



# 2024 DELEGATION HANDBOOK

## 35th Annual Session

***“The United Nations was created precisely for moments like this – moments of maximum danger and minimum agreement. We can and must use our tools in flexible and creative ways.”***

***“[The United Nations Charter] ... can guide us forward. Let us be determined. ....”***

*-- Secretary-General António Guterres, September 19, 2023,  
Addressing Opening of 78th General Assembly Debate*

**Photo on Front Cover: United Nations Climate Ambition Summit 2023**

Secretary-General António Guterres (right on screen and at dais) speaks at the closing session of the Climate Ambition Summit 2023.

The latest scientific assessment by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change has once again highlighted the urgency to act on the climate crisis. To accelerate action by all, and hear from “first movers and doers,” Secretary-General António Guterres convened the Climate Ambition Summit at UN Headquarters on the side of the General Assembly Debate. The Summit represents a critical political milestone to demonstrate that there is collective global will to accelerate the pace and scale of a just transition to a more equitable renewable-energy based, climate-resilient global economy.

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New York, United States of America Credit UN Photo/Loey Felipe

# Global Goals



The **Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)**, otherwise known as the **Global Goals**, are a universal call to action to end poverty, protect the planet and ensure that all people enjoy peace and prosperity. Specifically, the 17 goals are:



- **Goal 1. No Poverty** – End poverty in all its forms everywhere



- **Goal 2. Zero Hunger** – End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture



- **Goal 3. Good Health and Well-being** – Ensure healthy lives and promote wellbeing for all at all ages



- **Goal 4. Quality Education** – Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote life-long learning opportunities for all



- **Goal 5. Gender Equality** – Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls



- **Goal 6. Clean Water and Sanitation** – Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all



- **Goal 7. Affordable and Clean Energy** – Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all



- **Goal 8. Decent Work and Economic Growth** – Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all



- **Goal 9. Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure** – Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation



- **Goal 10. Reduced Inequalities** – Reduce inequality within and among countries



- **Goal 11. Sustainable Cities and Communities** – Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable



- **Goal 12. Responsible Consumption and Production** – Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns



- **Goal 13. Climate Action** – Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts\*



- **Goal 14. Life Below Water** – Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development



- **Goal 15. Life on Land** – Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss



- **Goal 16. Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions** – Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels



- **Goal 17. Partnerships for the Goals** – Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development

\* Acknowledging that the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) is the primary international, intergovernmental forum for negotiating the global response to climate change.

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### **Peace Bell Ceremony in Observance of International Day of Peace**

Secretary-General António Guterres rings the Peace Bell during the ceremony held at UN headquarters in observance of the 42nd Anniversary of the International Day of Peace (21 September). The theme of the International Day of Peace of 2023 is “Actions for peace: Our ambition for the #GlobalGoals”.

UN7998636 Production Date 09/13/2023 New York, USA Credit UN Photo/Cia Pak

## **PREFACE**

The GEMUN Delegation Handbook is intended to give all participants an understanding of how each aspect of the program can work together to educate toward a future world living in harmony and recognizing our interdependence.

It is hoped that everything included in the handbook will be read carefully and used by all who plan to take part in this endeavor. This will include adult sponsors (advisors), delegates, observers, specific work providers, college employees, interested assistants, and any others in need of information on participation in the program.

### **HOST COLLEGE**

Thank you Dallas College, Office of International Engagement and Global Competitiveness (IEGC), and Brookhaven Campus staff for hosting GEMUN and for all your help and amazing support!



### **PHOTO CREDITS**

- Earth graphic page 87 donated by Mark Sutton.
- All other photos used with permission from United Nations Photo. (<https://dam.media.un.org>)

# OVERVIEW OF THE UNITED NATIONS

The following was excerpted from the website of the UN Cyberschoolbus.  
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Department of Public Information, Outreach Division. All rights reserved.)

**The UN logo shows the world held in the “olive branches of peace”.**



## **Introduction to the history and work of the United Nations**

**The United Nations officially came into existence on 24 October 1945**, when the UN Charter had been ratified by a majority of the original 51 Member States. The day is now celebrated each year around the world as United Nations Day.

**The purpose of the United Nations** is to bring all nations of the world together to work for peace and development, based on the principles of justice, human dignity and the well-being of all people. It affords the opportunity for countries to balance global interdependence and national interests when addressing international problems.

**There are currently 193 Members of the United Nations.** They meet in the General Assembly, which is the closest thing to a world parliament. Each country, large or small, rich or poor, has a single vote, however, none of the decisions taken by the Assembly are binding. Nevertheless, the Assembly's decisions become resolutions that carry the weight of world governmental opinion.

**The United Nations Headquarters is in New York City** but the land and buildings are international territory. The United Nations has its own flag, its own post office and its own postage stamps. Six official languages are used at the United Nations - Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish. The UN European Headquarters is in the Palais des Nations, Geneva, Switzerland. It has offices in Vienna, Austria, and Economic Commissions in Addis Ababa in Ethiopia, Amman in Jordan,

Bangkok in Thailand and Santiago in Chile. The senior officer of the United Nations Secretariat is the Secretary-General.

### **The Aims of the United Nations:**

- \* To keep peace throughout the world.
- \* To develop friendly relations between nations.
- \* To work together to help people live better lives, to eliminate poverty, disease and illiteracy in the world, to stop environmental destruction and to encourage respect for each other's rights and freedoms.
- \* To be a centre for helping nations achieve these aims.

### **The Principles of the United Nations:**

- \* All Member States have sovereign equality.
- \* All Member States must obey the Charter.
- \* Countries must try to settle their differences by peaceful means.
- \* Countries must avoid using force or threatening to use force.
- \* The United Nations may not interfere in the domestic affairs of any country.
- \* Countries should try to assist the United Nations.

### **The Predecessor: The League of Nations**

The League of Nations was founded immediately after the First World War. It originally consisted of 42 countries, 26 of which were non-European. At its largest, 57 countries were members of the League. The League was created because a number of people in France, South Africa, the UK and the US believed that a world organization of nations could keep the peace and prevent a repetition of the horrors of the 1914-18 war in Europe. An effective world body now seemed possible because communications were so much better and there was increasing experience of working together in international organizations. Coordination and cooperation for economic and social progress were becoming important.

The League had two basic aims. Firstly, it sought to preserve the peace through collective action. Disputes would be referred to the League's Council for arbitration and conciliation. If necessary, economic and then military sanctions could be used. In other words, members undertook to defend other members from aggression. Secondly, the League aimed to promote international cooperation in economic and social affairs.

### **The End of the League**

As the Second World War unfolded, it became clear that the League had failed in its chief aim of keeping the peace. The League had no military power of its own. It depended on its members' contributions; and its members were not willing to use sanctions, economic or military. Moral authority was insufficient.

Several Big Powers failed to support the League: the United States crucially never joined; Germany was a member for only seven years from 1926 and the USSR for only five years from 1934; Japan and Italy both withdrew in the 30s. The League then depended mainly on Britain and France, who were understandably hesitant to act forcefully. It was indeed difficult for governments long accustomed to operating independently to work through this new organization.

### **The Institution of the UN Charter**

**Even as the Second World War raged**, the leaders of Britain, China, the US and the USSR, under intense pressure from the press and public, discussed the details of a post-war organization. In 1944 representatives of China, the UK, the US and the USSR meeting at Dumbarton Oaks in Washington, DC, prepared a blueprint for an international organization. Towards the end of the war representatives of 50 countries gathered in San Francisco between April and June 1945 to hammer out the final text that would lay the foundations of international cooperation. This was the Charter of the United Nations, signed on 26 June by 50 countries. Poland, the 51st country, was not able to send a representative to the San Francisco conference but is considered an original member.

**Although the League was abandoned, most of its ideals and some of its structure were kept** by the United Nations and outlined in its Charter. The ideals of peace, social and economic progress remained the basic goals of the new world organization. However, these were developed to fit the new and more complex post-war world.

**The League's Council was transformed into the Security Council** consisting of the five victors of the war as permanent members and ten other countries serving two year terms. The five permanent members - China, France, the UK, the USSR, and the US were given veto power, which means that decisions taken by the Security Council can be blocked by any of the five permanent members. This is significant firstly because the Security Council is the principle UN organ responsible for ensuring peace, and, secondly, because it is the only body whose decisions are binding on all Member States. Since the creation of the UN the balance of Big Powers has changed and over one hundred new Member States, mainly non-Western, have joined. With these changes have come increasing demands to reform the Security Council.

**The brief provision for Social Activities in the League's Covenant was turned into a comprehensive prescription for international economic and social cooperation**, with the aim of achieving conditions of stability and well-being recognised as essential for peaceful relations among nations. Under the aegis of a new organ, the Economic and Social Council, the work of existing and anticipated Specialized Agencies in the fields of labour, education, health, agriculture, development and many others would be coordinated within the UN system. Racism and repression demanded that another, new, people's element should enter emphatically into the Charter, that of rights. Many sorts of rights, from the right to self-determination, which encouraged the independence of colonized peoples, to general human rights, which aimed to protect individuals, are enshrined in the Charter, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and two Covenants which have become major, standard-setting additions to international law.

## The UN System

**The basic structure of the United Nations** is outlined in the organizational chart on the following page. What the structure does not show is that decision-making within the UN system is not as easy as in many other organizations. The UN is not an independent, homogeneous organization; it is made up of states, so actions by the UN depend on the will of Member States, to accept, fund or carry them out. Especially in matters of peace-keeping and international politics, it requires a complex, often slow, process of consensus-building that must take into account national sovereignty as well as global needs.

**The Specialized Agencies**, while part of the UN system, are separate, autonomous intergovernmental organizations which work with the UN and with each other. The agencies carry out work relating to specific fields such as trade, communications, air and maritime transport, agriculture and development. Although they have more autonomy, their work within a country or between countries is always carried out in partnership with those countries. They also depend on funds from Member States to achieve their goals.

**Recently, international conferences organised by the UN have gained significance.** UN conferences have been held since the 1960s, but with the Conference on Environment and Development, known as the Earth Summit, in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, in 1992, they turned into real forums for deciding on national and international policy regarding issues that affect everyone such as the environment, human rights and economic development. Since the Earth Summit, UN conferences have turned into forums in which non-governmental organizations (NGOs) can voice their concerns alongside those of governments. Such conferences focus world attention on these issues and place them squarely on the global agenda. Yet, once the international agreements produced by these conferences are signed, it is still up to each individual country to carry them out. With the moral weight of international conferences and the pressures of media and NGOs, Member States are more likely to endorse the agreements and put them into effect. (For a list of Meetings and Events at UN Headquarters and around the world – <https://www.un.org/en/events-and-news>)



### **Political Forum on Sustainable Development Convened under ECOSOC**

Asma Rouabhia, Global Focal Point of the SDG 7 Youth Constituency, speaks during the ministerial opening of the "High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development" convened under the auspices of ECOSOC. Also present is Jevanic Henry (left), member of the UN Secretary-General Youth Advisory Group on Climate Change.

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Country United States of America City/Location New York

Credit UN Photo/Eskinder Debebe



Can you find your committee on this chart?



# The Universal Declaration of Human Rights

## Preamble

**Whereas** recognition of the inherent dignity and of the equal and inalienable rights of all members of the human family is the foundation of freedom, justice and peace in the world,

**Whereas** disregard and contempt for human rights have resulted in barbarous acts which have outraged the conscience of mankind, and the advent of a world in which human beings shall enjoy freedom of speech and belief and freedom from fear and want has been proclaimed as the highest aspiration of the common people,

**Whereas** it is essential, if man is not to be compelled to have recourse, as a last resort, to rebellion against tyranny and oppression, that human rights should be protected by the rule of law,

**Whereas** it is essential to promote the development of friendly relations between nations,

**Whereas** the peoples of the United Nations have in the Charter reaffirmed their faith in fundamental human rights, in the dignity and worth of the human person and in the equal rights of men and women and have determined to promote social progress and better standards of life in larger freedom,

**Whereas** Member States have pledged themselves to achieve, in co-operation with the United Nations, the promotion of universal respect for and observance of human rights and fundamental freedoms,

**Whereas** a common understanding of these rights and freedoms is of the greatest importance for the full realization of this pledge,

Now, Therefore **THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY proclaims THIS UNIVERSAL DECLARATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS** as a common standard of achievement for all peoples and all nations, to the end that every individual and every organ of society, keeping this Declaration constantly in mind, shall strive by teaching and education to promote respect for these rights and freedoms and by progressive measures, national and international, to secure their universal and effective recognition and observance, both among the peoples of Member States themselves and among the peoples of territories under their jurisdiction.



**Universal Declaration of Human Rights**

Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt of the United States holding a Declaration of Human Rights poster in French. [Exact date unknown]

UN7757163 Production Date 11/01/1949

New York, USA Credit UN Photo

# GEMUN RECOMMENDED RESOURCES

For additional internet resources, go to <http://www.gemun.org/resource.shtml>  
Below are some of the resources we found helpful in preparation for GEMUN.

## **The Global Goals for Sustainable Development**

In September 2015 World Leaders committed to the Global Goals for Sustainable Development: 17 goals to achieve 3 extraordinary things in the next 15 years.

**End extreme poverty. Fight inequality and injustice. Fix climate change.**

To realise these Goals everyone, however young they are, needs to take part. So join the movement, teach young people about the Goals and encourage them to become the generation that changed the world.

<https://unfccc.int/climate-neutral-now>  
<https://offset.climateneutralnow.org>  
<https://sdgs.un.org/topics>  
<http://worldslargestlesson.globalgoals.org/>  
<http://www.globalgoals.org/>  
<https://globalgoalsweek.org/>  
<http://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/>  
<http://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/sustainable-development-goals/>  
<https://sdgs.un.org/>  
<https://www.unglobalcompact.org/>

## **Sustainable Development Solutions Network**

<http://unsdsn.org/>  
<https://www.sustainabledevelopment.report/>



## **UN News Centre**

The official News page of the United Nations -- <https://news.un.org/en/>

## **The United Nations Foundation**

The United Nations Foundation was started in 1998, after Ted Turner pledged \$1 billion to UN causes. The UN Foundation strengthens and supports the UN and its causes through a blend of advocacy, grantmaking, and partnerships. <http://www.unfoundation.org>

The **UNWire** is a free e-newsletter from the UN Foundation -- excellent source of news about the whole UN system -- [http://www.smartbrief.com/un\\_wire/](http://www.smartbrief.com/un_wire/)

## **World Statistics Pocketbook**

<https://unstats.un.org/UNSDWebsite/Publications/StatisticalPocketbook/>

The World Statistics Pocketbook 2023 edition (Series V, No. 47) is the forty-seventh in a series of annual compilations of key statistical indicators prepared by the United Nations Statistics Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs. Up to 50 indicators from more than 20 international statistical sources are presented in one-page profiles for 30 world geographical regions and over 200 countries or areas of the world.

The Pocketbook profiles are organised into 5 sections; general information, economic indicators, major trading partners, social indicators, and environmental and infrastructure indicators. This issue presents data for the economic, social, environmental and infrastructure sections generally for three reference years - 2010, 2015 and 2023 - when available, or the most recent data previous to these years, back to 2000. For the general information and major trading partners sections the reference year is 2023 and 2022 respectively, unless otherwise footnoted. The indicators in the profiles cover the following topics: communication, crime, development assistance, education, energy, environment, finance, gender, health, international tourism, international trade, labour market, national accounts, population and migration, price and production indices and science and technology. Free download.

### ***Basic Facts about the United Nations***

<https://shop.un.org/books/basic-facts-about-un-42nd-ed-18393>

This comprehensive handbook designed for the general public explains the structure of the United Nations, how the Organization works, the main issues it addresses and its importance for people everywhere. In addition to setting out the various roles played by principle UN organs and related organizations, Basic Facts about the United Nations documents the Organization's contributions to international peace and security, economic and social development, human rights, humanitarian action, international law and decolonization. Appendices contain current data on UN membership and peacekeeping operations, as well as contact information for UN information centres, services and offices. This latest edition, published in 2017, has been revised to take account of significant developments in the world and the Organization since 2014. Release Date: May 2017 | Sales Number: 17.I.2 | Print \$20 | pdf \$10 (may be read for free online at <https://www.un-ilibrary.org/content/books/9789210584906/read>)

### **UN Dispatch**

<http://www.undispatch.com/>

UN Dispatch is a site providing commentary and coverage on the UN and UN-related issues. UN Dispatch's intended purpose is to: Offer thoughtful perspective on the UN and UN-related issues; Provide factual information about the UN's work; Fact-check claims and coverage about the UN offered by pundits, journalists, bloggers and others.

### **United Nations Climate Action**

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



### **From United Nations Specialized Agencies & Programmes:**

#### **UNDP -- Human Development Report**

##### **Work for Human Development**

<http://hdr.undp.org/>

In 1990 the first Human Development Report introduced a new approach for advancing human wellbeing. Human development – or the human development approach - is about expanding the richness of human life, rather than simply the richness of the economy in which human beings live. It is an approach that is focused on people and their opportunities and choices.

#### **UN Environment**

<http://www.unenvironment.org/news-and-stories>

The United Nations Environment Programme (UN Environment) is the leading global environmental authority that sets the global environmental agenda, promotes the coherent implementation of the environmental dimension of sustainable development within the United Nations system, and serves as an authoritative advocate for the global environment.

## **UNEP/GRID**

<https://unepgrid.ch/en>

GRID-Geneva is part of the Early Warning and Assessment Division of the UN Environment Programme's global group of environmental information centres, known as the Global Resource Information Database (GRID) network. GRIDs-Geneva and Nairobi were the first centres to be launched in mid-1985.

The Global Resource Information Database - Geneva (GRID-Geneva), is a partnership between the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the Swiss Federal Office for the Environment (FOEN) and the University of Geneva (UniGe). With a team of 20 Environment Data Scientists, GRID-Geneva's main role is to transform data into information and knowledge to support the decision making process related to environmental issues.

## **ReliefWeb**

<http://reliefweb.int/>

ReliefWeb is the leading humanitarian information source on global crises and disasters. It is a specialized digital service of the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA). We provide reliable and timely information, enabling humanitarian workers to make informed decisions and to plan effective response.

## **The New Humanitarian**

<https://www.thenewhumanitarian.org/>

The New Humanitarian puts quality, independent journalism at the service of the millions of people affected by humanitarian crises around the world. We report from the heart of conflicts and disasters to inform prevention and response. As the trusted news source on humanitarian crises, we deliver the authentic, inside story. Our reporting gives insight to policymakers, practitioners and others who want to make the world more humane.



## **ADDITIONAL RESOURCES**

### **Global Optimism**

<https://globaloptimism.com/>

Global Optimism exists to catalyse transformative actions in our world. We firmly believe that the most effective movements are powered by the solidarity of stubbornly optimistic people, recognising the scale of the challenges we face, and choosing to take action now.

### **Gapminder**

<http://www.gapminder.org/>

Gapminder is an independent Swedish foundation with no political, religious or economic affiliations. Gapminder is a fact tank, not a think tank. Gapminder fights devastating misconceptions about global development. Gapminder produces free teaching resources making the world understandable based on reliable statistics. Gapminder promotes a fact-based worldview everyone can understand. Gapminder collaborates with universities, UN, public agencies and non-governmental organizations.

### **World Press Review**

<http://www.worldpress.org/>

*Worldpress.org* is a nonpartisan magazine whose mission is to foster the international exchange of perspectives and information. It contains articles reprinted from the press outside the United States, as well as originally written material.

Our goal is to foster a globally engaged citizenry, which acts not only in its own country's interest, but also in the interests of the world community.

## **The Elders**

an independent group of global leaders working together for peace and human rights.

<https://theelders.org/>

Our vision is of a world where people live in peace, conscious of their common humanity and their shared responsibilities for each other, for the planet and for future generations.

We envisage a world in which there is universal respect for human rights; in which poverty has been eliminated; in which people are free from fear and oppression and are able to fulfil their true potential.

## **The Earth Charter**

<https://earthcharter.org/>

The Earth Charter is a declaration of fundamental ethical principles for building a just, sustainable and peaceful global society in the 21st century. It seeks to inspire in all people a new sense of global interdependence and shared responsibility for the well-being of the whole human family, the greater community of life, and future generations. It is a vision of hope and a call to action.

## **Good News Agency**

<http://www.goodnewsagency.org/en/home.php>

Good News Agency carries positive and constructive news from all over the world relating to voluntary work, the work of the United Nations, non governmental organizations, and institutions engaged in improving the quality of life. It is published in English on one Friday and in Italian the next and distributed free of charge through Internet to media and editorial journalists, NGOs, service associations and high schools and colleges around the world.



## **OUR COMMON AGENDA**

<https://www.un.org/en/common-agenda>

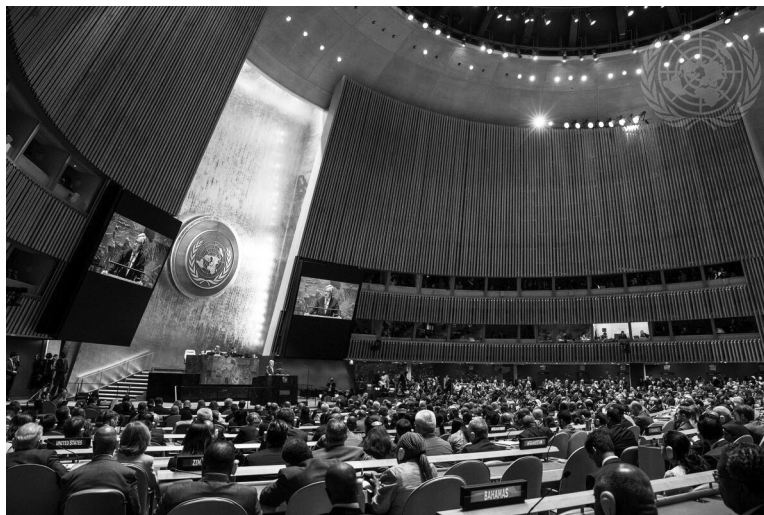
Our Common Agenda is the Secretary-General's vision for the future of global cooperation. It calls for inclusive, networked, and effective multilateralism to better respond and deliver for the people and planet and to get the world back on track by turbocharging action on the Sustainable Development Goals. It outlines possible solutions to address the gaps and risks that have emerged since 2015, calling for a Summit of the Future that will be held in 2024.

(cont.)

### **Secretary-General Addresses Opening of 78th General Assembly Debate**

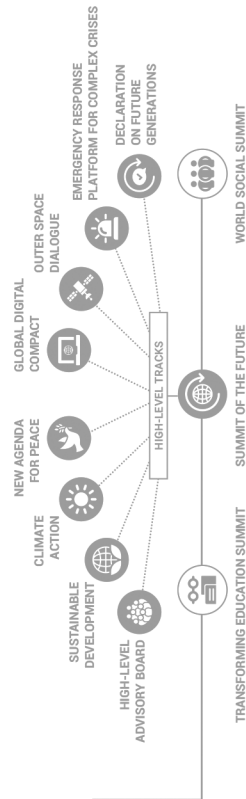
A wide view of the General Assembly Hall as Secretary-General António Guterres (at podium and on screens) addresses the opening of seventy-eighth session of the General Assembly Debate on theme "Rebuilding trust and reigniting global solidarity: accelerating action on the 2030 Agenda and its Sustainable Development Goals towards peace, prosperity, progress and sustainability for all." "Let us be determined to heal divisions and forge peace. Determined to uphold the dignity and worth of every person. Determined to realize the Sustainable Development Goals and effectively leave no one behind. Determined to reform multilateralism for the 21st century and come together for the common good," he said.

UN71000890 Production Date 09/19/2023  
New York, USA Credit UN Photo/Paulo Filgueiras



# From Our Common Agenda:

## Key proposals that may be good source for ideas for resolutions



### PROPOSED KEY MOMENTS

#### KEY PROPOSALS ACROSS THE 12 COMMITMENTS

##### From the declaration on the commemoration of the seventy-fifth anniversary of the United Nations

All proposed actions are in line with and designed to accelerate the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals.



#### 1. Leave no one behind

- Renewed social contract anchored in human rights
- **New era** for universal social protection, including health care and basic income security, reaching the 4 billion unprotected
- Reinforce adequate housing, education and lifelong learning and decent work
- **Digital inclusion**
- **World Social Summit in 2025**
- Identify complementary measures to GDP



#### 3. Promote peace and prevent conflicts

- New agenda for peace to:
  - Reduce strategic risks (nuclear weapons, cyberwarfare, autonomous weapons)
  - Strengthen international foresight
  - Reshape responses to all forms of violence
  - Invest in prevention and peacebuilding, including Peacebuilding Fund and Peacebuilding Commission
  - Support regional prevention
- Put women and girls at the centre of security policy
- **Peaceful, secure and sustainable use of outer space**, including through a multi-stakeholder dialogue on outer space



#### 5. Place women and girls at the centre

- Repeal gender-discriminatory laws
- Promote gender parity, including through quotas and special measures
- Facilitate women's economic inclusion, including investment in the care economy and support for women entrepreneurs
- Include voices of younger women
- Eradication of violence against women and girls, including through an emergency response plan



#### 2. Protect our planet

- Leaders meeting ahead of the global stocktaking in 2023
- Commit to the 1.5-degree Celsius goal and net zero emissions by 2050 or sooner
- Declarations of climate emergency and right to a healthy environment
- **Package of support to developing countries**
- Measures for adaptation and resilience
- No new coal after 2021, and phasing out fossil fuel subsidies
- **Account for the environment in economic models**, carbon pricing mechanisms and credible commitments by financial actors
- **Post-2020 biodiversity framework**
- **Transforming food systems** for sustainability, nutrition and fairness
- Action by the General Assembly on **territorial threats of climate change** and to prevent, protect and resolve situations of environmental displacement



#### 6. Build trust

- Global code of conduct that promotes integrity in public information
- Improve people's experiences with public institutions and basic services
- Inclusive national listening and "envisaging the future" exercises
- Action to tackle corruption in line with the United Nations Convention against Corruption
- Reformed international tax system
- **Joint structure on financial integrity and tackling illicit financial flows**



#### 4. Abide by international law and ensure justice

- Human rights as a problem-solving measure, including by comprehensive anti-discrimination laws and promoting participation
- Application of human rights online and to frontier issues and new technologies
- Universal access to the Internet as a human right
- Human rights mechanisms on a more sustainable financial footing
- **Legal identity for all**, end to statelessness and protection of internally displaced persons, refugees and migrants
- New vision for the **rule of law**
- **Global road map** for the development and effective implementation of international law



#### 7. Improve digital cooperation

- Global Digital Compact to:
  - Connect all people to the Internet, including all schools
  - Avoid internet fragmentation
  - Protect data
  - Apply human rights online
  - Introduce accountability criteria for discrimination and misleading content
  - Promote regulation of artificial intelligence
  - Digital commons as a global public good



#### 8. Upgrade the United Nations

- High-level Advisory Board led by former Heads of State and Government on improved governance of global public goods
- System-wide policy that puts people at the centre, taking into account age, gender and diversity
- More listening, participation and consultation (including digitally), building on the seventy-fifth anniversary declaration and Our Common Agenda
- **Gender parity** within the United Nations system by 2028
- Re-establish the Secretary-General's Scientific Advisory Board
- "Quiet of change" for United Nations 2.0, including innovation, data, strategic foresight, results orientation and behavioural science



#### 9. Ensure sustainable financing

- Biennial Summit between the Group of 20, the Economic and Social Council, the Secretary-General and the heads of international financial institutions for a sustainable, inclusive and resilient global economy including to:
  - Support a Sustainable Development goal measurement boost, including through a last-mile alliance to reach those furthest behind
  - Provide more flexible research and development incentives
  - Resolve weaknesses in the debt architecture
  - Fairer and more resilient multilateral trading system, including a reinvigorated WTO
  - New business models
  - Improve the United Nations budget process



#### 10. Boost partnerships

- Annual meetings between the United Nations and all heads of regional organizations
- Stronger engagement between the United Nations system, international financial institutions and regional development banks
- More systematic engagement with parliaments, subnational authorities and the private sector
- Civil society focal points in all United Nations entities
- United Nations Office for Partnerships to consolidate access and inclusion, including accessibility online



#### 11. Listen to and work with youth

- Youth
  - Remove barriers to political participation and measure progress through a "youth in politics" index
  - United Nations Youth Office
  - Transforming Education Summit in 2022
  - Recovery barometer to track career paths and labour market outcomes for youth
  - High-ambition coalition to promote green and digital-economy job creation
  - Future generations
  - Summit of the Future in 2023
  - Focus long-term thinking, including through a United Nations Futures Lab
  - Represent succeeding generations, including through a repurposed Trusteeship Council, a Declaration on Future Generations, and a United Nations Special Envoy for Future Generations



#### 12. Be prepared

- Emergency Platform to be convened in response to complex global crises
- Strategic Foresight and Global Risk Report by the United Nations every five years
- On global public health:
  - Global vaccination plan
  - Empowered WHO
  - Stronger global health security and preparedness
  - Accelerate product development and access to health technologies in low- and middle-income countries
  - Universal health coverage and addressing determinants of health

## Our Common Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

<https://www.un.org/en/common-agenda/sustainable-development-goals>

*Our Common Agenda* aims to turbocharge implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals. The report is rooted in the need to get the world back on track to meet the shared commitments of the 2030 Agenda, after significant backsliding during the COVID-19 pandemic. Its proposals are aimed at accelerating action across each of the 17 Goals. The Summit of the Future in 2024 will build on the SDG Summit in 2023 to allow Member States to consider ways to lay the foundations for more effective global cooperation.

### Key Proposals Across the 12 Commitments -- from *Our Common Agenda*

(see chart on previous page)

#### 1. Leave no one behind

- Renewed social contract anchored in human rights
- New era for universal social protection, including health care and basic income security, reaching the 4 billion unprotected
- Reinforce adequate housing, education and lifelong learning and decent work
- Digital inclusivity
- World Social Summit in 2025
- Identify complementary measures to GDP

Opening of 22nd Session of Permanent Forum on  
Indigenous Issues

Dario Jose Mejia Montalvo (centre at dais and on screens), Chair of UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues and Leader of the National Indigenous Organization of Colombia, chairs the opening of the 22nd Session of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues. The theme of the 22nd session is “Indigenous Peoples, human health, planetary and territorial health and climate change: a rights-based approach”.

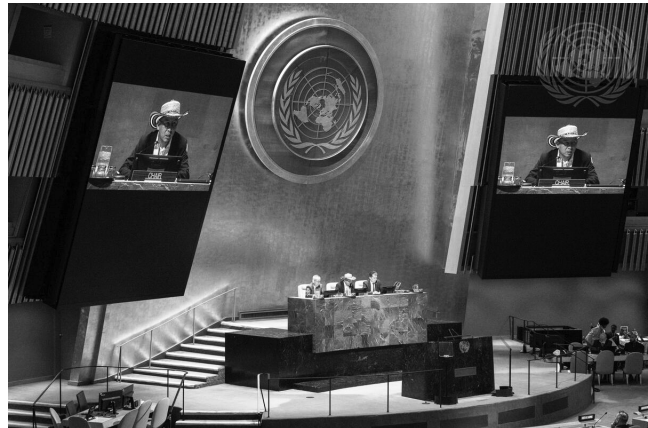
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Production Date 04/17/2023 12:15:51 PM

City/Location New York

Country United States of America

Credit UN Photo/Eskinder Debebe



#### 2. Protect our planet

- Leaders meeting ahead of the global stocktaking in 2023
- Commit to the 1.5-degree Celsius goal and net zero emissions by 2050 or sooner

(cont.)



#### UN Assists Cabo Verde's Development Projects in Santo Antão

Cabo Verde's development projects supported by the United Nations are helping to transform the agricultural sector of Santo Antão, the westernmost island of Cabo Verde. Since 1997, the development projects have helped moving water to irrigate and created useable farmland in an arid climate which previously was unusable for farming. The projects have also focused on turning land into more sustainable farming situation and teaching residents to learn to market better product such as switching from sugar cane to banana and other more sustainable products.

Unique Identifier UN7972013

Production Date 01/20/2023 9:17:15 AM

City/Location Santo Antão

Country Cabo Verde

Credit UN Photo/Mark Garten



- Declarations of climate emergency and right to a healthy environment
- Package of support to developing countries
- Measures for adaptation and resilience
- No new coal after 2021 and phasing out fossil fuel subsidies
- Account for the environment in economic models, carbon pricing mechanisms and credible commitments by financial actors
- Post-2020 biodiversity framework
- Transforming food systems for sustainability, nutrition and fairness
- Action by the General Assembly on territorial threats of climate change and to prevent, protect and resolve situations of environmental displacement

#### **Secretary-General Visits the Central Suriname Nature Reserve**

An aerial view of the Central Suriname Nature Reserve. The Central Suriname Nature Reserve, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, is an immense green protected area covering around 11 percent of the national territory, that comprises 1.6 million ha of primary tropical forest of west-central Suriname.

Unique Identifier UN7943319

Production Date 07/03/2022 8:53:37 AM

City/Location Paramaribo

Country Suriname

Credit UN Photo/Evan Schneider



### **3. Promote peace and prevent conflicts**

- New agenda for peace to:
  - Reduce strategic risks (nuclear weapons, cyberwarfare, autonomous weapons)
  - Strengthen international foresight
  - Reshape responses to all forms of violence
  - Invest in prevention and peacebuilding, including Peacebuilding Fund and Peacebuilding Commission
  - Support regional prevention
  - Put women and girls at the centre of security policy
- Peaceful, secure and sustainable use of outer space, including through a multi-stakeholder dialogue on outer space

### **4. Abide by international law and ensure justice**

- Human rights as a problem-solving measure, including by comprehensive anti-discrimination laws and promoting participation
- Application of human rights online and to frontier issues and new technologies
- Universal access to the Internet as a human right
- Human rights mechanisms on a more sustainable financial footing
- Legal identity for all, end to statelessness and protection of internally displaced persons, refugees and migrants
- New vision for the rule of law
- Global road map for the development and effective implementation of international law

### **5. Place women and girls at the centre**

- Repeal of gender-discriminatory laws
- Promote gender parity, including through quotas and special measures

(cont.)

- Facilitate women’s economic inclusion, including investment in the care economy and support for women entrepreneurs
- Include voices of younger women
- Eradication of violence against women and girls, including through an emergency response plan



**General Assembly Opens 78th Session with First Plenary Meeting**

Deputy Secretary-General Amina Mohammed addresses the first plenary meeting of the seventy-eighth session of the United Nations General Assembly.

"More than any room on earth, the General Assembly represents our common humanity and our shared commitment for peace, sustainable development and human rights. Let’s forge the solutions that all people expect and make progress towards a better, and a more peaceful and prosperous future, and a healthier planet," said the Deputy Secretary-General.

Unique Identifier UN7997796

Production Date 09/05/2023 3:29:23 PM

City/Location New York

Country United States of America

Credit UN Photo/Manuel Elías

**6. Build trust**

- Global code of conduct that promotes integrity in public information
- Improve people’s experiences with public institutions and basic services
- Inclusive national listening and “envisioning the future” exercises
- Action to tackle corruption in line with the United Nations Convention against Corruption
- Reformed international tax system
- Joint structure on financial integrity and tackling illicit financial flows

**7. Improve digital cooperation**

- Global Digital Compact to:
  - Connect all people to the Internet, including all schools
  - Avoid Internet fragmentation
  - Protect data
  - Apply human rights online
  - Introduce accountability criteria for discrimination and misleading content
  - Promote regulation of artificial intelligence
  - Digital commons as a global public good

**8. Upgrade the United Nations**

- High-level Advisory Board led by former Heads of State and Government on improved governance of global public goods
- System-wide policy that puts people at the centre, taking into account age, gender and diversity
- More listening, participation and consultation (including digitally), building on the seventy-fifth anniversary declaration and Our Common Agenda
- Gender parity within the United Nations system by 2028
- Re-establish the Secretary-General’s Scientific Advisory Board
- “Quintet of change” for United Nations 2.0, including innovation, data, strategic foresight, results orientation and behavioural science

**9. Ensure sustainable financing**

- Biennial Summit between the Group of 20, the Economic and Social Council, the Secretary-General and the heads of international financial institutions for a sustainable, inclusive and resilient global economy including to:

- Support a Sustainable Development Goal investment boost, including through a last-mile alliance to reach those furthest behind
- Provide more flexible research and development incentives
- Resolve weaknesses in the debt architecture
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## 11. Listen to and work with youth

### Youth

- Remove barriers to political participation and measure progress through a “youth in politics” index
- United Nations Youth Office
- Transforming Education Summit in 2022
- Recovery barometer to track career paths and labour market outcomes for youth
- High-ambition coalition to promote green and digital-economy job creation

### Future generations

- Summit of the Future in 2024  
(<https://www.un.org/en/common-agenda/summit-of-the-future>)
- Ensure long-term thinking, including through a United Nations Futures Lab
- Represent succeeding generations, including through a repurposed Trusteeship Council, a Declaration on Future Generations, and a UN Special Envoy for Future Generations

### Children Visit UN Headquarters on UN Kids Day

Children visit the United Nations Headquarters during UN Kids Day. Ethan Mendes de Leon, son of Alban Mendes De Leon, Public Information Officer at the Department of Global Communications, poses for a photo with Sustainable Development Goal 4, access to quality education.

Unique Identifier UN7980548

Production Date 04/06/2023 10:25:09 AM

City/Location New York

Country United States of America

Credit UN Photo/Loey Felipe



## 12. Be prepared

- Emergency Platform to be convened in response to complex global crises
- Strategic Foresight and Global Risk Report by the United Nations every five years
- On global public health:
  - Global vaccination plan
  - Empowered WHO
  - Stronger global health security and preparedness
- Accelerate product development and access to health technologies in low- and middle-income countries
- Universal health coverage and addressing determinants of health

**A Google search will find the titles of these two still amazing resources:**

**Material World: A Global Family Portrait**

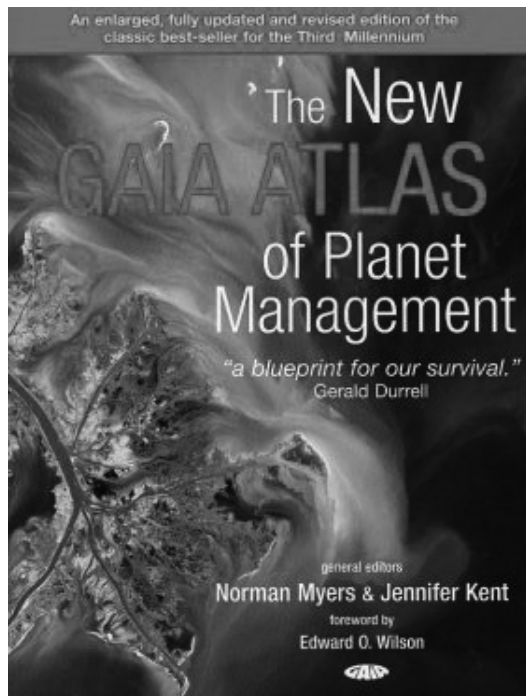
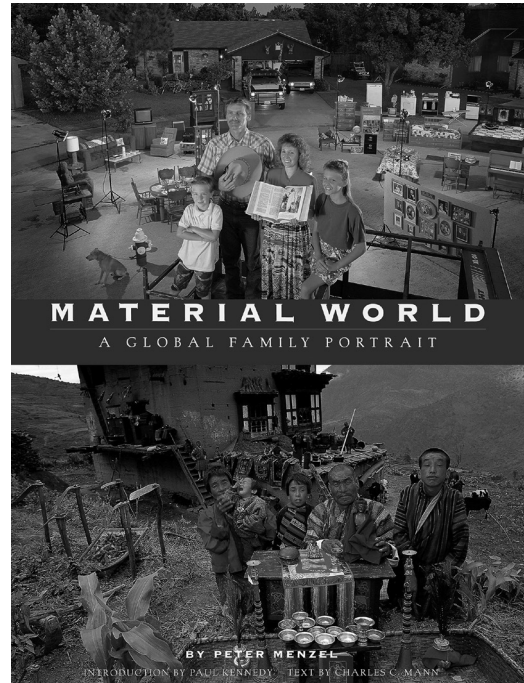
by Peter Menzel (Author), Charles C. Mann (Author), Paul Kennedy (Author)

Called “Fascinating! An incredible book” by Oprah Winfrey, this beloved photography collection vividly portrays the look and feel of the human condition everywhere on Earth.

In an unprecedented effort, sixteen of the world’s foremost photographers traveled to thirty nations around the globe to live for a week with families that were statistically average for that nation. At the end of each visit, photographer and family collaborated on a remarkable portrait of the family members outside their home, surrounded by all of their possessions—a few jars and jugs for some, an explosion of electronic gadgetry for others.

Vividly portraying the look and feel of the human condition everywhere on Earth, this internationally acclaimed bestseller puts a human face on the issues of population, environment, social justice, and consumption as it illuminates the crucial question facing our species today: Can all six billion of us have all the things we want?

Available on Amazon, hardcover and paperback • 256 pages • ISBN-13: 9780871564306 • full-color photographs • all ages  
Publication date: October 3, 1995



**The New Atlas of Planet Management**

by Norman Myers (Editor), Jennifer Kent (Editor)

The New Atlas of Planet Management was regarded as the most groundbreaking survey of the state of our planet when it was first published in 1984. After over twenty years in print, it has become the bible of the environmental movement and the definitive guide to a planet in critical transition. Regularly featured among the top ten books on the environment, the Atlas has been read by millions of people and translated into more than a dozen languages. This enlarged edition brings the classic reference up-to-date. Thoroughly revised with the latest figures and analysis, fresh full-color and easy-to-read graphics, an expanded format, and a wealth of current environmental and political topics that have arisen during the previous two decades, The New Atlas of Planet Management will equip a further generation of readers with information to face the challenges of the new millennium.

Paperback - 304 pages Rev & updatd edition (November 14, 2005); ISBN: 0520238796

# GETTING STARTED

## Overview of GEMUN 2024

### STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

GEMUN (Global Elementary Model United Nations) is a program for elementary and middle school students and is operated on a nonprofit basis for educational purposes. This book serves as a guide to participation. The program seeks to:

1. Study and promote world peace and the means necessary for its development.
2. Inform and educate youth, starting in elementary school, in the activities, purposes and principles of the United Nations System.
3. Develop participants' abilities to think globally and use goodwill in leadership, communication, conflict resolution, and other skills necessary in a modern interdependent world society.
4. Demonstrate the importance and effectiveness of exchanging ideas, understanding different perspectives, and cooperation in pursuit of common goals.

Due to the unique role-play format, student-delegates gain valuable firsthand experience about existing international relations. It is suggested that teachers and other adults allow the children to do as much of the work themselves as possible. This will enhance all benefits of their learning.

Through submission and oral defense of written resolutions addressing critical global issues, delegates sharpen public speaking, research, study, diplomacy, thinking, writing and interpersonal skills. Through preparation of creative cultural displays about their country and study of their country's contribution to the human family and the world, they garner a genuine appreciation of other cultures.

The vital importance of the United Nations' role in the complex world of today and in the future is increasingly apparent to everyone. The students who participate in this program will end the school year better prepared to assist intelligently with that future.



**SG Briefs on Progress on “Our Common Agenda”**  
A view of participants during the briefing by Secretary-General António Guterres on the progress on “Our Common Agenda”. (Statue 'Mankind and Hope' by Danish sculptor Henrik Starcke.)  
UN7946215 Production Date 8/4/2022  
New York, USA Credit UN Photo/Mark Garten

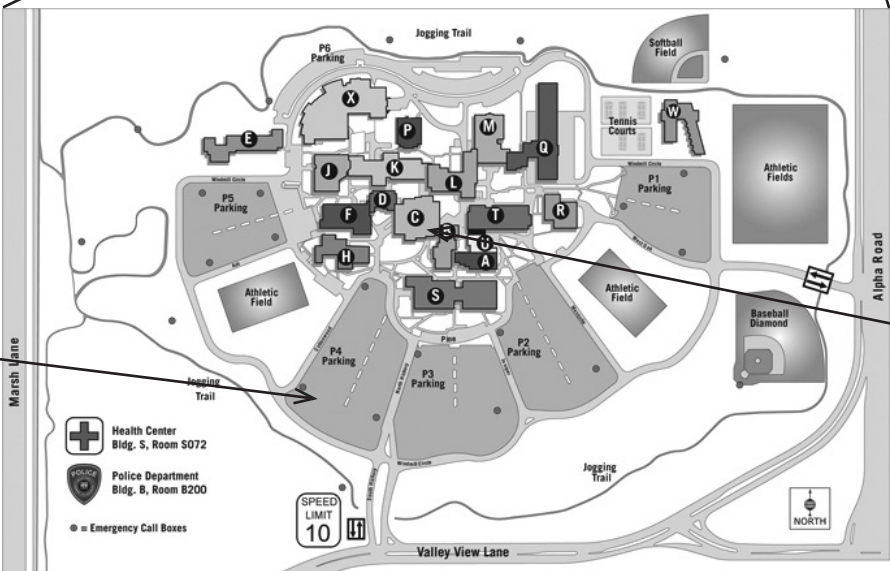
# GEMUN 2024 CALENDAR

## IMPORTANT DATES -- PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDAR!!

- September 30** ..... **Registration due** (postmarked)
- Sat., Oct 21, 2023 (9 am-12 noon)**..... **First Delegate Workshop\***  
 [Location: Sudie Williams TAG Academy, 4518 Pomona Rd., Dallas]      Overview--Committees, Topics, Positions and Position Papers discussed
- January 27, 2024** ..... **Position Papers, Committee Assignments due**  
 (postmarked or emailed)
- January 21, 2024 (9 am-12 noon)** ..... **Second Delegate Workshop\***  
 [location same as First Workshop]      Resolution Writing, Debate Procedure
- March 10** ..... **Resolutions due** (emailed)
- April dates [& locations]** to be assigned..... **Practice Session(s)\***
- May 10** (Friday, 9 am-3 pm) ..... **GEMUN XXXV\*!** -- Brookhaven
- May 11** (Saturday, 9 am- 5:30 pm) ..... **GEMUN XXXV\*!** -- Brookhaven

**GEMUN meetings not marked on Zoom may be. We will send notice asap.**  
**\*BRING PAPER, PENCIL & GEMUN HANDBOOK TO ALL SESSIONS!**

**Directions to Brookhaven Campus**  
 Brookhaven Campus is located at 3939 Valley View Lane, Farmers Branch, Dallas, TX. Registration starts at 8:30 am Friday in Building C. Opening Ceremonies will be from 9 am until approximately 11:00 am. If you arrive late, a Directory in the Performance Hall Lobby will show you where the Committees and Information Center are located.



P4 Parking is the best place to park, to go straight in to Performance Hall easily.

**Registration and Opening Ceremonies are in Building C – Performance Hall & Theater**

# Suggested Overview of year's activities

- | <b>Heading</b>   | <b>(approx. dates)</b>   |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Country selection and registration  | (August-Sept 30th)   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Study UN System and structure, SDGs good place to start   | (Sept)   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Begin studying assigned country   | (Oct)  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Begin creating Country Display  | (Oct)  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Handbooks hopefully available for 1st workshop  | (Oct/early Nov) will be mailed   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1st Workshop on committees and position paper   | (Oct/early Nov), attend if possible, if not, the material is all in handbook |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Committee selection/Based on interest, delegates select committee   | (after 1st workshop)   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fill out Country Questions and watch GA speech for your Country   | (Nov)  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Study problems of the world (Topic Research for position paper)   | (Nov-Dec)  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Begin writing Position Paper  | (Dec-Jan)  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Position Paper due by 2nd Workshop  | (Jan/early Feb)  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Attend 2nd Workshop   | (Jan/early Feb) if possible, if not, material is all in handbook             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Study problems of the world (Topic Research for resolutions)  | (Jan-Feb)  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Begin writing Resolutions   | (Feb-Mar)  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Resolutions due   | (early March)  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Complete Country Display  | (late March)   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Study problems of the world (Committee topics and background, each delegate focuses on their own committee to prepare for Conference)   |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Study Rules of Procedure  | (April)  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Attend Practice Session   | (April)  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Final preparations (last two weeks before Conference in mid May) This time should be spent preparing each delegate for committees. They need time to read all the resolutions in their committee and to prepare statements and positions etc. |  |

## **A sample letter to parents:**

(Submitted by a sponsor, to give you an idea of what you may choose to do. Modify as appropriate.)

Dear Parents,

Your child will be participating in a very exciting program this year: Global Elementary Model United Nations (G.E.M.U.N.). Along with the opportunity to participate in this unique program comes responsibility and commitment.

Students will be taught the history, purpose, and workings of the United Nations. They will research the history, culture and official positions of their chosen country. They will research, write and debate resolutions designed to solve global problems. The highlight of the program will be participation in the GEMUN Conference on \_\_\_\_\_. Here they will participate through role-play as a delegate from \_\_\_\_\_. Your class fee of \$40.00 covers the cost of the required handbook and Conference participation. An additional \$5.00 will be paid during the spring semester to cover the costs of creating the country display for the Conference.

The preparation for the final program will be done primarily at school, but some special sessions are necessary to fully prepare the students. The dates for these are TBA and will be announced as soon as possible. We will let you know if online or in person and locations when we know. These usually last from 9 a.m.-12 p.m. on a Saturday morning. Attendance is required.

### **Statement of Commitment**

I have carefully read the above. \_\_\_\_\_ has my permission to participate in the G.E.M.U.N. program.

### **Requirements**

Each participant must:

- Participate in a cooperative manner.
- Do weekly homework assignments.
- Attend all outside workshops.
- Write reports, a position paper & a resolution by given deadlines.
- Bring work to class already printed; do not send electronically.
- Represent the chosen country to the best of his/her ability.

### **Signatures**

Student: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### **Suggested Class Materials**

1" to 1 1/2 " white binder with clear envelope front  
Dividers marked: Topic Research, Country Info, Papers



On the following pages is an example of an outline for a year's classwork for GEMUN. This list of ideas may be helpful. The purpose is to give you ideas which may spark your own creativity. GEMUN is a tool through which many required basic subjects can be enlivened and renewed in the interest of your students.

NOTE: Some GEMUN meetings may be online. Please adjust the information below when needed.

## **\*Example\* Outline of classwork for the year for GEMUN**

### **GOALS:**

1. To acquaint students in elementary and middle school with the United Nations System.
2. To help students become aware of global problems as well as global solutions to those problems.
3. To encourage students to interact and debate about these issues.
4. To introduce students to cultures of other nations.
5. To help students begin to think in terms of international cooperation to solve world problems.

### **OBJECTIVES:**

1. The students will learn the principal organs of the United Nations System and the work of the specialized agencies.
2. The students will be encouraged to communicate with the U.N. Mission of the country they represent, and to learn about the position of their country on certain global issues.
3. The students will research to the level of their ability the topics assigned for their committees.
4. The students will each write a resolution based on their research.
5. The students will be given the opportunity to debate with their peers to find solutions for the problems presented.
6. The students will prepare a display (about their country) for their peers and the general public, to be part of an exhibit outside the Performance Hall on the final day of the conference. The purpose of the display will be educational. Each display may have a participatory aspect for observers.

### **ACTIVITIES:**

#### **Stage 1: Nations of the World & the United Nations System**

**I. Discussion—What is an individual?** (Who am I? What is my name? What is my family name? What is the name of my city? my state? my nation?)

- A. What is a *nation*?
- B. What is our nation called?
- C. What are some *symbols* of our nation? (Talk about symbols if necessary: the symbols on our money, our flag, the seal.)
- D. What do we think makes our nation *different* from other nations? *the same* as other nations?
- E. Try to draw a picture of the world from memory, putting in place the equator, the oceans and continents, and as many nations as you can include. (After everyone is finished, let them compare their map with a global map.)

## **II. Discussion—The United Nations—the world family of nations**

- A. What would happen if each person in your family decided they would do only what they wanted to do for themselves?
- B. How do we bring cooperation into the family?
- C. Until the United Nations was started, that is what all the nations of the world did—think mainly of their own interests, not really trying to find a way to cooperate with other nations.
- D. Look at a world map of the United Nations. Discuss the different areas of the world with the students.
- E. Make a list of the countries the students are most interested in, asking each student to tell why.
- F. After allowing time for discussion about each nation, ask each student to decide on their top five choices to role-play.
- G. Give each student three votes, and tabulate the top five choices. Send these choices, plus the registration fee, to the Staff of the Model United Nations.

## **III. Structure of the United Nations System**

- A. Using the chart of the United Nations System on page 5, talk about the six principal organs of the United Nations. If the students are not familiar with the terms, word games may be appropriate.
- B. Matching game to teach Specialized Agencies, other Organizations in the System, and other United Nations Organs.

### **Stage 2: Problems of the World**

(From now until the conference, watch news programs weekly, if possible, and find newspaper and magazine articles related to the committee topics.)

#### **I. Discussion—What are some problems families have?**

- A. How do we handle family problems?
- B. What are some world problems?
- C. How do we think that we (humanity) can solve these world problems?
- D. Which of the Specialized Agencies or other Organs of the United Nations System could possibly help solve the world problems named?
- E. Discussion of the particular topics assigned for each committee by the Secretariat to be covered in this year's session. (This is covered in the 1st Delegate Workshop.)

**II. Library trip** with the children to find books on the committee topics.

**III. Complete Position Paper** form provided in the handbook, and mail or email it to the staff by the deadline. The information is found in all the resources you've accumulated, plus the Ambassador's speech from the plenary session of the United Nations provided by the staff.

**IV. Individual and small group study** of resources to begin to define areas of interest shown by the children. Copy and file articles and pages of particular interest to the children on their topics.

### Stage 3: Study on Assigned Country

#### I. Library trip with the children to find books on the nation they will be role playing.

#### II. Study of the nation.

##### A. One possible general outline (of course you will make your own variations):

- \* Family living in your country
  - how families live (what the homes are like)
    - +build a model of a village (or city)
    - +turn one corner of the room into a “house” typical of your country (furnishings, typical decorations in the homes)
    - +customs of living (manners, courtesy)
  - what the people eat (recipes)
  - how the people dress (clothing, jewelry)
  - how families take care of babies
- \* Creative art work
  - Visual arts
    - +brief art history of the country
    - +drawings or paintings (examples and experiential)
    - +art and clothing (make outfits of native dress for each participating delegate, if you wish)
    - +local crafts
  - Music and Dance (instruments, and indigenous, ethnic or folk, and modern dancing)
  - Storytelling or folk tales, heroes
  - Poetry
- \* Nature and Science
  - natural resources from the country
    - +crops
    - +native flora and fauna
    - +local minerals available
  - geographical information
    - +land formations
    - +land area types (deserts, mountains, rain forests, etc.)
    - +temperature variations, weather
- \* Language(s) of the nation
  - brief introduction (counting, hello, thank you, etc.)
  - the ambassador may wish to write his/her opening speech to the General Assembly in the native language, and have an “interpreter” accompany him/her to the podium (but keep the total time within the requested limit)
- \* Games from your country
- \* Special holidays for your country (you may wish to celebrate one or more during the year, as it is celebrated in your chosen country)
- \* Symbols of your country
- \* Money

B. Social or cultural groups of people from different countries are located in many urban areas. We have found these groups very happy to visit schools to help us understand their cultures. Some may have a center you can visit.

### **III. Study of the United Nations System** (proceeds *along with* the study of the country)

#### A. The six main organs

1. The Secretariat
2. The General Assembly, with the Main Committees
3. The Security Council
4. The Trusteeship Council
5. The Economic and Social Council and the Specialized Agencies
6. The International Court of Justice

#### B. The Specialized Agencies and Programmes

1. Make a list with the children of all of the aspects of the planet (rain forests, weather, mountains, rivers, oceans, etc.).
2. Make another list of all the aspects of humanity and human relationships (children, the elderly, people without enough food or housing, education, industry, trade, etc.).
3. Using a list describing the Specialized Agencies and Programmes of the United Nations System, categorize your lists made in #1 and #2 above.
4. Choose one Specialized Agency, and write to the agency for all available information in English.
5. Study not only what the chosen Specialized Agency does in “your” country, but also what they are doing in the rest of the world.

**IV. Make a display** using the work you have done during the year about your country. This display can include interactive materials such as worksheets, word games or puzzles, costumes other children could try on, etc. Display it at school and at the Model United Nations. (See 'Country Research' section for more on displays.)

## **Stage 4: Writing Resolutions**

### **I. Identify the problem** on which each child would like to write his/her resolution.

- A. Using your Position Paper, identify several good ideas for resolutions.
- B. Brainstorm with each child or in small groups to help narrow his/her topic.

### **II. Writing the resolution** (IMPORTANT: FOLLOW INSTRUCTIONS CAREFULLY)

- A. Acquaint each student with the section in the Delegate Handbook on resolution writing.
- B. Use the preambulatory and operative phrases listed in the Handbook. Help the group write a resolution together on a topic the group selects.
- C. Ask each student to begin on his/her selected topic, using different appropriate phrases, not the same as in the example.
- D. Help the students individually, or in pairs, to polish their work.
- E. Type the work or have the students type it. Double check for errors.
- F. Send resolutions to the staff by the due date.

## Stage 5: Rules of Procedure

**I. Practice occasionally in class** after the Rules of Procedure are introduced at the 2nd workshop. If you are not able to attend the workshop, use the appropriate pages in the handbook.

**II. Practice more frequently** after your resolutions have been sent to the Secretariat.

**III. When you receive the resolutions** to be debated at the conference,

A. Practice with those resolutions.

1. Help delegates brainstorm ideas of possible answers to questions that may come up in debate.
2. If any of the resolutions from your school are to be debated, have the whole delegation help brainstorm possible debate opposition, so all delegates can be as prepared as possible.
3. Help the delegates organize files of the articles collected over the year, to bring to the conference. These will be of assistance during debate.

B. Negotiate for co-sponsors of your resolutions.

1. If you or the children see another resolution or resolutions in the packet which agree with your country's policies, you may want to plan to contact the author early at the conference, to ask if you can co-sponsor their resolution.

## Stage 6: Final Preparations

I. Check to be sure each delegate who wants to wear **native dress** to the opening ceremonies has it available.

II. Make finishing touches on your **country display**.

III. Make sure the ambassador has a **speech** (about one minute in length) to present to the assembled delegates during the opening ceremonies.

- a. These speeches generally welcome delegates and guests to the assembly and set general policy for the nation.
- b. The ambassador might make a statement about particular problems in his/her nation.
- c. He/she could choose to make the speech in the native language but must be accompanied by a "translator" who immediately translates the speech into English, the official language of GEMUN, and the total time should still be within requested limit, about one minute.

## Stage 7: Culmination—Main Conference

## Stage 8: Review the Conference

I. Ask each child or the group as a whole to write:

- A. What they thought was very good about the session
- B. Anything they thought was not so great
- C. Any **suggestions** they might have to improve the event for the following year (if any of their suggestions might be helpful, send them to the GEMUN staff, in writing).

II. **Discuss** with the group what they think they learned during the year, and if they can think of any way they could have been better prepared.

## NOTES

# Summary of GEMUN 2024 TOPICS

Go to [www.gemun.org](http://www.gemun.org) and click on 'GEMUN Committees, Topics and Links'.

Under each committee are a list of links to help you begin your research.

**Please note:** the order of precedence of the topics is not indicated by the order in which they are listed. All topics are equally deserving of the attention of the committees. The debate is MUCH more interesting if all topics are covered. In the past, when a large number of the resolutions submitted have been on the same topic, after one or two of these resolutions were debated, the others received little interest from the committee. Try to make your resolution an interesting and creative solution.



## Prime Minister of Barbados Addresses 78th Session of General Assembly Debate

Mia Amor Mottley, Prime Minister, Minister for National Security and the Public Service, and Minister for Finance, Economic Affairs and Investment of Barbados, addresses the general debate of the General Assembly's 78th session.

"We cannot continue to put the interest of the few before the lives of many," the Caribbean leader said.

Unique Identifier UN71003081 Prod. Date 09/22/2023  
New York, USA Credit UN Photo/Cia Pak

## GA (General Assembly)

Stopping overdose safely  
Future of Aviation  
Aid to Ukraine and other war torn countries  
Human trafficking  
Minimizing microplastics in the oceans  
Digital crimes and removal of illegal media  
Corporate use of child labor  
Security council reform  
Open Agenda

## SC (Security Council)

Building and Sustaining Peace  
Situation in Ukraine  
Counteracting influence of radicalization  
Children and Armed Conflict  
Israel and Palestine  
Sudan and South Sudan  
Arms Control and Disarmament  
Security Sector Reform  
Open Agenda -- all issues of security and international peace

## ECOSOC (Economic and Social Council)

Rule of Law  
Decolonization  
Science, Technology and Innovation  
Crime Prevention  
Rebuilding infrastructure  
Sustainable economic growth  
Refugee aid/humanitarian aid  
Food security and decreasing the risk of famine  
Open Agenda

## IAEA (International Atomic Energy Agency)

Cybersecurity and Nuclear Security  
Medicine and Atomic Energy  
Nuclear Safety in Ukraine  
Decommissioning of nuclear power plants  
Radioactive Safety  
Nuclear energy and climate change  
Radioactive/nuclear waste management  
Nuclear energy and food  
Open Agenda



## Mural in United Nations Security Council

A mural, painted by Norwegian artist Per Krohg in the colours and style reminiscent of a tapestry, was donated in 1952 by Norway to the UN. The mural symbolizes the changes which the world will undergo because of the efforts of the UN, and of mankind in general, to achieve peace, equality and freedom.

Unique Identifier UN753557 Production Date 02/22/2019  
New York, USA Credit UN Photo/Eskinder Debebe

## **UNEP (United Nations Environment Programme)**

Sustainable Forests  
Extractives  
Green Economy  
Carbon Trading  
Biodiversity  
Oceans and Seas  
Sustainable Fishing  
Open Agenda

## **FAO (Food and Agriculture Organization)**

Food insecurity  
Reducing food waste  
Conservation agriculture  
Pesticide management  
Sustainable diets and nutrition  
Dairy production and products  
School food  
Open Agenda

## **HRC (Human Rights Council)**

Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity  
Racial Justice  
Humanitarian Crisis in War Torn Countries  
Refugee Crisis  
Death Penalty  
Reproductive Rights  
Disability Rights  
Open Agenda



### **Wrestlers Compete to Promote Peaceful Coexistence**

Wrestlers from Yirol, Lakes State and Bor, Jonglei State meet for a friendly competition promoting peaceful coexistence among cattle keepers. The event was organized by Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and South Sudan Wrestling Federation and took place in the city of Juba, South Sudan. Children attending the event.

UN7976582 Production Date 02/25/2023

Juba, South Sudan

Credit UN Photo/Gregório Cunha



### **Operation Lifeline Helps Displaced People in Southern Sudan**

About 2.5 million people face a famine in Sudan. The people displaced by the war in Southern Sudan are being helped by Operation Lifeline Sudan, a consortium of the World Food Programme (WFP), UNICEF and 35 NGOs. Workers pick up the food supplies air-dropped by the World Food Programme.

UN7779938 Production Date 08/21/1998

Thiekthou, Sudan Credit UN Photo/Eskinder Debebe

## **WHO (World Health Organization)**

Universal Health Coverage/Primary Healthcare Systems  
Maternal Health  
Health Risks of Air Pollution  
Malnutrition and Food Safety  
Diabetes  
HIV/AIDS  
Obesity  
Open Agenda

## **UNICEF (United Nations Children's Fund)**

Preventing child labor  
Juvenile Justice  
Recruiting children into the military  
Refugee children  
Mental health in teens/children  
Child marriage  
Gender equality  
Open Agenda

## **CSW (Commission on the Status of Women)**

Feminine product availability  
Reproductive Rights  
Violence against women/girls  
Girls education/equal opportunity  
Women and girls in poverty  
Women's representation in politics  
Women's economic empowerment  
Open Agenda



# Committees and Topics Background Information

## GEMUN 2024

"We must act together as one family to save our one earth and safeguard our one future."

-- António Guterres, Secretary-General, 08 September 2023, at press conference at G20

### Request from GEMUN's Secretariat:

- Please note: the order of precedence of the topics is not indicated by the order in which they are listed. All topics are equally deserving of the attention of the committees.
- The debate is MUCH more interesting if all topics are covered. (At times, many resolutions submitted to a committee have been on the same topic, and after one or two of these resolutions are debated, the others receive little interest from the committee. Try to make your resolution on an interesting and unique aspect of the subject, so it stands out. Or, try using Open Agenda, which includes any other topic **that relates to the committee**, but is not an explicitly mentioned topic. Open Agenda is strongly encouraged as it cultivates more extensive debate and creativity.)

### Please make sure parents are aware of the topics to be covered in each committee.

**PLEASE NOTE:** Some committees, especially HRC and CSW, have dealt with more mature subject matter than others in the past, and some parents and/or adult sponsors may not be comfortable with their younger delegates participating in these discussions. GEMUN does cover real world topics, and to help solve these issues, action must be taken. We hope your delegates will be aware and prepared to participate in debate involving all topics as they come up.

### These links will help with research for many committees:

<http://gemun.org/resource.shtml>

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

<https://unu.edu/our-world>

<http://www.un.org/climatechange/>

<https://sdgs.un.org/>

<http://gemun.org/topics.html>

<http://www.globalgoals.org/>

<http://www.se4all.org/>

<https://unfccc.int/>

<http://www.unido.org/>

## GENERAL ASSEMBLY (GA)

The General Assembly (GA), established in 1945, is one of the six main organs of the UN. The committee addresses issues of global development, international law, peace and security. Through the committee, they work to solve specific goals to attain peace, security, poverty eradication, protect our common environment, promote the rule of law, safeguard human rights, and strengthen the other UN bodies. All 193 member states of the UN are included in this committee's debate on the large collection of international subjects covered by the Charter of the United Nations.

<https://www.un.org/en/ga/about/background.shtml>

### Stopping overdose safely

Opioid addiction is a truly global problem. Thousands of people die every year due to overdoses on these controlled substances, and many times, it is simply not possible to remove these drugs. Therefore, to prevent

overdose deaths, the UN works to increase education regarding drug overdoses and how to use naloxone to reverse these overdoses.

<https://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/frontpage/2021/May/stop-overdose-safely-how-unodc-and-who-save-lives-by-managing-opioid-overdose-in-kazakhstan--kyrgyzstan--tajikistan-and-ukraine.html>

### **Future of Aviation**

Currently, air travel, which is the easiest and most efficient way to travel, is restricted to developed countries and to wealthier people, despite it being created more than a century ago. Airplanes have proved essential in connecting cultures and spreading ideas. The UN works to increase global interconnectedness by helping make air travel cheaper, more efficient, and more easily accessible to people around the world. In addition, this could help bring about the creation of planes that are more environmentally friendly. With an association to 15 of the 17 SDGs, ICAO's Strategic Objectives highlight civil aviation's immense role in improving people's lives worldwide. These contributions are highlighted on the link below.

<https://unitingaviation.com/news/general-interest/what-contributions-does-air-transport-make-to-the-un-sustainable-development-goals/>

<https://www.icao.int/Meetings/FutureOfAviation/Pages/default.aspx>

### **Aid to Ukraine and other war torn countries**

Currently, the Ukraine-Russia war has come to a stalemate, with neither side really making much ground, even in Ukraine's current counteroffensive. There are raging wars like this one all over the world with no clear end in sight. However, one of the most affected groups are innocent civilians who are targets of attacks on cities and often have to face a lack of necessities in wartime. Even after war, countries are often damaged for years to come, with damage to essential infrastructure like water, power, and healthcare. Therefore, the UN supplies humanitarian aid to war torn countries in order to improve the living conditions of their citizens and to facilitate recovery.

<https://news.un.org/en/focus/ukraine>

<https://ukraine.un.org/en/219422-un-and-partners-appeal-us56-billion-help-millions-affected-war-ukraine#:~:text=Almost%201%20million%20refugees%20received,of%20people%20with%20protection%20services>

<https://www.un.org/en/our-work/deliver-humanitarian-aid>

### **Human trafficking**

It's been hundreds of years since the end of slavery, but there are still tens of millions of people who have to undergo the same terrible experience. They are trafficked all around the world for cheap labor and several other uses. Women and children are most vulnerable to this problem and change is a necessity. Therefore, the UN works to put an end to the problem by working with international and domestic investigation agencies to arrest people responsible for human trafficking. The UN also helps educate about how to detect human trafficking and safely report it.

<https://www.un.org/en/observances/end-human-trafficking-day>

<https://press.un.org/en/2020/dsgsm1431.doc.htm>

<https://www.ohchr.org/en/trafficking-in-persons/what-we-do-end-human-trafficking>

### **Minimizing microplastics in the oceans**

Plastics have been around for around a century, and in that time, they have become a daily part of everyone's life. However, unlike organic substances like wood, plastic takes decades, if not centuries, to decompose completely. Plastics littered on land are often washed into local waterways, which eventually all lead to the seas and oceans becoming garbage disposal sites with islands of trash hundreds of miles across. These plastics often break into smaller pieces during natural processes, creating microplastics. These small pieces of plastic often get consumed by smaller fish and work their way up the food chain until it becomes concentrated in bigger fish like tuna, which humans consume. This causes many serious health impacts, so the UN works to clean up ocean plastic and increase awareness and availability of recycling to allow people to properly dispose of their plastic.

<https://www.unep.org/news-and-stories/story/microplastics-long-legacy-left-behind-plastic-pollution>  
<https://www.unep.org/news-and-stories/story/inside-clean-seas-campaign-against-microplastics>

### **Digital crimes and removal of illegal media**

“More than 30,000 cases of filming with the use of hidden cameras were reported to police in South Korea between 2013 and 2018”. With minimal regulation on computer technologies, people are able to untraceably hack into home security devices that only use wifi connectivity without any further security protocol and record private conversation/family moments. Many hackers then hold the information hostage for ransom. In addition, there are reported cases of people being illegally recorded in hotel rooms and other private places by hidden cameras. Therefore, the UN works with governments to regulate technology, especially audio and video devices. The UN also works to increase enforcement agencies’ ability to trace illegal activity online and therefore be able to better catch digital criminals.

<https://unric.org/en/a-un-treaty-on-cybercrime-en-route/>

### **Corporate use of child labor**

“Recent ILO studies have shown that the elimination of child labour in transition and developing economies could generate economic benefits much greater than the costs”. Many corporations in developed countries move their manufacturing plants to other countries in order to eliminate costs. However, this often comes at the expense of people who work at these overseas plants. Many of these workers are dangerously underpaid, and worse still, many of them are children. Many of these children have to give up their education or fun activities, which is an important part of childhood development, in order to work in dangerous conditions. Therefore, the UN works to help member nations understand international labor law so corporations that actively use child labor in this manner can be stopped.

<https://unglobalcompact.org/take-action/business-actions-to-eliminate-child-labour>

<https://www.ilo.org/global/standards/subjects-covered-by-international-labour-standards/child-labour/lang--en/index.htm>

### **Security council reform**

The Security Council is one of the most important committees in the UN. However, it has several flaws. For example, if one of the veto power countries in the SC is involved in a war or controversial affair, SC cannot do anything to denounce it. For example, SC cannot really pass a resolution denouncing the Russia-Ukraine conflict as Russia has veto power on any such resolutions. Another noticeable problem within SC is that several countries that are non-permanent members, like India and Germany, are now global powers with a lot of say in the security of the world. These are just some ways that the UN can work to reform the Security council.

<https://reform.un.org/>

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

### **Open Agenda**

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

#### **Waste Collects on the Shores of Timor-Leste**

According to the findings of a preliminary report of the World Bank on poverty, the poverty line is at 0.88 cents a day whilst 49.9% people live below poverty line in Timor-Leste.

Plastic bottles and garbage waste from a nearby village wash on the shores of a river and then spill into the sea.

Unique Identifier UN7627246

Production Date: 12/04/2008

Dili, Timor-Leste Credit: UN Photo/Martine Perret



## SECURITY COUNCIL (SC)

The Security Council addresses topics of maintaining peace, international security, violence, and war. It also examines weapons management, regional disputes, and terrorism. The Council has the unique ability to pass sanctions and peacekeeping deployments. Security Council is composed of ten members who serve two-year terms and the P5, or five permanent members, who are China, France, Great Britain, Russia and the United States. The five permanent members have "veto power," which allows them to individually prevent a resolution from passing. These regulations create a need for consensus and cooperation.

<https://news.un.org/en/news/topic/peace-and-security>

### **Building and Sustaining Peace**

Against a backdrop of the highest number of violent conflicts since the Second World War and a consequent, pervasive sense of insecurity around the world, the United Nations must rethink its efforts to achieve sustainable peace.

<https://press.un.org/en/2023/sc15184.doc.htm>

### **Situation in Ukraine**

The situation in Ukraine is marked by complexities and significant security challenges. Ongoing conflicts, territorial disputes, and the presence of armed groups contribute to a fragile security environment within the country. These factors not only undermine internal stability, but also have regional and international ramifications. The persistence of tensions and the risk of escalation necessitate urgent attention to promote peace, security, and respect for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Ukraine.

<https://unric.org/en/the-un-and-the-war-in-ukraine-key-information/>

### **Counteracting influence of radicalization**

The Security Council recognizes that acts of terrorism and violent extremism cannot be prevented or countered through repressive measures alone and has consistently emphasized the need for a comprehensive, whole-of-society, human rights compliant and gender-sensitive approach.

<https://www.un.org/securitycouncil/ctc/content/countering-violent-extremism-and-terrorist-narratives>

### **Children and Armed Conflict**

Children and armed conflict remains an alarming global concern, as countless young lives continue to be affected by violence, recruitment as child soldiers, and other grave abuses. The United Nations has been at the forefront of addressing this issue, working tirelessly to protect and promote the rights of children in conflict zones. Through initiatives like the "Children, Not Soldiers" campaign, the UN can increase access to education for children and their families to prevent children from being soldiers in Armed Conflict.

<https://childrenandarmedconflict.un.org/>

### **Israel and Palestine**

The Israeli-Palestinian conflict is a complex issue, marked by decades of tension and violence over land, borders, and self-determination. The United Nations can actively promote peace negotiations and advocate for a two-state solution, where Israel and Palestine can coexist peacefully within secure and recognized borders.

<https://press.un.org/en/2023/sc15203.doc.htm>

<https://news.un.org/en/tags/israel-palestine>

### **Sudan and South Sudan**

Tensions between Sudan and South Sudan have been a persistent challenge since South Sudan's secession in 2011. Both nations have faced issues related to border disputes, oil revenues, and security concerns, leading to violence and strained relations between the two nations. Resolving these conflicts is crucial for the stability and development of the region. The United Nations can continue or increase peace efforts between the two

countries and humanitarian assistance to those affected by the ongoing tensions.

<https://news.un.org/en/focus/sudan-south-sudan>

### **Arms Control and Disarmament**

Arms control and disarmament involve international efforts to regulate and reduce the number of weapons held by countries. The weapons held by a country are a concern to global security as they can determine whether or not conflicts escalate and lead to wars. By proposing limits on certain types of weapons or pledging to use them only for self-defense, risks of war can be mitigated.

<https://www.un.org/en/global-issues/disarmament>

### **Security Sector Reform**

Security sector reform involves significant changes to the structure, policies, and practices of security forces, such as the police, military, and intelligence agencies. Security reform is a concern because in some cases, security sectors may face challenges like corruption, human rights abuses, or lack of transparency within governmental organization. By reforming security organizations, more cooperation can exist between states and their citizens.

<https://peacekeeping.un.org/en/security-sector-reform>

### **Open Agenda**

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

#### **Security Council Meets on**

#### **Climate Change, Peace and Security**

Juan Manuel Santos, Former President of Colombia, Nobel Peace Laureate and Member of The Elders, briefs the Security Council meeting on threats to international peace and security, with a focus on climate change, peace and security.

UN7988959 Production Date 6/13/2023

New York, USA

Credit UN Photo/Manuel Elías



## **ECONOMIC and SOCIAL COUNCIL (ECOSOC)**

The Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) is an organization within the United Nations and was established by the UN Charter in 1946. It is one of the six main organs of the United Nations. Moreover, it is in charge of “promoting higher standards of living, full employment, economic and social progress; identifying solutions to international economic, social, and health problems; facilitating international culture and education; encouraging universal respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms.”

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

### **Rule of Law**

The United Nations was founded over 65 years ago on three main pillars: international peace and security, human rights and development, and to establish and maintain world peace. However, with the sophistication, growth, and development in these 75 years, much has changed politically, socially, and economically. The

transformation of modern society must guide us to a collective response that may provide a better foundation of relations internationally and within each member state. Nations must have accountability, just law, open government, and accessible and impartial justice. The world's nations must unite to discuss a fair rule of law. <https://www.un.org/ruleoflaw/what-is-the-rule-of-law/>  
<https://www.un.org/ruleoflaw/sdg-16/>

### **Decolonization**

Decolonization is the process of gaining political independence from a colonizing country. Reasons for decolonization include religious and ethnic tensions, economic freedom, and territorial claims. Since the 15th century, Western nations aggressively competed in land grabs with each other from weaker nations, colonizing and oppressing indigenous populations. However, decolonization changed the geopolitical landscape during the 20th century. Some examples include India's freedom from British rule, Korean independence from Japan, and European relinquishing of African states. The UN played an integral role in the decolonization of many nations, but there is still work to do. Colonial influence is still present in many places, and it is hard for countries to establish themselves on the global playing field. Furthermore, there are still non-self-governing territories seeking independence today.

<https://www.un.org/en/global-issues/decolonization>  
<https://press.un.org/en/2023/gacol3366.doc.htm>

### **Science, Technology and Innovation**

Valuable technologies and impactful scientific discoveries determine every aspect of our world. It has improved our quality of life, increased life expectancy, economic production and freedom, access to information, communication, and many other things. Millions of scientists and inventors are working hard to introduce the newest tools. Therefore, it is necessary to focus on the potential of science, technology, and innovation to solve the world's problems. In this rapidly changing and growing global climate, society needs new and unique solutions to our problems. From food insecurity and poverty to education and job production, different methods have the potential to alleviate an immense amount of problems. In addition, access to knowledge and skills in science, technology, and innovation must expand so improvements to life can grow.

<https://www.un.org/en/desa/key-topics/science-technology-and-innovation>  
<https://www.un.org/en/desa/harnessing-science-technology-and-innovation-sustainable-development-goals>

### **Crime Prevention**

From robberies to drug trafficking, crime is prevalent all over the world. Reducing the risk of crime increases the safety of individuals and society while creating resilient cities. Crime prevention is essential to sustainable development within a country because fear and violence deplete economic resources, innovation, infrastructure, and development. Effective prevention requires collaboration between local, national, and international actors to address root causes and hotspots of crime. Justice systems, social workers, legal counsel, and law enforcement must be strengthened and included in prevention programs. A global, unified effort is required to stop crime for the betterment of society.

<https://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/justice-and-prison-reform/cpcj-crimeprevention-home.html#:~:text=%22Crime%20Prevention%20comprises%20strategies%20and,to%20influence%20their%20multiple%20causes.%22>

### **Rebuilding infrastructure**

Natural disasters can occur in any part of the world, but when they hit poorer, developing countries, the toll it takes on the infrastructure and their ability to rebuild can be massive. For example, in Haiti, almost 140,000 people were killed in the earthquake in 2010 while over 60% of the nation's administrative and economic infrastructure was lost, leading to ruinous economic losses. When countries are hit by a natural disaster, it can potentially lead to poverty, homelessness, and displacement of citizens in addition to loss of main infrastructure such as housing, schools, factories, dams, bridges, and roads. Rebuilding infrastructure after a natural disaster is extremely important to re-stabilizing a country's economy and helping the people who were affected by it.

<https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/infrastructure-industrialization/>  
<https://www.undrr.org/disaster-risk-reduction-least-developed-countries>

### **Sustainable economic growth**

Sustainable economic growth is one of the most crucial ways that ECOSOC can contribute to the growth of the economy without causing economic problems or complications. If long-term economic growth is approached correctly, the resources being used will not dwindle as fast as they would if done unsustainably. Sustainable economic growth is the eighth Sustainable Development Goal which urges countries to increase employment rates and provide decent work for everyone. Ways countries can go about this issue are: working to eradicate forced labor and protect labor rights, ending modern slavery and human trafficking, promoting safer and more secure working environments, and developing future-oriented policies that promote entrepreneurship, creativity, and innovation.

<https://sdgs.un.org/goals/goal8>

[https://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/sustainable-development-goals/sdg8\\_-\\_good-jobs-and-economic-growth.html](https://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/sustainable-development-goals/sdg8_-_good-jobs-and-economic-growth.html)

### **Refugee aid/humanitarian aid**

Almost 90 million people were forcibly displaced this year from escaping violence, war, or persecution; they have all become refugees. With all the incoming citizens entering these countries, there are new ways to boost the economy. A country's economy can grow faster if they provide refugee aid. Providing refugee aid in their new country can contribute to tax revenue, stimulate the economy, improve local worker wages, and generate international trade. As conflicts continue to happen and people must flee, providing the proper aid for them can benefit both the economy and the new workers to build a stable life in their new country.

<https://www.un.org/en/global-issues/refugees>

### **Food security and decreasing the risk of famine**

The second Sustainable Development Goal is Zero Hunger by 2030, but we are not on track to reach that goal. An estimated 720-811 million people went hungry in 2020, increased due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Because of the COVID-19 pandemic, processes such as food production, distribution, and consumption are increasingly vulnerable. With the world's rapid population growth, our crop yield must expand to stabilize and increase food security. ECOSOC works to fund more short-term emergency measures at the national and international levels. The committee also aims to bring lower prices and household food security to impoverished places. These efforts are working to create a more stable food economy for our world.

<https://www.un.org/en/global-issues/food>

<https://www.un.org/sg/en/content/sg/speeches/2022-05-18/secretary-generals-remarks-the-global-food-security-call-action-ministerial%C2%A0>

### **Open Agenda**

<https://www.un.org/ecosoc/en/events?page=1>

#### **Special Committee on Decolonization 2023 Session**

A view of a participant during the 8th plenary meeting of the Special Committee on Decolonization (C-24) 2023 resumed session. The meeting focused on the Special Committee decision of 20 June 2022 concerning Puerto Rico: Hearing of petitioners.

UN7990476 Production Date 06/22/2023  
New York, USA Credit UN Photo/Manuel Elías



## UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME (UNEP)

The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), also known as UN Environment, was established in 1972 in Kenya in response to the Stockholm Conference. UNEP is dedicated to the betterment of managing the Earth's resources and treatment of the environment. The mission is to "provide leadership and encourage partnership in caring for the environment by inspiring, informing, and enabling nations and peoples to improve their quality of life without compromising that of future generations."

### **Sustainable Forests**

Making sure that the world's forests are sustainable and protected is a critical aspect of the fight against global warming. The millions of trees that form the largest rainforest in the world, the Amazon, absorb a quarter of the world's carbon emissions. If the rainforest is destroyed, which is predicted to be the case in 2030, it will be impossible to counter global warming. These warnings come as the world speeds toward the point where the rainforest can no longer regrow the trees it has lost and the carbon that is stored in it will be released. This would cause the global temperature to rapidly and uncontrollably increase.

<https://www.unep.org/explore-topics/forests>

### **Extractives**

Oil and other fossil fuels power the global economy, but the environmental impacts have been growing very dangerous, with powerful storms caused by climate change destroying coastlines around the world. Many governments give out benefits and subsidies to oil drilling companies that added up to 548 billion dollars in 2013 alone, leading to the storage of excess fossil fuels. There is so much that if less than a third of the global fossil fuel reserves were used, it would raise the planet's temperature so high that Earth would be uninhabitable for humans.

<https://www.unep.org/explore-topics/extractives>

### **Green Economy**

An ecologically conscious economy is key for the battle against climate change. Companies in industries ranging from tourism to agribusiness need to reassess their relationship with the environment and how they impact it. For example, many in the agribusiness industry, which produces food, use chemicals that are damaging to the environment and create ocean dead zones. Some corporations also get rid of hazardous materials in nature instead of proper chemical waste plants. If this trend of corporations ruining the environment continues, then the amount of natural resources that each person uses will grow by 70 percent by 2050.

<https://www.unep.org/explore-topics/green-economy>

### **Carbon Trading**

Carbon dioxide concentrations continue to be on the rise as activities such as the burning of fossil fuels, like coal and oil, expel extreme amounts of CO<sub>2</sub> into the atmosphere. Carbon trading refers to the compensation of emissions through units, or carbon credits, which are purchased to help reduce or remove emissions from the atmosphere. An example is California's Cap-and-Trade Program, where each year fewer carbon dioxide emissions are created and annual cap declines. UNEP supports Carbon Trading as a way to reduce Carbon dioxide concentrations so the world can become carbon neutral.

<https://unfccc.int/climate-action/united-nations-carbon-offset-platform>

### **Biodiversity**

As human activities continue to pollute the environment, such as deforestation, ocean acidification, harmful greenhouse gas emissions or water pollution, the toxins become a threat to environmental stability. Gas



emissions remain lingering in the atmosphere or are absorbed by the land and sea, shifting environmental health and creating opportunities for organisms to hold and transfer diseases and viruses, and even can be consumed by humans who use nature for food, medicine, etc. With the continual threat of environmental pollution, ecosystems will continue to be unbalanced causing a lack of biodiversity. Biodiversity is very important for the environment because of its benefits like making a stronger, more resistant ecosystem. Overall, UNEP calls for action to protect environments around the world because of the important role biodiversity plays in creating and sustaining healthy ecosystems.

<https://www.unep.org/unep-and-biodiversity>

### **Oceans and Seas**

Many human activities that we engage in such as fishing, sewage systems, and plastic production pose an enormous threat to the oceans and seas which are sometimes used as a waste bucket. Due to increasing ocean temperatures from climate change, coral reefs—home to 25% of the ocean—turn white and die as a result of unlivable environments. Each year, over 33 billion pounds of plastic enter the oceans because of excessive plastic manufacturing. Pollution and death of coral is detrimental to life below water, and will continue to exponentially increase as more and more unsustainable practices take place.

<https://www.unep.org/explore-topics/oceans-seas>

### **Sustainable Fishing**

With an increase in population and globalization, fishing has become one of the most important commodities to food production, but also the increase in unsustainable fishing practices. Overfishing depletes fish populations, creating an imbalance to food webs necessary for healthy aquatic life. This is especially true when water pollution is prevalent in a particular area and wildlife is struggling to survive in toxic conditions and when certain species that are vital to the ecosystem are targeted.

<https://www.unep.org/explore-topics/green-economy/what-we-do/environment-and-trade-hub/fisheries-subsidies>

### **Open Agenda**

<https://www.unep.org/>



#### **Secretary-General Visits the Central Suriname Nature Reserve**

The Central Suriname Nature Reserve, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, is an immense green protected area covering around 11 percent of the national territory, that comprises 1.6 million ha of primary tropical forest of west-central Suriname.

UN7943315

Production Date 07/03/2022

Paramaribo, Suriname

Credit UN Photo/Evan Schneider

## UNITED NATIONS CHILDREN'S FUND (UNICEF)

The United Nations International Children's' Emergency Fund, or UNICEF, was created in 1946 after World War II for the welfare of children worldwide. This committee focuses on bettering conditions for children internationally. UNICEF has the mission of ensuring safe, healthy, happy childhoods for every individual. The future of the world relies on the youth of today. The United Nations is helping children across the globe through UNICEF with countless programs, achieving goals such as lowering child mortality and providing education for children internationally.

### **Preventing child labor**

Throughout the world, one in ten children are subjected to forced labor. Around half of these children are working in unsafe environments. The children who go to work typically go because their family is impoverished or their guardian is sick and cannot provide for them. Other times the children are trafficked and forced into slave labor. Child labor exploits and traumatizes its victims. This is a pressing issue that needs to be solved.

<https://www.unicef.org/protection/child-labour>

### **Juvenile Justice**

Nearly one million children are detained worldwide, and as of 2022, 3.7% of children worldwide are tried as adults, meaning they will be punished as adults. Behind bars, many children are tortured by their fellow prisoners or guards without intervention. In addition to when placed in adult prisons, these children are susceptible to sexual abuse or other forms of exploitation.

<https://www.unicef.org/protection/justice-for-children>

### **Recruiting children into the military**

Between 2005 and 2022, 105,000 children were forcibly recruited into the military by warring countries. These children enter the military by either being kidnapped or driven by poverty. They are called "child soldiers" and used as guards, cooks, messengers, soldiers, and porters. The child soldiers must undergo rigorous training and sometimes experience food deprivation. The children are also put into dangerous situations that can result in injuries or death.

<https://www.unicef.org/protection/children-recruited-by-armed-forces>

### **Refugee children**

People move away from home for many reasons, including conflict, climate change, and poverty. 50% of all refugees are children, and they are at a specific disadvantage. For instance, refugee children are

#### **Child Labour Worldwide: It's Still a Problem**

Most nations have laws that prohibit child labor. Yet throughout the world, children in large numbers can be seen toiling in sweatshops, hauling concrete, tilling fields, plucking garbage or peddling shoes.

These Bolivian youths earn a meager living by fishing the shores of Lake Titicaca.

UN7778872 Production Date 01/01/1978

Titicaca, Bolivia

Credit UN Photo/Jean Pierre Laffont



more vulnerable to child marriage, child labor, detention, discrimination, smuggling, exploitation, human trafficking, and much more. These children are often stripped of the ability to have a normal and healthy childhood due to the trauma they endure. A solution is needed to aid these child refugees, so they are protected from being taken advantage of.

<https://www.unicef.org/migrant-refugee-internally-displaced-children>

### **Mental health in teens/children**

Mental health problems develop for many reasons, including genetics, exposure to violence or abuse, discrimination, cyberbullying and much more. Over one in seven adolescents ages 10-19 are estimated to live with a diagnosed mental illness. In most countries, mental health support systems are stigmatized and underfunded. This leaves children at risk for not receiving the healthcare and support they need to aid their mental illnesses. Almost 46,000 adolescents die every year from suicide, which shows how more support is needed to ensure there is support for children and teens struggling with their mental health.

<https://www.unicefusa.org/what-unicef-does/childrens-health/mental-health>

<https://www.unicef.org/montenegro/en/stories/unicef-invest-more-mental-health>

<https://news.un.org/en/story/2023/09/1141547>

### **Child marriage**

The United Nations Sustainable Development Goals calls for global action to end child marriage by 2030. Child marriage is an issue that disproportionately affects girls, as the prevalence among boys is only one-sixth of that in girls. Child Marriage robs these children of a healthy childhood and affects them for the rest of their lives. Girls who get married as children are more susceptible to domestic violence and less likely to stay in school.

<https://www.unicef.org/protection/child-marriage>

### **Gender equality**

Girls and boys see gender inequality in their homes and communities every day – in textbooks, in the media and among the adults who care for them. As a result, nearly 1 in 4 girls between the ages of 15 and 19 are neither employed nor in education or training – compared to 1 in 10 boys.

<https://www.unicef.org/gender-equality>

### **Open Agenda**

<https://www.unicef.org/>



#### **Secretary-General Visits**

#### **Rehabilitation Centre in Iraq**

Secretary-General António Guterres (second from right) meets with camp residents at the Jeddah Rehabilitation Centre, in the Ninewa Governorate, Iraq. The Secretary-General is visiting Iraq to underscore the UN's commitment to support Iraq in the consolidation of its democratic institutions and advancing peace, sustainable development and human rights for all Iraqis. The Secretary-General called for inclusive dialogue and praised the Government's ambitious and forward-looking reform agenda as well as its efforts to allow the Iraqis outside the country to return. The Secretary-General met with government officials in Baghdad as well as with Kurdistan Regional Government officials in Erbil. He also met with youth and women's rights groups, and visited the National Museum of Iraq and a Rehabilitation Centre for internally displaced people (IDP's).

UN7976903 Production Date 03/02/2023

Ninewa Governorate, Iraq

Credit UN Photo/Sarmad Al-Safy

## HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL (HRC)

PLEASE NOTE: This committee has dealt with more mature subject matter than others in the past, and some parents and/or sponsors may not be comfortable with their younger delegates participating in these discussions. GEMUN does cover real world topics, and to help solve these issues, action must be taken. We hope your delegates will be aware and prepared to participate in debate involving all topics as they come up.

The Human Rights Council (HRC) was created March 15, 2006 by the UN General Assembly. The HRC's mission is to "work for the protection of all human rights for all people; to help empower people to realize their rights; and to assist those responsible for upholding such rights in ensuring that they are implemented." The HRC is made up of 47 member states that oversee the promotion and preservation of global human rights.

### **Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity**

The rights of those in the LGBTQ+ community have been under attack for a very long time in countries all around the world. In some countries, if a person expresses their gender or sexual identity, they could be harassed, arrested, or even killed. Those in the community can be discriminated against in places like the workplace, schools, or in healthcare settings. In 77 countries, same-sex marriage is illegal with harsh punishments such ranging from arrest to the death penalty if it is broken. The UN should strive to prevent discrimination and further harm to come to those in the LGBTQ+ community.

<https://www.ohchr.org/en/sexual-orientation-and-gender-identity>

<https://www.un.org/en/fight-racism/vulnerable-groups/lgbtqi-plus>

### **Racial Justice**

Racism has been an ongoing problem for many years all around the world. Despite the adoption of the Declaration of Human Rights in 1948 and the Convention for the Elimination of all forms of Racial Discrimination in 1965, people can still be discriminated against in occupations, healthcare settings, and can even be killed all because of the color of their skin. While there has been much done to help solve this issue, there is still so much more to be done.

<https://www.un.org/en/fight-racism>

<https://www.ohchr.org/en/topic/racism-xenophobia-intolerance>

### **Humanitarian Crisis in War Torn Countries**

A humanitarian crisis can be some sort of conflict or disaster in a country which can cause serious harm to the citizens of that country. Millions of people around the world are displaced or killed due to conflict in their home countries. People from Syria, Ukraine, Ethiopia, Yemen and more suffer from the absence of necessities like food, water, shelter, and medical services. The United Nations should work to lift the voices of those affected and to advocate for these people and their basic human rights.

<https://www.unrefugees.org/emergencies/>

<https://www.ohchr.org/en/topic/humanitarian-emergencies-and-conflict-situations>

### **Refugee Crisis**

A refugee is someone who has been forced to leave their country due to persecution, national disaster, or even war. Towards the end of 2021, 89.3 million people from all over the world were forced to leave their countries. Many refugees are currently living without basic necessities like food, water, and adequate shelter. The United Nations can help these people by speaking up for the basic human rights of refugees in order to provide a better and more hopeful future for them.

<https://www.un.org/en/global-issues/refugees>

## Death Penalty

The death penalty is the most severe and irreversible form of punishment. In different countries, the death penalty could have many different meanings, depending on the views of the public and the crimes they are the consequences for. In turn, the death penalty has different effects depending on which country is enforcing or abolishing it. Even within the United Nations, there is disagreement between HRC board members since some encourage that countries abolish the death penalty in its entirety while others suggest revision of death penalty mandates and reserving this punishment for only the most offensive crimes.

<https://www.ohchr.org/en/topic/death-penalty>

<https://www.ohchr.org/en/stories/2023/04/hc-death-penalty-should-be-abolished-21st-century>

<https://www.ohchr.org/en/news/2023/02/high-commissioner-human-rights-calls-states-have-not-yet-done-so-establish-moratoriums>

## Reproductive Rights

Although the world has been making advances concerning reproductive rights for women, there have been setbacks that prevent more progress from taking place. These setbacks, especially in the last few years, have taken rights away and seem to affect vulnerable populations, such as women of minorities, women with disabilities, and migrant, refugee, or displaced women. It is important that women, regardless of their backgrounds or conditions, have access to safe, affordable, accessible, and efficient contraceptives of their choice to ensure a healthy population. Countries should allow women to make decisions about their lives and reproduction individually and should not restrict access to counseling or contraception. However, this is not the current situation. The United Nations could help by further advocating for women's reproductive rights and by encouraging the availability of contraception methods and independence for women regarding reproductive rights within countries.

<https://www.ohchr.org/en/statements/2022/09/womens-and-girls-reproductive-choices-must-be-respected-un-experts-say-0>

## Disability Rights

Around the world, 15% or 1 billion people have disabilities. Of these people, 80% live in developing countries. Although the UN Disability Inclusion Strategy has been put into motion and is meant to improve the security of rights for disabled persons, this will not be sufficient in resolving the issue. As of 2023, progress has been made in only one of the 15 possible indicators, and at this rate, people with disabilities will not be ensured the rights they deserve.

<https://www.ohchr.org/en/documents/reports/un-human-rights-report-secretary-general-implementation-un-disability-inclusion-0>

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

## Open Agenda

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

### 16th Session of Conference of States Parties to Convention on Rights of Persons with Disabilities

Ghanim Al Muftah, Youth Representative from Qatar, addresses the 16th Session of the Conference of States Parties to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (COSP16).

UN7989022 Production Date 06/13/2023  
New York, USA Credit UN Photo/Loey Felipe



## WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION (WHO)

The World Health Organization (WHO), created in 1948, strives to promote health, keep the world safe, and serve the vulnerable. WHO's goal is to ensure people have access to universal health care in order to provide well-being. Through their work, they address problems such as human capital across the life-course, noncommunicable diseases prevention, mental health promotion, climate change in small island developing states, antimicrobial resistance, and elimination and eradication of high-impact communicable diseases.

### **Universal Health Coverage/Primary Healthcare Systems**

Universal Health Coverage means that all people have equal access to a full range of quality and proper healthcare and services at any point, whenever and wherever they need them, regardless of financial status and without financial hardship. Every country will have a different path to achieve universal health coverage, but in order to make it a reality for all, skilled healthcare professionals must provide strong, people centered, primary health care. Good primary healthcare systems must be established in communities across the world to ensure prevention and treatment for disease and illness and improvement upon quality of life and well-being.

[https://www.who.int/health-topics/universal-health-coverage#tab=tab\\_1](https://www.who.int/health-topics/universal-health-coverage#tab=tab_1)

[https://www.who.int/news-room/fact-sheets/detail/universal-health-coverage-\(uhc\)](https://www.who.int/news-room/fact-sheets/detail/universal-health-coverage-(uhc))

### **Maternal Health**

Maternal health refers to the health of women during pregnancy, childbirth, and the postnatal period. In the past two decades, important and significant progress has been made in terms of maternal health, but every two minutes, a woman dies during or after pregnancy and childbirth. The leading direct causes of maternal injury and death are infection, excessive blood loss, unsafe abortion, high blood pressure, and obstructed labor. Some indirect causes include malaria, anemia, and heart disease. Most maternal deaths are preventable, with timely management, a skilled healthcare professional, and a healthy environment. Maternal health must remain at the top of the global agenda, to ensure that all women have equal access to high-quality, respectful maternity care.

[https://www.who.int/health-topics/maternal-health#tab=tab\\_1](https://www.who.int/health-topics/maternal-health#tab=tab_1)

<https://www.unfpa.org/maternal-health>

### **Health Risks of Air Pollution**

Pollutants not only affect Earth's climate and ecosystems, but also play a huge role in public health. Both short and long term air pollution can lead to a wide range of diseases, such as lung cancers, respiratory infections, heart disease, and many other chronic respiratory diseases. Air pollution has also caused increased hospital and emergency room rates worldwide. Across the globe, nine out of ten people breathe unhealthy air, and air pollution is now the leading environmental risk for early death. As well as that, it is responsible for over 6 million premature deaths globally per year. There are many ways to reduce the impact of air pollution on human health around the world, lessening the chances of many life threatening diseases and conditions.

<https://www.unep.org/explore-topics/air/about-air>

[https://www.who.int/news-room/fact-sheets/detail/ambient-\(outdoor\)-air-quality-and-health](https://www.who.int/news-room/fact-sheets/detail/ambient-(outdoor)-air-quality-and-health)

### **Malnutrition and Food Safety**

The need for universal access to safe, healthy, and nutritious food is a prevalent issue all around the world, especially in developing countries. Chemical, physical, and microbial hazards in food, unhealthy diets, obesity, and child and maternal malnutrition are all pervasive topics affecting people all over the globe. Malnutrition is projected to affect over 349 million people in 2023, and over 79 countries currently face malnutrition and acute food insecurity. Global hunger is also on the rise, affecting at least 10% of the global population in 2023. In all its forms, malnutrition includes malnutrition, inadequate vitamins and/or minerals, obesity, and resulting diet-based non-communicable diseases. Developmental, economic, social, and medical

impacts of the global malnutrition crisis are serious, lasting, and harmful on individuals and their families in communities across the globe.

[https://www.who.int/health-topics/food-safety#tab=tab\\_1](https://www.who.int/health-topics/food-safety#tab=tab_1)

### **Diabetes**

Diabetes is a chronic disease where the body does not make enough insulin. The majority of diabetic patients come from either middle or low income families. It is a treatable disease when the proper medicine and supplements are made available to the patients, but for many that is not the case. There is not enough awareness for the prevention of the disease or cost-effective medicine and supplies for those who do have the illness. The rates of people with diabetes have skyrocketed in the past few decades. In 1980, there were 108 million people in the world with diabetes. As of 2014, there are about 422 million. Without medicine, diabetes can eventually lead to serious heart problems, vision loss, kidney disease, and sometimes death. In the past year itself, 1.5 million people have had deaths directly related to diabetes. Though it may be a treatable disease, many people do not get the help that they need in order to keep them safe.

[https://www.who.int/health-topics/diabetes#tab=tab\\_1](https://www.who.int/health-topics/diabetes#tab=tab_1)

### **HIV/AIDS**

Globally, about 85 million people are infected with HIV. Out of that number, over 40 million people have died. There is not a cure for HIV, but there is treatment that can keep the disease under control in under six months. The issue is that about 25% of adults with HIV don't get access to the treatment they need and about 50% from the ages 0-14 never get treatment for their disease. In order to stop these premature and unnecessary deaths of both children and adults, treatment needs to be made more widespread and accessible.

<https://www.un.org/en/global-issues/aids>

### **Obesity**

Globally, more than one billion people are obese. This number is unevenly spread towards developed countries. There is not enough awareness of how harmful obesity can be for our health. Carrying an excess amount of fat in the body can lead to heart diseases, strokes, diabetes, and different types of cancers. It is extremely harmful in young children because it can affect their fragile growth. There has been a shocking increase in the rates of obesity in the younger population, and it is harming our future generations.

[https://www.who.int/health-topics/obesity#tab=tab\\_1](https://www.who.int/health-topics/obesity#tab=tab_1)

### **Open Agenda**

<https://www.who.int/health-topics/>

### **General Assembly Holds Interactive Hearing on Tuberculosis, Pandemic Prevention and More**

Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus (on screen), Director-General of World Health Organization (WHO), addresses the General Assembly interactive multistakeholder hearing as part of the preparatory process toward the high-level meetings on the Fight against Tuberculosis, Pandemic Prevention, Preparedness and Response and Universal Health Coverage.

UN7984792 Production Date 05/09/2023  
New York, USA

Credit UN Photo/Eskinder Debebe



## FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION (FAO)

The Food and Agriculture Organization was established in October 1945 and is a specialized agency geared towards ending worldwide hunger. The FAO's goal is to establish food security for all and make sure that people around the world have access to healthy food so that they can live an active and healthy life. The committee takes care of collecting and evaluating information about nutrition, food, and agriculture and related topics, including fisheries, marine products, forestry, and primary forestry products.

### **Food insecurity**

Food insecurity is a large concern in many U.N. nations as many people lack access to a steady food source and are going hungry for days at a time. The FAO strives to combat food insecurity and monitors it through measurements of undernourishment and uncertainty about the ability to receive food. Facing food insecurity can lead to a plethora of harmful side-effects including a high risk of falling victim to chronic illnesses.

<https://www.fao.org/hunger/en/>

<https://www.un.org/en/global-issues/food>

### **Reducing food waste**

According to the FAO, annually 14% of the world's food is wasted from before arriving in shops and 17% is wasted by consumers. Reducing food waste is very important in order to promote sustainability as wasting resources is not only disrespectful to the environment, but also unsustainable in the long term. The U.N. is currently developing strategies to combat food waste which will have huge tangible impacts on the progression of climate change.

<https://www.fao.org/newsroom/detail/FAO-UNEP-agriculture-environment-food-loss-waste-day-2022/en>

### **Conservation agriculture**

Conservation agriculture refers to a system of farming that conserves land by preventing land loss and renewing degrading land. Its effects include increasing biodiversity, maintaining soil, and increasing efficiency in water and nutrient use. The use of conservation agriculture has the potential to impact U.N. member countries struggling with limited resources and establish an agricultural system that is sustainable in the long term.

<https://www.fao.org/conservation-agriculture/overview/what-is-conservation-agriculture/en/>

<https://www.fao.org/conservation-agriculture/en/>

### **Pesticide management**

Dangerous pesticides used in farming pose serious threats to both humans and our environment as they can be toxic to consume and be around. Long time exposure to pesticides can cause chronic illness. Indigenous and rural communities are disproportionately harmed as they are exposed to pesticides more. The U.N. has emphasized the importance of straying away from the use of pesticides in order to stay healthy and maintain the conditions of the environment.

<https://www.fao.org/pest-and-pesticide-management/en/>

### **Sustainable diets and nutrition**

The need to shift to more sustainable diets and food systems is an important step for our world's population. According to the definition by FAO, the sustainability of diets goes beyond nutrition and environment as to include economic and sociocultural dimensions. Many sustainable diets, such as plant-based meals, and organically grown foods, will also help protect the environment.

<https://www.fao.org/nutrition/education/food-dietary-guidelines/background/sustainable-dietary-guidelines/en/>



### **Dairy production and products**

Dairy production, specifically milk, is essential for the nutrition of the world. Given its importance, many countries have expanded their share of global dairy production. This growth is mostly the result of an increase in the number of producing animals rather than a rise in productivity per head.

<https://www.fao.org/markets-and-trade/commodities/dairy/en/>

<https://www.fao.org/dairy-production-products/production/en/>

### **School food**

School Children need a good diet in order to grow and develop. Clear and concise school programs are key to achieving children's human rights to food, education, and health. Through ideas of healthy school meals, children can improve their diets, develop healthier food practices and show these practices to their families and communities.

<https://www.fao.org/school-food/en/>

### **Open Agenda**

<https://www.fao.org/home/en/>

<https://www.fao.org/themes/en/>

**UN Assists Cabo Verde's Development Projects in Santo Antão**  
Cabo Verde's development projects supported by the United Nations are helping to transform the agricultural sector of Santo Antão, the westernmost island of Cabo Verde. Since 1997, the development projects have helped moving water to irrigate and created useable farmland in an arid climate which previously was unusable for farming. The projects have also focused on turning land into more sustainable farming situation and teaching residents to learn to market better product such as switching from sugar cane to banana and other more sustainable products.

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Santo Antão, Cabo Verde Credit UN Photo/Mark Garten



## **COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN (CSW)**

PLEASE NOTE: This committee has dealt with more mature subject matter than others in the past, and some parents and/or adult sponsors may not be comfortable with their younger delegates participating in these discussions. GEMUN does cover real world topics, and to help solve these issues, action must be taken. We hope your delegates will be aware and prepared to participate in debate involving all topics as they come up.

The Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) was created by an ECOSOC Resolution June 21, 1946. Made up of 45 states responsible for the promotion and protection of the rights of women and girls globally, CSW works with governments, society, and the UN to strengthen and protect women's rights by "documenting the reality of women's lives throughout the world, and shaping global standards on gender equality and the empowerment of women."

### **Feminine product availability**

26% of the world population menstruates, with a majority of those menstruators being women. In parts of the world, having a period is seen as unholy and dirty, especially because of societal thoughts and religious beliefs. Without the supplies and support that so many women need, they may have to resort to using used rags and grass when they have their period, and also might have to sleep outside and use a different bathroom than the rest of their family, which is denying them basic rights, and shredding their self dignity. 1.25 billion women and girls don't have access to a safe private toilet, and 12.8 percent of women and girls in the world live in poverty with no access to menstrual products.

<https://www.unwomen.org/en/digital-library/multimedia/2019/10/infographic-periods>

<https://sdgs.un.org/partnerships/menstrual-health-and-dignity-commitment>

### **Reproductive Rights**

Reproductive rights are incredibly important for all women around the world. Without reproductive rights, women don't have access to birth control or safe legal abortions. With no access to birth control, women can have unwanted pregnancies. When women don't have access to safe abortions they are forced to resort to dangerous and unsafe methods. This greatly affects women that are marginalized or in poverty. Around 45% of abortions are unsafe, and 97% of those take place in developing countries. Unsafe abortions can also lead to physical and mental health issues as well as financial and social issues for women.

<https://www.unwomen.org/en/news-stories/statement/2022/06/statement-reproductive-rights-are-womens-rights-and-human-rights>

<https://www.ohchr.org/en/women/sexual-and-reproductive-health-and-rights>

### **Violence against women/girls**

Ending violence against women and girls has been an ongoing goal of the UN and the Commission on the Status of Women. Violence against women is a violation of women's basic human rights, and it has long lasting effects on their mental and physical health. 1 in 3 women worldwide experience physical or sexual violence, mostly from spouses, family members, coworkers or superiors. Women are more likely to have PTSD and depression after they experience this violence. Women and girls are the prime target for domestic violence, a form of silent abuse within families. Women in situations of domestic violence are stuck in their home with no way to get away from their perpetrators. Victims have trouble getting back into society because after they experience such violence, it negatively affects their families, community, and work. The UN and CSW are continuing to find ways to end violence against women such as focusing on early education, respectful relationships, and educating men and boys.

<https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/ending-violence-against-women-and-girls/>

<https://www.unwomen.org/en/what-we-do/ending-violence-against-women>

### **Girls education/equal opportunity**

In some countries, a girl's education is seen as less necessary than a boys. Most girls are not offered the same opportunities in education or in the workforce. Today, there are about 130 million girls out of school due to issues such as child marriage, poverty, or gender based discrimination and/or violence. Only 42% of countries have achieved an equal education for girls in post primary education and most countries have a gender based pay gap with 2.4 billion women not being given the same pay as their male counterparts. Educating more girls would boost the economy, give females better maternal health, and lower child mortality rates.

<https://www.ungei.org/>

<https://www.unwomen.org/en/news-stories/feature-story/2022/10/leaving-no-girl-behind-in-education>

### **Women and girls in poverty**

Women and girls living in poverty are more vulnerable and likely to be exposed to many traumatizing and violent events, such as child marriage, sexual exploitation, and human trafficking. Girls in poverty are 2.5 times more likely to be married as children than those living in a comfortable household and life. In countries

such as India and Tajikistan, poverty among women is very prominent. 1 in 5 girls live on less than \$1.90 USD a day, globally. UN Women is currently working to combat poverty in places where it is prominent.  
<https://www.unwomen.org/en/news/in-focus/women-and-the-sdgs/sdg-1-no-poverty>  
<https://data.unwomen.org/features/poverty-deepens-women-and-girls-according-latest-projections>  
<https://www.unwomen.org/en/news/in-focus/end-violence-against-women/2014/poverty>

### **Women's representation in politics**

Even though the amount of women in political positions is increasing, women still face many obstacles to participating in politics. There are many discriminatory laws or practices that hold women back from political participation and/or becoming involved in political leadership. Barriers such as a lack of education, gender norms, and poverty also contribute to this issue. The lack of women in political leadership contributes to a lack of representation in government decision making, which could lead to biased laws that hurt women more than they help. It is vital to empower women to participate in politics to ensure a more gender balanced government.

<https://www.unwomen.org/en/what-we-do/leadership-and-political-participation>  
<https://beijing20.unwomen.org/en/in-focus/decision-making>

### **Women's economic empowerment**

Women's economic empowerment is women being able to participate in existing markets equally, access to decent work, and control over their own time. Currently there is gender discrimination in jobs, like the gender pay gap. Women often end up in low wage jobs or insecure jobs because of this. There is also only a small number of women that end up in senior positions because of gender discrimination. Because a lot of women are primary caretakers of children or their home, they are often left with no time to pursue economic opportunities. The UN is currently using programs and partnerships to promote and influence women's economic empowerment.

<https://www.unwomen.org/en/what-we-do/economic-empowerment>

### **Open Agenda**

<http://www.unwomen.org/en/csw>  
<https://www.unwomen.org/en/what-we-do>

### **United Nations 2023 Water Conference**

A Representative from the Secretariat of the Convention on Wetlands addresses the United Nations Conference on the Midterm Comprehensive Review of the Implementation of the Objectives of the International Decade for Action “Water for Sustainable Development”, 2018–2028.

UN7978860  
Production Date 03/24/2023  
New York, United States  
Credit UN Photo/Rick Bajornas



## INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY (IAEA)

The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), is an organization within the United Nations that is the international center for cooperation in the nuclear field. The Agency was founded in 1957, in response to the fears from discoveries associated with nuclear technology. It was created with assistance from member States and partners worldwide to overcome challenges and promote the safe, secure and peaceful use of nuclear technologies. The IAEA's dual mission is to promote and control the Atom, contributing to international peace and security.

### **Cybersecurity and Nuclear Security**

Computers and other technology play a huge role in nuclear safety and the functionality of nuclear plants. Every action that is carried out with atomic technology almost always goes through computers and digital forms of communication and storage. Unfortunately, as the digital age progresses, so do cyber attacks, meaning people with negative intentions attempt to digitally attack nuclear information and seize control of nuclear power plants, which could potentially lead to terrorist and adversarial organizations obtaining nuclear codes or enabling a meltdown of a power plant. The threats posed by these possibilities and the potential for cyber attacks on a nuclear scale must be culled in order to keep atomic energy regulated and safe.

<https://www.iaea.org/topics/computer-and-information-security>

<https://www.iaea.org/newscenter/news/addressing-cyber-threats-to-ensure-nuclear-security-and-safety-iaea-conference-on-computer-security-begins>

### **Medicine and Atomic Energy**

The International Atomic Energy Agency is committed to harnessing the power of the atom and applying it to healthcare. Nuclear medicine is revolutionary technology that opens many possibilities in the world of medicine, including addressing malnutrition, determining the stage of diseases, and treatment for pregnant women. Action must be taken to dive into this untapped reserve of medicinal knowledge to improve and save people's lives around the world.

<https://www.iaea.org/topics/health>

### **Nuclear Safety in Ukraine**

As the war has progressed in Ukraine, a rapidly rising concern of global communities has been nuclear safety. Since violence has been prominent in Ukraine and its surrounding areas, the presence of nuclear plants has become all the more highlighted, and the fear of meltdowns, security breaches, and damage affecting their safety has risen greatly. These power plants are instrumental in producing energy for those around the region and have been vital parts of Ukrainian infrastructure for years, but now they are threatened, which may prove damaging to both Ukrainian infrastructure and lives. Nuclear safety must be reinforced in Ukraine and this threat must be addressed as soon as possible.

<https://www.iaea.org/newscenter/pressreleases/update-171-iaea-director-general-statement-on-situation-in-ukraine>

### **Decommissioning of nuclear power plants**

Nuclear power plants have a certain lifespan after which it does not become practical to keep them in operation, and after this lifespan has passed, the power plants also pose a growing risk to the workers and civilians around the power plant because their age becomes a factor in how safe they are. In light of this process, the decommissioning of nuclear power plants that pose a risk factor or have just grown too old is vital, and the process is not an easy one. Therefore, the decommissioning of these plants must be addressed and plans of actions must be taken .

<https://www.iaea.org/topics/decommissioning>

## Radioactive Safety

Radioactive materials play a huge role in everything from medicine to agriculture to archaeology. However, they must be handled with proper safety measures—otherwise, these materials can be extremely dangerous. In efforts to help minimize the risk of radioactive problems, IAEA created the “Code of Conduct on the Safety and Security of Radioactive Sources.” By reducing the risks of using radioactive technology, it can be used more effectively and in more situations.

<https://www.iaea.org/newscenter/news/iaea-code-of-conduct-20-years-of-progress-in-safety-and-security-of-radioactive-sources>

<https://www.iaea.org/topics/nuclear-safety-and-security>

## Nuclear energy and climate change

Climate change has made problems such as water and food scarcity, natural disasters, and loss of biodiversity more common worldwide. Due to greenhouse gasses greatly contributing to this problem, combined with the increase in demand for energy, more sustainable energy solutions are required. Nuclear energy, as a low-emissions resource, provides an opportunity to minimize carbon dioxide waste while still meeting energy needs. By implementing nuclear energy on a greater scale, climate change can be slowed.

<https://www.iaea.org/about/overview/sustainable-development-goals/goal-13-climate-action>

<https://www.iaea.org/topics/nuclear-power-and-climate-change>

## Radioactive/nuclear waste management

Nuclear waste must be processed to make it safe for disposal. There are three main steps in this process: pre-treatment, treatment, and conditioning. Pre-treatment prepares the waste for processing and can include sorting it. Treatment involves enhancing its safety and reducing the cost of further management. Finally, conditioning brings the waste into a safe, stable, and manageable form so it can be disposed. By decreasing the danger of radioactive waste management, it will be possible to keep people and the planet safer.

<https://www.iaea.org/topics/processing>

## Nuclear energy and food

Nuclear technologies provide unique solutions to help fight hunger and malnutrition, and can improve environmental sustainability and food safety. So far, over seventy countries have benefited from support in using nuclear techniques for the control of harmful chemicals. Using nuclear techniques, the IAEA assists Member States with food irradiation, the detection of contaminants, verification of the origins and authenticity of food, and the establishment of international standards. But there’s still work to be done with nuclear energy and food sustainability.

<https://www.iaea.org/topics/food-and-agriculture>

<https://www.iaea.org/newscenter/news/world-food-safety-day-nuclear-techniques-used-to-keep-our-food-safe>

<https://www.iaea.org/topics/food-safety>

## Open Agenda

<https://www.iaea.org/>

### General Assembly Commemorates International Day against Nuclear Tests

Vivian Okeke, Representative of the Director General of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) to the United Nations and Director of the New York Office, addresses the General Assembly meeting to commemorate and promote the International Day against Nuclear Tests (29 August) under agenda item general and complete disarmament.

UN7997385 Production Date 08/29/2023

New York, USA

Credit UN Photo/Evan Schneider



## NOTES

# Country Research

"The vision and promise of the United Nations is that food, healthcare, water and sanitation, education, decent work and social security are not commodities for sale to those who can afford them, but basic human rights to which we are all entitled. We work to reduce inequality, every day, everywhere." *Antonio Guterres, UN Secretary General*

## GATHERING COUNTRY INFORMATION

Look for interesting and detailed information about the country, going to as many sources as possible. Some suggestions that have been found to be helpful:

1. There may be whole books about your country in the children's section at the library. Some countries have been formed within the last few years, and would only be included in recently published books.
2. Embassies and consulates are very helpful. There may be one near you, or you could get an address from the Mission in New York. A Google search should help if you need the mailing address, phone, etc.
3. Some useful links are listed on our Resource Page at <http://www.gemun.org/resource.shtml>
4. To find a person who was born or has lived in your country, call a local college and ask for the International Student Office, or there may be a local social group. Usually someone will be very happy to spend time with your group to teach about life there.
5. Ask your parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles, teachers, principal, friends, classmates, neighbors—everyone you know—if they have any information about your country.
6. Read international news outlets and/or listen to World News on radio, television or online.

## WORKING ON YOUR COUNTRY DISPLAY

Some groups choose not to create a display, but, if you do, it is a great way to learn about the culture of your country, and each country display adds unique creativity to the conference as a whole. If you do decide to put together a display about your country, first, read once through all the information you have gathered about the country, its people, geography, culture, etc. This will give you a general overview of the country to help you get started. Individual students in your group may find different points of interest, or a few students may want to work together on one project. Where there is interest, there is indication of a starting place for a project to contribute to your country display.

Everyone has at least one special talent — drawing, painting, writing, sculpturing, making up word games or mazes, or some other unique way to express ideas. This talent can be used in the creation of part of the display, or you may wish to explore a unique area of expression.

The purpose of a display is to help people who visit GEMUN learn something about the countries represented. It is always more interesting to learn through more than one of your senses,

(cont.)

so the displays can be designed to involve not only sight, but also smell, touch and hearing. Students who plan the displays can try to give the public not only something to look at, but also something to do. **PLEASE NOTE: FOOD cannot be part of displays**, due to large clean-up fees in the past. It is very important to clean thoroughly under and around your display tables before leaving campus.

Some examples of the ways students have contributed in the past to their country display: a linoleum cut of an endangered species from the country, arranged on the table with crayons and sheets of paper to make a rubbing; clay sculptures of famous art objects in the country; a drawing of a famous person from the country who contributed to the world; copies of an interesting maze, with pictures and information about the country incorporated; examples of games played by the children in the country, with instructions how to play; samples of art and crafts which are part of the country's culture; a map painted by the students, with interesting facts about the geography, people, flora and fauna. Most important -- every student should use their creativity! This part of GEMUN is about learning from constructing the projects. The more interactive, the better. (Photos of examples of displays which were brought to GEMUN in the past can be seen at [www.gemun.org](http://www.gemun.org))

NOTE: We learned that it may be a good idea to use copyright free photos. Here are a couple of sites, in case you might need them: <https://pixabay.com/>, <https://unsplash.com/s/photos/copyright>

**Displays are set up Saturday morning**, and we do our best to put out awards by around 3 pm. The judges look for quality of work, interesting cultural information, attractiveness and most of all, creativity. **All work should be done by the children, not adults.** In the same symbolism that the flags of the United Nations are displayed at the same level, the displays in the lobby are seen as contributions to this event rather than as a competition with winners and losers. Therefore, the awards symbolize a contribution to GEMUN by the giving and sharing of information, culture, images and the personality of each country represented.

**PLEASE NOTE: For security and staffing reasons DO NOT SET UP your display until Saturday, the second morning of the conference, and DO NOT leave any expensive items unattended. Neither GEMUN nor Brookhaven can be responsible for lost items.**



An example of displays from GEMUN 2023 -- Mexico and Belgium



# Committee Assignments

As you are working on your Position Paper, some delegates may notice an interest in the topics to be discussed in one or another of the different committees.

Every country delegation is asked to send a delegate to General Assembly (GA), if at all possible. **If your country is a member of Security Council (SC), you MUST have a delegate seated in that committee. If you represent one of the five permanent members of the Security Council, you MUST have a delegate in BOTH SC and GA.**

PLEASE NOTE: Some committees often have more mature subject matter for topics, and might be inappropriate for younger delegates. Adult sponsors and parents are responsible to make sure the topic content of the committees is appropriate for delegates assigned to them.

## **\*\*VERY IMPORTANT -- COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS LIST\*\***

When you send your Position Paper (at the time of the 2nd Workshop), include a list of all committees in which your country will have a delegate. Specify the number of delegates in each committee (due to the very limited size of some committee rooms, 1 delegate per committee is best). The accuracy of this list is very important! These numbers are used to prepare specific materials needed by each delegate at the conference and to plan the layout of the committees. Your help is required for the list to be as close as possible to actual conference numbers.

**All groups might consider preparing alternate delegates, if possible, in case a delegate drops out late in the year. This would help maintain consistent numbers for planning purposes.**

If committees get too large for the size of the rooms, as the fire code requires, we may have to ask some delegates to move to another committee before the conference. Due to very limited size of some committee rooms, this has been necessary in the past. We need your help to avoid this problem.

## **ROLE-PLAYING**

**ROLE-PLAYING** means acting as if you actually are from the country you are representing at GEMUN. This may be similar to the way you usually think and act, or it may be very different. If the policies of your country are different from your own ideas about a topic, you have a challenge, and an opportunity to look at the subject from a different point of view.

The point of debating a resolution is to pass the best possible version of the resolution. When role-playing your country, you have the opportunity to support a perspective in your committee and use that perspective to improve the resolution. Your Position Paper should be your guide in roleplaying. Your country's perspective may be against a topic entirely, and representing their view could include speaking and voting against the resolution. However, in the spirit of working together, it could also mean speaking against a resolution, not with the intention to fail it, but rather to convince other delegations to amend the resolution to make it better. This is why role-playing is important. In roleplaying your country, you can come together as a committee to an agreement towards ideals like peace and ending hunger, even when a solution on a topic cannot be reached.

## PUBLIC SPEAKING—GEMUN is a Place Where Your Voice Should Be Heard!

The following was contributed by a GEMUN Sponsor who is also a long-time Theatre Arts teacher: The GEMUN Conference is an exciting experience for everyone who attends. It is a fantastic opportunity to practice sharing ideas and working together to find solutions to issues in today's world.

Your voice will be one of your most powerful instruments at the conference. Whether you are giving an opening speech, making a speech for or against a resolution, or talking to other committee members during a caucus, the way you use your voice will have an effect on those who are listening. It's how *your* ideas are heard!

Be prepared as much as you can. Do your research on your country, the other countries you will be working with, and the issues being discussed. (The best way to reduce stage fright is to be prepared!)

We think about what we are going to say, but we don't give much thought as to how we say it. So... Exercise your muscles and train your ears to hear the right sounds--Using **Tongue Twisters!** You can find LOTS of these on the internet and even make up some about your country or the conference!

1. Say the tongue twister VERY SLOWLY two times, over exaggerating every possible sound in each word. This means beginnings, middles and endings! This really works your facial muscles and makes you very aware of what your lips, tongue, and jaw are doing to make each sound.
2. Second: Say it a little faster. Still over pronounce every sound, like you were speaking to someone who was listening to really loud music with their headphones on. They can't hear you much, but they can see your mouth.
3. Third: Say it a little faster, still over pronouncing. If you can get through the tongue twister without leaving out a sound (record yourself or have someone listen to you who can't see you), then say it even faster.
4. Keep on going this way until you can say the tongue twister really fast and VERY CORRECTLY.  
Examples:
  - If a black bug bleeds black blood, what color blood does a blue bug bleed?
  - Rubber Baby Buggy Bumpers
  - Crisp Crusts Crackle and Crunch
  - Six Thick Thistle Sticks
  - Toy Boat, Toy Boat, Toy Boat
  - Unique New York, Unique New York
5. If you are speaking very clearly, people close to you will hear you quite well. But when people are far away, you must *PROJECT* the sound of your voice all the way to those people. Projecting is *not* yelling, but it is a way of making the voice louder.
  - a. **Open your mouth wider.** (More sound comes out!)
  - b. **Stand/Sit tall and take a deep breath before you speak.** (Supports the sound coming out)
  - c. **Breathe into your diaphragm**, or your belly, instead of breathing into your chest. Practice breathing so that your belly feels like it is inflating like a balloon as you inhale, and deflating as you exhale. This will create a more powerful sound as you speak!
  - d. **Point your mouth in the direction of the people.** (This is why you never look down at a paper that you don't have memorized. LOOK UP by holding the paper up a bit, but don't cover your face. People understand words better when they can see the speaker's face.)

- e. **Take your time.** When we are nervous or uncomfortable, we tend to speak faster or so softly and “mumbly” that we cannot be understood. Slow down. That gives everyone time to hear and think about what you’ve just said.
- f. **PRACTICE, PRACTICE, PRACTICE!** (Speak to someone and have them move farther away each time, or record yourself, farther and farther away from your recording source)

# Position Paper

## RESEARCHING FOR YOUR POSITION PAPER

**First, there is no 'wrong' formatting.** This research is for you -- to give a you 'wish list' of ideas when it's time to write a resolution, and to help you debate other resolutions at the conference.

Where to start? Fill out the **Country Questionnaire** on the following pages. You might also use trusted news sources or the mission website of the country (doing a Google search should help you find it).

**Section I** of the Position Paper (form on next page) is general country data which should be found easily with a little research. Date of entry into the UN can be found on the UN Member States' web page above. For more information about your country, click on the country name.

**Section II** Try to state the position of your country in a few words. To determine the major concerns and positions of your country, start with the speech given in the **General Debate** of the current year's General Assembly session. (To find this year's speech, go to [gadebate.un.org/](http://gadebate.un.org/), or 'Ask DAG' at [ask.un.org](http://ask.un.org) and put the country name in the search field. Ask DAG will be updated, but there will be a delay after the session is over.) This speech covers all topics of top interest to your country. Positions may not always be obvious from the speech. It helps to go through the entire speech, and mark references to topics in the GEMUN committees. PLEASE NOTE: Some topics may not be included in this speech, some may only be implied. ***It is not necessary to include a statement of position on every GEMUN topic in your paper!*** It may be possible to get an idea about the interests of the country on only **one or two topics in each committee**. Don't worry; find what you can.

Have this research with you when you attend the conference! (We try, but you can't be sure anyone at the conference will have time to do prompt research for you.)

### SOME SHARED IDEAS ON WRITING A POSITION STATEMENT

One way that's been suggested to think about Section II of the Position Paper is in three general steps, but this must be adjusted to be what works best for each individual group:

1. Brief **BACKGROUND:** facts on the specific issue/topic. No opinion in this part, just facts.
2. **POSITION:** stated as briefly and as clearly as possible. This is your country's perspective on the specific issue/topic.
3. **IDEAS:** a "proposal for action" without any specific details -- a wish list, so to speak.

### SENDING IN YOUR POSITION PAPER & COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

One Position Paper per country needs to be typed or neatly written and submitted, ***with committee assignments***, by the DEADLINE (the date of the 2nd Workshop).

.....  
**MAILING ADDRESS:** GEMUN, 6005 Royaloak Dr., Arlington, TX 76016  
**May also be emailed to [gemunstaff@gmail.com](mailto:gemunstaff@gmail.com)**  
 .....

**USE THIS SHEET FOR EACH COUNTRY YOUR SCHOOL IS REPRESENTING. FILL IN SECTION I, AND ATTACH AS MANY PAGES AS NEEDED TO COMPLETE SECTION II.**

**COUNTRY DATA AND POSITION PAPER**

(One per Country)

**SECTION I -- Country Data**

Country: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of entry into UN: \_\_\_\_\_

Continent: \_\_\_\_\_

Neighboring countries: \_\_\_\_\_

Capital: \_\_\_\_\_

Major Cities: \_\_\_\_\_

Population: \_\_\_\_\_

Major Religion(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Ethnic/Racial Groups: \_\_\_\_\_

Official Language(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Form of Government: \_\_\_\_\_

Monetary Unit: \_\_\_\_\_

Major Exports: \_\_\_\_\_

Major Imports: \_\_\_\_\_

**SECTION II -- Position Statement**

On a separate paper, write a Position Statement on topics that your country considers to be of major concern (For more detail, see description under Researching for your Position Paper, previous page).

**Please be sure all delegates from the country have a copy of the entire position paper, to help research resolutions and for debate at the conference.**

## COUNTRY QUESTIONNAIRE

(This is given as an *example*, to be used to the extent needed by your group, to **help you prepare to write your position papers.**)

Name of your country:

### I. GENERAL INFORMATION:

A. Continent:

B. Region of continent (Central/South America, East Asia/Pacific, Southeast Asia, Indian Subcontinent, Middle East/North Africa, Sub-Saharan Africa, Western/Eastern Europe, Other):

Member of International Organization (OAS—Organization of American States;

AU—African Union; SAARC—South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation;

Arab League; others)?:

Neighboring States:

C. Cities: Capital:

Major Cities:

D. Size (area in square miles):

Population Density (per square mile):

E. Total Population:

F. Average Life Expectancy:

G. Literacy rate (%):

H. Official Language(s):

I. History, early and recent:

J. Major religion(s) and their influence:

K. Ethnic/Racial group(s):

L. Form of government (dictatorship, democracy-parliamentary or presidential, limited monarchy, oligarchy); Current leader of Government:

Member of an international political organization (EU, NATO, CIS, others)?:

(cont.)

List countries with which your country has friendly relations—trade partners, etc.  
(allies)

List countries with which your country has adversarial relations—trade competitors,  
etc. (adversaries)

M. Economic System (Capitalism, Socialism, Communism, other):

Type of Economy (agricultural, industrial, diversified, other):

Monetary unit:

National Resources (mineral, forestry, agricultural/animal [legal & illegal], human  
resources [labor force], energy resources, positional resource [canals,  
bays & seas, straits, coast line, geo-stationary orbit]):

Imports:

Exports:

Member of Economic Organization (OPEC, EFTA, CIS, ASEAN, WTO, others)?:

## **II. UNITED NATIONS INFORMATION:**

A. When did your nation join the United Nations?

B. When did your country become a nation? Did the United Nations help your country  
become a nation? How?

C. If your country was a colony, give the mother country's name and explain what  
effects the change has had.

D. Is your country a large, medium or small contributor to the U.N. budget?

E. Is the U.N. involved in any way in health issues of your country? If yes, what are  
they?

F. Which countries are considered friendly? Which ones are considered adversaries?

## **III. CULTURAL, SOCIAL**

A. What is the predominant ethnic group in your country? What is the relationship  
between different groups?

B. What is your country's official policy toward other ethnic and cultural groups within its  
borders?

- C. Is your country affected by refugees from neighboring countries because of ethnic disharmony or because of other reasons?
- D. How does your nation support improved education within and outside its borders?
- E. Is your country part of a recent break-up of another country or has it recently (last 40 years) been decolonized?

**IV. ECONOMIC ISSUES:**

- A. How is your country classified (developed, developing, least developed)?
- B. Is your country giving/receiving economic assistance? To/from whom? How much?
- C. Does your country have transnational corporations within its borders? If yes, has your country ever nationalized any of their holdings?
- D. What is your country's per capita income? What is the unemployment rate?
- E. Does your country contain any corporations that invest abroad? In what nations?
- F. Is your country currently under economic sanctions of the UN?

**V. HUMAN RIGHTS:**

- A. Does your country view human rights as an internal affair?
- B. To what extent does your country adhere to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights?
- C. What are your country's concerns on:
 

1. Terrorism	10. Rights of workers
2. Torture	11. Other forms of rights (disabled, detainee)
3. Rights of women	
4. Rights of children	
5. Rights of minorities	
6. Religious rights	
7. Rights of migrant workers	
8. Rights of refugees	
9. Rights of indigenous people	

(cont.)

D. How does your country view Human Rights in:

Lebanon	Pakistan	Bulgaria	El Salvador
Iraq (Kurds, Sunnis, Shiites)	Afghanistan	Poland	Brazil
Iran	Somalia	Georgia	Paraguay
Israel (PLO)	Nigeria	United States	Uruguay
Turkey (Kurds)	Kenya	Mexico	Belize
Syria	South Africa	Cuba	Colombia (drugs)
Sudan	Croatia	Haiti	China
Vietnam	Guatemala	Indonesia	Nicaragua
Romania	Yugoslavia	Honduras	Cambodia
Bosnia-Herzegovina (Serb/Croat/Muslim)	(Serbs)	(religious)	Myanmar
			Uzbekistan

**VI. DISARMAMENT:**

- A. Does your country possess nuclear arms? If not, does it have the potential?
- B. Does your country fear a threat from countries which do have nuclear power?
- C. Has your country signed the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty?
- D. To what extent does your country support disarmament or test ban treaties?
- E. Other than nuclear capabilities, what other type of warfare does your country have in its arsenals (tanks, jet planes, bio/chemical)? Have these been used? When? Against whom?
- F. How does your country obtain its military arms? From a foreign country? Which one(s)?
- G. Does your country supply or sell arms to another country? Which one(s)?





# Resolution Writing

A resolution is “a formal expression of opinion or intention made, usually after voting, by a formal body.” The “formal body” can be a class, a club, a nation or a group of nations.

## WHAT THE UNITED NATIONS CAN AND CAN'T DO

Take into account when writing your resolution that the United Nations' realm of action is limited. The U.N., which is an organization composed of its member states, not a separate entity on its own, has a few specific tools that it can use to achieve solutions to a wide variety of problems. The U.N. has a budget that it raises through fundraisers, partnerships with private and non-profit organizations, and dues from member countries.

### Can

- The U.N. can use the money in its budget to buy supplies and equipment and pay employees to carry out programs all over the world.
- It can use its money and personnel to research world problems/conditions and possible solutions.
- The U.N. has arbiters and negotiators on its payroll that it can send to troubled areas to try and prevent the breakout of violence or to try and restore peace after a conflict has occurred.
- The U.N. can call for nations or groups to come to the table to discuss their conflicts and appoint another, uninvolved nation to arbitrate, if that nation agrees.
- The U.N. can call for summits or meetings to solve special problems.
- The U.N. can set up new committees whose main responsibilities will be to oversee the progress on a certain topic or subset of topics.
- The U.N. can send peacekeepers to conflict areas.
- The U.N. can call for economic sanctions on a country in an attempt to coerce that country into accepting U.N. regulations on, for example, human rights or nuclear non-proliferation.
- The U.N. can educate and encourage populations to act in certain ways.

### Can't

- The U.N. cannot make laws, prohibit or impose behavior on either individuals or nations.
- The U.N. cannot make war on any nation or violate any nation's sovereignty, or interfere with the right of each nation's government to make and enforce its own laws.
- The U.N. cannot force any nation to join in imposing sanctions on another country.

The U.N. relies largely on the powers of persuasion, diplomacy, and the cooperation of its component member states.

**REMEMBER: DO AS MUCH RESEARCH AS POSSIBLE BEFORE GEMUN.  
YOU CAN'T DEPEND ON ANYONE AT THE CONFERENCE  
TO HAVE TIME TO DO IT FOR YOU!**

## WRITING RESOLUTIONS—GETTING STARTED

1. As a group, identify a classroom, school or community problem.  
(See RESOLUTION EXAMPLE #1)
2. Using the example phrases on following page, write PREAMBULATORY CLAUSES that capture your concerns and state how the problem affects your school, classroom or community.
3. Using the example phrases, write OPERATIVE CLAUSES to put into words ways you feel the problem can be solved.
4. After learning this process in relation to a familiar problem, you can transfer these skills to the international problems considered in GEMUN committees. (RESOLUTION EXAMPLE #2)

## FINDING A TOPIC AND WRITING YOUR RESOLUTION

After writing your Position Paper, based on your research from news sources, next you will each choose a topic on which to write a resolution. **IMPORTANT:** A resolution is about how to solve a problem that effects many people, not only one country. Remember, we can't accept a resolution about one country alone. This is a good time to also review the core purposes of GEMUN and the United Nations, as included in our Statement of Purpose, the Charter of the United Nations, and also the GEMUN Challenge.

**IMPORTANT:** It is becoming increasingly important to emphasize whenever possible the universal values expressed in these texts. GEMUN delegates can encourage cooperation rather than being extremist and uncompromising, even if their own government might put forward the latter as a public position. GEMUN delegates can balance what they have learned about the country they are role playing with their own idea of what they see as the right direction for the future!

## FORMAT INSTRUCTIONS

**IMPORTANT:** *The structure of a resolution is always ONLY ONE SENTENCE and needs to fit on the front of one page in 11 point or larger.*

A RESOLUTION HAS FOUR PARTS: Heading, Subject, Preambulatory and Operative Clauses.

### 1. HEADING

The heading serves as identification for the resolution, and informs the reader of three things:

- 1) WHERE the resolution will be submitted – the body in which the resolution is initiated,
- 2) WHAT is the topic of discussion – the specific topic or problem addressed by the resolution, and
- 3) WHO are the author(s) – the country or countries proposing the resolution. See example resolution #1 where the heading is bracketed. Can you find the heading on example #2?

### 2. SUBJECT

Just as every sentence has a subject, so must every resolution. The subject tells you which committee will be taking the action. Look at example resolution #1 in the following pages, the subject is marked. Can you find the subject on example #2?

### 3. PREAMBULATORY CLAUSES

The preambulatory clauses introduce the resolution. They explain the problem in a logical sequence and tell the WHY behind the solution you suggest in the operative clauses. They give past action, reasons for the action, and sum up your concerns. Referring to action on the issue taken in the past by the United Nations makes the resolution very authentic and gives it a realistic foundation for the new proposal included in the operative clauses of your resolution.

The first word of each preambulatory clause sets the “tone” for the statement which follows (and must be in ALL CAPS and **bold** and/or underlined). Tone has to do with the strength of your conviction about the topic. Therefore, the stronger your conviction about a statement, the stronger the first word. The words in this list all start preambulatory clauses, NOT operative clauses.

IMPORTANT: Each clause in the preamble is followed by a comma (,) plus the word “and.” The last clause in the preamble is followed by a colon (:). Go to the example resolutions in the following pages. Can you find the preambulatory clauses in each resolution?

*Some* possible initiating phrases for preambulatory clauses:

#### ACKNOWLEDGING

AFFIRMING

ALARMED

ANXIOUS

APPRECIATING

APPROVING

AWARE

BEARING IN MIND

BEING CONVINCED

COGNIZANT

CONCERNED

CONFIDENT

CONSCIOUS

CONSIDERING

CONTEMPLATING

CONVINCED

DECLARING

DEEPLY DISTURBED

DEPLORING

DESIRING

DETERMINED

EMPHASIZING

ENCOURAGED

ENDORING

EXPECTING

EXPRESSING

APPRECIATION

DEEP APPRECIATION

FULFILLING

#### FULLY

AWARE

BELIEVING

BEARING IN MIND

GRIEVED

GUIDED BY

HAVING

ADOPTED

APPROVED

CONSIDERED

DECIDED

EXAMINED FURTHER

RECEIVED

REGARD FOR

REVIEWED

VIEWED WITH

APPREHENSION

KEEPING IN MIND

#### MINDFUL

NOTING

FURTHER

WITH APPROVAL

WITH DEEP CONCERN

WITH REGRET

WITH SATISFACTION

WITH GRAVE CONCERN

OBSERVING

REAFFIRMING

REALIZING

RECALLING

RECOGNIZING

REFERRING

REGRETTING

REITERATING

SEEKING

STRESSING

TAKING

INTO ACCOUNT

INTO CONSIDERATION

NOTE

WELCOMING



**United Nations Secretariat Building**  
A view of the United Nations Secretariat building with member states' flags.  
UN7757770 Production Date 10/01/2001  
New York, United States of America  
Credit UN Photo/Andrea Brizzi

#### 4. OPERATIVE CLAUSES

The operative clauses of a resolution tell the reader what ACTION is being proposed to solve the problem described in the preamble. The operative clauses should be the strongest part of your resolution.

Remember to **INCLUDE AT LEAST TWO OR THREE** operative clauses in your resolution. **Resolutions submitted containing only one operative clause, or none at all, will be sent back as unacceptable.**

The first word or phrase (for examples, see below) of each operative clause is a verb, indicating the clause which follows. It must be in ALL CAPS and **bold** and/or underlined. Language and tone play an important part in determining the strength of your operative clauses.

**IMPORTANT: Each operative clause is numbered**, in addition to the line numbers to the left of each line of the resolution -- look at the examples on the next two pages. Each operative clause ends with a semi-colon (;) plus the word "and", except for the last, which is followed by a period (.). For operative clauses containing several subclauses, each subclause should be preceded with a letter and followed by a comma (,). The second to last subclause should end with ", and" (comma and) and the last should end with "; and" (semicolon and). You can see this in the example resolutions.

NOTE: If you use an acronym in your resolution, use the whole name the first time it is used. (Example: International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) in the Heading in sample resolution #2.)

*Some* possible initiating phrases for activating or operative clauses:

ACCEPTS  
ADOPTS  
AFFIRMS  
APPEALS  
APPRECIATES  
APPROVES  
AUTHORIZES  
CALLS UPON  
COMMENDS  
CONCURS  
CONDEMNS  
CONFIRMS  
CONGRATULATES  
CONSIDERS  
DECIDES  
DECLARES  
DEPLORES  
DESIGNATES  
DIRECTS  
EXPRESSES  
APPRECIATION  
CONVICTION  
REGRET  
SYMPATHY  
THANKS

EXPRESSES (cont.)  
THE BELIEF  
THE HOPE  
FURTHER  
INVITES  
PROCLAIMS  
REMINDS  
RECOMMENDS  
REQUESTS  
RESOLVES  
INSTRUCTS  
REAFFIRMS  
RECOGNIZES  
RECOMMENDS  
REGRETS  
REITERATES

RENEWS ITS APPEAL  
REPEATS  
SUGGESTS  
SUPPORTS  
TAKES NOTE OF  
TRANSMITS  
URGES  
WELCOMES



**World Down Syndrome Day Conference “With Us Not For Us”**  
A view of participants in the World Down Syndrome Day Conference entitled “With Us Not For Us” (on the occasion of World Down Syndrome Day).  
UN7977342 Production Date 03/21/2023  
New York, USA Credit UN Photo/Evan Schneider

## SENDING IN RESOLUTIONS

**ADULT ADVISOR:** PLEASE SEND ALL RESOLUTIONS ELECTRONICALLY to gemunstaff@gmail.com in a format that will open in googledocs and allow us to edit. (When shared in googledocs, please share with this email address: marti.cockrell@gmail.com)

- 1) **ONE** resolution **PER DOCUMENT**.
- 2) File name: country name and committee (example: PeruUNEP.doc).
- 3) Please attach ALL resolutions from ONE country to ONE EMAIL.
- 4) **Resolution must print out on one page in font no smaller than 11 pt.**

When typing resolution, please refer to the Format Instructions on the preceding pages.

**No more than ONE RESOLUTION PER COUNTRY PER COMMITTEE will be accepted.** (The exception to this 'one resolution per country per committee' rule is in Security Council. It is a very small committee, so two resolutions per country MAY be accepted at the Chair's discretion.)

### **RESOLUTIONS NOT ACCEPTED BY CHAIR OR RECEIVED LATE**

If resolutions are received AFTER DEADLINE (see calendar), or not accepted by the Chair, they may be "**NEW BUSINESS**," which means they will not be debated until after all resolutions in the Regular Business Resolution Packet. In other words, New Business resolutions will be put at the **end** of the Agenda, and will be brought up in committee only at the discretion of the Chair of the committee. **ALL RESOLUTIONS, INCLUDING NEW BUSINESS MUST BE SUBMITTED ELECTRONICALLY. NO HARDCOPIES ACCEPTED,** even at in person conference.

**NOTE: In the past, we have tried to ensure that each of the resolutions accepted for the Regular Business Resolution Packet are debated before the conference ends. However, due to the number of delegates, this may be difficult. The Chairs have decided it may be necessary to cap the number of resolutions accepted. Any extra resolutions will be treated as New Business.**

### **FINAL CHECK LIST**

#### **ADULT ADVISOR READ BEFORE SENDING RESOLUTIONS!**

1. **ADULT ADVISOR PLEASE CHECK AND SEND ALL RESOLUTIONS VIA EMAIL, formatted as requested.** (Delegates don't send, have your advisor send.)
2. Resolutions **MUST** print out on **one (1) page**, minimum font size 11 pt.
3. **DELEGATES:** Don't put all research into resolution, save some details for speech.
4. Follow the form in the examples. **Don't forget line numbers.**
5. **DO NOT FAX** or send hard copies. **Send electronically only (not scanned).**
6. No more than **ONE resolution** per country, per committee (except SC) will be accepted, but all resolutions submitted may not be accepted, due to time considerations.
7. **REMEMBER, SEND RESOLUTIONS BY DEADLINE** on Calendar.

## RESOLUTION EXAMPLE #1

Heading

**SUBMITTED TO:** Director of Our School  
**TOPIC:** The Problems of Name Calling  
**PROPOSED BY:** The Sixth Grade Class

Subject

1. **THE STUDENT BODY,**

Preambulatory Clauses

2. **ALARMED** that negative behavior among students results in name calling, and  
 3. **ACKNOWLEDGING** the problems of the classroom such as, stereotyping,  
 4. hurting feelings, disrespect for one's peers, and  
 5. **DEEPLY DISTURBED** at how these behaviors usurp curriculum time, and  
 6. **OBSERVING** that this needless time-wasting is also affecting students'  
 7. performance, and  
 8. **TAKING INTO CONSIDERATION** that students of all classes should take  
 9. action in helping to insure maximum learning time:

Operative Clauses (Each numbered, in addition to line numbers.)

10. 1. **EMPHASIZES** that students should only be called by their given birth names;  
 11. and  
 12. 2. **REQUESTS** that no student be called by a name another student has made up;  
 13. and  
 14. 3. **ENCOURAGES** teachers to sanction the behavior of name calling; and  
 15. 4. **RECOMMENDS** that students who do not conform after classroom  
 16. punishment should be penalized by the headmistress; and  
 17. 5. **DECLARES** that the students who do not observe this behavior of calling  
 18. students by their birth names should be suspended after five violations; and  
 19. 6. **EXPRESSES THE BELIEF** that if name calling persists there be a class  
 20. penalty; and  
 21. 7. **FULLY BELIEVES** that with the help of the students and staff of this school  
 22. we will have a disturbance-free learning environment.



Line Numbers

## RESOLUTION EXAMPLE #2

SUBMITTED TO: International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)  
TOPIC: Radioactive Waste Management  
PROPOSED BY: Angola

1. IAEA,
2. CONSCIOUS that advancements in the field of nuclear energy will create more radioactive waste over
3. time, and
4. NOTING WITH GRAVE CONCERN that there has been an alarming rate of accidents with the
5. transportation of radioactive waste, and
6. ALSO AWARE that there have been multiple accidents involving the storage of radioactive waste, and
7. HAVING CONSIDERED the grave repercussions to the climate and security of the world if radioactive
8. waste is not effectively secured and stored, and
9. ANXIOUS for action on the contentious issue of radioactive waste disposal:
  10. 1. SUGGESTS that high level and low level radioactive waste be stored in deep geological repositories
  11. (300 m or 1000 ft.), that are stable and isolated; and
  12. 2. FURTHER REQUESTS that a Commission on Radioactive Waste Management (CRWM) is set up
  13. consisting of IAEA member countries which would:
    14. a. oversee all research/analysis on radioactive waste management/transport,
    15. b. make sure research is conducted safely,
    16. c. educate the public living near areas with nuclear storage facilities or nuclear reactors, and
    17. d. look at the possibilities of improving nuclear waste management techniques used at present; and
  18. 3. RECOMMENDS that when applicable, all findings be presented to UNEP and the GA and any other
  19. related committees; and
  20. 4. FURTHER RECOMMENDS that funds be appropriated by countries which will be used to attempt to
  21. put recommendations from the CRWM into play; and
  22. 5. URGES that a global monitoring system be set up which will:
    23. a. actively monitor the globe for any potential emergencies involving long-term storage or containment
    24. of nuclear materials during transport,
    25. b. assist in cleanup and proper disposal of any nuclear waste that breaches storage or the temporary
    26. cask holding nuclear waste in transportation,
    27. c. protect nuclear waste storage facilities and nuclear waste in transport, and
    28. d. assess and recommend how to improve systems so that such events do not occur again; and
  29. 6. COMMENDS all member states supporting this resolution.

## SUMMARY of RESOLUTION WRITING

SUBMITTED TO: Global Elementary Model United Nations (GEMUN)

TOPIC: Guidelines for resolution selection

PROPOSED BY: Secretary-General

### 1. THE SECRETARIAT,

2. AWARE that there is a great deal of confusion about how the Secretariat selects  
3. resolutions, and

4. CONSCIOUS of the hard work and effort each delegate puts into writing a  
5. resolution, and

6. REGRETTING that all resolutions submitted to GEMUN may not be selected or  
7. discussed:

8. 1. REQUESTS all delegates to keep in mind the proposed guidelines while  
9. writing resolutions:  
10. a. the resolution must meet the deadline or else it will be considered as  
11. New Business, and possibly won't be debated,  
12. b. the ideas in the preambulatory clauses should define the problem,  
13. state who the problem affects, state where the problem is, and state  
14. why this problem needs to be heard by the United Nations, and  
15. c. solutions in the operative clauses should include how the solution  
16. will be accomplished, who will be involved in the solution, and thanks  
17. to organizations or countries that have helped in solving the problem; and

18. 2. RECOMMENDS to delegates who truly want their resolutions to be selected  
19. to try to include the efforts of current United Nations activities and agencies  
20. and actual United Nations resolutions; and

21. 3. ENCOURAGES all delegates to use these guidelines as an aid in writing a resolution;  
22. and

23. 4. FULLY BELIEVES that if these resolution guidelines are followed, there will no  
24. longer be any confusion over how resolutions are selected by the Secretariat.



# Resolution Actions in Committee

## DEBATE IN COMMITTEE AND USE OF TIME

Questions about Rules Of Procedure for debate might have been answered in a workshop earlier in the year, or at a Practice Session, but don't hesitate to ask your Chairperson about anything you don't understand. You can ask questions during a recess, or in writing to the Chair, if there is no urgent need to interrupt the work of the committee.

**IMPORTANT, PLEASE NOTE:** Each delegate can help the Chair keep the work of the committee moving smoothly and efficiently. If everyone works together, it is very possible for all resolutions to be given sufficient time and receive the full consideration they deserve.

## CAUCUSING

**CAUCUSING** is informal discussion about the topics being debated in each Committee. A motion to caucus is in order when a delegate sees the need for clarification between two or more opposing points of view.

Caucusing is one of the best tools available to all delegates. During caucuses you will have a great opportunity to promote your ideas. Your speech supporting your resolution is important, but alone it will not have as much influence unless combined with face-to-face negotiations.

Caucusing can take place between you and your allies as well as your adversaries. There may be some nations that formally would not meet to negotiate, but under the informal and private conditions of a caucus, they might have the opportunity to come to an agreement on an issue.

## IF YOUR RESOLUTION IS TABLED

If your resolution is tabled for any reason, don't panic. When you have an opportunity, ask your Chairperson what to do. They will be glad to help you, and will do all they can to see that your resolution has a chance to be considered and voted on by the Committee.

## AMENDMENTS

If someone gives a speech against your resolution, listen carefully, because you may agree with a point they make for disliking part of it. If this is the case, call for a caucus, and together write an **AMENDMENT** that will actually improve the resolution!

If you would like to vote for someone else's resolution, but can't agree with every point it contains, or want to add something, an amendment may be in order. Caucus with the author of the resolution first, to see if you can agree on new wording. If so, it would be called a "**Friendly**" Amendment. Friendly amendments are automatically approved and added to the resolution.

Amendments can also be "**Unfriendly**." An unfriendly amendment is submitted by someone other than the author of the resolution, without the author's approval. It has to be debated and voted on separately, before the final vote on the resolution.

(continued)

**AMENDMENT FORM**

Please fill out completely, including each line to be amended.

Resolution Sponsor: \_\_\_\_\_ Subject: \_\_\_\_\_

Amendment Sponsor: \_\_\_\_\_ Resolution number: \_\_\_\_\_

Amendment Co-sponsor(s): \_\_\_\_\_ Type of amendment:  Friendly  
\_\_\_\_\_  Unfriendly

Insert A: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Insert B: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Insert C: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Insert D: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Insert E: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Insert F: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

IMPORTANT: Amendments must be written on an **Amendment Form** (facing page), if we are in person, according to the following instructions, please, so staff can best understand what is intended.

There are three types of amendments (not a huge difference between them, but when a resolution is typed up later, how clearly details are described can make a big difference):

**#1 - To eliminate words or phrases**, mark through those to be eliminated; see example below.

**#2 - To insert new words or phrases**, write in the new word(s), OR indicate the location of the insertion by noting "Insert A, B, C..." and print the language to be inserted in the appropriate space on the Resolution Amendment Form; see example below.

**#3 - To change one or two words or a phrase**, mark through the word(s) to be changed and write in the new word(s), OR mark through the word(s) to be changed, indicate "Insert A, B, C..." and print the new word(s) in the appropriate space on the Resolution Amendment Form; see example below.

### Example:

ALL amendments are marked on the Resolution. Some also need to be written on the Amendment Form. Examples of all types are shown below.

### Types of Amendments:

	Resolution	Amendment Form
	<p style="text-align: right;"><i>Example Amendment on Resolution</i></p> <p>SUBMITTED TO: Commission on the Status of Women            TOPIC: Women's Rights            PROPOSED BY: Togo</p> <p>1. CSW,            2. EXPRESSING concern that women in Togo and many other countries, such as Syria, Saudi Arabia, and Egypt have very little to no women's rights such as:            4. a. Equal rights to employment,            5. b. Stop violence towards women,            6. c. To be treated equally, and            7. d. The right to an adequate standard of living, including: food, clothing, shelter,            8. <del>and medical care, and</del> <i>Insert A</i>            9. ALARMED that some women do not know their rights, and            10. REGRETS that some people around the world think women's rights are not an issue, and            12. DEEPLY DISTURBED by the fact that one in three married women suffer domestic violence at home in South Africa, and            13. <del>violence at home in South Africa, and</del> <i>Insert B</i>            14. CONGRATULATES Morocco for giving women greater protection of their women's rights within marriage and divorce by passing a new family code in 2004, saying that women may file for divorce if there is harm, absence, no respect from the spouse, no support from the spouse, and/or abandonment, and            18. EMPHASIZING that if women know their rights, then individual countries can grow overall from the improvement in the education of health, education that will become stronger, increased number of jobs to be able to fill, and extra pay women will receive in their jobs and bring home to their family, and            22. <del>CONFIDENT</del> <i>Insert C</i> that other countries will follow Denmark's and Brazil's leads and elect female leaders.            23. <del>elect female leaders.</del> <i>Insert D</i>            24. 1. EXPRESSES THE HOPE that <del>in the future women will learn their rights,</del> and            25. 2. URGES the founding and funding of more organizations like Crossroads International <del>which</del> <i>Insert E</i>            27. a. Travel around the world to educate women about their rights,            28. b. Try to eliminate poverty,            29. c. Give child relief, and            30. d. Help train leaders and workers; and            31. 3. FULLY BELIEVES that with help from countries of the UN, there can be a great impact on helping women put their rights into action.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Example</i> Resolution Amendment Form</p> <p>Resolution Sponsor: <u>Togo</u> Subject: <u>Women's Rights</u>            Amendment Sponsor: <u>China</u> Resolution number: _____            Amendment Co-sponsor(s): _____ Amendment type: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Friendly <input type="checkbox"/> Unfriendly</p> <p><b>#2</b> → Insert A: <u>and education</u></p> <p><b>#2</b> → Insert B: <u>and that there is significant domestic violence against women in many other countries as well</u></p> <p><b>#3</b> → Insert C: <u>CONFIDENT</u></p> <p><b>#3</b> → Insert D: <u>... women worldwide will know their rights and participate fully in the changes we propose</u></p> <p>Insert E: _____</p> <p>Insert F: _____</p>

## COMBINING RESOLUTIONS

It is not uncommon to find one or more resolutions in your committee very similar to your own. If there are several resolutions that are *too* similar, the majority of these will not receive the attention they deserve during debate. Especially if your committee has a large number of resolutions, **COMBINING** resolutions is likely to be highly encouraged. (NOTE: Be aware that your resolution can only be combined with your permission.)

Consider locating and speaking to the author(s) of resolution(s) similar to yours, if that is the case, as soon as possible at GEMUN. You can call for a caucus once your committee is in session. Remember, only compromise on details, not the main purpose you have in mind. If you need help, you can always ask your Chair.

You and the authors of similar resolutions may choose to combine your ideas and present one new resolution. Remember, the main ideas need to relate to each other and not stray away from the original topic. By combining your resolutions, the new resolution should be stronger and have a much better chance of being debated and passed by the rest of the committee.

In most cases, up to three resolutions can be combined at a time (more or less may be allowed, at the Chair's discretion). Each Co-Sponsor is allowed to give a speech in support of the new resolution. Co-Sponsors can only be the original authors, but other delegates are encouraged to help. If changes in original wording are needed, an Amendment Form may also be required.

**IMPORTANT:** Combine resolutions according to the following instructions:

- If we are in person, complete the **Combining Resolutions Form**.
- **Choose a Primary Resolution that will be the basic resolution** (i.e., ONE resolution which will be the foundation used on which to note all changes and insertion of language from other resolutions to be included in the final resolution).
- **Copies of all resolutions to be combined** must be attached to the Combining Resolutions Form (see example).

There are different types of changes when combining resolutions:

**#1 - To insert language from another resolution**, indicate the location of the insertion by noting “Insert A, B, C...” and mark the language from the other resolution(s) as “A, B, C...” accordingly; see example Combination on next page. This type of change does not need to be re-written on the Combining Resolutions Form.

**#2 - To eliminate words or phrases**, mark through those to be eliminated; see example.

**#3 - To insert new words or phrases**, write in the new word(s), OR indicate the location of the insertion by noting “Insert A, B, C...” and print the language to be inserted in the appropriate space on the Combining Resolutions Form; see example Combining Resolution Form.

**#4 - To change one or two words or a phrase**, mark through the word(s) to be changed and write in the new word(s), OR mark through the word(s) to be changed, indicate “Insert A, B, C...” and print the new word(s) in the appropriate space on the Combining Resolutions Form; see example.

### Example:

ALL changes are marked on the Primary Resolution. Some also need to be written on the Combining Resolution Form. Examples of all types are shown below.

NOTE: Text of #1 does not need to be re-written on the Combining Resolutions Form.

### Combining Resolution Form

*Example* COMBINING RESOLUTIONS FORM

Please complete and attach to original resolutions for combination.

Co-Sponsors: Argentina / China  
(original authors of combined resolutions only)

Combined resolution subject: Disaster Risk/Climate Change Reduction

Insert A: \_\_\_\_\_

Insert B: \_\_\_\_\_

Insert C: flooding which is the primary disaster resulting from climate change

Insert D: \_\_\_\_\_

Insert E: \_\_\_\_\_

Insert F: \_\_\_\_\_

### Primary Resolution

*Example Combination (primary resolution)*

SUBMITTED TO: General Assembly  
TOPIC: Disaster Reduction: Flooding  
PROPOSED BY: Argentina / China

1. GA,  
2. DEEPLY DISTURBED by the effects of ~~roads~~ *disasters* resulting in flooded houses, washed out cars,  
3. destroyed goods, loss of power, building ~~villages and~~ *destruction*  
4. ACKNOWLEDGING that Asia has experienced the most tragic ~~flooding~~ *disasters* in countries such as  
5. China and Bangladesh, and  
6. OBSERVING that people won't be returning to their homes for a while until the flood-  
7. subsides and often find all that they own destroyed, and  
8. GRIEVED by the fact that there are always loss of lives to loved ones who survived, and  
9. DETERMINED to have a solution to deal with ~~this problem~~ *Insert C* to protect everyone:

10. 1. RECOMMENDS nations consider using the solution designed by various teams of  
11. architects and engineers from La Plata and Buenos Aires were assembled to assess the  
12. situation; Adolfo Rossi, one of the leading architects suggested technical solutions to  
13. avoid flooding such as better systems of drainage pipes and "retention lakes", a system  
14. used in Brazil; and  
15. 2. APPROVES of the solution to use internal tanking which refers to the process of  
16. waterproofing internal structures whether this is the ground floor walls and floor or  
17. subterranean cellars and basements by using a rigid propylene structure that encloses the  
18. walls (and floors) and guides the water into channels where it is pumped outside the  
19. property; and this maintains the structural integrity of the property while making it warm  
20. and habitable; and  
21. 3. ENCOURAGES natural solution options including:  
22. a. Water retention which is a major factor in handling flooding, with a need to slow it  
23. and store it by restoring and expanding and floodplains along rivers and creeks;  
24. increasing wetlands throughout the watershed; and utilizing rain gardens and storm  
25. water retention at home and around businesses,  
26. b. Improvement of drainage characteristics is critical to handle water volume and  
27. velocity by diversion of channels with natural vegetation and meanders; create two  
28. stage ditches to increase capacity; and naturalizing dikes or levees with native  
29. plantings,  
30. c. Encourage more sustainable natural systems to let nature function properly through  
31. Riparian buffers and filter strips; develop streamside forests and wetlands; and  
32. increase land management practices to reduce topsoil loss, and  
33. d. Adapt the built-environment with green features through the use of smart growth  
34. which keeps floodplains for nature's intended uses (no construction or filling  
35. floodplains); decrease impervious surfaces by providing more natural absorption; add  
36. vegetation and beautification of food structures where possible; and  
37. 4. URGES all nations to contribute funds to help pay for this important cause.

#1 → *Insert A* → 4. ACKNOWLEDGING that Asia has experienced the most tragic *disasters* in countries such as  
#2 → 6. OBSERVING that people won't be returning to their homes for a while until the flood-  
#1 → *Insert B* → 8. GRIEVED by the fact that there are always loss of lives to loved ones who survived, and  
#3 → 9. DETERMINED to have a solution to deal with *Insert C* to protect everyone:

### second resolution to be combined

*Example Combination (second resolution)*

SUBMITTED TO: GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
TOPIC: DISASTER RISK REDUCTION  
PROPOSED BY: CHINA

1. GA,  
2. AWARENESS that the disaster risk reduction are the front lines of China, and  
3. MINDFUL that the disaster risk reduction is one of the main leaders for climate  
4. change, and  
5. ALARMED that global temperature increases range from 1.4 degrees celsius to  
6. 5.8 degrees celsius by the end of the 21st century, and  
7. SEEKING how to prevent global warming, and  
8. CONSCIOUS that there are other disasters to deal with, and  
9. AWARE that while preventing disasters, bonds are being created, and  
10. DETERMINED to help anyone and everywhere, and  
11. WELCOMING anyone that wants to help, and  
12. ACKNOWLEDGING that it is difficult to adapt to climate change, and  
13. CONSCIOUS that if the field of disaster risk reduction do their job then China will  
14. aim for disasters to only take 1.5% of their gross domestic product:  
15. 1. URGES that every country should aim for lower costs for disasters; and  
16. 2. CALLS UPON other nations to trust in others and to help each other; and  
17. 3. CONDEMNNS all nations who participate in global climate change.

#1 → *A* → 5. ALARMED that global temperature increases range from 1.4 degrees celsius to  
#1 → *B* → 7. SEEKING how to prevent global warming, and

## COMBINING RESOLUTIONS FORM

Please complete and attach to original resolutions for combination.

Co-Sponsors: \_\_\_\_\_  
(original authors of combined resolutions only)

Combined resolution subject: \_\_\_\_\_

Insert A: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Insert B: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Insert C: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Insert D: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Insert E: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Insert F: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

# RULES OF PROCEDURE -- LONG FORM

## **The GEMUN Philosophy in a Debate Context**

When it comes to how debate works, GEMUN's mission is twofold: On the one hand is the educational side, whereby delegates learn about complex international relations, hone public speaking skills, and develop a basic understanding of parliamentary procedure. On the other hand, and more important, is the commitment to seeking peace through the practice of active goodwill.

GEMUN believes that a concerted will-to-good can and does bring about real change in the world. Thus, debate at GEMUN should foster each delegate's ability to use goodwill in all contexts, particularly in exchanging ideas, understanding different perspectives, and finding common-ground solutions to shared problems. Committee business at GEMUN is intended to further this aim by abandoning the old ways of conflict and argumentative debate in favor of compromise, cooperation, and dialogue. (Explained more on p 99, GEMUN Challenge)

It is our hope that each delegate will embrace this spirit of goodwill and bear in mind that the ultimate aim is not to advance their own resolution or argument merely for the sake of "winning," but rather to advance the shared interests of humanity in a spirit of concord and peace.

## **Goals of These Rules**

**1. Clarity:** GEMUN's Rules of Procedure seek to establish a clear order to committee business, such that every delegate has the opportunity to participate fully in the committee. It is important, therefore, that each participant understand what these rules mean, and when each motion is appropriate ("in order").

**2. Healthy Debate Atmosphere:** GEMUN also seeks to give due sensitivity to the wide age and developmental range of delegates, not to mention differences in social and economic circumstances, ability, native language and experience. The spirit of these rules is to protect the interests of all participants, not just those with the most experience or loudest voices, in service of GEMUN's mission and philosophy.

## **Scope of Rules**

The rules in this handbook are the official rules of GEMUN and will be used throughout the GEMUN conference for the orderly conduct of business. No other rules of order or procedure shall apply. NOTE: The Chair is ultimately in charge and has Chair's Discretion on all committee matters.

## COMMITTEE RULES

### **Getting Started**

#### **Quorum**

At the first formal session of the Committee, and after each recess, the Chair shall call the roll to determine which delegations are present. The number of delegations present at the time of the roll call determines whether or not there is a **sufficient number of member countries to conduct business** (quorum). Delegates must signify '**present and voting**' at every roll call in order to

establish voting privileges for their nation. If a delegate comes in late to the session, or leaves the committee for any reason and misses a roll call, they must notify the Chair in writing that they are 'present and voting' when they are seated. At least one-third of all delegations must be present for business discussion to occur. A majority of delegations must be present for voting to take place.

### **Agenda**

1. The Secretariat will arrange the resolutions numerically and in a logical order according to topic and country. The order of the agenda corresponds with the numbers in the top right corner of each resolution, e.g. 'GA-17.'
2. The order of the **agenda** may only be altered at the discretion of the Chair.

### **Points and Motions Related to How the Committee Conducts Business**

1. During any discussion, a delegate may rise to a **Point of Order**. The purpose of this point is to call the attention of the Chair to an infraction, misapplication or violation of these Rules of Procedure. This point shall immediately be decided upon by the Chair based upon these rules. A delegate rising to a Point of Order shall not speak on the substance of the resolution being considered. (C-10 Point of Order)\*
2. **Personal Privilege** relates to the rights and comforts of the members of the committee. This Point allows any delegate to voice barriers s/he may be having to fully participating in the committee. If the Chair judges that the delegate's point is a valid question, it shall immediately attempt to satisfy the delegate's need. (C-14 Point of Personal Privilege)\*
3. **Point of Clarification** is used to ask questions about parliamentary procedure, or the status of business, or any other relevant question dealing with the business of the committee. The point shall be directed to the Chair, shall be used for clarification only, and may interrupt the current business. All Points of Clarification made to debate or oppose a statement will be ruled 'out of order' by the Chair and may be re-stated as Points of Information. (C-11 Point of Clarification)\*
4. **Motion to Adjourn** a committee implies that all business of the committee has been completed. The motion to adjourn is, however, in order at any time. It shall not be debated, and must be put to an immediate vote. It is subject to the order of precedence set in the short form on the inside back cover. (C-17 Motion to Adjourn)\*
5. Unlike Adjourn, the **Motion to Recess** allows the committee to take a break from conducting business, which resumes as usual once the recess is over. Any Motion to Recess must include the time when the committee shall return to order. Requires a majority vote. When the committee resumes, business shall continue as it would have, had the committee not recessed. The Chair reserves the right to recess. This motion is not debatable. (C-15 Motion to Recess)\*
6. **Motion to Caucus** may be made if a delegate wishes to discuss amending or combining resolutions, negotiating a particular point, etc. All procedures concerning caucus are the same as those concerning recess, except that delegates are not permitted to leave the room during said caucus. (C-16 Motion to Caucus)\*
7. A motion to **Withdraw** a motion or proposal may be made by its sponsor at any time before voting on it has commenced, provided it has not been amended. A proposal thus withdrawn may be reintroduced by any delegate. (C-7 Motion to Withdraw a Proposal)\*

### **Adjusting the Agenda (the Order of Committee Business)**

1. A delegate may submit a request to the Chair to move to **Table** an amendment and/or resolution. The purpose of tabling is to set aside the proposal currently under discussion and allow the committee to move on to discussion of other matters. In the interest of time, the Chair may elect

\*See "RULES OF PROCEDURE -- SHORT FORM" inside back cover.

(cont.)



to declare the request out of order. The motion to table a resolution will be considered **only** if the author is not present or the resolution needs further work. Excessive abuse of the 'table' motion by a delegate will result in disciplinary action. Tabling is a decision made by the Chair and is not voted on by the committee. (C-3 Motion to Table)\*

2. A delegate may move to resume discussion of a proposal previously tabled by moving to **Take from Table**. Important business must be conducted after a proposal is tabled for this motion to be in order. Furthermore, it is in order only when there is no unfinished business on the floor. Taking from table is a decision made by the Chair and is not voted on by the committee. (C-4 Motion to Take from the Table)\*

3. During discussion of any proposal, a delegate may move to **Postpone Debate**. This motion must state a time at which debate on the proposal shall resume and a reason to postpone. When that time is reached, debate will be resumed as soon as the floor is not occupied by a delegate or a voting procedure. The motion only applies to agenda topics and resolutions, and is a decision made by the Chair. (C-5 Motion to Postpone Debate)\*

### **Debate**

1. After a resolution has been introduced, the delegation presenting the resolution may be offered the opportunity to speak in favor of the resolution. All other delegates who wish to speak regarding the resolution, whether for or against, must have the Chairperson's permission to address the committee.

2. The Chairperson may choose to formulate a **Speakers List** from those delegates signifying a desire to speak. If the Speakers List has been set and you would like to be added, send a note to the Chair.

3. Any delegate may move to **Limit or Extend Debate**. The motion may limit the number of speakers, the number of times a delegate may hold the floor on a question, the length of debate on a particular resolution and/or topic, or any combination of the above. The motion requires a majority to pass, and is not debatable. (C-2 Motion to Limit or Extend Time of Debate)\*

a. If the committee has limited the time of debate, the Chairperson shall call a delegate to order if s/he has exceeded his/her allotted time.

b. If a delegate's speech on a proposal has time limitations, s/he may also yield to **Points of Information** regarding the topic at hand, within an additional time allotment.

4. **Point of Information** is used to request information from the speaker relating to the topic being presented. This must be asked in the form of a question **through the Chair**, not directly to the speaker, and therefore **does not include personal pronouns relating to the speaker**. The Chair may rule out of order any question considered irrelevant. (C-12 Point of Information)\*

a. The speaker reserves the right to answer a Point of Information as best bolsters their argument. However, once a speaker has yielded to a Point of Information, s/he must answer. If a speaker does not yield to a Point of Information from any given delegate, that speaker must yield the floor.

b. The purpose of Point of Information is to challenge a claim being made by the speaker or to point out a deficiency or inaccuracy in the speaker's argument. This means that sometimes, the "question" being asked will not be "answered" directly. If a delegate sincerely requires an answer in order to understand what is being discussed (for instance, defining a vocabulary term), the appropriate avenue is a Point of Clarification (see above) and is answered by the Chair.

c. To preserve the spirit and flow of debate, save time, and allow all delegates opportunities to participate in debate, **'follow-up' questions are not allowed** and will be ruled out of order by the Chair. If a delegate feels the speaker has not sufficiently answered their Point of Information, that delegate may volunteer for the Speakers' List. Otherwise, they should wait their turn until other delegates wishing to ask questions have raised their Points of Information.

\*See "RULES OF PROCEDURE -- SHORT FORM" inside back cover.

5. When the debate for a resolution is completed, before the next scheduled recess, the Chair may elect to grant the **Right of Reply**. Right of Reply is an opportunity to counter an inaccurate or insulting statement made by another delegate that **specifically impugns the personal or national dignity of the delegate** requesting the Right of Reply. Right of Reply is not to be used as an avenue for furthering debate. Requests for the Right of Reply must be submitted to the Chair in writing. The Chair may limit the length of the delegate's reply time. Decisions to grant, or not to grant, the Right of Reply shall not be subject to debate or vote.

6. After one speaker for and one speaker against a proposal have both been heard, a delegate may, at any time, **move the Previous Question** to bring the proposal to a vote of the committee. If the motion is seconded, the Chair may move to an immediate vote. (C-8 Motion for the Previous Question)\*

### **Amendments**

1. An **Amendment** to a resolution adds to, deletes from, or revises any part of that resolution. All amendments must be submitted in writing to the committee Chair before they are considered by the committee. Copies of the Amendment Form are available from the committee Chair.

2. A **Friendly Amendment** to a resolution has the support of the author and the co-sponsor(s) of the resolution being amended.

When a Friendly Amendment is moved, the Chair shall ask each of these parties if they accept it. If accepted, the Friendly Amendment is part of the resolution. If it is rejected by any of these parties, it shall not be considered a Friendly Amendment. Friendly Amendments must be labeled as such when submitted to the committee Chairperson.

3. If an amendment is rejected by either the author of the resolution, or co-sponsor(s), it shall be deemed an **Unfriendly Amendment**. At the Chair's discretion, debate will begin on the amendment.

4. The Chair may rule "out of order" any amendment which is judged to be a waste of the committee's time. Amendments of this nature, for example, might change the intent of the resolution or make trivial or absurd changes in its wording.

5. A secondary amendment must relate to the primary amendment and the main motion. Resolutions may only be amended **twice**.

6. If more than the amendment process is needed, delegates may wish to **Combine** up to three resolutions (may be 1 or 2 more, if Chair deems it essential in best interest of committee) which have very similar goals. In doing so, the committee can accomplish the goal of all concerned and also may save some of the committee's time.

### **Voting**

1. Each member nation shall have one vote. No delegate may cast a vote on behalf of another nation.

2. Of those members who are marked as "present and voting," only those casting an affirmative or negative vote shall be tallied to determine whether a resolution passes. Thus, members who abstain are technically present but not voting on this particular resolution. Their votes do not "count" toward determining a majority, or failure to reach a majority, related to the passage of a resolution; only a majority of votes actually cast is required to pass a resolution. (example: 8 y, 8 n, 5 a, fails)

a. The Chair may use their Discretion to ask for abstentions during a placard vote; in this spirit, if the placard has not been raised either for or against, the member automatically abstains.

b. During a roll call vote, members should signify that they abstain if they have been marked as "present and voting" but do not wish to vote either for or against the resolution.

c. Members must signify "present and voting" at any roll call or, in writing (if not present during roll call) in order to establish voting privileges for their nation.

\*See "RULES OF PROCEDURE -- SHORT FORM" inside back cover.

(cont.)

3. After the Chair has announced the beginning of voting procedure, no delegate may interrupt the proceedings, except with a Point of Order in connection with the actual voting procedure. Pages and Processors will guard the doors for no entrance. There will be no note passing during voting procedure.

4. **Division of the House** demands a roll call vote be taken as opposed to placard vote. It can be moved only after the Previous Question has been moved, and is only effective for one vote, then returns to placard vote. (C-9 Motion for the Division of House)\*

a. During a roll call vote, the Chair may permit members to explain their vote. To request this right, a member nation must state its vote followed by the phrase, "with rights." The right of explanation shall be granted after voting but before the results are announced. No questions may be asked of delegates speaking "with rights" during voting procedure. Vote changes will be called for after delegates "with rights" are recognized. Delegates cannot change their vote to "with rights" at this time. The Chair may limit the time allowed for these explanations. Voting procedure is not complete until the vote has been announced.

b. A motion to **Reconsider** a proposal will be in order only when made by a **delegate who voted against the resolution, and in a roll call vote ONLY**. Reconsideration requires a majority vote of the committee. This motion is in order when there is not another proposal on the floor, and is not debatable. (C-6 Motion to Reconsider)\*

5. A resolution may be declared an **Important Question** (only in GA) by the President, requiring a 2/3 majority of those present and voting to pass. This **ONLY** refers to major items such as those concerning changes to the Charter of the United Nations.

(cont.)



“Let us be good stewards of the Earth we inherited. All of us have to share the Earth's fragile ecosystems and precious resources, and each of us has a role to play in preserving them. If we are to go on living together on this earth, we must all be responsible for it.”

-- *Kofi Annan, 1938-2018*

## SPECIFIC FOR SECURITY COUNCIL

### Quorum

A quorum of members (10 of 15 members) with at least 3 Permanent Members (China, Russia, the United States, the United Kingdom or France) is necessary to conduct business. A simple majority is required to pass procedural motions. A quorum of members (10 of 15 members) which includes all five Permanent Members must be present to vote on resolutions.

### Voting:

1. All votes on FINAL approval of resolutions require a 3/5 majority of those present and voting AND no objection from a permanent member.
2. **Use of the Veto:** Veto is the term applied when one of the five permanent members (see above) votes “against” a resolution; in the event that one of these 5 countries does vote against a resolution, the resolution immediately fails, even if theirs is the only vote against it. In fact, a permanent member cannot vote “against” a resolution and not use veto power. If a permanent member does not want to automatically fail a resolution, but does not want to vote “for” it, they may “abstain” from voting. The veto only applies to votes on resolutions, not procedural votes. Because of the serious consequences, permanent members have the responsibility, and duty, to thoroughly debate and consider the issue at hand before using their veto power.

### Attendance for Debate:

1. Because the Security Council is one of the most influential and powerful committees of GEMUN, it is very important that all members attend all sessions, and arrive on time.
2. Visiting Delegation: Any member of the U.N. who is NOT a member of the Security Council may take part in a specific debate, if a majority of the Council invites the visitor or if the visitor has brought the issue before the Council. Issues brought before the Council by a visiting delegation must be approved by the Council President. Visiting delegates have no vote. Visitors may request the members of Security Council to put forth a motion or proposal.



**Security Council Meets on Children and Armed Conflict**

A wide view of the Security Council meeting on how to prevent and respond to grave violations against children in armed conflict.

UN7992459 Production Date 07/05/2023

New York, United States of America

Credit UN Photo/Manuel Elías

## Role Play for Parliamentary Procedure (An example to help you practice.)

List of Parts:

Chair --

Narrator --

[United Kingdom]\* --

[China]\* --

[USA]\* --

[Japan]\* --

**\*\*This is an EXAMPLE which is modified and used by the Secretariat at the Second Workshop, to give delegates an idea about how Parliamentary Procedure works in committee.**

Chair calls the committee to order and has a roll call.

Chair: “We’re going to go ahead and get started. We’ll start with the first resolution, GA1. Will [United Kingdom]\* come up and read their resolution?”

[United Kingdom]\* reads the resolution.

Chair: “Are there any points of clarification?”

Narrator [explains Point of Clarification]

[China]\* raises placard, Chair recognizes [China]\*.

[China]\* says, “Point of Clarification,” asks for the definition of the word “ ... a word chosen from the resolution.” (NOTE: Chair should know the definition of the word.)

Chair answers.

Chair asks, “Does the delegate wish to speak for his (or her) resolution?”

Narrator [suggests to audience how to be prepared to give a speech in support of their resolution.]

[United Kingdom]\* gives speech.

Chair asks, “Are there any Points of Information for the delegate?”

[USA]\* raises placard. Chair recognizes [USA]\*.

[USA]\*: “Point of Information.”

Chair: “Will you accept a Point of Information from [USA]\*?”

[United Kingdom]\*: “Yes.”

Narrator: [explains Point of Information]

(cont.)

[USA]\*: “How does the delegate plan to [... a question about the resolution]\*?”

[UK]\* answers.

[USA]\*: “Do you really think [... another question about resolution]\*?”

Chair: “You’re out of order, delegate.” (Gavel)

Narrator: [explain why he’s out of order]

[USA]\* raises placard, waits to be recognized, and restates question in proper form.

[UK]\* answers.

Chair asks for any more Points of Information, there are none, and the delegate yields the floor.

Chair asks for motions on the floor.

Narrator: [explain speakers’ list -- not necessary to motion for]

[Japan]\* raises placard, Chair recognizes [Japan]\*.

[Japan]\*: “I move to limit the speakers’ list to one For, one Against.”

[USA]\*: “Second.”

Chair: “All ‘For’ limiting the speakers’ list to one ‘For’, one ‘Against’, raise your placards.”

Chair: “We’re now forming a speakers’ list.” [Japan For, USA Against]

The two speakers speak without interruptions.

Chair asks for motions. [USA]\* raises placard, Chair recognizes [USA]\*.

[USA]\*: “I move the Previous Question.”

[China]\*: “Second.”

Narrator: [explain voting -- Placard vs Division of House -- Division of House is NOT same as Previous Question]

Chair: “We will now vote on whether or not to Move the Previous Question.” After voting -- “We are now in Voting Procedure. The Pages and Processors will please secure the doors, there will be no more note passing or talking. (Pause to wait for doors to be secured.) All for GA1 please raise your placard.” (USA votes against, everyone else for.)

Chair: “With 3 ‘For’, 1 ‘Against’ and 0 Abstaining, this resolution Passes.”

Narrator: “Any questions?”

## SCHOOLS MAY HOST A PRACTICE SESSION

1. Sign up around the time of the second Delegate Workshop, or contact GEMUN staff to have your school added to the **April** Practice Session Calendar. We will try to match you with at least one Secretariat member, who will be asked to volunteer to head the Practice Session at your school (if you are within reasonable driving distance). Saturday morning from 9 - 12 is usually the best time.
2. Confirm a meeting place to hold the session (library, a classroom, etc.). **Rooms needed:** one room large enough to hold everyone expected (we will ask for rsvps after sending out an email announcement), plus two or three smaller break-out rooms (at least 25 per room) into which the group can be divided.
3. Place signs on the entrances of your building informing the visiting students where the practice session is being held or have students from your school waiting at each entrance to greet and direct the visitors to the sessions.
4. **IMPORTANT:** Have a **copier available** and ready to use to copy resolutions.
5. Provide refreshments for the students and the adults with them at the break mid-morning. Food should not be put out until break time, please.

## AFTER RESOLUTIONS SUBMITTED -- FINAL PREPARATIONS

Once the deadline to send in resolutions has passed, the Secretariat and GEMUN staff read through them all, make corrections, and the Chairpeople have a meeting to discuss the agenda in each committee. The resolutions are numbered by the Chairs in the order in which they will be debated and copies sent to all participating groups, a week or two before the conference. The purpose of sending the resolutions out before the conference is to allow time for delegates and their adult sponsors to see the resolutions in each committee.

This allows some time for research, to help give power to debate. Keeping in mind each country's positions (on Position Papers), each delegation can decide together which resolutions to support, and which to oppose. Look to see if there are resolutions your delegation would like to vote for, with some changes. If only minor changes are needed, plan to **caucus** with the sponsor of the resolution, and try to have it **amended**, or **combined**, if more changes seem necessary. (See 'Resolution Actions in Committee' for more information.)

Write a supporting **speech for each of your resolutions** before the conference. This speech should give fine points and details which don't fit into the one page resolution. The author of the resolution will be given an opportunity by the Chair to give a speech after reading the resolution to the committee. It should be convincing, telling everyone why they should vote for the resolution.

Everyone needs to bring their Handbook, Position Paper, a pencil and all research you have collected on your committee's topics. Research at the conference is possible, but limited.

## PREPARATION TIPS FROM GEMUN CHAIRS FOR ADULT ADVISORS

1. Have your delegates rehearse reading their resolutions aloud before they come to GEMUN.
2. Make sure each delegate understands all the words in their resolution.
3. Remember that you can't help your delegates debate during GEMUN. Help them ahead of time.
4. Practice role-playing your countries within your group, before GEMUN.
5. Help the delegates research their country's position on ALL topics in their committees.
6. Teach them to project their voice, loud enough for a person at the back of the room to hear.

## NOTES



# AT THE CONFERENCE

## REGISTRATION

There are **four separate Registration Tables** for **four different groups**. All tables are open for registration at once. Please check in at each appropriate table as soon as possible upon arrival.

- **Sponsors Register Here** – the group's adult Sponsor signs in, reads letter (see example letter on next page), and carefully follows the very important instructions in the letter
- **Ambassadors Register Here** – one delegate for each country signs in
- **Pages Register Here** – please take registered Pages to this table as soon as you arrive
- **Observers Register Here** – all Observers need to sign in and get a badge

## WHO ARE 'OBSERVERS'?

Observers are guests who come with participating groups, or who are interested in watching GEMUN in action in order to be able to participate in the future. All Observers must go by the Code of Conduct on following page, and younger Observers must be accompanied by an adult at all times.

## OPENING CEREMONIES

Following a welcome by the Secretary-General, the Ambassador (head delegate) of each country will be called to speak to the assembly. This speech is an opportunity to welcome all participants, and to state your country's goodwill hopes for the outcome of the conference. **NOTE:** With time constraints for 50 or so speakers, each speaker must know that **ALL** others' are of equal value and interest to your own. Therefore, each speaker please limit your speech to **ONE** minute!

After Opening Ceremonies, all delegates go to their committees. The Chair calls them to order, makes introductions, and debate begins after a review of parliamentary procedure and short practice.

## THE ROLE OF THE COORDINATING STAFF

The GEMUN Coordinating Staff (including the Peacekeepers in light blue caps) are here to help in every way possible, both during preparation and at the conference. The handbook and workshops cover mostly everything for preparation; but we realize questions might arise which are not addressed, and there is troubleshooting needed during the conference. We are here to help. Please feel free to contact us at any time. (email: gemunstaff@gmail.com, ph: 817-819-7081)

## LUNCH

In the past, the campus food vendor has planned lunch so it can be as efficient as possible for everyone. An email with details about menu, cost and detailed guidelines goes out in early Spring. Lunches are ordered before the conference and prepaid by check, so the caterer can purchase enough food. Lunch tickets are included in the adult sponsor's Registration packet.

All committees are dismissed at the same time for lunch. Adult sponsors must remain in the lunch area with their students during the entire lunch period. Anyone not buying lunch tickets is fully responsible for their own lunches. **No one is ALLOWED to bring lunches into committees.** Adults are responsible to keep lunches brought by the group, distribute them at lunch and eat with delegates in the GEMUN designated lunch area. All delegates must return to committee on time after lunch period ends.

**PLEASE NOTE: Below is an example of the letter given to Sponsors at GEMUN 2022 Registration. There will be some changes in the letter you receive at this year's conference.**

**This is here to give you an idea how to be prepared at Registration.**



# GLOBAL ELEMENTARY MODEL UNITED NATIONS

6005 Royaloak Drive, Arlington, TX 76016, U.S.A. ph--(817)654-1018

e-mail -- gemunstaff@gmail.com

Web Page -- <http://www.gemun.org>

## GEMUN

**Welcome to GEMUN XXXIV!**

Friday, May 12, 2023

• **FIRST, PLEASE DO THREE THINGS:**

1. PICK UP AND HOLD ALL DELEGATES' CELL PHONES, RIGHT NOW, DURING REGISTRATION. NO CELL PHONE use by delegates in committee rooms! (If you need a bag to put them in, ask at Registration table.)
2. Please fill out the slip you were given and the 'Delegates' Names Sheets' CAREFULLY -- the accuracy of award certificates your group receives depends on the spelling and READABILITY of the names on these sheets.
3. **READ the entirety of this letter carefully, please let us know if you have any questions.**

**AFTER completing the above three requests**, take the Delegates' Names Sheets back to the Sponsors' Registration table to have them approved, and **ONLY THEN** sign for and pick up your Sponsor folder.

• **Contents of your folder:**

1. A map of the GEMUN conference on campus, with locations of committees and all designated GEMUN areas (GEMUN participants MUST STAY within these areas of the campus),
2. A list of the Countries and Schools represented this year,
3. An Agenda,
4. An Early Registration Form for next year,
5. Your lunch tickets, if you ordered the catered lunch. Tickets are marked Friday and Saturday. These tickets are like cash, if one is lost, it **CANNOT BE REPLACED!**
6. Participation Certificates -- for both the school/group and delegates, and a GEMUN seal to put on each one (there are extras of both in the Info Center, if you make a mistake while filling them out, so **PLEASE do this sometime at the conference**, don't wait until we've all gone home),
7. Sponsors' name badges -- **EVERYONE needs to wear a badge the ENTIRE time** we are on campus (on BOTH days), so we can all be easily identified as being with GEMUN. PLEASE DO NOT LOSE your nametag. Come to the Info Center immediately if it is missing. **\*\*NOTE\*\*** If someone comes as your guest, they **MUST** register as an OBSERVER, to receive a badge.

• **VERY IMPORTANT, please be sure everyone in your group is aware:**

- OBSERVER SEATING (also INCLUDES SPONSORS) is very LIMITED in UNICEF and FAO.
- NO FOOD OR DRINKS (except water) ALLOWED IN COMMITTEE ROOMS FOR ANY REASON.
- NO DELEGATES ALLOWED back into any committee buildings DURING LUNCH. Please **STAY WITH YOUR KIDS during the entire lunch break**. During lunch use ONLY the RESTROOMS in Building C (the building where Registration and Opening Ceremonies are held).
- All groups are responsible to be present for all GEMUN activities within the hours on the Agenda. No one can leave early.
- Adults are not allowed to interfere in delegate or Chair activities when the committee is in session. If you see something needing attention or have a question, ask GEMUN Staff for help.

All groups are **REQUIRED to have at least one adult on premises during the conference**. The cell number you give us at Registration is in case of emergency. If there are messages for your group at any time during the conference, this number will be called. **If this number changes for any reason, please come by the Information Center to make the change.**

The GEMUN Staff are available in the Information Center and halls during the conference, to answer questions. (GEMUN Staff all have orange badges, Peacekeepers wear light blue caps.) For GEMUN Security to be effective, everyone's help is required. Thanks very much for your commitment and hard work this year.

# CODE OF CONDUCT

1. English is the official language of the GEMUN conference.
2. Delegates are expected to conduct themselves in a manner suitable to their role as diplomats. This includes practicing diplomacy, dressing appropriately and maintaining decorum in the corridors and meeting rooms (no running in halls if in person, being respectful if online).  
Suggested dress for the GEMUN conference:
  - a. Business attire: BOYS — suit or slacks (not jeans) with dress shirt and optional tie.
  - b. Business attire: GIRLS — slacks/skirt and blouse, or suit. Skirt at least fingertip length. Comfortable shoes are best (no stilettos, no bare feet). Dresses business-like.
  - c. Ethnic dress — For authentic cultural dress, please keep it appropriate and professional.
3. Participants must wear name badges during all functions and confine their activity to the area near committee rooms or in the lunch area designated for GEMUN by the host college. Name badges must be worn **around the neck**, easily visible at all times.
4. **In all in person GEMUN sessions, cell phone use is prohibited.** Adult Sponsors are required to pick up and hold all delegates' cell phones before in person sessions begin. Chairs and Co-chairs may use their cell phones for GEMUN related communications only. All others must silence cell phones in committee and go into hallway for phone or any other conversations. **NO LAPTOPS** in in person committees.
5. Delegates are under the immediate guidance of their adult Sponsors, and are expected to follow their individual school rules, along with the GEMUN Code of Conduct.
6. Each school/group is required to have at least one adult representative with a cell phone available. A list of these phone numbers will be taken at Registration. This list must be updated if needed at any time during the meeting, in case of emergency.
7. **NO FOOD OR DRINKS** (except water) can be brought into in person committee rooms.
8. **GEMUN delegates are expected to be present for the full conference.** If something happens and they can't, the agenda can't be changed. Each delegate remains in their committee all day both days, unless dismissed by the Chair.
9. **Observers** have seating available in each room. The number of seats available when we are in person is determined by the Fire Code and no standing in back of room can be allowed. Please be considerate of others needing a place in the room, and take turns if the seats are full. Moving around to different committees or sitting in the hall are possible options.
10. **Adults may not interfere in any way** with delegate or Chair activities during the time a committee is in session. If there is any question, ask GEMUN Staff, **DO NOT** approach the Chair.
11. Participants may be barred from taking part if there is failure to comply.  
**I understand and agree with ALL of the above Code of Conduct.**

Student's Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Sponsor's Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Dallas College has graciously agreed to host the GEMUN Conference.  
Please keep this in mind, and review the Code of Conduct before attending.

## ADULT SPONSORS' ROLE AND RESPONSIBILITIES

An adult Sponsor for a GEMUN delegation has a very special and multifaceted role to play throughout the year. The first and most familiar role is as teacher, to educate delegates in the many areas in which they need to expand their knowledge.

Another, perhaps less comfortable, role the GEMUN Sponsor must play is as support for the students in **gaining independence** needed for success. Delegates, as well as the Secretariat (many of whom are still somewhat inexperienced also), are learning on-the-job. Growing into leadership positions often includes mistakes and awkward moments which the **adult Sponsors and parents must stand by and watch without interfering.**

### VERY IMPORTANT:

#### ADULT INVOLVEMENT IN COMMITTEE ACTIVITY

1. Committee delegates and Chairpersons are in complete charge of their actions in committee. **Chairpeople have authority over all activity in the committee.**
2. No adult should be involved in caucusing between nations or any other committee activities.
3. If there is a need to report behavior of a Chairperson or other member of the Secretariat, go to the Staff/Information Center or the Secretary-General.

## REQUIRED ADULT BEHAVIOR AT GEMUN

1. Chairpeople are in charge in Committees at all times. **Adults may not interfere in any way** with delegate or Chair activities during the time a committee is in session. If there is any question, ask GEMUN Staff, **DO NOT** approach the Chair. If interference occurs and persists, the Chair may use their discretion to ask that individual to leave the committee.
2. If all Observer seats in a Committee are full, please wait in the hall until seating is available. See #9 on Code of Conduct on previous page. Please be considerate of all Observers.
3. **PICK UP AND HOLD ALL DELEGATES' CELL PHONES** during in person sessions.
4. Adult Sponsors must ensure their students follow GEMUN rules at all times on campus. Adult Sponsors need to remain with their delegates as much as possible, we especially need your help supervising them during lunchtime.
5. **NO FOOD OR DRINKS** allowed in committee rooms. **Lunches must NOT be with delegates in committees. Everyone should eat during lunchbreak only.**
6. All participants (adult Sponsors and all delegates) are expected to be present for the ENTIRE CONFERENCE -- see hours on the Calendar and Agenda.
7. All schools/groups are required to have at least one adult representative on premises at all times. The GEMUN Staff may need to contact the representative in case of emergency. (Give a cell number at Registration and keep it updated on our list in the Info Center, if it changes, please.)

### CELL PHONE USE IN COMMITTEE

The Page System is provided for communication. **Cell phone use by delegates is prohibited at all GEMUN in person sessions.** Delegates' cell phones must be in the custody of their adult Sponsor during in person sessions.

**Chairs, Co-chairs, Staff and Processors** may be seen using their cell phones. It is for GEMUN related business only.

**GEMUN Sponsors and Observers are asked to leave the committee and go out in the hall** if they need to use their cell phone for any reason.

## PAGE SYSTEM

The purpose of the Page System is efficient communication throughout the in person GEMUN Conference. Pages pick up and deliver notes about resolutions, policy questions, research requests to the Information Center during the conference, etc. To prevent abuse of the Page System, a Page Processor reads all messages before delivery. Processors decide whether a message is personal or GEMUN-related. **If they do not pertain to GEMUN, they will not be delivered. No scraps of paper will be delivered.** Notes must be in English, the Official language at the GEMUN conference.

### HOW TO SIGN PAGES UP FOR THE MAY CONFERENCE

Contact the Page Manager (gemunstaff@gmail.com) with questions.

The Page Manager will send out a page application via email after the 2nd Workshop.

Main criteria found to be necessary regarding bringing pages:

1. All pages need to be able to work ALL DAY BOTH DAYS of the conference. They can't arrange to leave early, or for a substitute on the second day.
2. Each page needs to be mature enough to work with the Processor in the committee assigned and not require the constant presence of an adult from their school or family in the room.
3. They need to be able to read well enough to easily read all country names.

### PAGE SYSTEM PROCEDURE AT MAY CONFERENCE

1. The **Page System** is used when Delegates from various Countries communicate with others either in the same Committee, or in other Committees. Processors will have a designated Mail Envelope to hold any mail to another committee. Pages must not carry mail without this Envelope. Pages also run errands to the Information Center for Committee typing, etc.
2. When a Committee is in session, Delegates hold notes up for the Pages to bring to the Processor. The Processor is in charge of deciding whether or not the content is GEMUN business, presented in the accepted format.
3. First, the notes must be LEGIBLE! Inappropriate notes will not be delivered. Any notes which are personal, written on scraps of paper, or incorrectly addressed are considered inappropriate. **English is the official language of GEMUN, and all notes must be in English only.**
4. If the note is in good form, the Processor helps the Page see to which Country it is addressed, and it is delivered by the Page. If it goes to another Committee, it is sent to the Information Center with the Page, who puts it in the mailbox of the Committee to which it is addressed. Mail **FOR** the committee, from other committees, will be picked up from the mailbox in the Information Center and brought back to the committee Processor, who will sort it and have the Pages deliver the messages to the delegates to whom they are addressed.
5. If there is material to be typed, it is sent with a special colored-paper-form attached (see below) to the Information Center and put in the appropriate box. (The Committee Chair or Co-Chair are in control of this process.)
6. PAGES will be Registered to work in a specific Committee. This assignment is not subject to change by anyone except the GEMUN Page Manager.
7. The Processor must have a cell-phone number to contact a designated person on campus for each Page, in case a Page needs specific attention, and to meet the Page for lunch. The cell phone number will be given to the GEMUN Page Manager at Registration.

(cont.)

8. Processors will have a Committee Designated Mail Envelope for any mail to leave the committee room. Pages must NOT carry mail without the Mail Envelope or take it into a restroom.

### NOTES BETWEEN DELEGATES (white paper)

Every message must be on the white printed note paper supplied by GEMUN. (It is available from the Page Processor in all committees.) In the past, back and forth notes have become so sloppy that they can't be read or delivered, so we are trying this system to see if it helps our Processors and Pages. No scratched-out addresses will be accepted.

ONE reply can be sent on the same sheet of note paper, **if it is in the same committee**. If there is more to exchange, a new piece of note paper needs to be used.

If a reply is needed **between committees**, use a new piece of note paper.

This is printed on the outside of the note paper:

The communication inside will be the message from one delegate to another.

Processors send Pages on frequent trips to the Information Center to deliver and pick up mail. Any messages for the Staff which are sent to the Information Center will be delivered if it is clear who they are from, and to whom they go.

FROM: Committee _____
Country _____
TO: Committee _____
Country _____

### RESEARCH REQUESTS (colored paper)

First, please have delegates do as much **research BEFORE the conference** as possible, and bring it, because there is no way that the Info Center staff or the Chairpeople have enough time to do all the research for everyone. But, if they still need some research from the internet for a new business resolution, an amendment, or debating, they can send a request to the Information Center.

**Yellow Research Request Forms** can be obtained from the Chairperson. The Form needs to be filled out and returned to the Co-Chair who will approve and send it. The Co-Chair will make the decision whether or not the Request is URGENT and, if so, will attach an **orange** strip. URGENT Research Requests will be given special priority as much as possible. All other research (ROUTINE) is on yellow paper only. ALL research should be for **specific information** and NOT require printing multiple pages.

**NOTE: Use of laptops and other electronics are not allowed in Committees for any purpose.**

## GEMUN PEACE PRIZE

*“Over the years we have come to realize that it is not enough to send peacekeeping forces to separate warring parties. It is not enough to engage in peace-building efforts after societies have been ravaged by conflict. It is not enough to conduct preventive diplomacy. All of this is essential work, but we want enduring results. We need, in short, the culture of peace.” - Kofi Annan*

Since 2002, a Peace Prize may be presented to a Delegate at GEMUN. To all participants, if you notice any of the following behaviors, please call them to the Secretariat's attention:

1. An attitude of Goodwill toward ALL others.
2. Deliberate and helpful negotiating in a difficult situation.
3. Great cooperation with other Nations and Delegates.
4. Actions taken to promote Peace and to avoid conflict.

NOTE TO CHAIRPERSONS: Try to find a participant who lives up to the GEMUN Challenge! Please take note of any of the above and send the information to GEMUN Staff in the Information Center. Remember that we are looking for those who are truly making an attempt to work for peaceful solutions to problems, or those who are making great effort to clear up any relationships which are not peaceful. In other words, the Peace Prize goes to a person who truly shows a peace-loving heart and helps GEMUN participants feel as if they are working for a world in peace and harmony!

## GEMUN CHALLENGE

Everyone interested in assisting the GEMUN process of working out new ideas for peace knows that old relationships of antagonism must be altered. The youth of today will be the leaders of tomorrow.

GEMUN is an opportunity to allow an entirely **new type of creativity in relationships**. Who, among the inhabitants of our planet will be willing to "see" through the "old" outworn antipathies and go forward in cooperation with the spirit of peace? It could very well be some of those among the delegates of GEMUN! **The United Nations' Charter holds the essence to model.**

Our challenge is one which has been with humanity for aeons. It is the difficult challenge to live in freedom, harmony and cooperation, sharing resources. It is not impossible to bring about a human mindset where the long sought manifestation of a world without violence will exist. The populace of the world must be educated to realize that the possibility is more than a dream. It will happen as the people of goodwill begin to mobilize a will-to-good, and refute any lesser attitudes.

Active goodwill has a tremendous power! It is contagious and will cut right through the fogs of mistrust. Since the human family has never experienced it in total, the requirement for totally new ways of relating must be worked out through the inspired creativity of those who will accept nothing less.

In GEMUN, it is intended that the old ways of dealing with world problems through conflict and argumentative debate shall be abandoned in deference to **understanding compromise, cooperation and dialogue among individuals and nations.**

Little by little, the spirit of peace shall inspire and rule the hearts and minds of all humanity. GEMUN has the opportunity to help in bringing this about through **modeling a new vision** shared by the entire world group.

## CLOSING CEREMONIES

After Committees have adjourned, all delegates go to the Closing Ceremonies. During the entire Session, the Secretariat observes delegates in and out of Committees, and may choose to recognize some outstanding achievements. Cooperation among delegates is much more important than competition at GEMUN, and will determine awards (see "GEMUN Peace Prize" and "GEMUN Challenge" on the previous page). Outstanding Resolutions are also recognized, and included in a packet which may be sent to the United Nations in New York. Participation in this program is an outstanding achievement in itself, and a certificate for each delegate and one for the school are given to Sponsors at Registration.

### ***Preamble to the Charter of the United Nations:***

#### **WE THE PEOPLES OF THE UNITED NATIONS**

##### *determined*

- to save succeeding generations from the scourge of war, which twice in our lifetime has brought untold sorrow to mankind, and
- to reaffirm faith in fundamental human rights, in the dignity and worth of the human person, in the equal rights of men and women and of nations large and small, and
- to establish conditions under which justice and respect for the obligations arising from treaties and other sources of international law can be maintained, and
- to promote social progress and better standards of life in larger freedom,

##### *and for these ends*

- to practice tolerance and live together in peace with one another as good neighbours, and
- to unite our strength to maintain international peace and security, and
- to ensure, by the acceptance of principles and the institution of methods, that armed force shall not be used, save in the common interest, and
- to employ international machinery for the promotion of the economic and social advancement of all peoples,

##### *have resolved to combine our efforts to accomplish these aims.*

Accordingly, our respective Governments, through representatives assembled in the city of San Francisco, who have exhibited their full powers found to be in good and due form, have agreed to the present Charter of the United Nations and do hereby establish an international organization to be known as the United Nations.



## NOTES

## RULES OF PROCEDURE -- SHORT FORM

Reference	Order of Precedence	Motion	Action	Interrupt	Second	Debatable	Amendable	Vote
C-10	1	Point of Order	Object to Procedure	Yes	No	No	No	Chair
C-14	2	Point of Personal Privilege	Complain about noise level, etc.	Yes	No	No	No	Chair
C-11	3	Point of Clarification	Request information from the Chair	Yes	No	No	No	Chair
C-12	4	Point of Information	Question speaker through the Chair	No	No	No	No	Chair
C-7	5	Withdraw	Remove proposal from consideration	Yes	No	No	No	Chair
C-15	6	Recess	Recess a meeting (may be amended as to duration)	No	Yes	No	Yes	Majority
C-16	7	Caucus	Suspend business to have a closed recess	No	Yes	No	Yes	Majority
C-3	8	Table	Remove proposal from consideration	No	No	No	No	Chair