

What is Model United Nations (MUN)

MUN (Model United Nations) is a simulation replicating the United Nations' work. Students assume the role of delegates and engage in debates and negotiations. Delegates solve global issues utilizing creative solutions. MUN improves students' understanding of international affairs while developing problem-solving, research, debate, and leadership abilities.

General Assembly (GA)

The General Assembly (GA) serves as the central deliberative body within the MUN structure, representing all United Nations member states (U.N.). This committee is very similar to the style and procedures of the United Nations bodies. The agenda is organized for debate and drafting resolutions to vote on a final resolution to be adopted by the committee. The GA follows parliamentary procedures.

Crisis

A Crisis refers to a dynamic and rapidly evolving situation that delegates must respond to within a committee. Crisis committees emphasize real-time decision-making, problem-solving, and strategic thinking. Each delegate represents a character. Delegates are presented with updates, crisis directives, and unexpected events that require immediate action and response. Delegates are given chances for debate and passage of directives.

Specialized General Assembly (Spec Gen)

Specialized General Assembly is a combination of Crisis and General Assembly elements. The procedure is similar to a GA. However, delegates receive crisis updates during the committee and write directives and resolutions.

Research Guide

The most important thing you can do to prepare for a conference is research. This research will benefit you as you write your position paper and speak at the committee. The first place to start will always be your background guide.

Background Guide: This will typically be on the conference website. The background guide is a handbook written by your chair. This guide is provided to delegates before the MUN conference to allow the delegate to research the topic and prepare for the conference. Studying this guide and using it as a starting point for conducting independent research is essential. This guide will often provide the delegate with topic background, parties involved, treaties, past resolutions, starting points, questions to consider, and other resources. Chairs look favorably upon delegates knowledgeable about the background guide and expectations for the committee.

Once you have read through your background guide, research the following:

- **Country's History and Interests:** Understand your country's profile (economics, blocs, strengths, weaknesses, geography, and history). What is your country's policy on the topic and international affairs? What is your country's voting history and policy on this issue and other widely debated issues such as climate change, sustainable development, environment and refugee protection, healthcare, disarmament, nonproliferation, equity, and inclusion? If the topic in committee has yet to be addressed by your country, use the past policies to support your country's stance and possible solutions.
- **The Topic:** Understand what the topic is. How does the topic relate to your country and delegation? How does the topic relate to other international issues? Understand the history and cause of the topic.
- **Allies' and Opponents' Relevant Histories and Interests:** Understanding your allies' and opponents' relevant histories and interests is essential. Particularly those of the P5 states. These include the United States, China, France, Russia, and the United Kingdom.
- **Your Committee Mandates and Abilities**
- **Past Actions:** Research resolutions that know what has been attempted or utilized. Examine successful and unsuccessful legislation and proposed solutions from your country and others.
- **Future Policy Recommendations/Solutions:** Research and evaluate current or past actions from the United Nations, governments, and

Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs). Have solutions been utilized by other states that have worked domestically? Examine historical resolutions on the topic and the outcomes. Examine funding for your solutions and budgeting regarding the World Bank, NGOs, member states, etc.

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Some helpful links for research:

<https://www.un.org/en/>

<https://www.cia.gov/the-world-factbook/>

<https://research.un.org/en/docs/find>

<https://www.un.org/about-us/member-states>

Wikipedia

Any website ending in .edu or .gov

NGOs:

These are non-governmental organizations already funded that accomplish initiatives that you might also be pushing for in your solutions. For example, they will bring education, clean water, food, or urban infrastructure development to rural areas. See the below link for ideas.

<https://bestdelegate.com/ngoguide/>

BACKGROUND GUIDE FOR CRISIS

Preparation for a crisis committee is very different from a general assembly. The background guide will have hints of ways that a crisis may arise. Try to pull out key themes in the guide and current issues.

- Understand your committee topic: Understand the issue, organization, or group. What makes this a crisis? What historical events make this a crisis?
- Your Character/Role: What is the position? What personal power do they have? What is their end goal and personal interest? Some characters may be historical figures. Others could be fictional (use your imagination to build historically accurate components of your character and their beliefs, etc. Set goals for your character.
- Understand Other Characters/Roles: The background guide usually has information about powers and hints of the characters. Understand the other characters, their strengths, and their motives.
- Be flexible, know your end goal, and be ready to make adjustments as the committee evolves.

MUN Research Binder

Delegates often find that a research binder is helpful during committee.

A sample outline for a delegate's binder could include

- Section 1: Background Guide/History of the Topic
- Section 2: Parliamentary Procedure
- Section 3: Committee Information and Background
- Section 4: Research on Topic
- Section 5: Country Information
- Section 6: Country Policy and Past Actions: Resolutions, Statements
Activities
- Section 7: Treaties/Declarations
- Section 8: Solutions
- Section 9: Position Paper

<https://bestdelegate.com/mun-research-made-easy-15-things-every-delegate-should-have-in-their-research-binder/>

Position Paper

Delegates should write position papers after the research process. Most committees require the position paper to be submitted before the conference date. Refer to the conference website for rubrics and formatting. If this information is not provided, follow the guidelines below.

- One page single-spaced, Times New Roman 12
- MLA format
- No conclusion or introduction
- Always write in the 3rd person
- Background guide is cited as "Background Guide" if you got information from there
- Do not plagiarize
- Always cite your research
- Footnotes as your citations
 - Put your cursor where you want the citation, click insert, footnote, then paste the link for the source.
- Excellent Links about position paper writing
 - <https://bestdelegate.com/how-to-write-a-winning-position-paper/>
 - <https://vmun.com/writing-position-paper-model-united-nations/>
 - <https://bestdelegate.com/a-formula-for-the-perfect-position-paper-solution-oriented-research/>

Mia Abatecola
Lee Byung-Ho
Specialized General Assembly

I. Reunification of Korea in 2025

For centuries before the division, The Korean peninsula was a single, unified, and somewhat prosperous state. Division did not occur until the end of World War II when the powerful Soviet Union and United States immersed themselves into Korean politics and divided the peninsula into two separate sectors. The Soviet Army and its proxies set up a communist regime in the area north of latitude 38° N, or the 38th parallel. South of that line, a military government was formed, supported directly by the United States⁶. Conflict emerged due to political differences: The Northern area became heavily communist while the southern territory favored democratic principles and was wary of communism. After the Cold War, South Korea established their own anti-communist government while North Korea establish a communist government. This led to the Korean War, which resulted in the death of 2.5 million people, but did little to resolve the question of which regime represented the “true” Korea⁷. Conflict continued, but South Korea and North Korea have been able to maintain a shaky and tense form of peace. Reunification has become a popular topic of conversation among the citizens of South Korea and government officials. President Park is a supporter of reunification, along with most of her cabinet.

Lee Byung-Ho is the Director of the National Intelligence Service under President Park. Lee-Byung-Ho is therefore a member of the Saenuri party. His agency is responsible for the collection, coordination, and distribution of the nation’s strategy and security, as well as investigation into any national threats⁸. Although Director Lee has shown nothing but competency in his position and loyalty towards his country, his patriotism to South Korea has been questioned, as he has fathered many children who do not reside in South Korea. Director Lee supports reunification of the Koreas.

It is incredibly important that South Korea and North Korea are able to compromise and reunify. South Korea has been forced to remain prepared for seemingly unavoidable conflict with North Korea at all times, which has proved exhausting and draining for the economy. The long term benefits of reunification far outweigh the short term costs. The standard of living on the Korean peninsula will rise, particularly in the north, and the economic potential of a reunified Korea - with a market of more than 75 million people and complementary economic factors - will clearly exceed the initial costs. There is also a potentially enormous peace dividend, both economically and politically⁹. A large sum of money could be saved in terms of military spending alone. Compromise will be difficult, as the Koreas are very ideologically opposed, but the idea of reunification is not impossible. Working directly with the Ministry of Unification, a combined, more democratic government which put restrictions on large South Korean companies could be formed, along with the modernizing and industrializing of South Korea in order to bridge the income gap without exploiting workers, and finally, by instituting a healthcare system that would provide North Koreans with the healthcare they lack. It would be costly, and South Korea would have to give up extreme Communist ideals, but the end result would be a powerful, prosperous, and unified Korea.

⁶ <https://www.history.com/news/north-south-korea-divided-reasons-facts>

⁷ <https://www.history.com/news/north-south-korea-divided-reasons-facts>

⁸ https://docs.google.com/document/d/1Eja5vS98WEGyAtzBrYiU_NaRc9sA4yZ7rHALS-xupnY/edit

⁹ <https://www.dw.com/en/mafael-benefits-outweigh-costs-of-korean-reunification/a-17966172>

Format of top of the Position Paper

- Top Right
 - Delegate name (both delegates' names for dual delegation)
 - Country Represented
 - Committee

Position Paper Outline

1. Paragraph 1: What is the overview of the general topic is
 - a. Shortest paragraph
 - b. Briefly discuss the topic and its history.
 - c. 1-2 things that could be the source of the issue
 - d. What the world has done so far
 - i. UN actions, agreements, treaties
 - ii. Issues with resolving it so far (if relevant)
2. Paragraph 2: What is your country's view on this topic, and what have they done
 - a. In-depth discussion of at least two things your country has done concerning this topic.
 - i. Policies and past actions of your country
 - b. If your country has a neutral stance, develop your position but look at what they have done in related topics to use as support for your position.
 - c. Slightly longer than your first paragraph.
3. Paragraph 3: Proposed Solutions
 - a. This should be your longest paragraph.
 - b. These are the solutions you will bring up in debate, so they should be well-thought-out and creative, so they can clearly be labeled as "yours."
 - c. At least three well-thought solutions
 - d. Some things to keep in mind
 - i. Know who is paying!! You cannot just say the UN or the government will pay- the UN cannot create solutions and then force governments to pay. That is beyond their power.

- a. Say that the formed organization will solicit donations from countries in the General Assembly instead.
- b. Mobile clinics: Always a great solution that sounds fancy and can be applied to pretty much any situation- provide education, healthcare, resources, etc., in rural areas
- c. NGOs: more detail in the research area; a great way to accomplish your goals w/o involving government
- d. Acronym or solid name: Can make it more memorable in debate, makes it seem more well-thought

Model United Nations Conference Parliamentary Procedure

1. Roll Call
 - a. Countries will be called in alphabetical order.
 - b. A delegate may reply with "present" or "present and voting."
 - i. If a delegate replies with present and voting, they cannot abstain from subsequent votes.
 - ii. If a delegate replies with a present, they may abstain from subsequent votes.
 - c. The chair will set a quorum at the conclusion of roll call.
2. Motions- most accepted at one time is four; delegates may vote for or against
 - a. Speakers' List
 - i. A Speakers' List needs a speaking time but no duration or topic
 - ii. If all motions fail, the committee will revert to the existing speakers' list
 - iii. Speaking Time can be between 30-60 seconds
 - iv. Delegates may yield to delegates, which must be noted in the motion
 - a. Yields
 1. Inclusive Yields-Upon Yielding to another delegate, that delegate will have the remaining speaking time
 2. Exclusive Yields- Upon Yielding to another delegate, the clock will start again
 - b. Moderated Caucuses
 - i. The longest possible moderated caucus is twenty (20) minutes.
 - ii. The longest possible speaking time is ninety (90) seconds.
 - iii. The delegate must set a purpose
 - iv. Delegates may yield to delegates, which must be noted in the motion
 - c. Unmoderated Caucuses
 - i. The longest possible unmoderated caucus is twenty (20) minutes.
 - ii. An unmoderated caucus can only be motioned for after completing a moderated caucus.

- d. Round Robin
 - i. A delegate may motion for a round-robin, during which every delegate is required to speak.
 - ii. A speaking time must be set, but no topic is necessary
 - iii. The delegate who makes the motion will be the first to speak, and then debate will continue around the room clockwise.
- e. Extend a Caucus
 - i. A delegate may motion to extend the preceding Caucus
 - ii. Requires a simple majority through acclamation
- f. Set the Agenda
 - i. A delegate may motion to set the agenda to set the topic
 - ii. The agenda will be voted upon through acclamation, needing a simple majority
- g. Present a Working Paper
 - i. A maximum of three sponsors will read the resolution aloud
 - ii. A five-minute question and answer period will be given to the committee with the author's panel
- h. Suspend Debate
 - i. Before committee takes a break, debate must be suspended
 - ii. A motion to suspend debate needs a delegate to second the motion and a supermajority through acclamation
- i. Open Debate
 - i. After Debate has been suspended or closed, it must be opened
 - ii. Requires a supermajority
- j. Close Debate
 - i. In order to vote on a resolution, the debate must be closed
 - ii. Closing Debate requires two speakers for up to 2 Against
 - iii. A supermajority through acclamation is required to pass
- k. Table the topic
 - i. A Delegate may motion to table the topic if they feel the committee is ready to proceed to a different topic
 - ii. Requires 2 Speakers For up to 2 Against
 - iii. A simple majority through acclamation is needed to pass
- l. Divide the Question

- i. A Delegate may motion to Divide the Question in order to split a resolution and vote on specific clauses
- ii. Requires 2 Speakers For 2 Against
- iii. A simple majority through acclamation is required to Divide the Question

Some more Parly Pro stuff (some might be repeated):

1. Points

a. Point of order

- i. A point of order may be used to correct a discrepancy in parliamentary procedure.
- ii. A point of order may be used to interrupt a speaker.

b. Point of Personal Privilege

- i. A point for personal privilege may be used to ask to excuse oneself from the room, for a delegate to speak up, or to make accommodations.
- ii. A point of personal privilege may not be used to interrupt a speaker.

c. Point of Inquiry

- i. A point of inquiry may be used to ask the chair to clarify a motion or a vote up for consideration.
- ii. A point of inquiry may not be used to interrupt a speaker.

d. Right of Reply

- i. Suppose a delegate personally attacks another delegate or a delegate's nation. In that case, the attacked delegate may request a right of reply and will have the set speaking time of the caucus.
- ii. Right of replies are granted or denied at the chair's discretion.
- iii. Right of replies may not be used to interrupt the speaker.

2. Resolutions and Amendments

a. Resolutions

- i. A resolution will outline the proposed plan of action set forth by the committee.
- ii. In a security council, a resolution can outline direct action; any committee, not the security council, can only recommend action.
- iii. A resolution must have sponsors who author the resolution and signatories who would like to see the resolution voted

on but may have differing views on what's discussed in the resolution.

- iv. Two to five sponsors are required.
- v. A maximum of three sponsors may participate in an author's panel.
- vi. $\frac{1}{3}$ of the committee is needed in signatories.

b. Amendments

- i. A friendly amendment may add to a resolution paper after the paper has been presented to the chair.
- ii. A friendly amendment does not require a vote to be added to the resolution and must be approved by all the sponsors.
- iii. An unfriendly amendment is used to delete something from a resolution and requires two for/two against to be added to the paper.
- iv. One sponsor and six signatories are needed for an amendment to be accepted.

3. Voting- The delegate must specify the method when motioning to vote on a draft resolution

a. Roll Call Voting

- i. Delegates are called and can vote with a verbal yes, no, or abstain.
- ii. The roll call method may only be used in voting on resolutions.
- iii. A delegate may not abstain if they stated "present and voting" during the roll call.

b. Voting through Acclamation

- i. Delegates raise their placards with the command that corresponds to the decision.
- ii. Commands include all for, all against, and all abstentions.
- iii. A delegate may not abstain if they stated "present and voting" during the roll call.
- iv. There are no abstentions when voting for anything other than papers.

Resolution Paper

The resolution paper has all the proposed solutions to the committee topic. The entire goal of the committee is to come up with solutions to the problems at hand. During an unmoderated caucus, delegates in a committee can author (sponsor) a resolution. Delegates work in blocs to form the resolution paper. If enough interest is shown, these can be debated and voted on by the committee and approved by the chair.

- Any delegate can write a resolution
- The author is a sponsor
- Plan of action or solution
 - Collaborate with others on the committee
- Written during unmoderated or informal caucus
 - Many delegates add ideas to the draft resolution
- The purpose is to pass the resolution voted by the majority and passed during the voting bloc

Preambulatory Clauses:

Don't worry about these too much until debate, but keeping this packet and these clauses on hand during the conference is a good idea.

<https://bestdelegate.com/model-un-made-easy-how-to-write-a-resolution/>

- Why resolution is needed
- Underline the preambulatory clause
- End with a comma
- Cite sources

Example of Preambulatory Clauses

Affirming	Declaring	Expressing its
Having adopted	Noting with regret	appreciation
Alarmed by	Deeply concerned	Recognizing
Having considered	Noting with deep	Expressing its satisfaction
Approving	concern	Referring
Having considered	Deeply conscious	Fulfilling
further	Noting with satisfaction	Seeking
Aware of	Deeply convinced	Fully alarmed
Having devoted attention	Noting further	Taking into account
Bearing in mind	Deeply disturbed	Fully aware
Having examined	Noting with approval	Taking into consideration
Believing	Deeply regretting	Fully believing
Having heard	Observing	Taking note
Confident	Desiring	Further deploring
Having received	Reaffirming	Viewing with
Contemplating	Emphasizing	appreciation
Having studied	Realizing	Further recalling
Convinced	Expecting	Welcoming
		Guided by

Operative Clauses

- Details and actions of committee solutions
- Numbered
- Organized and clear
- Underline operative phrase
- Can contain sub-clauses
- End each operative clause with a semicolon except ending the last one with a period

Accepts	Has resolved	Draws the attention
Further invites	Confirms	Requests
Affirms	Notes	Emphasizes
Further proclaims	Congratulates	Solemnly affirms
Approves	Proclaims	Encourages
Further reminds	Considers	Strongly condemns
Authorizes	Reaffirms	Endorses
Further recommends	Declares accordingly	Supports
Calls	Recommends	Expresses its appreciation
Further requests	Deplores	Takes note of
Calls upon	Regrets	Expresses its hope
Further resolves	Designates	Transmits
Condemns	Reminds	Trusts

Amendments

- Modifications made to approved draft resolutions
- Changing the content
- Add, Delete, or change an operative clause
- Signatories are required for amendments
- Two types of amendments
 - Friendly Amendment
 - All sponsors agree on
 - Immediately put into resolution
 - No votes needed
 - Unfriendly Amendment
 - Some or all of the sponsors don't support
 - Must be discussed and voted on by the committee

How to Crisis

Speaking

- Points, motions, and Parliamentary Procedure is the same as General Assembly
- Use first person when speaking to the committee
 - I believe... I....
 - Speak as if you are the character you are representing.
- Research and staying on "policy" are often less important in crises, focusing instead on flexibility, creativity, and problem-solving.

Directives

- Unlike a GA, where the goal is resolution, a crisis has mini-resolutions known as directives.
- Individual delegates may write and act as the sponsor and gain signatories before putting the directive for a vote.
- Action plans
 - Consist of bullet points to indicate what should happen.
 - Specific
 - Focused on one issue
- Directives help to redirect the flow of committee//solutions you cannot handle with your resources or powers.
- Should have a title, operative clauses, action words, lists of sponsors or signatories
- Example:
 - Directive: Protect the Southern Border
- Will Federalize the National Guard in Texas, New Mexico, Arizona, and California, with immediate mobilization to the Federal States of Mexico border to protect it from illegal entry.
- The Department of Defence (Department of the Air Force) will deploy five drones to the border for aerial surveillance.
- Will open five new detention centers per state to accommodate all those captured, to be run by DHS. (DHS)
- The United States will open to negotiations for the repatriation of citizens with Central American nations.
- Sends food as distributed by the DoA to detention camps.

Signed: Isaiah Asbed (SecDef), Secretary of Homeland Security, Johnny Jensen

Press Releases

- Sent from the individuals and committee to the public

- Used to inform, influence, and/or sway the public
- They can be truthful, but they can also be a way of spreading misinformation to the general public.
- A press release can also be a way to communicate with another committee in the join-crisis.
- Has a title
- NOTE: When passing a group press release, you will need sponsors and signatories to go through the voting procedure as you would with a directive.
- Example:
 - Name Change for Department of Defense Dear New York Times,
We are pleased to announce the Department of Defense will now be known as the Department of Daniel Zhang.

Crisis Notes (You)

- First Person
- Use your resources or personal powers to direct the flow of committee/advance YOUR agenda, and expand your personal goals in a secretive way.
- Direct fictional characters
 - People often use assistants, deputy secretaries, spouses, relatives, or friends.
- Start with 2-4 and add more if needed, but the simpler, the easier it is for crisis staff.
- Addressed to a character
- Uses the character's resources
- Contains direct, specific actions to be undertaken
- Provides for how the actions will be undertaken
- Pre-Planning: Characters, Direction, etc.
 - Destroy Turkey, marry Zendaya, and become the overlord of the Moon.
- Example:
 - Dear Wanda (Deputy Secretary), I instruct you to take a census of the United States military. Coordinate with the Defence Logistics Agency to find our total ground troops, aircraft, and reserve troops. Thank you, I. Asbed

Build Yourself and Affect Committee

- Bodyguards, houses, assets, stocks, etc
- Build your reputation, press releases

- Use your resources and plans to affect the committee in some way

Helpful Crisis Links

- <https://bestdelegate.com/everything-you-need-to-know-about-crisis-committees/>
- <https://bestdelegate.com/how-to-write-a-crisis-directive/>
- <https://bestdelegate.com/how-to-survive-your-first-crisis-committee/>