



2018 International Model UN Human Rights Council Universal Periodic Review

9 August 2018

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The City University of Hong Kong (CityU) participated in the 2018 International Model United Nations Human Rights Council Universal Periodic Review (MUPR) competition, which was held in South Korea from 31 July 2018 to 3 August 2018. After a careful round of selection, the CityU sent 10 students from both the Juris Doctor (JD) programme and Bachelor of Laws with Honours (LLB) programme to participate in the competition. With the guidance of **Dr. Surya Deva** and **Dr. Stephenson Chow**, CityU participants out-performed all other country teams and were awarded multiple prizes for their astonishing efforts. These prizes include the Best Teamwork Award (Team China), United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights Grand Prize (**Leung Yan Yu Michelle** and **Angeline Nicole Martin Corpus**) and the Best Essay Award (**Chan Pui Kei**).

The 2018 MUPR competition was organised by Human Asia, a South Korean human rights NGO, with the sponsorship of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Korea and the UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights. The aim of the MUPR is to encourage participants to study and find sustainable solutions to the human rights issues in China, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Republic of Korea and Japan. Participating universities come from various regions in East Asia, including - CityU (Hong Kong, China), International Christian University (Japan), Korea National University (Republic of Korea) and Ritsumeikan University (Japan).

Modelling the procedures of the UN Universal Periodic Review (UPR) mechanism, participants role-played as government delegates of a UPR in session engaging with each other in dialogue on a number of human rights themes. After two rounds of questions and answers, each country team had to submit a written report. The participants are evaluated based on their performances in the review sessions as well as on the quality of their reports. The themes of this year's competition are the freedom of opinion and expression, human trafficking and rights of the children, climate change and environment, as well as gender inequality and violence. In addition, all participants were required to write an essay concerning the human rights situation of the country which they represent. The candidate who wrote the best essay was awarded the Best Essay Award.

Here are some quotes from our participants:

“As Head Delegate, I am proud of my team for reaping the rewards for their hard work and dedication in preparing for the competition. It was a great platform for my team to showcase their abilities in human rights issues and the laws in various nations.” - **Melizza Ann Daluz Anievas, Head Delegate of Team China**

“It has been our team's greatest pride to represent City University of Hong Kong and to bring the Grand Prizes home.” – **Leung Yan Yu Michelle**

“Take risks and face challenges. Nothing can substitute the experience I gained from this international competition.” – **Chan Pui Kei Pinky**

“The competition has gathered elites internationally and I am proud of my team on winning the Best Teamwork Award!” - **Tang Wai Sze Shelley**

Achievements:

- Best Teamwork Award: **Team China**
- United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights Grand Prize: **Leung Yan Yu Michelle** and **Angeline Nicole Martin Corpus**
- Best Essay Award: **Chan Pui Kei Pinky**

Juries of the MUPR competition:

- **Dr. Buhm-suk Baek** (Assistant Professor at Kyung-Hee University, College of International Studies in Korea)
- **Dr. Stephenson Chow** (Assistant Professor at the School of Law, CityU)
- **Dr. Daniel Connolly** (Research Professor at Korea University)
- **Prof. Georgios Mousourakis** (Professor, Faculty of International Relations, Ritsumeikan University).



Cheung Cheuk Hang, Jacky, speaking as Recommending State



Yip Pui Yu (Deputy Head Delegate) delivering the Closing Statement on behalf of Team China
 (From left to right: Yip Pui Yu, Patricia; Melizza Ann Daluz Anievas)



Team China, Recipient of the Best Teamwork Award
 (From left to right: Tang Pui Yan, Nova; Angeline Nicole Martin Corpuz; Leung Yan Yu, Michelle; Chan Pui Kei, Pinky; Anievas Melizza Anne Daluz; Yip Pui Yu, Patricia; Kwan Mei Ling, Annabell; Tang Wai Sze, Shelly; Zheng Xin, Katie; Cheung Cheuk Hang, Jacky)



Chan Pui Kei, Pinky recipient of the Best Essay Award



Angeline Nicole Martin Corpuz and Leung Yan Yu Michelle were awarded United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights Grand Prize



Photo of all participants of the MUPR competition with coaches and juries