



HARVARD MODEL CONGRESS ASIA

THE PREMIER GOVERNMENT SIMULATION FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

Dear Delegates and Faculty,

On behalf of the Executive Board, it is my honor to invite you to the 12th Session of Harvard Model Congress Asia.

Since its founding in 2004, HMCA has brought together thousands of high school students from across Asia and around the world to debate issues facing governments and international organizations in the 21st century. Delegates must not only tackle controversial economic, political, and social issues—be they regional or global, historic or unprecedented—but also seek to craft solutions, all under the guidance of Harvard University undergraduates.

This year, we are excited to announce that our conference will be moving to Seoul, Korea, in partnership with Seoul National University. A world-class research university that is consistently ranked the top school in Korea, SNU has a strong history of international collaboration and state-of-the-art facilities that we know will add a great deal to our conference.

On January 7, hundreds of delegates from around 20 countries will congregate at SNU's Gwanak campus, having researched key issues and reviewed briefings prepared by our Harvard student staff. On January 10, these delegates will leave with a new understanding of government, of the challenges that face Asia and the world, of public speaking in English, of debate and compromise, and of their own positions on the issues.

Our goal at HMCA is to promote political awareness, develop mutual cross-cultural understanding (both for Asian cultures and our own in the US), to educate students about differing perspectives, and to give delegates the tools to advocate for their positions in reasoned debate. Seoul, standing at the very center of historic change in Asia, will no doubt be a fitting place for a conference that demands delegates to consider the continent's past, present, and future.

HMCA is unique to other simulation conferences because of how connected delegates become to their Harvard chairs. We are planning to keep a 15:1 staff-to-delegate ratio—far lower than those at other government simulation conferences, at which 200-person committees are often the norm.

We are excited to welcome the efforts of the CK Entrepreneur Club, and are thrilled to have this organization work on teaching delegates about model congress prior to the

conference. The club will be using some of HMCA's own materials in training delegates, and we expect their work to be very helpful in spreading our mission. You can contact the club directly for more information about their event, and you can also learn more about our conference at our own website, www.hmcasia.org.

We hope you will consider joining us at HMCA 2016, and we are happy to answer any questions you have about registration, logistics, or any other aspect of the conference. Please reach out to faculty@hmcasia.org and we will be sure to help however we can. Whether you are a school new to government simulation or have been coming to HMCA for the past 11 years, we look forward to answering your questions and seeing you in Seoul for Harvard Model Congress Asia 2016!

Sincerely,

Zachary J. Lustbader

President | Harvard Model Congress Asia 2016