



**2011 GEORGIA TECH
MODEL UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE**

Sponsored by the Sam Nunn School of International Affairs

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Delegate Resource Guide

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Research

The most important part of preparation for a simulation of the United Nations is research. In order to effectively participate in debate one must be prepared for the issues that will arise during the simulation. Without appropriate research, the educational experience of participating in the simulation is greatly inhibited. Therefore, research is just as much a part of a model United Nations simulation as the rules of parliamentary procedure. However, it can often be a very difficult process. This guide is meant to provide a starting point for adequate research and to help maximize the effectiveness of the time spent researching. There are specific questions that a delegate must look to answer when doing research. In addition, there are also different areas in which a delegate must be knowledgeable in order to be a successful participant in debate.

GTMUN is intended to be as realistic a simulation of the United Nations and other similar international bodies as possible. In order to make this goal a reality, each delegate must be prepared to act as a true national representative. While GTMUN is intended to be a fun experience that takes students out of the classroom setting to learn about international affairs, we at GTMUN still expect delegates to do their part to make this a successful conference and a valuable learning experience for everyone involved.

The United Nations System

Perhaps the most often forgotten aspect of preparation for a United Nations simulation is researching the United Nations system itself. A delegate must understand the purpose, procedure, and organization of the United Nations in order to effectively simulate the undertakings of the organization. The Present Charter of the United Nations is available on the United Nations website (<http://www.un.org>) and is divided into sections so that it can be easily printed. All delegates are expected to at least be familiar with the provisions of the Charter that deal with their respective committees.

The history of the United Nations is also very important. The United Nations may have taken past actions that directly affect an issue that a committee deals with at GTMUN. The committee directors have written background papers for each topic that provide delegates with a brief history of United Nations action regarding the topic. However, these background guides are only a summary, and they do not always include detailed information about the action that the United Nations has taken. The best way to research the history of the United Nations is through review of UN documents such as resolutions and press releases. These documents are available through the United Nations website.

Documentation in the United Nations

The following is an explanation of the symbols used by the United Nations in their system for identifying documents; it will be useful when determining which of the documents are relevant to the jurisdiction of a particular committee. Some of the less common symbols are not listed. A symbol is a combination of numbers and letters that serves as a unique identifier for a United Nations Document. It generally does not give any significant indication of the subject of a document. All language versions of a document carry the same symbol. The first component usually reflects the parent organ issuing the document or to which the document is being submitted:

Symbol	Committee
A/	General Assembly
S/	Security Council
E/	Economic and Social Council
ST/	Secretariat
I.C.J.	International Court of Justice
T/	Trusteeship Council

Following the first slash will be a symbol that represents which subsidiary body issued or is being given the document.

Symbol	Meaning
/AC/	Ad Hoc Committee
/C/	Permanent or Standing Committee
/CN/	Commission
/CONF/	Conference
/GC/	Governing Council
/SC/	Sub-committee
/Sub/	Sub-commission
/WG/	Working Group

General Assembly Committees

Symbol	Committee
A/C.1/	Political and Security Committee (GA1)
A/C.2/	Economic and Financial Committee (GA2)
A/C.3/	Social, Humanitarian, and Cultural Committee (GA3)
A/C.4/	Decolonization Committee (GA4)
A/C.6/	Legal Committee (GA6)
A/SPC/	Special Political Committee

Some exceptions occur in the case of bodies for which a special series symbol has been created not reflecting the parent organ. For example:

Symbol	Committee
CRC/C/	Committee on the Rights of the Child
DP/	United Nations Development Programme
TD/	United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
UNEP/	United Nations Environment Programme
WFC/	World Food Council
CERD/	Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination

These components reflect the nature of the document

Symbol	Meaning
/BUR/	General Committee Documents
/CRP/	Conference Room Paper
/DEC/	Decisions
/INF/	Information series (procedural issues)
/Min. /	Minutes
/NGO/	Statement by Non-Governmental Organization
/PC/	Preparatory Committee
/PCN/	Preparatory Commission
/PET/	Petitions
/PRST/	Statement from President of the Security Council
/PV/	Provisional Verbatim (record of meeting)
/RES/	Resolution
/R./	Restricted
/SR./	Summary Records
/WP./	Working Paper
/L./	Limited Distribution

Modifications to documents also have a set of symbols and generally are at the end of the symbol string.

Symbol	Meaning
/Add.	Addendum
/Summary	Official Summary Report
/Excerpt	Excerpt
/Rev.	Revision
/Amend.	Amendment
/Corr	Corrigendum (correction to error in the document)

Since 1976 (the 31st Session of the General Assembly) documents are numbered using Arabic numerals to indicate which session the document comes from. For example S/RES/17/18 is the 18th resolution passed by the 17th session of the Security Council. E/CN.4/Sub.2/2003/38/Rev.2 is the Economic and Social Council, Commission on Human Rights, Subcommittee on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights, year: 2003, document no. 38, revision no. 2.

Specific Country Research

Research on the country a delegate is to represent can be challenging. Very rarely will the policy of any nation be thoroughly discussed in research materials available to delegates. Many times a nation's position on a topic is not documented. In addition, many nations have a public position on an issue that differs greatly from their actual stance. For example, Iran would most likely state in an international forum that it does not participate in nor support terrorism in any way, but by a Western definition of terrorism, they are actively involved in terrorism. Because the policy of each country is not easily found in writing, it is the responsibility of the delegate to take what knowledge he or she has about the country and formulate a policy consistent with the needs of that nation.

First and foremost, each delegate should research their nation's geography, political and economic systems, military capability, history, culture, and international and regional affiliations. However, there are sometimes other issues that may be particularly important to a nation as well. Generally speaking, the more one knows about his or her country, the easier it will be for a delegate to accurately represent a country in debate. It is most effective for the entire delegation to work together in this phase of research. Fact sheets with vital statistical information for the country are a good start. It is also helpful in many cases to contact the nation's Permanent Mission to the United Nations or its embassy in Washington D.C. However, many of the smaller nations do not have the staff to be able to accommodate requests for information, so when contacting these sources, treat the representatives with respect and understanding. The addresses and telephone numbers of the embassies in Washington as well as various other embassy locations are located at The Electronic Embassy (<http://www.embassy.org/embassies/index.html>). The United States State Department compiles background notes on each nation that could be helpful in the initial stages of research. They can be contacted at:

Office of Public Affairs
US State Department
2201 C Street, NW
Washington, DC 20015
Telephone: (202) 632-1391

In addition, the US State Department also has specific offices devoted to each nation. The Department publishes the telephone numbers for these offices. Delegates are strongly encouraged to call these numbers to get information on their country and its stance on their particular agenda topics. Bear in mind, however, that this information is being provided by the United States government, and therefore does not necessarily reflect the actual position of the nation. It only represents what the United States perceives the nation's policy to be. These numbers can be found on the US State Department's website (<http://www.state.gov/countries>).

In addition to knowing what is happening in delegate's country, delegates should look at how their nation views their neighbors, their region, and the world. Knowing what is going on in a delegate's country can provide valuable insight into how each nation aligns or disagrees with other nations. A little research into how other nations perceive the world can help delegates find allies and establish blocs that can get resolutions passed.

Online Research Sites

Asia

- Asian Development Bank (<http://www.adb.org>)
- Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (<http://www.apecse.org.sg>)
- Asiaweek (<http://www.pathfinder.com/Asiaweek>)
- Far Eastern Economic Review (<http://www.feer.com>)
- ASEAN (<http://www.aseansec.org>)
- Counterpart Central Asia (<http://www.counterpart.org/dnn/>)

Middle East

- The Organization of the Islamic Conference (<http://www.oic-oci.org>)
- US Department of State Near Eastern Division (<http://www.state.gov/p/nea>)

Africa

- Africa News (<http://www.africanews.org>)
- University of Pennsylvania African Studies
(http://www.sas.upenn.edu/African_Studies/AS.html)
- Africa Policy Information Center (<http://www.africapolicy.org/index.shtml>)
- African Union (<http://africa-union.org>)

Europe

- Organization of Security and Co-operation in Europe (<http://www.osce.org>)
- Council of Europe (<http://coe.int/DefaultEN.asp>)
- European Union (<http://europa.eu.int>)
- NATO (<http://hq.nato.int>)
- Russian and Eastern European Studies (<http://www.ucis.pitt.edu/reesweb>)

Americas

- U.S. Department of State (<http://www.state.gov>)
- Canadian Department of Foreign Affairs and International Commerce
(<http://www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca>)
- Organization of American States (<http://www.oas.gov>)

Topic Research

Topic research is the last step in the research process, but it is this research that a delegate will mostly depend on during debate. All delegates should be familiar with the information in their respective committee background guides. This information has been provided by the committee directors, who will oversee parliamentary procedure and substantive debate in their respective committees at GTMUN. The directors at GTMUN are required to be highly knowledgeable about the issues of their committees, and have spent many hours preparing the background guides for delegate use.

The background guides cannot include all of the information pertinent to every nation's policy on an agenda topic. The guides are a summary of past UN action and it is the responsibility of the delegate to research each agenda topic further. A delegate should answer a few questions regarding each agenda topic:

1. How does it affect the nation directly?

2. What has the government done about the issue in the past?
3. What UN action would the country deem necessary and what would be deemed unnecessary?
4. Which actions does the nation feel are most important?

These questions will aid in formulating a comprehensive policy that is consistent with the research that has already been done on the country.

There is no set formula for finding topic-related information. The following are Internet resources that are broad enough to encompass a large range of issues. They are commonly used to find information about a variety of topics, and most likely will be very helpful. However, a delegate should not feel limited to these sources. Delegates should take advantage of resources found elsewhere that deal more specifically with their topics. Many times the best information can be found in books and journals. When searching internet sites, be sure to assess the credibility of each site. Wikipedia is not a credible site for research. It is a good way for a delegate to get a broad sense of a topic, but all delegates should do research beyond Wikipedia.

Internet Resources

United Nations Sites

- United Nations Website (<http://www.un.org>)
- International Atomic Energy Agency (<http://www.iaea.org>)
- UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (<http://ochaonline.un.org>)
- United Nations Development Programme (<http://www.undp.org>)
- United Nations Environment Programme (<http://www.unep.org>)
- United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (<http://www.unhcr.ch>)
- United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (www.unodc.org)
- United Nations Children's Fund (<http://www.unicef.org>)
- United Nations Peacekeeping Operations (<http://www.un.org/Depts/dpko/dpko/index.asp>)
- World Health Organization (<http://www.who.ch>)
- World Trade Organization (<http://www.wto.org>)
- International Court of Justice (<http://www.icj-cij.org/>)

Sites of Useful Non-United Nations Organizations/Sites

- Amnesty International (<http://www.amnesty.org>)
- Human Rights Institute (<http://www.hri.ca>)
- International Committee for the Red Cross and Red Crescent (<http://www.icrc.org>)
- International Monetary Fund (<http://www.imf.org>)
- Nuclear Threat Initiative (nonprofit think-tank) (<http://www.nti.org>)
- RAND (nonprofit think-tank) (<http://www.rand.org>)
- World Bank Group (<http://www.worldbank.org>)
- Data & Statistics (<http://www.worldbank.org/data>)
- Stratfor (<http://www.stratfor.com/>)
- Center for Strategic & International Studies (<http://www.csis.org>)
- Monterey Institute for International Studies – Center for Nonproliferation Studies (<http://www.cns.miis.edu>)

Books

- *An Agenda for Peace*. New York: United Nations Publications, 1995.
This book provides an overview of many of the pertinent issues facing the United Nations recently, from the perspective of a former United Nations Secretary General.
- *A Global Agenda*. New York: Roman & Littlefield Publishers, Inc., Published Annually.
This book is the most comprehensive source of information on all aspects currently being discussed by the United Nations. It is divided up by UN committees, and provides an overview of the work completed on all main topics in each committee over the past year. This is an important resource for all delegates, and is highly recommended.

Journals, Newspapers, and Magazines

- *The New York Times* (Newspaper)
- *The Christian Science Monitor* (Newspaper)
- *The Economist* (Weekly News Magazine)
- *The United Nations Chronicle* (Magazine)
- *Current History* (Journal)
- *Foreign Affairs* (Bimonthly Journal)
- *Foreign Policy* (Bimonthly Magazine)
- *The Washington Post* (Newspaper)

Position Papers

The purpose of the position papers is to enable the delegates to engage in good substantive debate at the conference and to ensure that each delegate is fully familiar with their nation. These papers also allow delegates to learn the valuable skill of summary. Because there is a page limit (and font size limit) the delegates must organize all of their research and find the pieces that are the most important. It is important to be able to successfully incorporate one's thoughts into written form during debate. Submission of a position paper will be a key factor in determining a delegate's level of preparation for the purpose of selection for awards.

Each background guide provided by the GTMUN staff has a section (Committee Directive) that specifies where the Director would like the debate to focus. Substantively, the position paper should address the pertinent background information to the topic, the country's stance on the issue, and specific proposals to resolve the problem

The requirements for the position papers are detailed below. The Directors will not read papers that do not conform to these guidelines. Part of the purpose of the papers is to allow the delegates to summarize the most important part of their research, it is not meant to serve as an exhaustive report. An example position paper is included at the end of the Delegate Resource Guide.

When the staff reads the papers, they are looking for the following things:

- Understanding the position of the nation in regards to each topic
- Original and knowledgeable thinking in terms of a solution to the problem.
- Clearly stating the nation's policies
- Correct use of grammar and spelling

Requirements:

- Maximum one page per topic
- Maximum 12 point font
- Minimum 10 point font
- Margins must be: 1" top/bottom 1.25" right/left
- Heading must only include: Committee, Delegation, and Topic

Working Papers and Resolutions

The written format by which the United Nations brings the proposals of its member states to the floor for debate and a vote is called a resolution. Essentially, a resolution is a written statement of aims, goals, and a means of effective action by a United Nations committee.

Before delegates compose a formal resolution to deal with the topic problems, they may want to transfer their ideas into a working paper, or rough draft. Working papers are usually formed by a group of nations in the same geographical region or political persuasion. Working papers have no standard format, and are nearly always simply a list of ideas that delegates use as a starting point and point of reference in caucus and formal debate. Working papers serve to help delegates understand other nations' policy and facilitate more constructive debate. They should not be written before the conference but should be created through a collaborative process.

Resolutions are usually formed by combining several working papers. Resolutions follow a specific format and present a cohesive and well thought plan to dealing with a specific problem. Resolutions that are long but repetitive or vague are not better than short resolutions that address a specific aspect of an issue. Pre-written resolutions are not allowed at GTMUN. An example resolution appears in the appendix to this document.

At some point in the debate a group of delegates who have been working on a proposal (possibly in working paper form) will find they have enough support to formally bring a resolution before the committee. Delegates will need to show their Directors the working paper they would like to present as a resolution. If it meets all necessary criteria (being on topic; having the correct number of sponsors and signatories; having different content than other resolutions on the floor; offering a realistic solution) the working paper will become a resolution and one delegate will be allowed access to the computer lab to type the resolution into the Online Resolution System (ORS). Upon submission into the system, the resolution will be reviewed once again by the Director and then will be sent to the conference office for printing. The resolution cannot be discussed in debate until it has been approved and copies of the resolution have been handed out to committee delegates. The directors at GTMUN will not accept proposals unless they in correct resolution form.

Resolution Heading

Every resolution begins with a heading in the upper left-hand corner, which should include the committee name, topic, and sponsors of a resolution, as follows:

TOPIC: The title of the agenda topic in question. (e.g., "The Situation in East Timor")

COMMITTEE: The name of the UN organ you are a representative to. (e.g., "GA 4: Special Political and Decolonization Committee")

SPONSORS: Affixed sponsoring States which support the content of the resolution. (Check the rules of procedure to see how many sponsors and signatories are required for a working paper to become a resolution)

SIGNATORIES: Space for ensuing signatories to the document to consider its discussion as a resolution.

Preambulatory Clauses

After the heading come the preambulatory clauses. These clauses describe the committee's intent, motivation and frame of mind in writing the resolution. Preambulatory clauses begin with an underlined participle or adjective, which is capitalized, and are followed by a comma. Some sample words or phrases which can be used as preambulatory clauses include:

Acknowledging	Deploring	Noting with regret
Affirming	Desiring	Noting with satisfaction
Alarmed by	Disturbed	Noting with concern
Angered by	Emphasizing	Noting with deep concern
Appalled by	Expecting	Noting with approval
Approving	Expressing	Observing
Aware of	Fulfilling	Prompted by
Bearing in mind	Fully aware	Reaffirming
Believing	Fully alarmed	Realizing
Concerned by	Fully believing	Recalling
Confident	Further deploring	Recognizing
Conscious	Guided by	Reiterating
Considering	Having adopted	Respecting
Convinced	Having considered	Seeking
Declaring	Having examined	Stressing
Deeply concerned	Having studied	Taking into consideration
Deeply convinced	Having heard	Understanding
Deeply disturbed	Keeping in mind	Viewing with appreciation
Deeply regretting	Noting	Welcoming

Operative Clauses

The operative paragraphs, which follow the preambulatory clauses, contain the action of the resolution. Each operative clause begins with a capitalized present tense verb in the third person singular. Each “paragraph” formed by a new operative verb is indented five spaces, numbered, indented to the tenth space, and ended with a semicolon. The last paragraph ends with a period. Sample action phrases which can initiate operative clauses include:

Accepts	Deems	Hopes
Addressed	Defines	Improves
Adheres	Demands	Insists
Advocates	Denies	Insures
Affirms	Deploras	Invites
Agrees	Designates	Notes
Approves	Draws the attention	Praises
Asks	Emphasizes	Proclaims
Asserts	Encourages	Proposes
Authorizes	Endorses	Provides
Begins	Establishes	Reaffirms
Calls for	Expands	Recognizes
Calls upon	Expresses	Recommends
Chooses	Expresses its appreciation	Regrets
Condemns	Expresses its hope	Reminds
Congratulates	Further invites	Requests
Confirms	Further proclaims	Solemnly affirms
Considers	Further reminds	States
Constructs	Further recommends	Strongly condemns
Continues	Further resolves	Suggests
Creates	Further requests	Supports
Declares	Gives	Takes note of
Declares accordingly	Guarantees	Transmits
Decreases	Have resolved	Urges

Awards

GTMUN awards outstanding delegations, outstanding delegates, and outstanding cooperation following the final session of the conference. This is a way for the GTMUN staff to recognize the hard work, diligent preparation, and professionalism of those delegates who stand out during debate. These awards are not intended in any way to undermine the performances of other delegates. Bear in mind that GTMUN is not a competition, but rather an educational experience. The GTMUN conference's goal is to bring delegates together in a spirit of compromise. Much like the United Nations, the organization exists for the betterment of all, and there are no winners or losers. GTMUN requires hard work and long hours from delegates before and during the conference, and therefore all delegates are commended for their successful participation.

The following criteria are used in determining awards:

- Presentation skills
- Speaking skills
- Creativity
- Overall knowledge
- Specific topic knowledge
- Specific knowledge of country represented
- Accuracy to county represented
- Negotiation skills (especially during caucuses)
- Courtesy to other delegates
- Knowledge of rules/procedure
- 'Political' ability
- Overall presence
- Position paper (accuracy and depth of knowledge)

Directors have the final say on which delegates from their committees get awards. Delegates are monitored during debates and caucuses. The ideal delegate is accurate and knowledgeable on both their country's position on the topic and the UN. They should work to create resolutions that are a reasonable solution to the problem while remaining loyal to their country.

Delegation Awards:

George P. Burdell Cup (1) – Named after the Georgia Tech campus icon, this cup is given to the delegation that best represents their country through the duration of the conference. The delegates have a full understanding of their country's stance on all issues at hand, and show these views in a diplomatic fashion. In addition, the delegates show the utmost respect for their fellow delegates in the committee.

Outstanding Delegation (2) – These delegations have shown outstanding preparation and debate skills throughout the conference.

Delegate Awards:

Outstanding Delegate (1 per committee) – This award is chosen by the Director and the Assistant Director in each committee and is given to the student that most embodies the spirit of the United Nations in all aspects of their behavior.

Honorable Mention (2 per committee) – These awards are at the discretion of the Director and Assistant Director and are given to students that have shown depth of knowledge of the topic and their country and have strived for cooperation throughout the conference.

Delegate Code of Conduct

In general, GTMUN expects and REQUIRES all delegates to act in a professional manner during their participation in this conference. The guidelines that are provided for delegates in this guide are intended to protect delegates while they are in the City of Atlanta and at Georgia Tech as well as to ensure that the conference is a good experience for everyone involved.

Respect

Delegates show respect to others at all times while participating in GTMUN. This means that all delegates should respect staff members, fellow delegates, faculty advisors, guests of the conference, Georgia Tech faculty, and anyone else that they come in contact with during the GTMUN conference. This applies in all circumstances. Delegates are responsible for the manner in which they treat other delegates in caucus, the content of notes passed during committee, and all other ways in which they interact with others. Any delegate who is not respectful to other participants will not be considered for awards at the end of the conference. Any delegate who shows extreme disrespect, including vulgar notes, will be asked to leave the conference and will become the responsibility of the their advisor.

Location

The dates that have been chosen for GTMUN are days that Georgia Tech does not have classes. For that reason, the number of Georgia Tech students who will be on campus during the conference will be less than that of a typical day of class. However, there will be a large number of students that live on campus that will have continuous access to some of the same buildings that will be in use during GTMUN. Delegates are not to associate with these students under any circumstances. Delegates are also required to remain in their respective debate areas at all times. Committee directors will assign locations where caucusing is acceptable, and will closely monitor those places. This is for the protection of all delegates. In addition, the staff requires that delegates wear their credentials at all times. Delegates are not allowed to remove them for lunch, caucus, or any other reason. Any delegate that leaves the building without express permission from their Director will be asked to leave the conference.

Dress

All delegates at GTMUN are expected to be dressed appropriately. There are no exceptions to this rule. The dress for GTMUN is Western business attire. For men, a blazer or suit is appropriate. For women, skirts or slacks with a blouse, or dresses are acceptable, provided that the tops are not excessively low-cut, and that the skirts are not short. Jeans, shorts, sandals, or t-shirts are not acceptable under any circumstances. Women should not wear inappropriate or distracting makeup. All decisions concerning the acceptability of a delegate's dress will be made solely at the discretion of the GTMUN Secretariat, and delegates dressed offensively will be expected to leave the conference.

Consequences

GTMUN is only successful if delegates gain knowledge and experience from their participation in the conference. It is very important, therefore, that the GTMUN staff carefully and quickly

handle any situations dealing with delegate behavior during the conference before they hinder the ability of another to effectively participate. Inappropriate behavior will not be tolerated. If a delegate persists with inappropriate behavior after a warning, GTMUN staff will notify the delegate's faculty advisor. GTMUN also reserves the right, in extreme circumstances, to bar a delegate from further participation in the conference if necessary. The delegate will be placed under the supervision of the faculty advisor in such a case.

Committee Protocol

The committee room is the nucleus of the conference. Here the delegates complete most of their work concerning the issues at hand. There are several things to be aware of when entering the committee room.

Environment

The rooms will be set up according to the wishes of the director. It is requested that delegates maintain this seating order throughout the conference. Also, please be aware that the temperature of the room may not be within your comfort zone. Unfortunately, the room temperature is not adjustable by the GTMUN staff. Please bring appropriate clothing for such temperature changes.

The Committee Director

The committee Director will be a facilitator for all discussion in the committee. They will not take sides and will not influence the decisions of the committee. The Director is responsible for making sure background guides are prepared on time, presiding over the committee and general administrative duties for the committee. Motions will be made to the Director. Assistant Directors assist the Director throughout the conference and should be treated with the same amount of respect given to the Director. The Director's decisions are considered final. If you feel that a director has made a grave mistake, please write your claim and write "To Secretariat" on the top and give it to the Director. The note will be given directly to the Secretariat for discussion. All decisions of the Secretariat are final.

Forms of Debate

There are three forms of debate used at the GTMUN Conference. These are established to facilitate discussion of the issues. They are as follows:

Formal Debate – The committee maintains this level unless changed with the approval of the committee. During formal debate, the delegates will speak to the committee when it is their time, according to the speaker's list. Questioning of the speaking delegate is not allowed while in formal debate.

Moderated Caucus – At this level, the delegates may openly debate under the supervision of the director. Once the committee moves into moderated caucus, any delegates who wish to question the speaker may do so after being recognized by the Director.

Unmoderated Caucus – At this level, the delegates may openly debate without the supervision of the Committee Director. The delegates can interact without following the rules of procedure. It is requested that delegates remain in the room or designated areas during unmoderated caucus, unless excused by the director. This is when delegates should work on writing or gaining support for resolutions. Delegates should put emphasis on negotiation and consensus building. The Director and Assistant Director are available for any questions at this time.

Voting

Voting can only occur during formal debate, after the speaker's list has been exhausted or closed AND there is a resolution on the floor. The director has the discretion to postpone voting should he or she feel that debate has not been satisfactory to solve the topic at hand. In voting, there are three voting options that can be established by the voting body. Should there be no motion, the body will vote by unanimous vote. Two voting motions can be accepted: vote by roll call and vote by ballot. If either motion is called, the delegate must state "Yea" for the positive, "Nay" for the negative, or "Abstain" for their exclusion from the vote. In such voting, majority vote considers only the positive and negative votes, and ignore abstentions.

Rules of Procedure

GTMUN operates on a strict set of rules that have been created over the years by the Secretariat and the Directors. Delegates are expected to be familiar with the rules of procedure and adhere to them. Each conference operates on slightly different rules so it is imperative that delegates understand the rules that will be used at GTMUN. The rules are refined each year and should be reviewed annually for any changes. A copy of the rules is included in the Delegate Resource Guide and is posted on GTMUN's website. If delegates have questions about rules of procedure during the conference they can ask either their advisor or one of the GTMUN staff members.

EXAMPLE PAPERS

Greece

GA 4th: Special Political and Decolonization Satellite Placement in Outer Space

On May 13, 2003, Greece launched its first satellite, Hellas Sat, into orbit so as to have prepared in time for the 2004 Olympic Games. Now that this foremost purpose has been accomplished, the satellite is being used to allow communication between Greece and the Greek population of the rest of the world that has not been available until now. It is thus aiding in the commercial expansion of Greece's economy. Along with this, on January 18, 2005, the Greek parliament ratified a 2004 agreement and thus officially made Greece a part of the European Space Agency. In light of these facts, Greece understands the importance of space to its own country and to countries around the world.

In becoming part of the ESA, Greece has begun to place even more importance in space and will want to expand its satellite presence in space, with a few commercial satellites of its own, as well as scientific satellites that may be shared with the rest of Europe. For the time being, Greece will not require a military satellite, although in the future this may become a priority. Greece also understands that space needs to be split up in an orderly fashion to avoid unwanted accidents in space, and also to assure every country a right to a piece of something that belongs to all the world.

The division of remaining orbits for satellites in space should be split according to the size of the commercial sector in different countries for commercial satellites, possibly giving a certain amount of satellite room for companies from different countries that reach a certain size, with a cap on the amount of satellites based on the aforementioned size of the commercial sector. For the scientific sector, orbits can be divided according to the delicacy of the experiment to a certain orbit, or split between space agencies, thus allowing those wishing to carry out the scientific endeavors to choose which space agency will launch their experiment. They could also be split up on a first come first serve basis, with a certain number of orbits in space designated specifically as being for science. Greece is not a powerful country militarily, and thus dislikes the notion of having weapons in space; as such, it is against any sort of arm's race in space, and would rather have satellites be forbidden to carry weapons into it. While also wanting a provision to prevent the use of espionage in space, it understands the difficulty that would come with implementing this, and also the beneficial uses that it could bring. Satellites that become inactive should be equipped with a self-destruct that severely alters their orbit so they are quickly disposed of in the atmosphere. Greece may be a small country, but it has a very important culture that has affected much of the world; this knowledge could be helped by more satellites in space. Also, while Greece has a stagnating economy at the moment, the allowance of certain orbits in space could greatly improve the commercial sector and help improve its economy. Thus, Greece has a necessity of at least a few orbits for the present, and will need more in the future.

http://www.space.com/missionlaunches/atlas5_launch_030513.html
<http://www.astro.auth.gr/elaset/esa/>

Greece

GA 4th: Special Political and Decolonization Self-determination of Western Sahara

Greece has faced the conquest of a greater power before in its history, when the Ottoman Empire claimed sovereignty over it, and it would now, as it did then, fight to preserve what it believes to be its own right to self-determination. In accordance with what it believes about itself, it also believes that Western Sahara should have a right to self-determination. When Spain decolonized the area in 1975, the region was supposed to have the right to decide what would happen to it, but both Mauritania and Morocco moved in and, in Greece's opinion, illegally and forcibly took military control of the region.

Greece believes that the referendum that was supposed to have happened in 1991 under MINURSO should be placed into effect, and any plan to do this should only have to be approved by the population of Western Sahara (i.e. unlike the failed Baker Plan, where the Polisario accepted but the plan failed because of Morocco), because it is rightfully their land and not Morocco's. However, noting the problems that this would cause, Greece also believes that Morocco would have to receive just compensation. This just compensation could include something more trading rights with the rest of the world, or even a granting of part of the original Western Sahara region in return for the giving up of the greater part of it. Greece believes that the referendum that should have taken effect almost fifteen years ago should be placed into effect soon. This is necessary since the referendum is a great source of monetary drain (\$44.6 million for 2006-2007 alone) for the United Nations and has had fifteen years of repeatedly being extended because no agreement can ever be reached on it. The referendum should not be rushed or put into effect sloppily, though, but it should become a priority on the United Nation's agenda until such a time as it comes to pass.

Any referendum that occurs to take care of this situation should have in mind the rights of the people in the area, and the urgency to put it in place should also take into account the human rights abuses that have been reported in the area. If anything, Greece is a country that respects the rights of citizens to believe what they will; that is, it respects freedom of speech, press, etc. In retrospect, this conviction comes from the abuses that happened in Greece itself during the reign of General Papadopoulos, where these rights and other civil liberties were suppressed. Thus, Greece condemns the Moroccan practices of capturing and imprisoning political and philosophical opponents with no charge and not releasing them. It believes that any referendum will have to address those unlawfully imprisoned, and that if the referendum does not include that, a sister resolution should be created to press Morocco into releasing these prisoners. In light of these abuses, when the Moroccan presence is removed, it should be removed entirely, to prevent any more of them. Greece is thus supportive of the Western Sahara's bid for independence; at the very least, it would like to see the human rights of the population defended in the future.

<http://www.un.org/Depts/dpko/missions/minurso/>
<http://www.arso.org/08-4.htm>

Greece

GA 4th: Special Political and Decolonization The Prospect of Democratic Elections in Africa

Greece is known as the founding place of democracy in the early years of civilization. Democracy has changed since then, but Greece still supports its role in society, especially after its encounter with a dictatorship in the early fifties with General Papadopoulos. As a democratic nation, Greece supports the adoption democracy in the nations of the world, including those in Africa, as a way to create a more moderate world where radical thinkers do not cause as much damage to society. It especially hopes that democracy can be used as a tool to create more peaceful world for later generations.

However, noting the difficulty of doing this that has been seen in the Middle East with the United States, Greece also supports a more moderated approach, that takes into account not only the wishes of the nations aiding the country in question in its bid for democracy, but especially giving the people of the country the final opinion on the topic. As with a lot of the European Union, Greece did not support the unilateralism that the United States showed during the Iraq war, and any new attempts to enforce democracy in nations willing to adopt it will have to come with much multilateralism in its opinion, especially using the United Nations to help. It will be very important, in retrospect of what happened in the Middle East, that a democracy is not imposed on a people, but rather that its establishment be preordained by the people of the country in question. This is especially true in African nations, where most of the time, the people are just coming out of turmoil and will likely be suspicious of foreign intervention. If the United Nations decides it wants to enforce a democracy, it should not do it militarily, but rather by pressuring the country in question to adopt one.

One of the most important parts of a well-functioning democratic system is a well-educated public capable of making well educated decisions. As such, to support African countries that are willing to become democratic, the UN would have to place an emphasis on sending out members to help do this, either by giving information on the government's functions or the opinions of the government officials or both. The UN would also have to send experts in to help with the infrastructure of the elections, including places that where ballots will be placed, transportation to and from those places, and ways to count the ballots. It is possible to have peaceful elections even in volatile regions, as the Congo election this summer showed, but the problem (as again is seen in that election) occurs when two of the candidates tie. It is situations like these that must be solved peacefully and will require UN's help, by peacekeepers and by having the UN educate the people. If the elections are thus controlled, Greece believes that a democratic Africa would be the next step to a more peaceful world.

<http://www.gwu.edu/~ieresgwu/2004.3.pdf#search=%22EU%20on%20unilateralism%20of%20us%22>

<http://allafrica.com/stories/200609010295.html>