

PORGMUN Conference – Committee Introduction: Economic and Social Council

Economic and Social Council is one of the principal bodies of the United Nations organization dealing with both economic and social issues, as hinted by its name. The ECOSOC, as it is often abbreviated, serves as the central forum for discussing international economic and social issues, and for formulating policy recommendations addressed to member states and the United Nations system. Since the issues addressed by ECOSOC are of great importance in our global society, the process of reaching consensus and cooperating in political and economical issues to satiate numerous problems requires knowledgeable and courageous delegates. These delegates will have to use their best pragmatic as well as creative thinking to take on the role of those who shape our society and our everyday lives.

Among the issues discussed in the committee you will find:

- *The issue of promoting sustainable practices in transnational corporations.* Over the last decades, their importance has went through the roof and the need to contain connected problems and to create a legal framework that would abolish, for instance, the mistreatment of workers in poor countries, is dire. In a numerous cases around the world we see that international investments, if not properly regulated, can bring much harm.
- *The external debt and development.* The problems surrounding the external debt are related to the fact that many countries owe enormous sums of money and the topic requires a policy upon which the countries may build their own debt development programmes. It has been hinted that debt can encourage growth, but we must not let it get out of hand.
- *Improving financial aid to Africa.* This topic is the paragon of an issue that requires the synthesis of economic and social force to be solved. Is it possible to get money back from countries that cannot provide basic services to their citizens, let alone pay debts? Or is promoting growth the solution?
- *Promoting sustainable cities.* Many today's cities face an important issue; their air pollution level is through the roof, but a push to decrease it would cripple local economy. Can ecology and industry live in synthesis?

Those who are mesmerized by the power of politics and finance will certainly enjoy the intense debates, although the skill to negotiate a solution will be essential to reach any conclusion in this committee, as avarice and self-preferentiality may often be in the way.