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Position Papers for:

The United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization
Delegation from: Argentina  
Represented by: Strongsville High School

Position Paper for the Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization

The issues before the Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization are: Promoting Internet Universality and Open Internet for All and Protecting Cultural Heritage and Art in Conflict Zones. These issues introduce controversial problems, making it necessary for the United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization to arbitrate the discordance. Argentina supports collaborating with the UN to resolve issues encompassing open internet and the preservation of culture and art in troublesome regions to formulate effective, indefinite resolutions.

I. Promoting Internet Universality and Open Internet for All

From the moment it was adopted by the United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization in 2015, the concept of internet universality has had both opposition and support from different countries. The framework revolves around the idea of digital inequality and the effect of a fragmented Internet policy on a country. Open internet, a contentious issue that branched off from internet universality, states that information on the World Wide Web must be displayed equally by Internet service providers. The sharing of ideas over the Internet can not be obstructed by biases towards the user or content from Internet service providers. Argentina believes that open internet in its entirety is an established human right that must be upheld by the government, incorporating the idea that unlawful content can be blocked by government means in certain situations.

Argentina believes that open internet should not be taken away from citizens, seeing as the right to freedom of speech extends to search services. With nearly two-thirds of their population being Internet users, many lawsuits related to the internet policy have emerged over the years. As determined by a ruling in the "Rodríguez María Belén vs Google" case by the Argentine Supreme Court in 2014, mediators will not be held accountable for third-party content if they had not been unaware of the claimed violations. This ruling led to the “notice-and-takedown” system, in which users need only to take down illicit content if alerted to do so through a judicial order. Overall, the ruling ascertained that the constitutional right of freedom of speech protects all search engines. On September 12, 2017 the Supreme Court of Justice of Argentina reaffirmed their prior ruling in 2014 during a case called “Gimbutas vs Google”, in which a former model demanded reimbursement for damage done to her image from generated content on search engines. The government of Argentina seldom filtered the internet before these two court rulings, but the interference of government in online search engines has become extremely limited. Along with its neighboring countries, including but not limited to Chile, Paraguay, Bolivia, and Uruguay, Argentina has little to no internet censorship with a predominantly open internet system. Although courts have the power to block certain websites, and have done so to protect copyright in the past. However, despite the number of lawsuits and court orders there have been regarding an open internet, no fixed law specifying the internet policy of Argentina has been established yet.

Argentina is a country built upon the idea of peace, hence the country’s organized structure complete with fixed sets of rules and laws. The creation of a universal resolution built upon ideas from the concept of Internet universality that consists of rules regarding open internet will benefit not only Argentina, but countless countries with undefined Internet policies. The rules in the resolution will support open internet, in which people have access to all information on the World Wide Web. Some examples of guidelines include that the government will not be able to monitor individuals’ browsing histories without permission or block certain websites that they deem unfit for public viewing. These verdicts will encourage countries to create a standard for an open government in which people have access to any and all online content, regardless of the information. The countless debates concerning internet universality
will be settled if the same internet policy is followed by countries. Many countries are trying to finalize or even create their Internet policies. For example, the United States of America created a net neutrality rule around 2015, which was repealed two years later, creating a wave of conflicts in the country. Getting the majority of one country to agree on a singular internet policy may be problematic, but if all countries follow the same system, an advantageous solution will indeed be attained.

II. Protecting Cultural Heritage and Art in Conflict Zones

In third-world countries where war is raging due to cultural, political, or religious differences, the repercussions lead to the decimation of treasured cultural symbols and landmarks. It is the worry of many nations that their cherished cultural sites will be lost or destroyed in the occurrences of war and conflict. In problematic times like these, UNESCO has risen previous efforts to address this situation. The preservation of precious monuments and regions have been enacted through conventions for the purpose of establishing them as UNESCO World Heritage sites. UNESCO has made a statement in that it will “provide assistance in support of first aid and mitigation measures, where they are at risk.” The following includes harmed monuments, increased security of artifacts, such valuable assets. Argentina stands with the belief that cultural sites and artifacts should be preserved and kept under protection using national efforts, the assistance of UNESCO, and the aid other involved organizations.

Holding a wide range of nearly every climate region on earth, Argentina has been committed to conserving its culture and currently hosts eleven UNESCO World Heritage Sites. The Los Alerces National Park, inscribed in 2017, was the most recent addition of protected natural historical sites. However, in conflicting war zones such as Syria, Iraq, Afghanistan, and Yemen, the importance of cultural preservation is more crucial than ever due to the rise in armed conflicts. Not only is the destruction of historical sites a challenge, but also the issue of trafficking of cultural artifacts comes to mind. There is a needed call for collaboration in “the work of advancing the mutual knowledge and understanding of peoples, through all means of mass communication...” UNESCO has taken a stand on this issue depending on needs and circumstances; assistance will be provided to those in need of aid by means of: training, assistance, or direct intervention by UNESCO and foreign aid. There is also a future collaboration in the workings with INTERPOL, ICOM, and other organizations for the safe retrieval and justice for cultural artifacts. These operations will be carried out at the request of national authorities.

Argentina believes in the ideals of peace and the bridging of cultures between nations. Having a bilateral relations with the Middle East and such areas provides as a benefit to both sides of the agreement, as this agreement will aid in the conservation of not only landmarks and artifacts, but also opens up new opportunities for the. The 21st century is the age of spreading news through technology, and most importantly, social media. The use of proper social media connections through youth, educated groups of individuals, and others interested in helping the cause of UNESCO can and will make an impression. Movements that have successfully gathered advocates for their cause, including the Me Too and Black Lives Matter movement, and many others have spread through the functional use of social media and other technology applications. By doing so, the common people educate themselves on a global scale about the urgency of this issue and take action. National action taken by Argentina could be in the form of peace troops or humanitarian aid to those who need assistance in the protection of cultural sites/artifacts. The countries in need of foreign aid would acquire a form of assistance from collaboration efforts with UNESCO that will set them on a journey towards preserving and protecting their culture and heritage. Overall, the effort of this collaboration and spreading of ideas will bring together nations with the same hope of bridging gaps and creating peace through different but united cultures.
Delegation from: Bosnia & Herzegovina  
Represented by: Strongsville High School

Position Paper for the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

The issue before the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization are: Promoting Internet Universality and Open Internet for All and Protecting Cultural Heritage and Art in Conflict Zones. Bosnia & Herzegovina is for the protection of Cultural Heritage and Art in Conflict zones as, during the Bosnian War, the National and University Library of Bosnia and Herzegovina in Sarajevo burnt to ash due to Republika Srpska artillery fire.

I. Promoting Internet Universality and Open Internet for All

Bosnia & Herzegovina supports having the internet, but with restrictions, the same goes for Republika Srpska. These restrictions include restricting hate speech and, in the words of Republika Srpska, speech that causes ethnic, racial or religious hatred. The Internet is a very influential but scary place, and if not put in check and or regulated to monitor hate speech, it will lead to dire consequences.

In November of 2015, both BiH and Republika Srpska passed a law that criminalizes social media postings that disrupt social order as well as the displaying of images, symbols or texts that contain indecent offensive or disturbing content. In a press release in January of that same year, Republika Srpska stated that causing fights over the Internet would be considered violating the public peace. There are also journalists that post articles online filled with hate speech about BiH, its government and its leaders. These anti-BiH journalists have been stopped and silenced. Some have also been arrested to prevent them from spreading their illegal hate speech.

Bosnia & Herzegovina hopes that the other delegates will agree that the internet is good, but must be limited. The people need to have regulation as to what goes on to protect them and to protect their rights. They need to be kept safe and in order to do that, all states must make sure all hate speech, violence, negative images and symbols are gone and out of sight. Those who oppose must be put out of sight of the people so as to not have any more like them and make sure the Internet stays clean and calm, devoid of evil.

II. Protecting Cultural Heritage and Art in Conflict Zones

Bosnia & Herzegovina strongly supports the protection of cultural heritage and art in conflict zones, as Bosnia & Herzegovina has had important cultural heritage sites destroyed in the past by foreign forces. Bosnia & Herzegovina is home to three different ethnicities; The Bosniaks, Serbs, and the Croats, as our government has a president representing each different ethnicities.
Bosnia & Herzegovina is not only home to the three mentioned ethnicities but also contains three World Heritage sites, with nine more in the Tentative List. As stated in the opening to this position paper, the National and University Library of Bosnia and Herzegovina was fired at by Republika Srpska forces, and despite community efforts to try and rescue the books within the library (in which citizens formed human chains to move the books while under enemy sniper fire) around ninety percent of the collection was lost during the siege. These books not only contained centuries of Bosnian history but also its culture as well. Throughout the Bosnian War, Bosnia and Herzegovina lost many of its heritage sites, with the most being the Muslim population, as under the ethnic cleansing campaign of the Republika Srpska, over 200 Muslim buildings were destroyed. Some sections of the Old City of Mostar, such as the Old Bridge Area and the Stari Most, were also destroyed in the war but were later rebuilt. The Bosnian War was a dark time in Bosnian history, as we suffered not only the loss of our people during the Bosniak Genocide but as well our culture and history.

Bosnia & Herzegovina, while recognizing and supporting the importance of the preservation and protection of heritage sites in Conflict Zones, would not be able to do much financially to help support these actions as our fellow European countries as let’s say France, Germany or The United Kingdom. For not only is our economy not only up to par with said European nations, but we as a country are also just simply not powerful to financially support such actions to protect these cultural heritage sites. Bosnia & Herzegovina while will vote for such actions to be passed, Bosnia & Herzegovina would not be able to dedicate resources to back such actions.
Delegation from: Brazil  
Represented by: Archbishop Hoban High School

The United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)

“The main objective of UNESCO is to contribute to peace and security in the world by promoting collaboration among nations through education, science, culture and communication in order to further universal respect for justice, for the rule of law and for the human rights and fundamental freedoms” (UNESCO). In the spirit of this committees purpose, Brazil recognizes full agreement with the expressed goals, and find the issues at hand to priorities in cultural organization. Brazil is an international center for culture, hosting a plethora of unique indigenous cultures, as such the Delegation of Brazil plays a very important part within UNESCO. The issue that the United Nations, Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization faces is the citizens are struggling to protect their rights of free speech and assembly on the internet because of the government censorship and government monitoring. Brazil takes a relatively powerful stance in the field of freedom of speech, believing that it is the right of every Brazilian citizen. Similarly, Brazil stands as a near immovable power on the issue of cultural protections. Maintaining one of the most intense and diverse cultures in the world, Brazil is deeply involved in the necessary protection of cultures. Conflict zones an increasingly large problem in Brazil with regards to the preservation and protection of art and cultural heritage.

I. Promoting Internet Universality and open Internet for all

Internet universality is a UNESCO concept based on the principals of ROAM which stands for Human Rights, Openness, Accessibility, and Multi Stakeholder participation. Open internet for all is a basic necessary concept with a foundation in freedom, a lack of censorship, and the acknowledgement of the internet as an open platform for expression. The promotion of internet universality and open internet for all is a major goal of the Brazil delegation. The Brazilian Federal Constitution supports the UNESCO sponsored goal to protect the citizens right of freedom of the press and freedom of speech. Brazil is a founding member of the Open Government Partnership which, allows citizens to request information through an electronic system. As a developing country, Brazil struggles immensely with internet universality leaving much of the nation without access to internet. This lack of access is a result of a poor economy, outreach, and funds to implement internet in much of Brazil. Brazil views the issue of internet universality as a top priority, and would look favorably on a resolution supporting countries facing difficulties with implementation. While having a definite struggle in the field of internet implementation, Brazil has consistently been on the forefront of the battle for open internet for all. In April of 2014 the Constitution of the Internet was signed to establish freedom of expression online and to offer privacy protection. The delegation of Brazil views this freedom of usage in internet as a right. Brazil supports freedom and transparency internationally on the internet.
II. Protecting Cultural Heritage and Art in Conflict Zones

“Cultural heritage is the legacy of physical artifacts and intangible attributes of a group or society that is inherited from past generations”, being at its core history, Brazil acknowledges the incredible importance of cultural heritage. The arts have faced a substantial amount of turmoil in conflict zones, causing irreparable damage to the associated cultures. Brazil is a culturally diverse and intense nation. As the delegation has previously mentioned, Brazil is incredibly invested in the preservation and protection of both cultural heritage and art. In Brazil the principles of the constitution protect archeological and prehistoric sites, and determines that all such sites, including Indian ones, belong to the Union. The world-as a whole-is facing a terrifying widespread decline in culture and has collectively done little to nothing about this loss of international beauty and diversity. In the Brazilian constitution article 215 it states that the National Government must guarantee to use all of its power to protect national cultures. The delegation of Brazil firmly believes that cultural rights and access to sources of national culture must be supported and given incentives for the appreciation and diffusion of cultural expression. Many difficulties with the preservation of cultural heritage and art are derived from convoluted parameters, definitions, and red tape that make it incredibly difficult to decipher let alone challenge. The delegation of Brazil seeks increased transparency and unity in the definitions of what cultural heritage and art is. This would allow an easier procedure to approach the protection of history and culture. The delegation of Brazil intends to support the implementation of a widespread protection of cultures.
Delegation of: Democratic People’s Republic of Korea
Represented by: Chardon High School

Position Paper for the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization

The issues before the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization are: Promoting Internet Universality and Open Internet for All and Protecting Cultural Heritage and Art in Conflict Zones. The delegation of the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea is honored to be here today in this committee in which to discuss the issues at hand.

A. Promoting Internet Universality and Open Internet for All

The internet has become a more and more prominent aspect of life in most countries—almost everything is done on the internet. Even infrastructure systems like power grids and oil refineries are connected to the internet, not to mention its huge impact on the lives of the common people across the globe. This integration of all aspects of life into the internet presents a serious security issue for all countries and their people. A universal, open internet would serve only to allow a digital invasion by the technologically superior Western World.

The Democratic People's Republic of Korea currently maintains less than 30 websites on the global internet and a smaller intranet. Because of this, The Democratic People’s Republic of Korea lacks the cybersecurity to survive in the proposed universal internet. This applies to all countries, not just the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea. In fact, the Russian Federal Security Service estimates that cyber attacks already cost the global economy $300 billion annually. These tremendous losses would only be further amplified by the universalization of the internet. It would do nothing but enable technological superpowers such as Russia and the United States of America to bully technologically inferior nations into submission.

The Democratic People’s Republic of Korea would like to see the UNESCO committee maintain the segregated internet.

B. Protecting Cultural Heritage and Art in Conflict Zones

Throughout the history of the world, many cultures have stolen art from other nations during times of conflict. The invading nations often host looting parties and steal pieces of art and cultural heritage to display in their home nations. These pieces are seen as trophies of war and prided in private collections and museums. The Roman Empire is a great example of this pillaging as Roman warriors would take immense pride in bringing home these trophies from their battles. This is one of the earliest documented examples of this happening. It showed off the great power of their nation and reinforced their people’s beliefs that they were a strong and powerful nation, capable of conquering their enemies. Another prevalent example of this is during WWII when Germany and the Soviet Union stole millions of artwork during their reign over the other nations. These works were later transported back to their home countries and displayed in many museums, with Germany even having plans of building a massive central museum to display their new collection. Deciding what, how and why works must be returned or if they will be returned at all, is a very controversial issue.
Ever since the split of the Korean Peninsula, The Democratic People’s Republic of Korea has lost many works of art and cultural heritage to South Korea. Being forced to evacuate all temples and buildings of Korean Heritage to the South Koreans has taken a devastating toll on us. The South Koreans control most of our important works of cultural heritage, disheartening all people of our great nation. The nation of the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea hopes that all nations on this committee will help to return these works through a resolution that aids in returning cultural heritage to the rightful owners. Being affected by this issue, the nation of North Korea can empathize with nations who have experienced pieces of their cultural heritage and artwork stolen from them.

The Democratic People’s Republic of Korea looks forward to resolving the issue at hand and returning art and pieces of cultural heritage to its proper owners. We are fearful that western powers may attempt to harness their power to keep this stolen art, and as such, would urge the U.N. to order the relinquish of these pieces to the nations. These pieces play an important role in preserving our history and culture for generations to come, and in restoring a sense of patriotism to these great countries. The Democratic People’s Republic of Korea is hopeful that the committee will come to a quick conclusion in favor of returning these pieces.
Delegation From: The Republic of France  
Represented by: Saint Vincent-Saint Mary High School

Position Paper for United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization

The issues before the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization are: Promoting Internet Universality and Open Internet for All and Protecting Cultural Heritage and Art in Conflict Zones. France is dedicated to ensuring the access of internet online and protecting cultural heritage.

I. Promoting Internet Universality and Open Internet for All

Internet Universality is characterized by the United Nation Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization’s principles of ROAMX; human rights-based, openness, accessibility, multi-stakeholder participation, and cross-cutting issues. The Republic of France is a strong advocate for freedom of expression online, promoting ROAMX principles and Open Internet for all. In France, there are few regulatory obstacles to internet access. Although, there are some points of worry on the horizon that could potentially become problems. Internet quality, transitioning to IPV6, and disregard of net neutrality are among the biggest concerns. Data availability is something essential to the economic and information aspect of the internet, transitioning to IPV6 is crucial to the survival of the internet, and net neutrality is important to stop the restriction of content and bottle-necking of speeds. All of which France supports.

To combat such fears of internet universality and openness in France being infringed upon, precautions have been taken. In 2018, ARCEP conducted an internet checkup to determine the accessibility and quality of the internet. This made visible the concerns to open internet and internet universality. Concerns like; internet quality, transitioning to IPV6, net neutrality. J’alerte l’Arcep is also another safeguard in place. This platform launched in 2017 encourages citizens to report problems relating to the internet. These identifications help solutions develop. Furthermore, ARCEP has also designed a co-construction approach to help enhance data. Incorporating both citizens that act as their own mini-regulators to help benchmark problems and stake-holders that help test solutions to these data problems.

Internet Universality and Open Internet for All is a pressing issue that needs to be addressed. The internet is now recognized as a place that is essential to spreading information and economics. In order to further promote freedom, stronger rural-to-urban connections need to be established. The construction of power lines to help ensure virtual connectivity of people of all backgrounds is encouraged. Reinforcing safeguards against companies limiting or censoring content should be implemented as well. A limited group of internet providers most often control the accessibility of the internet. In response to this, a sort of checks and balances need to be implemented so that total internet censorship or the bottlenecking of speeds doesn’t occur. Stronger push to transition to IPV6 in the form of published articles and airing news could also be implemented. To get from just IPV4 to IPV6 is important to the survival of the internet, and informing the masses could greatly help.

II. Protecting Cultural Heritage and Art in Conflict Zones
World Heritage sites are defined as a location in the world with prominent relevance to human history and the cultures that surround it. In the past, the world has tarnished its history with the destruction of World Heritage sites. With some success, the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization has tried in the past to urge the world into the protection of these sites. These sites are essential to human history and need to be protected from the harmful hands of both humanity and the world itself. Humans are the most harmful to these locations as they are often the targets of terrorist operations. Alternately, the world itself is a major contender World Heritage destruction. Natural disasters, while less common than human interaction, also play a role in destroying these precious sites.

In France, there are currently forty-four world heritage sites which we are dedicated to protecting, and potentially countless more to be created in the future. These sites are made up of thirty-nine cultural sites, four natural sites, and one site that is classified as both cultural and natural. These sites hold significant cultural value from throughout France’s history. Without the sites and the culture surrounding them, France would not be where it is today. Recently on April 15th, 2019, one of our sites, the Cathedral of Notre Dame, caught fire, ruining hundreds of years of French history. Disasters such as this need to be prevented and stopped as best they can. France is willing to take action with the rest of the UN in order to protect our sites and those of the rest of the world. France has already pledged to defend our sites and stop and possible future problems.

The protection of World Heritage sites is a tough job for the United Nations, but if worked on enough, it could potentially be solved to better the world. A simple possible solution that could be used as a baseline for further action is the possibility of adding more security. With the threat of terrorist action in countries of war and feuding, security would be a great asset to further protect these sites. In the case of protecting World Heritage Sites from natural disasters, this could be harder. One possible building block for defense against the world is refurbishment and repairing of the surrounding area. If the area around the world heritage sites were healthy and unpolluted, the sites would be in less danger of natural destruction. This also plays into the idea of repairing world heritage sites before they are beyond saving.
Delegation From: The Republic of Ghana  
Represented By: Lakewood High School  

Position paper for United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization

Topics presented to the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization include the promotion of universal internet access for the world and the protection of art and cultural heritage in conflict zones.

I. Promoting Internet Universality and Open Internet for All

Ghana was one of the first African countries to gain access to the internet and has a history of promoting the spread of internet services throughout the country. Internet access has been steadily increasing in Ghana and has been protected in several cases. Ghana puts its support behind initiatives to implement internet infrastructure in regions lacking this vital resource.

In the past the government of Ghana has protected net neutrality and an expanding internet in the face of telecommunication companies. In the past telecoms have protested the use of internet services such as Skype and WhatsApp due to them interfering with the telecom’s profits. Telecommunications infrastructure has not been fully set up through the less developed regions of northern Ghana, and the use of internet calling services has caused the Telecom companies to fear for their ability to set up adequate services in this area. However the government of Ghana decided to continue to support the expansion of internet services in the country, but with respect to maintaining the ability for other infrastructure implementation in rural areas.

Considering these past actions of the country the Republic of Ghana would like to expand internet access worldwide. However, the implementation of internet services must take into account other infrastructure needs present in the area. Ghana hopes that a compromise can be reached between internet and other service providers when expanding services inside countries lacking there services. Overall Ghana hopes to see effective collaboration between countries and an overall increase in internet availability worldwide.

II. The Protection of Art and Cultural Heritage in Conflict Zones

As a previously under-developed country Ghana was unable to put many resources towards projects such as cultural heritage and art preservation, but due to our recent economic growth and prosperity Ghana now has the resources and money to focus on such topics and issues. With the recent destroying and looting of archaeological sites in Ghana, this issue is now more personal and relevant to Ghana then ever before. With Ghana being the home of two cultural world heritage sites, Ghana does wish to protect these important places and art with their newly acquired resources.

Ghana has made some progress towards this issue by passing resolutions in the UN corresponding with this topic. On October 21st, 1991 during the general assembly, Ghana passed a resolution prohibiting and
preventing the illicit import, export and transfer of ownership of cultural property. This was put in place to prevent cultural property from getting out of the hands of the government.

Due to our recent status as a still developing country, Ghana was previously unable to put effort towards the protection of the art and cultural heritage; Ghana wishes to change that. Ghana wishes to propose a set international buffer zone over all UNESCO world heritage sites. This buffer zone would be put into place in order to protect art and cultural heritage during conflicts between UN members. This buffer zone would establish destruction of art as a war crime and forbidden to all UN members during war. Ghana believes that this is the best method to protecting art and cultural heritage in conflict zones.
Delegation: Hungary
Represented by: Fairport Harding High School

Position Paper for the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

The issues for the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization are: Promoting Internet Universality and Open Internet for All; and Protecting Cultural Heritage and Art in Conflict Zones. Hungary is devoted to increasing internet universality and protecting and preserving cultural heritage and art through the principles UNESCO has designed and implemented.

I. Promoting Internet Universality and Open Internet for All

Internet universality is the ability of all people to have access to the internet. Having access to the internet is critical because it provides opportunities for education that aid in decreasing the social class gap. UNESCO believes that the internet should be open, accessible, human-rights-based, and based on multi-stakeholder participation. The internet can be viewed as a bridge that closes socioeconomic and education gaps throughout the world.

The Hungarian government does not engage in any politically motivated blocking of internet sites. The internet has remained relatively free in Hungary. However, the government has in the past created laws that tax the internet, disproportionately affecting the poor. Another issue in Hungary has been the limited amount of internet service providers in the country. This limited number of internet service providers increases the price of the internet, limiting the number of families that have access to the internet. This problem is causing many protests and complaints from the Hungarian population and for good reason. For example, in Hungary, the cost per gigabyte is up to thirteen dollars, while in Finland the cost per gigabyte is twenty-five cents.

The UN could implement a program to where it is made mandatory for computer education in school. Increasing the number of computers available in public places such as senior centers, libraries, churches, or town halls. To help with the cost of electronics and internet usage, discounts could be provided by the UN to low-income families. In Hungary, there is a limited amount of internet providers. If there were more providers to heighten competition or an in-country provider instead of foreign providers, then there may be a better understanding or lower costs for all Hungarians.
II. Protecting Cultural Heritage and Art in Conflict Zones

Cultural heritage is traditions and physical artifacts passed down through generations of the past. Cultural heritage can be seen all over the world today. Many places exist such as museums and historical societies that protect culture and artifacts from the past. The act of keeping heritage around today is known as preservation. The phrase “learning from our past” is commonly looked over but can be seen in ways such as not making the same mistake once again and how we have evolved as humans throughout the years and changes. Lots of cultural heritage has been lost due to natural damage. For example Pompeii. Pompeii was an ancient Roman city. In 79AD, the eruption of a volcano caused the whole city to be buried in ash. Pompeii is also currently a UNESCO world heritage site that draws tourists every day. Everyday people work to preserve cultural sites and spread knowledge about cultural traditions even in conflict zones.

The main way to protect cultural heritage is to have a well-established army and enforced laws. This will cause for less man made damage to artifacts. Physical artifacts should be enclosed in exhibits for people to observe and learn about, this will also slow down the effect of weathering significantly. Of course attacks cannot be completely obscured with acts like terrorism because these can occur at any given time with little to no notice. A large amount of Hungary’s culture comes from Budapest, having been around since 89AD there are still many original built buildings standing today. It is hard to upkeep buildings that are so aged, however, Hungary has been doing their best with the funds they have. Hungary is currently participating in the War in Afghanistan. Not many soldiers have been wounded or killed but there is still destruction occurring due to the terrorist group Al-Qaeda, and the Taliban. Both of these terrorist groups have had a past of using highly explosive weapons and unpredicted attacks. Budapest contains many original buildings such as the Vörös Sün Ház, a large tavern built in 1260.

Hungary will launch a large-scale campaign to raise funds for the purpose of protecting and repairing cultural sites destroyed in Hungary. Hungary will use various social media sources such as Facebook fundraising and GoFundMe to spread awareness about the campaign and to increase international donations. Another step that can be taken to raise funds is to increase income tax for a specified period of time. Aligned to the previous option, Hungary could give tax cuts to people who choose to volunteer or offer services to help UNESCO maintain and repair cultural heritage sites throughout the nation. Hungary could also withdraw its involvement in Afghanistan and in other foreign nations. This would provide room in the government's budget to aid in the protection and repairs of the cultural heritages sites destroyed throughout the various conflicts.
Position Paper for the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization

The issues being presented are: Promoting Internet Universality and Open Internet for All and Protecting Cultural Heritage and Art in Conflict Zones. The delegation of Ireland is committed to a productive debate and coming to a conclusion between other delegations.

I: Promoting Internet Universality and Open Internet for All

Internet is a tool used by people of all generations to help with a multitude of tasks. Universal internet was launched on January 1, 1983, hence the birth of the Internet. All networks were able to be connected by a universal language. The internet is used all over the world, and in most countries with little to no regulations. If it was regulated too much, the information could be tampered with, or even just made up.

Internet censorship in Ireland is a controversial issue with the introduction of a graduated response policy in 2008 followed by an effort to block certain file sharing sites starting in February 2009. Beyond these issues, there are no government restrictions on access to the Internet or credible reports that the government monitored email or Internet chat rooms. Irish law provides freedom of speech including for members of the press, and the government generally respects these rights. Their democratic political system helps to ensure freedom of speech and of the press.

Ireland would like to see the committee of UNESCO help to make Internet Universality and Open Internet for all.

II: Protecting Cultural Heritage and Art in Conflict Zones

Artwork has been stolen and destroyed since wars and art have existed. During World War II, over two thousand paintings were destroyed or marked missing in the aftermath. Because of this, protecting these pieces of heritage and art became a necessity. Art tells the stories of the past, what people loved, and what they went through. Without this, we would not know our history, and would not even know ourselves.

Ireland’s stance on the topic of protecting cultural heritage and art in conflict zones is that it should continue to protect these invaluable pieces and sights. Ireland signed and has kept up with protocols to the Hague Convention from 1954. They have created a National Parks and Wildlife section, a National Monuments service, and the Built Heritage Policy to contribute to protect their culture in acts of violence and war. The National Parks and Wildlife department protects
and cares for their parks, wildlife, and the education of their people when it comes to the environment. The National Monuments Service formulates and implements the Built Heritage Policy which protects the archaeological heritage of Ireland’s national, registered, and recorded monuments. The Built Heritage Policy’s key objectives are to provide a framework for protecting architectural heritage as a national resource, promote education and awareness, and to ensure the management of these sites. The monuments, most of which are under private ownership, are protected by their owners with money provided by the Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht through authorities that are local to the monument. Aid is also provided for monuments that are considered to be at risk and considered historic. There is also the Taxes Consolidation Act 1997, which provides owners of approved buildings and gardens a tax relief. Besides this, there are fiscal initiatives in specific cities to encourage refurbishment and conversions of buildings. While there has not been any notable wars in Ireland as of late, they have continued to protect art and heritage, and will continue to do so into the future.

Ireland would like to see the committee of UNESCO help other countries that are facing further destruction in protecting their art and heritage.
Delegation from: the Republic of Latvia  
Represented by: Strongsville High School

Position Paper for UNESCO

I. Promoting Internet Universality and Open Internet for All

The Republic of Latvia strongly supports the concept of internet universality. The goal of internet universality is for people in developing countries to have access to the internet and to increase the available information by 2020. This is to be attained through following ROAMX indicators first defined by UNESCO in 2013, which include rights, openness, accessibility, and multi-stakeholder actors. UNESCO’s view on internet freedom aligns with The Republic of Latvia’s views. Both actors in this second consultation of internet universality indicators aim to create an open internet for every person, which includes a space that respects human rights and which maintains the multi-stakeholder governance.

In the Constitution of the Republic of Latvia, significantly amended in 1998, the right to freedom of speech is defined as the right of everyone to freedom to receive, keep, and distribute information, under Chapter VIII, Article 100. Support for the issue of free speech is already implemented in Latvia, which directly translates to internet universality. Latvia aims to not only guarantee this for its own country, but for the entire world, and therefore supports internet for all. Both the Latvian National Committee for UNESCO and the representative from the Ministry of Education and Science have approved the second online consultation of internet universality indicators. We stand behind their decisions as a way of establishing a more perfect internet system that is both appropriately regulated and open to free speech, as determined in the ROAM-X indicators. Latvia appreciates the comprehensive research and cooperation of various countries in UNESCO that have suggested editions, like that of Latvia’s suggestions, which propose protecting endangered languages through the use of the internet, as well as the prevention of piracy.

A possible solution to this would be implementing free speech laws that guarantee the rights of people to not only access the internet, but access an internet where the four principles of internet universality are valid. These two things, guaranteeing rights and having access to the internet, are similar when looked at through example countries like Iceland and China. Iceland has the highest rate of people who have access to the internet per household, while also having inclusive free speech policies that allow people to freely use the internet. China, however, has extremely strict free speech policies, including firewalls and laws against criticizing the government. As a result of this block to the internet, fewer people have access to it. What can be concluded from this is that in order to effectively access the internet, the general population needs to not only have access to the internet itself, but also the free speech, criticisms, and opinions online that people in more free countries enjoy.

II. Protecting Cultural Heritage and Art in Conflict Zones
The Republic of Latvia fully supports Resolution 2347 passed in 2017 and understands that the defense of historic cultural sites and artifacts around the world is important to the world’s security. Latvia is fully invested in the preservation of all sites on the World Heritage Site List created by UNESCO. The historic center of Riga has the finest art nouveau buildings in all of Europe and will continue to maintain and preserve this important cultural center. Not only does Latvia have a personal interest in the World Heritage Sites but it recognizes that all sites on the World Heritage List have value and must be preserved.

Since all 193 countries have accepted or ratified the World Heritage Convention Latvia recognizes that going forward the challenge will be how to choose future sites and make sure that the management plans for the site upkeep are being adhered to. A greater concern to Latvia than the state’s adherence is the existence of terror organizations and their continued destruction of valued cultural sites and artifacts. We know this is not a new problem, certainly the trafficking of stolen goods in the Nazi era was much more prominent, however, it is no less significant today. The current situation in Syria is one area of deep concern. Specifically, there are 6 sites on UNESCO’s Heritage Site in Syria and the current fighting there between Turkey and Kurdish forces puts these sites in particular danger.

Not only do we want to prevent terrorist organizations from destroying cultural sites but we also want to make sure they trafficking of stolen artifacts is discontinued. Terrorist organizations such as Isis should be treated just as Ahmad Faqi Al Mahdi was in 2016, when he was found guilty of war crimes for destroying religious sites in Timbuktu. It is important for all member states to continue to pursue action against groups that destroy or steal cultural property. The member states must use their intelligence communities in partnership with each other to find and prosecute any individual or organization that violates the World Heritage Convention. Latvia participates in the import bans of cultural goods from Syria since implemented in 2014. Latvia will accept the Security Councils’ suggestions for using online libraries to help categorize and identify possible stolen artifacts. The protection and preservation of cultural heritage sites and artifacts is a priority and Latvia is committed to providing support and resources to the continued efforts of UNESCO and the World Heritage Committee.
Delegation from: the Islamic Republic of Pakistan
Represented by: Lakewood High School

Position Paper for the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)

The issues before UNESCO are: Promoting Internet Universality and Open Internet for All; and Protecting Cultural Heritage and Art in Conflict Zones. The Islamic Republic of Pakistan believes that these issues are of utmost importance in today’s rapidly evolving and hostile world, and Pakistan would like to express its sincere hope that this organization can make meaningful progress on these issues over the course of this summit.

I. Promoting Internet Universality and Open Internet for All

Internet Universality is an issue with which Pakistan is highly familiar. Since the Internet's conception in the late 20th century, it has been an avenue of great change and advancement in the western world; but across North Africa and Southern Asia, it has been used as a destabilizing force that jeopardizes national security as well as the safety of many. Terrorist groups such as the Islamic State and Ghazwat al-Hind have utilized social media to propagate and proliferate their radical ideologies across national and continental borders. For these aforementioned reasons, Pakistan is opposed to a radically open Internet, and is highly skeptical of the merits of an entirely universal internet.

Within our nation, Pakistan has taken great steps to ensure the safety of its own and other nations that share our planet, while simultaneously ensuring peaceful, non-provocative use of the Internet. Within Pakistan, multiple agencies are tasked with ensuring the use of the Internet is compatible with national security and safety of citizens. These organizations are: the Pakistan Telecommunications Authority (PTA), the Federal Investigation Agency (FIA), the Supreme Court of Pakistan, and the Ministry of Information Technology (MoIT). These organizations work together to ensure the national safety of Pakistan is not threatened by radical and harmful content published to the Internet expressly for the purpose of bringing pain and suffering in the world, destabilizing governments, or expressing views intended to insult religious groups.

Pakistan firmly believes that this issue must be one that risks infringement upon national sovereignty, and as such, we, as an organization, must ensure that any proposed solutions do not interfere with this core principle of the United Nations. Especially in cases where the internet is partially or wholly owned by the state (as is the case in Pakistan), it is highly important that any proposed solutions are respectful of the fact that a large portion of internet consumption is provided by the state, and as such the state should have a level of sovereignty over the content that is transmitted through their infrastructure. Resolutions that call for complete openness and absolute deregulation of the internet (such as A/HRC/38/L.16) completely and wholly ignore the simple truth that not all of the content on the Internet is put forth with the intent of peaceful and calm discussion, but instead with the desires to inspire and promote violence across the Planet. Moreover, it is necessary to consider the cultural differences between the different parts of the world; it is important to understand that what one culture may deem proper or appropriate for public access is what another culture may deem highly offensive and harmful to impressionable persons such as children.
II. Protecting Cultural Heritage and Art in Conflict Zones

Armed conflict not only endangers human life and personal property, but also the priceless shared cultural heritage preserved in monuments, artworks, historic buildings, and religious sites. These places and artifacts are frequently targeted by both state actors and terrorist groups in acts of cultural warfare and terrorism—acts that have been officially designated as crimes against humanity. Particularly given the unfortunate emergence and longevity of terrorist groups such as the Islamic State in recent years, Pakistan believes that now more than ever it is imperative for both this body and national governments to engage in a renewed effort to prevent the further destruction of the heritage of humanity.

Pakistan understands the importance of preserving places of cultural importance and greatly values the work of UNESCO in designating and protecting the places. Pakistan treasures its six current World Heritage Sites, and eagerly awaits for official status to be granted to up to twenty-six more on the tentative list. However, Pakistan has also experienced damage to numerous cultural sites because of terrorism and war. In 2007, a group of Taliban supporting insurgents attacked and partially destroyed a historic Buddha statue near Janabad, and during the same period Taliban militants bombed music, video, and art shops in Peshawar and the surrounding region. However, Pakistan is also fully aware that with concerted, direct intervention, the ambitions of terrorist groups and other belligerents to destroy culturally important places and silence the artistic voice of millions can be stopped. In 2014, Pakistan launched Operation Zarb-e-Azb, a highly successful anti-terror campaign which was aimed at curbing attacks by derivatives of the Taliban and al-Qaeda, as well as emerging threats from the Islamic State. This military operation dramatically reduced attacks on places significant to the Pakistani people and their shared heritage, and Pakistan expresses its hope that other nations will show a similar commitment to the protection of artworks, places, and other institutions of cultural significance in the years to come.

In addressing this issue today, Pakistan believes that it is important to consider how this committee can mitigate the international aspects of this issue, noting that often terrorist groups operate in multiple countries simultaneously and that conflict between nations themselves can also pose a threat to cultural sites. While Pakistan lauds the achievements of previous measures to protect cultural heritage, we would like to identify and improve upon certain failures of earlier treaties and resolutions such as the 1954 Hague Convention and the more recent S/RES/2347, which, while admirable in scope and intent, have often been poorly enforced and frequently ignored outright. To this end, Pakistan hopes to work collaboratively with other member states to create a resolution that provides for greater accountability than many of these previous measures, and seeks to further commend nations that have prioritized these initiatives, while further scrutinizing nations that have not shown a routine commitment to the protection of cultural heritage.
Delegation from: Russian Federation  
Represented by: Mayfield High School  

Position Paper For the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization  

The issues concerning United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization are: promoting internet universality and open internet for all, and protecting cultural heritage and art in conflict zones. Russia is mainly concerned with protecting national security and promoting stability in conflict zones within the modern day world.  

I. Promoting Internet Universality and Open Internet for All  

Internet universality is currently growing within many countries as of the 1989 when the World Wide Web was invented and information began permeating throughout the world. As the internet spread another pressing matter presented itself as the safety of the information that the internet held. Recently this issue was recognized when article 13 was proposed within the EU in 2018 to protect secure information on the internet.  

The Russian Federation regards affordable internet access for all citizens to be important for communication and education across the world. Moreover, the present problem of government censorship based on the violation of free speech is viewed with great caution based on threats to national security and copyrighted equity presented by the internet. Russia has a rising number of more than 76% of its population to have access to the internet. The secure use of the internet is also supported by many Internet Service Providers (ISP’s) and basic internet connection does not require more than 1% of an average salary in Russia. When considering an open and accessible internet for all, The Federation of Russia understands its uses and attempts to keep all important information safe.  

The current situation of The Federation of Russia consists of remaining within the forefront of technology in the internet while maintaining complete safety. Due to the national threats of the internet it is important to continually support the growth of the internet in Russia and throughout the world because of the dependence on communication and education through the internet. Without the internet universality, unfortunately the quality and total accessibility of the internet may hold undeveloped countries back in education and labor. While UNESCO cannot provide internet access to everyone, the internet access is becoming ubiquitous and The Federation of Russia encourages the continued spread. When understanding censorship for an open internet for all The Federation of Russia advocates for equality among people, however, this must not impede the continued protection of the entire user base of the internet.  

II. Protecting Cultural Heritage and Art in Conflict Zones  

Conflict zones present themselves as a threat to important cultural sites throughout the world. These zones are often destructive and unpredictable. In other words, no heritage site is ever safe within warring areas. Being home to 29 different heritage sites, The Russian Federation recognizes the importance of protecting cultural heritage because they commemorate society’s past achievements and spark future innovation. For this reason, preserving cultural heritage is not simply the act of protecting ancient, rustic architecture, but
all the history associated with it. However, protecting these heritage sites are largely ignored by the general public and forgotten. Only those with cultural ties to their heritage sites attempt to preserve the sites. Therefore, the Russian Federation urges that member states unite in a collective effort to protect heritage sites and encourages member states to collaborate with their citizens through protection projects to aid in preserving cultural heritage sites.

The Russian Federation supports the importance of having a diverse society filled with unique cultures. They are reminders of monumental times in history that has survived for generations. When heritage is at risk, it is crucial that people and the government do not stand idly while they are in danger. To name a few, Russia have started and completed many efforts in restoring its own heritage sites, many of which are on the UNESCO list of World Heritage Sites. The Church of the Ascension in Moscow and the Architectural Ensemble of the Trinity Sergius Lavra.

Areas experiencing conflict are most at risk of having cultural sites destroyed and it is crucial that sufficient resources and labor can be allocated to these areas in order to protect sites. However, much of the problem is that often times, UNESCO lacks the proper resources to provide to these areas of crisis. Therefore, The Russian Federation strongly urges all member states to contribute resources to the UNESCO World Heritage list. Heritage sites belong to all the people of the world, no matter the nationality, and is dependent on the collaboration of all individuals to preserve these sites. For this reason, The Federation of Russia supports increased usage of media in order to inform the general public about the chaos caused by wars. While the media often covers human casualties during wartime, the destruction of historical sites are often neglected. By promoting media coverage, one can expect to see further recognition of this issue, hopefully influencing greater numbers of people to support this conservation effort. In conclusion, The Federation of Russia emphasizes that by encouraging society to become more engaged in protecting heritage, it will help in alleviating some of the damages caused in conflict zones.
Committee: The United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization

Topic: Promoting Internet Universality and open Internet for all

Country: The Republic of Turkey

Delegates: Western Reserve Academy

The Universal Declaration of Human Rights states, “All are equal before the law and are entitled without any discrimination to equal protection of the law.” The Republic of Turkey believes that when considering the promotion of internet universality and open internet for all these rights be considered. The restrictions of internet have both caused problems and created solutions within the nation of Turkey. During many attacks, such as the July 28 of 2016, the blocks on internet proved to limit other countries’ involvement in Turkey’s problems and create more effective and efficient solutions.

Internet Universality allows for distortion in media and widens the global digital divide. The universality of the internet would prove to create biases in certain member nations and create a division between the communication of nations throughout the globe. The United Nations can reduce but not restrict the limits on internet nations give to their citizens. The economy of The Republic of Turkey in many instances has proved to be improved when there was a partial internet limitation.

The concept of Internet Universality is, in truth, to broad to be enforced. With the internet being as complex as it is, Internet Universality cannot be attained in the next 100 years. However, Internet Universality will continue to grow more complex as the internet does and will never be able to be fully achieved.

In order to Protect to basic Human Rights of the citizens of our nations, the United Nations must allow few, but some restrictions on Internet Universality.

Topic: Protecting Cultural Heritage and Art in Conflict Zone

With 18 of Turkey’s own historical sites on the World Heritage Site, we fully support UNESCO on protecting cultural heritage and art in conflict zone.

Article 8 of Brussels Declaration, one of the first international documents in relation to the importance of preserving the cultural heritage and art in conflict zone, suggest that : during war time, all art and culture are not to be destroyed. However, it was the Hague convention in 1899 that set this suggestion to a law. The value of culture by the conflict zones were recognized later and the final draft on this issue was draft by the UNESCO stating that: “damage to the cultural heritage of all mankind”. There are of course different people and countries to the new law. Jihadist Ahmad Faqi Al Mahdi was found guilty for destroying religious sites in Timbuktu. He was the first man actually punished by the new law.
The Turkish government has been setting official laws to support the view of protecting culture and art in conflict zones since 1983, Law on the Protection of Cultural and Natural Property, which states that all artifacts found and will be found in Turkey belong to the state. Turkey values the artifacts found in the border. An example would be asking the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York to return 363 pieces of artifact found in Turkey in the 1960s. Turkey also actively supports the World Heritage Committee by submitting more sites to add to the list, the most recent one being the Aphrodisias in 2017.

Turkey believes that UNESCO should help countries recognize the value of the historical values of culture and art. UNESCO should get the individual people’s attention on the subjects, there can be an organization that sponsored by the people to protect the sites. More of the sites on the World Heritage list are located in developed countries, few heritages in less developed countries are recognized. UNESCO should offer more than legal protection for the sites that have been chosen. If renovation and maintenance funds offered at a higher price, there is a great possibility for an increase in the number of countries that sign the World Heritage Convention. Global Strategy has already promoted 39 new countries that recognize the World Heritage Convention. There are new countries from Asia, South America and Africa that asked for a place on the World Heritage list. The countries involved are more diverse in geographic location and economic status. However, there are still countries that have not joined the Convention. Many of which the country is at war, therefore requiring more attention to their cultural heritages. This requirement is often not met, due to various circumstances. UNESCO can’t interfere with the countries that are not part of the convention, therefore the countries themselves have to care for their own heritages. The heritages and sites are treasures of the whole world, but their ownership is still to the individual countries that they belong to. If the artifacts are from a certain country, they should stay in that country.
Delegation: the United Arab Emirates
Represented by: Solon High School

Position Paper for the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization
The issues before the United Nations Human Rights Council are the Promoting Internet Universality and open Internet for all, and Protecting Cultural Heritage and Art in Conflict Zones. The delegation of the United Arab Emirates is committed to resolving these matters in a way that is appropriate for all nations.

I. Promoting Internet Universality and open Internet for all

Since 1990, the Internet has grown and developed into a complex network of interactions ranging from social networks to businesses operated through the web. The issue with internet universality, then, is that there are many who spread information throughout the web that maybe conflicts with the values of certain nations. While it is important to protect the rights of citizens, there are also several nations with stakes on the internet that believe would damage their citizen’s health. While the indicators for Internet universality may be fit for some nations, the United Arab Emirates believes that the idea of internet sovereignty is far more important.

The United Arab Emirates was one of the first nations interested in internet universality, bringing the issue to the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization after being concerned with the harmful effects of the internet on citizens. The United Arab Emirates is especially concerned with the violence spread throughout the internet, especially in the wake of the attacks of September 11th, 2001 in the United States. The UAE has taken several steps to ensure that our citizens are exposed to appropriate internet material and that children are not being affected by the broad and unknowing depths of the internet. As a nation that leads the world in protecting citizens from possible scams and other malicious programs, we believe that our guidelines for the internet could help other nations understand what is appropriate for the web and ensure that citizens are being protected from predators online.

Internet universality may be important, but it is crucial for nations to understand the implications of certain unlawful and inappropriate content that is available. It is also imperative for companies that have great control over certain popular websites including Facebook, Youtube, and Amazon to take greater responsibility for the inappropriate content still left on their sites, even at the request of some nations. There needs to be a level of partnership between both internet companies and nations governments to ensure that this content is taken off the web. Furthermore, nations, in general, should adopt similar laws to govern the internet as the United Arab Emirates in an effort to protect their citizens from scams and fraud online. Overall, the United Arab Emirates wants to ensure that the internet is a safe, appropriate place to conduct economic transactions and social interactions.
II. Protecting Cultural Heritage and Art in Conflict Zones

Since the late 1990s, the UN has attempted to include the protection of cultural heritage from destruction in the scenarios of armed conflicts. Although people have claimed that these destructions are “cultural cleansing,” UNESCO General-Director, Irina Bokova, declared that these cultural cleansings are not only vicious attacks on people’s identities but also aim to destroy prospects for post-conflict reconciliation and peacebuilding. It is not only important to protect citizens in conflict zones, but also protect cultural heritage in the process. The United Arab Emirates not only actively protects their own cultural heritage and art and but strongly encourages other countries to do the same and follow them as an example.

In 1999, the United Nations Security Council passed Resolution 2347 which condemned the unlawful destruction of cultural heritage. In 2016, The United Arab Emirates donated $100 million in funds that aimed to protect cultural heritage in conflict zones. Along with that, the UAE held a two-day international conference at the Emirates Place in Abu Dhabi that represented 40 nations and multiple heads of states to not only speak about previous destructions of historical sites and monuments in countries such as Iraq, Mali, Syria and Afghanistan but to also devise plans on how safeguard historic-cultural monuments. Along with that, in 2017, the UAE along with several other countries has joined the International Alliance for the Protection of Heritage in Conflict Areas or the ALIPH. Above $75.5 million has been raised for this alliance and it will only continue to grow throughout the years. The United Arab Emirates hopes to increase funding towards this program and continue the extensive protection of cultural heritage and arts. The UAE has continuously taken steps to prevent more of these ‘war crimes’ from happening and is attempting to increase the chances of peace.

It’s very important for nations to join the United Arab Emirates’ efforts to protect cultural heritage from around the world and join the efforts of the ALIPH. Nations need to partner together to prevent more of these war crimes from occurring and decrease these “cultural cleansings” from destroying livelihoods. In addition to that, the UAE strongly encourages other nations to increase funds towards resolutions that support the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization’s efforts to protect arts and cultural heritage. Now is a better time than ever to partner with other nations in order to ensure a future in post-conflict reconciliation and peacebuilding. The United Arab Emirates hopes to reach a resolution to ensure the cultural heritage and arts of nations are protected and preserved.
Position Paper for The United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization

The topics at hand for the Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization include promoting internet universality and access to all as well as protecting culture in art in zones of conflict. The United Kingdom, as it has shown with its membership in international organizations such as the Red Cross and Red Crescent and the International Telecommunication Satellite Organization, is in full support of expanding access to the internet and protecting culture in areas of conflict, as well as supporting the sharing of cultures across the globe.

I. Promoting Internet Universality and Access

The United Kingdom, again noting its membership in intergovernmental organizations dedicated to public access to not only the internet, but broadcasting and media as a whole, fully support any means to expand public access to the internet within the United Nation’s many developing member states, whom may not have the funds or infrastructure to support public internet access.

The United Kingdom, although itself having internet in almost every home, knows that this is not the case in most nations, especially ones that have gone through any kind of civil or economic strife and are still developing, however, the United Kingdom also notes that some member states’ policies do not allow for access to some functions of the internet, severely limiting the freedoms that such an item brings forward.

The United Kingdom, aware of the aforementioned obstacles, would like to see to it that the United Nations’ members allow the use of the internet freely without harsh regulation, such as preventing access to sources of information, and that developing nations are able to fund infrastructure for internet and other telecommunications. Of course, the United Kingdom realizes that internet availability is not the top-most priority for developing nations, and states that it does not want to force any nation to prioritize it over things such as public works and education, which are indisputably more important than internet access. The United Kingdom also would like to state its most sincere respect for the sovereignty of all nations and confirms their right to regulate their internet access however they deem fit, regardless of the United Kingdom’s personal state-of-being or opinion.
II. Preserving Culture in Areas of Conflict

The United Kingdom is itself a member of several groups intended to preserve culture and life itself, such as the British Council for example, which is an organization meant to inform people about different cultures and societies that has branches across the English-speaking world and beyond, such as the branch in Warsaw, Poland. In recent years, the United Kingdom has engaged in multiple humanitarian operations, such as in the Levant, Somalia, Indonesia, and Myanmar, and allowed asylum to refugees in an attempt to protect human life and culture, and would like to see this more widespread among the United Nations’ member states, which the United Kingdom has noted are becoming increasingly anti-refugee and overly-nationalistic after a small number of terrorist acts have occurred, and would like to note that these acts are extremely rare, and should not dissuade nations from allowing asylum to people in need.

The United Kingdom recognizes that conflict is widespread, and a number of genocides have unfortunately taken place over the past decade, which damages culture, and are appalling in their entireties, and as such the United Kingdom is shocked that these events are still happening, and frequently, to top that. To this end, the United Kingdom would be most supportive of any plans to protect and preserve all cultures across the world.

The United Kingdom knows and recognizes that, in its long history, there have been a number of times where the United Kingdom has itself regrettably engaged in genocide and destruction of cultures, and some nations may regard our request to protect cultures as hypocrisy, however, the United Kingdom reaffirms its sole intent is to better the world for all people, regardless of their culture.
Delegation from: The United States of America
Represented by: Archbishop Hoban High School

Position Paper for The United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization

The issues before the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization are: Promoting Internet Universality and open Internet for all; and Protecting Cultural Heritage and Art in Conflict Zones. The United States of America is fully devoted to the preservation of national heritage among all nations, and firmly believes in regulated internet usage, in order to prevent obscene content from reaching its citizens.

I. Promoting Internet Universality and Open Internet for All

The legislation of the United States of America has repeatedly attempted to censor and obstruct numerous online websites over the past three decades. However, as stated in the first amendment of the United States Constitution, all citizens shall be granted the freedom of speech, and the government shall not establish laws prohibiting the exercise of this given right. Thus, dozens of acts and movements have been shut down due to their violation of the First Amendment. The Computer Fraud and Abuse Act (CFAA), the 1986 amendment to Title 18 § 1030 of the United States Code, intended to place repercussions for the infringement of websites’ terms of service, making violating these regulations a federal crime. The United States aimed to establish a solution to the disruptions of peace and conduct which had been occurring for several years prior. However, this Act caused immense congressional turmoil within the United States legislation for several decades, including the introduction of Aaron’s Law Act of 2013, preventing the federal government from utilizing the CFAA to prosecute citizens for multiple charges on the same crime. In addition to the CFAA, numerous other acts have been established and repealed soon after due to the disagreements within United States Congress.

The division between the United States legislation has caused extensive uneasiness among citizens. With the primary exception of obscene content, such as child pornography or human trafficking, many American citizens push for free, universal content for all. In contrast, many government figures are concerned with gambling, cyber security, and dangers to the youth on the Internet. Regardless, government officials of the United States of America continue to search for solutions to these growing issues. Government members have established a method of regulating sites through restricting certain IP addresses from specific computers. The United States Department of Defense uses this method, as to defer enemy hackers from tracking location or discovering confidential information.
Many sizeable problems continue to emerge in the United States regarding Internet security. Many American companies have admitted to fraud, scandals, and crimes. Nevertheless, The United States continues to move forward in hopes to contain the multitude of misconducts discovered within the past decade. The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) met in December of 2017 to discuss net neutrality provisions installed by the 2015 Open Internet Order. Voting on this decision passed, enabling internet service providers (ISPs) more freedom to alter service speeds on certain websites in favor of others. Steps such as these display the United States of America’s heightened interest among the matters of universal Internet.

II. Protecting Cultural Heritage and Art in Conflict Zones

For decades, the United States of America has attempted to reconstruct the damage caused by war, terrorism, and vandalism. The destruction of statues, temples, and other major pieces of art and heritage has continuously been condemned by the United States. As a nation with religious freedom, the United States of America believe that the preservation of heritage is a right for all people, which should be protected by the nation’s military at all costs.

In an attempt to model the organizations established by the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the United States of America has already created groups to combat the destruction of cultural art and history. The United States Committee of the Blue Shield (USCBS) has honored and preserved the works of those who have fought for cultural security. Containing works dating back to the 2nd century B.C.E., the USCBS has continuously fought for cultural peace and aims to “raise public awareness about the importance of cultural property as the shared heritage of all humankind.” Their work, along with the work of the federal government of the United States of America, lead the mission for cultural preservation throughout the nation.

Organizations such as the USCBS have reinstalled hope in American people about their cultural backgrounds. The United States fully supports the missions of UNESCO and the USCBS regarding preservation. Following major conflicts, such as World War I and II, the Iranian War, and religious conflicts in lesser-developed nations, the United States of America calls for reconstruction and encouragement from all UNESCO member states to assist in the restoration of historical works. The United States of America also would like to extend an invitation to all member states willing to participate in this worldwide reconstruction. Through the preservation of relics from all cultural backgrounds, global heritage can be remembered and appreciated for centuries to come. With this as UNESCO’s primary focus, topics such as art, history, and heritage can be forever immortalized and help to promote a more efficient, worldwide peace.