

LETTER FROM THE CHAIR

Hello Delegates,

My name is Hugo Gerbich Pais. The Gerbich comes from my Croatian dad, the Pais from my Spanish mum. I was born in the north-west of Spain, but I grew up in Auckland, New Zealand. I'm a Junior at Rice University, where I study English - with a specialization in cultural and social change. I am also a European Studies major - which is one of the reasons I am so excited about this committee. I spend a lot of time considering Europe's socio-cultural and political environment, and I look forward to learning more about the pressing challenges that the European Union faces from y'all.

My involvement in Model UN began in freshman year in High School, and by my junior and senior year I was competing in New Zealand's national model united nations conference. I continued that involvement at Rice. I am the Head Delegate for our competition team, so I lead and plan our trips to collegiate conferences.

As I mentioned earlier, I am a European studies major, so this committee seemed like the perfect fit. Europe is an incredibly diverse region and the EU contains many nations with completely different political and social beliefs. I have always been interested with the sheer diplomatic will that is required to unite 27 separate countries. Let's see if we can do that here.

The EU is all about mutual collaboration, so this will be something that I look for within the committee. It's also important though that delegates represent their country's views, perhaps especially if they are contrary to the majority of the bloc. The EU is complicated, and the European council has the important task of leading the EU's political priorities. Advocate for your nation, and for your nation's vision of the EU. Good luck!

Best,



Hugo Gerbich Pais

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