



Prague Student Summit

FACTSHEET

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# Introduction

## Prague Student Summit

The Prague Student Summit is a prestigious educational project which gives Czech high school and university students a unique insight into the world of diplomacy and international relations. It builds on a more than ten-year long tradition of Prague Model UN and enjoys widespread support from diplomatic and academic spheres, as well as from media. The basic idea of the Prague Student Summit lies in the **interaction of more than 400 students** from all over the Czech Republic simulating three key international organizations: the United Nations, the North Atlantic Treaty Organization and the European Union. The participants act as the representatives of their nations while trying **to resolve current global problems**.

Our goal is to contribute to building an **open and informed civil society** through educating young people - the future generation of leaders. We want to **enhance their interest** in current affairs. Employing **alternative educational methods**, the project stands as an appropriate **complement to high school and university education**. It focuses on those aspects of individual development that are neglected by the Czech educational system. Among those are namely **confident performance, argumentation and rhetorical skills**, and **work with information sources**.

## Program

The program consists of two main parts – **workshops** and a **final conference**. It also includes a number of social events. Our participant could visit the real centres of simulated organizations in Brussels, Vienna or Strasbourg. In addition to that we organize plenty of discussions with significant experts, lectures, excursions, banquets, or working dinners and breakfasts.

Workshops are held throughout the academic year at the University of Economics in Prague. Here the participants take on their roles, **learn how to debate, and how to formulate their policies**, which aim to gain support from their counterparts. They also **deepen their expert knowledge**. An integral part of the workshops are lectures of interesting guest speakers and other activities which develop the students' skills.

The final conference traditionally takes place in March. Among the venues of the opening ceremony, which hosts guests from project's partners, diplomats, politicians and media representatives, have been the Prague Castle Ball Room, the Czernin Palace, Hotel Ambassador or Hilton Prague. The negotiations are held at the Prague Congress Centre.

[www.studentsummit.cz](http://www.studentsummit.cz)



## Some more

### *Prague Model UN*

Prague Model UN is a project with a **long tradition**. More than **300 high school students** represent 100 UN member states in **six bodies**: the Security Council, the General Assembly, the Human Rights Council, the Economic and Social Council, the Commission on Sustainable Development and the World Trade Organization. Apart from knowledge and skills, Model UN introduces the students to the principle ideas and goals of the largest world organization, namely the attempt to solve conflicts through diplomacy and efforts to maintain international order.

### *Model NATO*

Model NATO simulates the negotiations of the Alliance's supreme body – the North Atlantic Council. It is designed for high school students. Unlike Model UN, Model NATO has **English as its working language**. This is a new dimension of our educational activities which also puts extra demands on the participants. Students acting as diplomats of the NATO member states focus on international security issues and on the role of NATO in the world.

### *Model European Union*

Model European Union opens the Summit to **university students** who simulate the work of the EU's key institution – the Council of the European Union. Apart from the simulation, panel discussions with top experts, diplomats, and politicians are part of the program.

### *Who supports us*

The project has been held at different times under the auspices of President **Václav Havel**, Lord Mayor of Prague **Pavel Bém**, Vice Prime Minister **Alexander Vondra**, Minister of Foreign Affairs **Karel Schwarzenberg**, or former US Secretary of State **Madeleine Albright**. Many well-known diplomats, politicians, experts, professors or journalists have attended our sessions. The project's main partners are Educa Foundation of Mr. and Mrs. Kellner, Komerční banka, the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, and the Representation of the European Commission in the Czech Republic. The university partner of the project is the University of Economics in Prague, with Prague Congress Centre as the partner of the negotiations.

### *About the organizers*

The organization of the project is facilitated by a team of motivated university students. The organizer of the project – the Association for International Affairs (AMO) – is a nongovernmental organization founded to educate and conduct research in the field of international relations. The goal of AMO is to contribute to a deeper understanding of international development through educational, research, and informational projects. Thanks to its activities, AMO is regarded as the leading independent foreign policy think-tank in the Czech Republic. More information is available at [www.amo.cz](http://www.amo.cz).

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