

THE CANADIAN SCHOOL



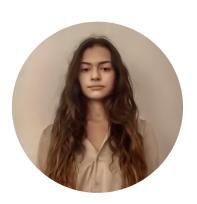




G20



PRESIDENTS



Juanita Carrillo

Mi nombre es Juanita Carrillo y soy estudiante del grado 11B. En un futuro me gustaría hacer cambios e impactos positivos a traves del arte y la cultura. Este año en el CSMUN espero desempeñarme bien y destacar al ser presidenta por primera vez, incentivando a los delegados a tener una participación activa y motivada. Aunque el modelo de este año sea diferente a los pasados, quisiera que todas las comisiones resalten por ser innovadoras y comprometidas.



Juan Lucas Barbier

¡Hola !Soy Juan Lucas Barbier, una persona altamente interesada por los problemas globales y por los modelos de la ONU. V Estudiaré en Alemania y me encantaría hacer parte del Parlamento europeo en un futuro. Además, me gustaría crear mi propia empresa de servicios tecnológicos y añadiendo a esto, quisiera poder trabajar como parte de alguna organización internacional. Espero tener una experiencia excepcional llena de muchos aprendizajes y con delegados altamente preparados.

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1. WELCOMING LETTER

Distinguished delegates,

Welcome to the G20 at CSMUN 2021. First and foremost, it is an honor and a privilege to preside over this committee, and we extend gratitude to all who have made the choice to participate in the G20. More than a school activity, the Model of the United Nations is a materialization of leadership, understanding and a projection of skill which must be applied no longer to the future, but to the present. MUN is about personal growth, about an incubation of academic learning that will be extrapolated to the world. The social connections and exposure to other, rich, environments are a gift that cannot be replicated, and they make all of the hard work worth it. We can guarantee that the next three days we will be overseeing a transformation in every one of you, because a committee as challenging as the G20 requires true academics, and future leaders. Hopefully, everything that is at their scale regarding the most urgent matters can be brought here to a fruitful simulation. We have been deeply involved with Models of the United Nations for years, growing as a leader and learning from others. With this same passion we are really looking forward to leading a committee of the present, of the now. All of the hard work put into this committee is at your disposal, and it is with all the passion, experience, research, and commitment that we have worked together with the purpose of creating an innovative committee that will bring to the table of MUN a new dish. It is precisely with this component of originality that we expect deep analysis of history, politics, economy and society from each and every one of the delegates.

We look forward to meeting you, and await with eagerness and high expectations,

Juanita Carillo and Juan Lucas Barbier

Presidents of the G20





2. COMMITTEE INTRODUCTION

2.1. Description

The Group of Twenty is the most important forum for international collaboration that touches topics of extreme importance such as the international economic and financial agenda, by bringing together the world's leading and emerging economies. Founded in 1999, the main objectives of the G20 are "policy coordination between its members in order to achieve global economic stability, and sustainable growth; to promote financial regulations that reduce risks and prevent future financial crises, and to create a new international financial architecture" ("The Group of Twenty - G20", 2012). The Sherpas, a personal representative of a government, focuses on non-economic and financial problems, which can include topics such as ways to fight against corruption, smart development, and an improvement on food security at a global level. The Sherpas play an important role in planning, negotiating, and implementing strategies in order to make the goals proposed become a reality. The Sherpa and Finance tracks both depend on the technical and proficient works of expert working groups, who target specifically financial and economic crisis areas. Ministerial Meetings are in charge of developing and proposing the thematic agenda for each summit, which can include groups like the Joint Meeting of Finance and Development Ministers; and the Labour, Agriculture, and Tourism Ministerial meetings.

2.2. Committee History

As the Asian financial crisis arose, the G20 was created to unite economic ministers and central bankers from twenty of the world's largest economies. Its actual members account for more than 80% of world GDP, 75% of global trade, and 60% of the population of the planet (Elgar, 2019). There is not a permanent or physical institution, instead, the summits' leadership changes on an annual basis among its members. The Troika are in charge to guarantee the subsistence within the G20, and is represented by the country that holds the Presidency, its predecessor, and its successor. The current Troika countries are currently Saudi Arabia, Italy, and Indonesia (G20, 2020).





Previous discussions have analyzed the 2008 financial crisis, the Iranian nuclear program, and how to accurately respond to the Syrian civil war. Economists had expressed their worries arguing that the G20 collective have struggled to achieve a significant success on its goals of coordinating monetary and fiscal policies, accomplishing higher growth, and eliminating issues such as corruption and tax evasion. During 2008 and 2009, participating countries agreed to spending measures worth \$4 trillion in order to reactivate their economies, reject imposed trade barriers, and implement reforms of the financial system. The G20 countries inittially focused primarily on macroeconomic policy, but it has since expanded to touch different topics on recent meetings and discussions. The most notorious take was on the 2018 summit in Argentina, that was heavily focused on fair and sustainable development.

2.3. Working Areas

G20 countries have frequently approved and encouraged the idea of only investing in quality infrastructure. The term "quality" has been debated inside the summits, never having a concrete answer to what it means exactly and how to reach it. It is expected that \$90 trillion will be spent on infrastructure through the next 15 years, doubling the world's inventory of infrastructure that is on earth today. There is an extreme need to take low-carbon approaches, as well as resilience to climate change impacts, in order to achieve sustainable infrastructure. Possibles ways of approaching this topic include: promoting resilience in national development planning; promoting adaptation efforts and cooperation inside G20, while also incluiding groups and countries outside the collective; sharing best practices for adaptation and encouraging investment planning; as well as bring experts and specialized scientists together to identify and share capacities, give predictions and responses to extreme events, such as drought, wildfires, and extreme temperatures.





2.4. Committee Goals

In the G20 Agenda for 2030, issues such as climate change, biodiversity loss, degradation of land, and the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals are being taken seriously. An optimal transition towards renewable energies with a focus on modern and "green" cities is essential and among the main priorities promoted by the group. The G20 is intending to pave the way on working on new tools for sustainable urbanization, energy efficiency, and improved modern mobility. It is possible for G20 nations to achieve the proposed goals by supporting technological and economic advances in order to decarbonize their economies, maximizing coordination between climate action and development goals, and capitalizing on the increasing climate action commitments by non-state parties, such as cities and private businesses.



3. TOPIC A

Implementation and amendment of the Paris Agreement, from the perspective of new environmental realities.

3.1. Introduction to the topic

The Paris Agreement decrees a global foundation to avoid dangerous and irreversible climate change by keeping global warming below 2°C, and persistent efforts to limit it to 1.5°C. It also targets strategies to strengthen the capacity of countries to cope with inevitable effects of climate change and to support them in their efforts to counteract it efficiently. "The Paris Agreement is the first universal and legally binding agreement on climate change, adopted at the Paris Climate Conference (COP21) in December 2015" ("Acuerdo de París", 2019). The EU formally corroborated the Agreement on October 5, 2016, allowing it to come into operation a month later on November 4, 2016. For the Agreement to take effect, a minimum of 55 countries that account for at least 55% of global emissions had to pledge their instruments of ratification.

Some of the obligations the governments complied in the agreement include to meet once every five years to evaluate joint progress towards the proposed long term goals, actively and honestly inform the general public and other governments on their progress regarding the implementation of climate action measures, and evaluate their progress towards meeting their individual commitments using a strong transparency and accountability mechanism.

3.2. History

The Paris Agreement was officially declared on November 4, 2016, and has set contundent global goals in hopes of avoiding dangerous climate change impacts. Zero emissions for the second half of the century, and lowering global warming below 2 °C are some of the main goals of the Paris Agreement. "The national emissions mitigation pledges are collectively insufficient to achieve the Paris Agreement goal of limiting global warming to well below 2 °C, let alone 1.5 °C. Collectively, G20 pledges for 2030 should be lower by 39 percent to align with





the average of the five equity concepts under the 2 °C goal, and 63 percent lower under the 1.5 °C goal. Brazil and Mexico are the most ambitious countries towards the 2 °C goals with pledges within the range of four out of five equity concepts, followed by the EU whose 2030 pledge is within the range of three equity allocations The pledges of Russia, China, Turkey, and Saudi Arabia are weaker than any equity concept." ("The Paris Agreement Global Goals: What Does A Fair A Share For G20 Look Like?", 2017)

"It is estimated that around 70 % of climate impacts could be avoided by limiting global warming to 1.5°C instead of 3°C. The G20 has a direct political responsibility as well as economic interest and capability to effectively achieve these goals" (Donat, 2019). The G20 countries account for approximately 75% of global greenhouse gas emissions. According to The Brown to Green Report in 2019, energy-related CO2 emissions in the G20 fell slightly for the first time, by 0.1% after a rise of 1.9% in 2018. The key to these initial successes is the continuing increase in popularity surrounding renewable energies.

3.3. Current Situation

In terms of the Paris Agreement, the final declaration of the summits of this group has been affected in recent instances by the refusal of the U.S. President Donald Trump to participate and engage in favor of combating climate change. At the Osaka summit, as well as before in Buenos Aires, there will be a "19+1 declaration." Meaning support from all G20 countries, except the United States, for the Paris climate agreement of 2015. As for the environment, the representatives recalled how irreversibile this agreement was in a final declaration resembling that of Buenos Aires' meeting and which also encountered opposition from the United States. According to the French presidency, the United States remained on the sidelines, as in previous meetings, after trying but failing to block the declaration.

According to Inger Andersen, executive director of the United Nations Environment Programme, it is possible to prevent planet-altering climate change through the full commitment





of the G20 nations to a carbon-free future. So far their efforts have not been enough, but each G20 nation has a number of nationally appropriate actions at its disposal to reduce its emissions.

3.4. Challenges for the committee

There is a great worry coming from experts and climate activists regarding the competency and actual compromise of G20 nations on their effort to fulfill their Paris Agreement goals. The carbon intensity of the energy sector has weakened slightly. The hybrid mix of energy of G20 countries is still 82% fossil fuels, including oil, gas, and coal. This is still a very distant reality from the 67% goal to be reached in 2030 The Brown to Green Report warns and urges Indonesia, Turkey, and South Africa to stop building new power plants, since coal burning for electricity purposes has been higher than ever recorded in history. Joël Cossardeaux, journalist and expert on climate change, points out the United States, Australia, and Saudi Arabia in the lead for the CO2 emitted per capita in buildings, with no concrete plan to develop buildings with lesser emissions. Cossardeaux also calls out the industry area, where no state has a long-term strategy to urgently reduce emissions by 75%, and later to 90% in 2050. It is more than clear that G20 countries are obligated to act accordingly and rapidly. The expectations are huge and with great reasons. It is necessary that all G20 countries, regarding their own ideologies, take a strong position and successfully complete all of the proposed long term goals to have a sustainable future.



4. TOPIC B

Economic consequences of the implementation of the Paris agreement

4.1. Introduction to the topic

International agreements are fundamental for the proper functioning of nations and for peaceful international development. They also help nations to improve their international trade (free trade agreement, Mercosur agreement and others) but there are also international agreements that have helped to settle wars peacefully or to establish future rules to prevent environmental pollution, radioactive waste, CO2 emissions, human rights violations in war, the use of some weapons in armed conflicts or the protection of refugees. With all this what is meant is that international agreements have been a very important factor throughout the history of the world, however in a large number of these agreements are not carried out for different reasons both political, economic or even social, the main reason is because many countries want to have a good position in the international community and sign and ratify agreements without knowing if they have the social, economic and cultural capacities to fulfill them successfully, As can be seen, international agreements are largely made by the most developed countries where it is much easier to implement them, while in developing countries this task is much more complicated.

4.2. History

International agreements are in world history for several years, the first international agreement of which there is record was made in Egypt in 1259 BC and since that date until today there have been many international agreements of different indoles as economic, social, political, demographic and environmental, among the environmental agreements is the Paris agreement signed on April 22, 2016 and seeks to reduce CO2 emissions across the planet however many of the countries that signed do not have the economic capacity to face the step of reducing CO2 emissions that in the medium term means replacing large highly polluting companies with several thousand or millions of employees by other non-polluting companies that contribute less taxes to





the country and also employ fewer people which determines a deterioration in the short term that many emerging economies can not afford.

4.3. Current Situation

Currently we see what was foreseeable since the signing of the Paris agreement, not only the developing economies but also some of the more developed economies have not been able or have not wanted to comply with the Paris agreement, and this is not due to a single reason but rather to different reasons, first, many of the developing and developed countries realized that it was easier to write the achievements that should be done for the next ones than to do them, that is why many countries do not have the economic resources to combat CO2 production in their country because literally when they close companies, they put more taxes or toughen up the tax system, When they close companies, put more taxes or toughen the measures against non renewable energies, jobs will fall, people will become homeless and even without food and huge protests will break out all over the countries, this is why countries have to start discussing what is going to be done to fix this problem and to truly comply with the guidelines.



5. STUDY CASE FOR EACH TOPIC

5.1. Study case 1

After Trump's withdrawal from the Paris Agreement in 2020 and the refusal of different groups, not only social but also political and business groups to accept this decision, the consequences of his withdrawal from the agreement will not only be in the field of international politics.

The first event following the U.S. exit from the Paris agreement was that Tesla CEO Elon Musk and Walt Disney's top boss, Robert Iger, resigned from their posts as White House advisors, and many other prominent executives have lamented the move, promised by Trump during his campaign. However, the consequences will also be economic because, as the United Nations Organization assures, "things have changed". Thus, the largest companies in the United States, not only the non-polluting ones but also some oil companies criticized the decision and stated that regardless of the political position of the country they will continue to put all their efforts to eradicate climate change, and several of these companies also decided to stop supporting Donald Trump's campaign.

As mentioned before the consequences will not be few and another factor to consider is that the accounts do not add up, because although fossil fuels such as oil, gas and coal were traditionally the cheapest source of energy, the costs of producing it from renewable sources have been significantly reduced in the last decade. And while it is true that solar, hydro and wind power projects often receive significant government subsidies, but some research shows that they can be cheaper than fossil energy and generate significant savings, making them increasingly attractive to businesses. Walmart, for example, says it saved \$1 billion last year by generating a quarter of its energy from renewable sources. And former President Barack Obama summed up this idea in his response to Trump's move, saying, "Quite simply, the private sector has already chosen a low-carbon future."





On the other hand climate change remains risky and whether one is a convinced environmentalist, a climate change skeptic, or something in between, the truth is that there is abundant evidence of the economic and social cost of changes in the environment. That's why companies like Kellogg's and General Mills, which depend on the climate to grow the grains from which they make their cereals, have been looking for ways to protect their supply chains. And they are also aware that their new and future customers belong to the millennial generation, which will represent half of the global workforce by 2020. And finally, as international political perceptions have shown, nearly 150 countries have ratified the agreement, including the U.S., the second largest emitter of greenhouse gases after China. That means that U.S. withdrawal will make the treaty less effective. But, according to Goldman Sachs chairman Lloyd Blankfein, Trump's decision is not only "a setback for the environment," but also for U.S. global leadership. And the upset generated globally by the measure could end up affecting everything "Made in USA" as well. The problems that have triggered this exit of the US from the agreement have been many compared to the few benefits that this decision has given, so would your country be willing to leave the agreement?

5.2. Study case 2

Germany is experiencing a boom in renewable energies due to the fall in demand for conventional energies during the pandemic. Renewable energies reached 46.3% of Germany's power consumption in 2020, having a 3.8 percentage rise from 2019. This country was a pioneer in renewable alternatives, mass-producing solar panels, and achieving the 100,000 roofs program in the year 2000. Constant efforts had been made to get an even higher percentage of renewable energy each year. Wind power and thermal energy are the two main renewable sources used in Germany. In the first half of 2020, wind power generated around 75TWh, and solar power had a rise from 25.1TWh to 27.9. As of right now, Germany has been exporting wind power equipment to nearby countries that are en route to a sustainable energy approach.





This increasing popularity is not only seen in Germany and due to the positive environmental changes, but also for economic reasons. According to the International Renewable Energy Agency, "doubling the share of renewables in the global energy mix increases global GDP in 2030 by up to 1.1%, equivalent to USD 1.3 trillion". Nevertheless, countries that rely on importing fossil fuels and coal may face a decrease in GDP since global trade between "green" countries will be less than registered before. Doubling renewable energies could mean a coal decrease 50% of coal imports, and 7% of oil and gas imports. If more countries continue to grow in terms of solar or wind energy, this might force countries relying on fossil fuels to make the change. Even though starting to implement these alternative types of energy may be expensive, it can create new job opportunities. Installing renewable energy plants uses mainly local workers, so it's safe to say that the investment is kept between the local community. It also attracts investors that could help develop the area it is being worked on.



6. QARMAS

- 1. What is your nation's plan to reach the Paris Agreement goals?
- 2. In said plan, how is the nation responding to it? Is it viable and/or up to date with the proposed goals? Is it damaging and/or delayed in terms of the initial goals?
- 3. How is the nation motivating its population in following more sustainable habits and supporting "green" alternatives? If there is not great support, what strategies could be used to promote this?
- 4. Is the nation known to fund and support national sustainable practices such as, but not limited to renewable energy, land restoration, restrict polluting industries, and creating pro-environment policies? If not, how can it be done?
- 5. What are the nation's alliances with other governments which benefit and help reach the Paris Agreement Goals? What are the terms of these alliances? If there is not an active alliance, which governments could you have a fair exchange with



- 6. What are the consequences of the Paris agreement on your country's economy?
- 7. How important is it for your country to have a good image in the international community?
- 8. What would happen if a large part of the non-renewable energy companies in your country were to close down?
- 9. What do the leaders of your country think about CO2 emissions?
- 10. To what extent is the economy more important than the environment in your country?



7. LIST OF DELEGATIONS

- Australia
- Brazil
- Canada
- China
- European Union
- France
- Germany
- India
- Indonesia
- Italy
- Japan
- Mexico
- Russia
- Saudi Arabia
- South Africa
- South Korea
- Turkey United Kingdom
- United States
- Spain



8. GLOSSARY

- <u>Adaptation:</u> Adjustment in natural or human systems in response to actual or expected climatic stimuli or their effects, which moderates harm or exploits beneficial opportunities.
- <u>Afforestation:</u> Planting of new forests on lands that historically have not contained forests.
- <u>Anthropogenic:</u> Made by people or resulting from human activities. Usually used in the context of emissions that are produced as a result of human activities.
- Biofuels: Gas or liquid fuel made from plant material.
- <u>Comply:</u> To conform or adapt as required or requested.
- <u>Energy efficiency:</u> Using less energy to provide the same service.
- <u>GDP</u>: Gross domestic product, final value of the goods and services produced. GDP growth rate is an important indicator of the economic performance of a country.
- <u>Greenhouse gases:</u> The atmospheric gases responsible for causing global warming and climate change. The major GHGs are carbon dioxide (CO2), methane (CH4) and nitrous oxide (N20).
- *National delegation:* One or more officials empowered to represent and negotiate on behalf of a government.
- <u>Summit</u>: International meeting of heads of state or government.



9. USEFUL RESOURCES

- https://royalsocietypublishing.org/doi/10.1098/rsta.2018.0066
- https://insideclimatenews.org/news/07112019/paris-climate-agreement-pledges-lack-u
 rgency-ipcc-timeline-warning/
- https://unfccc.int/es/process-and-meetings/the-paris-agreement/el-acuerdo-de-paris
- https://unfccc.int/process-and-meetings/the-paris-agreement/the-paris-agreement
- https://www.cfr.org/backgrounder/paris-global-climate-change-agreements
- https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/policies/climate-change/paris-agreement/
- https://www.sciencemag.org/news/2020/12/paris-climate-pact-5-years-old-it-working #:~:text=Although%20analysts%20say%20the%20pact,promises%20they%20made%20in%202015.
- https://www.nationalgeographic.com/science/2019/11/nations-miss-paris-targets-clim ate-driven-weather-events-cost-billions/
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