



Young Diplomats to Set up Their Own United Nations Debating Chamber

St. Ambrose College's young diplomats are setting up their own United Nations debating forum after playing a key role in the North-West's Model United Nations Conference held at Manchester High School for Girls.

Over 300 delegates from schools across the North West with special guests from Iran and Latvia attended the conference to get a deeper insight into the complexity of global politics.



Pictured from left to right are St. Ambrose College's U.N. Delegates Stephen Hill, Franek Bednarski, Eamonn Gilmore, Samuel Lopes and Matthew Doyle

Each team was given a country to represent which involved researching and then presenting that nation's position throughout the day across a series of special committees of issues including defence, human rights, ecology and economic growth.

The St. Ambrose team were given Egypt's case to argue and Eamonn Gilmore, 16, from Hale Barns, who wants to study Politics, Philosophy and Economics at Oxbridge and who was given a commendation for the quality of his argument, said: "I was asked to speak on Egypt's response to the growing threat of technological warfare and found myself adopting an increasingly aggressive, militaristic stance demanding support with missile defence systems because of the ever present threat in the Middle East."

Matthew Doyle, 16, Hale, from who was given a special mention for his contribution, talked on the Human Rights agenda debating the future of indigenous people in Egypt and matters including LGBT issues in a Muslim country.

Matthew, who wants to be a diplomat said: "I had to complete research on the life of the nomadic tribes in sub-Saharan Egypt and the Nubian peoples finding out about the life of peoples frankly I had not heard of before and working out their special needs. It was the sort of educational experience we don't get in normal classes and I think will be advantageous when applying to university."

Franek Bednarski, 16, from Sale, who wants to be a lawyer said: "We see the world through the prism of British interests and don't understand the complexity of other nations' needs or the range of work conducted by the U.N. Britain has a declining influence in the world but could take the lead in increasingly important concerns such as gender politics and feminism."

The St. Ambrose College delegation was led by English teacher Anne Corrigan, who said: "We hope to attend many more local, national and international conferences in the future. We were thrilled that Eamonn was recognised as best delegate in the technological warfare committee and Matt also received a special mention.

"By role-playing meetings like the Security Council and General Assembly, participants get a unique insight into how the United Nations works. They research, debate and try to solve some of the world's most pressing problems just like the real thing."