

# UN Security Council: First Contact

*Thomas Jefferson Model United Nations Conference*

## TechMUN XXVI

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**High School Crisis**

**Director: Shreya Wadehra**

**Co-Chair: Sebastian Ibarraran**

**Co-Chair: Vishnu Murthy**

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*A Word from your Chairs*

Hi delegates!

My name is Sebastian Ibarraran, and I will be chairing the UNSC: First Contact at TechMUN 2018. I'm a junior at TJ, which obviously narrows down my free time quite a bit, and I started doing MUN last year. Aside from TJMUN, some of the other ways I use my time are running for the track and cross country team, being the secretary of Future Business Leaders of America, and listening to Kanye West music from the mid-2000s.

Given that this committee takes place in the future, creativity is going to be crucial for your own success and the progression of committee. Vishnu and I will be looking for compelling and innovative ideas in your directives both publicly and privately, so be sure to put a lot of thought into anything you produce during committee. As a springboard for your ideas, I strongly recommend doing thorough research on your country's space program. Even though this is a futuristic committee, the state of each country's program will be comparable to how it is today. Knowing this information could give you a wealth of options to choose from when coming up with a private arc. If you have any questions, feel free to email us at [unsctechmun2018@gmail.com](mailto:unsctechmun2018@gmail.com). I can't wait to work with you all in April!

Hello Delegates,

Hey delegates! My name is Vishnu Murthy and I'll be chairing the UNSC: First Contact Committee at TechMUN 2018. A bit about me - I'm a junior at TJ, and this is my 3rd year in TJMUN. In my limited free time, I love to listen to rap (both old school and modern), watch YouTube, and sleep.



Sebastian and I look for every delegate be well researched, immerse themselves in substantive debate, create innovative solutions to the topics and crisis updates presented at hand, and be able to work well with others. But most importantly, have fun! I know that crisis is extremely enjoyable and I will work hard to ensure that you will have the best experience possible. This committee is pretty unusual, so be on the lookout for unique crisis updates. If you have any questions, feel free to email us at [unsctechmun2018@gmail.com](mailto:unsctechmun2018@gmail.com). Good luck to all delegates!





## Guide to Crisis Committees

Crisis is a form of Model United Nations in which delegates represent members of small councils, boards, and committees rather than large Assemblies. Typical parliamentary procedure is given flexibility to accommodate for the unique fast-paced debate in which crisis delegates partake. Crisis committees receive “crisis updates” presenting issues to be discussed, and delegates follow by quickly drafting and voting on punctual and effective “public directives” meant to deal with the update. For example, a United Nations Security Council committee may receive an update about an oil spill in the South China Sea, and public directives drafted by delegates might contain measures to reroute trade in the region. Simultaneously, delegates use the unique personal powers of their position to take private action in “private directives,” which are submitted to the crisis staff who then include private actions in their updates. The oil spill may have been caused, for example, by the US in a secret effort to disrupt Chinese trade routes, hashed out in a detailed private directive approved by crisis staff. Be sure to check out the MUN 101 section on the TechMUN website for more information on the structure of crisis committees.

TechMUN will use the double notepad system for private directives, in which delegates are given two large legal notepads at the beginning of committee. Rather than tearing off private directives, delegates will submit notepads with their directives attached, always keeping one notepad with them to write while their other is being processed by staff. Delegates will be able to review their own submission history through their intact notepads. In addition to the two large legal pads, small notepads will be distributed for in-committee use, including writing public directives. Crisis Chairs and Directors look forward to seeing delegates’ private schemes and public solutions at TechMUN 2018!





## Topic 1: Government Contact with the Extraterrestrials

### *What's the Issue?*

It's the year 2050, and global cooperation has reached a historical high. A large coalition of nations including the member states of the UNSC have been jointly operating the International Moon Base (IMB)<sup>1</sup>. From this base, countries around the world have been able to engage in collaborative scientific efforts to investigate what lies beyond our planet. Additionally, the countries that operate this base are also able to use it as a base for their spacecraft fleets. Spacecraft have now become almost as advanced as military planes were 30 years ago, making them a huge asset to any country who can develop them. However, recent events have caught

the attention of the global community and have consequently led to curiosity as well as concern. Two weeks ago, Traffic Coordinators (the Air Traffic Control of the IMB) began receiving signals from a source unknown to them. No country is yet to take responsibility for these signals, and



subsequent events have made it evident as to what the source of these signals truly was. One day ago, an unidentified flying object (UFO) was detected to have suddenly appeared near the rings of Saturn. Images of the object display a shape that looks unlike any known asteroid or space rock.

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<sup>1</sup> Emmerich, Roland, director. *Independence Day: Resurgence*. 20th Century Fox, 2016.



Because of the previous signals received by the IMB and the images, experts at the facility from around the world are indicating that this UFO may be some form of an extraterrestrial spacecraft. This is the most concrete evidence yet of extraterrestrial life, so the IMB and governments everywhere are eager to come up with a response. Nothing like this has occurred before in world history, making this situation completely new ground. As the United Nations Security Council, you will be tasked with determining the appropriate course of action for this situation. All voting members of the UNSC are directly involved in the operation of the IMB, so they can directly implement their suggested courses of action through the IMB.

#### *Past Actions*

This is not the first time Earth has had some sort of encounter with UFOs. The first known UFO sighting was near Mount Rainier in 1947<sup>2</sup>. This event, combined with several other sightings, led the US Air Force to conduct an investigative operation called Project Sign. This eventually developed into Project Grudge and Project Blue Book, which ultimately gathered upwards of 12,000 UFO sightings<sup>3</sup>. A committee of experts known as the Robertson Panel reviewed these sightings in 1953 and determined that there was no major security threat. A second committee in 1966 went through the most interesting cases collected by Project Blue Book, but it ultimately came to the same conclusion as the Robertson Panel<sup>4</sup>. From this point, UFO sightings declined in the United States and all further investigations of the topic were suspended.

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<sup>2</sup> History.com Staff. "Kenneth Arnold." *History.com*, A&E Television Networks, 2010, [www.history.com/topics/kenneth-arnold](http://www.history.com/topics/kenneth-arnold).

<sup>3</sup> "Project BLUE BOOK - Unidentified Flying Objects." *National Archives and Records Administration*, National Archives and Records Administration, [www.archives.gov/research/military/air-force/ufos.html](http://www.archives.gov/research/military/air-force/ufos.html).

<sup>4</sup> "Robertson Panel." *Encyclopædia Britannica*, Encyclopædia Britannica, Inc., [www.britannica.com/topic/Robertson-Panel](http://www.britannica.com/topic/Robertson-Panel).



Despite the US government halting its involvement in the investigation of UFOs, other groups have looked into the matter. Scientists like J. Allen Hynek used information from Project



Blue Book as evidence that there is indeed extraterrestrial life<sup>5</sup>.

The Canadian National Research Council has around 750 sightings on record, with other countries like the United Kingdom, Sweden, Denmark, Australia, and Greece maintaining some less complete records. Russia and China have both been the source of a few sightings, but this has been attributed to military activity<sup>6</sup>. Even though all of these sightings have been reported and collected, there has been no previous attempts to establish contact with any UFO or

extraterrestrial life form.

### *Possible Solutions*

Experts at the IMB have debated for hours over what the best possible course of action is in response to this situation. Some are suggesting that the IMB should attempt to send communications signals to this ship in a diplomatic move. However, the majority of experts see this object as a major security threat and are suggesting that the IMB member states immediately mobilize their forces. The object appears to be quite large in scale, which has led many to believe the risk is not worth running. The IMB is well-armed with the finest space-military technology that its operators have to offer, so this would be the ideal location to launch an attack from. Technology includes plasma cannons, kinetic defense shields, and a the combined forces of the

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<sup>5</sup> Cufos. *Center for UFO Studies*, [www.cufos.org/org.html](http://www.cufos.org/org.html).

<sup>6</sup> History.com Staff. "History of UFOs." *History.com*, A&E Television Networks, 2009, [www.history.com/topics/history-of-ufos](http://www.history.com/topics/history-of-ufos).



entire council and Base overseers. A small minority disagree with both groups and suggest not doing anything and waiting to see how the situation progresses over time. As the United Nations Security Council, it is up to *you* to determine what is the best course of action for the IMB to take in this scenario.

*Questions to Consider*

1. Do we attempt to establish communications with this object? Do we do anything? Do we attack immediately?
2. If we do establish communications with the UFO, how do we go about it? Should we be assertive or should we offer peace?
3. How do we prepare ourselves for the potential arrival of this UFO (friendly or unfriendly)?





## Topic 2: Protecting Earth's Security and Resources

### *What's the Issue?*

Although the UNSC's intelligence is unsure about the nature of the UFO, the most recent image of this UFO has a similar shape to other sighted UFO spaceships. Thus, the UNSC deems that addressing this issue is a threat to the security of the world and has called for a state of emergency. The UNSC categorizes the Earth's Interests in space - securing Earth and having adequate resources to protect against a possible alien invasion, protecting and creating new space infrastructure, and securing valuable space real estate. The UNSC is looking towards solutions to both address the current crisis and ensure long term sustainability in space.

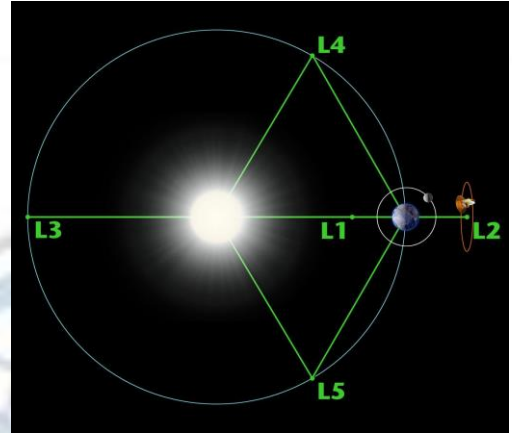
Securing planet Earth against an alien invasion is of utmost importance, especially in the light of recent events. The UNSC has recently been informed of large amounts of nuclear radiation that are concentrated from the UFO, which scientists have interpreted as possibly a nuclear weapon. Also, quantum scientists have seen a bend in the space-time continuum near Jupiter's ring, the indication of a wormhole, or a tunnel through spacetime that can provide fast travel from two ends of space, perhaps this solar system and the extraterrestrials home planet. If the extraterrestrials indeed have malicious intent, they would be adequately prepared for war against us.

The Earth has a massive deficiency in space infrastructure. Currently, we have the International Space Station, the IMB, and a few thousand satellites, only fifty of which carry weapons that can fire on command. The planet does not have weapons with equal footing to nuclear warheads in space nor space stations beyond the reach of the Earth and the Moon. New



infrastructure should be built methodically and in prime real estate, an example of which are the “Lagrange Points”<sup>7</sup>.

“A Lagrange point is a location in space where the combined gravitational forces of two large bodies, such as Earth and the sun or Earth and the moon, equal the centrifugal force felt by a much smaller third body. The interaction of the forces creates a point of equilibrium where a spacecraft may be “parked” to make observations.” There are five Lagrange points, conveniently named L1, L2, L3, L4, and L5. L1 and L2 are currently used by Solar and Heliospheric Observatory (SOHO) and the James Webb Space Telescope, but the other points are unoccupied<sup>1</sup>. The Lagrange points can prove to be valuable space that can give a competitive edge in a possible war.



### *Possible Solutions*

Consider the following:

1. Assess the threat - investigate characteristics of this extraterrestrial species, the type of weapons they have and their threat to security, and possible invasion strategies.
2. Counteract the threat - look into the feasibility and effectiveness of new technologies, and strengthen current space infrastructure (which, as if this point, is only the IMB, the ISS

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<sup>7</sup> Contributor, Elizabeth Howell Space.com. “Lagrange Points: Parking Places in Space.” *Space.com*.



Without focus and conviction, the world will fall to the hands of the threats. It is imperative that we not only work efficiently, but carefully as well. The fate of Earth is in our hands.

### *Questions to Consider*

1. How can the UNSC mitigate the risk of a war with extraterrestrials possibly with nuclear weapons?
2. How can the international community support the building of spacewar infrastructure?
3. How can member states of the UNSC, which traditionally are competitors in space, work together towards the common good of the people?

### *Works Cited*

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**Dossier**

Note: This UNSC will have more than 15 possible positions. However, only the p5 (United States, France, China, United Kingdom, and Russia) have veto power. Descriptions of the future space capabilities of each nation are below. Even if your country is not as far developed, do not hesitate to use joint-privates and your own nation's resources to further establish a space program! Feel free to email us at our committee email if you have any questions regarding your nation's capabilities.

*United States of America:* The United States are permanent members of the UNSC, giving them veto power over any resolution. Additionally, the U.S. are founding members of the IMB and can deploy their space fleet from the station.

*United Kingdom:* The United Kingdom is a permanent member of the UNSC, giving them veto power over any resolution. Additionally, the U.K. is a founding member of the IMB and can deploy their space fleet from the station.

*Russia:* Russia is a permanent member of the UNSC, giving them veto power over any resolution. Additionally, Russia is a founding member of the IMB and can deploy their space fleet from the station.

*France:* France is a permanent member of the UNSC, giving them veto power over any resolution. Additionally, France is a founding member of the IMB and can deploy their space fleet from the station.

*China:* China is a permanent member of the UNSC, giving them veto power over any resolution. Additionally, China is a founding member of the IMB and can deploy their space fleet from the station.





*Egypt:* Egypt is a non-permanent member of the UNSC, meaning that it has no veto power.

Thanks to its space program, Egypt currently has four government-run satellites in orbit.

*Nigeria:* Nigeria is a non-permanent member of the UNSC, meaning that it has no veto power.

Nigeria has an extremely ambitious space program, with a medium-size space fleet and large amount of government-run satellites in orbit thanks to its partnerships with countries like the United Kingdom and China.

*South Africa:* South Africa is a non-permanent member of the UNSC, meaning that it has no veto power. South Africa has a number of government-run satellites in orbit and also has a small-scale space fleet based on the IMB.

*Japan:* Japan is a non-permanent member of the UNSC, meaning that it has no veto power.

Japan has an ambitious and successful space program, including a successful mission to Mars and an experimental colony on the moon.

*India:* India is a non-permanent member of the UNSC, meaning that it has no veto power. India has a large-scale satellite fleet and a small-scale space fleet.

*Poland:* Poland is a non-permanent member of the UNSC, meaning that it has no veto power.

Poland has a medium/large-scale space fleet and a large amount of government-run satellites.

*Mexico:* Mexico is a non-permanent member of the UNSC, meaning that it has no veto power.

Mexico has a miniscule space fleet and only a small amount of communications satellites in orbit.

*Brazil:* Brazil is a non-permanent member of the UNSC, meaning that it has no veto power.

Brazil has a medium-scale satellite system and a small-scale space fleet.



*Spain:* Spain is a non-permanent member of the UNSC, meaning that it has no veto power.

Spain has a large-scale satellite fleet, a medium scale space fleet, and a well-developed deep-space communication station.

*Canada:* Canada is a non-permanent member of the UNSC, meaning that it has no veto power.

Canada is a large-scale space power, with a very large satellite system and space fleet.

*Israel:* Israel is a non-permanent member of the UNSC, meaning that it has no veto power. They have high reaching missile capacities, but low space power. Their alliance with the United States has paved the way for future development.

*Iran:* Iran is a non-permanent member of the UNSC, meaning that it has no veto power. They have high reaching missile capacities, but low space power. However, their operations are shrouded in mystery and subversion, meaning few other countries truly know their capabilities.

*Ukraine:* Ukraine is a non-permanent member of the UNSC, meaning that it has no veto power.

*Italy:* Italy is a non-permanent member of the UNSC, meaning that it has no veto power.

## Position Paper Requirements

### Overview

The Position Paper that delegates will be writing is a culmination of the most important pre-conference research that they have done, acting as a summary of research and the representative view of their state on the issues presented to their respective organ. Position Papers are due, in hard-copy format, before the first committee session on Friday. Any delegate without a Position Paper will be deemed ineligible for awards, so remember to bring a copy for collection, and a copy for personal use! Remember to not plagiarize any aspect of the paper -



our chairs and directors will be checking every paper for plagiarism and we expect a full MLA works cited for each. Failure to do so might result in delegate or school delegation disqualification!

### Basic Structure

- Times New Roman, 12pt font, single spaced
- A cover page with delegate name, nation, council, school
  - Delegates can add additional details, including national flags, seals, or any symbolic edits to Model United Nations, to demonstrate thoughtful presentation and attention to details.
- One page per topic with titled sections: background, position policy and possible solutions
  - Background: This section should include an overview of the topic. What is the current situation, and what are the main parties affected? This should be the shortest section on the paper.
  - Position Policy: What past actions has your position taken to address the issue at hand? What does your person think about the topic? This section should take up a majority of your paper, as delegates should remain representative of their position's view throughout committee
  - Possible Solutions: This should be the most interesting part of a delegate's position paper. Solutions should incorporate both research and creativity, with a focus on improving past actions conducted by their respective council. Feel free to come up with unique solutions to the dilemmas at hand which you plan to



bring up during committee. Also include any personal or private agendas you may have for committee.

- Complete MLA bibliography and in-text citations for all statistics and sources used

### Helpful Hints

- Remember to avoid first person pronouns! Staying in character is always important at Model United Nations conferences!
- Always use the active voice!
- Avoid fancy language which can distract your chairs from the true meaning of your paper!
- Remember to remain formal when writing your position paper and try to show all the research that you have done for committee, as this is the first impression that your chairs will have of you!