

International Diplomacy Project: Middle East Nuclear Arms Control Regime Conference

Conference Rules and Procedures

Objective

Your task at the conference is to negotiate and draft any of the following with any of the other represented countries as opportunities arise and your country sees fit:

- a treaty
- an agreement
- a declaration of principles
- a set of confidence building measures

to establish an MENWFZ or MEWMDFZ or to pave the road for future negotiations. Any drafted agreements will be submitted in paper or by email at the end of the conference.

The following states will be represented: Israel, Iran, Egypt, Qatar, United Arab Emirates, Jordan, Saudi Arabia, Iraq, Libya, U.S., Russia, and China.

Rules for Diplomacy

Your goal is to simulate your country as closely as possible to what might occur in reality. There are two main rules.

1. You are to be guided by the same incentives of the country you represent.
2. You must follow the same rules that countries follow internationally. If your state does not diplomatically recognize another state, then you cannot directly engage each other. A detailed list of formal diplomatic relations and alliances is included in each country's summary. States without shared diplomatic recognition require a third party (usually another country) to act as a mediator.

You and your team can use any and all of the following forms of diplomacy:

- A) **Public media** messages announced to all attendees. To do this, your country will need to type a script of an announcement and submit it for approval in

- real-time during the conference. The conference facilitator will approve (or not approve) of the message: messages must be appropriate and professional. Approved messages will be announced over the microphone by facilitators (the News) or by your team.
- B) **Secret diplomatic cables** to communicate with countries that you diplomatically recognize. To do this, you will be given a web link to directly communicate with another recognized country. These links and passwords will be given to you on the day of the conference for you to instantly message the other country.
 - C) **Mediators** can be requested formally through public media messages or through a secret diplomatic cable (if you recognize that mediator). Similarly, a potential mediator can request to mediate between other countries through a public or secret message.
 - D) **Face-to-face talks** can be arranged or requested formally through public announcements, or informally you can make diplomatic visits to meet with state representatives while there. You may arrange for broad talks with many or all states present, or arrange for narrow talks with a few or just one state.

With your teammates, you can split up and try to accomplish more than one goal at the same time.

Getting to Know Your Country

Get to know the country you represent, and do your best to internalize your country's incentives. The country summary will provide you with a good overview that uses current political science data on the following: past stances on the MENWFZ, nuclear weapons, capabilities, trade, alliances, and domestic constraints.

These should provide most of the basic information. Of course, there are numerous additional considerations – far too many to list – including regional instability from the Arab Spring, regional conflict, and global politics. You are welcome to conduct additional research to familiarize yourself with your state's history, the regional history in general, your state's policies on nuclear weapons and energy, and finally, any relevant cooperation or conflicts in the region. A bibliography with recommended readings and additional information can be found on the project webpage.

Pre-Conference

You will be randomly assigned with other students to represent one country at the talks. Each team is required to submit two short papers (a white paper and an opening statement) to conference facilitators prior to the conference. Please meet with your team as soon as possible to devise and agree on a strategy to pursue. Then complete the online pre-simulation survey on your own.

The **white paper** is an overview of your country's strategies and position entering into negotiations [2-3 pages]. Be sure to include what your state hopes to accomplish, your desired best outcome, the outcome that you would minimally accept, your state's ideal strategy or options, any bottom line negotiating positions (things that you will not budge on), and what must be included in an outcome in order for your state to support it. This information **will not be shared** with other teams.

The **opening statement** should clearly state your country's public negotiating position [2-3 pages]. Be sure to include your state's position on a MENWFZ, what your state would like to accomplish, and any additional information you want all participants to know prior to entering negotiations. The opening statement will be made public at the start of the conference: countries will each briefly summarize their own key points, and copies of these public positions will be distributed to all teams before the start of the conference.

Please answer a brief **pre-simulation survey** before the day of the conference. The link to this survey can be found in the email you received.

Day of the Conference

Please bring: your student photo ID, and a laptop that can connect wirelessly to the Internet (optional).