

DPS Karnal MUN 2024

Official Handbook

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What is the UN?

The United Nations (UN) is an international organisation that brings together 193 countries. It was officially founded on October 24, 1945, when the United Nations Charter was enacted. The UN focuses on peace, security, development, and human rights issues.

The UN was created to replace the League of Nations, which was formed after World War I but failed to maintain global peace and involve national leaders effectively.

The main goals of the UN according to its Charter are:

- Ensuring international peace and security
- Developing friendly relations between countries
- Promoting international cooperation to solve global economic, social, cultural, and humanitarian problems
- Promoting respect for human rights worldwide

The principles guiding the UN are:

- All UN Member States are equal
 - Member States must follow their obligations under the Charter
 - Member States should settle international disputes peacefully
 - Member States should not threaten or use force against other countries
 - Member States should help the UN in its work
- The UN ensures nonmember States also follow these principles to maintain peace and security
- The UN does not interfere in national matters, except under specific circumstances outlined in Article 7 of the Charter.



What is Model UN?

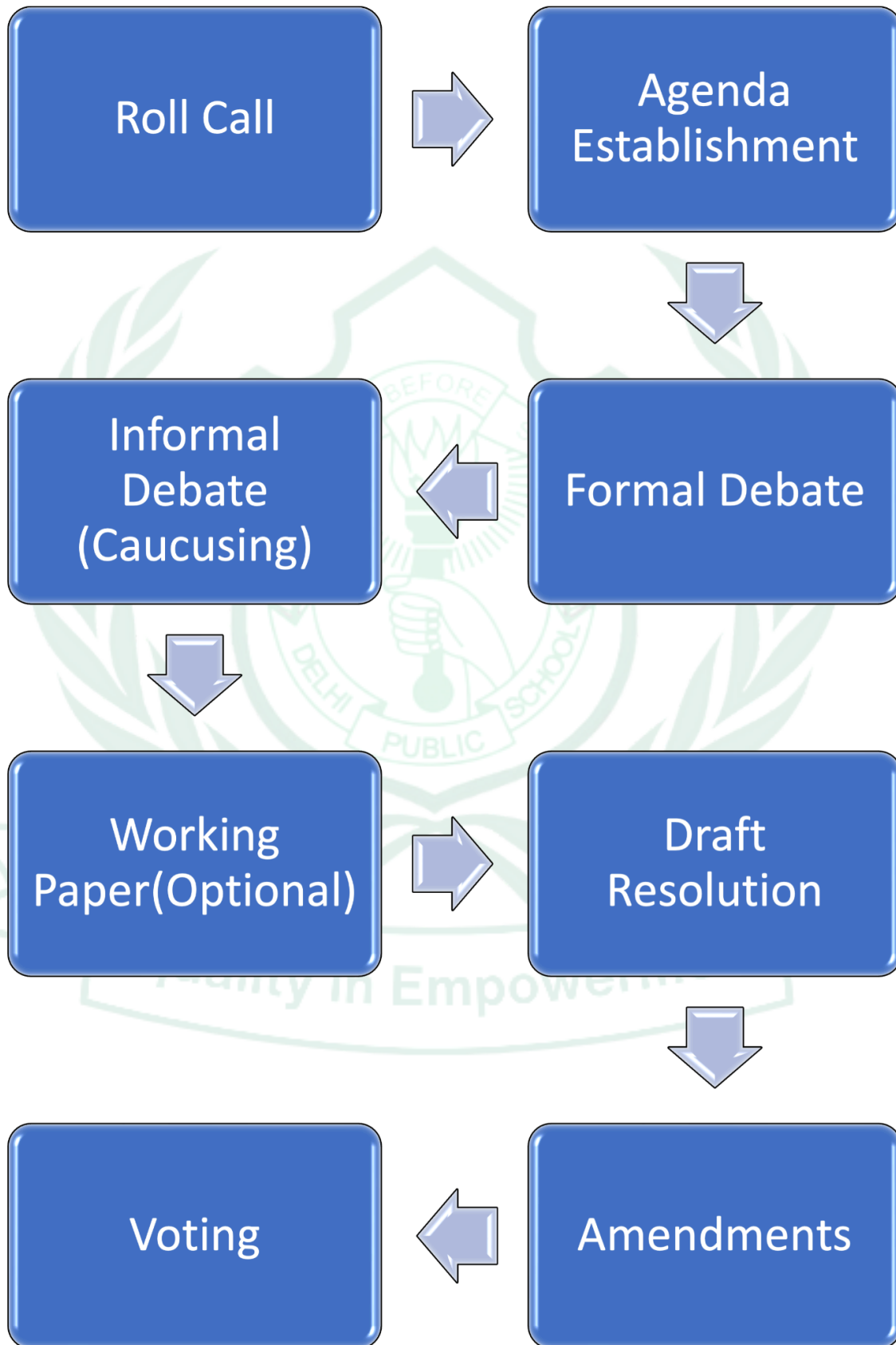
Model United Nations (MUN) is an educational roleplaying game designed to teach participants about the decision-making process of UN bodies through hands-on experience. During an MUN session, participants simulate meetings of the UN General Assembly, Security Council, or other UN bodies. Each participant represents a designated UN Member State and must research that country's views and relevant background information beforehand.

These roleplaying games are organised globally for high school and college students. The traditional format can be adapted to suit the interests and skills of the participants. MUN events vary widely, from multiday international simulations organised by UN associations or educational institutions to shorter sessions held during school lessons. The goal is to create a realistic UN experience where participants stay in character throughout the session, working within a given framework to find realistic and workable solutions to current political problems affecting international security, stability, or human rights.

The tradition of MUN began in 1921 at Oxford University in England with the first League of Nations roleplay. The first Model League of Nations in the United States took place at Harvard University in 1923. After World War II, universities continued to organise Model United Nations events and historical roleplaying games of the League of Nations are still held today.

MUN is now very popular worldwide. It is usually an extracurricular activity, but in some countries, it is also taught as a separate subject. Participating in MUN provides young people with new knowledge and skills, opens doors, and helps build international friendships that can last for years. Many prominent figures have participated in MUN, including former US President Barack Obama, former UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon, the King of the Netherlands Willem Alexander, and Chelsea Clinton.

MUN Rules of Procedure:



1. Roll Call

- The committee starts with Roll Call.
- The rapporteur calls each country's name.
- Respond with:
 - "Present" (can abstain from voting on substantive matters)
 - "Present and Voting" (must vote yes or no on substantive matters)
- Roll Call can be changed daily.
- A minimum number of delegates must be present to meet a quorum; without a quorum, the committee cannot proceed.

2. Establishment of Agenda

- After the Roll Call, the agenda is set by raising a motion.
- If there are multiple agendas, there may be a debate with speakers for and against, or the Executive Board (EB) may decide the order.

3. Voting

- Simple Majority: Needed for procedural votes (50% + 1 of total members).
- Special Majority: Needed for substantive votes (2/3 of total members).

4. Points

- Point of Personal Privilege: Raised for physical discomfort.
- Point of Order: Raised for procedural or factual errors; requires proof.
- Point of Parliamentary Inquiry: Raised to ask the EB a procedural question.
- Point of Information: Raised to ask a substantive question after a speech; must be concise and limited to a question.

5. Motions

- Procedural statements to move committee proceedings.
- Examples: establishing the agenda, starting the General Speakers List (GSL), suspending debate for the caucus, adjourning debate, or introducing a draft resolution.

6. Formal Debate

- **General Speakers List (GSL)**
 - Delegates make statements, raise questions, and clarify stances.
 - The motion to establish GSL is voted upon.
 - Delegates can add their names to the GSL by raising placards or sending a note to the EB.
 - The default speaking time is 90 seconds.
 - After speaking, delegates yield their remaining time to the Chair, another delegate, or for Points of Information.
- **Provisional Speakers List (PSL)**
 - Similar to GSL but focused on a specific topic, usually during a crisis.

7. Informal Debate (Caucusing)

- **Moderated Caucus**
 - Delegates discuss specific topics in depth.
 - Requires a motion specifying the topic and time.
 - The first speaker is often the delegate who raised the motion.
 - Points of Personal Privilege are valid; other points are suspended.
 - Max duration is 20 minutes, with individual speaking times of 60 seconds.
 - Can be extended by half of the previous caucus time.
- **Unmoderated Caucus**
 - Delegates can move freely and discuss informally.
 - Requires a motion and has a max duration of 20 minutes.
 - No specific topic is needed.
 - All points are suspended.
 - Used for forming blocs and drafting resolutions.
 - The EB observes for diplomatic courtesy.

8. Draft Resolution

A resolution is the main outcome of your committee's work and aims to "resolve" the problem your committee is addressing. Resolutions are documents used by the UN to make decisions and are written by groups of Member States working together on their ideas.

How to prepare for a Model UN

Before the Conference	
6 weeks before	Print off and read the "Background Guide" for your committee. This is provided by the conference and can usually be found online.
5 weeks before	Put your "Background Guide" into a binder to hold all your information. This is called a "Research Binder". Start filling it with information you find researching your country and topic.
4 weeks before	Complete a "Country Profile", researching your assigned country.
2-3 weeks before	Research your topic- specifically the Topic Background, Past International Action, Country Policy, and Possible Solutions
1 week before	Write an "Opening Speech" and practice it before the conference!



Researching your Country Profile

<p>Physical Geography</p> <p>What is your country's official name? What region of the world is your country located in? How big is your country? (square miles) Who are your country's neighbors? How would you describe your country's physical features and climate?</p>	<p>Culture</p> <p>What is your country's population? What is your country's ethnic composition? What is your country's official language? What other languages are spoken? What is your country's capital? What are some of the major cities? How would you describe the quality of life in your country?</p>
<p>Politics & Government</p> <p>When was your country founded? What type of government does your country have? Who are some of your country's leaders? How many people serve in your country's military? Who are your country's allies? Enemies?</p>	<p>Economy</p> <p>What is your country's total Gross Domestic Product? What are some of your country's natural resources? What is your country's currency? What are your country's major imports and exports? What are your country's biggest trading partners?</p>

Assembling Your Research Binder

Country Profile

- Start with a detailed profile of the country you will represent.
- Understand key aspects of your country, but focus on the most relevant information for debates.
- Use resources like the Best Delegate Country Profile and Policy Map for credible information.

Researching Topic Background

- After understanding your country, research the topic you'll discuss.
- Gain a solid understanding of the topic's history, causes, and impacts.
- Use resources like UN websites, general internet searches, and Wikipedia (using its sources for further information).
- Be well-prepared with a strong background on the topic of the conference.

Researching Past International Action and Country Policy

- Know what the international community and your country have done about the topic.
- Use news sources, past UN reports, and resolutions for information on past international actions.
- Check your country's government, foreign ministry, or UN mission websites for statements and actions on the topic.

Researching Solutions

- Look beyond UN and government websites to find new solutions.
- Use Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs), think tanks, and university researchers for ideas.
- Be creative in thinking of how the UN and Member States could realistically work together to solve the issue.
- Plan and articulate how these solutions would work in your own words.

Glossary of Model UN Terms

- **Abstain:** When delegates choose not to vote yes or no on a substantive matter, signalling neither support nor opposition strong enough to vote no.
- **Adjourn:** Ending a UN or Model UN session with a vote to adjourn, suspending the debate until the next meeting.
- **Agenda:** The order of issues to be discussed by a committee. Setting the agenda is typically the first duty after the roll call.
- **Amendment:** A change to a draft resolution. It can be a:
 - - *Friendly Amendment:* Supported by original sponsors and passed automatically.
 - - *Unfriendly Amendment:* Not supported by original sponsors and must be voted on.
- **Arab League:** An independent body of Arab states in Africa and the Middle East with some procedural differences from the UN.
- **Background Guide:** A pre-conference guide on a topic provided by organizers, essential for initial research.
- **Binding:** Having legal force. Security Council resolutions and ICJ decisions are binding; General Assembly and ECOSOC resolutions are not.
- **Bloc:** A group of countries with common geographical, economic, or cultural interests.
- **Caucus:** A break in formal debate for informal discussions. Can be:
 - - *Moderated Caucus:* The chair calls on delegates to speak one by one.
 - - *Unmoderated Caucus:* Delegates freely move and talk.
- **Chair:** Member of the dais moderating debate, keeping time, and enforcing rules.
- **Dais:** The leadership group in charge of a Model UN committee, including the Chair, Director, and Rapporteur.
- **Decorum:** Order and respect shown by delegates. The Chair may call for decorum to maintain order.
- **Delegate:** A participant representing a member state or observer.
- **Delegation:** The group representing a state or observer in all committees at a conference.
- **Director:** Dais member overseeing working papers and draft resolutions, ensuring accurate country representation and maintaining decorum.
- **Division of the Question:** Voting on parts of a resolution separately to include only the passed clauses in the final resolution.
- **Draft Resolution:** A working paper approved for debate. If passed, it becomes a resolution.
- **EU (European Union):** An economic and political union of European states.
- **Flow of Debate:** The order of events during a Model UN conference.
- **Foreign Aid:** Money given by one country to another for humanitarian or development purposes, influencing foreign policy.
- **Foreign Policy:** A state's external attitudes and interests, influenced by military, trade, history, and government.
- **Formal Debate:** Standard debate format with a speakers' list and formal yielding of the floor.

- **G8 (Group of Eight):** A group of eight powerful nations: Canada, the U.S., U.K., France, Italy, Japan, Germany, and Russia.
- **Gavel:** Tool used by the Chair to maintain order.
- **ICJ (International Court of Justice):** A body resolving legal and territorial disputes between states.
- **Head Delegate:** Leader of a Model UN team.
- **Lowest Common Denominator:** The most basic point the majority can agree on.
- **Lobbying:** Informal caucusing to gain support, usually outside the committee room.
- **Member State:** A country ratifying the UN Charter and accepted by the General Assembly and Security Council. Currently 193 member states.
- **Moderated Caucus:** Delegates remain seated and speak when called on by the Chair.
- **Moderator:** See Chair.
- **Motion:** A delegate's request for committee action, such as to go into caucus or introduce a draft resolution.
- **NATO (North Atlantic Treaty Organization):** Security organization providing collective defence, involved in peacekeeping and law enforcement post-Cold War.
- **NGOs (Non-Governmental Organizations):** Independent organizations working on various issues, often collaborating with the UN.
- **Non-Member/Observer:** Entities participating in debates but not voting on substantive matters.
- **OAS (Organization of American States):** Political organization of North and South American states.
- **On the Floor:** When a working paper or draft resolution is approved for debate.
- **Operative Clause:** Part of a resolution detailing solutions and initiatives, starting with a verb.
- **Page:** Delegate passing notes during committee sessions.
- **Placard:** A card with a country's name used to signal a desire to speak.
- **Point:** Request for information or action, such as a point of order or point of inquiry.
- **Position Paper:** Pre-conference paper summarizing a country's position on a topic
- **Perambulatory Clause:** Introductory clauses in a resolution describing previous actions and reasons for the resolution, not numbered.
- **Procedural:** Related to committee operations rather than the topic. All delegates must vote on procedural matters.
- **Quorum:** Minimum number of delegates needed to start a meeting or pass a resolution.
- **Rapporteur:** Dais member managing the speakers' list and roll call.
- **Resolution:** A passed document addressing a problem, equivalent to a law.
- **Right of Reply:** Response to a perceived insult or slander, granted by the Director.
- **Roll Call:** Initial order of business, delegates respond "present" or "present and voting."
- **Rules of Procedure:** Rules governing a Model UN committee.
- **Second:** Agreement with a proposed motion, is required before some motions can be voted on.
- **Secretariat:** Senior staff of a Model UN conference.
- **Secretary General:** Leader of a Model UN conference.

- **Security Council:** UN body responsible for peace and security, with five permanent members having veto power.
- **Signatory:** A country wishing to discuss a draft resolution, not necessarily supporting it.
- **Simple Majority:** More than half the delegates present, needed to pass most votes.
- **Speakers' List:** Order in which delegates speak on a topic.
- **Sponsor/Co-sponsor:** Authors of working papers and resolutions, supporting debate but not necessarily agreeing with the content
- **Substantive:** Related to the topic being discussed. Only member states vote on substantive issues.
- **Unmoderated Caucus:** Delegates freely mingle and discuss, often used for bloc formation and writing working papers.
- **UN (United Nations):** International organization promoting peace, security, and cooperation, established in 1945.
- **Veto:** Power of permanent Security Council members to prevent resolution passage.
- **Vote:** Indicating support or opposition to a proposed action. Can be procedural or substantive.
- **Voting Bloc/Voting Procedure:** Period for voting on amendments and draft resolutions. No one may enter or leave during this time.
- **Working Paper:** Documents proposing ideas for resolution, allowing amendments before becoming a draft resolution.
- **Yield:** In formal debate, delegates yield their time to the Chair, questions, or another delegate.

