



University of Pittsburgh

Session: Middle East

Dear Delegates and Advisors,

It is my honor and pleasure to invite your school to attend the 2008 University of Pittsburgh *Session: Middle East* Forum. This forum will be held from March 28- March 30, 2008 on the University of Pittsburgh's main campus.

Session: Middle East is a forum designed to address the Arab-Israeli conflict using methods that are the first of their kind in the nation. This forum seeks to analyze the conflict from a political, scientific, and journalistic standpoint. This unique experience gives students the opportunity to take classroom theory and apply it to practical political issues. It then goes beyond classroom theory to use aspects of previously successful negotiations to help delegates understand the position of the "other." For instance, students with pro-Arab views are asked to represent Israeli delegates and vice versa. A full explanation of our methods is available via our website at www.pitt.edu/~sorc/smeast and we encourage you read more about *Session: Middle East* as you consider attending our forum.

We are busily working to present an exciting conference with an interesting scenario for the delegates at this third annual *Session: Middle East* conference. In striving to create a great experience for every delegate, we have designed a unique scenario that will provide an excellent atmosphere. We welcome you to discuss three very pertinent topics: Methods for Cooperation in the Middle East; Nuclear, Chemical, and Biological Weaponization and Proliferation in the Middle East; and The New Direction for Israel and Palestine and the Need for a Comprehensive Plan on Terrorism. Further, we welcome students from your school to fill several different positions including government officials, mediators, scientific experts, and journalists.

We are confident that our conference will be a rewarding experience, and we are hopeful that delegates from your school will be active participants. More information regarding the conference, the committee, and country assignments will also be available on our website in the coming months.

If you have any questions or inquiries, please feel free to email me at session.middle.east@gmail.com. My secretariat and I are very excited, and we hope that you will join us in continuing to build this national student movement for dialogue on the conflict.

I look forward to meeting you in March!

Sincerely,

Nicole Jokola
Secretary-General
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