

Lessons about Tajikistan from Ambassador Mahmaminov



Ambassador Mahmaminov speaks at UVU

On October 5th, 2018, Permanent Representative of Tajikistan to the United Nations (UN) Ambassador Mahmaminov made a great informative presentation about his country's priorities at the UN and Sustainable Development Goals with water resources in particular.

I am very interested to research about sustainable development of each country around the world and how each of them utilizes the natural resources. Ambassador Mahmaminov confirmed that his country is a mountain country. During my research I found out that its 93% of his country's territory is covered by mountains. In addition, more than 60% of all the water sources of Central Asia comes from their mountains. Mr. Mahmaminov also mentioned that his country has the biggest glacier in the world which is 70 kilometers in length. Tajikistan has also the highest mountains in the world that currently stands more than 27000 ft. Importantly, Tajikistan shares water with its neighbors. As the President of Tajikistan said, that the country never will leave the downstream countries without the water. But by having 60% of all the water resources of Central

Asia, Tajikistan is only using 5% of it. Tajikistan has been fighting to dominant natural resources, water!

Taking into account geography, I can see why Tajikistan has a water crisis. Water shortages are increasing in severity. Water scarcity is defined by position of the country in Central Asia, with its climate defined as arid continental. The country doesn't have any access to the ocean. The summer is very hot and mostly dry, but sometimes local cloudbursts and thunderstorms can occur, which can sometimes be quite heavy. Tajikistan is closer in nature to subtropical deserts which means in the winter it is extremely cold in the north.

Ambassador Mahmaminov also mentioned the importance of the family values in his nation and that Tajikistan promotes them as well as other human rights and freedoms at the UN. He talked also how his Permanent Mission works with different non-governmental organizations (NGOs) at the UN to promote faith, family, and freedom. I found it so astonishing because it is close to my heart as well.

I enjoyed the presentation of the Ambassador Mahmaminov very much. I also was very glad to see how my peers, other students were able to host distinguished guest with such a high level of professionalism.

Cory Levin, member, Foreign Affairs club.