

# FLYING FACTS

March  
10<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> 2025  
ROSENHEIM / GERMANY

Sustainable life  
in the  
**Alps**



## 1ST EDITORIAL

Dear Readers,

Welcome to the 19th YPAC session in Rosenheim!

Considering what is going on around the world at the moment, such as the increasing support for extremist political positions, it is important for us to show our commitment to maintaining and improving our democracies and to help strengthen our international relationships.

With YPAC we are able to focus on international communication and exchange. As students it is crucial that we show our political engagement and make our voices heard. We can do this by working together and finding compromises because this is what makes a democracy.

And to be honest, there is nothing better than collaborating to find a meeting point for many common problems.



This year's topic encourages us to think and act for a fairer and more equitable world for us and for future generations, as it is connected to the Sustainable Development Goals. In particular, four of the 17 SDGs, which were introduced by the UN were chosen to help us reflect on a better future for the Alpine Region and we are sure that we will be able to join forces and develop solutions from which we can all benefit.

We hope that YPAC is going to be a great experience to grow, make new friends and learn something new about the Alps. We wish you all an inspiring and formative week!

Best wishes,

Franziska Schroeder and Sebastiano Walzl, Editors in Chief

# COMMITTEE WORK

## Committee 1



Committee 1 started the day summarising problems concerning the main topic “Clean water and Sanitation” in their specific countries. Firstly they identified the three main topics which endanger the quality of water in the Alpine region: tourism, agriculture and preserving the natural water cycles. Then they split up into groups of four in order to work on these issues. The group dealing with tourism focuses on making environmentally friendly winter sports more popular instead of skiing. For example, they thought about promoting summer activities more, in order to relieve tourism in the winter months. Another group is trying to solve the waste of water in agriculture. Their idea is to reduce water consumption in the agriculture area by promoting the use of drip irrigation. At first the third group discussed many different ideas and struggled to come to an agreement but later could agree that they want to protect the ground water by renovating the old sewage systems. Overall, Committee 1 has many good ideas for complicated problems and the delegates are motivated to specify their approaches.

Romy Lanzendorfer, Hillina Giroux

## Committee 2

This year, C2 focuses on the reduction of inequalities, referring to the 10th Sustainable Development Goal (SDG 10)

During the first meeting, the delegates worked out the main inequalities concerning the Alpine region and started brainstorming.

The delegates then decided on the topic they were the most interested in and are now working in three groups to write their postulations.

The first group is working on inequalities in business and limited job opportunities due to migration, gender, and disabilities. They are planning on reducing gender or origin based stereotypes in jobs, better inclusion and increasing opportunities for underprivileged people.

At the same time, the second group is preparing a postulation about inequalities between the local population and tourists in the Alpine region. Nowadays, local governments focus a lot on tourists by giving them discounts for attractions and transportation. However, local authorities priorities tourism over the needs of the local population. To prevent that, the group’s idea is to form a card for locals that would make transport, tourist attractions, and everyday life cheaper.

The third group’s focus is on inequalities between different age groups. They want to support the younger generations, as they are responsible for the future of the Alpine region. One of their ideas is that governments should support young families with rent for four years, to provide them with more support. Furthermore, they talked about the addition of health centres and educational programs.

Anna-Laura Misof, Karolina Graj

# COMMITTEE WORK

## Committee 3



Our planet is running out of resources, but Committee 3 is full of ideas. They started their first meeting with a brainstorming session, where everyone shared their thoughts and opinions. They discussed different topics, exchanged ideas, and worked together to develop them further.

After that, each student wrote down their personal views on the topics and presented them to the whole team. This helped them understand different perspectives and make their ideas even stronger. Then, they created a mindmap to connect all their ideas in a clear way. As they organized their thoughts, three main topics stood out as the most important and popular: **education and waste, food production and packaging, and tourism.** These topics quickly sparked even more discussion, as students shared why they thought they were important and how they could help solve global problems.

To explore these topics in more detail, they split up into three smaller groups, each focusing on one of the key issues. This way, they could research more deeply, exchange ideas and come up with practical solutions. With excitement and determination, each group started working, ready to find ways to make a positive difference for our planet so they can work hard on finalizing their postulation tomorrow.

Destina Hernler, Lina Mlinar

## Committee 4

We can benefit from the environment in many different ways and it contributes directly to our well-being, yet it is increasingly under threat. That is why we need effective legislation that protects our environment in the long term. This is exactly what the 14 members of Committee 4 are trying to do, dealing with SDG 15 Life on Land and the question: 'In what way can different ecosystem services play a role in political and economic decision making in the Alps?'



In a brainstorming session, they thought about problems that Life on Land has to face in the Alps and worked out some ideas to solve these problems.

A wide range of topics were discussed, from tourism to sustainable fertilizers and pollination to tourism. The students discussed the various topics and finally agreed on these three main topics:

**governmental support for traditional agriculture, preserving nature and educating tourists** and lastly **expanding nature.**

After that the delegates formed three groups, in which they thought about the issues of their topics and with a lot of teamwork and cooperation they already made some first drafts of their postulations.

Greta Schacht, Julia Veronika Tröger

# INTERVIEW

## Expert for C1: Julia Hager



Media Group:  
So what does your everyday work look like?

Julia Hager:  
I'm a self employed marine biologist, but I'm working for a Swiss online magazine. It's called polar journal, and I'm writing articles about current research in the polar region.

Media Group:  
So do you see a connection between your work and the things we do here?

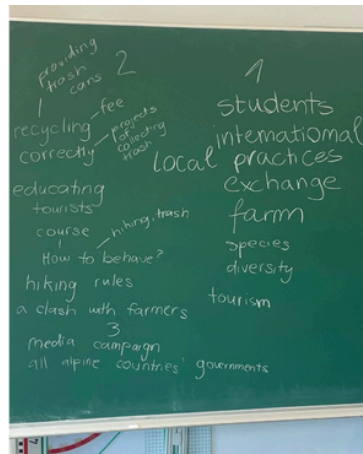
Julia Hager:  
Yeah, definitely. But rather connected to the work that I did before the Coronavirus crisis. So I worked as a water and marine pollution expert, and gave presentations to students in schools, but also to adults. And that's definitely connected, because I was always talking about what's connected to climate change and these sustainable development goals because they were set up because of climate change.

Media Group:  
After you heard their ideas and postulations, what is your opinion about it? Or your first impression?

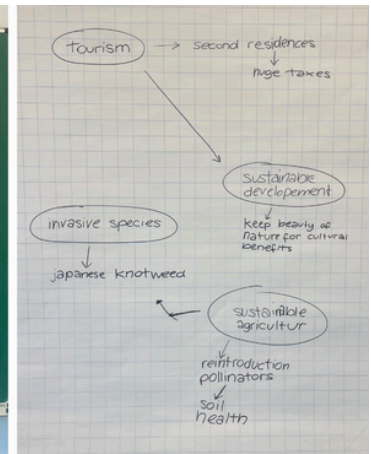
Julia Hager:  
I'm pretty impressed by the topics that were brought up by the different groups, and impressed by their thoughtful ideas and the thoroughness of the idea so they're really thinking it through. So in my opinion these are really relevant topics.



Picture of C2



ideas from C4



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# YPAC AS GREEN EVENT

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If you take a look at the YPAC's website, you will see that it has a Green Event certificate. But what does Green Event mean?

The YPAC has been in existence for 18 years, and this year it also became a so-called 'Green Event'.

Being a Green Event means that you fulfil several different social and environmental requirements. Some of the various requirements that need to be considered are:

the location, the technical equipment, the catering, the mobility, and social responsibility. The aim of the whole system is to organise the event as sustainably, ethically and equitably as possible. This awareness is also communicated to the participants on a permanent basis.

YPAC implements these goals, for example, by ensuring that the delegations travelled in carpools or by bus or train. Disposable products are also no longer used, and the focus is on high-quality products that can be reused.

-Maja Eiffert, Elise Lindemann

## Statements from participants:

### Students:

What have you noticed that could have something to do with "Green Event"?

"There is less plastic packaging during coffee breaks, and many participants come by bus or bicycle."

"We have to give back the packaging of our name tags and have reusable cups for our drinks."

### Mrs. Fimm:

Why do you want the YPAC to be a Green Event? Why is it important?

"Sustainability is important to us and as we are also a fairtrade school and a so-called 'good healthy school Bavaria', we would also like to integrate the topic of sustainability into the school context. The topic of the SDGs in particular has encouraged us to make the YPAC sustainable and to focus on this topic."