



Northwestern University Model United Nations

Honored Delegates,

It is with the upmost pleasure that I welcome you to the Balance of Power: Serbia simulation at NUMUN VII. We are overjoyed to announce that NUMUN VII is the biggest conference in the history of Northwestern Model United Nations and we hope that you enjoy your visit to our beautiful, lake-side campus. This is an incredibly exciting period for Model UN at our university and we are delighted to share it with you, our delegates, without whom- well- our work would be quite redundant.

By way of introduction, my name is Stefan Djordjevic and I will serve as the chair of BoP: Serbia at NUMUN VII. I am a junior, enrolled in the Weinberg College of Arts and Sciences, majoring in European History, with more narrow interests in the political and cultural history of Early Modern Western Europe and Medieval Eastern Europe. I was born near Sarajevo, in the former Republic of Yugoslavia- present day Bosnia and Herzegovina- and lived for several years in Serbia before immigrating to the United States. Needless to say, my relation to the topics discussed in this committee is more immediate than it would be in most other contexts and I look forward to your perspectives in unraveling the political, historical, cultural, and religious puzzle which are the Balkans. On a more bureaucratic note, this conference marks the fifth year of my involvement in Model United Nations, and I actually participated in this very conference as a delegate in 2008 as a high school senior. However, this is the first time that I will be chairing a committee and I am very much looking forward to this new step in my Model UN career.

During your time in BoP: Serbia, you will be presented with many difficult, complex choices and forced to assume the occasionally intimidating role of high-ranking Cabinet Ministers. It is our hope to construct an adequately high-tension, high-intensity atmosphere in this committee, as befitting the roles you have adopted and the challenges you will have to face over the four day NUMUN weekend. However, do not be overly troubled: if at any time, you feel intimidated by the



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breadth of the topics that we will address, have any questions regarding the organization of this small committee, or just need help researching your role, me and my two capable Vice-Chairs- Nick Warther and Jayshree Raghavan- will be more than happy to help.

In closing, all that I ask of you is to come to NUMUN VII ready and eager to work, but also to enjoy yourselves. Yes, there will be times when you will feel overwhelmed- and to anyone that was having trouble figuring out the Coalitions in the Serbian government or the political organization of Republika Srpska and Bosnia, I share your pain because they are mind-bogglingly byzantine- but we also hope that you enjoy your stay at NUMUN VII, as you hone your expertise in parliamentary procedure and debate while resolving weighty issues of state and making new friends.

Wishing you the very best,

Stefan Djordjevic

BoP: Serbia Chair