



THE
UNITED NATIONS

PEACE AND
SECURITY

SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT

HUMAN
RIGHTS

HUMANITARIAN
ASSISTANCE

www.un.org

Model United Nations

Model United Nations



Schedule

- What is the UN?
- What is MUN?
- Choose a country
- Position Paper
- Opening Speech

What is the UN?

TLDR EXPLAINS

**WHAT
ACTUALLY
IS THE**

**UNITED
NATIONS**



UN main organs

The UN has 6 main organs – all were established in 1945 when the UN was founded.



Model United Nations



Prepare a 1-minute speech about your topic:

- Four purposes
- Principles
- Main bodies (6)
- Human Rights Council
- Other organizations

<https://una.org.uk/get-involved/learn-and-teach/overview-united-nations>

+ use Wikipedia for more information

United Nations Quiz

(By ChatGPT)

1. What year was the United Nations founded?

- a) 1935
- b) 1942
- c) 1945
- d) 1950

2. Where is the headquarters of the United Nations located?

- a) Geneva, Switzerland
- b) New York City, USA
- c) Vienna, Austria
- d) Paris, France

3. How many member states are currently in the United Nations?

- a) 150
- b) 193
- c) 220
- d) 267

4. Which organ of the United Nations is responsible for maintaining international peace and security?

- a) General Assembly
- b) International Court of Justice
- c) Secretariat
- d) Security Council

5. How many permanent members are there in the United Nations Security Council?

- a) 5
- b) 10
- c) 15
- d) 20

6. What is the primary currency used for financial transactions within the United Nations?

- a) Euro

- b) Yen
- c) Dollar
- d) Pound

7. Which document serves as the foundational charter of the United Nations?

- a) The Magna Carta
- b) The Treaty of Versailles
- c) The Universal Declaration of Human Rights
- d) The UN Charter

8. Who is the current Secretary-General of the United Nations (as of the last knowledge update in September 2021)?

- a) Angela Merkel
- b) António Guterres
- c) Ban Ki-moon
- d) Emmanuel Macron

9. The United Nations has specialized agencies and programs. Which agency focuses on international health issues?

- a) UNICEF
- b) WHO (World Health Organization)
- c) UNESCO
- d) ILO (International Labour Organization)

10. Which annual event brings together world leaders to discuss global issues at the United Nations headquarters?

- a) G7 Summit
- b) Davos Forum
- c) General Assembly High-Level Week
- d) BRICS Summit

UN quiz pdf on my site

Answers:

- c) 1945
- b) New York City, USA
- b) 193
- d) Security Council
- a) 5
- c) Dollar
- d) The UN Charter
- b) António Guterres
- b) WHO (World Health Organization)
- c) General Assembly High-Level Week

What is Model UN?



General Assemblies are traditionally large bodies, and are typically populated by anywhere from 30 to over 100 delegations.

This presentation file and other resources
for this course can be found here:

edwardtesol.com/mun

Model United Nations



Model United Nations, also known as Model UN or MUN, is an **extra-curricular activity in which students typically role play delegates to the United Nations and simulate UN committees.** This activity takes place at MUN conferences.

Model United Nations



Model United Nations is an academic simulation of the United Nations where students play the role of delegates from different countries and attempt to solve real world issues with the policies and perspectives of their assigned country.

For example, a student may be assigned the United States and will have to solve global topics such as nuclear weapons or climate change from the policies and perspectives of the United States.

What to expect



- **Opening Ceremony:**
 - The opening ceremony is a brief introduction to the conference itself, usually with a guest speaker.
- **Beginning of committee and debating sessions:**
 - Students are divided into their different committees. For example, all of the students who are given a country in the Security Council will be debating the same issue together.
- **Closing ceremony:**
 - Closure of the ceremony, chairs of each committee will present awards to their delegates.

Model United Nations



There are typically three items to prepare:

- Information about your country (country ownership)
- Position Paper (sometimes called a Policy Statement)
- Opening Speech
- Research Binder.

Model United Nations



What is Country Ownership

Owning your country is knowing, and showing, that you know why your position is the correct one for your country.

About your country



1. BRAZIL
2. CHINA
3. EGYPT
4. FRANCE
5. INDIA
6. IRAN
7. ISRAEL
8. JAPAN
9. NIGERIA
10. PAKISTAN
11. RUSSIA
12. SOUTH AFRICA
13. TURKEY
14. UNITED KINGDOM
15. UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Let's assign countries and research

The UN Matters

Country profile: **TURKEY**

Name

Get to know your country.

Capital city

Research the information listed here.

Government

• Head of state

• Type

Language

Find an important global issue for your country. Find and read at least one source about this issue in relation to your country.

Major religions

Ethnic groups

Population

• Total
• Birth rate
• Death rate
• Net migration
• Below replacement level

Economy

• Gross domestic product
• GDP per capita
• Economic growth
• Unemployment rate
• National debt

Example: France + PDOs
(Protected Designations of Origin)

Human development

• Life expectancy at birth
• Literacy rate – 87.4% (2004 est.)
• Infant mortality – 23.94 (per 1,000, 2011 est.)

Energy and resources

• Electricity – 21st largest producer/21st largest consumer in the world
• Oil – 60th largest producer/27th largest consumer in the world
• Natural gas – 66th largest producer/25th largest consumer in the world
• Alternative/nuclear – 5.40% of total of energy usage (2009 est.)

Military/defence

• Annual military spending – \$17.5 billion (2.7% of GDP in 2009)

- Population and demographics;
- Geography;
- Ethnic and religious minorities;
- Development;
- Healthcare;
- Educational access;
- Division of wealth and poverty;
- Environmental policies;
- Freedom of the press;
- Key domestic policies;
- Key foreign policies;
- Your state's allies and Member States

About your country



Helpful Websites To Get You Started:

1. www.countrywatch.com
2. www.economist.com
3. www.embassy.org
4. www.un.int
5. www.cia.com
6. www.britannica.com
7. www.nationsonline.com
8. www.politicalresources.net
9. www.countryreports.org
10. www.un.org
11. www.unausa.org

Study Guide



What is a Model UN Study Guide

A Model UN study guide is a document that outlines the key themes, issues, and background information on a particular topic.

It is provided to the delegates before the conference and serves as a resource for research and preparation.

A good study guide provides delegates with a foundation of knowledge about the topic and up to date data to help guide the delegate's research.

2021 TOPIC: SPACE ARMS RACE

Topic Summary and Background:

Since the dawn of space exploration, space militarization has been not far behind. As the major military and scientific powers of the 1960s, the USSR and the USA, both countries raced one another for a leg up on space exploration and discovery- and thus a leg up on the military capabilities of Space. Throughout the later half of the 20th Century, the US, USSR, and other developed nations strove to put their military technologies in space in the form of offensive and defensive systems such as satellite based missiles or shielding technologies.

Why this is important?

Even though there are specific treaties banning Weapons of Mass Destruction from space, there are no limitations on "conventional" weapons of war from being stored in or used in space. While the UN does have a standing committee on maintaining peace in space from member nations, there still stands the risk of the next world war being fought in, by, or over Space. Since the 1960s, the UN and other member nations have sought to maintain peace and forbid war in Space, however the number of countries with technologies capable of being in space has only continued to grow- as well as the number of countries with weapons in space.

Issues to be addressed in a Resolution:

1. What threats exist with Space Based weapons that do not exist in ground based weapons systems?
2. How can Peace be preserved in space?
3. How would nations without space defense feel about space based war?
4. If space is without an owner, does that make it a free-for-all or a no-man's-land?

Resources

UN Committee on the Peaceful use of Space

There are over 10 study guide topics in the "MUN Study Guide examples.pdf" on my site.

Choose 1-3 topics that may be important for your country.



Position Paper



Goals of a Position Paper

1. Show your country's unique understanding of the issue being discussed.
2. Show your country's previous relationship with the topic (preferably with relevant examples).
3. Show policies and ideas that your country would like to see in the resolution.



Preparing for Position Paper

Read the first page of

“Diplomat-Guide-2019 1 country profile and position paper”

Your first step in assembling your research binder should be your country profile- a research packet about what country you’re going to represent! While you may not need to know what your 8th biggest export is, it’s critical to have a decent understanding of your country if you want to represent them in debate. See above for a list of guiding questions to research for your country profile.

There are many resources to help your research your country. While many resources may be provided by the countries themselves, there are also several credible databases that share information about countries; visit the [Best Delegate Country Profile and Policy Map](#) to check them out!

Researching Topic Background

After researching your country, you should begin looking into the topic that you’re going to be discussing. It’s important to have a good base of understanding about your topic before you dive in and try to decipher how your country feels about that topic. There are numerous resources on UN websites and across the internet about your topic- even Wikipedia is a good place to start, so you can use their sources at the bottom to find more information about your topic. You should have a strong historical understanding of your topic, as well as the causes and impacts of the issue you’re discussing so that you can come prepared to committee on the first day of the conference.



Researching Past International Action and Country Policy

To understand how to represent your country at the UN, you need to know two things: what the

Position Paper



Model UN Position Paper Structure

- 1) How you / your country sees the situation/problem in general
- 2) Your country's relation to the topic
- 3) What you want to pass in your MUN resolution

<https://www.wisemee.com/how-to-write-a-mun-position-paper/>

The PReP Formula for Successful Position Papers

PReP stands for **Position, Relation, extra & Proposal**, which are the essential parts of every position paper.

Position – Your view / interpretation of the issue being discussed. (Paragraph 1)

Relation – Your connection to the topic being discussed. (Paragraph 2)

extra – The optional 4th paragraph which can contain extra information your feel is critical to your case, but doesn't naturally fit into one of the other three paragraphs. This paragraph still comes before the one containing your policies.

Proposal – The practical policies you would want to see in the resolution. (Paragraph 3)

Example of Position

Country: Angola

Committee: The Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)

Topic: Improving Access to Clean Water

The Republic of Angola believes consistent access to clean water is a basic human right. Some countries have an abundance of water, such as: Canada, Scotland and Switzerland. Others have next to no water, such as: Yemen, Libya and Djibouti, or low rainfall like Namibia and Sudan which creates water scarcity and desertification. The solution to all of these problems is the weather control that comes from cloud-seeding, with richer countries already reaping the benefits. The National Center of Meteorology and Seismology (NCMS) witnessed an increase in rainfall of 10%–15% in polluted air and 30%–35% in clean air. China uses cloud seeding over several increasingly arid regions including Beijing, the capital. In 2017, the United Arab Emirates launched 235 cloud-seeding operations by five cloud-seeding planes based in Al Ain. The use and success proves the technology works, but it is only accessible to those who can afford setting up the mechanisms to cloud seed, or pay for the chemicals from companies like Bayer and DowDuPont Inc, who control the patents and sales rights.

Example of Relation

Country: Angola

Committee: The Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)

Topic: Improving Access to Clean Water

Angola's history is scarred with conflicts arising from the abuse and mismanagement of natural resources, such as iron ore, petroleum, uranium, and diamonds. Angola is oil-rich while our people are dirt-poor. We stand at 149 out of 186 on the 2016 Human Development Index poverty scale. In rural areas, which contain 11.4 million people (38.5% of our total population), only 6% of households having access to electricity and 38% do not have access to safe water sources. Approximately 15 out of every 100 children do not survive beyond the age of five, leaving us with a child mortality rate is around 17%. These challenges are especially difficult for our president Joao Lourenco, who entered the office in September 2017.

President Lourenco biggest challenge is reforming 38 years of cronyism and corruption under former President José Eduardo dos Santos. During his 38 years in power, infrastructure has not been developed while tens of billions of petrodollars disappeared. The 2014 oil slump made our situation worse reaffirming that we are unable to pull ourselves up on our own. Additionally, we do not get enough rain. We only get 32 days of rain with more than 0.1mm of rainfall meaning only 2.7 days of quality rain, sleet, and snow per month. Not enough to maintain adequate crop yields.

Example of Extra

Country: Angola

Committee: The Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)

Topic: Improving Access to Clean Water

The global system that depends on technologies provided by companies like Corteva is strongly entrenched in the Sub Saharan agriculture sector, as well as all over the world. The four biggest companies, Bayer-Monsanto, ChemChina, Corteva and Syngenta have 59 percent of the world's patented seeds, 64 percent of all pesticides and held near-monopolies over other agrichemicals. The use of these crops and chemicals has become fundamental to grow corn in Tanzania, potatoes in Kenya and other crops in sub-Saharan Africa throughout their diverse range of crops and terrains. This position of power persists because the sub-Saharan farmers are similar in their lack of access to best practices, techniques, technologies, finances and markets. This lack of skills is combined with limited resources results in the agriculture sector that is as under-development in agriculture as it is dependent on companies like ChemChina.

Example of Proposal

Country: Angola

Committee: The Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)

Topic: Improving Access to Clean Water

Angola advocates for a UN-sanctioned policy that gives permission to dry developing countries to make generic replicas of their patented chemicals at a fraction of the cost to achieve water independence. An example of these technologies belongs to German rainfall enhancement leader WeatherTec Services GmbH. WeatherTecs cutting edge technologies to improve water access are cheaper than many of their competitors but the operating costs start at 11 – 15 million Euros a year. Angola does not believe the United Nations should subsidize the cost of the chemicals, as the subsidy is a temporary solution and it would take funds from other important programs while leaving the corporations with the same level of control. Today, aside from South Africa, none of us can afford cloud seeding. We can cloud seed on our own if freed from the shackles of patent laws that benefit the rich. Dupont made net sales of \$62.5B in 2017, by charging prices which the poorer dry countries could never afford. The UN should allow the relevant member states to locally produce WeatherTecs technologies so we can join the ranks of self-sufficient nations who can provide for themselves the basic water needs to survive.

Position Paper



Read the second page of

“Diplomat-Guide-2019 1 country profile and position paper”

How to Write a Position Paper

Many Model UN conferences require delegates to submit “Position Papers” on their topics before a conference starts to demonstrate their research and knowledge. Position Papers are normally 1-2 pages per topic, and should have 3-4 paragraphs. They should be written from the perspective of the government of your country, include a header, and answering the following questions. Your final Position Paper should look similar to the sample on the next page.

Heading

Committee: [Your Committee Title]
Topic: [Your Topic]
Country: [Your Country]
School: [Your School]

Topic Background

What is the definition of the topic?
Where does the topic take place? Who is involved?
How many people does it affect? Where, and in what ways?
Why is this topic important?

Past International Action

Have there been any interesting statements by UN officials on this topic? Try to find a quote.
What are the most important UN resolutions and treaties on this topic?

Position Paper



What is a Policy?

A policy is a course of action proposed, or adopted, by a government, party, business, or individual. Your policies are a Call to Action telling the UN officials, who get the resolution, what to do.

You want your MUN policy to be clear, concise, and **SMART**.

The SMART MUN Policy

SMART is an acronym to describe the criteria needed to set policy goals.

Specific – Target a specific area for improvement in your policy.

Measurable – Suggest an indicator of progress once the policy is in place.

Actionable– Specify what action this policy will do.

Realistic – Given available resources and committee mandate, ensure your proposed policy can realistically be attained.

Timely – Specify when the result(s) from your proposed policy can be achieved, or when to revisit.

A good position paper will include:

- A brief introduction to your country and its history concerning the topic and committee;
- How the issue affects your country;
- Your country's policies with respect to the issue and your country's justification for these policies;
- Quotes from your country's leaders about the issue;
- Statistics to back up your country's position on the issue;
- Actions taken by your government with regard to the issue;
- Conventions and resolutions that your country has signed or ratified;
- UN actions that your country supported or opposed;
- What your country believes should be done to address the issue;
- What your country would like to accomplish in the committee's resolution; and
- How the positions of other countries affect your country's position.

Position Paper



Choose one of the topics in the Study Guide.

Research the topic in relation to your country and its viewpoints.

Write a Position Paper.

<https://www.wisemee.com/how-to-write-a-mun-position-paper/>

There are many helpful guides and examples found online.

Opening speech



CIA Method

CIA stands for Clash, Information and (call to) Action. These three elements are needed for a MUN speech to be maximally effective

Clash

Information

Action (Call to...)

CIA Method



Clash – A confrontation of ideas, specifically an important two-sided issue within the topic that you want the committee to discuss.

Information – Relevant facts, ideally numbers, that support other parts of your speech. Information can also be facts about your country that justifies your position.

Action – The practical policy you offer to solve the issue you set up in your clash.

CIA Method



Examples of Clash:

Revoking asylum status for anyone who does not agree to get vaccinated at the border.

Advocating for megacities to have their own independent legal system.

The United Nations should fund water filtration in countries who suffer volcanic eruptions.

In all of these examples, there is a clear 'yes' or 'no' question. The answer to these questions will be the main one to divide the committee room.

CIA Method



Clash 1: Increase the number of doctors sent to Peru to treat Zika.

Clash 2: Remove patent restriction to let countries locally develop medicines to counter Zika.

Clash 3: Suggest countries around the world teach children about the world's top deadliest diseases.

Which of these has the best “Clash”?

CIA Method



An idea that everyone agrees on is Off Clash.

The Zika virus is bad.

Off Clash statements are a waste of precious speech time that could be further used to develop your Clash or Call to Action.

Clash 2: Remove patent restriction to let countries locally develop medicines to counter Zika.

This creates clash because countries with large pharmaceutical industries are less likely to agree.

Examples of replies

Why would they have these positions?

Gambia: We should increase the number of doctors sent to Peru to treat Zika

Norway: We should increase the subsidy to develop medicines to counter Zika

Mexico: We should develop chemicals which kill mosquitoes

Vietnam: Should we impose a travel ban on potential carriers from countries with Zika?

Iceland: We should make abortion laws less restrictive, to prevent the birth of fetuses found with the virus

CIA Method



Information = Hard facts that support your case

A strong MUN speech needs to have **relevant facts and numbers that support parts of your speech.**

Without information, your fellow delegates can only rely on your word, which might not give enough credibility to what you have to say. Numbers, names, dates and hard facts show what we are saying exists in the real world and is not an opinion.

Information in a CIA speech always does one of the following:

- Supports why your Clash is the most relevant
- Shows why your Call to Action is the most important
- Shows why your country has the position it does
- Disproves information brought by another delegate

CIA Method



The Information rule of thumb is that every MUN speech should have at least one number. A number is harder to argue with and makes your speech stronger and more credible.

“Their New York police force is large.”

Vs

“There are 38,422 full time police officers in New York.”

CIA Method



Call to Action

Call to Action (CtA) is a statement designed to give instructions for an immediate response.

Your CtA is the practical policy to solve the issue you set up in your clash.

Without a clear CtA other delegates will not know what to do with the Clash and Information you presented. Worse, they can use your set up to justify other CtA's/

CIA Method



A Call to Action needs to be Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Relevant and Timely (SMART).

Your CtA needs to be specific as to:

- Where you will get funding from
- Which organizations will you work
- What will you send
- Etc.

(Call to) Action = Your Policy = An Actionable Practical Solution

Action is the policy you want on the MUN resolution that will pass with a majority.

When a resolution passes, those same actionable ideas change something in the real world.

This is why it is critical to have your actionable policy introduced in your first speech.

Remember that a MUN resolution is an executive order that turns the operative clauses into a real UN operation, or mission, in the physical world.

For this reason, the Call to Action needs to be:

- **Physical**
- **Tangible**
- **Empirically measurable**
- **Quantifiable**

CIA Method



Clash: Sending Teachers to the refugee camps in Ethiopia.

CtA: Hiring 300 teachers who specialize teaching English and Math to United Nations run high schools at the 3 refugee camps in the Tigray region in Ethiopia.

We can estimate the cost of 300 teachers who specialize in English and Math and now know where to send them.

A good Call to Action explains the problem, the solution and what it's going to do.

Example MUN Opening Speech

TOPIC: CLEAN WATER

COUNTRY: NORWAY

Honorable chair, distinguished delegates:

800 million people across the globe are living without access to clean water. Half of them live in Sub-Saharan Africa. The Kingdom of Norway believes that our efforts should focus there, and these efforts should involve the entire international community. Norway has donated over \$975 million in aid to sub Saharan countries and invites countries who have not donated to join the effort.

Norway proposes we focus on community-oriented aid in the form of water harvesting devices. A good option is the water harvester developed by the University of Akron in Ohio which produce up to 10 gallons of drinking water per hour from thin air.

To ensure long term success, the United Nations should transfer the funding after there is sufficient training to build and operate the water-gathering device without continued external support.

Community-oriented aid is a big step towards universal access to clean water. Let's say H₂"NO" to the water crisis!!!

Opening speech



Read “Diplomat-Guide-2019 2 public speaking” pdf

Public Speaking

Public speaking is a highly valuable skill you have the opportunity to develop through Model United Nations. Knowing how to prepare and deliver well-organized and thoughtful speeches will help you in school, your future career, and the rest of your life.

At an MUN conference, you will have many opportunities to give speeches. As the representative of your assigned country, you will be expected to speak about your country’s policy on the committee topics and your proposed solutions.

There are two main opportunities to make speeches in Model UN:

Speakers List: When the committee begins, the Chair will create a list of delegates who wish to give speeches. These speeches are typically about the how each country feels about the topic, and range from 1-2 minutes long. The first time you speak on the speakers list is referred to as your opening speech. You should prepare this speech before the conference. After your first speech, you can send a note to the Chair to request to be put on the Speakers List again.

Moderated Caucus: Whereas the speakers list is about the topic in general, a moderated caucus is about a specific part of the topic. A moderated caucus has no Speakers List; delegates must raise their placards and wait for the Chair to call on them to speak. Each delegate typically gets 30 seconds to 1 minute to speak, and have to focus on the topic of the caucus.

Public Speaking Structure

One of the easiest way to organize your speeches in Model UN, especially for opening speeches, is to use the following three-part formula:

Hook: An engaging way to grab your audience’s attention

Point: Your country policy on the topic

Call to Action: Your possible solutions to the topic



Opening speech



Task

Write an opening speech from your country's delegation about the topic in your Position Paper.

Next...



How to write resolutions

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

Video review

MUN mechanics

<http://muimun.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/02/ECOSOC-final.pdf>