

UPDATED INFORMATION FROM THE UNEP 2020 COMMITTEE:

Since the Study Guide was updated for the last time, around November, very few changes have taken place in regards to current events that have had an influence on our society in many forms such as: politically, socially and environmentally.

The COVID19 Pandemic is still the biggest challenge the world is facing right now, however, with the vaccine being distributed to multiple countries nowadays, it looks like we are getting rid of the virus slowly but steadily.

During 2020, the UNEP committee continued to work, but the goals that were previously established were underachieved due to the Pandemic. Also, new challenges in regards to the environment have arisen such as: how to manage the enormous quantity of waste (masks, plastic gloves, vaccines...) or how to control the transmission of diseases from animals to humans (by tackling illegal trade, protecting biodiversity...).

Nonetheless, there are practically no advances in the use of AI due to the withdrawal of funds, once again due to the ongoing Pandemic, but the main goal stays the same and it is strongly believed by the population and experts of the matter that AI is the best solution to reverse global warming to this day and age.

Another issue to take into account is that, during the last months, the effects of global warming have been appreciated around the world: in the south of Europe, the biggest snowstorm of the last 50 years and freezing temperatures were countered by 20°C temperatures in the next few days. In India, a glacier in the Himalayas collapsed causing the death of 20 people and around 200 disappearances.

Finally, it can be stated that not everything has been negative throughout the last year with Covid-19, due to the fact that it has been confirmed the United States of America rejoined the Paris Agreement under the Joe Biden administration. This indirectly showcases how progress for the environment is underway.