



Mission Viejo High School MUN
34th Annual Conference
Vox Populi



6th Legal: International Trade Law Commission

Hi! My name is Evie Weinheimer and I'm your head chair for the 2017 MVHS conference! I'm a sophomore and this is my second year in MUN. This is also my first time chairing a committee! Outside of MUN, I am on the cross country team and I enjoy reading. I'm really looking forward to meeting you all!

I. Background

Trade is vital to every country's economic system. Most countries do not have all the resources needed and rely on trade to help them get what is wanted and essential. A country looks to another country for products because the product may not be available or the quality may be better. Some countries are more advanced than others so the amount exported and imported differs. Throughout history, trade has been critical to the growth of countries and civilizations for thousands of years. Trade creates jobs and can help a country expand. In some countries, a product is cheaper to make and easier to sell in another. Each country has its own set of laws and regulations when it comes to trading with other countries. The Google definition for free trade is "international trade left to its natural course without tariffs, quotas, or other restrictions." Free trade is more of an advantage for larger, powerful countries. Free trade gives a country the opportunity to grow its economy. There are also disadvantages to free trade such as jobs being given to people in other countries because it is cheaper to make a product there. People can get their idea stolen because of the lack of patent and copyright laws within a country. Another common issue is the quality of working conditions and the overuse of natural resources in certain countries.

II. UN Involvement

There is one particular UN organization dedicated to international trade law. It is called the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL.) There are rules created to keep trade between countries fair. These rules are "conventions, model laws and rules which are acceptable worldwide, legal and legislative guides and recommendations of great practical value, updated information on case law and enactments of uniform commercial law, technical assistance in law reform projects, and regional and national seminars on uniform commercial law." There are sessions that occur once or twice a year where trade among countries is discussed. There are six individual working groups to help within the commission, micro, small and medium-sized enterprises, dispute settlements, electronic commerce, insolvency law, and security interests.

III. Possible Solutions

International trade law is a meticulous area due to the extensive amounts of trade levels or ganizations and interactions. A group is currently involved in the UN and specializes on the commercial law reform. Trade means faster growth, higher living standards, and new



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opportunities through commerce. The UNCITRAL is a legal body with a universal membership and is involved in the UN as of now. They are working to reform the commercial trade and to make it more efficient in means of government standards. The organization would like to propose a three step plan. Step one”organize conventions for global communications,which will attempt to be accepted worldwide.” Step two”confirming regional along with national seminars to assist in new law reform groups and or projects.” And step three”the development of a headquarters where all trade information will pass through in order to be properly handled and worked with.” This proposal is not set in stone and is willing to be negotiated on, but the UNCITRAL is a real organization that strives for trade in vital countries.

IV. Country Bloc Positions

African: In the African Bloc they plan to continue their economic, social, and political advancement, and they hope that organizations/countries help them have trade set internationally to help the countries in Africa have a better wellbeing.

Western: In the Western Bloc international trade has played a huge role in society with proving over 3 million jobs. The western bloc also holds a NAFTA which will help with growth across international waters and digital economy.

Asia/Pacific: In the Asian Bloc international trade is a problem regarding the fact that some parts of the continent are developed while others are still trying to develop with their huge population rates.

Europe: In the European Bloc international trade has played a huge part in everyday society. They have created a, ‘Europe 2020 strategy for smart, sustainable and inclusive growth,’ which helps Europe and the world have a better system in place for the future.

Middle East: In the Middle Eastern Bloc there has been many challenges that are in place when trading, one being that people that live there are on a low income and it is hard on the economic part of the equation.

V. Questions to Consider

1. How is trade perceived in your country and how does it affect the citizens?
2. Is your economy able to be greatly benefitted from the “free trade” topic?
3. If your country and or government is financially stable to endorse trade, can and or will the country be able to initiate or continue trade in surrounding countries?



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