



## Model European Union 2014 Granada

### WHAT IS MODEL EUROPEAN UNION?

Model European Union first took place in the year 2007 at the headquarters of the European Parliament, in the city of Strasbourg. Since then, simulations have taken place every year and have given the opportunity to young European students to get to know first hand how the European institutions work. We strongly believe that this project could be a way for young people to understand how the European Union works. It also allows them to come into closer contact with the concerns of the European citizens, as well as to obtain a thorough knowledge of the institutions of the European Union. All this in an academic, multicultural and recreational atmosphere that will leave no one indifferent.

### WHAT IS MEU GRANADA?

Model European Union (MEU) Granada is a project carried out by young student which aims to simulate the ordinary legislative procedure of the European Union. Although most European politics simulations only represent one of the three main institutions of the European Union (usually the Parliament or the Council), Model European Union shows the unique feature of having the interaction of the three main institutions: the Council of the European Union, the European Parliament and the European Commission.

### WHEN AND WHERE DOES IT TAKE PLACE?

It will take place in **Granada** (Andalously, Spain), **from the 10<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> December 2014**. The venue for the conference will be the Local Council of Granada.

### WHAT IS THE ORDINARY LEGISLATIVE PROCEDURE?



The ordinary legislative procedure is the process by which laws are drafted, discussed and passed in the European Union. This "institutional triangle" is in charge of defining the policies and adopting the legislation that comes in the form of directives, regulations and decisions which are to be applied throughout the Union. The Commission is responsible for drafting and initiating new EU legislation, while the Parliament and the Council have the task of adopting, rejecting or amending it.

In order to make this complicated procedure possible, a co-decision scheme has been developed. The Commission, played by the Organisers, presents the directives or the regulations to be discussed during the simulation. The participants are assigned roles either as Members of the European Parliament or as Ministers of the Council. The debate on the proposals is carried out by making amendments to the initial text. These amendments may consist of drafting new paragraphs, rewriting or erasing existing ones.

## WHICH ARE THE ROLES?

- **Member of the European Parliament:** Members of the European Parliament are directly elected to represent the citizens of the 28 EU Member States in the European Parliament. As in the national parliaments, these representatives work together in political groupings at EU level. With support from their respective factions, MEPs debate and discuss proposals drafted by the European Commission, statements of the Council, newly released reports and general developments in EU life. In MEU Granada 2014, participants assigned the role of MEP shall work together with their colleagues in order to reach a common position within their faction and then try to create consensus in the European Parliament and the Council.
- **Minister of the Council:** In the Council of the European Union, Ministers of the 28 national governments regularly meet up and discuss policies and legislative issues. Depending on the topic at hand, national ministers from specific departments meet in different formations, i.e. External Relations, Financial Affairs, Economy, etc. Decisions are taken by consensus or by qualified majority voting (QMV) after negotiations among Member states, depending upon the matter at issue. In MEU, the Council discusses, makes amendments and votes on legislative proposals introduced by the Commission with the European Parliament (EP) as a coequal legislator.
- **Journalist:** The excitement and heated atmosphere of the pressroom is what defines the role of a journalist at MEU 2014. Throughout the week, your fast-paced life revolves around a daily newspaper, press conferences and continuous pursuit of news, scandals, and memorable quotes. Updating participants about the progress of the conference is your main objective. Producing alternately a tabloid and a broadsheet gives you a comprehensive insight into the multifaceted nature of the profession and allows you to practice all skills connected with news-making: planning and deciding on the content, investigating and writing articles, making interviews, taking pictures as well as designing and editing the layout. Start a newspaper from a scratch!



## HOW CAN I APPLY?

**We will accept applications until the 12/10/2014.** In order to successfully complete your application, you must:

- ✓ Fill out the Application form
- ✓ Write a motivation letter (500-700 words) for every role you apply for
- ✓ Upload any document required for your application

<http://www.meu-granada.org.es/index.php/how-to-apply>

In order to participate, you need to have your application submitted and accepted, be able to cover your travel costs both to and from Granada and pay the participation fee (110€). The participation fee covers the accommodation in Granada as well as meals, social events and transportation within the city. As of **15.011.2014** we will be unable to refund the participation fee of those who are unable to attend the simulation in Granada.

- Applicants from any country, aged 18-30, are eligible to apply.
- All fields in the application form **MUST BE** filled in English, the official language of MEU Granada 2014.

## WHY GRANADA?

Several reasons can be mentioned. Granada is a city located at the foot of Sierra Nevada and represents one of the geographical points of the Iberian Peninsula that receives the **highest number of visitors**. This group of visitors can be divided into two subgroups: tourists and students.

On the one hand, tourism is one of the most important sectors in Granada. The astonishing number of **historical sites** and its proximity to one of the most famous Spanish ski resorts turn this city into a constant core of tourist reception.

On the other hand, the University of Granada, the fourth largest national university by number of students, it is one of the **most popular destinations** among Erasmus students. This settlement ensures a multicultural environment that is more than ideal for organising youth programmes such as this one.

*Further information about MEU Granada, the roles and the organisation is available in our website and Facebook page, have a look at them!*

<http://www.meu-granada.org.es/>

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Model-European-Union-Granada/384103618278627?fref=ts>  
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*MEU Granada is organised and supported by:*

