

Michelle Tunger – 2017 participant

After many weeks of preparation, the time had finally arrived that my teammate, Maya Petersohn, and I were on our way to Seattle for the 2017 West Coast Model EU. The evening we arrived at the University of Washington, we were greeted by all the other participants who were equally excited to participate in the conference. After listening to presentations of the organizers and hearing the positions of each country's representative, we students had some time to socialize. Although we mainly talked about politics and issues of the EU, we did not forget that making new friends was also part of the experience.

The next morning, the conference really kicked off: both in the morning and afternoon, the participants discussed issues such as the fiscal policy and Brexit. Most interesting for me was to see how different people used different strategies and approaches to win the support of other participants. It was more than obvious that everybody was engaged and had a lot of fun! Even after the conference had officially ended, the exchange of ideas and opinions did not stop. In the evening, Maya and I went out to eat with a group of other participants, and could have continued talking until the early morning hours if we did not have to fly back to our colleges and universities the next day. Meeting new people who share the same interests with me while also debating current political issues was an extremely valuable experience for me and I recommend everyone who is interested in economics, politics and Europe in general to try it!

