

2026

GLOBAL HOUSTON



**MODEL UN  
CONFERENCE**

# Delegate Guide

[GLOBALHOUSTONMODELUN.ORG](https://globalhoustonmodelun.org)



Global Houston Model United Nations (GHMUN) is Houston's most comprehensive Model UN conference, designed for high school, junior high, and middle school students. Participating students will simulate the world's largest legislative body by assuming the role of delegates and representing countries on United Nations committees. The delegates will work together to find solutions for global issues!

By participating in GHMUN, you will gain the skills needed to navigate some of the world's most complex issues. In preparing for GHMUN, students sharpen their ability to research pressing issues, as well as their public speaking and coalition-building skills.

Use this handbook as a resource to guide your preparation for GHMUN. It contains all the information needed to succeed on conference day. Remember, conference day offers a variety of opportunities to showcase your skills, so make sure to dress for success and have fun!

This year, the following committees will be represented for high school:

## Committees

## Topics

**UNSC**  
(UN Security Council)

**The Recognition of Somaliland**

**UNHRC**  
(UN Human Rights Council)

**The Ongoing Crisis in Myanmar**

**AU**  
(African Union)

**Africa's Technology Revolution**

**UNCTAD**  
(UN Council on Trade & Development)

**South-South Energy Cooperation**

**IMF**  
(International Monetary Fund)

**Energy Infrastructure**

**SPECPOL**  
(Special Political & Decolonization Committee)

**Misinformation & Influence in the Global South**

**OAS**  
(Organization of American States)

**Rare-Earth Minerals**

**UNCLOS**  
(UN Council on the Law of the Sea)

**Deep-Sea Mining**

**This year, the following committees will be represented for junior high and middle school:**

Committees	Topics
<b>UNHCR</b> (UN Refugee Agency)	<b>South Sudan Refugee Crisis</b>
<b>CSW</b> (UN Women)	<b>Access to Healthcare</b>
<b>UNEP</b> (UN Environment Program)	<b>Reforming International Fishing</b>
<b>UNICEF</b> (UN Children's Fund)	<b>Education in Conflict</b>

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# GLOBAL HOUSTON MODEL UN CONFERENCE



**DATE:** April 11, 2026

# SCHEDULE

**8:00AM - 9:00AM**

Registration and Breakfast

**9:00AM - 9:30AM**

Opening Ceremony

**9:30AM - 12:00PM**

Committee Session 1

**12:00PM - 1:00PM**

Lunch

**1:00PM - 3:15PM**

Committee Session 2

**3:30PM - 4:00PM**

Closing Ceremonies

GLOBAL HOUSTON MODEL UN CONFERENCE

# STUDENT CHECKLIST



# STUDENT CHECKLIST



## Learn the Basics

These steps can be completed any time between now and conference day. GHMUN recommends that students explore the material before delegation assignments are published.

- 1 **Fill out the GHMUN interest form** so we can reserve a position for you on conference day and contact you about Lead-up sessions and preparation materials.
- 2 **Read the GHMUN Student guide** and familiarize yourself with Model UN.
- 3 **Check out our GHMUN Lead-up Material.** This includes recordings of Lead-up sessions and other resources to help you get a feel for how conference day will go.

## Prepare for your MUN Committee

THESE STEPS ARE TO BE COMPLETED AFTER DELEGATION ASSIGNMENTS ARE PUBLISHED.

- 4 **Read your topic Background Guide.**
- 5 **Research your committee topic.** The Background Guide will provide you a good base of understanding, but you should also do some of your own research to gain more knowledge on the topic and an edge on conference day. Refer to the Research Map to help guide your efforts.
- 6 **Research your country** and its policy on your committee topic. You can use the GHMUN country guides in addition to your own research to determine who your likely allies will be on conference day. Refer to the Research Map to help guide your efforts.
- 7 **Brainstorm your solutions.** This will help you write resolutions more readily on conference day. The solutions you come up with should be in line with the policies your country supports.
- 8 **Write your position paper.** This is a declaration of your country's position on the committee topic, and will serve as your opening speech on conference day
- 9 **Review how to Write Resolutions.** Resolution writing is an important component of conference day. In fact, the goal of the committees is to draft resolutions to solve the issues it discusses.
- 10 **SHOW UP AND HAVE FUN!**

GLOBAL HOUSTON MODEL UN CONFERENCE

# Glossary of MUN Terms



[GLOBALHOUSTONMODELUN.ORG](http://GLOBALHOUSTONMODELUN.ORG)

# LIST OF KEY MODEL UN TERMS



For students new to Model UN, the language and jargon used by the United Nations during its committee meetings can be a hurdle in itself. To make everything easier to understand, we have compiled a list of the key terms you should know for Global Houston Model UN.

## GENERAL TERMS

**The Chair:** The chair or chairs are seated in the front with their gavel and facilitate the debate. They call on speakers, time speeches, and maintain the rules of procedure. They will also evaluate delegate performance for Conference Awards.

**The Committee:** The committee is the UN organ in which you are debating. At GHMUN, each committee has an assigned topic it will be discussing. Examples of committees include the UN Security Council and the UN Environment Programme.

**The Delegate:** A delegate is a person sent to the conference to represent a group of people or a country. In Model UN, participants are referred to as delegates since they each represent a country and their government.

**Decorum:** Order in the committee. The chair may call decorum if delegates are loud or disrespectful to ask for their attention during committee.

**Motion:** a specific action made by delegates to direct debate in a certain direction.

**Speakers List:** a list that contains the order of speakers in the committee. The Speaker's List is the default format of debate and the committee will proceed with speech until a delegate makes a motion to change up the debate format.

**Placard:** this is the large name card that the delegate usually has so the chair can easily read their name and call on them.

# LIST OF KEY MODEL UN TERMS



## POINTS THAT CAN BE RAISED

**Point of Inquiry:** When a delegate has a question about something that is not understood in committee, they raise their placard and ask a Point of Inquiry.

**Point of Personal Privilege:** When a delegate experiences personal discomfort that hinders their ability to participate in the committee they raise their placard and as a Point of Personal Privilege. Examples: temperature of room, distractions during committee, can't hear another delegate, etc.

**Point of Order** (also called Point of Parliamentary Procedure): When a delegate believes that the chair made a mistake regarding the rules of procedure, they raise their placard to make a Point of Order.

## CAUCUS TERMS

**Moderated Caucus:** A debate format that allows delegate to make short comments on a specific sub-issue. Typically, delegates who are interested in speaking will raise up their placards and the Chairs will call on delegates to speak on at a time. To move into a moderated caucus, the motion must include the overall speaking time, the time per speaker, and the sub-issue to be discussed. Example motion: Italy moves for a 5-minute moderated caucus with 30 second speaking time per delegate for the purpose of discussing renewable energy.

**Unmoderated Caucus:** A debate format where delegates move around and talk freely and informally. This is usually when delegates find allies and work on draft resolutions. Example motion: Senegal moves for an unmoderated caucus for 10 minutes for the purpose of drafting resolutions.

**Blocs:** Different groups that have similar ideas and opinions about the topics. In the real United Nations, there are regional blocs, but delegates can choose to build their own blocs in Model UN based on having a similar country policy and solutions to address the problem. These blocs will typically work together to create a draft resolution.

# LIST OF KEY MODEL UN TERMS



## RESOLUTION WRITING TERMS

**Resolution:** The goal of a committee is to pass a resolution. A resolution is a document that outlines the problems and past international actions associated with a topic. Most importantly, it includes solutions to solve the issue at hand.

**Working Paper:** Working Papers are just a list of ideas formed by the blocs. They may or may not be written in resolution format. The working paper needs to be approved by the chairs.

**Draft Resolution:** A document written in resolution format, approved by the chairs, and introduced to committee but not yet voted upon is called a draft resolution. Delegates will be spending most of their time writing and amending the draft resolution. Once a draft resolution is passed by a committee, it becomes a Resolution.

**Resolution Sponsors:** Delegates who authored the draft resolution or actively contributed ideas. They support the draft resolution and want to see it get passed, so they should vote for it. Maximum of 4 Resolution Sponsors.

**Signatories:** Delegates who wish to see the draft resolution debated but may or may not agree with all ideas or actions presented within it. However, they think there is some merit in the topics in the resolution being debated.

**Pre-ambulatory clauses:** Statements in the first section of the draft resolution that describe the problems the committee wants to solve, and previous measures taken to combat the issue.

**Operative clauses:** Statements in the Operative section of the draft resolution which outline the nature of the solution or action recommended by the resolution sponsors. Operative clauses are numbered.

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# RESEARCH GUIDE

[GLOBALHOUSTONMODELUN.ORG](https://globalhoustonmodelun.org)

# RESEARCH GUIDE

On Conference Day, you will need to step into the shoes of your country's leaders. To do this effectively, you will need to research a few things about your country, its relationships with other countries, and the topic at hand. This section is meant to help guide your research, point you toward useful resources, and prepare you to advocate for your country on conference day.

Your research should follow this general roadmap:

1. Committee and topic research
2. Research on your country
3. Your country's position on the topic

## 1. Topic

The GHMUN background guide is meant to assist your topic research, but you should supplement it with research of your own. Each Background Guide has an bibliography that can serve as a resource list to start your research efforts. In addition, we recommend that you explore the following resources as well:

- **Your committee's website.** What resolutions has it published on the topic? What conferences or events has it held to address the topic? What are recent news items on the committee's website in relation to the topic?
- Websites from **other UN bodies** can provide great insight from other bodies which may have addressed the topic in addition to your committee, as many topics lend themselves to multiple UN organs. [The UN Treaty Collection](#) can be a useful resource.
- [UN News Centre](#) publishes information on recent developments in the UN and the issues it concerns itself with. Simply search key words related to your topic and committee.
- The UN's [Meetings Coverage and Press Releases](#) website catalogues information on UN meeting and press releases.
- **Non-Governmental Organizations** are often the ones addressing issues on the ground. Consulting reports published by NGOs relevant to your topic can yield valuable insights.
- **Scholarly articles, books, and reports** from reputable sources like professors, scientists, or think tanks are always a great resource.
- Be sure to pay attention to how your topic is being addressed on the **international, regional, and local levels.**

# RESEARCH GUIDE

Your research should follow this general roadmap:

1. Committee and topic research
2. Research on your country
3. Your country's position on the topic

## 2. Your Country

When researching your country profile, you should start with a few basic pieces of information:

- What type of government does your country have? How is it structured?
- Where is your country located? Who are its neighbors? Is it situated in a geopolitically competitive neighborhood?
- What is the scale and status of country's economy? What kind of economic activity comprises it? Who are your country's trading partners?
- Who are your country's allies? Who are your country's adversaries? Are there certain aspects of your country's foreign policy which might explain this?
- What are your country's environmental policies? Which domestic issues are contentious when it comes to the environment?
- How severe are poverty and divisions of wealth? Is corruption a concern in your country?
- What is the state of healthcare in your country?
- What is the demographic composition of your country? How might this change in the future? How do these expected changes influence the concerns of your country?
- Are there ethnic or religious minorities in your country? Are they vulnerable or protected?
- Which languages are spoken in your country?

Some of these questions can be answered by GHMUN resources you are provided with, but you will need to conduct your own research to supplement them.

**Here are some useful resources for learning basic information about your country and the treaties it supports:**

- [IMUNA Country Profiles](#)
- [Encyclopedia Britannica](#)
- [CIA World Factbook](#)

For additional resources like the website of your country's UN Mission and official government website, Best Delegate's [Country Profile and Policy Map](#) is a great resource.

# RESEARCH GUIDE

Your research should follow this general roadmap:

1. Committee and topic research
2. Research on your country
3. Your country's position on the topic

## 3. Your Country's Position

After researching your country, you can begin looking into your country's policy on your committee topic. Ask the following questions.

- How does this topic **impact** your country?
- What **action** has your country taken concerning this topic
- What is your country's **end goal** concerning the topic?

When formulating solutions to an issue based on your country's policy, it may be helpful to utilize the **PEARLS** approach:

- **Programs:** What government programs, funds, or agencies address your topic in your country?
- **Events:** Has your government attended major events or summits on the topics? What has come of these?
- **Agreements:** Has your government supported and major treaties or agreements on the topic?
- **Reports:** Has your government submitted any reports or contributed significant research on the topic?
- **Laws:** What are some domestic laws that concern the topic? How and why have these laws changed?
- **Speeches:** What has your government said publicly about the topic? What is its policy according to outward-facing representatives like diplomats and leaders?

# RESEARCH BINDER

Before you arrive for the conference day, you should take time to develop a research binder. A research binder is a tool crafted for your success during your participation in committee. It is requested that all Global Houston student delegates take time to prepare a research binder. Below, you will find a list of common items that will be useful for you to have in your binder.

## Conference

**1. Parliamentary Procedure Rules and Guidelines** – Parliamentary Procedure are the accepted rules, ethics, and customs governing meetings of an assembly or organization. Parliamentary procedure can be complicated to remember for new Model UN participants. Keeping a guide on hand to refer to can be helpful. There is an abundance of resources online and at our conference website, [globalhoustonmodelun.org/](http://globalhoustonmodelun.org/) covering parliamentary procedures that could be helpful.

**2. Scholarship Awards Criteria** – Global Houston Model UN is excited to provide scholarships to students who excel in their roles as delegates. Student delegates will be judged based on their participation in their designated committee and on their preliminary preparation exhibited in their position paper. A full outline of the criteria is on our website, [globalhoustonmodelun.org/](http://globalhoustonmodelun.org/) but as a best practice delegates should dress for success, be vocal and substantive in their committee rooms, and be knowledgeable of their country's position and the broader implications of the topic covered.

## Committee

**3. Your Committee's UN Website** – To be best prepared to participate in your MUN committee, it is a good practice to refer to the UN's website of your designated committee. There you will find updates on the work they are doing globally, news about issues under the committee's control, and more detailed information regarding the composition of your committee, the countries involved, and the committee's mission and mandate.

**4. Relevant Sections of the UN Charter** – All organs of the United Nations are governed by the UN Charter. This document sets the framework for the organization and how it is governed. Having a copy of the document on hand will help you understand the prevailing principles at the heart of what the UN does. An understanding of this document will keep you on task and focused as you prepare.

# RESEARCH BINDER

## Country

**5. CIA World Factbook** – A one-pager including quick information about your country like its population, government type, alliances, and a map.

**6. Your notes** – The research you have already conducted on your country should stay with you so you can reference it throughout the conference.

## Topics

**7. Background Guide** – You are likely to refer to something included in the background guide at some point during the conference. Use this knowledge to craft your speeches and resolutions.

**8. Excerpts and Notes from Relevant News Articles** – Consulting recent developments concerning your country and the committee topic could give an edge.

**9. Resolutions, Treaties, and Conventions** – Use the [UN Treaty Collection](#) to find relevant treaties on your topic. The preambulatory clauses in these treaties will direct you to other relevant documents.

## Policies

**10. Notes on Speeches, Press Releases, and Voting Record** – These three components will make up much of your country's outward facing position on the committee topic. For voting record, keep note of which actions and resolutions in your committee your country has supported and disputed.

## Solutions

**11. Your Ideas** – Keep notes concerning your ideas so you can remember them when it comes time to write a resolution with your peers.

**12. Think Tank Reports and Academic Papers** – Supporting your proposed solutions with reputable sources is critical to the integrity of your resolution. Evidence of a well-researched solution likely to gain support for your resolutions.

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**POSITION PAPERS,  
RESOLUTIONS,  
AND SPEECHES**

Position papers must be submitted by  
**April 8th, 2026**  
[globalhoustonmodelun@wachouston.org](mailto:globalhoustonmodelun@wachouston.org)

# POSITION PAPER



The Position Paper is the paper in which a delegate declares their position on the committee topic. Though it is short, only 1-2 pages, it is a critical part of the conference. Before the conference, delegates will have access to all other delegates' Position Papers so they can identify allies and prepare for negotiations on conference day. The Position Paper is distinct from a resolution. It is written beforehand, where a resolution is written during conference day. The Position Paper states the author's stance, rather than formally proposing action as a resolution does. The position paper will also serve as your opening speech on conference day.

## 1. HEADING

- Committee: [your committee title]
- Topic: [your committee topic]
- Country: [your country]
- School: [your school]

## 2. 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?

## 3. 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 resolution and treaties on this topic?
- Do any major Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) work on this topic?

Position papers must be submitted by  
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# POSITION PAPER



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## 4. COUNTRY POLICY

- How has this topic impacted your country?
- What has your country tried to do about this topic?
- What types of policies would your country want the UN to adopt (or not adopt) on this topic?

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## 5. POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS

- What specific plans would your country like the UN to undertake to address this issue?
- What specific plans would your country like Member States to undertake in their own countries?
- Why would your ideas work? Give specific plans and back them up.

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## 6. ORGANIZATION

- **Structure:** As a guiding principle, the first paragraph should include some explanation and background information about the topic. The second paragraph should include a summary of recent international action related to the question and a statement of the country's position on the issues. The third paragraph should include a specific suggestion for a solution to the issue.
- **Format:** the Position Paper should be 1-2 pages, double spaced 12 pt. font in Times New Roman, followed by a Works Cited page.

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## 7. SCHOLARSHIPS

Scholarships will be awarded to the student who writes the best position paper in each committee. These scholarships will be awarded according to the following criteria:

- Topic Knowledge
- Position Accuracy
- Comprehensive
- Organization
- Presentation
- Timeliness
- Accuracy

# Sample Position Paper

COMMITTEE: United Nations Security Council

TOPIC: Nuclear Disarmament

DELEGATION: The People's Republic of China

SCHOOL: Sharpstown International School

The threat posed by the nuclear weapons held by state actors have brought to the attention of the global stage. The delegation of the People's Republic of China acknowledges that nuclear arms

are weapons of mass destruction and if they are in the wrong hands, it can lead to a full-blown nuclear war between states. The globally accepted preventative solution to this problem is nuclear disarmament. The dropping of the atomic bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki was the "beginning of the nuclear age" and showed the world how much destruction nuclear weapons can bring upon the world. The United States dropping the atomic bomb also exposed the great destructive power that they had. This led to the intensification of the tensions between the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (USSR) and the United States (US). The increase in tensions between the two countries led to the start of the Cold War where the US and the USSR began to stockpile on their collection of nuclear weapons. Around the mid 1900's, nuclear testing began to be questioned by the public on the "dangers of nuclear fallout". This started the negotiations between the global powers of the world: the US, United Kingdom (UK), Canada (CA), France (FR), and the USSR. Over the years, numerous treaties have been signed to initiate the nuclear disarmament operations. The two main treaties that are still being referred to and discussed during UN Security Council meetings pertaining to the action of nuclear disarmament are the "Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty (NPT)" and the "Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW)".

The People's Republic of China acknowledges the destructive ability of nuclear weapons. Although the PROC now holds five hundred nuclear warheads, these nuclear arms are not and most definitely will not be used against any country. The government of the PRC respects the fact that using a nuclear weapon against another opponent will absolutely not benefit China. The government of China also believes that if two nuclear powers go to war then the world will be demolished in blazes of fire. China believes that for the benefit of the world and the prevention of the escalations of tensions between nuclear countries, gradual disarmament should be imposed

upon all of the nuclear wielding countries. The government of China also believes in the retraction of any deployed nuclear missiles abroad. The PRC has never once deployed any nuclear missiles or participated in any arms race. The reason why the Chinese government has acquired nuclear arms is due to the respectable security concern of the threat that a nuclear weapon will be used against China from another nuclear arms holding country. China has always kept the amount of nuclear warheads and missiles at a minimum and the government deems the increase in accumulation of nuclear weapons as excessive and an unnecessary scare to the people of the world. China is extensively involved in the works of nuclear disarmament by participating in the signage of the "Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty" in 1992. China also respectfully follows the guidelines of the "International Atomic Energy Agency" (IAEA) by adhering to the safeguards agreements put in place.

The delegation of the People's Republic of China would wholeheartedly invite the stage to open up to a conversation on how the future looks with the policies the UN has put into place regarding nuclear disarmament. The main point is that the government of China believes the approach to this issue should be a gradual process. Treaties that are released by the United Nations should respect the current and mutable relationships between nuclear countries. This is why the delegation of China is reluctant to ratify and sign the "Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons" as it does not take into account the reality of the relations between countries. Reinstating, China believes the best way to approach nuclear disarmament is through a gradual process.

# HOW TO WRITE A RESOLUTION

The resolution is the result of the work you and your constituents do in your committee. Through it, you are meant to resolve the issue in your committee. Composing a resolution will require collaboration with other delegates to write and form coalitions to pass. Resolutions should serve two functions: determine what the United Nations will do about the issue and prescribe action for member states to help solve the issue.

There are three main sections to a resolution: **header, preamble, and operative section.**

## Header

There are four pieces of information in the header of a resolution:

1. **Committee**—the name of the committee you are representing.
2. **Topic**—The name of the topic your committee is debating on.
3. **Sponsors** – the main authors of the resolution.
4. **Signatories**—The delegate who would like to see this resolution introduced in the committee. They do not necessarily need to support the resolution but would like it to be accepted by the committee chair.

## Preamble

A preambular paragraph starts with a “preambular phrase” which sets the tone of the resolution. Each preambular phrase should be italicized in your resolution and each preambular paragraph should end in a comma. There are over 50 preambular phrases used by the United Nations, but here are included a few recommendations below.

Acknowledging	Deeply Regretting	Having Considered	Reaffirming
Affirming	Emphasizing	Having Examined	Recalling
Alarmed by	Expressing its appreciation	Keeping in mind	Recognizing
Bearing in mind	Fully aware	Mindful of	Taking into consideration
Deeply Concerned	Guided by	Noting	Viewing with appreciation

# HOW TO WRITE A RESOLUTION

There are three main sections to a resolution: **header, preamble, and operative section.**

## Operative Section

The Operative paragraphs of your resolution determine what action the UN will take on the issue. This includes funding solutions, directing members of the UN Secretariat, requesting action by specific UN Member States, and so on. Each paragraph should discuss a separate action, so be careful with each of the operative paragraphs in the resolution.

Like the preambulatory paragraph, each operative paragraph must start with italicized operative phrases. Each operative paragraph should be numbered and end in a semicolon, except for the final operative paragraph which ends in a period. If you choose to break the divide and operative paragraph into sub-operatives, you should use a colon to introduce those sub-operatives, which start with lowercase letters.

There are over 100 operative phrases used by the United Nations, but here is a list of some recommendations.

<b>Acknowledges</b>	<b>Confirms</b>	<b>Further recommends</b>	<b>Recognizes</b>
<b>Adopts</b>	<b>Congratulates</b>	<b>Insists that</b>	<b>Recommends</b>
<b>Affirms</b>	<b>Decides</b>	<b>Instructs</b>	<b>Requests</b>
<b>Approves</b>	<b>Declares</b>	<b>Invites</b>	<b>Suggests that</b>
<b>Authorizes</b>	<b>Determines that</b>	<b>Notes that</b>	<b>Supports</b>
<b>Believes that</b>	<b>Emphasizes</b>	<b>Demands</b>	<b>Transmits</b>
<b>Calls attention to</b>	<b>Endorses the Declaration</b>	<b>Determines that</b>	<b>Takes note</b>
<b>Calls upon Member States</b>	<b>Establishes</b>	<b>Realizes</b>	<b>Urges</b>
<b>Condemns</b>	<b>Expresses its concern</b>	<b>Recalls</b>	<b>Welcomes</b>

On the next page is a sample resolution which incorporates all the above-mentioned elements.

# Sample MUN Resolution

**Committee:** General Assembly 1st Committee: Disarmament and International Security (DISEC)

**Topic:** The Use of Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (Drones)

**Sponsors:** Argentina, Ethiopia, Germany, Kazakhstan

**Signatories:** Poland, Somalia, South Africa, Sudan, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine

The General Assembly,

## **(Preambulatory Section)**

*Bearing in mind* Article 1 of the Charter of the United Nations, which states that the purpose of the United Nations include "To maintain international peace and security and to that end: to take effective collective measure for the prevention and removal of the Threats to the peace...",

*Recalling* its resolution A/RES/68/178 which sought to limit the use of armed Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs) in combating terrorist without the express permission of Member States,

*Concerned by* the recent high rate of civilian casualties in the rate of armed UAV strikes,

*Aware of* potential medical commercial, agricultural, and other beneficial functions of unarmed UAVs,

*Expressing concern* that countries' national sovereignty is being violated by certain nations, conductive extrajudicial targeted killing in their territory with UAVs without declaring war,

## **(Operative Section)**

1. Encourages countries to adopt a UNHCR and UNODA orchestrated 2014 covenant on Extrajudicial Drone Strikes that:
  - a. Treats extrajudicial targeted assassination outside declare conflict zones as violations of the 1966 covenant on Civil and Political Rights,
  - b. Reaffirms the rights of nations to develop drones, especially for nonviolent purposes,
  - c. Acknowledges that drone use in self-defense and inside declared war zones is acceptable in accordance with existing international law;

# Sample MUN Resolution

2. *Notes that the 2014 Covenant on Extrajudicial Drone Strikes will be based on the principles that:*

- a. Every state has the right to develop unmanned aerial vehicles for peaceful civilian purposes such as development and transportation of goods,*
- b. In times of peace, no states can operate UAVs in another states' airspace without consent,*
- c. Parties undergoing war must adhere to the norm of proportionality, which states that the anticipating benefits of waging war are greater than the expected evils or harms;*

3. *Affirms the use of drones for:*

- a. Emergency Preparation and Disaster Responses,*
- b. Agriculture, including but not limited to crop dusting, pesticides, infestation eradication, and monitoring of soil moisture levels and crop growth,*
- c. Cargo Delivery including but not limited to long haul trips, transporting hazardous material, and deliveries during hazardous flying condition and emergencies,*
- d. Environmental Monitoring, including but not limited to wildlife tracking and monitoring droughts and floods,*

4. *Recognizes the work of the "Responsibility to Protect" which was launched in 2005 and insists that drones should be used under the following guidelines:*

- a. Carry the primary responsibility to protect population from genocide, war crimes, crimes against humanity, and ethnic cleansing and their incitement,*
- b. International communities have the responsibility to encourage and assist states in fulfilling the protection of their countries,*
- c. The international community has the right to use appropriate diplomatic humanitarian and other means to protect populations from crimes;*

5. *Requests the Secretary General to deliver a global report on the progress toward achieving peace using unnamed UAVs in UN Peacekeeping Operations and UN Special Political Missions.*

# PUBLIC SPEAKING AT GHMUN



At Global Houston Model UN, you will develop and sharpen your public speaking skills. Knowing how to prepare and deliver well-structures and reasoned speeches is a valuable skill you will use in school, your future career, and your daily life. As a delegate representing a UN member nation, you will speak about your country's position and policy on your committee's topic, as well as proposed solutions and resolutions you may present. *The position paper will serve as your opening speech. These recommendations are meant to guide your speaking in moderated caucuses.*

## Recommendation:

1. Hook: An engaging way to grab your audience's attention.
2. Point: Your country policy on the topic.
3. Call to Action: Your possible solutions to the topic or policy endorsement.

## 1. Hook

To grab your audience's attention, a hook is also referred to as the Attention Getting Device (AGD). There are a few different types you can use to open a speech. You can use as many or as few as you want, just be sure to keep your hook effective but short and sweet.

**Question: Ask the audience a question to make them think.**

Example: "Is it too late to prevent climate disaster? France believes that if we act now, we still can."

**Quote: Referencing the work of a figure your audience respects makes your speech approachable while providing legitimacy to your words.**

Example: "More than 20 years ago, George W. Bush proclaimed, Either you are with us, or you are with the terrorists." This dichotomy has crept its way back into American foreign policy."

**Statistic: An interesting or shocking statistic can grab your audience's attention.**

Example: "The UN reports that over 45,000 women and girls were killed in acts of Femicide in 2021."

**Story: Last is a brief story which simplifies the issue at hand while making the speaking delegate more personable. MUN speeches are usually short, so be sure to keep the story brief.**

Example: "In 2012, a young Pakistani woman was shot by the Taliban for speaking out on education for young women. Refusing to be intimidated, she is now a world-renowned activist for women's education. In 2014, Malala Yousafzai became the youngest person to be awarded the Nobel Peace Prize, and she continues to fight for young girls and women who face similar realities. Today, we must also continue the fight."

# PUBLIC SPEAKING AT GHMUN



## 2. Point

The Point is the reason you are speaking – your purpose. Here, use a few sentences to make clear your country’s policy on the topic at hand. Unlike the Position Paper, you do not need to cite previous UN resolution or other pieces of international law, simply convey the ideological stance of your country. You should do so in a concise, yet impactful way.

**Example:** The Republic of Ghana believes education is a Human Right which all people can access. It is the pathway to social mobility, economic stability, and the alleviation of many social ills. If we are to eradicate poverty and provide prosperity for the developing world, we must ensure access to quality education for all people.

## 3. Call to Action

Great speeches include a clear call to action where a delegate tells the committee to act in some way to solve the issue at hand. Your call to action should present a solution.

**Example:** To advance universal education, The Republic of Ghana calls on its constituents to create a fund for the following programs: building more primary and secondary schools, training more teachers to address the teacher shortage, and providing resources for girls and young women to prevent them dropping out of school. With concerted effort, the international community can create an educated developing world not stratified by the weight of poverty.

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APRIL **11** 2026

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