




Model United Nations

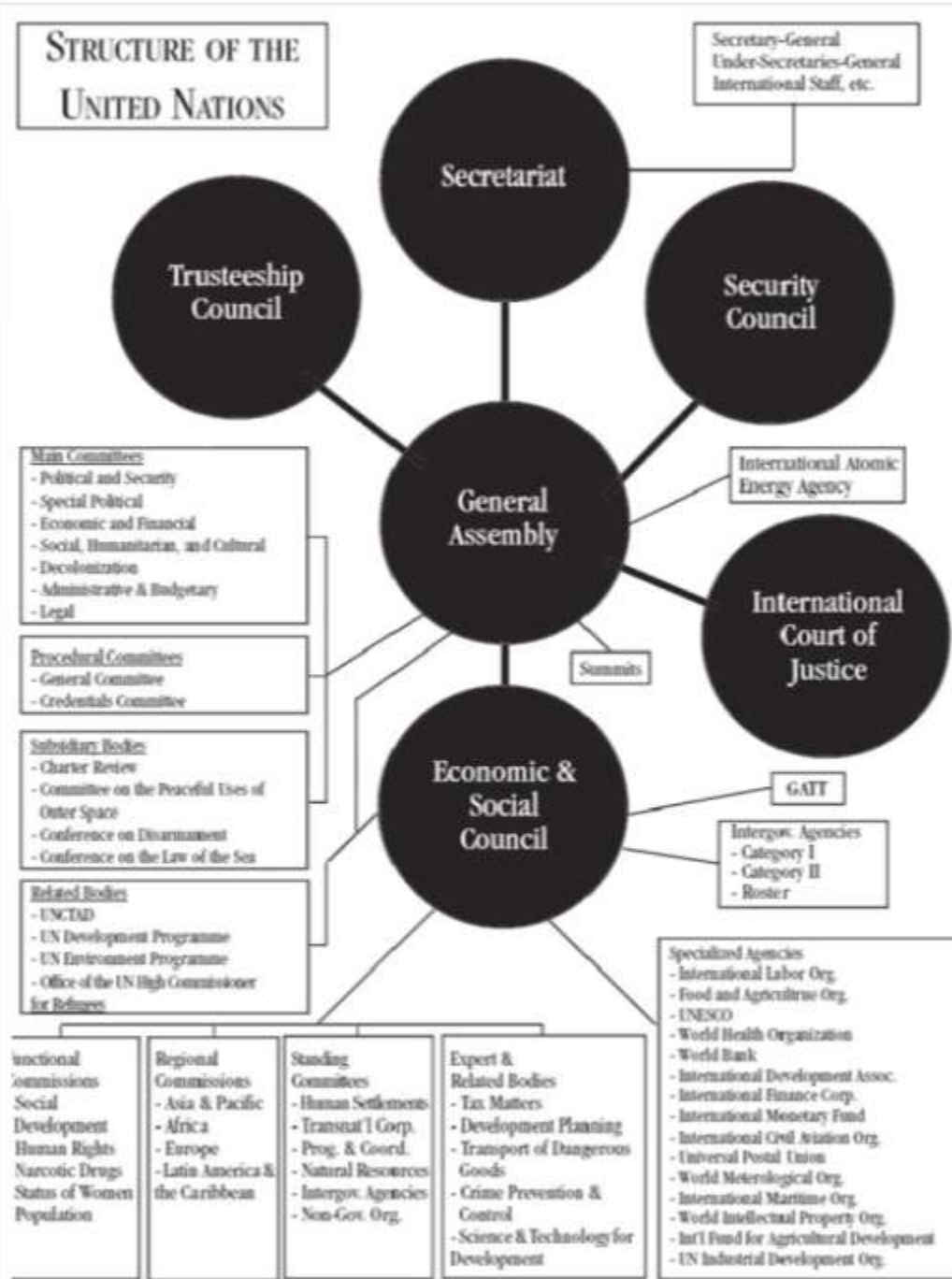
What is the UN?

The United Nations (UN) is an international organization, made up of most independent countries in the world, whose stated aims are facilitating cooperation in international law, international security, economic development, social progress, human rights, and achievement of world peace.

The UN was founded in 1945 after World War II to replace the League of Nations, to stop wars between countries, and to provide a platform for dialogue. It contains multiple subsidiary organizations to carry out its missions.



STRUCTURE OF THE UNITED NATIONS



What is the MUN?

Model United Nations is an **academic simulation of the United Nations** that aims to educate participants about civics, current events, and diplomacy. Students form teams, are assigned and research a country, take on roles as diplomats, investigate international issues, debate, and develop solutions to world problems.

What does an MUN conference look like?



What does an MUN conference look like?

Before the conference starts:

1. You get a country assigned
2. Do research
3. Write a position paper

During the conference:

1. General Assembly
2. Committees
 1. Speakers list
 2. Drafting resolutions
 3. Lobbying
 4. Speakers list
 5. Voting on resolutions
 1. Amendments

[Model United Nations – The Movie](#)
(instructional video)

[Model United Nations Overview](#)
(instructional video)

Research and Position Paper

- ▶ Background of the topic
 - From your country's perspective, what are the main aspects of the problem?
 - What are the roots of the problem?
 - What has the UN done to address this problem in the past? Did your country support them
- ▶ History of given topic in your country
- ▶ Official position of given topic in your country
 - What are your country's national interests in the situation?
 - What are your country's policies on the topic?
 - What steps would your country like to see taken on the matter to deal with the problem? What is the proposal?
 - What past actions have your country's government taken to address the issue?
- ▶ Justification of your country's position
 - What are your country's main reasons for supporting these steps?
 - What do you predict will be the main opposition to your country's proposal?
 - How do the positions of other countries affect your country's position
- ▶ Researching positions of key countries (opponents and allies)

Research and Position Paper

Example of a topic: Cyber
crime

Decorative blue and black geometric shapes in the bottom left corner.

Session Flow

1. **Roll Call:** Announce each country's name and receive an answer of "Present" or "Present and Voting"
2. **Set the Agenda:**
 1. The Chairperson will entertain motions to open (or close) the Speaker's List
 2. The Chairperson may set time limits on speeches or may entertain a motion from the
3. **Committee to set time limits on speeches**
 1. The Chairperson will entertain motions to Set the Agenda

[What happens during a MUN meeting?](#)

Session Flow

4. Debate:

1. Formal Debate:

1. Based on the Speaker's List
2. Draft resolutions may be discussed
3. Amendments may be presented

2. Informal Debate

1. A motion for moderated caucus
2. A motion for unmoderated caucus

5. Close of Debate: After the Speaker's List has been exhausted and all Caucuses completed, debate is closed and the committee automatically moves to voting

6. Voting:

1. Amendments are voted on first, Resolutions are voted on second
2. Once all Resolution related to a single topic have been voted on, the Committee moves to the next topic

[What happens during a MUN meeting?](#)

Points and Motions

[List of motions 1](#)

[List of motions 2](#)

Motion	Is Debate Required/Allowed?	Decision
Motion to Open and Close the Speakers List	Not Allowed	Simple Majority
Motion for Unmoderated Caucus	Allowed	Simple Majority
Motion to Moderated Caucus	Allowed	Simple Majority
Motion to be Added to the Speakers List	Not Allowed	Chair
Point of Order	Not Allowed	Chair
Motion to Reply (in written form)	Not Allowed	Chair
Point of Information	Not Allowed	Chair
Point of Inquiry	Not Allowed	Chair
Point of Personal Privilege	Not Allowed	Chair


Points and Motions

[List of motions 1](#)


[List of motions 2](#)

Motion	Is Debate Required/Allowed?	Decision
Motion to Move into Open Debate	Required	Simple Majority
Motion to Move into Closed Debate	Required	Simple Majority
Motion to Extend Time For/Against	Allowed	Simple Majority
Motion to Move into Time For/Against	Allowed	Simple Majority
Motion to Table the Topic	Required	Overwhelming Majority
Motion to Reconsider	Allowed	Overwhelming Majority
Motion to Adopt by Consensus	Not Allowed	Requires no Objections
Motion to Introduce a Friendly Amendment	Not Allowed	Requires no Objections
Motion to Introduce an Unfriendly Amendment	Not Allowed	Chair
Motion to Divide the House	Allowed	Chair
Motion to Divide the Issue	Required	Chair
Motion to Appeal the Decision of the Chair	Required	Simple Majority
Motion to Evict	Allowed	Overwhelming Majority


Speech Rules and Procedures

1. **Limited time** (same time for speaking and answering POIs)
 2. **Yielding the floor...**
 1. ...to a speaker
 2. ...to the chair
 3. **At the end of your speech, state if you are open to questions or not.**
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Opening Speech Structure

1. **Thank the presiding official by saying "Thank you Mr./ Madame/ Honorable Chair/ President..."**
 2. **Begin by providing a brief history on the issue as it relates to your country.**
 3. **Provide your country's position on the issue.** Include an explanation for your country's stance, such as economic or security concerns or political or religious ideology.
 4. **Give an explanation of how your country's position relates to the positions of other member states** such as the major powers or countries in your regional bloc.
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Opening Speech Structure

5. **Discuss some of the past actions taken by the UN, member states and NGOs to address the issue.**
 6. **Talk about the role that NGOs or regional organizations have to play in addressing the issue.**
 7. **Indicate to the committee members whether your country is willing to negotiate.**
 8. **Present ideas for a resolution, stressing your country's objectives for the resolution.**
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Suggestions for Debate Speeches

1. **Thank the presiding official** by saying "Thank you Mr./ Madame/ Honorable Chair/ President..."
 2. **Encourage collaboration** among member states by proposing ways that your country would be willing to work with other member states.
 3. **By referencing what other delegates have said**, you can show support for your allies or indicate which proposals your country does not favor.
 4. **Present ideas for draft resolutions.**
 5. **Explain why your country does or does not support other draft resolutions.**
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Tips for Debate Speeches

1. **Prepare in advance**
 2. **Practice your speech**
 3. **Take notes**
 4. **Bluffing** (what to do if you lack a piece of info)
 5. **Style and presentation**
 1. Quotations
 2. Research facts
 3. Analogies
 4. Stories
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Style Tips

Example topic: Prevention of drug abuse

1. **Quotation:** “Anyway, no drug, not even alcohol, causes the fundamental ills of society. If we're looking for the source of our troubles, we shouldn't test people for drugs, we should test them for stupidity, ignorance, greed and love of power.” ~P.J. O'Rourke

Style Tips

Example topic: Prevention of drug abuse

2. **Research facts:** The number of drug-related emergency department (ED) visits involving Ecstasy increased significantly from 10,220 visits in 2004 to 17,865 visits in 2008, a 74.8 percent increase. In 2008, most of these visits (69.3 percent) were made by patients aged 18 to 29.

Style Tips

Example topic: Prevention of drug abuse

3. **Analogy:** Is it better to restrain a dog before it bites or let it bite and then treat the injury?


Style Tips

Example topic: Prevention of drug abuse

4. **Stories:** “That one line of meth started me on a path of getting high at school and then eventually dropping out all together. Classes interfered with my drug life. What I thought was normal behavior was not normal at all. I was 17, out of control, addicted to drugs. . . .”

Resolutions

Your goal is to pass a resolution – you have to get a consensus – every single person in the Committee votes for your resolution – or at least a majority – a minimum of 51% of the people in the Committee vote for your resolution. You will have to talk to other people to get them to vote for your resolution.




Resolutions

- ▶ Working papers are written solutions to the problems presented by the topics in the Committees.
- ▶ Sponsors = delegates who have written the resolution
- ▶ Signatories (1 / 5 of the members, but does not require a vote) = delegates who have signed the resolution
- ▶ Motion to introduce a draft resolution

[Sample Resolution \(go to pages 20–21\)](#)

Lobbying Tips

1. Approach people quickly
 2. Quid pro quo (something for something)
 3. Be nice and polite
 4. Be persistent
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General Tips

[Model United Nations Do's and Don'ts
\(instructional video\)](#)

1. Stay in role
2. Respect the dress code
3. Stay active
4. Stay relevant
5. Be nice and polite

Links

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