

MUN For Dummies

How to win "Best Delegate"

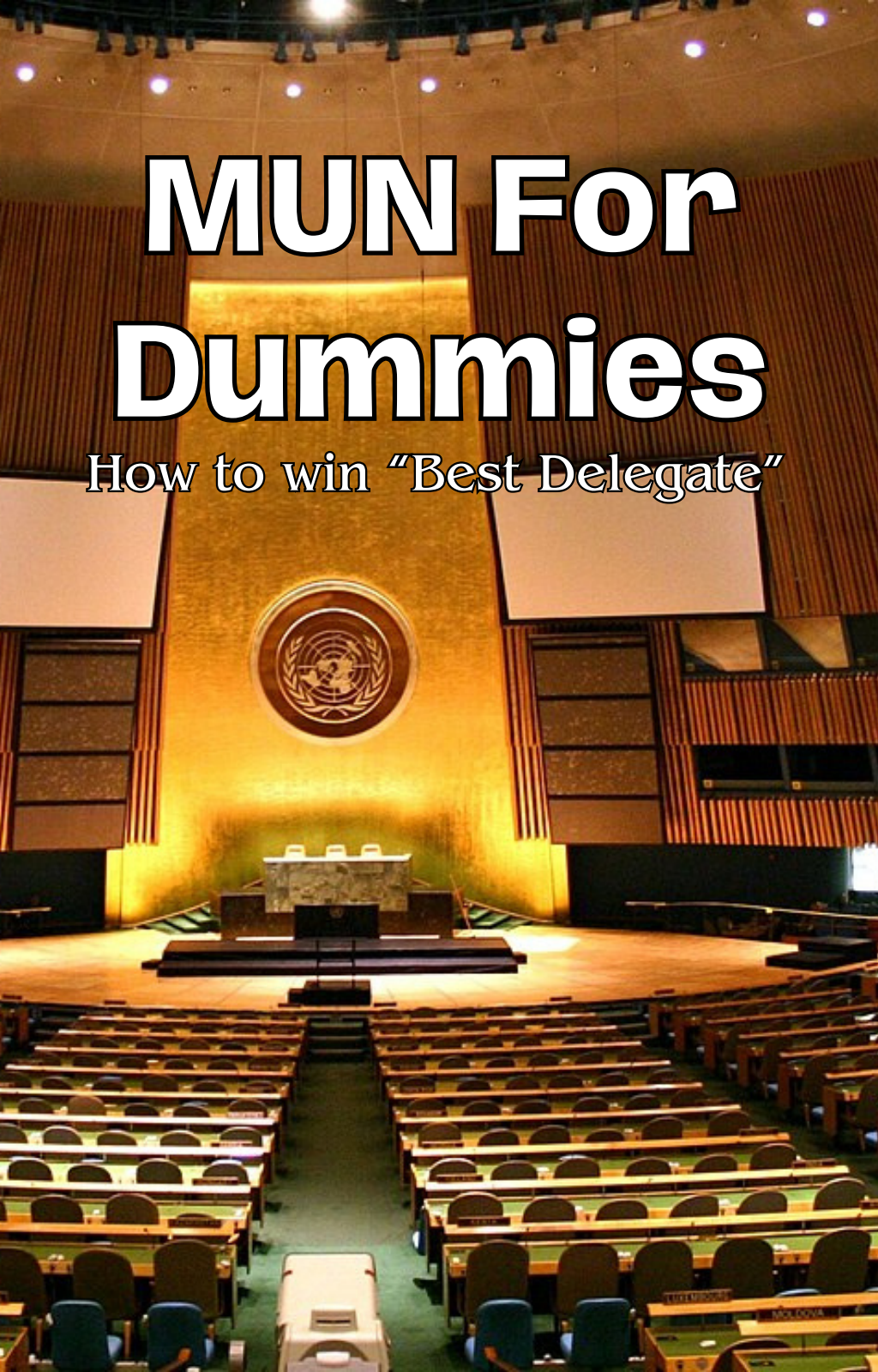


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Chapter 1: Pre- emptive

Basic background knowledge

Note from the Author

Dear Reader,

My name is Hannah van der Meer. I love MUN, at the time of writing this, I have attended 5 conferences as a delegate, and won 3 best delegate awards. With being an Ambassador as my chosen career field, it was a given that I would have a passion for MUN. It brings me joy that every year more and more people join the club, and more people get to experience the same thrill as I do attending conferences. That being said, it can be hard to know exactly what to do at all times. Due to this, I have decided to create a book which entails everything a first time delegate needs to know, from the dress code to councils. I hope that this book proves useful in my mission, and that it can be your go-to MUN tool. Best Wishes!



What is MUN

MUN stands for Model United Nations. It's an educational academic activity in which students learn about diplomacy, international relations, and the United Nations.

In a Model United Nations conference, participants (students) represent different countries or organizations in simulations of UN committees. They engage in discussions and debates about various global issues, aiming to find solutions through diplomatic means, similar to how real UN delegates would.

MUN conferences can be held at various levels, from local to international, and can cover a wide range of topics, from climate change and human rights to security concerns and economic development.



What are the Benefits of Joining

Aside the fact that joining an MUN would help you if you have a general interest in politics and global affairs, MUN has many other benefits.

MUN teaches research skills, as a good delegate throughouly researches their position. It also teaches communication, as a delegate has to 'lobby' and sell their idea to other delegates. Delegates also learn how to think critically and act on their feet, responding to an issue in a fast pace.

Besides the self-improvement skills, participating in MUN also helps with university applications (if you are applying for a humanities course). It looks like gold on an application.

Alongside practical reasons, MUN also helps with networking, and getting to know people. I have met many people in my MUN conferences, which I now have the privilege of being associated with, and who I will possibly attend university with.

Chapter 2: Introduction

Basic delegate information

Responsibilities as a Delegate

Your responsibilities as a delegate can be boiled down to a few points

- 1) **Represent the interests and concerns of the organisation or country** you were given: It can be difficult to align yourself with certain viewpoints, however as a delegate it is your obligation to be an ambassador for your country or organisation.
 - 2) **Drafting a resolution:** The goal of MUN is to pass clauses, or your whole resolution, so it is important delegates have one prepared to tackle the given issue for their committee.
 - 3) **Negotiating/Lobbying:** In order to get delegates to agree with your resolution and country's stance, as a delegate you need to prepare to negotiate, or persuade others as to why your perspective is good.
 - 4) **Keeping informed:** It is good to keep informed about news and policies surrounding your topic, as other delegates can use your country/organisation's stance against you, however as a delegate you can also do the latter.
- e.g.** The delegate of Italy in MUNISE23 demanded for an unbiased party, the Red Cross, to moderate their activities in Abyssinia. The delegate of Abyssinia reminded Italy via a POI that Italian troops bombed a Red Cross hospital during the invasion

What is a Resolution

In Model United Nations (MUN), a resolution is a formal document that outlines proposed solutions to a specific issue or topic being discussed during a simulated session of a United Nations committee.

Resolutions are the primary means through which delegates work together to address global challenges and reach consensus.

During MUN sessions, delegates debate and negotiate the content of resolutions, working together to gain support and consensus from other delegates.

Once a resolution has been approved by a majority vote, it becomes an official stance or recommendation of the committee.



Chapter 3: Choosing your Comittee

What suits you

Full resolution Committee

A Full Resolution Committee is a specialized committee focused entirely on the development, debate, and approval of resolutions. This committee is distinct from other MUN committees, like General Assemblies or specialized agencies, which may have broader agendas and discussions. Most committees follow this structure. If you come to this committee, you are expected to bring a full resolution, as well as speeches to defend your country/organisations stance.

Key Features:

1. **Dedicated to Resolutions:** Unlike other committees that might discuss a range of topics, a Full Resolution Committee is exclusively focused on one specific issue or topic.
2. **Intensive Resolution Crafting:** Delegates in this committee spend the majority of their time working on the language, content, and details of resolutions related to the chosen topic.
3. **Comprehensive Research:** Delegates are expected to conduct thorough research on the topic at hand, as the effectiveness and relevance of resolutions rely on accurate information.
4. **Preambulatory and Operative Clauses:** Delegates collaborate to construct well-structured resolutions, including both preambulatory clauses (offering background and context) and operative clauses (containing specific proposed actions or recommendations).
5. **Negotiation and Compromise:** Delegates in a Full Resolution Committee work together to find common ground, build consensus, and refine the resolution's language to gain broader support.
6. **Formal Presentation and Debate:** Once a resolution is drafted, it is formally presented to the committee by its sponsors. Delegates then engage in structured debate to discuss and amend the resolution.
7. **Voting and Adoption:** The committee votes on the resolution, and if it garners a majority of support, it is officially adopted as the committee's stance on the issue.

Clause by clause Committee

A "Clause-by-Clause Committee" is a specialized format often used in high-level committees like the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) during Model United Nations (MUN) conferences. This approach is distinct from the traditional process of passing a resolution, as it involves a more detailed examination of each individual clause within a proposed resolution.

Here's how a Clause-by-Clause Committee typically operates:

1. **Focus on Specific Clauses:** Instead of considering an entire resolution at once, this committee scrutinizes each clause separately. Delegates discuss, debate, and negotiate the wording and intent of each clause.
2. **Intensive Review Process:** Each clause is analyzed in depth. Delegates may propose amendments, revisions, or deletions to refine the language and content.
3. **Emphasis on Precision and Detail:** Delegates in a Clause-by-Clause Committee pay careful attention to the specifics of the resolution. They aim for clear, actionable language that accurately addresses the issue at hand.
4. **Enhanced Diplomatic Skills:** This format demands a high level of negotiation, diplomacy, and consensus-building skills. Delegates must navigate the interests of different countries while ensuring the resolution remains effective.
5. **Incremental Approval:** Rather than voting on the entire resolution at once, the committee votes on each clause individually. This allows for a more granular examination of the content.
6. **Focused Debate and Discussion:** The committee's discussions are tightly focused on the language and intent of each clause. This may lead to more substantive debates on specific points.
7. **Thorough Understanding of the Topic:** Delegates are expected to have a deep understanding of the issue being addressed, as they need to evaluate the impact and effectiveness of each clause.
8. **Time-Intensive Process:** Clause-by-Clause Committees can be more time-consuming compared to standard committees, as each clause requires thorough consideration.

Crisis Committee

When I first started doing MUN, I was not aware what a Crisis Committee was. It was only till MUNISE23 where a 'news reporter' walked into our room, and read out an event that none of us prepared for, did I learn. Our time cutoff in this MUN was 1935, then an event was presented in 1937 which we were all asked to create clauses to solve. This committee is called a crisis committee & can be implemented within any normal committee.

The idea of this committee is to see how fast delegates can think on their feet. It oftentimes seems overwhelming, however it is more simple than it seems. If you do proper research into your countries foreign policy, it will be easy to know their position on a given issue. From this you can make brand new resolution clauses. Oftentimes I adapt clauses from my prepared resolution and edit them towards the matching situation.

● LIVE

BREAKING

NEWS

pg 13

Chapter 4: Preparing for your MUN

What you really need to know

Procedure

The following is basic Procedure:

Delegates must never speak using personal pronouns

e.g. Rather than saying 'you' or 'I', say 'The delegate of _____'

Delegates may never speak to each other. Delegates can instead pass notes (lift a note in the air and an admin will pass it) or address another delegate through the chair.

For matters such as role call, voting, or when you want to speak, you must raise your placard.

In order for delegates to present their resolution to be debated, they need to have a speech introducing it. At the end of speaking (at the podium) a delegate can open themselves up to **Points of Information**.

You can open yourself up to as many as you would like to answer, e.g. "one"/"two"/"any and all".

In order to give a point of information you need to raise your placard and speak in the order given to you by the chair.

In the end, only one resolution can pass (so make sure yours is the best)

*general rules of procedure differ per conference however each conference will provide documents for this

Drafting a Resolution

Format

COMMITTEE: name the Committee

SPONSORS:

SIGNATORIES:

TOPIC: the issue or case study that the resolution deals with

1. the introductory word or phrase of each clause is underlined (examples given in the next pages).
2. there is a line space between each clause. (Except sub-clauses)
3. each operative clause is numbered.
4. sub-clauses are lettered: a), b), c), etc. and sub-sub clauses numbered i), ii),
5. iii), etc.
6. sub-clauses are single spaced together.
7. operative clauses and subclauses are
8. indented (by using tab settings not the
9. spacebar!)
10. acronyms and abbreviations are
11. written out in full the first time they
12. are used in a resolution.
13. Each preambulatory clause ends with
14. a comma.
15. Each operative clause ends with a
16. semicolon.
17. Sub-clauses do not end in a comma or
18. a semicolon.
19. The resolution ends in a period.
20. The entire resolution is one sentence.

Preambulatory Clauses

Preambulatory Phrases: Preambulatory clauses are historic justifications for action. Use them to cite past resolutions, precedents and statements about the purpose of action.

Acknowledging	Guided by
Affirming	Having adopted
Alarmed by	Having Considered
Approving	Having considered further
Aware of	Having devoted attention
Believing	Having examined
Bearing in mind	Having heard
Confident	Having received
Congratulations	Having studied
Contemplating	Keeping in mind
Convinced	Noting further
Declaring	Noting with appreciation
Deeply concerned	Noting with approval
Deeply conscious	Noting with deep concern
Deeply convinced	Noting with regret
Deeply regretting	Noting with satisfaction
Deploing	Observing
Desiring	Pointing out
Emphasizing	Reaffirming
Expecting	Recalling
Expressing its appreciation	Recognizing
Expressing its satisfaction	Referring
Fulfilling	Reminding
Fully alarmed	Seeking
Fully aware	Taking into consideration
Fully believing	Viewing with appreciation
Further deploring	
Further recalling	

Operative Clauses

Operative phrases: Operative clauses are policies that the resolution is designed to create. Use them to explain what the committee will do to address the issue.

Accepts	Hopes
Affirms	Proclaims
Approves	Proposes Recommends
Asks	Regrets
Authorizes	Requests
Calls for	Resolves
Calls upon Condemns	Seeks
Congratulates Confirms	Strongly affirms Strongly condemns Strongly urges
Declares accordingly	Suggests
Deplores	Supports
Designates	Trusts
Encourages	Transmits Urges
Endorses	
Expresses its appreciation	
Expresses its hope	
Further invites	
Further proclaims	
Further recommends	
Further requests	
Further resolves	

*If confused check the appendix for examples

Dress code

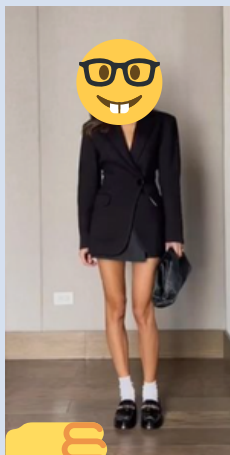
Dress-codes can differ from MUN to MUN, however these are some basic themes I have picked up

- Office wear/ Business attire (think dress pants, button ups)
- No midriff
- No open toe heels
- Skirts over the knees
- No denim
- No casual shirts (e.g. Polos)
- No sneakers (dress shoes, heels, or plain boots are acceptable)
- No political messages on clothing
- No military wear
- No caps/hats
- No shorts
- No deep V-necks
- Blazer is not always required, however is recommended
- Tie is not always required, but is recommended
- Recommended not to wear stilettos
- If cold, use a blazer or sweater

What to wear



What to not wear



Chapter 5: Rules of Procedure

Technicalities & a lot of text (I'm
sorry)

Motions

Motions are used to discuss procedural matters and they help to further the discussion on your committee topic.

Motion to verify the quorum: When the session starts the chairs will clarify the quorum by a roll-call procedure. Each delegate should raise their placard and state present (basically taking attendance).

Motion to set the agenda: Since there is one topic area in each committee, the agenda is set to the topic area of the committee by the chairs.

Motion to establish a speakers' list: Before the discussion starts, a delegate should entertain a motion to establish a speakers' list, which is a formal debate. When a delegate concludes their speech, they can yield their remaining time:

- a) to the chair;
- b) to another delegate, who can either accept or decline the yield;
- c) to questions (points of information)

Motion for a Moderated Caucus: When the floor is open, a delegate can entertain a motion for a moderated caucus, which is an informal debate. The total duration, the speaker's time and the exact topic of the caucus should also be defined. During the moderated caucus, there are no points of information and yielding of the floor is not required.

Motion to extend the Moderated Caucus: After the end of the moderated caucus, in case the floor remains open to points and motions, any representative may propose a Motion to Extend the Moderated Caucus. The extension of the Moderated Caucus shall be equal or shorter than the original duration of the caucus.

Motion for an Unmoderated Caucus: When the floor is open, a delegate can entertain a motion for an unmoderated caucus stating both the total duration and the exact purpose of the caucus. The general purpose of an unmoderated caucus is to allow immediate and informal negotiation and bargaining, in order to clarify positions and prepare working papers, amendments or draft resolutions (oftentimes used as lobbying time).

Motion to extend the Unmoderated Caucus: A motion to extend the unmoderated caucus shall be in order right after the time of the original unmoderated caucus has elapsed. The extension of the unmoderated caucus shall be equal or shorter than the original duration of the caucus.

Motions

Motion to Introduce a Draft Resolution: When the floor is open the sponsor of a draft resolution can entertain a motion to introduce a draft resolution.

Motion to introduce the amendments: After all the existing amendments have been submitted to the Chairpersons of each Committee during the indicated by the Board time, a motion to introduce the amendments should be made.

Motion to Close the Debate on a Draft Resolution: After the end of the discussion on a draft resolution, a motion to close the debate on a draft resolution is in order. If there are more than one draft resolutions to the floor, after the closing of the debate on the first of them, the Committee should proceed to the introduction of the second one and then proceed with the same procedure once again. This motion needs a 2/3 majority in order to pass.

Motion to Close the Debate on Topic Area Under Discussion: When all the submitted drafts are discussed and all debates on these drafts have been closed, the Board will entertain a motion to close the debate on topic area under discussion. After this motion passes – it requires a 2/3 majority – the Committee will automatically enter the voting procedure for each one of the existing draft resolutions.

Motion for a Roll-Call Vote: The Board will call the countries one by one to vote, if this motion is suggested. It passes automatically.

Motion to Split the House: The Motion to Split the House is in order when the representative proposing this Motion wishes to exclude abstention from the voting options during the final vote on the draft resolution. Once the Motion passes, the representatives shall not be allowed to abstain during the voting of the resolution.

Motion to Divide the Question: When delegates want to vote on some clauses separately. This motion requires a 2/3 majority and it is up to the discretion of the President to recognize one speaker in favor and one against of this motion before putting it to the vote.

Motion to adjourn the session: This motion should be entertained ONLY at the end of the last session of the MUN conference, and the last passing of a resolution.

Points and Rights

Point of Personal Privilege:

It is applied if a delegate feels discomfort. It is usually used to ask a delegate to speak up and if the delegate would like to use the bathroom. It is recommended that if a delegate would like to use the bathroom to send a note to the chairs. It is the only point that can interrupt a speaker.

Point of Parliamentary Inquiry:

It can be used if a delegate would like to ask the chairs upon the rules or the procedure. It cannot interrupt a speaker.

Point of Order:

It can be used if a delegate is sure that the chairs have made a misuse of the rules.

Right of Reply:

It is used when a delegate feels that their country or their personal integrity has been insulted and wants to make a statement and express their complain.

Point of Information:

It is the right to ask a question to another delegate. It is used only when the rules permit it, namely only during formal debate when a delegate yields their remaining time to questions.

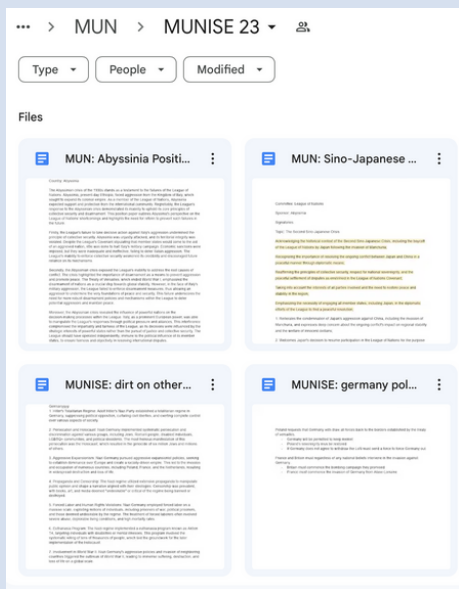
Chapter 6: How to win best delegate

**If you want to go above and
beyond**

Research Binder

Research is one of the most important things in a MUN. While I don't necessarily carry a big binder filled with pages of research, I do have a research google document for every issue discussed within a committee. It's helpful to have down policies that your country has put into place regarding the issue, as well as how this has affected your citizens. Furthermore to go above and beyond, if you can find the same information for other delegations in your committee, it can be used for/against them in Points of Information, or during lobbying time. I also like to keep copies of certain treaties relating to the topic at hand (clauses) in order to use them as concrete evidence, or as references.

It is also possible to have news articles or reports reporting on the committee issue to have a further knowledge, and reference back to. I like to use a google drive folder to organise everything.



Lobbying

Before any debate occurs, an unmoderated caucus usually gets put into procedure. This allows delegates to 'show off' their resolutions and convince everyone to become a signatory. This moment determines how you are perceived as a delegate, and if your resolution can even get talked about. From this moment, use your research, think of your diplomatic ties, and think of other delegations agendas. Oftentimes something I like to do is pay homage to a certain human rights convention, such as the UDHR or CEDAW in order to sell my point. Furthermore referencing events within another delegations country makes them more likely to vote in favour of you. Lobbying is a time where social skills have to come into play, so you need to be ready to talk, and attempt to persuade.



Diplomacy

It is simple as a delegate to say, “oh my country is allied with this one, therefore I should vote in their favour.” Going above and beyond this can truly help you as a delegate.

Knowing trade between countries, reliance, and other minor yet critical things will help you. Oftentimes going into an MUN I gather up bad information on other delegates (e.g. how their country has violated certain treaties or other negative things). It can be as simple as a statistic about discrimination within a country, a news article on a government avoidable issue, or citing a treaty they are breaking.

This makes other delegates more wary to vote In favour of them, and makes you as a delegate look more confident in what you know. The opposite can also be done, where you research the positives of other countries to support them when they speak. It is important to also research into how your delegation/country has ‘messed up’ regarding the committees issue, as you need to be prepared to defend yourself. I have made unlikely allies, and even more unlikely rivals doing the above.

Ending notes

I know that all of this information likely seems very overwhelming, and difficult to remember. MUN is hard enough already having to remember your country, its geopolitics, dirt on other countries, and having to do copious amounts of research. I myself do not know all of these things by heart. My best advice for you as a delegate is to try. It may be scary to give a Point of Information, however after the first it starts to fly by. Occasionally you will slip up, you'll say or do something wrong, and that is okay. Every delegate has those moments, and the chairs will correct your mistakes. MUNs have a lot of rules of procedure, and formalities, however they are fun. I hope that you are able to have fun at MUN, the same way I have.

Appendix

Extra documents if you need
examples

Example opening speech from MiniMUN23

Topic 2: Defining the role of neighbouring countries in refugee crisis

Honourable Chairs,
Distinguished Delegates

Kazakhstan appreciates the opportunity to address the critical topic of defining the role of neighboring countries in the refugee crisis. Drawing from our own governmental policies and experiences, we understand the profound impact that this crisis has on both displaced populations and the countries that host them.

Kazakhstan recognizes the inherent interdependence between nations in addressing the refugee crisis. Neighboring countries often serve as the first point of contact for displaced individuals, providing them with shelter, resources, and, most importantly, hope for a better future. Kazakhstan is a country which holds more immigration than emigration. As such, it is imperative that we bolster our collective efforts to support these nations in their humanitarian endeavors.

Our own policies reflect this commitment, codified in the law of our republic. Kazakhstan has actively participated in regional initiatives aimed at enhancing refugee protection, including providing humanitarian assistance and facilitating access to essential services. We have also worked to strengthen our asylum procedures and promote inclusive integration policies.

In conclusion, Kazakhstan stands ready to collaborate with all nations present to craft practical, effective solutions that respect the dignity and rights of refugees.
Thank you. ■

Example resolution from MiniMUN23

FORUM: Political Committee

QUESTION OF: Defining the role of neighboring countries in refugee crisis

SUBMITTED BY: Kazakhstan

CO-SUBMITTERS: Afghanistan, Bolivia, Czechia, Ukraine,

SIGNATORIES: Afghanistan, Austria, Cabo Verde, Eswatini, Greece, Solomon Islands,

Acknowledges the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which recognizes the right to seek asylum from persecution, and emphasizing the collective responsibility to the international community to protect refugees,

Draws attention to the increasing global challenges posed by forced displacement and the significant role neighbouring countries play in providing safe havens and support for refugees,

Emphasizes the importance of respecting the sovereignty and territorial integrity of neighbouring countries, while also recognizing the shared responsibility to protect and assist refugees in accordance with international law,

Reaffirms the contributions of refugees to the cultural, social and economic fabric of host countries, and the potential for refugee populations to positively impact host communities through their skills, talents, and resilience,

Recognizes the need for capacity-building and technical assistance to support neighbouring countries in their efforts to manage and protect refugee populations effectively and to mitigate the socio-economic impact of hosting displaced populations,

Expresses its appreciation to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and other relevant international organizations for their ongoing efforts to provide technical support, expertise, and resources to neighbouring countries in their endeavors to protect assist refugees,

Notes the increasing number of refugees and migrants worldwide, and the need for international cooperation to address the challenges posed by this phenomenon,

Solemnly affirms the importance of neighboring countries in providing assistance to refugees and migrants, and the need for such countries to be supported in their efforts,

Example resolution from MinimUN23

Calls upon the significant contribution of refugees and migrants to the social, cultural, and economic development of host countries,

1. Calls upon all member states to respect the sovereignty and territorial integrity of neighboring countries, recognizing their right to determine their own policies and approaches towards refugee protection, in accordance with international laws:
 - a. Urges member states to refrain from any actions that may infringe upon the sovereignty of neighboring countries in their efforts to protect and assist refugees
 - b. Encourages diplomatic dialogue and cooperation among neighboring countries to ensure that refugee protection policies are consistent with both international standards and the principles of national sovereignty;
2. Encourages neighboring countries in conflict areas to adopt inclusive policies that promote the socio-economic integration of refugees, while respecting the cultural and social fabric of host communities, and ensuring that refugees can contribute meaningfully to their new societies:
 - a. Invites member states to facilitate safe and legal path ways for refugees, including family reunification, labor migration programs, and scholarships for higher education;
3. Recommends member states to collaborate with organizations, included but not limited to, the UNHCR, to provide medical aid, psychological counseling, trauma healing, and community-based mental health services:
 - a. Recommends the development of programs that facilitate language acquisition, vocational training, and employment opportunities for refugees, in collaboration with host communities

Example resolution from MiniMUN23

- b. Recognizes that need be, an Ad Hoc committee should operate within the framework of respecting the sovereignty and decision-making autonomy of participating countries, and should seek to complement and support existing mechanisms for refugee protection;
- 4. Urges member states to support capacity-building efforts in neighboring countries, aimed at enhancing their ability to manage refugee populations effectively, and to provide technical assistance for the development and implementation of refugee protection policies:
 - a. Emphasizes the importance of strengthening partnerships between neighboring countries and international organizations, including the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), to jointly address the refugee crisis, with full respect for the principles of sovereignty and non-interference:
 - i. Requests that all member states report on their efforts to support refugees and migrants to the United Nations Secretary-General on an annual basis
 - ii. Encourages the establishment of joint initiatives and projects between neighboring countries and international organizations to address specific challenges faced by refugees and host communities;
- 5. Calls upon member states neighboring a refugee crisis to cooperate with the UNHCR in ways included but not limited to:
 - a. Consent to international basic necessity imports for the refugee camps if national procurement is not feasible

Example resolution from MiniMUN23

- b. Allowing the building of temporary UN funded refugee camps if deemed required by UNHCR
- c. Agree to hold regular meetings with the UNHCR, for discussions of solutions and to further international co-operation.

Example resolution from MUNISE23

Forum: League of Nations

Question of: The Abyssinian Crisis

Submitted by: Abyssinia

Co-Submitters: China, Siam, France

Signatories: Siam, Netherlands, British Raj, China, Vatican, France, Japan, USSR, USA, Holy See, Britain

Defining the Abyssinian Crisis as the aggression by the Kingdom of Italy against Abyssinia in violation of its sovereignty territorial integrity, and collective security;

Recalling the obligations of member states under Article 10 of the League of Nations Covenant to collective security the independence and territorial integrity of all members;

Emphasizing the failure of the League of Nations to take substantial and effective measures to prevent or halt the aggression against Abyssinia, despite calls for help by Emperor Selassie;

Taking into account the economic sanctions imposed by the League, which proved to be insufficient in reducing Italy's aggression, as sanctions werent stong enough;

Deeply concerned by the suffering of Abysinnian civilians caused by Italy's military campaign, starting at the WalWal incident, and its impact on the stability of the region;

Recognizing the urgency of addressing the flaws and weaknesses of the League of Nations approach to prevent similar circumstances to occur in the future and protect member states;

Recalling member states of the principles of collective security, disarmament, and the peaceful settlement of disputes as placed in the League of Nations Covenant;

Alarmed by the Italian actions of aggression and imperialism, despite the joint statement of renouncing standstill and aggression;

Example resolution from MUNISE23

1. Condemns the Kingdom of Italy for its unjustifiable aggression against Abyssinia, which is a clear violation of international law and the fundamental aim of the League of Nations: to guarantee the territorial integrity and political independence of member states;

- a. Demands an immediate halting of hostilities by the Kingdom of Italy and a complete withdrawal of its military forces from Abyssinian territory;

2. Calls upon all member states to fulfill their obligations under Article 10 of the League of Nations Covenant by extending support and assistance to Abyssinia in its justified defense against Italian aggression;

- a. Encourages member states to compensate commodities to Abyssinia to address the urgent needs of the bystanding population, including food, medical supplies, and support for reconstruction efforts due to military destruction;

3. Calls upon the League of Nations to establish a mediation and negotiation process between Abyssinia and Italy to encourage a peaceful resolution of the conflict and ensure the restoration of Abyssinia's territorial integrity and sovereignty;

- a. Urges the League of Nations to strengthen the ineffective economic sanctions imposed on Italy, including imposing comprehensive and more concrete trade restrictions and an arms embargo, to exert greater pressure on Italy to comply with League of Nations regulations;
- b. Calls for an unbiased entity from league to investigate and document the atrocities committed during Italy's aggression against Abyssinia, with the aim of holding the perpetrators accountable for their actions;

Example resolution from MUNISE23

4. Requests an International Court to review the legal aspects of Italy's aggression against Abyssinia and provide an unbiased qualified opinion on the matter to guide future actions and prevent similar violations of international law;

- a. Establishes an ad hoc committee within the League of Nations to propose necessary reforms to strengthen the effectiveness and impartiality of the League in preventing and resolving conflicts, especially due to the ineffectiveness seen;
- b. Urges the League of Nations to hasten the disarmament process and establish stricter regulations to prevent member states from engaging in aggressive military actions, which harms innocent civilians.

Example position paper from MUNISE23

Position Paper

Committee: League of Nations

Country: Abyssinia

The Abyssinian crisis of the 1930s stands as a testament to the failures of the League of Nations. Abyssinia, present-day Ethiopia, faced aggression from the Kingdom of Italy, which sought to expand its colonial empire. As a member of the League of Nations, Abyssinia expected support and protection from the international community. Regrettably, the League's response to the Abyssinian crisis demonstrated its inability to uphold its core principles of collective security and disarmament. This position paper outlines Abyssinia's perspective on the League of Nations' shortcomings and highlights the need for reform to prevent such failures in the future.

Firstly, the League's failure to take decisive action against Italy's aggression undermined the principle of collective security. Abyssinia was unjustly attacked, and its territorial integrity was violated. Despite the League's Covenant stipulating that member states would come to the aid of an aggrieved nation, little was done to halt Italy's military campaign. Economic sanctions were imposed, but they were inadequate and ineffective, failing to deter Italian aggression. The League's inability to enforce collective security weakened its credibility and discouraged future reliance on its mechanisms.

Secondly, the Abyssinian crisis exposed the League's inability to address the root causes of conflict. The crisis highlighted the importance of disarmament as a means to prevent aggression and promote peace. The Treaty of Versailles, which ended World War I, emphasized the disarmament of nations as a crucial step towards global stability. However, in the face of Italy's military aggression, the League failed to enforce disarmament measures, thus allowing an aggressor to undermine the very foundations of peace and security. This failure underscores the need for more robust disarmament policies and mechanisms within the League to deter potential aggressors and maintain peace.

Moreover, the Abyssinian crisis revealed the influence of powerful nations on the decision-making processes within the League. Italy, as a prominent European power, was able to manipulate the League's responses through political pressure and alliances. This interference compromised the impartiality and fairness of the League, as its decisions were influenced by the strategic interests of powerful states rather than the pursuit of justice and collective security. The League should have operated independently, immune to the political influence of its member states, to ensure fairness and objectivity in resolving international disputes.