

AixMUN 2021

PROTESTS AND FREEDOMS IN TIMES OF COVID-19



A small but enthusiastic group of students actively participated in this year's Aix Model United Nations held on-line over the weekend of April 16-18.

Organised by Aix Sciences Po, the topic of "Protests and Freedoms in times of Covid-19" directly related to the current unprecedented pandemic, sparking heated debate and lobbying from delegates on the Human Rights Council.

With a mandate to promote and protect human rights and address human rights violations, two draft resolutions were merged to produce a final resolution, defending the right to protest and freedom of speech. Member states were requested to allow their citizens the right to sign petitions, have access to computers and establish human rights commissions. The right to work, the rights of refugees, journalists, women and children and citizens in developing countries were also highlighted.

Guest speaker, Bernard Miyet, United Nations former under-secretary-general for peacekeeping operations outlined his diplomatic career and stressed the importance of staying informed about world events and... being able to speak English well.

Good organisation and expert chairing meant the remote event ran smoothly, overcoming physical distance to bring everyone together and producing substantial and constructive debates. Noteworthy contributions were made by several Duby students, including Lisa Vienot (The Republic of Ireland), Emma Bonvarlet (Australia) and Juliette Bottero (Canada).