

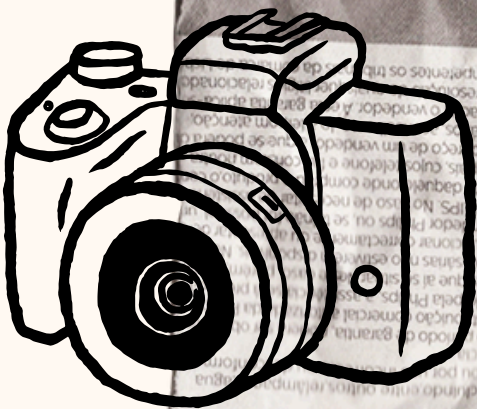
The ICP Presents

HOT

OFF

THE

PRESS



CMUN DAY 3

THE EDITORIAL

A LETTER FROM THE MODERATOR OF THE IPC – AARAV SHAH

Dear Readers,

We live in challenging times where even your own phone can be the perfect spy and Pegasus makes sure you never know it's listening. Our world is in a state of continuous change, sometimes threatening the very fabric our society is perched on. And this change is so quick and so layered that understanding it proves to be a colossal burden. This is what Model United Nations helps us do, not just understand the world around us but play a role in shaping it. That is the essence of CMUN, to be put in someone else's shoes and play a part in a story, one that you can make yours. For three days in late August, you are a part of something much greater than yourself. You have the power to create policy, form alliances, resolve global issues and use every utility at your discretion to define world politics.

An integral part of any Model United Nations Conference is the International Press Corps. Often called the fourth pillar of democracy, the International Press Corps is, in my biased opinion, the most interesting and dynamic committee; teeming with delegates who fight hard in committee through impassioned speeches, later switching seamlessly into their roles as gifted writers who have your attention with every word. At the 29th annual CMUN, I am honoured to hold the position of Moderator for the International Press Corps.

An irreplaceable pillar of democracy, the Press disseminates information to the public through the veil of objectivity and fact. It deters dangerous assumptions and guides individuals in their pursuit of truth. Journalism, in its simplest form, is creating order out of chaos. It lays the fertile soil on which the fruits of opinion grow; it is of supreme importance, therefore, that this soiled ground be level, not unevenly laid or nutritious for only one kind of fruit. This is the duty of every journalist and every delegate of the International Press Corps, to strive for objectivity without falling prey to false equivalency.

I have the pleasure of being on the Executive Board of such a committee, one that provides articulate writers and creative thinkers with a platform to showcase their talents and helps emphasise the role of the press in sculpting the politics of the world. The very delegates sitting in the upholstered chairs of the Trident conference rooms may someday occupy similar seats in the Prime Minister's cabin or the General Assembly of the UN. Model United Nations shapes the leaders of tomorrow and refines them to create sensitive, compassionate torchbearers who are aware of the weight of their decisions and who will serve as role models and guide humanity on the path of peace and success.

THE EDITORIAL

A LETTER FROM THE MODERATOR OF THE IPC – AARAV SHAH

In the past two days, I have watched the Press committee crescendo and fall while navigating the complex machinery of crises and global issues, and I think it's fair to say that I have never met a group of such quick-witted and intellectually invigorating people.

At CMUN 2025, I have had the privilege of contributing to the countless minds behind the success of the conference, and I join them in hoping that you make the most of this meaningful experience and leave the conference with a little more wisdom and a lot of memories. Since this is my last CMUN, this is a bittersweet moment, sad that the conference has ended but glad that it happened.

Yours truly,
Aarav Shah,
Moderator,
International Press Corps,
Cathedral Model United Nations, 2025.

A LOVE LETTER TO CMUN

Ladies and gentlemen, outstanding chairs, honourable delegates, and that one guy who one way or the other continually raises his placard earlier than the motion is even stated... this is my love letter to CMUN.

CMUN, you are not just a Model UN convention you're my poisonous dating. I love you, but you stress me out more than my board checks. You provide me sleep deprivation, tension, and in some way the exceptional reminiscences of my life. You're like coffee warm, addictive, and guaranteed to make me question my lifestyle choices.

You're the best vicinity where humans can say "Point of Personal Privilege" in a useless critical tone because the AC is too cold. The international is burning, and a person is like, "Chair, can we boost the temperature?" CMUN, you're a place wherein a person can passionately argue about nuclear disarmament while sporting Crocs.

I love the way you bring out the diplomat in me. In real existence, I'm shy. But here? Here, I'm the Republic of France, and I will fight you over a comma in Clause 3. You've taught me crucial life abilities like how to write a 20-page decision without saying anything significant...just like politicians!

And CMUN, you are also the romance capital of diplomacy. Because nothing says "love" like sneaking glances across the committee room...earlier than stabbing them in the lower back at some stage in balloting bloc. We all have that one MUN crush. You recognise who you are. Yes, you. The one who keeps the usage of big words from WordList.com and pretends they're spontaneous.

You've given me unmoderated caucuses, which are essentially speed relationships for policy nerds. You've given me middle-of-the-night WhatsApp organisations known as "Working Paper Draft 7 FINAL FINAL FOR REAL."

You've given me the pleasure of listening to "We'll now be in casual consultation" and knowing that means: snack wreck.

So thank you, CMUN. You're my messy, complicated, lovely love story. And much like each appropriate love tale, I'll be returned subsequent year ready to get my heart damaged all over again.

Thank you, and I yield to the filor handily because the Chair is evident to me

-The Wire

THOR'S DAY OF RECKONING: A FRAGMENTED FAMILY

Yesterday's storm in the House of Rothschild has not yet subsided; in fact, it has only intensified. The whispers of suspicion that began in the previous session have now matured into pointed accusations, shaking the committee's foundations. What began as subtle maneuvers and strategic exchanges has evolved into an open clash of voices, each delegate armed with fresh revelations and fervent convictions. If yesterday's proceedings were a chessboard of calculated moves, today's are a battlefield where alliances are tested and loyalties strained. And now, as THOR turns its gaze to the most serious charges yet, the stakes have never been higher.

Another day in THOR proceeds with the same zeal and intellectual vigor as the days before. Every delegate of the Rothschild family has been accused of a heinous crime and after an enlightening and invigorating open floor in which the Press participated, 3 members have been accused of the most serious crimes. During the open floor, the room echoed with the voices of livid delegates, and at each moment more and more updates were revealed, furthering internal conflict. A time of dilemma- the open floor saw each delegate making decisions with careful consideration, communication lines were open and covert as well as public communiques were sent. Following an unmoderated caucus, a nail-biting courtroom procedure will take place, implicating Head of Frankfurt, Mayer Carl von Rothschild and Head of Naples. A lawyer will be chosen with great scrutiny: why? Because they have a choice- to betray or to support.

As the committee braces for the impending courtroom procedure, the atmosphere in THOR is one of cautious anticipation. The selection of the lawyer is a role now burdened with the weight of both justice and political survival and will be more than a mere procedural formality. It will be a calculated gamble, a moment where strategic acumen must be matched with moral resolve. For in this trial, truth will not simply emerge; it will be shaped, contested, and perhaps even compromised.

The accused — the Head of Frankfurt, Mayer Carl von Rothschild, and the Head of Paris stand at the center of a drama that has ceased to be purely about alleged crimes. It is now imperative for the Rothschild family's cohesion, its reputation, and its ability to navigate scandal without self-destruction. The open floor may have aired grievances and exposed fissures, but the courtroom will be the stage where those fissures either mend under the weight of exoneration or deepen into permanent fractures. In this chamber of high stakes and higher tempers, the choice facing the lawyer will resonate far beyond a single verdict. To defend with loyalty is to reinforce the fragile bonds of trust; to betray is to gamble on personal advantage in a climate where retribution can be swift and merciless. Given the current state of committee, internal conflict and impending accusations grow, sparking not only chaos but also betrayal in committee. As for the long hours to come, it is left to see where the 'untainted'; reputation of the Rothschilds lies.

-Le Monde



NEWS, HISTORY, LEGACY: THE MAHABHARATA



The Mahabharata: The Emergency Council of the Kurukshetra (MTECK) has seen multiple crisis updates. Centuries old, an epic which has existed for time immemorial, has challenged delegates, engaged with them and these delegates have risen up to the occasion. This opinion article singles out two delegates, Krishna and Arjuna and analyses their portfolios.

On the first day, Draupadi's swyamwara was reimaged. Amongst the princes, kings, rulers, statesmen of Aryavarta, in an exceptional display of skill and

altitude, Arjuna struck his target. He won Draupadi's hand. But in the next crisis update, it was revealed that he had cheated. The Son of Indra had been helped by the god of the winds. Brave, courageous man. Conniving, manipulative man. Two sides of the same coin.

Enraged by these actions, Shiva unleashed monsters on the earth. Whether or not Arjuna had followed dharma had become a point of contention. In this case, it is true that Arjuna violated the rules of the swayamwara. But we cannot allow ourselves to be limited rigid regulations. The Mahabharata, in its entirety is focused on the essence of dharma. This delegate is of the opinion that while Arjuna cheated, the context in which he did so provides reason.

Krishna has been another contentious figure in committee. The death of a twelve year old dancing boy has been attributed to him. Twelves years, not even in his teens. Young boy, now forever young. A child, a messenger, lost forever. While this article doesn't explore the righteousness of Krishna's actions, it analyses these figures and their actions. As delegates live the Mahabharata, the course of committee sees a change. Arjuna and Krishna, once the pinnacle of dharma, now face questioning.

Furthermore, in a recent weapons auction, Duryodhana acquired the Bramhastra, the most powerful weapon in committee. The scales have been tipped. The tables have turned. This delegate believes that these updates have changed MTECK from just a historical committee to one that's ontantky evolving, one which challenges the notion of dharma.

This committee isn't just the epic, it's much more. It allows the delegates to relive a story that has been passed down for generations, that has been immortalised in texts and scriptures, sermons and whispers. It allows them to relive and shape history, in the truest sense of the word.

-Washington Post



DOUBLE DELEGATION, DOUBLE CRISES AT HISTORIC SECURITY COUNCIL, 1986.

The Soviet - Afghan War (1979–1989) has turned Afghanistan into a Cold War battleground, pitting Soviet-backed People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan (PDPA) against the Mujahideen-an armed resistance of Islamist guerrillas, tribal militias, and nationalist forces supported by the US, Pakistan, and other allies. The PDPA's secular reforms and repression sparked mass opposition, while Soviet intervention brought a brutal guerrilla war marked by atrocities on both sides.

A shattering crisis has emerged: A masked man of Lashkar-e-Taiba arrives. He announces: Suicide bombers across Russia. EMPs. Endless negotiations. Every bad offer you make is another bomb dropped by Lashkar-e-Taiba in a different part of Russia.

50 Russian civilians die in Moscow and 100 in St Petersburg as negotiations fail.

Negotiations by the USSR also fell through- "if you remove your troops (Mujahideen), no one will be killed." "Who will form the new government if we leave?" This annoys the masked man.

Finally, a compromise is reached - the Islamic republic of Afghanistan proposes that the Mujahideen stays down, as long as responsibility for funding the Mujahideen is taken by China and USA.

Finally the masked man got:

- 10000 barrels of Tax free oil from Saudi Arabia

- Access to the nuclear submarine via keys

... and the suicide bombers are stopped. All was good.

But, another bomb drops - the Islamic republic of Afghanistan is the Mujahideen. Another masked man enters and holds Romania at gunpoint. "We, LeT, vow to seek revenge on Romania who have backed out on their word to give us the keys."

Everything has fallen through in the Historic Security Council and no one is to trust.

-New York Times



HIGH STAKES AT THE WTO- THE MUMBAI ACCORDS BORN FROM A BIDDING WAR

In what delegates are calling “the most unorthodox trade negotiation in WTO history,” the recent auction for a seat on the WTO’s Appellate Body ended in fireworks- both metaphorically and nuclear.

The prize, you might be thinking? The right for the winning country to serve as a judge on the WTO’s appellate body, the organisation’s supreme dispute settlement mechanism.

The Final Confrontation: Russia vs India.

After intense rounds where categories varied from land space to major industries, two countries emerged: Russia and India.

Russia shocked the entire room by offering not just one, but two nuclear weapons. And, as if that wasn’t enough, they added the Tsar Bomb, the most powerful nuclear device ever made, to the bargain.

India, not to be outdone, walked in with a bold bid, the entire city of Mumbai.

Delegates’ jaws dropped. Economists are starting to feel ill. Through the chaos, real estate agents started making frantic phone calls.

The Decision and the “Mumbai Accords”

In the end, after Mumbai’s offers tipped the scales, the WTO awarded the appellate judge seat to India, marking the beginning of what is now being called The Mumbai Accords. This is a sweeping economic pact between Brazil, Russia, India and China, eliminating tariffs within their bloc.

The move has already remoulded the global trade map, with the new bloc squaring off against a coalition of Vietnam, Kenya, South Korea and Germany in a heated dispute. Based on predictions of analysts, the case could become one of the most influential in modern trade history, testing the limits of bloc-based free trade under WTO rules. As for Mumbai? There are negotiations going on over whether WTO headquarters will now relocate there.

-Russia Today

ARCTIC UNMASKED: THE COLD FRONT OF DECEPTION

In the icy theatre of the Arctic, masks have fallen.

What began as diplomatic discussion on stability and trade has quickly transitioned into backdoor deals, covert attacks, and blatant hypocrisy. Russia, which is a legitimate Arctic power with the longest northern coastline, just watched as seven Arctic Council members quietly formed a new treaty during the first crisis and consolidated all power without any consultation with any members, this is outrageous, not just for Moscow but for the larger community concerned with the issue

The Arctic is not anyone's backyard. It is a shared strategic zone, economically and geopolitically vital. When trade lanes were frozen and vessels attacked in the second crisis, Russia did not point fingers. Instead, we acted. Together with Norway, Sweden, and the United States, we initiated a joint ARNA investigation. But what followed raised eyebrows. An ARNA official caught on record assaulting a detainee. South Africa, DPRK, China, and even India began calling out the so-called preventive role of ARNA. India wanted to dismantle it altogether.

And now? China's ship capsizing, supposedly an attack, was planted. Staged. Beijing hoped to play the victim, avoid suspicion, and fan anti-Arctic narratives. Meanwhile, Saudi Arabia, UAE, and Egypt quietly cheered on disruption of Arctic trade, eager to reroute global commerce through their own waters. It's no longer about science or sustainability. It's about control.

Let's not pretend anymore. Military infrastructure disguised as research stations? Non-state actors infiltrating polar zones? Enough is enough.

The Arctic Council no longer represents the new Arctic reality. Governance cannot be monopolised based on proximity alone, nor twisted by states with hidden agendas. UNCLOS is outdated, full of loopholes. We need clarity, on trade, security, sovereignty. Equal representation must replace elitist coalitions.

Russia will not be sidelined in a region we helped define. The Arctic's future must be negotiated, not stolen.



China was unable to convincingly justify its absolute quote unquote necessity of having a say in the Arctic treaty framework because, as a non-Arctic state, its position conflicts with established norms. On the other hand, India struggled to justify its hasty military actions in the Arctic conflict zones during the crisis. This failure to justify and align its military actions with the broader goals of multilateral peaceful governance inherently decreased India's credibility in the Arctic governance debate. A lot of interesting and seemingly unconventional power dynamics were seen at today's session, with alliances and blocs changing constantly. WHAT IS HAPPENING TO THE COMMITTEE? WHY IS EVERYONE PLAYING THIS INCESSANT BLAME GAME? Is the question that is nagging every single delegate of the committee. However, it is commendable that the committee showcased remarkable energy and dedication, with a majority of the delegates being constantly engaged. This sort of quick and pragmatic approach of the committee as a whole certainly shows a lot of caliber.

-Russia Today

T-MINUS: 21 HOURS

In just two days, the Indo-Stabilization Emergency Council has seen the very fabric of India strained to its limits. Pakistan now holds significant portions of Jammu & Kashmir, Rajasthan, and Gujarat. Bangladesh has been annexed into Pakistan. Sri Lanka, once considered a strategic success, after K. C. Pant's annexation, is now a geopolitical burden at a time when every resource is needed at home.

And inside India's borders, the Autonomy Bill of 1984, passed in peacetime with promises of federal empowerment, has become a fatal weakness in wartime. By granting states unprecedented powers over law, order, and aspects of foreign policy, the Centre has tied its own hands at the very moment unified action is most vital.

This is not a slow erosion of stability. This is a collapse unfolding in real time. Every hour without decisive, coordinated action is an hour in which our adversaries tighten their grip.

The Council cannot afford partisan posturing or jurisdictional disputes. The message should be clear: India will act as one nation. Their territories will be defended, their unity will be enforced, and their sovereignty will not be bartered away. This is the perfect opportunity for India to present a united front to the world, rather than reducing themselves to a quarrel between two parties squabbling like petulant children while the concerns of the citizens of India issues go unresolved.

We are 48 hours into a crisis that could define our century. If India fails to respond now, we may not have a republic left to defend by the end of the week.

-Süddeutsche Zeitung



A ROYAL FAREWELL: THE CURIOUS CASE OF THE BUTTER CHICKEN AND THE QUEEN

In a truly bizarre turn of events, the world finds itself grappling with the recent passing of Queen Elizabeth II, and the mixed bag of intrigue, tragedy, and, dare we say, dark humor that followed. Just days before she left us, she was reportedly feeling under the weather, gastrointestinal issues left many wondering if it was a case of royal indigestion or perhaps that too-frequent indulgence in fish and chips.

But hang onto your hats, because the plot thickens! Days later, MI5 released an investigation that suggested the famed butter chicken, sent by none other than Priy Patel, may have played a role in our beloved queen's untimely demise. It turns out that in a time of uncertainty, even butter chicken can spark a national crisis. In a rapid succession of unfortunate events Priy Patel, seemingly overwhelmed by the profound consequences of her supposedly sordid gesture tragically ended her own story in a grim finale. As we find ourselves in the UK Parliament grappling with the aftermath of Brexit in its the evolving political landscape, we can't help but chuckle nervously at the absurdity of it all. Who knew that a meal could unleash so much chaos? But on a serious note, as we navigate these challenges it is essential to remember the values instilled by our late queen dignity, resilience, and a good sense of humor. The events of the past few days are a reminder that even in the face of adversity, laughter can be found amidst the tears.

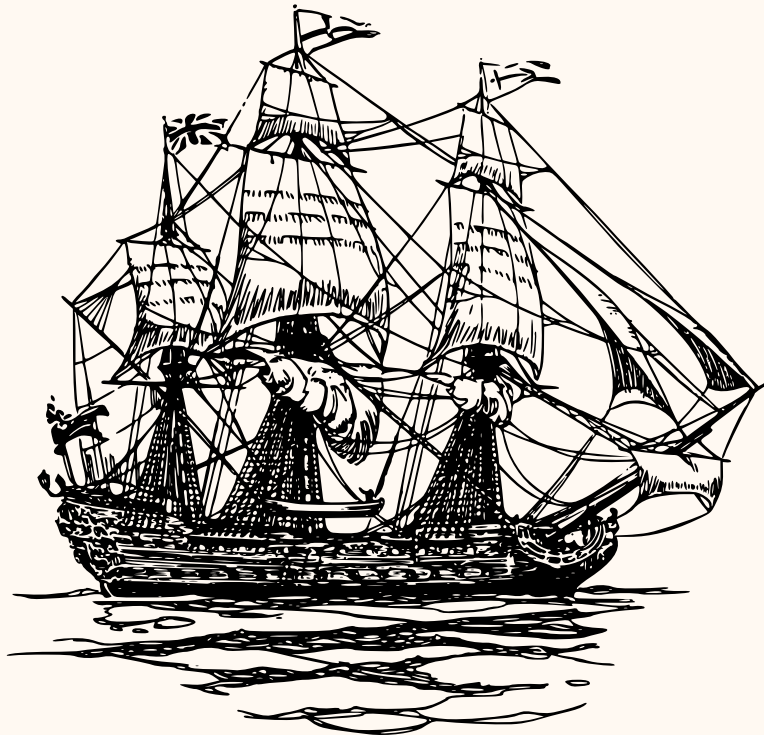
As delegates ponder the future of our nation let's raise a toast (perhaps with a proper tea) to Queen Elizabeth II may she rest in peace, and may her legacy inspire us to face our trials with a mix of resolve and levity. After all, if we can't laugh a little amidst the madness, what's the point? And if nothing else we now know to be wary of butter chicken in a royal crisis!

-Amnesty International



LANYARD TO LAN-HEARTS

They stand like pillars, side by side,
Their lanyards swinging, nowhere to hide.
One checks the clock, the other the door,
Both guarding... well, absolutely nothing, for sure.
While delegates argue, shout, and plead,
These two are a calmer breed;
No bloc formation, no hostile stance,
Just the quiet choreography of hallway romance.
And if you asked them, they'd both insist,
"We're just working!" (Sure, logistics.)
But the truth is there for all to see.
They're the ship no resolution could ever decree.
Some ships sail oceans, some sail seas,
But this one's docked by the water and teas,
A love story between "Please wait here"
And "Can I have water?" whispered near.



WAS LETTING HEPHAESTUS RUN ITHACA WORTH IT ?

Walking into OTI you can always expect to find delegates amid heated discussion over some niche topic that wouldn't come up in a Great part of the worlds normal conversation. I mentally prepared myself for some fierce negotiations and found myself wondering just how the delegates had figured out a way to exit the underworld. What greeted me when i entered was the fleet being surrounded by sirens, hephaestus appearing for a negotiation and, in true form with the rest of the committee, a delegate being accused of nothing less than 'desiring' a minor. The power structure had shifted drastically from the 3 blocs of day 1. Now only 2 blocs were active; the Logik and the Zeuthenia blocs. Zuthenia was actually responsible for ushering the fleet out of the underworld after a successful negotiation with hades through which each member of odysseus' fleet had to surrender 1/6 th of their souls to the literal devil. Perhaps this wasn't the best choice, since now Hades had the power to take over any delegate at any time and influence their actions, and was as such heavily criticised by the Logik bloc. The two blocs were very similar in stance, however Logik did not have faith in Odysseus as a captain or leader but Zeuthenia did. Both blocs specified that in the event of Odysseus proving himself unfit to rule they would enter into a democratic and ethically correct election , however the Zeuthenia bloc did not trust the Logik bloc's claim.

Once back in the land of the living, the delegates immediately found themselves in yet another danger this time proposed by sirens. Sirens are monsters from Greek mythology who use their alluring singing to lure sailors to their doom. The delegates immediately followed the typical solution and stayed through to the source myth by plugging their ears with wax, however the delegate of kubernes wanted some delegates to be chained up and actually listen to the sirens since they sing of valuable information, but this was fiercely contested. The loyalty score aboard all ships was dangerously low during this period with there being a very real danger of a mutiny.



In fact the senior oarsman made an announcement to the fact that Ecliptor was not feeding their oarsmen properly as a result of which they were going on strike. Some foolish delegates who didn't put the wax in their ears were lured by the sirens and their promises and then had their hands sliced off. This was especially critical in the case of the delegate of Eurylochus as he now had no arms, but he seemed extremely baffled as to how or why. With the sirens now surrounding the fleet none other but Hephaestus, god of the forge appeared and announced he was ready to barter.

Hephaestus revealed he would auction off three items, the first of which was a device that let you listen to the songs of the sirens and hear them sing about the deepest secrets of another delegate. This was extremely coveted amongst delegates who immediately started bidding for it. The delegate of Tharnikos started the auction with the offer of some type of lotus seeds, which was not very much appreciated. The delegate of Chartimenes offered the identity of Spartacus, which Hephaestus took an interest in, then the delegate of Kubernēs tried to offer oil of Delos which met the same fate as Tharnikos' offer. Eurylochus also received the Tharnikos treatment on his offer of Hades' soldiers who he asserted as the 'most efficient men in the world'. Multiple offers were made and rejected until the delegate of Euphradon ended up giving Hephaestus co-captaincy of his ship, the identity of Spartacus and a legion of soldiers. The next two items (a powerful axe and the ability to forge any weapon in the forge of Hephaestus) were given to the

captain of Thymbra and the delegate of Nauctus, with Hephaestus walking away with something which was undisclosed and 50% executive power in Ithaca. The delegate of Euphradon meanwhile had already started using the device he got from Hephaestus and had found out that Nauctus (a engaged grown man) who had been suspected of desiring Odysseus' wife Penelope actually desired Odysseus' son Telemachus (a child under the age of 15). This prompted the delegate of Euphradon to get barred from committee for alleging that Nauctus was a word that is obviously unparliamentary and begins with the same letter as parliament.

Hephaestus chose to reveal the identity of Spartacus to those members on his ship, one of which misunderstood and falsely accused Eurylochus when in actuality Spartacus was in fact the leader of the previous pro Odysseus bloc, Diaikomenes. Sadly at this climatic reveal this reporter had to exit the committee but is absolutely certain that this groundshaking revelation made for an extremely entertaining debate.