

The 32nd Kansai High School Model United Nations
June 23rd & 24th, 2022
Kyoto International Conference Center
organized by
Kyoto Gaidai Nishi High School

The 32nd annual Kansai High School Model United Nations was held on June 23rd and 24th at the Kyoto International Conference Center. Two hundred students from eleven high schools participated, deliberating on the agenda topic Empowering all women and girls through gender equality. The students represented 52 countries in each Commission A and Commission B, and leadership for the conference was provided by Kyoto Gaidai Nishi High School students and faculty.

The KHSMUN organizing team decided to hold a hybrid conference this year due to the ongoing situation with COVID 19. As a result, day one was organized as an online meeting with students participating remotely and day two was a standard face-to-face event simulating a United Nations General Assembly (GA) meeting. Student delegates were divided into two blocs for each GA commission and each bloc was assigned an agenda topic with the task writing a draft resolution with no more than 18 operative clauses. Day one was dedicated to students presenting their operative clauses proposals, finding similarities within the various proposals and then writing a DR document that could be presented to the General Assembly session scheduled for day two. In the GA sessions, 200 student delegates attended and participated in delivering speeches, presenting policy proposals, debating, amending, and finally voting on draft resolutions that had been prepared by blocs.

The KHSMUN organizing committee worked closely with the staff of the Kyoto International Conference Center to ensure that COVID-19 guidelines were in place and followed. All participants cooperated in following certain social distance guidelines and as a result, no new cases of COVID-19 infections were reported.

The 32nd annual KHSMUN was a great success, as all the past conferences have been. However, this year was especially important as it marked a return to face-to-face events for high school students, and the energy and excitement was obvious as the student delegates participated in this two-day English conference. The MUN format continues to challenge students to go beyond the classroom and apply what they are learning in a simulation environment where they are encouraged to not only interact with each other in English, but also to cooperate in presenting, negotiating, and creating solutions for real global issues. The efforts of teachers, administrators, staff and local organizations result in a world-class educational event that impacts the lives of all that participate.