

## **Three Nørre G IB-students participated in SCOT MUN 2014**

The last weekend of February was a very special one for Erik (3i), Sebastian (2i) and myself, Lærke (2i). This weekend we travelled to the great city of Edinburgh.

We visited this great nation not to experience the stunning old architecture or go on haunted city walks (this delegate, for one, is quite easily scared). No, we were there to participate in what is called a "Model United Nations Conference".

Model United Nations is a worldwide extra-curricular activity that draws politically interested youth from around the world. At these conferences, the conference managers and secretariat try to orchestrate something that closely resembles the United Nations, with the relevant committees, commissions and other bodies.

Nørre G had been allotted three delegate places. The schools MUN body, NøGMUN, had internally chosen three delegates, who had their travel costs and participation fees covered by the school. These three delegates arrived to St. Christopher's Inn in central Edinburgh on Thursday evening.

The next day (Friday) featured a pompous opening ceremony in the amazing McEwan Hall on the Edinburgh University (See picture!). The guest speakers were Humza Yousaf MSP, Minister of External Affairs and International Development and Dr. Martin Barber, who has held multiple positions in the United Nations.

Saturday was the first committee day. Nørre G's three delegates bravely conquered the morning cold in Edinburgh and made it to the meeting point: The Old Medical School. Erik went to the Security Council, Sebastian to the International Atomic Energy Agency and I went to the World Health Association. In these commissions the delegates handle current international conflicts of course in the role of their allotted countries. The goal is to produce a resolution – a paper stating the UN policy on the matter at hand. This demands compromises and active cooperation across political boundaries and history.

Saturday night featured a dinner at the 5-starred Hotel Balmoral, prepared by a Michelin Chef. After the dinner The Balmoral hosted the famous Ceilidh, which is a Scottish dance that was described by a member of the secretariat as: "A mosh pit with kilts". This delegate chose to adopt the role of an observer state and can conclude that the description was definitely correct.

Sunday featured more committee work. Notably, in the Security Council, the secretariat had been up all night to create a crisis: namely the Ukraine Crisis, for the delegates to discuss. After the last day of discussions, the closing ceremony was held. The chairs of the forums gave awards and Honorable mentions.

All in all, when the Deputy Secretary General finally picked up the hammer to declare "This session of SCOTMUN Closed" it was a sad moment, but the perfect conclusion to an absolutely amazing, educational and above all fun weekend.

If you are interested in learning about politics in a fun way, become a better public speaker and get the chance to travel and create a global network, then you are very welcome at NøGMUN's meetings. These meetings are every Tuesday in 5<sup>th</sup> Module and are conducted in English.

See our Facebook Group here: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/244920158881551/>