

Applicable to all committees except for
the Supreme Court of the United States.



rules of procedure

For use at the 2025 edition of the Franklin D. Roosevelt Model United Nations conference.

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Chapter I: General Considerations

Article 1.1: Extent of the Rules of Procedure

These rules are applicable to all committees simulated at the FDRMUN 2025 Conference. In case of any discrepancies between these Rules of Procedure and other procedural regulations, these Rules shall take precedence. The Presidents of the General Assembly and the Head of the Protocol Department shall have the final say on the interpretation of these Rules of Procedure. The Presidency/ Chairpersons are the ones enforcing these rules and have the power to overrule most decisions of the committee if deemed inappropriate or abusive towards the good functioning of the committee.

Article 1.2: Delegations

A single delegate represents each member state per committee. In the case of the General Assembly, where multiple delegates from different committees will represent the same country, only one delegate from a delegation may speak at a time. The Secretariat shall provide an encompassing registry of the member states and their corresponding delegates.

Article 1.3: Language

English is the official and working language of the FDRMUN 2025 Conference. All formal communications, documents, and speeches should be in English.

Article 1.4: Diplomatic Courtesy

Delegates are required to maintain diplomatic courtesy towards other Delegates, and the FDRMUN team members at all times. For a complete list of what we define as diplomatic courtesy, please refer to the Code of Conduct which must be respected at all times. Any breach of the Code may result in warnings or further actions as deemed necessary by the Presidency and as mentioned in the Code.

Article 1.5: Dress Code

Adherence to a formal diplomatic dress code please refer to Article 6 from the Code of Conduct is obligatory. Noncompliance with the provisions outlined in this article may lead to

François Gauthier

Chapter II: Rules During the Debate Procedure

Article 2.1: The Quorum

The initiation of debate and committee operations is contingent upon the presence of at least fifty percent plus one (50%+1) of the committee delegates. If this majority is not reached within 20 minutes of the specified start time of the Committee session, the session will begin with the delegates who are present, unless the secretariat gives different instructions.

Article 2.2: Setting/ Verifying the Quorum

At the beginning of each session, a Motion to Verify the Quorum (refer to Article 6.1) will be raised.

Article 2.3: Agenda

The Agenda is the list of topics that a committee will be debating upon in their meetings. The order in which the topics from the Agenda will be discussed may be decided by the delegates via motion.

Article 2.4: Setting the Agenda

The decision to start debate on a topic is made through a Motion to Set the Agenda (refer to Article 6.2).

In the event that the Committee is focused on a singular topic, the agenda is deemed to be adopted without the need for further deliberation or approval.

Article 2.5: The Floor

A delegate is offered “the floor” when they are recognized by the Presidency/ Chairpersons to speak. The time that a delegate is on the floor holding their speech or answering questions is counted and it may not exceed the allocated time by the Presidency/ Chairpersons. Once the time for speaking has elapsed the delegate having the floor must yield it. (see Article 2.9)

Article 2.6: Recognition

A Delegate is only permitted to address the Committee after obtaining recognition and explicit permission from the Presidency/ Chairpersons.

Article 2.7: Addressing the Speaker

A Speaker shall not be disrupted by another delegate, except in cases where the delegate has raised a Point of Personal Privilege or Point of Order.

Article 2.8: General Speakers List

Once the agenda is set, the Presidency/ Chairpersons will establish a General Speakers List (GSL). Delegates wishing to speak will notify the Presidency/ Chairpersons, that shall add them to the General Speakers List. The speakers will address the committee in the order they appear on the list. When speaking on the GSL, at the beginning of the speech the delegate must address all people present in the room, starting with the Presidency/ Secretariat, the chairpersons, the delegates and then the staff, press and guests.

Note that in the case that there are no more speakers on the GSL, it will be considered that there is nothing left to debate on the topic, leading to immediately entering the voting procedure on the draft resolutions that have been made.

Article 2.9: Yields

When a delegate reaches the end of their speech and they still have time on the floor, the delegate may decide to yield their time. This remaining time can be yielded either back to the Presidency/ Chairpersons, leading to the time elapsing and the delegate ending their speaking time, to Points of Information, leading to the remaining time being used to answer questions that other delegates may have or to another delegate.

If the other delegate accepts the yield, they will be using that time to hold a speech of their own. The delegate that accepted the yield may not yield the time to anything other than the Presidency/ Chairpersons (unless mentioned otherwise in these Rules of Procedure)

Article 2.10: Informal Debate

The Lobbying Time is a form of informal debate. Delegates can move inside the committee room, form groups, and discuss without specific formal elements of the GSL. The official language of the conference will still be in order.

Article 2.11: Communication

During formal debates, cross-talking between delegates, directly addressing the delegate on the floor or interrupting the speech of a delegate, unless recognized by the Presidency/ Chairpersons, is prohibited. The only permitted form of communication between delegates who are not on the floor during formal debate is written, using message papers. All notes must be in English, and their content should be relevant and respectful. Inappropriate or abusive content may lead to sanctions.

Article 2.12: Electronic Devices

Computers, tablets and mobile phones are permitted during formal sessions if used appropriately. During the voting procedure, these devices are required to be closed by all delegates.

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Chapter III: Rules Governing Voting

Article 3.1: General

Substantive votes pertain to the evaluation and decision-making process regarding the substance and content of resolutions and amendments. The members possess the ability to cast their votes either 'in favour', 'against' or to 'abstain.' Resolutions and amendments require a Simple Majority of the present members to pass. Abstentions count as not being present during Voting Procedure, the Majority being determined only by the delegations voting in favour and against. Only member states of the United Nations can vote on substantial matters such as resolutions or amendments. All countries and organisations have to vote on procedural matters such as Motions.

Article 3.2: Seconds and Objections

All procedural matters must have at least a 'second' in order for it to be considered. When a delegate wants a motion that is being proposed to pass, they may second the motion. A "second" is signalled by a delegate by raising their placard when asked by the Presidency/ Chairpersons for seconds.

An objection is raised in the same manner as the "second" and it means that the delegate raising doesn't believe that the motion being proposed is beneficial for the committee. In the case that there are no objections regarding a motion, it automatically passes.

Article 3.3: Procedural Votes

Procedural votes are on matters concerning the functioning of the committee, such as motions to adjourn the meeting, extend debate time, or set the agenda. All members must vote on procedural matters, and abstentions are not allowed. Every motion is considered a procedural matter.

Article 3.4: Substantive Votes

Substantive votes are on the content of resolutions and amendments. Members can vote "in favour," "against," or "abstain." Abstentions are counted separately and are not considered as votes in favour or against.

Article 3.5: Conduct during Voting

After voting has commenced, no delegate may interrupt the voting except on a point of order concerning the actual conduct of the voting. All observers, staff members and press must leave the room and all electronic devices must be closed during the voting procedure. Delegates are not allowed to enter or leave the room during voting.

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Chapter IV: Majority

Article 4.1: General

Every decision made within the committee, be it procedural or substantive, requires a certain majority to pass. The type of majority necessary for a certain action to pass depends on the type of action and the level of disruptiveness it brings in the debate.

Article 4.2: Simple Majority

A simple majority is the most basic form of majority. It is realised when 50%+ 1 of the votes in a committee are in favour of an action proposed. Abstentions are not counted in the total.

Article 4.3: Two-Thirds Majority

Some decisions, due to their importance or impact, require a more significant consensus. A two-thirds majority means that at least 66% of the committee's votes are in favour of the action being proposed. This ensures a broader agreement on more disruptive issues.

Article 4.4: Consensus

Consensus is a decision-making process that seeks unanimous agreement. It's often used for particularly significant decisions. A consensus can not be reached if at least one delegate disagrees with the action proposed, thus leading to the action to fail.

Chapter V: Points

Article 5.1: Point of Order

A Point of Order is invoked by a delegation that perceives an inadequate compliance with the conference's rules of procedure by the Presidency/ Chairpersons. This point takes precedence over other discussions and is immediately addressed by the Presidency/ Chairpersons. It is essential for maintaining the integrity and order of the session. The Presidency's decision on a Point of Order is final.

Article 5.2: Point of Information

Delegates use the Point of Information to ask questions for further clarity. This can be directed to another delegate following their speech on the GSL or during a tour de table. It serves as a tool for better understanding the discussion or the rules governing the session. The Presidency facilitates this exchange by acting as a medium for the two delegates to communicate (since cross-talking is not allowed) and ensures that the questions remain relevant and concise.

Article 5.3: Request for a Follow-up

A delegate may request a follow-up after the speaker on the floor has answered their Point of Information. The follow-up is used to ask another relevant question to the delegate on the floor or in order to obtain further clarification upon their previous answer. The choice to proceed with the request for a follow is dependent on the decision made by the Presidency/Chairpersons.

Article 5.4: Point of Personal Privilege

When a delegate encounters a personal issue that impedes their ability to participate effectively, such as difficulty in hearing a speaker or physical discomfort, they may raise a Point of Personal Privilege. This point does not relate to the content of the debate but addresses the delegate's immediate needs, including those that may require leaving the room.

Article 5.5: Point of Parliamentary Inquiry

Delegates may raise a Point of Parliamentary Inquiry in order to have a clearer understanding of the Conference's proceedings or the Rules of Procedure. This point is intended for the Presidency/ Chairpersons and is used to offer to the delegates guidance and explanations regarding the rules that they are following in the committee.

Article 5.6: Right to Reply

In the event that a Delegate perceives a significant offence to their personal or national integrity resulting from a statement (or a POI) made by another delegate during formal debate, they may raise a Right to Reply. The Right to Reply may not interrupt the speaker. Granting this right to reply is left at the discretion of the Presidency/ Chairpersons. In the case of it being granted, the delegate that raised the point will be able to hold a 30 second explanation developing on the reasons that they believe that the statements made were derogatory in any manner and for them to defend their country's/ personal integrity. The Presidency decides whether the Right to Reply is granted and if so, they will ask the offending delegate to formerly and respectfully apologise. Disrespectful apologies or abuses of the Right to Reply may lead to official warnings, issued by the FDRMUN '25 Board.

Article 5.7: Right to Defense

If a Right to Reply seems to have not been argued properly, or lacks an appropriate motive for an apology, the delegate that allegedly defamed another delegate in their speech may raise a Right to Defense. The Presidency/ Chairpersons has the right to dismiss the Right to Defense or grant it. If it is granted, the delegate that raised it will hold a 30 second explanation defending their statements made previously. After the explanation has elapsed, the Presidency/ Chairpersons will deliberate on whether to grant the apology or not.

Chapter VI: Motions Regarding Debate

Article 6.1: Motion to Set/ Verify the Quorum

A motion to Set the Quorum must be raised at the start of every meeting (there are only 2 meetings in the FDRMUN) of the conference and it establishes the status of each delegate. The Presidency/ Chairpersons will be conducting a Roll Call to account for the status of each delegate. A delegate can be absent, present or present and voting. If a delegate is present and voting, they may not abstain. At the start of every session, a Motion to Verify the Quorum must be raised in order to reestablish the status of each delegate.

Article 6.2: Motion to Set the Agenda

A motion to set the agenda should be raised by any Delegate to set the agenda to one of the proposed Committee's topics. This motion requires seconds and if objected, it will be debated, with one speech in favour and one against with a duration established by the Presidency/ Chairpersons. This motion passes with a simple majority. If the motion fails, the other topic shall automatically be discussed before the Committee first.

Article 6.3: Motion to Establish the General Speakers List

After an Agenda is set, the General Speakers List (GSL) must be set for the formal debate to commence. This motion passes at the discretion of the Presidency/ Chairpersons. The default speaking time on the GSL is one minute and 30 seconds. There must be at least delegation on the GSL at all times.

Article 6.4: Motion to Extend the Speaker's Time

If a delegate believes that the time allocated for speaking on the GSL is not sufficient, they may raise a Motion to Extend the Speaker's Time. This motion requires a simple majority to pass or it may also pass at the discretion of the Presidency/ Chairpersons.

Article 6.5: Motion for the Consultation of the Committee

The proposed motion aims to implement a discussion format that is characterised by a reduced level of formality, wherein the primary responsibility of moderating the proceedings is assumed by the Delegates. The Delegation that initiates the move for the Consultation of the Committee states the duration and topic. The motion is subjected to a voting process and necessitates a simple majority for its approval. If passed, the delegate that proposed the motion shall be afforded the opportunity to initially speak. Once the allocated speaking time for a delegate concludes, other delegates who wish to speak may indicate their interest through appropriate signals, such as raising their placards. The current speaker will then have the duty of selecting the next delegate. In the event that a delegate exceeds the GSL speaking time by a minute, they will be interrupted by the Presidency/ Chairpersons, asking them to choose the next speaker.

Article 6.6: Motion for a Tour de Table

This motion is used in order for all delegates present to give their input or clarify their stance on a certain topic. The delegate proposing the motion must specify the topic and the individual speaking time. It requires a simple majority to pass and it will be conducted in alphabetical order. Every delegate will hold a speech followed by the ability to yield their remaining time either to the Presidency/ Chairpersons or to Points of Information.

Article 6.7: Motion for Question and Answer Session (Q&A Session)

Any Delegate can propose a Question and Answer Session to enable questioning of a Delegate on an issue pertinent to the debate. If the delegate that this motion is proposed to accepts, the committee will be voting on the motion, with a simple majority being required for it to pass. The duration of the Q&A Session may not exceed the speaking time formerly established for the GSL. The time that the delegates require to pose their questions is not counted on the duration of the Q&A Session.

Article 6.8: Motion to enter Lobbying Time

During Lobbying Time the formal debate is suspended temporarily, allowing for informal discussion within the Committee room. Delegates must remain in the room unless a Point of Personal Privilege is raised. This motion can be introduced any time the floor is open and must include a purpose and a time limit. It is put to an immediate vote, requiring a simple majority, or could pass at the discretion of the Presidency/ Chairpersons. The Presidency/ Chairpersons can terminate the caucus prematurely if it becomes nonproductive, and this decision is final.

Article 6.9: Motion for an extension

A Motion for an Extension allows the delegates to extend the initial time of a motion, in order for it to be further discussed. The extension must not exceed the initial time of the motion and an extension to an extension is not in order.

Article 6.10: Motion to Appeal the Chairs' Decision

This Motion requires seconds and a two-thirds majority. If the motions garners the required support from the Committee, the delegate that raised the motion will give a one minute explanation for why they believe the decision should be overturned. Following the explanation, the Chairs will also give a similar explanation for their decision. The Committee will then vote upon this motion. In the case of this motion being abused, the Presidency may overrule the motion.

Article 6.11: Motion to Adjourn the Session/ Meeting

When a committee's session has elapsed, delegates may raise a Motion to Adjourn the Session, suspending the meeting until the next committee's session. For the last committee session discussing a topic, therefore the last session in the meeting, delegates may raise a Motion to Adjourn the Meeting. This motion passes at the discretion of the Presidency/Chairpersons.

Chapter VII: Working Papers, Draft Resolutions, Amendments

Article 7.1: Working Papers

Working papers are informal documents used by delegates to organise their thoughts and build consensus. They don't require formal introduction or approval but serve as a foundation for draft resolutions.

Article 7.2: Submission and Introduction of Draft Resolutions

Once a working paper has garnered enough support and has been refined, it can be converted into a draft resolution. This requires at least 50% of the Committee's delegates to sign the resolution. Observer states can only be signatures on a resolution. Observing bodies may not sign any resolutions but can still work on draft resolutions. The Main submitters and Co-submitters are also considered signatures on a resolution. The draft resolution is then formally introduced, debated, and eventually voted upon (see Article 8.1).

Article 7.3: Amendments

When discussing a proposed resolution, a delegate can suggest a change to the draft resolution, hereinafter an amendment. This amendment can add, remove, or alter parts of the proposed resolution. Amendments can be friendly, when approved by the Main Submitter of the Draft Resolution, and unfriendly when not approved by the Main Submitter of the Draft Resolution. Unfriendly amendments are debatable with one speech in favour and one speech against, followed by the voting procedure for the amendment. Amendments are substantive matters, therefore abstentions are in order.

Chapter VIII: Motions Regarding the Resolution

Article 8.1: Motion to introduce a draft resolution

A draft resolution, in order for it to be discussed in the Committee, must be introduced through this motion. It requires seconds and in the case of objections, a simple majority to pass. Once a draft resolution is introduced, the main submitter will be asked to read the whole document, followed by them holding a 5 minute main submitter speech with the special property of Double Yielding the remaining time (for example, the time may be yielded to another delegate and then they will be able to yield it to another delegate or to POIs). Following the main submitter speech, the floor will be open for 2 speeches against the resolution, followed by 2 speeches in favour of the resolution.

Article 8.2: Motion to Adopt by Acclamation

In the event that a delegate believes the resolution has reached a point that all delegates in the committee are in favour of the draft resolution, they may propose this motion. It may be proposed at any time after the resolution has been introduced. It requires seconds and in the event of an objection will immediately fail, continuing the debate. If the motion passes, the draft resolution will automatically pass.

Article 8.3: Motion to Open the Floor for Amendments

After a Draft Resolution has been introduced, this motion may be proposed in order for delegates to be able to propose amendments to the draft resolution. This motion will pass at the discretion of the Presidency/ Chairpersons.

Article 8.4: Motion to Close the Floor for Amendments

After all delegates have finished writing their amendments or the time allocated by the Presidency/ Chairpersons in order to write them has elapsed, a delegate must raise this motion. It will pass at the discretion of the Presidency/ Chairpersons, followed by the Committee automatically entering debate upon the amendments that were submitted.

Article 8.5: Motion to Explain the Vote of a Delegate

This motion can be raised after a voting procedure has finished, in order for a delegate to request another delegate to explain their vote. The delegate that has been requested to explain their vote will do so in an explanation that may not exceed 30 seconds. This motion can be overruled by the Presidency/ Chairpersons if deemed unnecessary or abusive.

Article 8.6: Motion to Move Directly into Voting Procedure

If a delegate believes that an Amendment or Draft Resolution that has been introduced already has a clear voting outcome and doesn't require debating upon it, they may raise this motion. It is at the discretion of the Presidency/ Chairpersons if this motion is in order.

Article 8.7: Motion to Close the Debate on a Draft Resolution

After the amendments have been tackled, a delegate may propose closing the debate on a Draft Resolution. This motion will pass at the discretion of the Presidency/ Chairpersons.

Article 8.8: Motion to Move into Voting Procedure

After the Draft Resolution has been debated upon and amendments have been addressed, the floor is open for the Motion to Move into Voting Procedure, allowing the delegates to vote upon the formerly discussed Draft Resolution, in its final form. This motion passes at the discretion of the Presidency/ Chairpersons.

Article 8.9: Motion to vote clause-by-clause

Before voting upon a Draft Resolution, a delegate may raise this motion. This motion requires a % majority and is not debatable. This puts up to vote each operative clause of the Draft Resolution. Following the voting procedure on each clause, the Draft Resolution will consist of the remaining clauses. Lastly, after the clause-by-clause vote, the resolution will be voted upon in its final version.

Article 8.10: Motion to Split the House

Before voting on a Draft Resolution or Amendment, a Delegate has the ability to propose a motion to split the house, consequently removing the possibility of abstaining from the vote. In order for this motion to be approved, it requires a second and a two-thirds majority vote.

Article 8.11: Motion for a Roll Call Vote

After moving into voting procedure, delegates may propose a motion for a roll call vote, which passes at the discretion of the Presidency/ Chairpersons. During a Roll Call vote, delegates are presented with six potential initial responses:

Yes: a substantive vote in favour.

No: a substantive vote against.

- Yes, with Rights: a substantive vote in favour allowing the delegate to explain their vote. A delegate may only declare "rights," if they are voting against the policy of the actor they represent or if they decide to switch their vote from their declared position during committee.
- No, with Rights: a substantive vote against allowing the delegate to explain their vote. A delegate may only declare "rights," if they are voting against the policy of the actor they represent or if they decide to switch their vote from their declared position during committee.
- Abstain: Neither a vote in favour nor against. An abstention lowers the total vote count. Pass: In the event of declaring a "pass," the Presidency will proceed with the roll call voting process, moving on to the next delegation. Once all states have completed their voting process, the Presidency will proceed to request the delegation to cast their votes. Once a delegation has utilised a pass, the option to abstain is forfeited, and the delegation is obligated to cast a vote either ' ' in favour' ' or ' ' against' ' , with no abstentions in order.

Article 8.12 Motion of Competence

Delegates hold the right to question the Committee's ability to implement a Draft Resolution, in the event that they observe it infringing on the Committee's mandate or implementation authority. This proposition is debatable, with 1 speaker in favor and 1 speaker against, with a speaking time set at the discretion of the Chairpersons. During the debate upon this motion at least a President of the General Assembly must be present. After the speeches, this motion is left up to the decision of the Presidency of the General Assembly. If it passes, the Draft Resolution is withdrawn, if it fails to get approval, the debate will proceed.

Chapter IX: Special Provisions for the Security Council

Article 9.1: The Veto Power

In the UN Charter, the 5 Permanent Members of the Security Council, hereinafter P5 members, have the right to veto any substantive matter that is being discussed in the committee. Therefore, if a P5 member votes against an amendment or a resolution, it automatically fails.

Article 9.2: Motion for a P5 Caucus

The Motion for a P5 Caucus can only be proposed by the P5 members, followed by total duration and topic, and passes if it is not objected by a P5 member. If there is a P5 objection, the motion automatically fails. During a P5 caucus, the permanent member of the Security Council will leave the room, supervised by a chairperson, in order to discuss the proposed topic. Formal language is not required, but the official language of the conference will still be used. The rest of the committee will automatically move into Lobbying time.

Article 9.3: Motion to declare a vote substantive

In the instance in which a procedural vote highly impacts the substantive part of the committee, a delegate may raise a Motion to Declare a Vote Substantial. If this motion passes, abstentions are in order and the veto right applies. This motion requires seconds and a simple majority to pass.

Article 9.4: Motion for an Emergency Special Session

When a resolution in the Security Council is vetoed, any delegate can raise a motion for an Emergency Special Session, but only during the final General Assembly of the conference. This motion passes at the discretion of the Presidents of the General Assembly. When such motion passes, the Draft Resolution of the Security Council is debated and voted in the General Assembly. During the Emergency Special Session, the veto power is not in order.

Chapter X: Final Provisions

Article 10.1: Rule's priority

In the event that two rules contradict, the specific rules for a committee (for example the Security Council) will take priority over the general rules of procedure.

Article 10.2: Changes to the Rules of Procedure

The Rules of Procedure can only be amended by the Head of the Protocol Department after notice.

Article 10.3: Interpretation of the Rules

In case of disputes regarding the interpretation of these rules, the decision of the Head of the Protocol Department or the Presidents of the General Assembly is final.

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Barsana Monastery, Romania