

Delegate Handbook

RijnMUN 2024



*Brought to you by the Communications Team,
Board of Directors, RijnMUN 2024*

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Rules of Conduct

All must abide by the [THIMUN guidelines](#) on top of the following RijnMUN specific guidelines below:

- Delegates must respect all other staff and delegates associated with the conference;
- Visitors will only be allowed into the conference with a badge, which will be distributed on the first day upon arrival;
- All people associated with RijnMUN must treat the building and corresponding properties with respect and care. Anyone caught in violation of this rule will be held accountable by the RijnMUN Board of Directors, who will decide upon appropriate consequences;
- Wear appropriate attire. Males shall wear a suit, tie, and formal footwear, while female delegates are expected to wear formal clothing, for example a blouse and appropriate length skirt.

Please be aware that these guidelines are compulsory for all delegates. They exist to accurately represent the United Nations, as well as to respect each other. Upon hearing of a delegate breaking the code of conduct, the RijnMUN team has the appropriate ability to remove a delegate from the conference entirely.

Preparation for the Conference

Useful Conference Information

- **Don't be late!** Your chairs will be taking attendance at the beginning of everyday- and if you are late you might receive a small punishment!
- **Wear appropriate clothing!** You are expected to wear formal attire- search up MUN clothing to help you get inspired!
- **Inform the Board of Directors of any food restrictions, serious medical conditions or special requests in advance!** (e.g. preferably no photos published of you) We can be contacted via email at rijnmunsecretariat@gmail.com
- **Bring lunch for Friday!** Lunch will only be provided on Saturday and Sunday. It would also be wise to bring some small snacks with you just in case your committee gets the latest shift for lunch break!
- **What should I take with me?** A device with charger (laptop/tablet) that you can use to edit resolutions with others; pen/paper to take notes; water bottle (for basic human needs); and maybe even some money for amazing RijnMUN merch!
- **What will I be given at the conference?** You will be given a badge that you must wear for the duration of the conference, a placard with the name of your country and you can expect to get some small gifts from us, like RijnMUN pens or water bottles. On Saturday and Sunday you will of course be receiving lunch!

RijnMUN 2024 Programme of Events

Please note that this is only the provisional programme of events and is expected to change any time. Please consult the RijnMUN website, Programme of Events page for the latest updates.

<i>Friday 11th October (optional for delegates, mandatory for StOff)</i>	
11:30-12:45	Arrivals for delegates & visitors
13:00-14:00	StOff Briefing
13:00-15:00	Workshops
15:00-16:00	Introductory Activities in Committee
16:15-17:00	StOff Debriefing

<i>Saturday 12th October</i>	
8:00-8:30	StOff Briefing
8:30-9:15	Opening Ceremony
10:30-17:00	All Committees in Session (with staggered lunch, lunch provided)
17:15-18:00	StOff Debriefing
20:00-00:00	RijnMUN Party at RLO (optional)

<i>Sunday 13th October</i>	
8:30-9:00	StOff Briefing
9:00-15:30	All Committees in Session (with staggered lunch, lunch provided)
15:30-16:00	Break
16:00-16:45	Closing Ceremony
17:00-17:30	StOff Debriefing

How to do Pre-Conference Research

Prior to the conference, all delegates are expected to complete research on their topic, and their country's stance on it.

How to: Research a country

You can research the stance of your country through multiple sources, including those online, as well as physical sources such as books too. As for more details on the topics of research, you will additionally need to know some of the basics of your country such as its official name, capital, languages, religions, and its geographical location. It will also be useful to understand more about the economy, culture, and the current problems in your country:

- Economic relations with other countries?
- Major imports/exports?
- Major ethnic groups
- Literacy rate
- Poverty rate
- Population

Possessing a thorough knowledge about your country will be convenient during debate. After gathering a basic profile of your country, the subsequent course of action is to research the politics;

- What type of government is it?
- Head of state? Who are some of the leaders of your country?
- Current ruling political parties
- Is your country part of a bloc*? (*a group of countries with similar political aims)?
- Any political affiliations?
- State of military (size, power, etc.)
- What have they done to resolve similar issues in the past?

You can use these guiding questions to help you understand more about the politics in your country. Finally, after acquiring information about your own country's stance, a practical extension of your research could be about the allies of your country. Who else has the same views as you do? Who are your country's allies/enemies?

How to: Research an Issue

There will often already be some research available on the conference websites called **Research reports**, which are reports written by the chairs of that committee. Start by reading them, and additionally doing your own research to clarify certain details in the report, will help you understand the issue better, allowing you to be further engaged in the debate.

If you are unaware of what topics you are debating in your committee or wish to find the research reports they can be found on the RijnMUN 2024 website under the Committees and issues, [here](#).

Other useful resources:

News websites such as BBC: <https://www.bbc.com/>

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

Conference Procedures

RijnMUN follows the THIMUN Rules of Procedures, summarised below, and additional points and motions to promote engaging debates.

The official THIMUN rules and procedures can be found [here](#).

How to: Rules of Procedures of Debate

The THIMUN (The Hague International Model United Nations) rules of procedure are guidelines for the conduct of debates in Model UN conferences. This includes the way delegates should behave, dress, and the way they should debate;

Lobbying

During this time, you are free to walk around anywhere and talk to anyone. The purpose is to find other countries that agree with your countries' stance and propose solutions together.

If you have already written a [resolution](#), this is the time to show other people what you wrote and request for signatures from their country. Once you have obtained at least one third of your committee's signatures, you may show your resolution to the chair and get it sent to the approval panel. Only approved resolutions will be debated.

Regardless of whether you have a resolution or not, you should go ask different people their delegations and what their country thinks on the topic(s). Share your country's solutions/perspective with the others- if you guys agree it would be great to already prepare these solutions as [clauses/resolutions](#)!

Please note that for a resolution to be submitted to the approval panel, it must have a minimum of five [preambulatory clauses](#) and six [operative clauses](#).

Debate

This is a very formal, serious time where only those that have been recognized (approved by the chair) can speak.

For all committees except the Security Council, debate is always about a resolution that has been submitted by a country and approved by the approval panel.

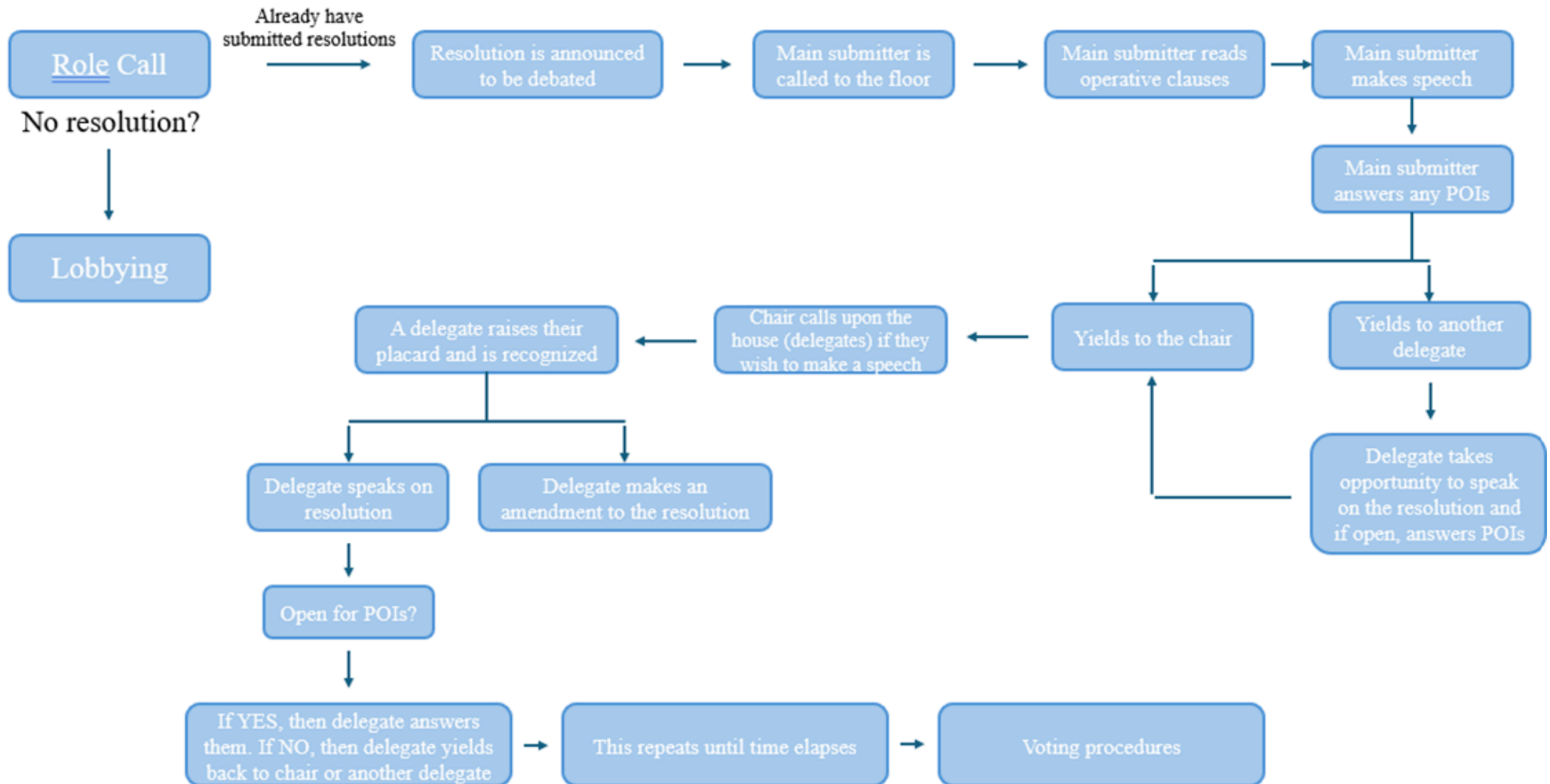
All speeches are made at the front, and after the speech the speaker will always be asked if they accept any [Points of Information](#) (PoI), and a number of questions may be allowed depending on whether they accept any PoI or not.

1. The *main submitter* starts the debate by being called up to read out the operative clauses of the resolution and give a speech on their goal with the resolution.
2. The debate moves into *open debate*, where anyone can take the floor (by raising their placard and getting called by the chair) to either:
 - a. Present an *amendment** to edit the resolution, in which case the delegate gives a speech as to why it's a good amendment. The debate then moves into *closed debate*:
 - i. Closed debate starts with *time in favour*, where people make a speech in favour of the amendment (followed by Points of Information if the speaker accepts it)
 - ii. Closed debate then has *time against*, where delegates can be recognized to make speeches against OR *an amendment to the second degree* to change something within this first-degree amendment (the same format of steps ai, aii and aiii repeated). Please note that no amendment to the 3rd degree will be accepted.
 - iii. Lastly, the house (= committee) votes on the amendment and return to the previous level (i.e. *Open Debate*, step 2)
 - b. OR Give a speech on the resolution:
 - i. After every speech, the speaker can choose if they are open to any [Points of Information](#) (POI)
 - ii. After the speech, debate returns to *Open Debate*

3. When the debate ends (likely after a few hours of repeating step 2), the *main submitter* will be invited to make a closing speech
4. Voting on the resolution as a whole

**amendment: edits to the resolution, which could either be adding/removing word or phrases, from the resolution. You can submit amendments to a resolution to the chair on a method of their preference: your chairs will tell you either you can submit amendments through notepaper to your chair (stating what you want to change) or google forms provided by them*

Flow of Debate



Useful Phrases for Delegates

Points and Motions

No.	Phrase	When can I use it?	Purpose
1	"Point of information to the chair" , followed by any question to the chair after the chair recognizes you	Speak it into the committee any time, as long as no one else is giving a speech	Any question/points you have to the chair; e.g. the resolution link shared doesn't work, "when is lunch?"
2	"Point of personal Privilege" , followed by a personal request	This is the only point that can interrupt another speaker. You can only disturb a speech with this point for audibility reasons	Any personal requests; e.g. "can't hear the speaker", "can the windows be opened"...etc. Non-urgent or awkward requests (e.g. using the bathroom) can also be sent to the chairs via note-passing.
3	"Point of order" followed by correcting a procedural error	Any time that doesn't disturb a speech	Used to point out a procedural error to the chairs; e.g. "The chair forgot.."
4	"Motion to extend points of information (POI) by ..." followed by amount (e.g. 1,2,3).	Any time that doesn't disturb a speech. Shout it out when all the POIs of a delegate have been answered.	Used when you want to ask (another) POI after the initial time. Unless the delegate in question has opened themselves up to any and all POIs, they will have to accept this motion for it to pass.
5	Motion to move the previous question	When you feel like you are ready to move on (e.g. it is time in favour but nobody wants to talk so you feel like you are ready to move to time against)	Used to move to the next part of debate (i.e. time in favour/against, voting procedures) <i>Note: This motion must be seconded</i>
6	Motion to divide the house	When there are too many abstentions in the voting procedure, which could sway the results.	This motion forces each delegate to vote either in favour or against.
7	Motion to table the resolution	When the resolution isn't producing any good debate, or if the committee is running out of time and you still want your resolution to be discussed.	This motion is to put aside the current resolution being debated, and possibly come back to it later.

Additional Points and Motions to the THIMUN RoP

These phrases can also be used as RijnMUN 2024 because we believe they provide nice additions to debates and make the overall process more interactive and enjoyable.

<i>No.</i>	<i>Phrase</i>	<i>When can I use it?</i>	<i>Purpose</i>
8	<i>Request for formal apology</i>	Speak it into the committee any time, as long as no one else is giving a speech	To request for an apology from another delegate. This may be used when a delegate feels as though another delegate has been disrespectful to their country.
9	<i>Motion to follow up</i>	After a delegate has responded to your POI (point of information/question)	When you want to ask another question or respond to a delegate's answer to a POI. <i>Note: This motion only works once, and you can only use it if you were the one who asked the POI in the first place.</i>

How to: Clauses & Resolution

Resolutions are written works which include a country's plan/proposal on the way an issue should be approached in order to be solved. Resolutions should be written from your country's perspectives (like everything else in MUN), and they should include both preambulatory clauses, and operative clauses. Preambulatory clauses are clauses which should explain the problem. Introducing it, whilst not proposing any action just yet. Examples of preambulatory clauses, as well as clause starters are below.

Preambulatory clause starters:

Affirming	Emphasising	Having considered
Alarmed by	Expecting	further
Approving	Expressing its	Having heard
Aware of	appreciation	Having received
Bearing in mind	Expressing its	Having studied
Believing	satisfaction	Keeping in mind
Confident	Fulfilling	Reaffirming
Contemplating	Fully alarmed	Realising
Convinced	Fully aware	Recalling
Declaring	Fully believing	Recognizing
Deeply concerned	Further deploring	Seeking
Deeply conscious	Further recalling	Taking into account
Deeply convinced	Guided by	Taking into
Deeply disturbed	Having adopted	consideration
Desiring	Having considered	

Next are operative clauses, which tackle the issue at hand in terms of action. What does your country propose to do in relevance to the problem in order to solve it? Operative clauses are the ones that delegates actually debate on. Each operative clause should begin with an underlined clause starter, and end with a semicolon. They should be specific, and if necessary include sub-clauses (which begin with 'a', 'b', 'c', etc.) or sub-sub clauses ('i', 'ii', 'iii', etc.) you can see the example resolution below with more tips on formatting. Please remember that these solutions (operative clauses) should be *practical*, and *realistic*.

Operative clause starters:

Accepts	Calls	Declares accordingly
Affirms	Calls upon	Deplores
Approves	Confirms	Designates
Asks	Congratulates	Draws the attention
Authorises	Considers	Emphasises

Encourages	Further requests	Solemnly affirms
Endorses	Further resolves	Supports
Expresses its appreciation	Notes	Takes note of
Expresses its hope	Proclaims	Transmits
Further invites	Reaffirms	Trusts
Further proclaims	Recommends	Urges
Further reminds	Regrets	Demands
Further recommends	Reminds	Condemns
	Requests	

Examples on good operative clauses

Requests that [relevant party] cooperate to solve the issue through [specific action]

Calls upon [relevant party] to take immediate action on [specific issue]

Urges [relevant parties] to collaborate on [specific action]

Recommends [specific measures] to address [particular problem].

Examples on bad operative clauses

'Bad' operative clauses are those that lack specificity and feasibility, making them ineffective. When constructing an operative clause, some of the things you want to avoid are:

- Being too vague: Not specifying what actions should actually be taken
Example: Urges the international community to do more to address climate change

What should they do? Remember you are proposing THE SOLUTION to the problem, and arguing for it. What are you proposing? Be specific

- Suggesting things that are too unrealistic/impractical
Example: Encourages all member states to immediately withdraw all their nuclear weapons

Why should they? Do you think any country actually would?

- Proposing general measures without actually specifying how they will be implemented

Example: Recommends the adoption of policies to reduce the child labour in Somalia

What policies?

Please note that for a resolution to be submitted to the approval panel, it must have a minimum of five preambles and six operative clauses.

Below is a basic resolution that you may use as a guide.

Sample resolution

FORUM: The Arab League

QUESTION OF: Requirements for normalising relations with the State of Israel

MAIN SUBMITTER: The State of Palestine

CO-SUBMITTERS: The Republic of Tunisia, the State of Qatar, the State of Kuwait, the State of Libya, the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria, the Republic of Yemen

THE ARAB LEAGUE,

Reaffirming the principles of the Charter of the United Nations,

Recognising the terror that the State of Israel has wrought over the people of Palestine through massacres, bombings, and indiscriminate violence, for several decades but notably most recently,

Expressing gratitude to all States around the world committed to the international consensus on the basis of the two-State solution on 1947 borders,

Recognizing the importance of achieving a just, lasting, and comprehensive peace in the Middle East,

Alarmed that the recent actions of Israel have caused a major humanitarian crisis in Palestine, with nearly 7 million Palestinians becoming internally displaced,

Emphasising the exigent need for a two-state solution that enables the coexistence of Israel and Palestine as independent and sovereign states,

1. Urges Member States to support the Palestinian cause by avoiding normalisation of relations with Israel until:
 - a. Israel ceases its occupation of Palestine and brutality against Palestinians
 - b. a solution is reached and Palestine's statehood is recognised by Israel;
2. Encourages the international community, including regional organisations, to support the peace process through diplomatic, economic, and security means, fostering an environment conducive to trust-building and cooperation.
3. Recommends that Member States provide support to Palestine and those affected by the violent actions of Israel in any way that they are capable of, including but not limited to:
 - a. financial support
 - b. military assistance
 - c. essential resources such as:
 - i. food
 - ii. water
 - iii. medical supplies;
4. Calls for a prolonged and lasting ceasefire between Israel and Hamas, in order for normalisation to be considered, on terms that provide justice to the Palestinian people, such as but not limited to:
 - a. the release of people taken as hostages by Hamas
 - b. allowing humanitarian aid into Gaza and other affected areas
 - c. allowing Palestinians to access basic supplies to have their needs met such as electricity, food, water, and fuel.

5. Calls upon the State of Israel to resume direct and meaningful negotiations, with the aim of achieving a final status agreement based on the principles of international law, relevant United Nations resolutions, and the Arab Peace Initiative.
6. Offers to normalise relations with Israel if the following five conditions are met :
 - a. The withdrawal of Israeli settlements from the West Bank within two years.
 - b. Israeli Arabs are afforded equal rights to their Jewish Israeli counterparts, subject to annual four year UNHCR reviews.
 - c. Israel releases Palestinian political prisoners held within Israeli military and judicial captivity within one year.