

## Interview – Altan Tutar

### *1. How and when did your story with THIMUN begin?*

My THIMUN dreams began when I started high school. As a freshman, I always thought that I would never make it to become a delegate in THIMUN 2013. At my high school, American Collegiate Institute, MUN is an exceptionally serious extracurricular activity that meets on Wednesday and Thursday each week for six hours. At the time, I decided to become a part of the MUN club for the reason that it would look extraordinary in my resume, but I never thought that I would grow into the most zealous member of the MUN club. My passion for MUN led me to work more on improving my public speaking and leadership skills. My MUN advisor, the school principal, recognized my passion and selected me to go to The Hague for representing Portugal. The competition for seats to THIMUN was so competitive that even seniors might not be taken for the delegation in THIMUN. Therefore, my THIMUN story began with my hard work and dedication to the Model United Nations Club.

### *2. What was the most memorable thing about THIMUN 2016?*

It was the time when I announced that the next debate would be my last chairing experience on I felt honored when all of the delegates gave a round of applause for me. I will never forget my feelings of accomplishment as I announced my last chairing as the President Chair of GA4.

### *3. What are differences between participating as a delegate and as a chair?*

If I had the chance of selecting between participating as a delegate and as a chair, I would select participating as a delegate given the fact that a delegate can speak out. As a delegate, you have the opportunity to share your opinion about the most exciting issues, but as a chair, you only listen to what delegates are speaking about. Even though I really liked being a leader and the flexibility given to chairs, I always liked being a delegate, especially for a topic that was directly relevant to my country.

### *4. You were the President Chair of General Assembly 4. Why did you decide to apply for that committee?*

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I started my THIMUN career as a delegate in GA4. I always found the topics of GA4 enthralling. In THIMUN 2013, I wrote a resolution on the instability of Somali government. It was so inspiring to learn about Somalia as a new high school student. I have always considered GA4 as a place to learn more about political issues on topics ranging from Tokelau, an island I have never heard before, to blood diamonds, one of the issues in African Union's agenda. I would say GA4 was the best fit for me, as I finally became the head chair. Even though I was also the delegate of Russia in THIMUN 2014's DC2, I never felt the same way in DC2 as I felt in GA4.

*5. What was the hardest thing for you as a chair at THIMUN 2016?*

The hardest thing for me at THIMUN 2016 was truly the adversity of leading a crowd of 180 people. As the president chair, I had to take more responsibilities than my co-chairs. Prior to the conference, we worked hard for writing the research reports, and I made sure that each of my co-chairs had written well-crafted research reports. During the conference, one issue that we had was with the secretariat and admins. The resolution printing process for me was the most troublesome because I always worried what would happen if no resolution arrived on time. Additionally, the admins were inexperienced compared to the admins we had in THIMUN 2015. Tommy, my co-chair and I worked really hard to make sure that admins knew what they were doing.

*6. It was the last THIMUN experience for you. If you had a chance to participate one more time what you would choose: being a delegate (if Yes: which country would You like to represent?) or being a chair or maybe PGA?*

I would choose to be a delegate representing a P5 nation in the Security Council. Even though I have been chaired several times, I have never had the chance to be at the Security Council. Back when I represented Russia in DC2, I was literally jealous of my friend, who represented Russia in Security Council. As I am going to college next year, I will definitely strive for becoming a Model UN delegate in Security Council.

*7. What would you like to say to people who are going for next THIMUN? Any advises?*

I would recommend that appreciate their time in THIMUN. During my last THIMUN, I learned how important my friendships in THIMUN are. As I am graduating from THIMUN, one thing I would have done better was enjoying my time in THIMUN. Strive for making connections in

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THIMUN. The friends that you make in THIMUN will stay for a lifetime. The international mindset in THIMUN is absolutely amazing. You have the chance of meeting people from exciting places like Panama and Singapore. Try to widen your horizon by learning about new cultures and people.

*Altan Tutar, Tommy Lynch  
President Chair and co-chair  
of General Assembly 4  
at THIMUN 2016*

