

## EMUNNET: General Concept

### **What is the EMUNNET?**

The European Model United Nations Network (EMUNNET) is a network of Model United Nations Organizations (MUNs) within geographical Europe. It allows MUNs to put their efforts together in order to work towards a common goal. Launched in March 2008 as a non-profit organization, it is run entirely by students with experience in the organization of MUNs. It is the first initiative of this kind in the sense that it emerged as a joint initiative of six MUNs from different countries.

### **What is the goal of the EMUNNET?**

The goal of the EMUNNET is to promote the MUN-concept all over the world and with it intercultural understanding as well as an active and effective learning process of young people in the field of international politics. In order to reach this goal, EMUNNET

- facilitates cooperation between MUNs,
- supports the creation and organization of new MUNs
- maintains a website which serves as a source of information concerning the various MUNs in the world
- lobbies for the MUN-idea in political institutions and the civil society in general

### **What are Model United Nations (MUN)?**

MUNs are authentic simulations of the United Nations Organization (UN) which aim to educate participants about civics, global challenges and multilateral diplomacy. Students take on roles as foreign diplomats and participate in simulated sessions of different UN bodies. They research a country's position, investigate international issues, debate, deliberate, consult and then develop solutions to world problems.

MUNs are highly effective tools to give young people an understanding of the complex UN-system and to enflame a commitment for the ideas the UN promotes. The number of MUNs in the world and especially in Europe is ever increasing.

### **What does the EMUNNET do?**

In the first place, the EMUNNET serves as a platform of exchange between MUNs and seeks to promote cooperation between its members.

Secondly, the EMUNNET supports emerging and non-member MUNs through various means such as promotion etc.

Thirdly, the EMUNNET runs a website which provides useful information such as a MUN-Calendar. And fourth, the EMUNNET plans to promote the MUN-Concept in the broader civil society and especially in important political institutions in order to increase support for MUNs.

### **Who are the members of the EMUNNET and who runs it?**

Only MUN-groups can become members of the EMUNNET. Each member designates a EMUNNET-representative who represents that MUN in the network and has the right to vote.

The founding MUNs of the EMUNNET are:

- BIMUN (Bonn International MUN, Germany, [www.bimun.org](http://www.bimun.org) )
- GIMUN (Geneva International MUN, Switzerland, [www.gimun.org](http://www.gimun.org) )
- MILMUN (Milan International MUN, Italy, [www.milmun.org](http://www.milmun.org) )
- MUNUSAL (MUN University of Salamanca, Spain, [www.munusal.org](http://www.munusal.org) )
- TEIMUN (The European International MUN, Netherlands, [www.teimun.org](http://www.teimun.org) )
- ZAGIMUN (Zagreb International MUN, Croatia, [www.zagimun.org](http://www.zagimun.org) )

Each year the GA votes for one member-MUN to hold the presidency. This MUN is the responsible to provide a President (usually a member of the MUN) which is responsible for the operation of the network. In 2008/2009, the GIMUN holds the presidency over EMUNNET.