LETTER FROM THE CHAIR

Dear Delegates,

Welcome to HAMUN 50! My name is Katherine, and I am honored to serve as your chair of the UN Security Council this year. Originally from The Woodlands, Texas, I am currently a freshman business major at Texas A&M University with hopes of minoring in philosophy and attending law school in the future. On campus, I am currently part of the A&M Women's Chorus, as I've been singing since middle school. Some other hobbies of mine are playing piano, reading, journaling, and playing pickleball.

This is my third HAMUN overall, and my first time staffing the conference. I quickly became an enthusiast about the activity in high school, attending every conference I could to improve my research and public speaking skills. During my high school MUN career, my school's club won a research award at NHSMUN, the international conference in New York, and I won an individual award at HAMUN as well. I also was a staffer at my school's conference in 2023, co-chairing the UN Human Rights Council on the topic of international child abduction.

The UN Security Council is one of the most popular committees at many MUN conferences because of its relevant topics and rigorous debate. The Security Council's goal is to maintain global peace and come up with solutions to issues regarding international security ranging from universal issues such as climate change to regional conflicts. The topics I have selected are both incredibly relevant in the sociopolitical climate we live in now and a reflection of how our world will operate in the future, based on how delegates will respond in committee. Remember, every country can contribute no matter how insignificant you may believe your position to be, as one nation's actions reverberate through the rest of the world.

As you prepare for the conference in February, remember to represent your position as faithfully as possible while also being flexible to the opinions of your fellow delegates. A good committee will have extensive collaboration and respect among delegates to find the best solution possible. While building upon previous ideas is a solid foundation, originality is always the best way to stand out. Lastly, don't forget to have fun. You are embarking (or re-embarking) on an exhilarating, sometimes exhausting journey with your peers to think like a future leader in this globalized society, so you might as well enjoy it so it feels rewarding. Good luck, and I'm excited to see you all in February!

Katherine Zhao Chair of UNSC katherinezhao02@tamu.edu

