



Inside International Relations

"The International Relations Fellows program seeks to instill in its participants the desire and skills necessary to make the world a more peaceful and just place."

COVER STORY

Looking Back on 2016: Top International Events of the Year!

By Luke Cromwell ('17), Lawrence Bernert ('19), and Daniel Moscoso ('19)

Pictures by Ainsleigh Montgomery ('20); edits by Brammy Rajakumar ('19)

Islands in Troubled Waters

Since December 2013, **China** has been annexing several islands and reefs in the South China Sea that have already been claimed by other countries such as **Vietnam, Malaysia, the Philippines, and Brunei.**

Experts argue that China's goal is to strengthen their national pride and defense. The land reclamation projects they are piloting involve building numerous military structures such as landing strips for fighter jets, military bases, missile defense systems, and docks for large navy



vessels. The communist Chinese government can use this policy to show their citizens that China is strong, while also improving their national defense objectives closest to home. Their actions have caused alarm around the globe. According to the recent International Court of Justice Ruling, their moves violate the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, which maintains that any land outside of 200 miles of the country's shore either belongs to another country, or is free to any country seeking its economic potential.

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Election Highlights -- The Results!

A look at the candidates who ran, their results, and what this means for the future of the country – along with a glimpse of what **NA students** think about it all.

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IR Fellow Summer Trips -- Behind the Scenes

The stories of the two IR Fellow Summer trips: one to the Baltics and one to Washington D.C., and how these humorous, at times crazy, but always fun trips taught them about US and the world -- firsthand.

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Want to know more about what is going on in the world? Look for **Summaries of World Events** throughout the newsletter.

Featured Teacher: The Great and Powerful Mr. Gibson

Written by Chase Yager ('18)

The IR Fellows are excited to welcome our new Assistant Director, Mr. Gibson, into the family. Mr. Gibson, a World Cultures teacher in the middle school, graduated from Norfolk Academy in 2008 as the valedictorian of his class. He then went on to Hampden Sydney college where he majored in History with minors in Military Leadership and National Security.

After graduating from college in 2012, Mr. Gibson returned to his alma mater and began a career in teaching here at the Academy.

Having only been with us for a year, Mr. Gibson is still getting settled into life as an IR fellow. Despite the short time with us however, he has already become very involved with all of the groups, having gone on the DC trip with the 20's last summer, as well as regularly attending the meetings of each of the groups. In a personal interview, Mr. Gibson stated that he is "impressed with

the hard work and genuine interest of the group" and feels that the CCGL curriculum is doing a great job of transforming students across the fellows' groups into leaders. On the other hand, he still feels that there is room for improvement, specifically among the IR fellows, as he hopes for the Fellows to become more involved in the middle school, specifically among the 9th graders.

In conclusion, Mr. Gibson is excited to be a part of the IR fellows and we couldn't be more excited to welcome him. We are eager to see what his extensive knowledge and ideas can do to continue the advancement of the IR fellows and the entire CCGL.



SUMMARIES OF WORLD EVENTS

By Tai Jeffers ('18) and Mila Colizza ('18)

Israel

Police in Israel detained 23 people on suspicion of arson. Over 250 wildfires spread across the central and northern areas of the country.



France

François Fillon, a French social conservative and former prime minister of France, was voted to represent France's Conservative party on Sunday, November 27th. It was the party's first US-style primary runoff.



Cuba

Fidel Castro died Friday, November 25th. US-Cuba relations could be on the verge of change with this and Trump's upcoming presidency; reconciliation may be out of the picture.



Colombia

On Thursday, November 24th, Colombian President Juan Manuel and rebel FARC leader Rodrigo Londoño signed their second peace treaty.





Featured Fellows Group: The Global Health Fellows

A physician with an incredible past inspires in a recent talk
Written by the newest Global Health Fellows – the '20s!



Dr. Janice Newsome, mother of Olivia Newsome (GHF '18) and doctor at Emory University in Atlanta, Georgia, came to talk to the Global Health Fellows in mid-November about her journey into the medical field. Now an Interventional Radiologist at Emory, the path Dr. Newsome took towards her current career is unlike many we have previously heard. She was born in a poor community in Jamaica and was raised by a group of nuns from her community. At age 14, she moved to New York City and entered into a public school system extremely different from the one she had left. In Jamaica, she was deemed "smart," therefore she had focused on math and science classes and it was assumed that she would go into a similar career. Once in New York, she applied to the gifted program at school, not knowing if she was considered gifted or not, and was accepted into the more advanced public school system.

A group picture of GHFs taken last year and posted on their blog



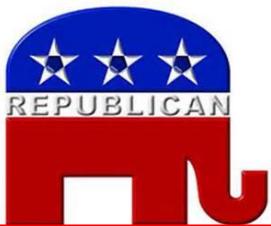
After high school, she went through the 6-year undergraduate and medical school program at Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai. She then continued with residency at VCU and a fellowship at Jackson Memorial Hospital. She worked at a few different hospitals before landing at Emory University as a doctor and a teacher.

Interventional Radiology is a recently added specialty, as it usually had fallen into the subspecialty of Radiology. These radiologists perform diagnostic procedures, treat obstructions and bleeding, and perform procedures to avoid surgery and treat cancers, just to name a few. Dr. Newsome not only performs procedures, but also is constantly thinking of innovative ways to advance her field. She has five ongoing project designs for devices that will improve the effectiveness and efficiency of procedures. One of those projects is a bio convertible filter for patients whose blood will not clot properly. Typically, the patient would have the filter inserted and then removed at a later date through another procedure.

Dr. Newsome's design would eliminate this second procedure, as the device would dissolve on its own. She works with a team of engineers to put her ideas into action and is preparing to present some of her new innovations at the Georgia Tech Capstone Design

Expo this December. As well as working at the hospital, Dr. Newsome leads and mentors a group of Interventional Radiology fellows. Ever since she was a little girl in Jamaica, she gravitated toward teaching people anything and everything, and that passion still has not gone away. She believes that being able to share your knowledge

and experience with others is a valuable skill and finds this part of her job to be extremely fulfilling. Throughout her talk, Dr. Newsome reminded us to follow through with our passions, even if obstacles may stand in the way and to take advantage of all opportunities. She dedicated herself to what she loves and it has lead her to be a innovative and progressive leader in her field. Dr. Newsome remains grateful for the opportunities she was given on her own path to Emory and ended her presentation to us with the reminder: "**To whom much is given, much is required.**"



ELECTION HIGHLIGHTS

By Chris Kazakis ('17), Alexander Burkett ('19), and Sean Miller ('17); edited by Brammy Rajakumar ('19)



The CANDIDATES

Businessman Donald Trump, a real estate tycoon and reality TV host, began his bid for the presidency with no prior political experience. Trump promised to reinvigorate the American economy by punishing American companies that outsourced jobs, cutting taxes, and repealing environmental protection laws and banking regulations. Some of Trump's more controversial proposed policies included mass deportations of illegal immigrants, a wall along the U.S.-Mexico border, and extreme vetting of Muslim immigrants. Trump did especially well among white voters, and his plan to bring manufacturing back to America won him support in places with declining industry such as Pennsylvania and Michigan. Many opposed Trump because of his contentious positions on immigration, and his hostile remarks towards reporters like Megyn Kelly.



"America will no longer settle for anything less than the best...The forgotten men and women of our country will be forgotten no longer."



Former Secretary of State **Hillary Clinton** entered the presidential race a seasoned politician, having served as a Senator for New York and as the Obama Administration's Secretary of State. Her campaign platform was in line with typical Democratic positions: promises of expansion of Obamacare, increased taxes on the wealthiest Americans, a pathway to citizenship for undocumented immigrants, stricter gun control laws, and more affordable public universities. Clinton garnered large amounts of support from women, younger voters, and Black and Hispanic communities because of her campaign's emphasis on empowering these groups. However, Clinton was heavily criticized for several scandals, such as her use of a private email server for official correspondence during her tenure as Secretary of State, which lost her some votes.

For more than 18 months, the candidates battled it out on the national stage during one of the most intense presidential elections in America's history. Through the primaries and the general election, party nominees former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton and businessman Donald Trump tried to convey their respective agendas to the American people at a time when citizens had been growing overtly unsatisfied with our political system. All the experts predicted that Mrs. Clinton would blow Mr. Trump out of water, but on election night the unexpected occurred.



Donald Trump won the election with 36 more electoral votes (306 total) than needed, winning much-needed battleground states. These included wins in Wisconsin by .9%, Michigan by .3%, and Pennsylvania by 1.2%. An interesting aspect is that Hillary Clinton actually won the popular vote by about 1.7%, which has renewed a controversy about the Electoral College.

ELECTION HIGHLIGHTS (Cont. from previous pg.)

By Chris Kazakis ('17), Alexander Burkett ('19), and Sean Miller ('20); edited by Brammy Rajakumar ('19)

Before his inauguration in January, President-elect Trump must put together a cabinet that will effectively serve the needs of all Americans and execute the newly elected President's agenda. Already, he has appointed members to his new staff with the help of his transition team. As his cabinet becomes more complete, Mr. Trump must transition from civilian life to the presidency as the first president without official military or political experience. Arguably one of the more important outcomes of this election is the Republican occupation of the executive, legislative, and judicial branches of government. In a country politically divided between Democrats and Republicans, it is important that the new administration remembers that their loyalty is not to one particular party, but to the American people.

Trump's Cabinet Choices:

Require Senate confirmation



Source: New York Times

Do not require Senate confirmation

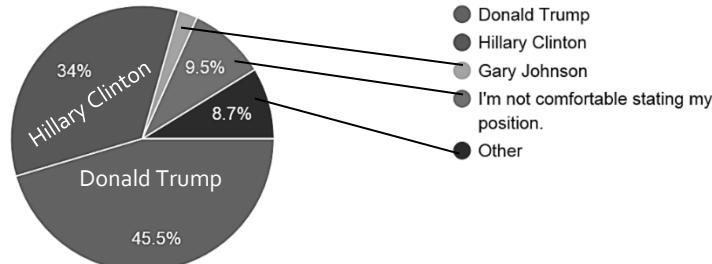


Now that he has been voted as the next president, Trump's plan includes many things he has said on the campaign trail, along with some new additions, too. Trump's plan for the first 100 days does not mention his plan for The Wall nor does it mention his plans for Obamacare. However, his plan does include leaving the Trans-Pacific Partnership which took years to negotiate. Despite this, leaving the Partnership could likely stop more outsourcing of jobs from the US. Additionally, Trump wants to remove a lot of the regulations on businesses, including nearly all environmental restrictions. Trump also plans on increasing the cyber security of the United States to protect from cyber-attacks. Despite the lack of mention of the wall, Trump has stated that he plans to examine every visa plan to protect Americans.

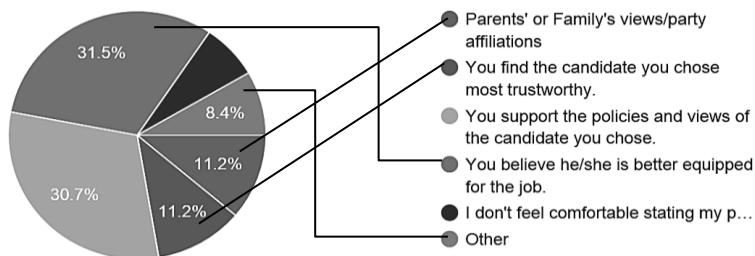
The Upper School and Middle School's Points of View on issues relating to the election

Poll put together by Arman Shekarriz ('19), Brammy Rajakumar ('19), and Alix Galumbeck ('17); Results reported by Brammy Rajakumar ('19)

Who did you/would you have supported in the election? (253 responses)

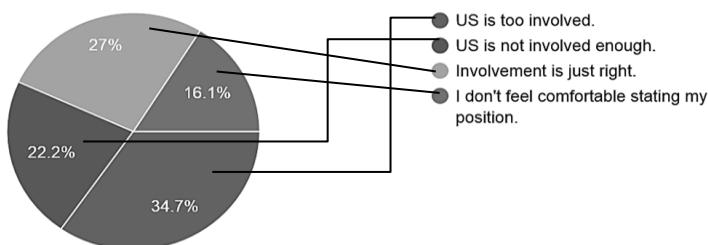


Why? (251 responses)



What do you think about US involvement in the world (militarily, politically, or economically)?

(248 responses)



Quotes from Students (Cont.): About US Involvement in World

"Crush [ISIS] before they can build more strength."

"If we hadn't gotten involved in many of the wars we have, terrorism would be much weaker."

"Involvement should be...monitored and chosen correctly. The past couple times have end[ed] with the intervention turning into more turmoil."

"I think we are stretched a little too far right now. The public is not necessarily aware of everything we are doing in the middle east."

"As the premiere Western power, we must continue to wield the big stick... with our country's interests at the forefront."

"Fix America First"

"Once we become a more active leader in the international world, the trade and respect that comes with this position will make up for the commitment necessary."

"I feel that our current global involvement is about as it should be. We need to maintain a strong presence in the UN to preserve peace while not getting involved in too many foreign conflicts."

256 responses
in total were given!

Quotes from Students: About Trump

"I believe Donald Trump will be able to renegotiate a lot of bad foreign policy agreements, as well as help put a dent in the National Debt."

"#cantstumptrump"

"We the people should grow up, accept the fact that Trump indeed is our president and unite behind him so he can succeed."

"The United States employs a system in which there are checks and balances, which makes it very hard for one person to create revolutionary change."

"I think the country will now have to be more on its toes...He may be the best president the country has ever had or he could be impeached a month after the inauguration."

"Honestly, I think that nothing will change, four years will pass by, and America will elect a new president"

"I believe that Donald Trump will ensure a brighter future for young American citizens [who are] searching for new jobs."

"I believe he will turn the country back a hundred year[s] with less rights for minorities and women."

"We're done for."

"I think Trump will restore true American ideals: country and family."

"I think that with an unexperienced, hot headed, loudmouthed, irrational president-elect like Donald Trump our country has a bleak future."

"I think that our leaders today should show an exemplary record of respect towards his or her peers, [and] understand both the social and economic state of the country. From what I've seen, heard, and read, our president-elect does not qualify for one (if any) of these qualities."

About Social Issues

"I believe that neither the government nor any other institutions, including religious institutions, should be able to interfere with our rights as humans to participate in ...activities such as gay marriage. However, ...the government must encourage the participants to do as they wish and protect their rights as humans."

I think the government should share its opinion on the matter but ultimately, the decision should be left to the people.

Top International Events of the Year (Cont. from Front Pg.)

Islands in Troubled Waters (continued)

Additionally, \$5.3 trillion in trade travels through the South China Sea every year. China's territorial claims in the South China Sea violate the freedom of navigation doctrine established by the United Nations and further hinder economic cooperation in Asia. The United States has frequently increased "freedom of navigation" operations around areas claimed by China but has done little more than talk to Beijing to halt these acts. Some experts argue that joint action and sweeping economic sanctions from the United Nations, the United States, and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations should be implemented immediately on China to prevent their tactics from having serious geopolitical implications.

REACTIONS

from around the world

China: "Beijing maintains it won't be bound by the ruling of The Hague-based UN arbitration tribunal"
~Philippine Star

Association of Southeast Asian Nations: "the Southeast Asian countries stressed the importance of international law in resolving conflicts, which diplomats said alluded to respecting the July 12 ruling by the Permanent Court of Arbitration".
~Wall Street Journal

Russia: "[Russia] takes no side in disputes and supports freedom of navigation, including overflight and the peaceful settlement of disputes directly between the parties concerned on the basis of international law. But Russia concurrently opposes the involvement by third parties outside the region" ~The National Interest

United States: "We encourage claimants to clarify their maritime claims in accordance with international law... and to work together to manage and resolve their disputes."

Terrorist organizations and ISIS's actions and the confrontation in Mosul

The offensive of the ISIS controlled Iraqi city of **Mosul** began this past October. Some 4,000 Iraqi troops assisted with American military advisors, air support, and special forces began retaking surrounding villages and destroying ISIS tunnels. ISIS has been somewhat losing its grip in the region with the loss of Mosul and **Fallujah**, the same city that was home to one of the bloodiest battles in the Iraq war around a decade ago. It is also clear that the retaking of ISIS's "capital" city of Raqqa, is soon to take place and there could be increased American military support on that invasion, especially if it takes place under a military led by Trump.

The Meaning of Brexit

The British are coming! The British are coming! Those are the immortal words of Paul Revere. Now we must exclaim the opposite. **The British are leaving!** This is due to **Brexit**, a term referring to the British departing

from the EU. Before we can understand the implications of this event we must first remember what the EU is. The **European Union** is a group of countries in Europe that came together to form a close *economic* union, not a political one. It was started to prevent continuing war, as tying countries' economies closer will give them pause before attacking each other. This allows countries in the EU to trade amongst each other without tariffs. Called Free Trade, it prohibits member countries from putting taxes on imports that would help local businesses. Along with that, the EU also allows for a single currency and free travel between countries in the union. Why would Great Britain like to leave then? Many Britons feel that they are being taken advantage of by migrant workers, political refugees, and poorer EU members. They believe migrant workers are taking jobs from citizens and are afraid of refugees, especially those from the Middle East, due to such circumstances as the Syrian Civil War. Some of the British are also tired of bailing out less financially secure countries such as Greece, from bankruptcy. All these factors swell to form a nationalistic independence-like movement to break ties with the EU.

This event calls into question the modern order of Europe. Many other European countries struggle with the idea of EU's necessity. Economically, leaving the EU will hurt Britain, but the future of Great Britain is still cloudy, as it is the first country to leave the EU.

IR Fellow Summer Trips: Behind the Scenes

by Nico Moscoso ('17), Arman Shekarriz ('19), and William Smythe ('20)

The Baltics Trip

The '17s and '19s trekked to the Baltics to explore different cultures, further our international relations knowledge, and become better leaders. Before we departed, each '17 was tasked with planning a component of the trip, which was either our stay in country or the leadership curriculum for the trip. Every day, a '19 was given this itinerary and charged to execute it with the guidance of the '17 which created the plan. These leadership and planning challenges pushed us and helped us grow.



Our first stop was Helsinki, Finland, where, on our first day, we completed a scavenger hunt in the country's national museum. Later, we met Petra and Ritva, who are Alix Galumbeck's cousins. We spoke with them and gained a great insight into the Finnish culture. The next day, we completed a leadership



All the
Estonian
parliament

challenge and got to explore the city on our own in small groups. Then, we made our way down to the port of Helsinki, where we boarded a ferry to the next stop on our journey, Tallinn, Estonia.

The boys immediately loved Tallinn because they got a very large hotel room. This excitement carried through our stay in Tallinn. We walked through underground tunnels, visited the

KGB museum, and ate dinner in the city's TV tower. The following day we awoke early for a meeting with Foreign Service Officers at the US embassy. After a long discussion on issues ranging from Russia to the Syrian refugee

crisis, we had some free time to explore the city on our own. Eventually, we met for dinner with a former Estonian ambassador to the United States. In our final day in Tallinn, we went to the Estonian parliament building, where we learned a lot about the country's government and internal politics. Then, we went to the bus station to hop on a bus to Riga, Latvia.

We arrived late in Riga and went on a night kayak tour through the city's canals. The next day, we toured a couple museums and Riga's main market, which had everything from fish to pickled

cabbage juice. Our stay in Riga was short, and the next day we boarded an overnight ferry to Stockholm, Sweden.

During our first day in Stockholm, we explored the old town part of the city, visiting several museums and seeing other sites. The next day was more museums and exploring the city. Then, it was time for us to go home. All of us loved our experience in the Baltics. We all learned a lot about the countries we visited, each other, and ourselves. We bonded as a group and had so much fun together.

The Washington DC Trip

This summer the 9th grade IR fellows went on the traditional trip to Washington D.C. In order to gain a better understanding of international relations, the group attended several meetings each day with various groups and



individuals. Trips to the Pentagon, State Department, and a view of the White House were highlights of the great week. The cohort met with fascinating Washington figures such as Reggie Love, former "body man" of Obama, and Mr. David Katz, a diplomat who has worked in Pakistan and Egypt. The group really bonded over the five days by working together and individually to navigate the streets of Washington and Arlington. While most of the time in the city was spent in meetings and moving to and fro, Dr. Rezelman led the fellows to heralded culinary spots of all different cultural backgrounds. The group indulged in Chinese hot pot, Ethiopian, Middle Eastern, and German food, expanding their tolerance to new tastes. Wrapping up the week, Mr. Gibson and Dr. Rezelman took the fellows to the Arlington Cemetery and witnessed the profound Changing of the Guards ceremony. On the last day, everyone reflected on this trip that brought the 9th grade fellows closer together and greatly expanded their knowledge about IR.

From the Editor's Pen



Welcome to the second volume of *Inside International Relations*! The first one was just for the Middle School, but this time we expanded to the Upper School. Hopefully these newsletter will spark great discussions in class and in the halls and will get you caught up if you're a little behind on your world news. We can't cover everything that happens in the world, but at least this newsletter will get you thinking in new ways and help you realize the vastness and variety of our world.

Many students have worked very hard on this newsletter, and lots of great information lies within its pages. Special shout-out to the Global Health Fellows for their article and for taking a chance at being the first featured Fellows group of the newsletter! Global Health and International Relations are closely related, not just as Fellows groups, but also as topics that organizations and governments must look at as they tackle real world issues.

The topic of International Relations is not *just* "international." It's not just memorizing countries and places. The second word, "relations," has an equal, if not greater, impact, describing how varieties of people who have totally different perspectives must work together to ensure that we don't get into World War III in the future. Each problem, each disagreement that we as a world must face requires a new view and more and more ideas. We tried to encompass that concept a little throughout the newsletter, through our cover story and our summaries of world events.

The poll that was paired with the election highlights article, written and contributed to by Alexander Burkett, Sean Miller, Chris Kazakis, Alix Galumbeck, and Arman Shekarriz, was not just a Trump vs Clinton question. We wanted to reflect how the Middle School and Upper School, as a student body, think about US policy and its future. People's views on topics are just as important as the topic itself.

So yeah. That's it. Please email me if you have any questions, concerns, and/or comments about the newsletter, so that we can keep improving this for the future. Our next issue will be coming out in **May**, so stay tuned! Thank you!

~Brammy Rajakumar ('19), editor-in-chief and founder of *Inside International Relations*

Quotes of the Day

Provided by Mila Colizza ('18), Sophia Burke ('18), and Jaden Baum ('17)

Entertaining (Current) Quote:

Barack Obama, while being questioned by reporters: "Why can't I just eat my waffle?"



Obama, eating waffles



Queen Elizabeth II, delivering the first televised Christmas Message in 1957. Her words are still relevant today.

Inspiring Quotes from World Leaders (Past, Present, and Future):

Donald Trump (on Twitter): "In the end, you're measured not by how much you undertake but by what you finally accomplish."

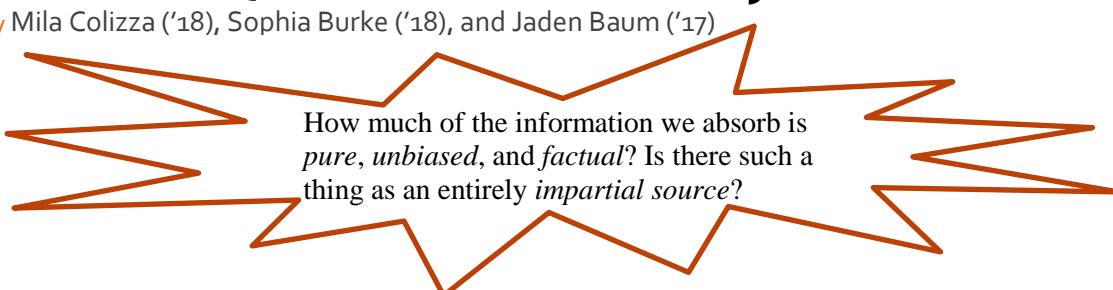
Barack Obama (at the 2004 DNC): "There is not a liberal America and a conservative America—there is the United States of America. There is not a black America and a white America and Latino America and Asian America—there's the United States of America."

Queen Elizabeth II (in a 1957 Christmas broadcast): "Today we need a special kind of courage, not the kind needed in battle but a kind which makes us stand up for everything that we know is right, everything that is true and honest. We need the kind of courage that can withstand the subtle corruption of the cynics so that we can show the world that we are not afraid of the future."

Discussion Question of the Day

Provided by Mila Colizza ('18), Sophia Burke ('18), and Jaden Baum ('17)

How much of the information we absorb is *pure, unbiased, and factual*? Is there such a thing as an entirely *impartial source*?



Facts of the Day

Provided by Mila Colizza ('18), Sophia Burke ('18), and Jaden Baum ('17)

DID YOU KNOW....

Russia

About 70 cats live in the basement of Russia's famous **Hermitage Museum** to protect precious artworks from mice.

Brazil

Aurea is a town in Brazil with a surprising concentration of Polish culture. The residents mostly trace their roots to central Europe and have woven their customs in with Brazilian ones, producing an entirely unique society that speaks **Portuguese-accented Polish** and eats **Brazilian-influenced European foods**.

SUMMARIES OF WORLD EVENTS

By Tai Jeffers ('18) and Mila Colizza ('18)

Morocco

Morocco is leading the renewable energy revolution against climate change. The country plans to run off 52% green energy by 2030

Iran

On Friday, November 25th, two trains collided in northern **Iran**. 44 people were killed and 82 more were injured.



Japan

A formerly 98-foot-wide, 50-foot-deep sinkhole in Fukuoka, **Japan** that was repaired a few months ago is sinking again. It has sunken to a depth of 2.7 inches.



India and Pakistan

Tensions have been rising once again in the ongoing conflict between **India** and **Pakistan** over the disputed territory of Kashmir. Fighting has intensified across the Line of Control since September.



World Health Organization

The **World Health Organization** has declared an end to the global health emergency over the Zika virus. Although the WHO has been criticized for this decision, they aim to focus now on the long-term solution to stopping the spread of Zika.

Philippines

Rodrigo Duterte, the president of the **Philippines**, has launched violent anti-drug campaign that has caused major concerns of human rights violations. He has also been censoring the press with fear tactics and insulting the US and the EU while shifting closer to Russia and China.

Huge thank you to all our contributors! This would not have been possible without all of your hard work and tireless effort!

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