

Dear Delegates,

Welcome to the Commission for Social Development (CSoCD) at MUIMUN 2012! We are your chairs Konstantinos Alexandris and Tobit Batel and we will guide you through MUIMUN and the preparation for the conference.

As you already know, your task at MUIMUN will be to act as a diplomat of the country you were assigned. Naturally, this requires quite a bit of research: You will have to familiarize yourself with the topics at hand (“Developing Strategies to Improve Social Integration of the Youth” and “Post-Conflict Re-Integration of Ex-Combatants in Countries Affected by Civil War”) and with your country’s position on these topics. Since it is impossible to know your country’s point of view on every single proposal you will encounter during the conference, it is important that you also have a solid knowledge of the politics, culture etc. of your country. That way, you will be able to deduce how a real-life delegate would behave in your place. The goal of your preparation should be that you are able to contribute to the committee work in accordance with your country’s interests. If every one of you is thoroughly prepared, we will have the most realistic, interesting and challenging debates and the best “MUN-experience” possible.

As your chairs, we will try and support you during your preparation for MUIMUN. Therefore, we – along with the General Secretariat – put together this study guide. In this document, you will find some general information on how MUN-conferences work and on how to prepare for MUIMUN. Moreover, you will find research reports on the CSocD and on the two topics we are going to discuss. This document is meant to get you jump-started with your research. Please note, however, that this guide is only a starting point for your preparation and that you will have to put in quite a bit additional work! For example, there is no country-specific information in this document. Furthermore, the more you know on our topics, the more you can contribute to the resolutions.

If you have any questions about the contents of this study guide, about MUIMUN in general or any other topics that you think we can help you with, please do not hesitate to write us at csocd@muimun.org!

But enough about work! Speaking from experience, we can also tell you that MUIMUN will be a lot of fun, both inside and outside the conference room. We wrote about the “MUN-experience” a little further above. This does not only include learning a lot about how the UN works and brushing up your soft skills, it also includes getting to know heaps of nice people with different cultural backgrounds and having a great time together!

We are looking forward to meeting you on March 26th in the city of Westphalian Peace!

Best regards,

Konstantinos and Tobit