



Our Voices Resounding **THE DAILY GAVEL**

PANAMUN 30th Anniversary

by EchoPress
Formatted by MarkCom

www.panamun.org

A New Beginning

October 20, 2022

Is pregnancy considered a disability? The Delegation of

by Eitan Naor



Consejo de Derechos Humanos (CDH) first issue refers to the measures to facilitate the integration of people with disabilities in the labor scene. According to the issue bulletin, “about 15% of the world population, 1.185 billion people, live with some kind of disability, of which 80% are unemployed. People with disabilities face challenges related to poverty and discrimination. By excluding this sector of society, around 1.37-1.94 trillion dollars of annual GDP, according to World Bank figures.” Most people with disabilities live in rural areas or areas with a medical service that is insufficient to be able to attend to their needs. Additionally, the lack of decent jobs for handicapped people enlarges their social and economic problems before society.

Discrimination and misunderstandings regarding the skills of the handicapped exist in the workplace. Impaired people are believed to need special facilities, although job-seeking handicapped people don't necessarily need highly expensive special accommodations. The few accessible occupations for persons with impairments are frequently low-level and low-paying.

Pregnant women might be unable to execute their labor obligations because of their medical condition. Due to this, the employer is required to treat them equally with other employees who have impairments. This leads to the idea that pregnant women may be seen as a temporary impairment in the workplace.

CDH Chair, Paula Arias, believes that numerous variables including, “gender discrimination, sexual harassment, and parental leave, can lead to prejudice against expectant mothers.” However, the pregnancy is deemed to be a temporary impairment, “the ADA Act of 2008 will be enforced against the employer, requiring it to provide medically necessary pregnancy leave.” If alternate assignments, disability leaves, or furloughs with pay are made for temporarily handicapped employees, they must also be made for pregnant workers.

The Delegation of Italy, Natalia Hernand-

ez, stated that, “The delegation approves of the idea of pregnancy being considered a partial impairment.” She explains that pregnant women should get worker priorities to facilitate their workload. This ensures that they will be treated correctly based on their special necessities during pregnancy. This includes “paid maternity leave, which gives women the chance to take a break from work and focus on childbearing.”

Other delegates apported their opinions while on open debate to attain a resolution.

		7	1	5		9		
		9	4	3				
5					2		1	3
		6	5		4		2	9
4	3			8			5	7
9	7		3		1	4		
7	6		2					5
				9	6	2		
		3		4	5	6		

Afghan refugee crisis

by Montgomery Lockwood



Today there are more than 6 million Afghans who have been driven out of their homes due to poverty, conflict and violence, and a large majority find themselves internally displaced in Afghanistan. In the year 2021, around 777,400 Afghans were newly internally displaced due to the increase in violence around the country. In addition there are around 2.7 million Afghan refugees who have been forced to flee their country since 2001.

As the UN puts it, as “the humanitarian crisis continues, the resilience of Afghans and their host communities is being stretched to the limit”. Additionally, as of now, Afghan refugees are the third-largest displaced population in the world, and tend to face harsh conditions of the heat and desert around them. Recently, The Guardian covered a story of a refugee named Shukriya who fled from Afghanistan in July 2021. “Shukriya and her husband huddled together at the bottom of a deep trench on the Turkish-Iranian border” states the articles. “It was summer and the days were hot. Around them were other Afghan families and their children, some of whom had improvised tents out of shawls and scarves to stave off the punishing glare of the sun. Water was scarce and the stench of excrement and bodies packed close together had made Shukriya, three months pregnant, nauseous and sick. Everyone, infant babies included, crouched in silence as they waited for the smugglers to return. They had led the scared families to the trench four days earlier, promising to come back soon and take them across a heavily fortified border wall built to deter people like them from entering Turkey.” Shukriyas story is only one of millions and many like her were not able to make the journey alive to tell their own tale of the event.

The Afghani refugees fleeing tend to mostly reside in Pakistan and Iran which synonymously host more than 1.3 million and 780,000 refugees each. Yet, even though Pakistan hosts many refugees, the country has not been known to treat them kindly, with security forces outside Pakistan killing two refugees in 2021 and forcing refugees to stay in security camps outside the borders.

Countries' response to the new influx of refugees has been greatly varied. With different states accepting Afghani refugees into the country while others such as Iran and Pakistan have declared that they will be accepting no refugees crossing their borders. "Officials from both Iran and Pakistan have said that any refugees that do arrive will have to stay in camps near the border until they can return to Afghanistan." Countries like Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan have allowed refugees to use their airspace and land to arrive at third country locations but have refused to allow refugees to remain in their territory. Whilst the Turkish government has continuously asked European countries to accept migrants and has stated that "Turkey is not Europe's migrant storage unit." Similarly, France and other countries in Europe have stated that they will allow a number of refugees into the country but the EU has made it clear that they do not want to have a repeat of the 2015 migrant crisis.

In conclusion, the Afghan refugee crisis is not slowing down anytime soon and countries around the world should do their best to work diplomatically to solve the issue and provide safety for the Afghan people.

Changing the outcome of history, in HCC

By: Sebastian Perdomo

The Historical Crisis Committee (HCC) is one of the most unique committees in PANAMUN, as it operates differently from other committees. Instead of delegates representing countries from the United Nations, they represent past historical figures and simulate a past historical event. In PANAMUN's 30th edition, delegates are tasked with solving the threat of nuclear warfare, more specifically, the Cuban Missile Crisis. Many notable figures are part of the discussion, ranging from Che Guevara and Fidel Castro to the 35th President of the United States, John F. Kennedy.

The delegates started by delivering their opening speeches, stating their position on the crisis. Perspectives ranged extensively, with businessman Luther H. Hodges emphasizing that this conflict can be solved peacefully, as, "A deal can always be made". Another notable individual, Che Guevara, positioned himself on the more hostile and decisive side of the crisis by targeting the United States and encouraging others to attack the superpower. The delegates proceeded to stand up from their desks and speak to each other regarding the issue, and then a caucus was proposed regarding the positioning of the missiles toward Cuba. Most individuals spoke regarding their view on the problem and the contrast in ideals was clearly seen, with Che Guevara being very passionate about "punishing" the ones responsible. A notable action was made by Aleksander Feklisov, who introduced a directive (a solution), and essentially expressed that the mis-

siles must be kept on the island and that troops from the Soviet Union will be sent to make sure that the United States does not intervene.

Fidel Castro spoke in support of this directive, by mainly stating it will not cause much danger and instead benefits Cuba in a positive way. Che Guevara agreed with this opinion, as the ideals of communism ultimately are the best solution. In his commentary, he also denied that Cuba was not influenced by any other nations, but rather by their own ideals, as they want to solve the issue their own way. Speaking against this, President Kennedy explicitly stated that this solution must not pass at all costs as he believes adding more troops to an already volatile conflict is much more of a risk. Voting procedures for the directive took place, which failed to pass as the communists and Soviet members were outnumbered.

A surprising event took place as the delegates once again were developing a directive, with a sudden crisis of 3,000 Russian soldiers being deployed in the land of Cuba armed with AK47s presented. Understandably, the delegates were surprised and shocked by the massive number of troops being deployed and the explosiveness of the occurrence. Quoting one of the members representing John F Kennedy, he mentions: "So far, the committee has been a really enjoyable experience to undertake. To play the role of such a well-known figure with lots of qualities is really lucky, as it helps me to grow as a person and learn about others' perspectives while respecting them at the same time".

Judging by the look and commitment of the people involved, it is exciting to see what they can come up with and how they can shape the Cuban Missile Crisis into their own so the end result is po-

tentially different. With so many different perspectives, it is almost impossible to tell how it will end so a lot of suspense will be present during the days of the conference.



Rapid Increase in Child Labor Due to an Economic Shock

By: Agnes Zeng

In the last four years, there has been an alarming increase of 8.4 million children being forced to partake in child labor worldwide, with millions more at risk due to the impacts of Covid-19 on the economy. Even when laws or codes of conduct exist for the prevention of child labor, they are often violated. UNICEF recently stated that progress toward ending child labor had been delayed for the first time in 20 years, undoing the downward trend that saw a decline in child labor by 94 million between 2000 and 2016. At the beginning of 2020, a total of 160 million boys and girls were victims of child labor, accounting for almost 1 in 10 of all children worldwide.

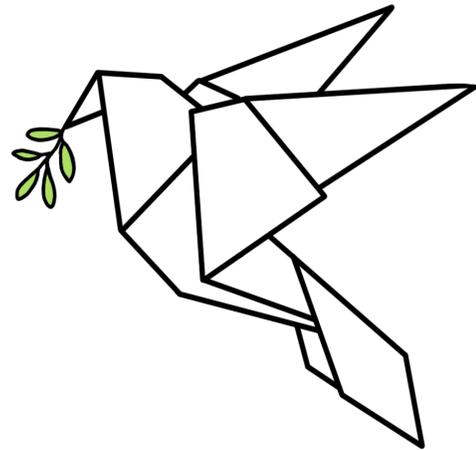
The current causes of global child labor have not changed in over 100 years. They include poverty, limited access to education, repression of workers' rights, and limited prohibitions of child labor. The current economic recession due to the impacts of Covid-19 on poverty has significantly contributed to child labor as

more children are forced to work in order to attain basic necessities. In addition, those who are already in child labor may be working extensive hours or under worsening conditions, while multiple more may be forced into the most alarming forms of child labor due to job and income losses among vulnerable families. A sudden negative change in a family's economic well-being may not be directly determinant in the probability that a child will enter child labor, but it is a factor in household decisions correlating to the coping tactics they will adopt when encountered with challenges such as economic shock, and these strategies can include reassessing the allocation of children's time. Children should not be forced to work at such young ages when they should be focused on receiving an education and enjoying their childhoods.

Children in child labor are at risk of physical and mental harm. Not only that, but it compromises children's education, capping their rights and restricting their future opportunities, and leads to vicious inter-generational cycles of poverty and child labor. It is critical to call for urgent actions to address this tragedy and remain profoundly concerned that millions more children will soon be forced into work, which can seriously jeopardize their lives.



Create your own Dove! Color in it :)



		7	1	5		9		
		9	4	3				
5					2		1	3
		6	5		4		2	9
4	3			8			5	7
9	7		3		1	4		
7	6		2					5
				9	6	2		
		3		4	5	6		

1								9
	4		2	6	1		3	
	6			5			1	
		5	6		3	4		
8	1	4	7		5	3	9	6
		9		1		7		
			9	3	4			
4	8		5	7	2		6	3
3								5

Turkey's Disinformation Law Strikes Against Media Freedom

by Agnes Zeng



On October 13, 2022, Turkey's parliament ratified several new amendments known as the "censorship laws," which introduces new criminal speech offenses that restrict the free circulation of information and heighten online censorship. The disinformation bill consists of 40 clauses covering anything from internet regulations to press law and introducing prison sentences of up to three years, with increasing sentences by fifty percent for anonymously publishing. The Turkish government has long claimed that the accurate version of events happening in the country and around the world is only issued by pro-government platforms, implying that independent media organizations publish false and misleading information.

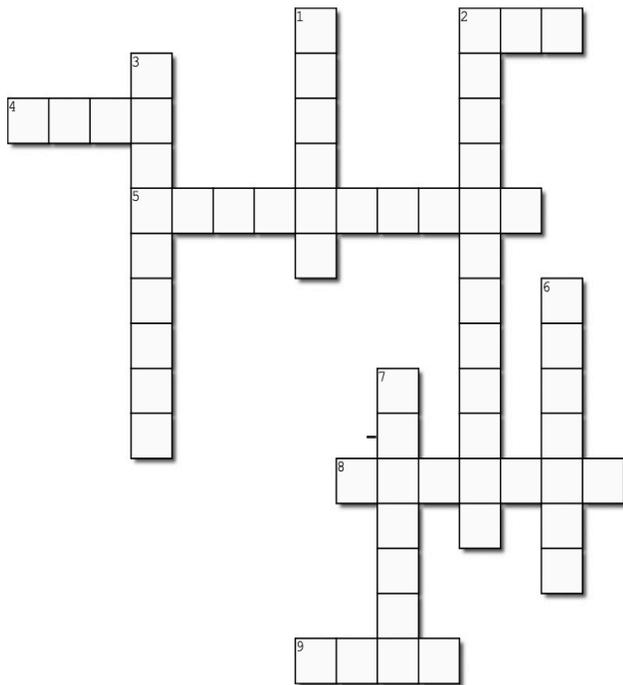
The timing at which the law was implemented raises concerns among individuals that the government intends to restrain reporting and commentary, which may impact the Erdogan government in the following elections. "Taken together, the new legislation represents a draconian new chapter ahead of elections in 2023 by increasing the weapons in the g-

overnment's arsenal to enforce censorship and tighten control over social media and independent online news sites," said Sarah Clarke, Head of Europe and Central Asia at ARTICLE 19. It's an attempt to silence any voice that does not resonate with the press releases of the presidential palace. There are also penalties against tech companies, specifically social media companies that refuse to take down data and content at the government's request, propelling tech companies to be complicit with a majority censorship regime. In other words, under the new legislation, anyone who criticizes the government on online platforms can be prosecuted under disinformation charges.

Not to mention, the ambiguity in the wording of the new law is troubling as it leaves room for open interpretation. This will allow the law to be used as legal harassment in the hands of a government that wishes to penalize those who share critical information in the media. The lack of a clear definition of what constitutes "disinformation" or "fake news" can grant authorities the liberty of labeling anything in this category. "It criminalizes what the authorities call 'disinformation' without defining what that actually means," said the journalist Emre Kızılkaya, head of the Turkish branch of the Vienna-based International Press Institute. The ambiguity in this law also allows the easy conviction of journalists, news organizations, and individuals that may disagree with the government, essentially taking away their freedom of speech and expression.

It can be said that the Turkish government is paving the way toward a more repressive online environment that tightens government control over society's right to information and free speech.

Complete the cross-word puzzle below



Here are the questions:

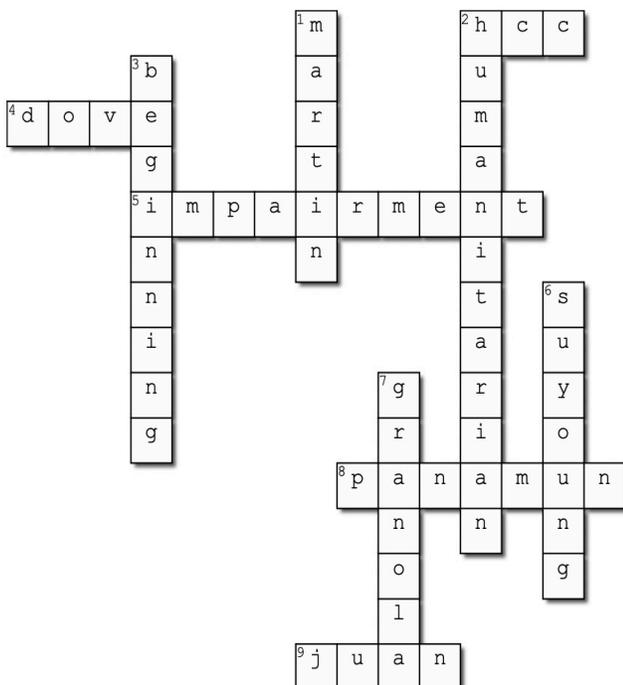
Across:

2. What committee did Sebastian Perdomo write about?
4. What's the bird on this year's PANAMUN?
5. Pregnancy can be considered a partial (...) - read Eitan's article.
8. What conference are we at?
9. Who was the keynote speaker?

Down:

1. Who is our Secretary General?
2. What type of crisis is Afghan having? - read Monty's article.
3. A New ...
6. Who's the head of MARKCOM?
7. What snacks were there today?

Answer Key:



Across:

2. What committee did Sebastian Perdomo write about? (HCC)
4. What's the bird on this year's PANAMUN? (dove)
5. Pregnancy can be considered a partial (...) - read Eitan's article. (impairment)
8. What conference are we at? (PANAMUN)
9. Who was the keynote speaker? (Juan)

Down:

1. Who is our Secretary General? (Martin)
2. What type of crisis is Afghan having? - read Monty's article. (humanitarian)
3. A New ... (beginning)
6. Who's the head of MARKCOM? (Suyoung)
7. What snacks were there today? (granola)

Some Pictures From PANAMUN Day 2

by Marina Aguiar, Simon Rodriguez, and Tiago Lemos

