



ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES (JUNIOR)

COMMITTEE BULLETIN

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

I. WELCOME LETTER	3
<i>Committee Introduction</i>	4 - 5
<i>Member of the OAS</i>	6
II. TOPIC A:	
<i>Introduction</i>	7
<i>Historical Context</i>	8-10
<i>Essence of Debate</i>	11-12
<i>Topics to Debate</i>	12-14
<i>Guiding Questions</i>	14
<i>Bibliography</i>	15
III. TOPIC B:	
<i>Introduction</i>	17
<i>Essence Of Debate</i>	18-21
<i>Topics To Debate</i>	21-22
<i>Guiding Questions</i>	22
<i>Bibliography</i>	23

Welcome Letter from Director of English Committees

Welcome delegates!

My name is Mayte Cruz and I am the current director of English Committees. My debate journey began in 2021 in OAS Special Mission, continued through to 2022 in the Press Corps committee, directed the same committee in 2023, and now have the honor to serve in the board of directors of the congress.

DALE will be an experience that allows you to immerse yourself in two days of rich conferences, a place for you to voice your ideas, and a platform that will impulse you into your future. Regardless of the committee that you choose, you will leave DALE with a sense of excellence and accomplishment. Delegates that dedicate themselves to their research and the congress as a whole are the ones who most often grow throughout this conference. I encourage you to give this experience all you have and dedicate your time to truly make this an enriching learning experience for you.

On a personal note, DALE has broadened my horizons to so many different opportunities and perspectives that have been platforms for new ideas. I am confident that it can do the same for you, too. I am open to any questions or concerns you may have leading up to the conference, so do not hesitate to contact me! Thank you for joining the DALE XI family, and see you at Camino Real!

Best of luck,

Mayte Cruz (macruz@ans.edu.ni)
Director of English Committees

Welcome Letter from Chairs

Dear delegates,

It is a pleasure to warmly welcome you to the OAS Junior committee of DALE Nicaragua 2023. It fills us with joy and pride to be part of this experience, which represents a significant step for all of you in the development of crucial skills for debate.

On this committee, we will strive to create a nurturing environment that encourages critical thinking, effective expression, research skills, and listening skills. The opportunity to participate in this debate will not only allow you to advance the ethics of communication, but also to immerse yourself in the discussions with an open mind and strong values. As your Co-Directors, we are committed to accompanying you throughout this fascinating journey. The topics selected for this year are carefully chosen to offer each of you the opportunity to address globally relevant problems, practice short- and long-term problem solving, and strengthen skills such as information synthesis and creativity.

It is an honor for all of us to share this experience with you and witness your passion for debate. In this committee, we ensure a safe environment where every delegate will be heard and where their voices will become powerful tools for the exchange of ideas. We sincerely hope that you thoroughly enjoy this experience and that, at the end of this journey, you have developed and honed your debating skills significantly. We are excited for what is to come and can't wait to share this journey with each of you.

We have high hopes for this debate. We think that the topics that will be discussed will certainly be ones to remember. You delegates are the future of DALE, and we expect nothing more of you. We know how you must feel, and we recommend you something that will help you even when you are solder, in all areas of life: The more confident you are, the better it's going to be. Your aim must be to be a leader in the committee, to unite the nations in order to solve the problems presented in the table, and none of this can be achieved if you are first not secure about what you can offer to us and to your fellow delegates. We wish you the best of luck, and look forward to meeting all of you!

Let the debate begin!

Sincerely,

Santiago Barrantes & Andrea Lanuza
Co-Directors of the OAS Junior Committee

Committee Introduction

The Organization of American States (OAS) is an international institution that brings together the countries of the American continent with the purpose of promoting peace, security, justice and development in the region. Founded on April 30, 1948, the OAS seeks to strengthen cooperation among its member states and foster respect for democratic principles and human rights.

The main objectives of the OAS include the prevention and resolution of conflicts, the promotion of democracy and the rule of law, the protection of human rights, the promotion of economic and social development, as well as collaboration on cultural and scientific matters. With a focus on multilateral collaboration, the OAS works to build a more united and prosperous American hemisphere by addressing the common challenges faced by its member states.

In this committee, delegates will be representing a country that is a member of the OAS and will be debating, arguing, and defending their country's perspectives. Throughout the debate, delegates will practice their debate skills, as well as learn techniques to improve their abilities to structure and organize thoughts, analysis, research and note-taking. As well as improving rigorous critical and higher-order thinking skills. Delegates will be debating Topic A: Climate Change and Topic B: Health Accessibility in American States.



Members of the OAS



Paraguay



United States of
America



Argentina



Ecuador



Colombia



México



Brazil



Uruguay



El Salvador



Guatemala



Canadá



Haiti



Dominican
Republic



Antigua and
Barbuda



Venezuela



Nicaragua



Spain



Peru



Chile



Bolivia



Suriname



Honduras



Panama



Costa Rica

Topic A:

Climate Change



1. Introduction

In the complex fabric of global challenges we face today, climate change stands out as a complex problem that demands urgent attention. This phenomenon, with far-reaching consequences, transcends geographical borders and enters the most fundamental spheres of human existence. Within this panorama of environmental transformations, food security emerges as a crucial issue, where the intrinsic links between the changing climate and food availability become increasingly evident.

Climate change, characterized by sustained increases in temperatures, extreme weather events and alterations in precipitation patterns, casts a huge effect on agricultural systems around the world. The land we farm, the harvest cycles we have become accustomed to, now face unprecedented disruption. The fragility of these systems is manifested in the increasing difficulty of producing and distributing food effectively. This imbalance, exacerbated by climate instability, poses monumental challenges for global food security. In this scenario of uncertainty, food insecurity becomes a specter that looms over millions of people, especially in already vulnerable regions where agriculture is not only an economic activity, but a primary source of livelihood. The threat to the availability and affordability of nutritious foods becomes an imminent reality that directly affects the quality of life of entire communities. The intersection between climate change and food security becomes undeniable, demanding immediate responses and sustainable solutions. Addressing this complex relationship not only means facing the immediate impacts of climate change, but also building adaptation strategies that allow communities to resist and recover from new climate realities. A comprehensive approach is required that considers mitigating the effects of climate change, implementing sustainable agricultural practices and building resilient food systems capable of facing emerging challenges with strength.

In this context, reflection on climate change and food insecurity becomes a call to action, an unavoidable commitment to global well-being and the construction of a sustainable future. As we delve into this debate, we will explore the complexities of this relationship, seeking not only to understand the challenges, but also to forge solutions that transcend geographic and cultural barriers, recognizing that the impact of climate change knows no limits.

2. Historical Context:

The Industrial Age and the Rise of Environmental Consciousness

In the transition from the 18th to the 19th centuries, humanity experienced an unprecedented transformation with the arrival of the Industrial Revolution. This era was marked by a radical change in production methods, driven by technological innovations such as the steam engine and the mechanization of textile production. The uncontrolled burning of coal and the massive exploitation of natural resources became common practices, catalyzing an economic boom, but also in an era of devastating environmental impacts.

With the widespread adoption of the steam engine, powered primarily by burning coal, carbon dioxide emissions skyrocketed, although its relationship to climate change was not fully understood at the time. Air pollution and environmental degradation became evident as industrial cities grew, transforming landscapes and affecting the health of urban populations.



(This image eloquently illustrates the impact of factories during the Industrial Revolution, evidencing the radical transformation in urban landscapes and the way industrial production shaped society.)

This period not only marked the transition from an agrarian to an industrial society, but also the beginning of an emerging awareness of the environmental impacts of human activity. Although concern about environmental degradation was not widespread, some thinkers and scientists began to warn about the long-term consequences of unsustainable industrial practices. Figures such as John Ruskin and William Morris expressed concerns about the negative effects of industrialization on the quality of life and the natural environment. Although their voices were in the minority at the time, they laid the foundation for a growing environmental consciousness that would develop more fully in the following decades.

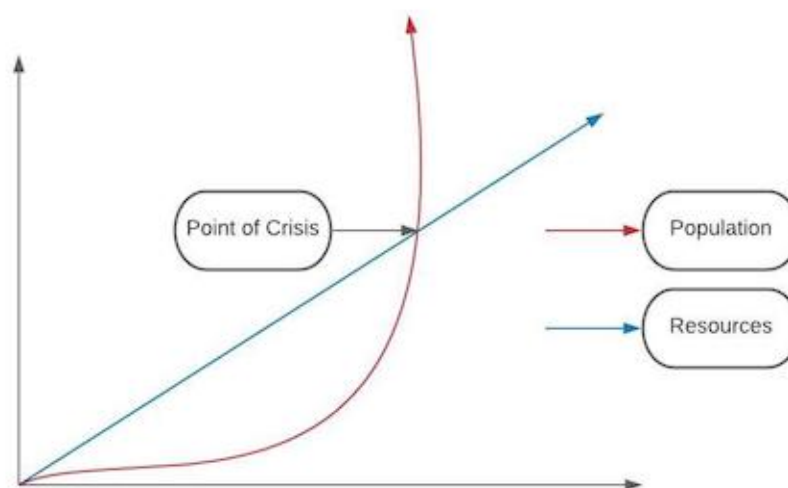
The Industrial Age not only left an indelible mark on the economic and social structure, but also sowed the first seeds of environmental awareness. The interplay between industrial development, greenhouse gas emissions, and emerging concerns about environmental impacts laid the foundation for modern understanding of the connection between human activity, climate change, and food insecurity.

Historical Roots of Food Insecurity and Malthusian Theory

It is crucial to delve into the period in which Malthusian theory emerged, in the late 18th century. Thomas Robert Malthus, a British economist, raised fundamental concerns about the imbalance between population growth and food production. His theory, presented in "Essay on the Principle of Population" in 1798, suggested that population had a tendency to grow exponentially, outpacing the land's ability to provide food, which would eventually lead to shortages and restriction. of the population.



In the historical context of the Industrial Revolution, Malthusian theory resonated, as rapid population growth and urbanization raised concerns about agriculture's ability to meet food demands. Although Malthus did not correctly predict the extent of agricultural innovation that would increase food production, his theory laid the foundation for understanding tensions between population and resources.



Neo-Malthusianism and its Contemporary Relevance

Although technological advances in agriculture and improved production practices directly challenged Malthus's gloomiest predictions, neo-Malthusianism has re-emerged in modern times, highlighting the interconnections between population growth, climate change and food insecurity.

Today, neo-Malthusians emphasize the threat of resource overexploitation and environmental degradation caused by unsustainable practices. Concern centers not only on agriculture's ability to keep up with a growing global population, but also on the side effects of agricultural intensification, such as biodiversity loss, soil and water pollution, and contribution to climate change through greenhouse gas emissions. Neo-Malthusians emphasize the need to consider natural resource limitations in the context of population growth and climate change. They argue for sustainable strategies that balance food supply with environmental preservation, highlighting the importance of planning and careful management of resources to avoid food crises and ensure food security in the future. In this sense, Malthusian theory, although questioned in the past, remains relevant in the contemporary discussion on how to address the complex interactions between population, food production and the health of the planet.

3. Essence of Debate:

Mitigation and Adaptation in Climate Change and Food Insecurity

The epicenter of the debate on climate change and food insecurity lies in the dichotomy between mitigation and adaptation. Mitigation involves reducing greenhouse gas emissions to slow climate change, while adaptation focuses on adjusting agriculture and food practices to changing climate conditions. Mitigation advocates argue that it is essential to address the root causes of climate change to avoid more serious long-term consequences. Reducing emissions, transitioning to sustainable energy sources and preserving ecosystems are key pillars of this perspective. In contrast, those who advocate adaptation argue that since climate change is already underway, we must focus on adjusting our agricultural practices to ensure food security in a changing environment.

Technological Solutions for Food Insecurity

Within the debate, another crucial issue arises: technological solutions. Some advocate the use of innovative technologies, such as genetically modified (GM) crops or precision agriculture, to improve food production and increase the resilience of crops to extreme weather conditions. Genetic engineering can enable the development of crop varieties more resistant to pests, diseases and adverse climate conditions, which could be vital to maintaining food security in a changing world.

Local versus Global Approach in the Fight against Climate Change and Food Insecurity

An additional sticking point in this debate relates to the scale of implementation of the solutions. Should these problems be addressed at a local, regional or global level? Some argue that solutions must be tailored to the specific conditions of each community, while others advocate for global approaches that consider the interconnectedness of global food and climate systems.

Equity and Vulnerability in Debate

Equity and vulnerability are central concerns. There is growing awareness of how vulnerable communities, especially in developing countries, will disproportionately suffer the impacts of climate change and food insecurity. The discussion focuses on the need for equitable solutions that not only address the problems effectively, but also protect those who are most susceptible to negative impacts.

Topics to Debate:

a. Impact of Climate Change on Agriculture

Climate change presents significant challenges to food security, especially in agriculture. Variations in climatic conditions directly affect crops and food production. Delegates can explore the relationship between climate change and extreme events, such as droughts, floods and irregular weather events, and how these affect farmers' ability to grow food sustainably.

b. Crop Yield and Quality

A crucial part of the discussion is analyzing how climate change impacts crop yields and quality. Delegates can examine scientific studies and data that demonstrate how variations in climatic conditions can influence the quantity of food produced and the nutritional quality of crops. This analysis can provide valuable information on how to mitigate declining agricultural productivity.

c. Distribution and Access to Food

Climate change not only affects food production, but also its distribution and access. Delegates can address issues related to the unequal distribution of food resources and how climate change intensifies food insecurity in certain regions. Additionally, they can discuss strategies to improve equitable food distribution and ensure adequate access for all populations.

d. Loss of Biodiversity

The loss of biodiversity is another critical aspect to consider. Delegates can explore how climate change contributes to declining species diversity, directly affecting the resilience of agricultural ecosystems. Discussing the importance of conserving biodiversity in agriculture and developing sustainable agricultural practices can be essential to address this problem.

e. Agricultural Adaptation

Agricultural adaptation is key to facing the challenges of climate change. Delegates can discuss different strategies and practices that farmers can adopt to adapt to changing climate conditions. This could include crop diversification, water management, and the use of more climate-resilient technologies.

f. Attenuation Measures

In addition to adaptation, delegates can discuss mitigation measures to reduce agriculture's contribution to climate change. This may include more sustainable agricultural practices, the use of renewable energy, and the implementation of technologies that reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

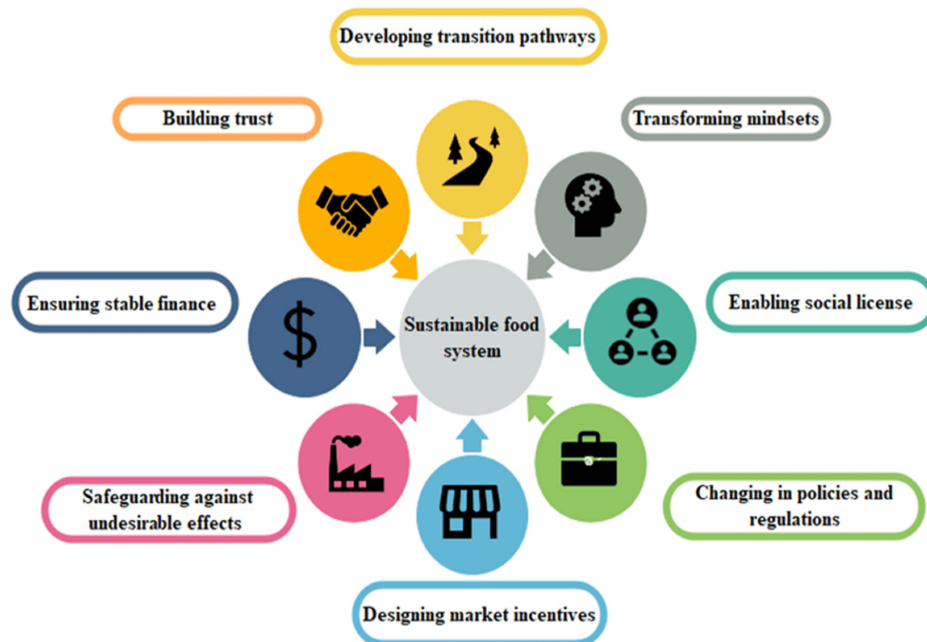
g. Government Policies

Implementing effective government policies is essential to addressing the intersection between climate change and food insecurity. Delegates can discuss how governments can establish regulations and policies that encourage sustainable agricultural practices, promote food security, and address inequities in access to agricultural resources.

h. Technology and Innovation

Technology and innovation play a crucial role in solving the challenges posed by climate change. Delegates can explore how research and technological development can improve agricultural efficiency, promote sustainability and provide innovative solutions for food production in a changing climate environment.

Each of these topics offers a unique opportunity to delve deeper into the complexities of the relationship between climate change and food insecurity, providing delegates with a solid basis for debate and formulation of effective solutions.



4. Guiding Questions:

- A. How does climate change affect the vulnerability of communities to extreme weather events?
- B. What adaptation measures can be implemented at national and international levels to reduce the vulnerability of communities to the impacts of climate change on food security?
- C. How does climate change affect agricultural production and food availability?
- D. What are the sustainable agricultural technologies and practices that can mitigate the impacts of climate change on food production?
- E. To what extent does climate change contribute to the displacement and migration of communities, especially those linked to agriculture?
- F. What are the implications of these population movements for food security at the local and regional level?
- G. How can countries collaborate effectively internationally to address common challenges arising from climate change and food insecurity?
- H. What roles can international organizations play in promoting sustainable practices and mitigating the impacts of climate change on food security?

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Topic B:

Health Accessibility in American States



Introduction:

Health is one (If not the main) driver of a nation. If a nation doesn't have a healthy population, then none of the other economic and social factors can work in balance, this can also go the other way around. The economic and social state of a nation is what defines how health can or cannot be managed, and we can see this in action in our own nations. In America, health is not something that comes at a low price, and if you search for a higher quality of service (private medical attention), you will find yourself facing astronomical prices that the majority of the population won't be able to afford.

These problems and many more are what cause the health crisis in America.

Delegates in the committee will have to directly address some of the main problems regarding health, and they will be encouraged to find solutions aimed at creating a healthier population



Essence of Debate:

Recognize each of the flaws and problems the delegates will face while developing.

No country is perfect, and when we are talking about the health topic, there are thousands of flaws each individual nation can recognize. Delegates will have to remember that the best solution that can be given is one that solves the problem not only in their nation, but also one that does this in all the nations involved.

Recognizing flaws and problems that nations face in health is the first step to resolving an issue. How can we solve something we don't know anything about?

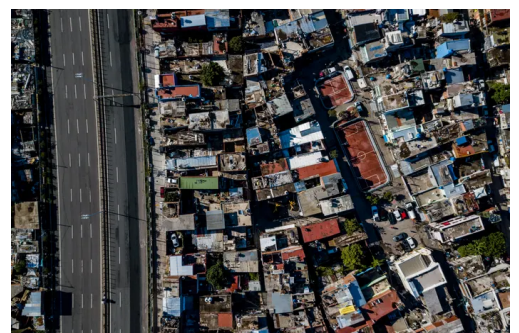
Identifying and studying a problem is the first step to solving it.

- solutions to the health crisis in American nations.

There is a concept that all delegates should understand: Crisis and problematic are two similar things, yet not the same. The health crisis in America is due to various factors, and delegates in this debate have the task to identify these factors. There are several crisis presents in America that are taking place in this instance, for example:

→ *Inequality in health access*: Disparities in healthcare access persist across all regions. Rural populations, indigenous communities, and marginalized groups often face challenges in accessing essential health services, leading to health inequities.

→ *Health Access for scarce-resource communities*: Communities with scarce resources are often left adrift by themselves, causing thousands of people having to drive or even walk hours in order to receive



→ medical attention. This puts these same people in danger, not only from the diseases or conditions they are facing, but these trips for healthcare also generate major insecurity, especially in Latin American countries.

→ Poor health infrastructures: Hospitals, clinics, and 3rd party health institutions are supposed to be places where your diseases or conditions are treated in a proper way. Poor health infrastructures could worsen the conditions the patients are facing, and also could compromise the lives of millions, because they don't have the proper infrastructure to treat certain diseases/conditions.



→ Long Waiting lists to access healthcare: When choosing to apply for a better health service, or even applying to get any service at all, people are often put in waiting lists, due to the amount of people that search for these types of services. These waiting lists can go from months up to almost two years!



This bad management of time causes millions of affected, and many deaths all around America.

→ Health access for indigenous communities: Nations like Brazil, Colombia,

Venezuela, Panama, etc. who have a high amount of indigenous communities have the task to protect them, and

This includes securing their health. Many projects that are driven by ONGs have the goal to attend these communities. Even though it's a great support, sometimes these projects cant trend all of the communities, which causes thousands of indigenous communities

unprotected to the diseases that are currently in our societies.



→ Scarce health investigations made by nations aiming to solve health issues:



Bacterias, viruses and diseases change everyday, and this causes some of our solutions to no longer be effective against them. It's the nation's job to find solutions in order to protect their populations.

All of these crises are crises that can be addressed, because they are of main

importance. Delegates will have the opportunity to analyze these problems in order to simultaneously solve the health crisis that America is facing.

- **Recognize how the problems may affect each nation individually.**

All the problems previously mentioned (and many more) aren't exclusive to a nation, but they actually affect almost every nation in America. Delegates will have to delve deep into the problems in their own country, that way they can connect their problems to other nations problems in order to find a solution that benefits the majority.

Topics to Discuss:

- **Main Issues that limit the efficiency of health services:**

Delegates must ask themselves which are the driving factors to this problem. Whether it's bad organization from part of the governments, or also the lack of cooperation from the population.

- **Roles of each nation that may be problematic**

What can my nation do? This is a question that all of the delegates should be asking themselves. What can my country do to aid others? This is another question that would help create bilateral and multilateral agreements between the delegates in order to create a balanced solution for the participating nations.

- **Actions being taken by the nations**

What actions are the nations taking in order to solve this problem? All solutions should be welcome and heard, at the end of the day, this is the point of the debate. Delegates should be able to express their concerns about the methods that are being used, whether they agree or disagree with certain methods. Delegates should question their own nations in order to find out what works and what doesn't.

- **Obesity and cardiovascular issues in society (Factors that are driven by the community)**

The obesity and cardiovascular condition growth in the population is something concerning. There are many other factors like these that are caused by the populations habits that compromise the national health. Delegates should address this issue, since it's one of the most underlooked yet important problems that nations face according to health. Cardiovascular diseases and cancers were responsible for over 82% of the deaths in Latin America. How can these diseases be treated correctly? and what role can each's nation government take to control this epidemic?

- **How is our population caring for their health?**

The population of a nation plays a key role in health. At the end of the day, the health that the nations should be worrying about is the health of the population. What habits cause health issues? Whether it's food habits, or even smoking habits. What can the nations do to stop this?

Questions to be Answered:

- What problems are responsible for bad health services?
- How can nations work together to solve this problem?
- What are the objectives and positions of each nation?
- What actions are currently being taken that can be still applied in the future to solve this problem?
- What solutions can be applied to solve this problem?
- How can there be a fair and equal solution?
- What habits can be changed in our society to better the overall health?

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