

# ABOUT CONFERENCE

## MODEL CONFERENCE 2021

### EUROPE 2030



What are the reasons for joining Economic and Monetary Union and why are some countries against it? Brexit is a symbol of the European crisis, should Member States consider a broader revision of the EU treaties? How and why should the EU ensure energy security in the shortest possible time? Which country should have the highest percentage of funding distribution in the Multiannual Financial Framework 2021-2027 and will the EU Next Generation Recovery Plan reflect the needs of individual Member States in mitigating the impact of a pandemic COVID-19?

Finding the right answers to these and many other questions is very difficult and in addition to the leaders of EU member states, students of the Faculty of International Relations of the University of Economics in Bratislava also try to find them by negotiations, where they represent the views of individual countries. Outputs from the round tables, which took place with several important personalities from the areas of focus of this year's model conference, will be presented on April 13, 2021 at the 14th year of the Model Conference.

The model conference is the culmination of the subject Negotiation in Diplomatic Practice, which is taught at the Faculty of International Relations on the basis of the need for practical training of students in the field of diplomatic negotiations. We can simply say that it is a simulation of an international conference addressing the issue of current international relations. In this way, the Faculty of International Relations strives to prepare its students as best they can for their future work. Students are divided into 3 teams - the Organizing Team, the Political Section and the Economic Section.

This project is unique not only because of the fact, that the whole Model conference is organized by students, but this year's topic of which is Europe 2030 concerns all age categories, is intended for the professional and lay public, and therefore the students of the 5th year of Faculty of International relations decided to involve seniors of the University of the Third Age of the University of Economics and also students of the Private Slovak Grammar School - students of the Diplomacy study field. The organizers of the Model Conference strive to provide their experience of negotiations in diplomatic practice to the general public and thus use the views, attitudes and knowledge of different generations in addressing current issues of the European Union.

Model Conference 2020 will be held under the auspices of the Minister of Foreign and European Affairs of the Slovak republic, Ivan Korčok.



# FOREWORD



Dear University members, Faculty members, sponsors, media partners, supervisors, chairs of the sections and colleagues

Well, an event like this cannot happen overnight. The wheels started rolling years ago. It required planning and a birds eye for details and now we are at the end of our studies. The turn of the year 2020/2021 was very difficult for each of us. It brought many changes to our lives and it also affected our final project - Model Conference 2021. The final year of our studies as graduates we are participating in the unique project of our Faculty of International Relations in Bratislava where we use all the acquired knowledge and skills that we have learnt for past 5 years and put it in practice.

If you are holding our proceedings in your hands now, you can see that despite the unpleasant situation we didn't give up and did everything that was in our force. Although the COVID-19

complicated the preparation of Model Conference, the proceedings will show you what the Negotiations in diplomatic practice were about in the academic year 2020/2021 and highlight the key features and activities we did throughout the year.

It's a privilege for me to write on this page as The President of the Model Conference 2021. I am honoured that I obtained trust from my colleagues to be responsible for 14th Model Conference. It is a great opportunity for all of us to work together as a team, learn something new and to contribute with our ideas to the project. We were traditionally divided into negotiating sections and an organizational team, where everybody could use the essential skills like negotiating, debating, decision-making. Throughout the year we organized accompanying events such as round tables, where negotiating sections invited experts and held fruitful discussions on current global topics. Although the discussions took place online, we are grateful that they were able to take place at least in this way and we were able to contribute to smooth process of our conference. This is the first Model Conference in history of our University, which is completely conducted on a digital platform in line with the social distancing norms due to COVID-19 pandemic. We are honoured to organize the conference despite of unfavorable conditions. At least it is conducted in different, more innovative way. The main topic of the Model Conference is The Future of Europe 2030, it is an interesting and current topic that will interest various age groups.

This year was the first to prepare an event for High School students, that are studying diplomacy and seniors from University of third age. Our intention was to put them closer to the environment of international diplomatic negotiations and introduce them the basics of diplomatic protocol. This year we showed that Model Conference is open to all age categories, that makes it very diverse. We have been fortunate enough to be backed by a team of very motivated and dedicated supervisors and colleagues of Faculty of International relations, who gave us a constant support and a lot of encouragement and continue to work efficiently on this project. I cannot thank everyone enough for their involvement, adaptability and willingness to take on the completion of tasks under unpredictable circumstances that we face this year.

Last but not least, I would like to thank to all the students for showing their interest in the program and once again thanks everyone for making this project successful.

# SPECIAL THANKS



Special thanks go to our leaders, for their ideas and advice during the negotiations and organization of the entire Model Conference 2021.

# SPONSORS AND PARTNERS



# MEDIAL PARTNERS





Chairman of the Economic Section, Bc.Pavol Meluš: „When a person is surrounded by the right people, he recognizes his value and their presence gives him the confidence and the will to act beyond his means.“

In this year's Model Conference, The Economic Section decided to choose the creation of the Multiannual Financial Framework for years 2021-2027 as the main focus of their discussions. Their work also includes EU's Next Generation Recovery Plan, which aims to mitigate the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on EU member states. Students chose one of the EU member states, which they are going to represent during the both academic semesters. Within these negotiations it was important for the students to become acquainted with the approaches of the represented member states, which were presented in the previous budget periods. They studied the main areas where funds have

flowed in recent years. The core of the MFF was the knowledge of the previous document, its individual heads, programs and the financial volume that had been used. For a more authentic process in creating the MFF, students decided to use the so-called "model situations", where they created a scenario according to which voting and further discussions took place. At the end of the first semester, students entered more profound phase of creation, where they had the task of creating new names of individual heads in the MFF and the way in which expenditures will be redistributed over time, whether they will rise or fall.



The European Union is a unique model of cooperation, developed by learning from history and accepting the uniqueness of each participating country, in full accordance with its main motto "United in diversity".

Europe must show that it is able to have a constructive dialogue on cooperation and to overcome the differences; to be united and principled in its approaches. In the geopolitical field, we are only stronger if we can act together. That is the reason why we consider the unity of the European community to be a key element in overcoming any of the obstacles emerging from current problems.

The Vision of the European Union is a theme for the political section during 14th Model Conference of the University of Economics. Within the political section, we presented the key areas that the representatives of selected member states of

European Union address. These are the topics: Carbon Neutrality, Circular Economy, Security and enlargement of European Union. The selected topics reflect the current state and challenges the European Union is facing. Based on a deeper analysis of the attitudes of individual countries, students are able to convey a comprehensive position, which is directly confronted with the attitudes of other countries, thanks to which we can simulate real negotiations of the participating countries.

## SPEAKERS FOR ECONOMIC SECTION



Ing. Ivan Štefanec, MBA, PhD. is a Member of the European Parliament and member of the Committee on International Market and the Consumer Protection. Prior to joining The European Parliament, he was a member of the National Council of the Slovak Republic and vice-chair of the Committee for European Affairs. (2006-2014). In 2004 he was appointed government plenipotentiary for the introduction of the euro in Slovakia.



Ing. Eugen Jurzyc has been a Member of the European Parliament since July 2019, elected for the SaS party, for which he was a member of the National Council of the Slovak Republic and a team officer for public finances since the summer of 2014. He is member of the Committee on International Market and the Consumer Protection. In the years 2010 - 2012, Jurzyc was a member of the government of Ivetta Radičová.



JUDr. Jaroslav Náhlik works at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European Affairs of the Slovak Republic at the Department of International Economic Organizations. From 1 July 2016 Slovakia took over the Presidency of the Council of the European Union for six months and Jaroslav Náhlik has been participating in the preparation of our Presidency and achievement of its objectives as the First Secretary, Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF).



Ing. Mgr. Ján Ridzoň he is acting director general of section at the Ministry of investment, regional development and informatization of the Slovak Republic. Ján Ridzoň has been working at Permanent Representation of the Slovak Republic to the European Union in Brussels as the Second Secretary, Financial Perspective (MFF), EU Budget, Protection of the EU's Financial Interests, OLAF.

## SPEAKERS FOR POLITICAL SECTION



Michal Wiezik: doc. Ing. Michal Wiezik, PhD is a Slovak scientist, ecologist, university teacher at the Faculty of Ecology and Environmental Studies of the Technical TUZ. In 2019, he was elected as a Member of the European Parliament for the coalition Progressive Slovakia and TOGETHER - Civic Democracy. He actively participated in the preparation of scientific documents and concepts in cooperation with the Ministry of the Environment of the Slovak Republic, the Office of the Government of the Slovak Republic and within inter-ministerial expert groups. He is currently involved in the preparation of the concept of nature tourism in Slovakia.



Ladislav Miko: Doc. RNDr. Ladislav Miko, Ph.D. is a Czech citizen who was born in Košice. Scientist, professor, former Czech Minister of the Environment, founder of the political party LES, studied biology and ecology at Charles University in Prague, where he also married. He returned to Slovakia after 25 years and since January 2018, he has been the head of the Representation of the European Commission in Slovakia.

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