European Union President's Letter and Topic Guide

Hello delegates. My name is Vinnie Bellardini and I'll be chairing the upcoming European Union congregation at St. Bonaventure University. I'm currently a junior and double majoring in both Journalism/Mass Communication and Political Science. My hometown is Cortland, New York—a small town about 30 miles south of Syracuse. I also host a radio show on WSBU 88.3, Saint Bonaventure's radio statio

The Crisis in Ukraine

When then-Ukrainian President Viktor Yanukovych and his cabinet abandoned a deal to establish closer ties with the European Union in November 2013 and decided to pursue a closer relationship with Russia, small protests in the Ukrainian capital city of Kiev ensued. These protests didn’t seem like much at the time, however as time passed the numbers of protesters grew massively. Some 800,000 Ukrainians occupied Kiev city hall that December. They were stunned that their president had shut the door of joining a league of democracies (EU) and instead chose to consolidate his ties with an authoritarian state (Russia).

As the riots got more intense and more deadly, President Yanukovych disappeared and rioters took over administrative buildings. He later deniegdeildi0(o) (t)-( )-230a1 41u17(ng8(t)-22(r)-7(a(e)-16(37(e

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E.U. imposed sanctions on Russia and travel bans on some of its officials. This has only led to more tension and the conflict persists to this day with little signs of diplomatic progress.

Your job as European Union delegates is to address the situation and plan the organization's

The European Union and Climate Change

http://europa.eu/pol/ener/index_en.htm

http://europa.eu/pol/env/index_en.htm

The European Debt Crisis

The European debt crisis (often also referred to as the Eurozone crisis or the European sovereign debt crisis) is an ongoing long debt crisis taking place in a handful of Eurozone member states since 2009. These states were no longer able to repay or refinance their government debt or to bail-out over-indebted banks under their national supervision without the assistance of third parties like the ECB or IMF. The European debt crisis has erupted in an environment of overly high government structural deficits and accelerating government debt levels. The crisis was so intense to the extent that four Eurozone states needed to be rescued by sovereign bailout programs, delivered jointly by the International Monetary Fund and European Commission - with additional support at the technical level by the European Central Bank. Together these three international organizations representing the bailout creditors, became nicknamed "the Troika". As for you delegates, you must discuss the details regarding the crises itself. Pay close attention to the recent elections in Greece and the coming to power of a party that rejects the “Troika” policies.

After discussing these details, cooperate amongst yourselves to discuss possible budget cuts, program shifts, or other methods of reform. Find a consensus resolution. Some helpful questions to consider:

1. How has my country contributed to the current financial crisis?
2. Based on your own nation’s policy, how well will your nation cooperate with others?
3. How has your nation’s GDP impacted the EU?
4. What are the implications of Greek elections? What is the future of the EU?

Here are a few helpful resources:

http://www.cnbc.com/id/47689157

http://www.bbc.com/news/business-29751124

http://www.theguardian.com/business/debt-crisis