

Committee Guide

GA 3rd 2024

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Navigating a New Age

***Ensuring Equal
Opportunities
for People With
Disabilities in
Society and the
Labour Market***



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1. Personal Introduction

1.1. Ana Isabel Chiner

Dear Delegates,

My name is Anabel, and I would like to welcome you to the Third Committee of the General Assembly of OLMUN 2024. I am 17 years old and Spanish, olé! I am currently in my last year of school and preparing for my upcoming final IB exams. In my free time, I like to meet up with friends, go to the beach, and, if there is time left, do karaoke and sing out loud.

My MUN journey started a few years ago, when I participated several times as a delegate in a MUN at my school. Last year, I had the opportunity to make my debut as a chair in OLMUN 2023, when I was part of the ECOSOC committee, and later on, I also had the opportunity to serve as Secretary-General in the MUN of my school, which was very exciting!

This year, during this conference, Isabella, Jeff, and I will do our best for you to learn and to have an unforgettable OLMUN experience.

I look forward to meeting all of you very soon. Have fun with your research!

1.2. Isabella Meyer

My name is Isabella Meyer, I'm 18 years old and I am currently in grade 12 at Altes Gymnasium Oldenburg. Some hobbies of mine include reading, listening to music, playing the cello and dancing. I do, however, also quite enjoy getting to know new people and talking about the several fandoms I am part of (such as, but not limited to, multiple anime fandoms).

This will be my third time participating at OLMUN. In 2022, I participated for the first time, back then I was part of the UN Women committee as delegate of Canada. In 2023, I chaired for the first time, coincidentally as part of the GA3rd as well.

I truly hope that we, as your chairs, will be able to convey at least as much (if not more) fun as was conveyed to me the last two years, and that we'll be able to show you how special and dear OLMUN is to each and every one of us.

One last tip: Don't pressure yourselves too hard, your focus should primarily lie on having fun while doing your tasks.

I'm very much looking forward to seeing you all in June!

2 How to use this Guide

1.3. Jeff Zeng

Esteemed delegates, after my co-chairs' introductions, I will introduce myself.

My name is Jeff, I am 19 years old, and I am more than excited to get to know everyone. I am in my last year of school at the Schiller Gymnasium Hameln and enjoy doing sports (volleyball and fitness), playing the piano and long walks. I happen to be interested in anime and discussing anything philosophical or science-related, as well as meeting new people.

Last year, I participated in the GA3rd as a delegate. I vividly remember the daunting experience of addressing the whole house for the first time. If you are participating for the first time, I advise you to take the leap of faith as early as possible, as participation is integral to enjoy committee sessions. Additionally, careful research and preparation will greatly improve your experience, thus I strongly recommend doing that.

Lastly, I am looking forward to a fruitful debate and a great experience with everyone!

2. How to use this guide

Reading and understanding the Committee Guide is crucial, however you also need to do your own research and inform yourself about factors that concern the nation that you are representing in order to be fully prepared for this year's conference.

This Committee Guide is aimed to help you with some general and superficial information to start off (information for any nation in specific will not be provided), furthermore you need to research several aspects such as culture, history, status, geography, relationships with nations etc. of your country. More information on details needed can be found in the OLMUN Handbook 2024.

The following information in this Committee Guide will provide you with basic knowledge about GA3rd and the topic of "**ENSURING EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES IN SOCIETY AND THE LABOUR MARKET**". Therefore, reading this guide should give you an overview of:

- Who will be chairing the committee
- Where, when and why the committee was created
- What topic this year's conference shall deal with
- How to start your researching process
- What to hand in prior to the conference

3. About the GA3rd

Before explaining this year's topic, it is essential to understand a couple of important facts regarding the committee itself, its history and some of the previous work the GA3rd has done.

The Third Committee of the United Nations General Assembly (GA3rd), also called the Social, Humanitarian, and Cultural Committee (SOCHUM), was founded in 1945 in reaction to the establishment of the Universal Declaration on Human Rights. With its focus on issues regarding fundamental human rights in the international community, the Third Committee promotes and enforces basic freedom and ideals meant to be enjoyed by the entirety of the international community. These, among others, include the right to life, the expression of cultures, the freedom of political participation, the protection of children's rights, and the promotion of social development.

The committee's goal is to design peaceful settlements for issues within the large spectrum of social, humanitarian, and cultural complications by initiating studies that encourage recommendations for the promotion of international cooperation and fundamental freedoms for all.

4. Explanation of the Topic

a) What are equal opportunities?

Equal opportunities refer to equal accessibility of central social resources for the disabled compared to the non-disabled.

These resources include inclusive education tailored to the specific needs of different disabilities, inclusive architecture of public buildings such as schools, accessibility in public transport, non-discriminatory access to employment and housing.

In addition, freedom from discrimination should be ensured in the disabled's daily lives.

b) Why are they of such importance?

Equal opportunities for the disabled are of great importance since people with disabilities comprise a sizable amount of society (roughly 15%), with increasing numbers.

This group often lags behind in socioeconomic development compared to the non-disabled, as they need specific measures to ensure the same level of economic participation.

They are also among the most vulnerable in extreme situations, most socially isolated, and

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most stigmatised groups in society.

c) What has the UN done so far?

The United Nations has most prominently addressed the issue at hand with the introduction of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) in 2006. Furthermore, the UN is active in data collection and analysis, for example with the Washington Group on Disability Statistics Short and Extended Set of Questions. Moreover, projects relating to the tenth goal of the Social Development Goals (reduced inequalities) have also addressed this topic.

d) What are some possible solutions?

The United Nations can take several actions to further ensure equal opportunities for the disabled in society and the labour market. Some of these actions could include promoting the implementation of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD), which is a legally binding treaty that requires all states to ensure equal opportunities for people with disabilities, including employment, or encouraging the participation of organisations of people with disabilities in the implementation and monitoring of disability employment policies and programs to ensure that their perspectives are understood and reflected.

Overall, the UN has an important role to play in improving and further ensuring equal opportunities for people with disabilities. By mobilising resources, advocating for their rights, building capacity, promoting international cooperation, and supporting research and data collection, the UN can ensure that the disabled are treated as equals to able-bodied people in society and the labour market, and that their needs are met.

These are only some examples of further measurements the UN can take. You will very likely come up with more during your own research. Since these are also quite general, feel free to further specify them while writing your draft resolutions!

5. Next Steps

This Committee Guide provides a basis for this years' topic that will be debated and discussed in the Third Committee of the United Nations General Assembly.

We would like to emphasise that the Committee Guide should not be the only foundation for

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your research and is not meant to be used as an all-inclusive analysis. Accordingly, this guide serves as a thought-provoking impulse to introduce you to the topic, seeing as you will further acquaint yourselves with information to be well prepared for the discussions and for the debates. This can be done by consulting scholarly materials, international news and more detailed background knowledge. Find out how the nation that you will be representing is currently progressing in ensuring equal opportunities for people with disabilities. What goals has the nation set? What difficulties might the nation be facing? Are there any measures?

All these questions and many more may guide you through your research. However, in order to keep guiding you through this process, we included some useful links down below to make your research easier.

Additionally, it is required from the delegates to send a policy statement and a draft resolution prior to the conference. These documents are of great importance as they will be the base of your work throughout the conference. In a separate mail, we shall explain the details concerning those documents.

Lastly, it is crucial to read this year's Rules of Procedure prior to attending the committee sessions, as they will be the main guideline for your behaviour.

6. References and Recources

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World Report on Disability. World Health Organisation, World Bank. (2011) <https://www.who.int/teams/noncommunicable-diseases/sensory-functions-disability-and-rehabilitation/world-report-on-disability>

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Congratulations for having made it all the way through the guide! Please check out the **Rules of Procedure** and the **OLMUN Handbook** too.





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**23rd International
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