air pollution crisis in Delhi. She has addressed world leaders and urged them to take action, being present at both the 2019 United Nations Climate Conference and the 77th Session of the UN General Assembly in 2022. Miss Kangujam has demonstrated that age does not define your ability to speak out, but has also highlighted the responsibility young people feel to take initiative for their futures.



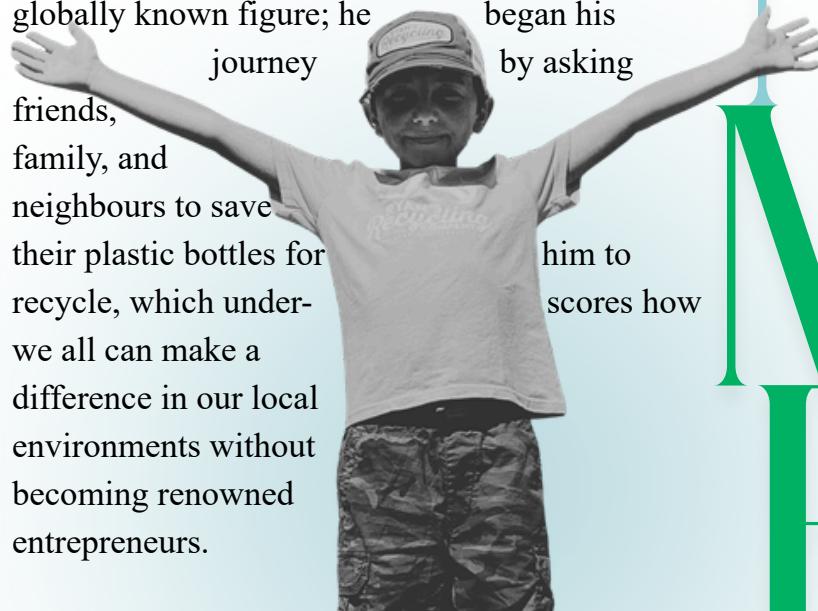
Design by Ishana Hari

Dominique Palmer, a 27-year-old climate activist, global speaker, writer, actor, and advocate of slow-fashion, also spoke at the 2019 UN Climate Change Conference. She was a part of Climate movement that strives to raise awareness and pressure world leaders through music. She is also a part of the grants committee for the Youth Climate Justice Fund, an organisation that supports and invests in climate-related youth movements. Miss Palmer's achievements are an inspiring reminder that young people are finding new ways to involve activism through their passions and careers.



Ryan Hickman is proof that tackling climate change issues can evolve from an onerous task to a meaningful career. In 2012, at the age of 3, he accompanied his father to the recycling centre. This experience sparked a unique interest in recycling that would later lead him and his father to found “Ryan’s Recycling Company”, which focuses on collecting and recycling plastic bottles.

However, Mr. Hickman was not instantly a globally known figure; he began his journey by asking friends, family, and neighbours to save their plastic bottles for recycle, which under- we all can make a difference in our local environments without becoming renowned entrepreneurs.



him to scores how

CHANGE MAKERS



Photo by:
Sarah Hansen

These inspiring young individuals are just some examples of the many young people and youth-initiatives that work relentlessly to save our environmental landscape. Cast your support amidst this darkness to those who see the light at the end of the tunnel.

YOUTH-INITIATIVE
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YOUTH-INITIATIVE



FIND YOUR SHOE

THE SHOES OF BIGMUN





FIND YOUR SHOE

“No Pain, No BIGMUN”





HOW CULTURE INFLUENCES THE COST OF ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

WRITTEN BY: ANNA SØRENSEN
LAYOUT BY: NEO QHOBOSHEANE

Goal 4 in the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals is Quality Education. It is no surprise to any of us that education is a privilege, and should be a human right. Children all over the globe face challenges larger than academic achievements, or mock exams. And as conflict ridden nations try to heal infrastructure and manage resources, young people lose important years from their school careers. On the other hand, nations with high focus and government support put towards education can lose sight of the importance of healthy classroom cultures. The cost of academic excellency is often determined by different cultural influences such as economic status, poverty levels, and political challenges.

An example of a region that has top performing education systems is in East Asia, with Singapore, Macao, Chinese Taipei, Hong Kong, Japan and South Korea representing the top 6 positions in Mathematics in the 2022 Program for International Student Assessment. Although the statistics on East Asian education rates and global rankings are impressive, the classroom cultures can be high pressure. For example, the emphasis on rigorous testing in China with their Gaokao exams (national undergraduate admission exams), and in South Korea with their Suneung exams (The College Scholastic Ability Test). These tests span over days or over many hours, and often bring high anxiety to ambitious students, begging the question of how much mental stress they are willing to sacrifice in the name of academic excellency.





On the other hand countries like Mali are under constant pressures of household poverty, child labour, economic and political insecurity. Not to mention that they also have issues with a lack of infrastructure to support children and education. This results in over 2 million children aged 5-17 still not attending schools. This makes it clear that social issues affect the learning of millions everyday, leading the UNICEF initiative to assist 200,000 out of school children in 2019. While an ongoing process, Mali is slowly gaining more support for education infrastructure, aiming not for academic excellence but academic equality and opportunity.

Keeping these complex situations in mind, it is clear that education is hard to implement in all countries consistently. And even more difficult to sustain to a high level in a healthy, balanced way. As important as education is for our future generations, activist Greta Thunberg defied expectations of school to perform a climate strike back in 2018. This significant moment in youth activism underlined the real issues of climate change, and she carried the sentiment of, “Why should we study for a future that is so uncertain”. For many, the woes of the world are a burden to our futures, and academic excellence is not always an attainable goal. Sometimes the focus should be on active change, regardless of the level of education.



The push for high academic excellence is ever-present in our societies, however, it should be considered the cost we must pay for high levels of education, possibly risking student mental health. However, the fight for equal education is still in progress, and academic equality is central to healing damaged infrastructures. Although academic excellence is highly affected by cultural circumstance, changes must be made to preexisting education and education that goes unsupported.

BEYOND BORDERS

INTERVIEW WITH THE MUN DIRECTOR OF VINNYTSIA LYCEUM #27, UKRAINE

After 48 hours of travel from Ukraine, representatives of Vinnytsia Lyceum #27 stepped into BIGMUN as proof that determination can cross any border – a reminder that going above and beyond isn't just a phrase, it's something you live. To understand the dedication behind their journey, I spoke with Vice Principle Natalia Ivanichkina who are also the MUN directors of the school.



“What are you most looking forward to seeing or learning during this conference?”

She sees it as an unforgettable opportunity because it gives, “an amazing chance to hear, to learn, to study,” and “to see how the children live in another country.”



In Conversation with the MUN directors

“How has the situation in Ukraine influenced the way you support students in developing leadership, resilience, and global awareness?”

She explains that, “it’s not a secret that Ukraine is in [a war torn era] and the situation’s pretty harsh.” So, she and her colleagues focus on helping students by giving the students, “tasks where they can show themselves, where they can have freedom, to use their skills to show creativity.”

“Were there any unexpected challenges in making the journey, and how did you overcome them?”

Since her colleagues that visited previously found that, “it was pretty difficult because they didn’t know what train to get, what bus to get, where the stop is.” She took their advice beforehand and prepared. “It wasn’t a challenge for me, I was ready. And I was waiting for this journey.”

“Are there experiences from Ukrainian students that you think could inspire students here to think differently?”

She highlights that, “you [other students attending BIGMUN] could learn how not to pay attention to what is around you and learn how to stay calm.” She elaborates that students can learn to keep their focus on their purpose, regardless of the situations they’re in.



“What is it about Bigmun that makes the long travel worth it?”

She believes that it’s a great chance for development, training and practicing their English. In all, “will get new friendships with children, not only from your country, but the other ones.”

“How has the experience of traveling to another country shaped your own perspective on international education?”

She believes that teachers can also take inspiration from different ways of teaching by visiting other countries, and will try “to suggest to my principal some points in teaching children.”



Written by: Diva Srivastava



Behind the Scenes at BIGMUN

→ STAFF EDITION ←



Photos by Julius Ohly



Photo by Olivia Emmett



Photo by Julius Ohly

Glorious looking delegates, enormous flags and great debates: an overall put-together conference. However, something needs to run this debacle: the invisible driving forces making sure people get informed, get what they need, get to where they shall be. And today, one of them is Melanie, a member of staff, and her colleague.

— MELANIE —



Photos by Maria Maneva



Sitting at a separate table, in front of her computer with her badge, delicately letting everyone know that she's a member of staff and here to help, Melanie and her colleague are to note down amendments from the committee, they're looking for right now. And found: the Security Council. A lot of jokes and silly this-or-that questions break the ice between the nation representatives, like: "The United States or the United Kingdom?" that indeed came from the Representative of the United States himself. But this is not to be written down. So, Melanie waits approximately an hour before the debates actually start. That makes time for her to get snacks and juice – not for herself nor her colleague, but the delegates. And that's a harsh reality of being member of Staff and Press: being the second priority.

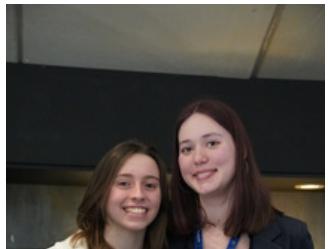
But they do it, of course, not to get free food and snacks, but rather to see a community, spread across departments, pull something as impressive as BIGMUN off. Every single Staff member running back and forth for fruit and biscuits, every single staff member writing down every amendment, every single staff member setting up tables, banners, chairs, every single member counts.



Photos by Alanis Godoy



Photo by Malin McKay



Photos by Alanis Godoy



Photo by Julius Ohly



Photo by Olivia Emmett



Photo by Nessa Vaataja



Photo by Olivia Emmett



Photos by Olivia Emmett



And that's the idea behind this series: to credit the invisible forces behind the blue and white curtains, getting BIGMUN running. Tomorrow, you can look forward to discovering what delegates have been doing whilst living with host families.

EAT N'

EXPERIENCING

1. Ice skating

If you're leaning more towards fun and falls, ice skating is optimal in Copenhagen.



3. Strøget

For a cultural experience or mini shopping spree, Strøget includes great sightseeing, street food, stores and more.



5. Nyhavn

With colourful buildings and old wooden boats, Nyhavn is a famous image of Copenhagen.



4. Rosenborg Castle

Rosenborg is a smaller castle, and therefore great for a shorter, less cold, but cultural experience.

6. The Little Mermaid

This is another famous pinpoint, smaller in size, but bigger in history; famous author, Hans Christian Andersen, wrote the story of this, indeed, little mermaid.

7. Amalienborg Castle

No matter how much you'd try to avoid running into an old Danish castle, it's almost impossible when in Copenhagen. So, why not give in?



9. Kongens Nytorv – Mall

After Marmorkirken, you can go to the Metro stop 'Kongens Nytorv', where Copenhagen's largest mall, Magasin du Nord is located. And just 6 minutes of walking away is Nyhavn as well.



8. Marmorkirken

This church, shaped with a beautiful copper-green dome, gold details, and formed out of marble ('marmor'), is easy to get to by Metro.



10. The Old Lakes

Finally, the Old Lakes you can walk around and watch as the lights of Copenhagen make the ice over them shine like glitter.

SEE

København



New to Denmark and feeling a bit famished? Enter Copenhagen, Denmark's culinary haven. It offers everything from traditional Danish dishes to some of the world's most delicious cuisines.

If you fancy baked goods, Copenhagen has bakeries practically around every corner. Start with Sankt Peders Bageri in Østerbro, boasting as Denmark's oldest bakery, and offering everything from buttery breads to delightful pastries. Try their signature pastry 'onsdagssnegle (Wednesday cinnamon rolls)', and make sure to get one before they sell out.



Taking a step outside to the streets of Copenhagen, you will come to find that the street food scene is a hotspot for locals and tourists alike. Head to Refshaleøen and visit Reffen. The largest street food market in Northern Europe, equipped with nearly 40 stalls and an on-site brewery, is a cultural hotspot worth visiting.

Are you a meat-lover? Take a step into the Kødbyen or Meatpacking District in Vesterbro. It mixes old industrial architecture from the 19th century with a unique cultural environment. Enter either Brune/Brown, Hvide/White, or Grå/Grey district to get a mix of a butchery, restaurant, and also nightclubs.

These are only a few of the many food places that Copenhagen has to offer.



Design by Ishana Hari

How to Impress your chairs

Every delegate at some point has wondered what the chairs are actually looking for? New delegates might assume it's a single standout speech but more often than not, it's rarely about a singular moment and usually a collection of smaller consistent details.

To go above and beyond could take a different form for everyone, for some, it could mean reading the room and recognising when a new idea or compromise needs to be brought forward. It could also be treating every session with the same level of focus, or something as simple as drafting a thorough clause for a resolution. Over time, they contribute to a lasting impression.



Common sentiment among chairs is following the procedure, but beyond the shared principles, co-chair Frida Henda Ferreira Kirk noted that it is important to be concise and meaningful POIs, alongside being precise during sessions. Elodie Lauret focused more on the importance of confidence and willingness to try when unsure, while cautioning delegates on the use of personal pronouns. Meanwhile, Isabella Hilmar emphasised engagement and keeping the right attitude towards others around you because yes, they will notice.

But what can be easy to forget is the importance of consistency. A delegate who actively participates in one or two sessions of their interest, but doesn't in the rest, tends to be overlooked over time. In comparison, a delegate who contributes throughout every session with consistent levels of interest is more likely to be noticed by the chairs.



What

Does it Mean to Go Above and Beyond in Today's World?

I used to believe that going above and beyond in today's world was about compensation. After all, outside of superhero media and fiction, going above and beyond has become almost synonymous with overworking, overcommitting, and stretching yourself thin. However, the older I get, the more I realise it is not about doing more—it is about doing things with intention. About choosing to show up in a way that says, 'I'm here, and I care'. The kind of effort that is rooted in sincerity, not obligation. It is being the friend that shows up even when it is inconvenient, the classmate who stays behind to help, or the person who chooses to be kind even though everything seems to be working against them. I think these quiet moments say more than any grand performance ever could. To me, going above and beyond is about noticing. Noticing when something small could make a big difference.

Noticing when someone is struggling, even when left unsaid. Noticing the chance to make someone else's day a little easier, and taking it. To care enough to look past your own bubble. Above all, I believe that it is about presence. Choosing to show up even when there is no standing ovation. Going above and beyond is not rare because people do not care—it is rare because it requires attention, empathy, and above all, a willingness to act when it would be easier not to. But when someone chooses to do it, it stands out. It reminds us that effort still matters, and that the extra mile is still worth walking.

Will you go above and beyond with me?



WRITTEN BY ZENITH HAMMEKEN
DESIGN BY MATT MOSAYEBI

The best DRESSED



Shanzay
Sarwar

Lenny
Louis
Achatz

Mahi
Ghosh

Samanvita
Vijay

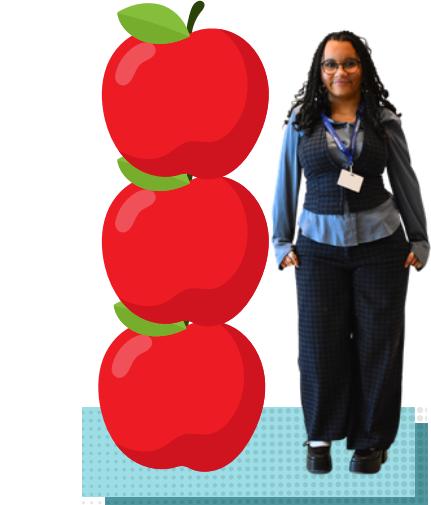
PHOTOS BY: ALANIS GODOY, JULIUS OHLY, OLIVIA EMMETT, MARIA MANEVA, NESSA VÄÄTÄJÄ, KASPER RASMUSSEN, JULIANE CEDERBERG, LISA ROSEMEJER

She's three (3)
apples tall!!!



Eveline
Sora
Chung

Lawrence
Perkins



Frida Kirk



Umayma
Kaabony



Hummel
Louis



Birk Krabbe
de Waal



Lea-Sophia
Søgaard

Dagmar
Guldager

Fenny
Beverdam

Sarah
Sejer
Nielsen



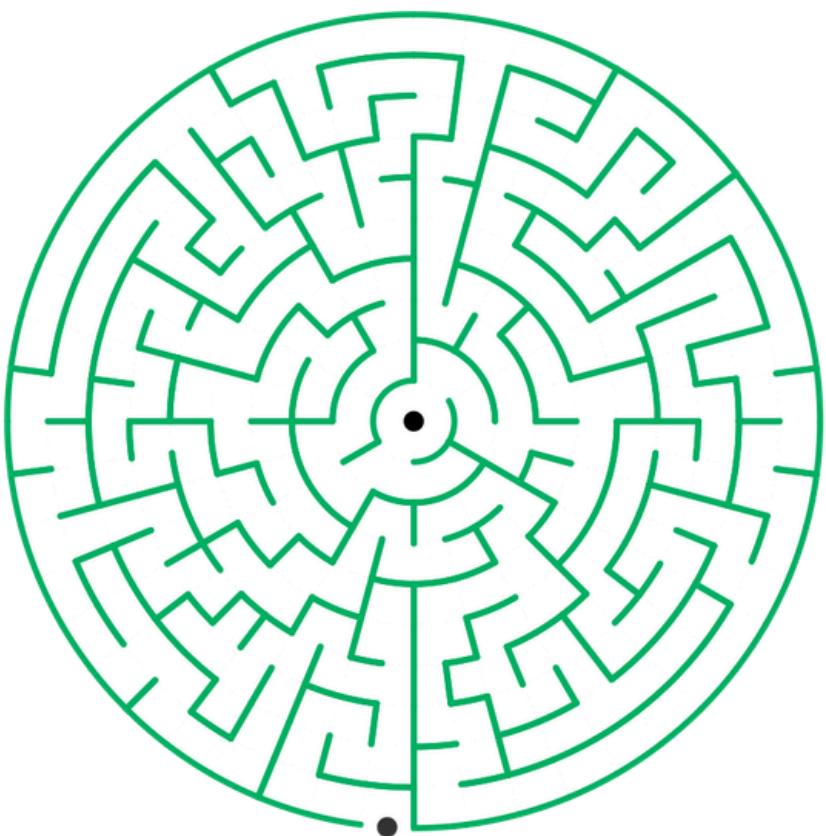
BIGMUN'S GAME ZONE

#3rd Edition

Designed by Kalp

Jump into fun, fast-paced games and mind-bending challenges inspired by the real-world problems we take on at BIGMUN — and see if you've got what it takes to solve them!

BIGMUN MAZE



Oh no! Little Miss "Can't Wait for BIGMUN" was so excited about the conference that she rushed ahead... and now she's completely lost in the maze!

She can see signs pointing in every direction, but none of them seem to lead back to the BIGMUN conference hall.

Can you help her find the correct path through the maze and guide her safely back to the conference before it starts?

Copenhagen Scavenger Hunt

Step outside the committee room and explore Copenhagen through your camera lens. All locations are within walking distance of Kongens Nytorv.

Scavenger Hunt Challenges:

Prizes will be awarded for the best photos in:

- Funniest Photo
- Most Aesthetic Photo
- Best Group Photo

2. Hygge & Aesthetic Vibes



1. Around Kongens Nytorv and iconic Copenhagen



3. Fun & Creative Shots



Rules

- Be respectful of locals and private property
- No dangerous stunts or climbing
- Minor editing allowed; no AI-generated images

Submission

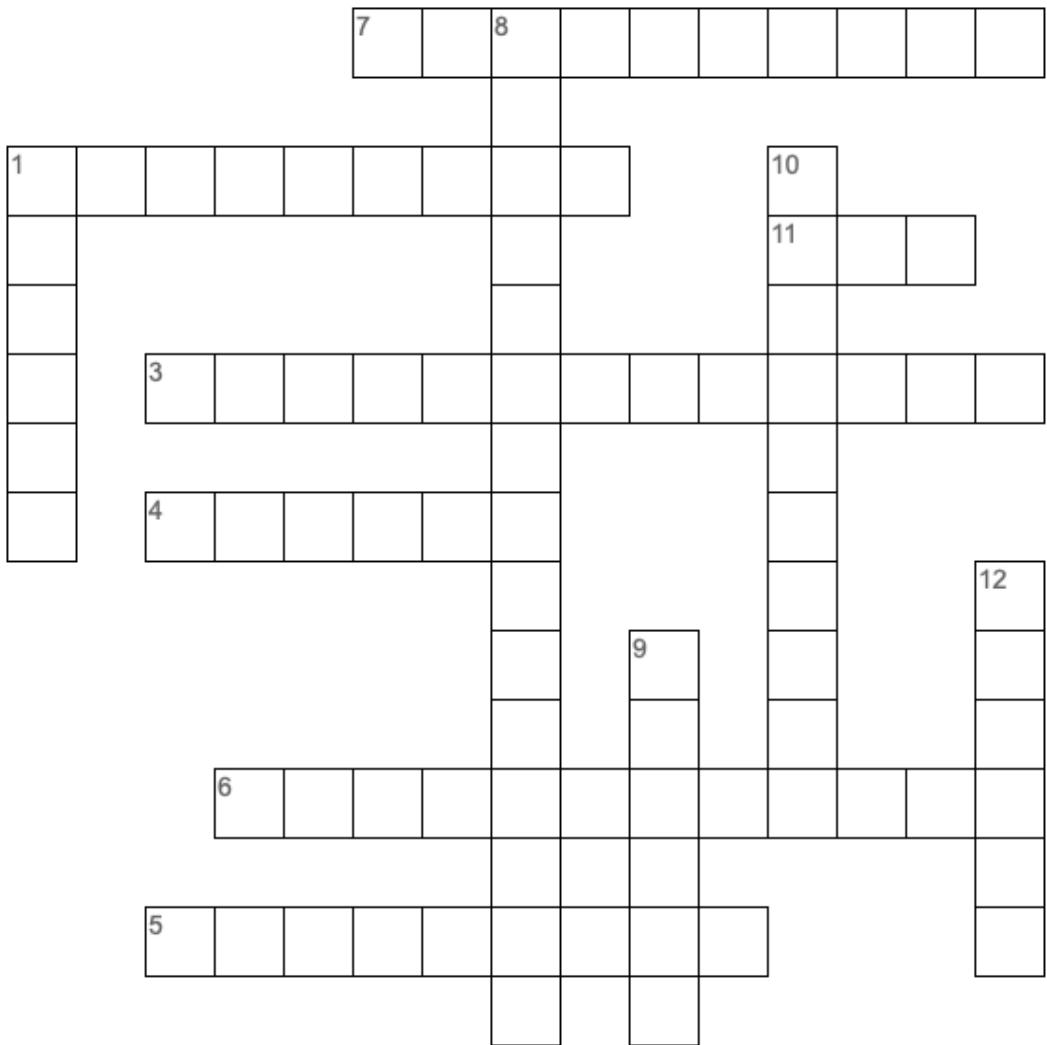
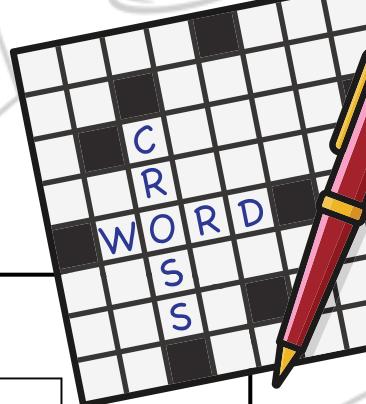
Submit to: Discord

Deadline: 8 pm

Winners announced on Sunday

BIGMUN CROSSWORD

Difficulty: Hard



ACROSS

1. The art of making friends and influencing people - without stepping on too many toes
3. A document outlining a country's policies and specific views on the topics being discussed
4. Formal agreement between states
5. Penalties imposed by countries to influence behaviour
6. Relating to promoting human welfare and relief efforts
7. Formal expression of the opinion or will of an official body
11. Abbreviation of Model United Nations

DOWN

1. A structured way to argue passionately, in favour of or against a proposal
8. The division of the UN responsible for maintaining international peace and security
9. The final decision-making process on a proposal
10. The head representative of each delegation
12. List of items to be discussed at a meeting

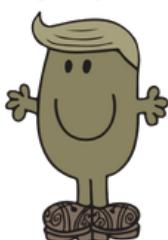
MISSING DELEGATES

Third time's the charm... or is it?

A few of our delegates have gone rogue once again! They were last spotted weaving through stacks of resolutions and sneaking between committee rooms. Now even more representatives have disappeared – can you track down every last one hidden in this issue?

Mr. Motion To

Extend POI



MR. NOISY



Mr. Veto



Little Miss
Main Character
In The Gossip Box



BIGMUN CROSSWORD



MISSING DELEGATES

Little Miss “Punished with Just Dance” – Page 20, under “Chaos”

Little Miss “Uses Personal Pronouns” – Page 14, on the woman’s shoulder

Little Miss “Best Dressed” – Page 25, on the delegates’ shoe

BIGMONITOR

2026

THE PRESS TEAM

Headed by Malin McKay & Emma Bargmann

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THE DEPARTMENT OF JOURNALISM

Headed by Anna Sørensen & Diva Srivastava

THE DEPARTMENT OF DESIGN

Headed by Margot Dejean & Neo Qhobosheane

THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL MEDIA

Headed by Zoe Pattinson & Sophia Victoria

THE DEPARTMENT OF PHOTOGRAPHY

Headed by Olivia Emmett & Julius Ohly

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