

HISTORICAL CRISIS COMMITTEE

RULES OF PROCEDURE



GENERAL RULES

Rule 1: Scope & Application

The following rules of procedure apply in full to all sessions, ordinary and extraordinary, of the Historical Crisis Committee (HCC) at PACMUN. No other rules of procedure are applicable.

Rule 2: Delegate Conduct

As ranking officials from their respective civilizations, delegates are expected to remain courteous and respectful to all staff members and other delegates; appropriate diplomatic language, abstention from profanity and/or any other inappropriate behavior, and a willingness to fulfill the duties of individual roles is required.

English will be the official and only working language of the committee, and affected accents are not permitted. Speech is not required to be in third-person - delegates may address each other by last name or by title. Similarly, first-person pronouns (i.e. I, he, we) are allowed. Western business attire is mandatory during all committee sessions, and the Chair will immediately call to order delegates who do not abide by this rule.

Delegates are expected to be present at the beginning of every committee session. Roll call will be taken before debate is opened, and delegates arriving late must submit a note to the Dais indicating whether they are present or present and voting. Delegates who will not be present for part or all of a committee session must inform the Dais beforehand by note or by email.

Rule 3: Electronic Aids

Use of laptop computers, tablets, or other similar devices is permitted, though unnecessary, during committee session. Delegates are expected to refrain from accessing the internet, unless given explicit permission from the Dais. If a delegate requires information relevant to their position, they may send a note requesting such information to the Dais. If the Dais determines the information to be relevant, a staff member will do research and inform the delegate as necessary. Cell phones are prohibited during committee session and delegates may not use electronic devices to communicate in any manner with other delegates outside their bloc while the

committee is in session. Use of a cell phone may be permitted in the case of an emergency but must be brought to the attention of the Dais. Any questions about electronic devices should be brought to the Dais.

Rule 4: General Powers of the Secretariat

The Secretary-General and other members of the Secretariat reserve the right to modify or suspend these rules at any time and may serve as a member of the Dais at the discretion of the Director.

COMMITTEE RULES AND FORMAT

Rule 5: General Powers of the Committee Staff

The Committee is comprised of the Director, Chair, and Assistant Director. The Dais reserves the right to override any decisions, directives, and substantive actions of the Committee. Upon approval, all decisions are binding, including actions of a military nature.

The Director holds the final authority on Rules of Procedure and may adapt, amend, or suspend them at any time. The Director may also initiate the adoption of any procedural movement or interrupt the flow of debate to address the committee, present updates, bring in an expert witness or guest speaker, or advise the committee on choices and debate.

The Chair will announce the opening and closing of each session, as well as any decisions or modifications to the rules of procedure, direct the flow of debate, grant the floor to delegates to speak, and enforce adherence to the Rules of Procedure. The Chair will be responsible for ruling on points of order and may deem any motion dilatory or out of order. If necessary, the Chair may speak as a normal delegate and may make speeches and motions but cannot vote.

The Assistant Director helps to facilitate debate at their discretion, answer delegates' questions, and may occupy the position of Chair at any time, at the discretion of the Director. The Assistant Director may act as a means of consulting a delegate's civilization, should such a consultation become necessary.

Rule 6: Role of Delegates

Delegates assume the responsibilities of their assigned character, which includes all obligations to government. Delegates hold directory privileges with regards to the progress of the Crisis, and it is the responsibility of the Committee to craft, propose, vote upon, and enact directives.

Rule 7: Flow of Debate

As the Historical Crisis Committee is expected to act in response to a central crisis, as well as events that occur as corollaries of their decisions, the actions of the opposing Bloc, and other events, the Committee is granted the right to act as it sees fit. There is no set agenda and the default manner of debate is continuous moderated caucus. Default time limit for speeches is one minute; the Chair may institute and enforce an alternative limit should the default prove to be an impediment to the efficacy of the Committee. Speeches must be on topic; the Chair may call to order delegates who do not abide by this rule. Delegates may propose an unmoderated caucus or a round-table debate with a formal motion (see Points and Motions).

POINTS AND MOTIONS

Points and motions are questions or suggestions directed towards the Chair. They can only be made before or after a delegate's speech — except for a Point of Personal Privilege — and are entertained at the discretion of the Chair. Motions are proposed actions by the committee that must be voted upon and, unless specified otherwise, require a simple majority to pass. For a complete list of points and motions permissible at PACMUN, see the PACMUN 2019 Long-Form Rules of Procedure, keeping in mind that some points and motions may not be applicable to this committee.

Rule 8: Motion to move into Direct Voting Procedure

If debate on the public directive/Declaration is done and amendments are finished before the allotted time, a delegate may Motion to move into Direct Voting Procedure. This causes the council to immediately begin voting for the directive. Requires a two-thirds majority to pass.

Rule 9: Motion to Divide the House

If the directive being voted on is highly controversial and there are many abstentions, the sponsor of the directive may Motion to Divide the House. This immediately constitutes a revote on the directive, with no abstentions being allowed. Immediately passes. Requires more than 30% of the council in abstention to Motion to Divide the House.

Rule 10: Unmoderated Caucus

A motion for an unmoderated caucus suspends the moderated caucus and the custodial responsibility of the Bloc from the Chair. The motion must include a time limit and is not debatable. An approved unmoderated caucus may be terminated prior to its expiration at the discretion of the Chair.

At the advent of a new crisis, the council may vote to move into a moderated caucus to discuss the crisis, which will supersede all remaining motions on the floor.

Rule 11: Motion to Amend Council Procedure

If a delegate feels that the total time to speak or individual speaking time per delegate is unsuitable, the delegate may motion to amend council procedure and change the individual speaking time. Accepted only at the chair's discretion. Format: "Motion to Amend Council Procedure, changing total speaking time/individual speaking time per member to (time amount)."

Rule 12: Adjournment

A motion for adjournment ends the ongoing debate and the Committee indefinitely and must be made only at the end of the conference. This motion is not debatable. Motions for adjournment may be ruled dilatory at the discretion of the Chair.

Rule 13: Motion to Suspend Debate

This motion is used to suspend debate for lunch or to end the day. Requires a two-thirds majority to pass.

Rule 14: Motion to Introduce a Directive

Allows a delegate to introduce a directive. This motion may only be used after the directive to be introduced has been approved by committee staff and returned to the delegate.

Rule 15: Point of Personal Privilege

A Point of Personal Privilege may be exercised if a delegate experiences personal discomfort, which impairs their ability to participate in the proceedings. A Point of Personal Privilege may only interrupt a speaker if the delegate is in dire discomfort or cannot hear the speaker. The point may be made via note to the Dais if necessary.

Rule 16: Point of Order

A Point of Order may be made to indicate an instance of improper procedure. The Chair will rule on the Point of Order in a manner that best facilitates debate, at his/her discretion; the Chair's ruling is not subject to appeal. A delegate rising to a Point of Order may not speak on the substance of the matter currently under discussion. A Point of Order may not interrupt a speaker. Additionally, the Chair has the right to address a delegate directly if proper procedure is not being followed. \

Rule 17: Point of Inquiry

A Point of Inquiry permits delegates to ask questions concerning the Rules of Procedure, crises updates, or for general clarification on a pertinent subject. A Point of Inquiry may not interrupt a speaker. Delegates with lengthier queries or queries specific to their position should not rise to this point but should rather approach the Dais during unmoderated caucus or send a Request for Information directive/note.

Rule 18: Right of Reply

A Right of Reply may be granted, upon request, to a delegate whose personal or national integrity has been impugned by another delegate. There is no vote on this motion; the Chair will grant the Right of Reply at their discretion, and this decision is not appealable. The Chair will recognize the delegate to speak for no longer than two minutes.

A Right of Reply to a Right of Reply is out of order, but delegates granted a Right of Reply will be called to order immediately should their own remarks be offensive. A motion for a Right of Reply may not interrupt a speech; the motion must either be made verbally immediately after the offending speech or submitted in writing to the Chair shortly thereafter.

Rule 19: Motion to Amend (a Public Directive/Declaration)

A directive that is introduced may not always be the final draft or perfect directive which the delegates wish to achieve; if, throughout the course of the debate on the directive, a delegate wishes to make an amendment to the directive, they may motion to introduce an amendment. They should send a note containing their amendment to the chair, and then Motion to Amend the current Directive. This can only be done after the introduction of the particular directive and a speech from the amending delegate informally introducing and summarizing the amendment. The council must either move into discussion of the amendment or vote on it directly, immediately following a Motion to Amend. Amendments require a 50% majority to pass; abstentions are allowed unless the house is divided.

Rule 20: Yields

Although yields are not motions, points or actions, they are still noteworthy. Delegates may yield excess speech time to another delegate and allow them to speak for the remaining time. If time has been yielded to a delegate, that delegate may not in turn yield the time to another delegate. If a speech is finished before time has elapsed, the delegate should yield time to the Chair.

DIRECTIVES

Action in the HCC is not carried out in normal resolutions; instead, the Committee uses directives. Directives are documents, binding in the actions they describe. They may consist of policy, plans of action, or implementation of policy or preemptive measures. Directives are used to resolve events and prepare for repercussions or opposing action. A directive can also be any document which requires the legislative or executive authority of the council; for example, it can take the form of military orders, diplomatic letters, espionage plans, speeches, official press releases, official government stance, amendments to law, etc. While directives are not required to have titles, creative titles may add multipliers to the rolls. Along with its content, each Directive must indicate the type of Directive being enacted: public or private; if not properly labelled, all Directives will be presumed public and presented as such.

Rule 21: Private Directives

Private directives are ordered under the authority of a delegate in the committee and require the signature of only that individual and are not voted on. However, if the directive falls under the jurisdiction of multiple delegates, multiple signatures will be required. There are two types of private directives: overt directives and covert directives. Overt directives may have signatories to increase the chance of their directive being passed. These directives usually influence the entire committee and therefore the directive is announced when it passes as well as the sponsor and the effects of the directive. Covert directives are purely under the jurisdiction of one delegate and only the outcome is announced to the Committee.

Rule 22: Public Directives

A public directive must have a minimum of two signatories. If the directive acts outside of the jurisdiction of the sponsor(s), the directive must also contain the signature of the delegate who holds the relevant authority. Delegates with limited powers are encouraged to utilize public directives to enact change necessary to achieve the bloc's interests. The directive will be introduced formally by its sponsors upon approval from the Dais before voting procedure commences. Directives may only be voted on by a formal Motion to Vote and require a simple majority to pass. If it is necessary for the progression of the committee and Crisis, the Dais may require all delegates to vote. Public directives are binding to the committee and can take the form of:

- **Public Communiqué**
Releases a public statement from a specified group (*Mongol Empire, Volga Empire, Bloc 2, etc.*) to the general people, media, branches of government, or the military on a wide-scale basis. Generally used as a propaganda tool.
- **Invitations and Requests**
The Bloc, or members of the Bloc, may decide to issue requests to directly meet with witnesses, politicians, prisoners, or any other individuals pertaining to a crisis. This type of Directive is useful for direct contact or negotiation with a member outside the delegate's Bloc; however, there is no guarantee that these requests will be accepted.
- **Military Directive**
The Committee may order its military forces to conduct military operations. The more specific the order, the better. All military directives follow a special procedure for passage to expedite their passage since at times it may be necessary to deploy troops rapidly. To begin, they are introduced by their sponsors. Following the introduction, the dais will ask for debate three times. If there is no debate, the directive passes by acclamation and goes into effect. To prevent the passage of a military directive, a delegate must motion to Countermand Military Action. See Rule 25 for more detail. An introduction to Rules of Engagement will also be provided during the first committee session.
- **Legislative Directive**
Enacts legislation that can affect anything under a bloc's control. This could include adjustments to policy, use of resources, levying of taxes, and more. Has the power to boost production in an industry and affect the daily lives of citizens. For more information on impeachment, see Rule 23.
- **Political Directive**
Facilitates communication between an official and local governmental organization, legislative leaders, or envoys to the various intergovernmental organizations represented in committee.
- **Information Collection**
Instructs spies to obtain secret information about other organizations, countries, etc. Limited resources may make some espionage difficult, and spies may not be on location. Movement by intelligence officers may also increase the risk of being exposed.

- **Sabotage**
Instructs intelligence officials to take deliberate action to weaken another country or organization through subversion, obstruction, disruption, or destruction of productive or vital facilities. The objective of the sabotage must be clearly noted.
- **Counterintelligence**
Employs special measures to prevent hostile or enemy intelligence organizations from successfully gathering and collecting intelligence against the bloc and its government, through methods such as assassination and the spread of misinformation.
- **Surveillance**
Instructs intelligence officials to monitor a specific individual, a group of individuals, or any persons that meet specific criteria. The surveillance of the behavior, activities, or other changing information, of people or groups of people, is an excellent method of collecting information about both enemies and friends, domestically or internationally. Surveillance may be employed within one's bloc.
- **Internal Communication**
The committee may communicate and issue memorandums to all aspects of a constituent government. Internal communication is meant to provide delegates with specific Directives, instructions, reminders, or suggestions. It may also be used to reinforce specific political stances the bloc has elected to take up, or to instruct internal ministries with respect to the media treatment of certain issues and events.
- **Treaty**
A committee may issue a directive to form a treaty with another political entity regarding social, economic, foreign, or military policy.

If the bloc feels that there is some action that it should take that does not fall within the above categories, a written proposal may be submitted to the dais for consideration.

SPECIAL AND MISCELLANEOUS RULES

Rule 23: Motion to Hold a Vote of No Confidence

The power to motion for a Vote of No Confidence may be exercised by any delegate against another delegate. If a delegate is not performing their duties or is acting against the interests of the bloc, then a motion for a Vote of No Confidence can be made. This motion does not require a vote. If the dais rules it to be in order, the committee will proceed directly into impeachment trial proceedings. The procedure of a trial is as follows:

- The delegate who called the motion is called on to speak by the dais and states, *"I motion for a Vote of No Confidence against [position name]"*
- If the motion is ruled to be in order, then the delegate gives a speech with a maximum time limit of two minutes on the topic of why they believe the delegate on trial is acting against the interests of the bloc and should be impeached
- The defendant then is given the opportunity to give a speech with a maximum time limit of two minutes on the topic of why they should not be impeached
- The committee will then vote to convict. If two-thirds of the committee votes in favor of conviction, the delegate on trial is immediately impeached.

If a delegate is impeached, they will not be allowed to participate in debate, vote, or pass notes/communicate with other delegates in the committee for seven minutes. However, delegates may use this time to author directives to pass once their suspension has passed. After seven minutes, they will be reinstated to their position and allowed to debate and vote once more.

Rule 24: Assassination Procedures

In the Historical Crisis Committee, delegates can assassinate public officials in their own or the opposing bloc. To do this, the directive must be written explicitly stating who is targeted and in what manner an attempt will be made on their life.

Assassinations are not guaranteed to be successful, and a botched assassination will likely result in reprisals from the targeted bloc. If a delegate is assassinated, they will be removed from the committee for seven minutes. They are permitted to author directives while they are suspended. After seven minutes, they will be reinstated to their position and allowed to debate and vote once more.

Rule 25: Motion to Countermand Military Action

Military directives are unique among directives because they are passed by acclamation unless there is dissent. After the introduction of a military directive, the dais will ask for debate three times. If there is no debate, the directive passes. If there is debate, then delegates will debate the directive until there is no dissent and the directive passes, or until a delegate makes a motion to Countermand Military Action. This motion does not require debate, and if ruled in order by the dais triggers an immediate vote. If two-thirds of the delegates present vote against a military directive, the directive is permanently failed and cannot be voted on again unless it is re-submitted to the dais for approval. If the motion to Countermand Military Action fails to reach a two-thirds majority against the directive, then the directive passes and goes into effect.

Rule 26: Question and Answer Sessions

After a directive has been introduced but before it has been voted on, any delegate may motion for a Question and Answer Session. A motion for a Q&A session must include how long the session will last. A simple majority is required to pass this motion. If the motion passes, the committee will enter a Q&A session and the directive's sponsors will proceed to the front of the room. The dais will call on delegates one at a time to ask questions pertaining to the directive, and the sponsors will answer them. If no questions remain before time has elapsed, any delegate may motion to suspend the Q&A session. This motion requires a simple majority to pass.

Rule 27: Communication between Blocs

Delegates are permitted to pass notes between blocs, but the notes must be read and then approved by the Joint Dais to be given to the other bloc. To pass a note, a delegate must write on the outside of the note that it is to be sent to the other bloc, specifying the delegate that the note is intended for. The note must be turned in to the Dais and will then be delivered to the delegate in the other bloc, who will then deliver the note to its addressee if they so choose. The name of both the sender and the addressee of each note will be announced to the entire bloc.

Rule 28: Transactions

Delegates may sell materials and munitions to other members of the committee, to complete a transaction, a contract must be prepared. A contract is a special case of a public directive, in which the two parties agree on the goods to be exchanged and the price to be paid. HCC will use the legal definition of a contract, which is that it must include an offer, an agreement, a consideration, and a mutuality of obligation. Essentially, one party must offer a good or service to the other party. The party receiving the offer must then accept the offer and propose a good or service (which

could include a monetary payment) that they will provide in exchange for the offered good or service. Both parties are then legally responsible to meet the terms of the agreement. Contract-breaking will not be tolerated.

*Regarding monetary payment, inflation is not considered; use approximate monetary values appropriate to 2019 to complete transactions.

Rule 29: Treaties

If delegates find that compromise would be the best option for the crisis, they will be required to write and pass a treaty. To write a treaty, several delegates will be allowed to request an extended unmoderated caucus. They will have a certain amount of time, to be determined by the Director, to write the treaty. After writing it, the treaty will be presented to and voted on by each bloc. A simple majority is required to pass the treaty.

Rule 30: Reservation of Crisis Jurisdiction

If an unforeseen event comes to pass that is not accounted for in the Rules of Procedure, the Dais reserves the right to make a ruling on how the event will be handled.

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