

ALSTER MODEL UNITED NATIONS

RULES OF PROCEDURE

Version 3



1. Implementation

1.1 All participants of Alster Model United Nations shall obey these Rules of Procedure,

1.2 By registering for an AMUN session, every Delegate agrees to obey these Rules of Procedure,

1.3 The Secretaries General and/or the Student Officers will take appropriate measures if these Rules of Procedure are neglected.

2. General Rules

2.1. Forums

2.1.1 1st Committee of the General Assembly (GA) (Disarmament and International Security)

2.1.2 3rd Committee of the General Assembly (Social, Humanitarian & Cultural)

2.1.3 4th Committee of the General Assembly (Special Politics and Decolonization)

2.1.4 The Security Council (SC)

2.1.5 The Human Rights Council (HRC)

2.1.6 United Nations Environmental Assembly (UNEA)

2.2 Official Language

The official language of AMUN is English.

2.3 Time Freeze

It is not in order to refer to any political decisions or events that happened seven or less days before the opening of the conference.

2.4 Appearance

2.4.1 Dress Code

2.4.1.1 Participants should be formally dressed from at least their waist up

2.4.1.1.1 Participants have to be fully dressed

2.4.1.2 Delegates may wear formal traditional clothing from their respective countries

2.4.1.3 Shirts must have appropriate necklines,

2.4.1.4 Appropriate colours are a requirement, flashy and mismatched colours, as well as inappropriate prints are not in order,

2.4.1.5 Participants may choose between one of the two following dress code options.

2.4.1.5.1 Participants should wear a blazer or vest (with at least one button) and a shirt or blouse. Dresses are also in order.

2.4.1.5.2 Participants should wear suits, shirts and neckties,

2.4.1.5.2.1 neckties are to be worn around the neck,

2.4.1.5.2.2 bowties are not in order

2.4.1.6 The dress code can be altered in an agreement with the Secretariat,

2.4.2 Image

2.4.2.1 Participants are to name themselves after their respective countries

2.4.2.2 If possible delegates are to set their respective countries Flags as a Visual background

2.4.2.3 If possible The Presiding student Officers should choose a Visual background to indicate their position

2.4.2.4 If possible every participant must enable their camera

2.4.2.4.1 If the participant has no camera on their device, they may be granted a second account for their phone on which they shall active the camera

2.4.2.5 The Camera should be placed in a suitable and calm location and not moved if not necessary

2.5 Preliminary Agenda

The Issues on the Agenda shall be published by the Secretaries General two months before the opening of the conference.

2.6 Student Officers

2.6.1 The term Student Officer refers to any person who is in a presiding position in any forum at the conference,

2.6.2 Every forum shall have at least two Student Officers in a presiding position,

2.6.3 The only instance higher than the Student Officers are the Secretaries Generals.

2.8 Behaviour

2.8.1 All participants shall show good etiquette, act with common sense and decency under any given circumstance throughout the whole duration of the conference.

2.8.2 Participants are required to uphold the privacy policy agreement

2.8.3 Participants are required to uphold the terms of participation

2.8.4 Participants shall not produce sounds and noises that are loud, distracting or might otherwise cause discomfort to other participants

2.8.5 Participants are not allowed to take any pictures or videos in session

2.9 General formalities of speeches

2.9.1 All Delegates shall refer to themselves in third person singular and to their delegation in third person singular or first person plural,

2.9.2 All members of the forum are to be addressed in third person singular,

2.9.3 There will be no dialogue on the floor,

2.11 Research Reports

2.11.1 The Student Officers of each committee shall provide a research report on the issues that will be discussed in the committee,

2.11.2 The research reports shall be published at least two weeks before the opening of the conference.

2.12 Position Papers

- 2.12.1** Each Delegate is expected to write a Position Paper on the issues of their committee. The Position Paper should not be shorter than one page,
- 2.12.2** The Position Paper shall be sent to the student officer of the committee before the opening of the conference.
- 2.12.3** At the beginning of the first “Lobbying Time”, each delegate shall deliver a short statement regarding her/his country’s position on the issues being debated in her/his forum.

2.13 Amendment Paper

- 2.13.1** Amendments are to be sent via a private message to the chairs
- 2.13.1** Delegates must use one message per Amendment,
- 2.13.2** The message must clearly state whether the Delegate wants to add, change or strike out an Operative Clause,
- 2.13.3** The Delegates must write their nation’s name in the message.

2.14 Notepapers (Direct Messages)

- 2.14.1** Delegates can communicate through direct messages during session,
- 2.14.2** Direct Messages are suspended during voting procedures,
- 2.14.3** Direct messages have to be written in the official language of the conference,
- 2.14.4** Inappropriate direct messages are not in order and may be reported to the chairs or members of the executive team

2.15 Attendance

- 2.15.1** If the participant is unable to attend the forum or has to leave prematurely, they are required to inform the presiding student officer
 - 2.15.1.1** This includes Social events
- 2.15.2** If the participant does not attend the forum without informing their presiding student officers or the executive team, they will not receive a participation certificate or awards

3. Executive Staff

3.1 The Secretaries General

3.1.1 The Secretaries General are the conference's highest authority regarding any decision upon the interpretation of these Rules of Procedure,

3.1.2 They will deliver a speech during both the Opening and the Closing Ceremonies,

3.1.3 During the conference, the Secretary Generals are to be addressed with either “Your Excellency” or “Most Distinguished Madame / Mister Secretary General”,

3.1.4 The Secretaries General may answer any questions in a forum by delivering a speech or a written statement,

3.1.5 All participants are to answer to the Secretaries General,

3.1.6 All official AMUN Executive Staff, with the exception of the Conference Managers are to answer the Secretaries General.

3.2 The Conference Managers

3.2.1 The Conference Managers are the conference's highest authority regarding any decision upon the organization of the conference,

3.2.2 They will deliver a speech during both the Opening and the Closing Ceremonies,

3.2.3 All official AMUN Executive Staff, with the exception of the Secretaries General are to answer the Conference Managers.

4. Formal debate

4.1 Structure

To start formal debate, the Student Officer sets reading time and the debating time in favour and against the issue of discussion.

4.2 The Student Officers' Responsibilities

4.2.1 Leading the debate, controlling the proceedings and deciding upon the right to speak in their respective forum,

4.2.2 Declaring the session as opened and closed,

4.2.3 Deciding upon any doubtful interpretation of these Rules of Procedures,

4.2.4 Asking the Secretary General in any case of uncertainty.

4.3 Quorum

The session in a forum may be opened by the presiding Student officer if they deem it appropriate

4.4 Roll Call

At the beginning of each session, the presiding Student Officer will conduct a Roll Call in order to ensure the presence of a Quorum.

4.5 The Submitter of a Resolution

4.5.1 The Delegation proposing a Draft Resolution is called the Main-Submitter of the Resolution,

4.5.2 Nations signing the resolution are referred to as Co-Submitter,

4.5.3 A Draft Resolution needs to be co-submitted by at least three countries represented in the respective forum to be officially proposed,

4.5.4 A nation can co-submit a resolution regardless of their opinion on the resolution; co-submitting only means wishing to debate the issue,

4.5.5 The Main-Submitter of a resolution will read out the Operative Clauses of his draft resolution before Debating Time starts and she or he will give a speech in favour of it,

4.5.6 The Student Officer may ask the Co-Submitters to voice their opinions on the Draft Resolution they co-submitted,

4.5.7 In case the resolution passes in the committee and is deemed to be of high quality by the Executive Team, the resolution and main submitter will be honored during the closing ceremony

4.6 Taking the Floor

4.6.1 Delegates must use the “raise hand” feature to show that they wish to take the floor

4.6.2 They may only do so after the Student Officer has asked the house if anybody wishes to take the floor,

4.6.3 If the Student Officer gives the permission, the Delegate may take the floor

4.6.4 Before beginning the speech, the Delegate must address the whole House by their titles,

4.6.5 After having delivered a speech, the Delegate may be open to Points of Information,

4.6.6 If this is not the case, the floor is to be yielded to the Student Officer,

4.6.7 A Delegate may make a request to yield the floor to other Delegates while keeping the order of the debate, consecutive yielding may be overruled or generally banned by the presiding Student Officer.

4.7 Moderated Caucus

4.7.1 A Moderated Caucus is an informal caucus moderated by the student officer,

4.7.2 In a Moderated Caucus, short speeches are given by the delegates in direct reply to each other.

4.7.3 The aim of a Moderated Caucus is to have an open discussion on (a specific, pre-stated part of) the topic under consideration with more possibilities for interaction among the delegates. The student officers will call upon speakers in the order in which they signal their desire to speak.

4.8 Unmoderated Caucus

4.8.1 Unmoderated Caucus, also referred to as Lobbying Time, is an informal caucus which enables Delegates to integrate Draft Resolutions to a final proposal for the forum without debating rules enforced,

5. Points and Motions

5.1 General Rules for Points and Motions

5.1.1 Points and Motions are not entertained when there is a speaker on the floor unless stated differently,

5.1.2 To Second a Motion, Delegates are to type “seconded” in the group chat after the Motion has been raised,

5.1.3 When votes on Motions are held, abstentions are not in order,

5.1.4 The presiding Student Officer of the respective forum is allowed to overrule Points that are irrelevant or incorrect.

5.2 Point of Order

5.2.1 May only be used to focus attention to a case of improper use of Parliamentary Procedures,

5.2.2 The Student Officer of the respective forum is to immediately decide upon a Point of Order, with the aid of these Rules of Procedure,

5.2.3 Should there be any further doubt, the Secretaries General will be called,

5.2.4 A Point of Order may only interrupt a speaker delivering a statement, if the statement does not follow the Parliamentary Procedure.

5.3 Point of Personal Privilege

5.3.1 May be used to express any personal discomfort which decreases the Delegate's ability to participate in the proceedings of the debate. This Point is raised to request that the cause of such discomfort may be corrected,

5.3.2 A "Point of Personal Privilege due to Inaudibility" may interrupt a speaker on the floor.

5.4 Point of Information

5.4.1 Enables the Delegate raising the Point to address the current speaker on the floor regarding their latest speech in the form of a question,

5.4.2 The presiding Student Officer will grant such a Point or Points guided by the permission of the Delegate.

5.5 Point of Information to the Chair/President

Enables the Delegate to ask the Student Officer a question which is not in regards to the Rules of Procedure.

5.6 Point of Parliamentary Enquiry

Enables a Delegate to ask the Student Officer a question regarding any part of these Rules of Procedure.

5.7 Motion to Follow up

5.7.1 Can be raised by a Delegate that wishes to follow up on a previous Point of Information,

5.7.2 This Motion can be overruled by the presiding Student Officers of the respective forum.

5.8 Motion to Make an Amendment

5.8.1 Is made when wishing to make an Amendment,

5.8.2 Delegates have to send a Private Message to the presiding Student Officer of their respective forum before submitting this Motion,

5.8.3 This Motion is only allowed in Time Against the Resolution and Open Debate,

5.8.4 This Motion can be overruled by the presiding Student Officers of the respective forum.

5.9 Motion to Make a Friendly Amendment

5.9.1 Is made when wishing to make a Friendly Amendment,

5.9.2 A Friendly Amendment is not allowed to change the content of a proposed Draft Resolution, but is simply to correct mistakes in grammar, spelling or any other non-substantial/formal matters to the resolution,

5.9.3 The Student Officer will, after the Amendment has been proposed, ask the Main Submitter of the Draft Resolution if she or he agrees to the changes. Should this be the case, the Friendly Amendment is automatically passed.

5.10 Motion for a Right of Reply

5.10.1 Can be used by a Delegate to complain and ask for an apology because of a potentially offending or insulting statement, diction or behaviour,

5.10.2 The presiding Student Officer is to decide if this is appropriate.

5.11 Motion to Explain the Vote

5.11.1 Can be raised towards any Delegate to explain their vote

5.11.1.1 The Chairs may allocate preparation time for the delegate asked to explain their vote

5.11.2 This Motion can only be raised after voting procedures have been completed,

5.11.3 This Motion can be overruled by the presiding Student Officers of the respective forum.

5.12 Motion to Suspend the Meeting

5.12.1 Can be raised to interrupt the debate for a limited amount of time due to an unusual reason that has to be named,

5.12.2 If this Motion has been seconded and will be entertained by the presiding Student Officer the amount of time has to be decided upon by the presiding Student Officer of the respective forum.

5.13 Motion to Move into Time Against of the Resolution/Amendment

5.13.1 Terminates the Time in Favour of a Resolution/Amendment and leads into Time Against,

5.13.2 This Motion can only be entertained in Time in Favour,

5.13.3 This Motion has to be seconded at least twice,

5.13.4 This Motion can be overruled by the presiding Student Officer and objected by individual Delegates,

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5.13.5 If this Motion has been objected, the Delegate who objected must take the floor and speak in favour of the Resolution.

5.14 Motion to Move into Voting Procedure on the Resolution/Amendment

5.14.1 Terminates Debating Time on a Resolution or Amendment and leads into Voting Procedure,

5.14.2 This Motion can only be entertained in Time Against or Open Debate,

5.14.3 This Motion has to be seconded at least twice,

5.14.4 This Motion can be overruled by the chair and objected by individual Delegates,

5.14.5 If this Motion has been objected, the Delegate who objected must take the floor.

5.15 Motion to Table the Amendment

5.15.1 Terminates Debating Time on a Amendment,

5.15.2 There will be no vote on the Amendment,

5.15.3 The Forum will therefore move onto the next issue on the Agenda,

5.15.4 This Motion has to be seconded at least twice,

5.15.5 This Motion can be overruled by the Student Officer and objected by individual Delegates,

5.15.6 If this Motion has been objected, the Delegate who objected can take the floor.

5.16 Motion to Adopt the Resolution/Amendment by Acclamation

5.16.1 Leads to a Resolution/Amendment being passed without any vote,

5.16.2 This Motion has to be seconded at least twice,

5.16.3 This Motion can be overruled by the Student Officers and objected by individual Delegates,

5.16.4 If this Motion has been objected, the Delegate who objected must take the floor,

5.16.5 If this Motion has been objected once, it cannot be entertained again.

5.17 Motion to Extend/Limit Debating Time

5.17.1 Enables individual Delegates to increase/decrease the time set for the discussion of a Resolution/Amendment,

5.17.2 If this Motion will be entertained and the amount of time has to be decided upon by the presiding Student Officer of the respective forum.

5.18 Motion to Move into Open Debate

5.18.1 Enables the Delegates to move into a time where they can either speak in favour or against the Resolution/Amendment and can only be entertained in Time Against,

5.18.2 This Motion has to be seconded at least twice,

5.18.3 This Motion can be overruled by the Student Officer,

5.18.4 This Motion can be objected. If so, the Delegate who objected must take the floor and speak against the Resolution.

5.19 Motion to Declare an Important Question

5.19.1 Enables the Delegates to declare the Draft Resolution a matter of international peace and security, therefore of such importance that the forum has to vote for it with a two-thirds majority in order for it to pass,

5.19.2 The forum decides upon this Motion by Simple Majority,

5.19.3 The Student Officer may overrule this motion.

5.20 Motion to Divide the House

5.20.1 Leads to a Roll Call Vote,

5.20.2 Can only be raised immediately after Voting Procedures have been completed,

5.20.3 The Student Officer immediately decides upon this Motion.

5.21 Motion to Appeal against the Decision of the Chair/President

5.21.1 Is used when the forum doubts the decision made by the Student Officer,

5.21.2 The forum has to decide upon this Motion by two-thirds majority,

5.21.3 This Motion cannot be overruled by the Student Officer,

5.21.4 The Deputy Student Officer conducts these Voting Procedures and is the Presiding Chair during the clarification of this conflict,

5.21.5 The Secretary General must be informed about such an incident in any case,

5.21.6 In case that the forum is not able to come to a solution, the Secretary General has the final decision in settling this conflict.

5.22 Motion to move into Moderated/Unmoderated Caucus

- 5.22.1** Enables Delegates to move into Moderated/Unmoderated Caucus,
- 5.22.2** This Motion has to be seconded twice, can be overruled by the Student Officer and has to pass by a simple majority,
- 5.22.3** If this Motion will be entertained the amount of time has to be decided upon by the presiding Student Officer of the respective forum,
- 5.22.4** If respective Motion calls for a Moderated Caucus, the Student Officer sets an individual Speaker Time to determine the maximum length of individual speeches,
- 5.22.5** If respective Motion calls for a Moderated Caucus, the delegate who has brought up the motion may suggest a specific topic to be debated.

5.23 Motion to request a P5 caucus

A Permanent Member of the Security Council (“P5 nation”) may call for a P5 caucus which is an informal debate between the delegates of the P5 nations lead by the Presidency. This motion shall primarily be used to solve conflicts regarding a veto.

6. Amendments

- 6.1** Any Amendment must be send to the student Officers through a direct message
- 6.2** All Amendments have to follow:
 - 6.2.1** The United Nations Charter,
 - 6.2.2** The Universal Declaration of Human Rights,
 - 6.2.3** International law,
- 6.3** Amendments are discussed following the same rules as Draft Resolutions,
- 6.4** Amendments are to be voted upon and will be passed with a Simple Majority,
 - 6.4.1** Abstentions are not in order,
- 6.5** An Amendment may only be amended once,
- 6.6** If an Amendment to the Second Degree passes by voting, the initial Amendment is passed as well,

6.7 If an Amendment to the Second Degree passes by acclamation, the committee will move back into time against of the initial Amendment.

7. Voting Procedures

7.1 During Voting Procedures, private messages, Points and Motions are suspended, except for the Point of Personal Privilege due to Inaudibility,

7.3 Every member nation of the forum has one vote,

7.4 A Delegate may vote in favour, against or abstain from the vote,

7.5 If the Delegate is not present during Voting Procedures, her or his nation is abstaining,

7.6 Voting rights cannot be transferred to any other Delegate,

7.7 Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs), Inter-Governmental Organisations (IGOs) and Observer States are not allowed to vote upon a Resolution. They do, however, have the right to vote upon Amendments and Motions,

7.8 Every Draft Resolution needs a simple majority to pass unless it has been declared an Important Question,

7.9 Roll Call Vote

In case that a Motion to Divide the House has been entertained, the presiding Student Officer will call upon each nation in alphabetical order, similar to a Roll Call; the Delegate will answer whether she or he is against, in favour or abstaining.

7.10 Permanent members (P5) of the Security Council voting against a resolution or amendment in the Security Council may exercise their veto power (according to the UN Charta). To exercise respective veto power, the delegate has to signal her/his veto to the presiding Student Officer.

7.11. Delegates are to type their countries name and whether they are in favour / against or abstaining in the chat,

7.12 It is the presiding student officers task to count the votes and announce the outcome

9. Rules only applying to the Security Council

9.1 Additional Debating Procedures

9.1.1 Before starting a debate on a new issue, the presiding Student Officer may request each delegate to deliver a short opening statement on what they want to achieve/their stances on respective issue. Respective statements should not exceed one minute; the final decision is up to the presiding Student Officer,

9.1.2 In formal debate, the operative section of a draft resolution is discussed and voted on clause by clause. Instead of debating a draft resolution as a whole, each clause is introduced separately through an amendment. There will be no final vote on the resolution as a whole,

9.1.3 Instead of entertaining a certain number of minutes in favour or against an amendment, the President may also entertain a specified number of speakers or speeches in favour or against respective amendment,

9.1.4 During the discussion, any permanent member of the Security Council may submit a Motion for a P5 caucus.

9.2 Amendments contradicting previously passed Amendments may not be submitted, however, the submitting of Amendments with the matter of modifying/changing/striking previous amendments is in order,

9.3 Differing from §6.6, the passing of an Amendment to the Second Degree does not lead to the automatic passing of the original Amendment,

9.4 Members who are part of a conflict have to abstain and may not use their veto right (-> Art. 27 (3) UN-Charta).

-> Information regarding the Voting Procedure may be found in section seven, especially in §7.10.

10. Approval Panel/ Formal Clearing Office

Any Resolution that is to be discussed in a forum must first be presented to and passed by the Approval Panel and Formal Clearing Office