



Press Corps/The Canadian Press

Press Corps

Reporter: Lucy Penrose

Topic: DISEC / Prevention of Arms Race in Space

I am reporting on the topic Prevention of Arms Race in Space in the Middle School committee Disarmament and International Security (DISEC). I am reporting with the News Outlet Canadian Press (CP). It is important to me that I reported on this issue because our space is becoming a place of violence and debris build up from attacked satellites. There are currently 17 million pieces of space debris floating in space and 19,000 pieces bigger than 5 centimeters. The delegates were aware of this problem and found smart solutions for it.

When I first walked into the committee room all of the countries had already come together and made their draft resolution that majority of the countries have signed. At the beginning of my time in the committee room the delegates were focused on their resolution and coming up and making sure they had the the correct preambulatory phrases and operative clauses so they could start their line by line review. When they had finished that and turned in their paper for

Montessori Model United Nations

NYC, March 2020

the bureau to type up they had quickly got rowdy and distracted, although they had calmed down once the line by line review started.

One of the main ideas that they had which was included in their resolution was to adapt a definition for space weapons. It is important that they thought of a solution for the debate on what is considered a space weapon and what is not because countries could launch something into space and think they are fine and it is doing no harm, but the thing that they launched into space could be a space weapon. The definition that they thought of was “a space weapon is defined as a device or a mechanism built by humans fired from the ground to space, space to ground or space to space affecting either itself or the land beneath it, such as but not limited to satellites, space stations, or space shuttles with the capability to intentionally destroy, sabotage, harm or tamper with said assets.”

Some other ideas that delegates had were to hold annual meetings to monitor space debris, have country's pay a fine if you shoot other countries satellites and fine countries for the space debris that they have caused. I had talked to France about their view of arms in space and if they had any space weapons, “yes, we have weapons in space, but pearly to protect our satellites,” says France, they also had stated that it would be better if no one had space weapons.

The final draft resolution that the delegates from the DISEC committee came up with is to adapt a definition for space weapons which I talked about earlier in my article, orbit servicing should not be banned in order to deal with the problem of space debris have active debris removal, creating educational programs that spread awareness of the arms race in space and no

Montessori Model United Nations

NYC, March 2020

countries can colonize celestial body. They had also put statistics about space debris, that countries depend on space applications and that only 11 countries have launch capabilities.

In conclusion the delegates came up with good smart and thought out ideas. Personally I think that the delegates idea to make a definition for space weapons was a very good idea.