

**DPS MUN 2025**  
**JODHPUR CHAPTER VIII**



Carpe Diem  
Carpe Noctem

**BACKGROUND  
GUIDE UNSC**

**DELIBERATION ON RISING TENSIONS  
BETWEEN ISRAEL AND IRAN AND  
STRATEGIES FOR DE-ESCALATION**

**DPSMUN 2025**

## **Letter from the Executive Board**

Dear Prospective Members,

At the outset on behalf of the Executive Board, we extend a warm welcome to all of you and congratulate you on being a part of the *UNSC* simulation at **DPS Model United Nations 2025**.

We believe that 'study guides' are detrimental to the individual growth of the members since they overlook a very important aspect of this activity, which is - Research. We are sure however that this background guide gives you a perfect launching pad to start with your research. The Background guide would be as abstract as possible and would just give you a basic perspective on what the executive board believes you should know before you commence your research.

This being clear, kindly do not limit your research to the areas highlighted, further but ensure that you logically deduce and push your research to areas associated with the issues mentioned.

The objective of this background guide is to provide you with a 'background' of the issue at hand and therefore it might seem to some as not being comprehensive enough. We are not looking for existing solutions, or strategies that would be a copy paste of what countries you are representing have already stated; instead, we seek an out of the box solution from you, while knowing and understanding your impending practical and ideological limitations.

The onus is on you, members, to formulate a resolution which gives a fair attempt and frames practical solutions for impairment of treaties, failing and showing no progress, crippled by political interest pushing humanity towards the brim of war for health and wellness within the nations.

Wishing you all a very warm good luck and hoping to see you all at this conference discussing imperative issues of international interest and we look forward to meeting you all at **DPS Model United Nations 2025**.

Warm Regards,

Jayant Thanvi (President)

Vedansh Bhardwaj (Vice - President)

## **Research Guide for Beginners**

Research is possibly the most intimidating yet most important part of preparing for any Model United Nations conference. Without proper preparation, not only are representatives unable to accurately represent their country's position in a global scenario but they also restrict themselves from gaining the most out of the memorable MUN learning experience.

A delegate's aim at a MUN conference is to most faithfully represent their country's stand on a certain issue being debated, and to do this, thorough research is needed. It goes beyond retelling speeches of national leaders and requires a genuine understanding of national policy, as only this can provide the basic foundation of role-playing at the MUN.

Here you will learn methods and tips for researching, understanding your country's perspective and policies and writing your position paper using critical information

### **Three Levels of Research:**

For any Model United Nations conference, your research should focus on a **top-down approach** on three levels which goes from the general to the specific, although the areas will naturally overlap on several occasions. The idea is to research each area thoroughly in order to develop a proper understanding of your country and the issues that will be discussed.

The three levels are:

1. The UN system;
2. Country Information and;
3. The Assisted Agenda.

# **1. The United Nations System**

It is interesting that this is an area which is often overlooked when researching for a MUN conference. MUNs aim to recreate the United Nations and so it is absolutely imperative that to do so, you know what the UN is, what it does and how it functions. Successful and proactive participation in the simulation requires a level of understanding of the United Nations organisation itself, regarding structures, functions and protocols. The more conferences you attend, the less time you will find yourself spending on this aspect, since the only new research required is if you are going to a committee, you've never been in before.

It is important for delegates to familiarize themselves with:

The UN Charter: <https://www.un.org/en charter-united-nations/index.html>

The history of United Nations

The main bodies and committees of UN

The functioning of your own committee

Your country's history within the UN, its role and reputation. Information on this can be found on the websites of the permanent mission of the UN to your country.

Recent UN actions pertaining to your country or the agenda – including statements, press releases, publications, resolutions etc.

Although there are countless publications and documents on the United Nations, the best source to study about the United Nations is the UN itself.

Below is a further collection of useful links

- [www.un.org](http://www.un.org)
- <http://www.un.org/en/members/index.shtml>
- [www.un.org/Pubs/chronicle/online.html](http://www.un.org/Pubs/chronicle/online.html)
- <http://www.icj-cij.org/>
- <http://treaties.un.org/Home.aspx>

## **2. Country Information**

Build a knowledge base of your country - delegates must be aware of their assigned country's historical, geographical, political, economic, social and environmental aspects. Build a country profile on your government – what systems, ideologies, political parties and leaders represent your country? What is your country's foreign policy and how is this affected by important historical and domestic aspects? Who are your allies and your adversaries? What other bilateral, regional and international organisations is your country a part of.

After building a basic profile, you must study your country's broad stand on global issues, particularly at the UN. Develop a basic understanding of your country's voting pattern, its involvement in the UN – speeches given by leaders and delegates of your country at the UN and resolutions/treaties it has been a part of.

- <http://www.countryreports.org/>
- <http://www.un.org/esa/national.htm>
- <http://countrystudies.us/>
- [www.un.org/popin/data.html](http://www.un.org/popin/data.html)
- [www.unusa.org](http://www.unusa.org)
- <http://www.un.org/en/members/>
- <http://www.gksoft.com/govt/en/>

## **3. The Assisted Agenda**

This will form the bulk of your research – it will be what is used directly in committee sessions. You will be informed of the agenda of issues to be discussed at the MUN by your organizers before the conference.

A thorough study of the tabled topic for debate and discussion with respect to your country, UN and the world as a whole will aid you to properly represent your country and actively participate in the simulation. You will be provided a study guide for your assigned agenda by your MUN committee, which you should use as your starting point.



Within your agenda topic, the three areas that must be covered are:

- a) A background and overview of the agenda topic and your country's policy on it
- b) Detailed information on important aspects of the topic and broad information of blocs.

### **Points to Remember**

A few aspects that delegates should keep in mind while preparing:

**Procedure:** The purpose of putting in procedural rules in any committee is to ensure a more organized and efficient debate. The committee will follow the UNA-USA Rules of Procedure. Although the Executive Board shall be fairly strict with the Rules of Procedure, the discussion of the agenda will be the main priority. So, delegates are advised not to restrict their statements due to hesitation regarding procedure.

**Foreign Policy:** Following the foreign policy of one's country is the most important aspect of a Model UN Conference. This is what essentially differentiates a Model UN from other debating formats. To violate one's foreign policy without adequate reason is one of the worst mistakes a delegate can make.

**Role of the Executive Board:** The Executive Board is appointed to facilitate debate. The committee shall decide the direction and flow of debate. The delegates are the ones who constitute the committee and hence must be uninhibited while presenting their opinions/stance on any issue. However, the Executive Board may put forward questions and/or ask for clarifications at all points of time to further debate and test participants.

**Nature of Source/Evidence:** This Background Guide is meant solely for research purposes and must not be cited as evidence to substantiate statements made during the conference. Evidence or proof for substantiating statements made during formal debate is acceptable from the following sources:

1. United Nations: Documents and findings by the United Nations or any related UN body is held as credible proof to support a claim or argument. Multilateral Organisations: Documents from international organisations like OIC, NAFTA, SAARC, BRICS, EU, ASEAN, the International Criminal Court, etc. may also be presented as credible sources of information.

2. Government Reports: These reports can be used in a similar way as the State Operated News Agencies reports and can, in all circumstances, be denied by another country.

3. News Sources:

(a) Reuters: Any Reuters article that clearly makes mention of the fact or is in contradiction of the fact being stated by a delegate in council.

(b) State operated News Agencies: These reports can be used in the support of or against the State that owns the News Agency. These reports, if credible or substantial enough, can be used in support of or against any country as such but in that situation, may be denied by any other country in the council. Some examples are – RIA Novosti (Russian Federation), Xinhua News Agency (People's Republic of China), etc.

Please Note- Reports from NGOs working with UNESCO, UNICEF and other UN bodies will be accepted.

**Under no circumstances will sources like Wikipedia, or newspapers like the Guardian, Times of India, etc. be accepted.**

However, notwithstanding the criteria for acceptance of sources and evidence, delegates are still free to quote/cite from any source as they deem fit as a part of their statements-**USA Procedure**

**Start of Committee:**

- Dias (Chairs) begins with roll call

- Delegates may respond “present” or “present and voting”
- Next, the Dias asks to hear any points or motions
- If there are no points or motions on the floor, the Dias will recognize the next speaker on the Speakers’ List from the previous session
- In the first committee session, a delegate must move to open the Speakers’ List
- During the first committee session, the agenda must also be set (choose topic 1 or 2)

### **Speakers’ List:**

- The Speakers’ List is the default format of committee, if there are no points or motions
- A country may only appear on the list once at any given time
- A delegate can be added by raising their placard when the Dias asks or by sending note to the Dias
- The speaking time will be set by the delegate who moves to open the Speakers’ List, but a delegate may move to change the speaking time
- If the Speakers’ List is exhausted and no other delegates wish to be added, committee moves immediately into voting procedure on any draft resolutions that have been introduced
- If there is still time remaining when a delegate concludes his or her speech, he or she must yield his or her time (to the Dias, to another delegate, or to questions, by saying either “I yield my time to ...”)



- Yielding to Dias ends the speech, yielding to another delegate allocates the remainder of the time to that delegate (the second delegate may not yield to a third delegate), and yielding to questions allows for feedback from other delegates

### **Moderated Caucus:**

- When the Speakers' List is open, a delegate may introduce a motion for a moderated caucus, which is a less formal debate format to debate a specific subset of the topic
- No set speaking order; each new speaker is chosen after the previous speaker concludes
- A delegate may not yield her or his time; if delegate finishes early, move to next speaker
- Must have a set topic, duration, and speaking time (which will be voted on)

### **Unmoderated Caucus:**

- When the Speakers' List is open, a delegate may introduce a motion for an unmoderated caucus, the least formal debate format
- Delegates may move around the room and speak freely to one another to draft resolutions
- Delegate may not leave the room without permission from the committee director

### **Points and Motions:**

- Points and motions are tools for delegates to ask questions about committee and its proceedings, rather than the content of debate

- Motions change what the committee is *doing* and generally require a *vote*

- Points do not require a vote

- Delegates may only introduce motions while the Speakers' List is open and between speakers, when motions require a vote, the vote may be either substantive or procedural ○

Some votes require a two-thirds majority to pass, while others require a simple majority.

- Points may be raised during caucuses, and some points may be used to interrupt a speaker

- There are four common points, as follow:

- 1) Point of Inquiry - used to ask a question about parliamentary procedure

- 2) Point of Order - used when a delegate believes the Dias has made a procedural error

- 3) Point of Personal Privilege - used to express concerns about comfort such as the temperature of the room or the ability to hear a speaker

- 4) Point of Information - used to ask a clarifying question about the content of a speech or statement (only during the speakers list)

- Only a point of order and a point of personal privilege may be used to interrupt a speaker.

**The rules of procedures will be explained in the training session as well, but it would be better if you go through these basics first so it's easier to understand during the session and ask your doubts if any.**

## **About the Agenda:**

### **1. Introduction**

The deterioration of relations between the Islamic Republic of Iran and the State of Israel has become one of the most serious threats to international peace and security in 2025. What was once a “shadow war” fought through cyber operations, proxy militias, and covert strikes has escalated into direct military confrontation involving missiles, drones, and large-scale aerial bombardments. The involvement of major powers, the potential collapse of nuclear non-proliferation regimes, and the risks of regional spillover have elevated the conflict to the top of the United Nations Security Council’s agenda.

Understanding this conflict requires a clear examination of its historical roots, recent escalatory dynamics, humanitarian and security implications, as well as the varied interests of regional and global actors.

### **2. Historical Background**

#### **2.1 Pre-1979 Relations**

Prior to the 1979 Islamic Revolution, Iran under Shah Mohammad Reza Pahlavi maintained limited yet functional ties with Israel. Both states opposed pan-Arab nationalism, cooperated economically (particularly in the oil trade), and shared intelligence networks.

#### **2.2 Post-1979 Revolution**

The overthrow of the Shah transformed Iranian foreign policy. The new Islamic Republic, under Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini, adopted a position of ideological hostility toward Israel, labeling it an illegitimate “Zionist entity.” Iran also became a key patron of anti-Israel groups, most notably Hezbollah in Lebanon.

#### **2.3 1990s–2010s: The Shadow Conflict**

The end of the Cold War coincided with Iran’s pursuit of nuclear capabilities. Israel perceived this as an existential threat, given its small geographic size and limited population. Tensions deepened during the 2000s as Israel undertook covert operations,

including the assassination of Iranian nuclear scientists and the Stuxnet cyberattack (2010). Iran meanwhile expanded its support to non-state actors across Lebanon, Gaza, Iraq, and Yemen.

## **2.4 The JCPOA and its Collapse**

The 2015 Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA) was a landmark nuclear deal between Iran, the P5+1, and the European Union. It capped enrichment levels, reduced stockpiles, and introduced international monitoring in exchange for sanctions relief. The U.S. withdrawal from the JCPOA in 2018, followed by Iranian breaches, left the deal moribund by the early 2020s. Israel consistently opposed the JCPOA, arguing it failed to permanently prevent Iranian nuclearization.

## **3. Recent Escalation (2023–2025)**

### **3.1 Syria and the Damascus Strike**

Throughout 2023–2024, Israel increased airstrikes against Iranian-linked targets in Syria. In April 2024, an Israeli strike destroyed Iran’s consular annex in Damascus, killing senior Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) officials. Tehran viewed this as a direct violation of diplomatic norms and sovereignty.

### **3.2 October 2024 Missile Exchange**

In retaliation, Iran launched over 180 ballistic missiles and drones at Israel, many intercepted by the Iron Dome system. Israel responded with extensive air campaigns inside Iranian territory. This marked the first time the two states engaged in open, large-scale strikes against one another.

### **3.3 June 2025 Nuclear Crisis**

In June 2025, the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) declared Iran non-compliant with safeguards. Days later, Israel launched extensive strikes on Iranian nuclear and military facilities, including near Natanz and Fordow. High-value Iranian officials, scientists, and civilians were killed. Iran retaliated with missile and drone strikes on Tel Aviv, Haifa, and U.S. facilities in Qatar, escalating fears of a broader war.

### 3.4 International Reactions

Gulf states, alarmed by potential regional destabilization, urged both parties to de-escalate. The U.S. expressed solidarity with Israel but urged restraint to avoid a wider conflict. Russia and China condemned Israel's strikes but stopped short of direct intervention.

## 4. Core Issues

### 4.1 Nuclear Proliferation

- **Iran's Program:** Iran currently possesses stockpiles of uranium enriched up to 60%, close to weapons-grade levels (90%). With advanced centrifuges, breakout time for weaponization is short.
- **Israeli Concerns:** Israel views any threshold capability as intolerable, citing its security doctrine of preventive strikes.
- **JCPOA Collapse:** The absence of a functioning agreement leaves the international community without a formal framework to regulate Iran's program.

### 4.2 Humanitarian Impact

- **Iran:** Israeli strikes on Tehran and Isfahan killed hundreds of civilians, damaged critical infrastructure, and displaced populations.
- **Israel:** Iranian strikes on Tel Aviv and Haifa caused civilian deaths, economic disruption, and public fear.
- **Humanitarian Agencies:** UN agencies warn of displacement, refugee flows, and a humanitarian crisis if escalation continues.

### 4.3 Regional Stability

- **Gulf States:** Fear spillover; oil export routes through the Strait of Hormuz are particularly vulnerable.

- **Lebanon & Hezbollah:** Israel faces the risk of a northern front opening if Hezbollah intervenes directly.
- **Iraq & Syria:** Iranian-backed militias could escalate against U.S. or Israeli assets.

#### 4.4 International Power Dynamics

- **United States:** Strongly supportive of Israel; participated in limited strikes but seeks to avoid entanglement.
- **Russia:** Maintains ties with Iran and Syria but is overstretched in Ukraine; favors de-escalation.
- **China:** Prioritizes energy security; advocates multilateral diplomacy and may position itself as a mediator.
- **European Union:** Emphasizes humanitarian law, restraint, and nuclear diplomacy but lacks enforcement leverage.

#### 5. Bloc Positions

- **Iran:** Divided internally. Hardliners push for confrontation, while moderates—backed by President Masoud Pezeshkian—see diplomacy as vital to regime survival.
- **Israel:** Emphasizes military preemption to neutralize threats, rejects compromise on nuclear issues.
- **United States:** Firmly aligned with Israel; cautious about diplomacy unless Iran halts enrichment.
- **Arab Gulf States:** Oppose Iranian influence regionally but prioritize stability and economic security.



- **Russia & China:** Push for restraint, encourage negotiations under multilateral frameworks to reduce Western dominance.

## 6. Previous International Action

- **IAEA Oversight:** Persistent disputes over inspections and compliance; current credibility strained.
- **UNSC Resolutions (2006–2010):** Series of sanctions imposed on Iran's nuclear program. Divisions among P5 now limit new action.
- **JCPOA (2015):** Temporarily reduced tensions but collapsed, leaving a vacuum in nuclear governance.
- **Emergency UNSC Sessions (2025):** Statements of concern and calls for restraint, but no binding resolution due to veto politics.

## 7. Areas for UNSC Deliberation

- **Immediate De-escalation:** Viability of ceasefire or “stand-down” arrangements monitored by third parties.
- **Nuclear Diplomacy Revival:** Frameworks to restore inspections, limit enrichment, and provide sanctions relief.
- **Regional Security Mechanisms:** Inclusion of GCC states, Turkey, and Iraq in confidence-building measures.
- **Humanitarian Protection:** Ensuring aid corridors, civilian protection, and accountability for violations of international humanitarian law.
- **Role of Great Powers:** How the Council navigates divisions among permanent members while maintaining credibility.

## 8. Conclusion

The Iran–Israel confrontation illustrates the convergence of nuclear proliferation risks, regional rivalries, humanitarian concerns, and global power politics. The Security Council faces not only the immediate task of preventing further escalation, but also the long-term challenge of re-establishing a framework for regional security and nuclear restraint. Durable de-escalation will require balancing the security concerns of Israel, the sovereignty claims of Iran, and the stability needs of the wider region.

