

S'MUN2030

SINGULARITY MODEL UNITED NATIONS

RULES of PROCEDURE



SINGULARITY
FOUNDATION



ST.PETER'S
SCHOOL
BARCELONA
INDEPENDENT EDUCATION

TITLE I: GENERAL CONSIDERATIONS

- ***Article 0. Introduction and general considerations***

- ❖ SMUN 2030 (Singularity Model of United Nations 2030) is a Model of United Nations held in Barcelona with an international scope which, in its essence, has the objective to introduce high school students the principles and values of the United Nations.
- ❖ The official language of the conference will be English. This will be the language used to provide information on the conference, topic's information in the Study Guides and the communication language between the Delegates, Chairs and Secretariat Team. Documents worked upon and introduced throughout the conference will have to be properly written in this same language.
- ❖ The organization of the conference expects all delegates to wear a formal attire during sessions:
 - Women should wear formal in suits, smart separates or dresses.
 - Men should wear a formal suit with a tie (or similar).
 - The Secretariat reserves the right to declare accessories, symbols or pieces of clothing out of order due to its offensive or inappropriate nature. When an accessory is considered out of order, it shall be immediately removed.
 - [SMUN2030 Dress Code](#)
- ❖ A specific right is reserved to the Secretariat regarding the last word on any conflict that may arise from the interpretation of these Rules.

- ***Article 1. Electronic devices***

The use of electronic devices is not allowed during formal sessions. The chair could allow the use of those devices during unmoderated caucus to work on Working Papers and Draft Resolutions, or at specific occasions at his/her discretion.

- ***Article 2. Delegation denomination***

Members of each delegation will be called "delegates". When speaking, delegates should use "the delegation of X" or the name of the country they want to refer. Delegates should refrain from using personal pronouns when speaking, as they are representing a country and not expressing personal opinions.

- ***Article 3. Recognition***

During the debate, delegates can only speak once the chair allows it. To ensure that recognition, the chair will state the name of the delegation, meaning, the name of the country a delegate is representing.

TITLE II: PROCEDURE

- *Article 4. Quorum*

The Chair may declare a committee open and permit debate to proceed when at least one-fourth of the voting members of the committee are present. A member of the committee is considered present if at least one delegate representing that member is in the committee chamber.

The presence of a majority of the members will be required for a vote.

- *Article 5. Right of reply*

If a delegation harms the national sovereignty and dignity of another country during his speech, said country will be entitled to a right of reply. The affected delegation might exercise this right through sending a note to the chairs stating the harmful comment.

When the Chairs will receive it, they will have discretionary power to accept or not this request. In case the Chairs recognize the right of reply, the offended delegation will be granted 90 seconds of speaking time to reaffirm his honor.

- *Article 6. General speakers list*

The general speakers list is the default status of the committee in the absence of other points and motions. During the length of the general speakers list, delegates will be able to address any issue related to the topic that is being discussed when they are recognized by the chair.

The general speakers list will remain open throughout the debate. The speaker's time will be 90 seconds. If the delegation does not exhaust its speaking time, it will be possible to yield the remaining time to the chairs (thus finishing the intervention), to another delegate (who will have to accept the yielding) or to questions (delegations may raise their placards to pose questions to the speaker about his intervention, being the chair in charge of selecting the questions in order. The time used to pose each question will not be deducted from the total time).

Any delegation can request to be added to the general speakers list by raising its placard when the chair requires the delegates to do so, though it is not compulsory.

If the general speakers list is over due to having no delegates willing to speak, the debate will be closed and the committee will enter into voting procedure. At the discretion of the chair, delegates may be added to the list.

TITLE III: POINTS AND MOTIONS

Article 7. Points and Motions

During sessions, delegates may only interact among them and with the chair by using points and motions.

A point allows the delegate to ask for a clarification regarding the rules (point of information) or to state personal discomfort (point of personal privilege). Points do not need to be voted or happen when the floor is open.

A motion is a formal proposal to initiate a procedure and they are voted by the entirety of the committee. The chair opens the floor for motions when he/she deems it appropriate, and delegates may introduce motions when recognized by the chair by stating them, speaking to the committee. Motions are voted and approved by absolute majority.

- ***Article 8. Point of personal privilege***

The point of personal privilege will be in order when a delegate feels a personal discomfort caused by an external factor that affects or reduces its ability to participate in the debate, such as not being able to hear the delegate currently speaking, having to go to the restroom, feeling heat/cold... To propose this point, the delegate must raise his placard and speak loud enough the chair will hear.

Examples:

- ❖ Point of personal privilege, Mister/Madam chair, it's too hot in here, may we open a window?
 - ❖ Point of personal privilege, may the delegate speaking do so louder?
- ***Article 9. Point of information***

The point of information will be in order when the delegate wants the chair to clarify any rule that has to be used in that very precise moment. For doubts regarding rules that are not applicable at the moment the chair will be available to answer them at the end of the session or by email.

Example:

- ❖ Point of information, are we now moving into voting procedure on draft 1.3?
 - ❖ Point of information, can a signatory defend a resolution?
- ***Article 10. Motion for a moderated caucus***

Moderated caucuses are the standard way to publicly debate the main issues of the committee's topic during the session. This motion starts a sub-debate within the topic being discussed, addressing a more specific topic delegates would like to debate.

A motion for a moderated caucus will be in order when the chair declares the floor open to motions and prior to the closure of the debate.

The delegate who presents the motion must specify the proposed duration for the caucus (which may be modified by the chair), the speaker's time (which may be modified by the chair) and its topic, which shall always be specific.

During a moderated caucus the delegates will discuss the topic by turns, following the order established by the chair.

Example:

- ❖ Motion for a moderated caucus of 10 minutes, 45 seconds per speaker on the topic "protecting the rights of refugees".

- ***Article 11. Motion for an unmoderated caucus***

Unmoderated caucuses are the standard way to work in groups of delegates during a committee and put words into action by writing their proposals in Working Papers and Draft Resolutions.

A motion for an unmoderated caucus will be in order when the chair declares the floor open to motions and prior to the closure of the debate. The delegate who presents the motion must specify the proposed duration for the caucus (which may be modified by the chair).

During an unmoderated caucus the delegates are allowed to move freely inside the room and establish informal discussions about the topics of the debate, always using the official language of the committee.

Example:

- ❖ Motion for an unmoderated caucus of 10 minutes.

- ***Article 12. Motion for a consultation of the whole***

The consultation of the whole is an alternative way to the moderated caucus of discussing topics in public, self-moderated by delegates.

A motion for a consultation of the whole will be in order when the chair declares the floor open to motions and prior to the closure of the debate. The delegate who presents the motion must specify the proposed duration for the caucus (which may be modified by the chair) and its topic, which shall always be specific.

During the consultation of the whole the delegates will discuss the topic by turns. The delegate who proposed the motion will be the first to speak and, after his speech, will be in charge of selecting the following speaker. Then, the following speaker will proceed in the same way, delivering his speech and picking the next delegate to talk, until the motion's time is exhausted.

Example:

- ❖ Motion for a consultation of the whole caucus of 10 minutes on the topic “protecting the rights of civilians in war conflicts”.

- ***Article 13. Motion to introduce a working paper***

Working Papers are informal documents which contain the measures that a group of delegates propose to address the challenges that the topics being discussed pose. Since they are not an official document, they do not require a specific format.

A motion to introduce a working paper will be in order when the chair declares the floor open to motions and prior to the closure of the debate.

The motion will be approved by absolute majority. Once approved, the working paper will be read out loud to the committee by volunteer delegations that participated in the writing (and, failing that, by the chair).

- ***Article 14. Motion to introduce a draft resolution***

A draft resolution is a formal document where a group of delegates present their final proposals to solve the problems presented by the topic discussed in the committee.

It requires a specific format, indicating sponsors (main contributors to the content), signatories (other delegates that support the content or would like the committee to discuss it), preambulatory clauses (which introduce the content to propose, the reason why delegates believe action should be taken) and operative clauses (the substantive proposals, summing up the actions that will be taking place with the introduction of the resolution).

A motion to introduce a draft resolution will be in order when the chair declares the floor open to motions, prior to the closure of the debate and after the chair has reviewed its content.

The motion will be approved by absolute majority. Once approved, the draft resolution will be read out loud to the committee by the sponsors.

After that, sponsors will have a maximum time of 3 minutes to publicly defend the content of the draft resolution and answer questions regarding its content from other delegations.

- ***Article 15. Motion to introduce an amendment***

An amendment is any form of modification to a draft resolution. An amendment can add, modify or eliminate parts of a draft resolution. Amendments shall be approved by the Chairs before being presented to the committee.

An amendment will be considered “friendly” if all Sponsors of the Draft Resolution agree with it, while unfriendly amendments are those that are not supported by all the Sponsors of the Draft resolution.

Friendly amendments will automatically pass and will be added to the Draft Resolution. For unfriendly amendments the Chairs will entertain 2 delegations may speak in favour

of the amendment and 2 delegations against it, being 60 seconds per speaker the maximum time. Unfriendly amendments will be approved by absolute majority

- ***Article 16. Motion to close the debate***

A motion to close debate will be in order when the chair declares the floor open to motions and after one or more draft resolutions have been introduced.

The motion will be approved by absolute majority. Once approved, the already introduced draft resolutions will be voted, in chronological order of introduction. This process will finish when a draft resolution gets approved by absolute majority or once all the presented resolutions have been rejected.

If a draft resolution gets approved, it will become a resolution, an official and definitive document endorsed by the committee.

- ***Article 17. Voting procedure for draft resolutions and amendments***

While by default delegates cannot abstain when voting during committee sessions, being obliged to vote in favor or against, when it comes to the voting procedure of draft resolutions and amendments, abstentions are allowed.