YOUR ESSENTIALS
BY HANNA

The Muner Guide: Become a Model UN Expert!

Dear delegates,

Welcome to this guide!

Here, you will find all the keys you need to understand and master Model United Nations (MUN) simulations. Step by step, you will discover the essential rules that will help you develop your public speaking skills, refine your sense of negotiation, and explore the fascinating world of diplomacy.

Between influence, debate, and the pursuit of compromise, MUN is an exercise open to everyone—and soon, it will hold no secrets for you.
Happy training, and may your diplomatic journey begin!

UpCiteMun

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Model United Nations: What Is It?

A **Model United Nations** (MUN) is a simulation of debates within one of the United Nations institutions.
Each participant represents a country and, in accordance with official UN procedures, defends that country's interests and/or position on one or more topics.
This simulation can involve any UN body, depending on the theme: **UNICEF** (when it concerns children's rights), **UNESCO** (for issues related to education, science, and culture), **NATO** (mainly for matters of collective security), and more generally the **United Nations** itself for broader global issues.

Why Participate in a Model UN Conference?

The main goal of a Model United Nations (MUN) is to **draft a resolution** that addresses a global issue.
Participating in a MUN is an introduction to the world of diplomacy. You learn how to negotiate and debate with people who may have completely different opinions—and who are not always open to discussion. It requires adaptability and the ability to find compromises on major international topics. It is, above all, a true exercise in **public speaking and negotiation**.

Guidelines:

The rules may vary slightly depending on the institution involved, but a common framework generally applies. One or more topics are chosen by the organizers of the session, and participants are then invited to select a country related to the proposed theme(s). Each participant acts as a diplomat representing their assigned country.
The regulations follow the **Western Procedure** (Western Rules).

- Language of the Session: English or one of the six official UN languages (English, Arabic, Chinese, Spanish, French, or Russian).
- Dress Code: Professional attire is required (suit, blazer, formal dress, etc.).
- Authority of the Chair: All decisions made by the Chairs are final and cannot be appealed.
- Each delegate is provided with a placard bearing the name of the country they represent. Delegates must raise their placard and wait for the Chair's permission before speaking.
- Except by decision of the Chair, there shall be no suspension of the rules nor any alteration in the flow of debate.
- The Chair reserves the right to sanction participants who fail to follow the rules.
- The use of "I" or any form of personal reference is strictly prohibited and may result in sanctions.
- Each delegate may be granted a Right of Reply or a Right of Apology by the Chair.
- Delegates may pass written notes to communicate during the session; however, no verbal discussion is allowed outside the times specifically designated for that purpose.

Glossary of Formal Debate Terms:
The Chair: Leads the debate and maintains order while remaining impartial.
The Assembly: All the delegations present during the session.
The Delegate / The Delegation: The participants representing each country in the session.
The Resolution: The proposal submitted for debate and voting at the end of the procedure.
Point of Information: A question posed by a member of the assembly, duly recognized by the Chair, and addressed either to the delegate holding the floor or to the Chair.
Point of Order: A question addressed to the Chair by a member of the assembly who believes a procedural error has been made or who seeks clarification regarding the rules of procedure.

Preparing for the Debate:

During a session, participants are referred to as delegates or delegations of their respective countries.
Each delegate is considered a true diplomat of the country they represent, and this role must be maintained until the end of the conference.

Throughout both the preparation phase and the conference itself, the delegate must adopt and defend the official positionof their assigned country. Therefore, conducting thorough research is essential to remain aligned with the diplomatic stance and policies of the represented State.

A well-informed delegate will be able to effectively defend their country's interests.
That is why you will find below a Country Sheet to complete — it will help you master the key elements and approach the debate in the best possible conditions.

Country Profile Sheet:

I. General Presentation of the Country

A. Geography
Area: ... | Population: ... | Capital: ...
Continent: ... | Maritime access / Landlocked: ... | Terrain (advantage/disadvantage): ...
Bordering countries: ...

B. History and Political Life
Independence: ... | Political system: ... | Stability: ...
Head of State: ... | Head of Government: ...
Recent events (last 5 years): ...

C. Culture
Official language(s): ... | Ethnic groups and minorities: ...
Major religion(s): ... | Social / political / economic implications: ...

D. Economy
GDP / GNP: ... | Debt and dependency: ...
Level of development: ...
Economic / trade organizations: ...

II. Role on the International Stage

A. Defense
Military independence: ... | Alliances: ... | Nuclear weapons: ...

B. Global Influence
United Nations: member since ...
Security Council: ... | Economic and Social Council: ...
International organizations: ...
Regional relations: ...

C. Additional Information
Strategic elements: ...

The position paper:

Many MUN conferences require delegates to submit a position paper before the event begins, in order to demonstrate their research and understanding of the topic. A position paper is usually 1 to 2 pages per topic and contains 3 to 4 paragraphs. It must be written from the perspective of the government of the country you represent, include a proper header, and clearly address the essential questions related to the issue.
Your final position paper should follow a structure similar to the example provided on the next page.

Goals of a Position Paper

- Present your country's specific analysis of the issue being discussed.
- Explain your country's past relationship with the topic, ideally with relevant examples.
- Propose the policies and ideas your delegation would like to see included in the final resolution.

A wide range of resources is available to help your research: UN websites, specialized articles, and reports from NGOs or academic institutions.

Header
Committee: [Committee Name]
Topic: [Committee Topic]
Country: [Represented Country]
School: [School Name]

Topic Background

- What is the definition of the topic?
- Where does the issue take place? Who are the actors involved?
- How many people are affected? Where, and in what ways?
- Why is this topic important at the international level?
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Past International Action

- Are there relevant statements from UN officials on this topic? (Try to find a quotation.)
- What are the most important UN resolutions, reports, or treaties related to this issue?
- Are there major NGOs working on this topic?

Country Policy

- How has this issue impacted your country?
- What actions has your country already taken regarding this topic?
- What types of policies would your country want the UN to adopt—or avoid?

Possible Solutions

- What specific actions would your country like the UN to implement to address this issue?
- What measures should Member States adopt within their own countries?
- Why would these ideas work? Present concrete and realistic proposals.

Sample:

Committee: General Assembly Third Committee
Topic: Combating Violence Against Women in Times of Armed Conflict
Delegate: Hanna Manallah
Country: United States of America
School: Université Paris-Cité

Violence against women in times of conflict is a severe and widespread human rights issue. According to UN Women, crises and armed conflicts increase the vulnerability of women and girls, exposing them to sexual violence, forced displacement, exploitation, and trafficking. Conflict-related sexual violence (CRSV) is recognized by the United Nations as a tactic of war that destabilizes communities and undermines long-term peacebuilding. This issue affects millions of women in regions experiencing conflict, from the Middle East to Sub-Saharan Africa, and disproportionately impacts displaced women, widows, and women belonging to minority groups. Addressing such violence is essential to uphold international humanitarian law, protect human dignity, and ensure sustainable peace.

The international community has taken significant steps to address conflict-related sexual violence. The adoption of UNSC Resolution 1325 in 2000 marked a historic milestone by recognizing the disproportionate impact of armed conflict on women and urging their participation in peace processes. Subsequent resolutions—1820, 1888, 1960, and 2467—further strengthened mechanisms to prevent sexual violence and hold perpetrators accountable. UN peacekeeping missions now include gender advisers, while organizations such as UN Women and the Office of the Special Representative on Sexual Violence in Conflict coordinate global efforts. Major NGOs, including the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and Human Rights Watch, also play crucial roles in reporting abuses and assisting survivors.

The United States considers combating violence against women in conflict zones a global priority. The U.S. has supported the Women, Peace and Security Act (2017), making it the first nation to codify into law a national strategy promoting women's protection and participation in conflict prevention and resolution. American foreign policy strongly condemns the use of sexual violence as a weapon of war and provides humanitarian aid, medical assistance, and protection services to survivors, particularly in regions like Ukraine, the Democratic Republic of Congo, and Syria. The United States actively supports UN Women, the UN Special Representative on CRSV, and encourages cooperation between the UN and regional organizations such as NATO and the African Union to strengthen prevention frameworks.

The United States believes several key measures must be prioritized to combat violence against women i conflict. First, Member States should reinforce accountability by strengthening judicial systems, documenting abuses, and supporting international investigations. Second, the U.S. encourages the expansion of survivor-centered services—including medical care, psychosocial support, safe shelters, and reintegration programs—through partnerships with NGOs. Third, peacekeeping missions must systematically integrate gender-sensitive training and deploy specialized units to protect women at risk. Finally, the U.S. urges Member States to promote women's participation in peace negotiations, as inclusive peace processes have proven more sustainable.
By combining accountability, protection, and empowerment, the United States aims to work with the international community to create durable solutions that end violence against women in conflict zones and support survivors in rebuilding their lives.

The flow of a MUN debate:

Each MUN committee generally follows a 5-step sequence:

1 – **Setting the Agenda** (**Roll Call**)
The session begins with a roll call, during which the Chair verifies the presence of all delegates.
Once attendance is confirmed, the committee votes to open the primary speakers list, which will determine the first topic to be addressed.

2 – **The Opening Speeches** (**Secondary Speakers List**)
After the topic is selected, the committee moves to the secondary speakers list.
This is when delegates deliver their opening speeches, presenting their country's official position on the issue.

3 – **Bloc Formation and Drafting** (**Blocs and Working Papers**)
The debate gradually becomes more focused: delegates who share similar views or objectives begin forming blocs.
During an unmoderated caucus, delegates collaborate to draft a working paper.

4 – **Resolution Introduction and Amendments**
Once a working paper is finalized by a bloc, it is formally presented to the committee (resolution introduction).
At this stage, a Q&A session is held, and delegates may propose amendments to improve the text.

5 – **Final Vote**
The final step is the vote.
After reviewing all amendments, the committee votes on the final version of the resolution.
A resolution is adopted if it receives the required number of votes (usually a simple majority)

Understanding the procedure:

During a committee session, the Chair is responsible for supervising and moderating the exchanges.
The flow of the session therefore depends largely on the initiative of the delegates, who may propose different mechanisms to guide the debate.
These mechanisms are known in English as "**Points and Motions**," meaning procedural points and motions.

Motions= used for the general flow of the debate (collective)

1 - Opening the Debate
Motion to Open Debate: used to officially begin the committee's work.

2 - Setting the Agenda
- **Motion to Open the Primary Speakers List**

Used to discuss which topic should be addressed first. → Must specify the proposed speaking time.
- **Motion to Set the Agenda**

Used to decide which topic will be treated as the priority. → Must specify the preferred topic.
- **Motion to Open the Secondary Speakers List**

Used once the agenda has been set. → Must specify the speaking time.
- **Motion to Set the Speaker Time**

Used to modify the individual speaking time. → Must specify the new duration.

3 - Formal/Informal Debate
- **Motion for a Moderated Caucus**

A structured debate where speaking time is allocated among delegates.→ Specify the sub-topic, total duration, and individual speaking time.
- **Motion for an Unmoderated Caucus**

An informal debate allowing free discussion and drafting.→ Specify the topic and duration.
- **Motion to Introduce Working Paper**

Used to present a working paper to the committee, followed by a Q&A session.→ Specify which document is being introduced.
- **Motion to Table Debate**

Ends debate on a topic and moves the committee to another. → The "Motion to Reintroduce" is used to reopen debate later.
- **Motion to Introduce Amendment**
  - Friendly Amendment: Accepted by all sponsors; automatically integrated.
  - Unfriendly Amendment: Not accepted by all sponsors; presented followed by a for/against debate and a vote.

4 - Voting Procedure
- **Motion to Move into Voting Procedure**

Ends all debate; no notes or exits are allowed.
→ Specify the voting directive and the number of speakers for/against.
- **Motion for a Roll Call Vote**

Used when the previous vote is very close. Each delegate votes during a nominal roll call.
- **Motion to Divide the Question**

Allows the committee to vote separately on a specific part of the resolution.
→ Specify the clause concerned.

5 - Closing Debate
- **Motion to Suspend Debate**

Used for breaks or recess between sessions.
- **Motion to Adjourn Debate**

Used at the end of the day or to close the session definitively.

Points: used occasionally (individual)
- **Point of order**: Used to correct a procedural mistake.

Example: The Chair forgot to conduct the roll call.
- **Point of inquiry** : A question addressed to the Chair regarding parliamentary rules or procedures.
- **Point of Personal Privilege**: Used to express a personal concern.

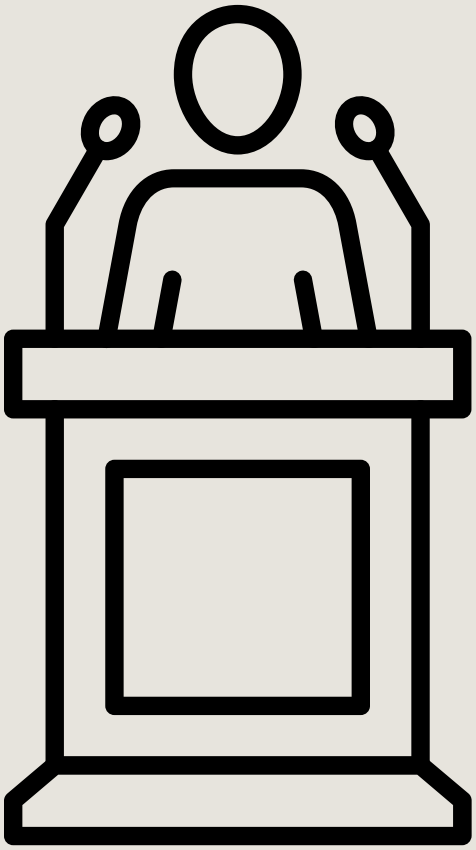
Example: The room is too hot, the delegate cannot hear the speaker, a restroom request, etc.
- **Point of information:** Used to ask a clarification question to another delegate.

→ Must be confirmed with the Chair, as some conferences do not use this point.

Delegate speeches:

During a MUN, several types of speeches may be delivered. Throughout the session, delegations may take the floor to present their country's position, report on the progress of negotiations, or invite other states to collaborate. Speaking is not mandatory: delegates request the floor by raising their placard to be added to the speakers' list.
Speeches may be fully written, based on brief notes, or delivered spontaneously, but they must always follow the formal register and diplomatic standards of a MUN.

1. Regular speeches
Delivered during formal sessions, they must follow UN-style diplomatic courtesy formulas.
Opening:
"Honorable Chairs, distinguished delegates, the delegation of [country]..."
Closing:
"Honorable Chairs, distinguished delegates, the delegation of [country] thanks you."



2. Position Statements
Lasting approximately 90 seconds, these speeches are delivered during the opening ceremony, in alphabetical order.
They are used to present the country's official position, propose key areas of work, and indicate potential partner delegations.
Recommended structure:

- Courtesy formula: Introduces the speech and respects MUN protocol.
- Introductory statement: Explains why the issue concerns the country, ideally using key data from the country profile.
- Main proposal: Presents one or more working directions to address the issue.
- Call to action / collaboration: Invites other delegations to work together, helping facilitate informal negotiations.
- Impactful sentence or quotation: Optional but effective to capture attention and strengthen the speech.
- Closing formula: Concludes the speech in accordance with diplomatic formality.

3. For/Against Speeches
Before each draft proposal is put to a vote, one delegate supporting the text and one opposing it must deliver a speech.
The delegate in favor must defend the draft as effectively as possible and encourage the committee to vote for it.
Conversely, the delegate opposing the text must highlight its limitations, weaknesses, or potential risks.

Drafting a resolution:

A resolution is the main outcome of a committee's work: as its name suggests, it aims to "resolve" the issue under discussion. It is the document used by the United Nations to formalize the decisions taken, and it is written collaboratively by several Member States working together around shared ideas.

A resolution has two essential functions:

1. To define what the United Nations decides to do regarding the topic being addressed;
2. To recommend or request that Member States adopt specific actions in order to help resolve the issue.

Resolutions follow a strict format composed of three main parts:
1. The **Header**, which includes the title of the resolution, the commission (or committee), and the countries sponsoring it.
Sponsor: A Member State that authors all or part of the draft resolution and fully supports its content.
Signatory: A Member State that wishes the draft resolution to be debated in committee but does not necessarily agree with all of its provisions.
2. The **Preamble**, which explains why action is needed. It provides context, justification, and may refer to previous United Nations resolutions.
3. The **Operative Section**, which contains the concrete proposals aimed at solving the issue(s) raised in the committee. These measures may be broad or very specific, ranging from general recommendations to precise actions targeting a specific region.

Furthermore, drafting a resolution follows a strict structural format. Each clause must comply with precise rules:

- Preambular clauses begin with a **past or present participle** (often underlined or italicized) and end with a **comma**.
- Operative clauses begin with an **action verb** in the present tense and **end with a semicolon**, except for the final clause, which concludes with **a period**.

PREAMBULAR CLAUSES		OPERATIVE CLAUSES	
Acknowledging	Deeply concerned	Accepts	Requests
Affirming	Noting (with	Welcomes	Encourages
Alarmed by	regret/pleasure)	Calls	Calls upon
Approving	Observing	Appreciates	Issues a call
Bearing in mind	Persuaded	Authorizes	Presses
Having examined	Taking into account	Seeks	Requests
Confident	Reaffirming	Condemns*	Proclaims
Encouraged by	Realizing	Decides*	Proposes
Emphasizing	Recognizing	Declares	Reaffirms
Commending	Recalling	Declares accordingly	Recommends
Concernend	Welcoming	Deplores	Regrets
Wishing	Highing	Issues note of	Declares readiness
Commennd	Taking note of	Supports	Supports

*phrases only authorized in the Security Council.

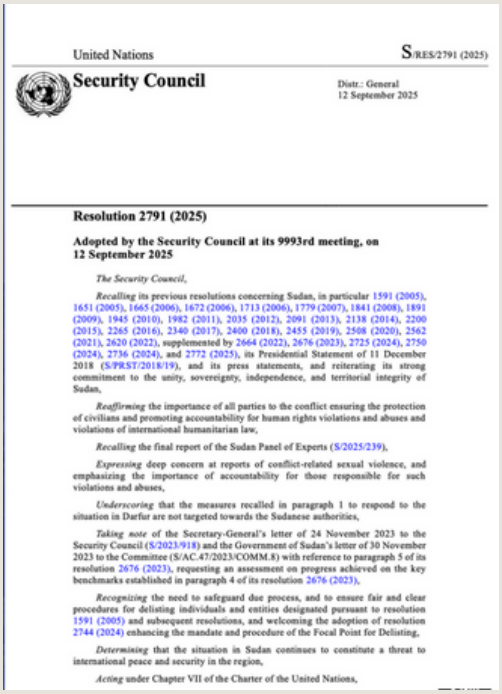
The resolution:

Example of a MUN Resolution

Committee: General Assembly Third Committee
Topic: Combating Violence Against Women in Armed Conflicts
Sponsors: France, Canada, Kenya
Signatories: United States, Brazil, Japan, Nigeria, Germany

PREAMBLE

Alarmed by the increase in sexual violence used as a weapon of war in several conflict zones around the world,
Deeply concerned by the disproportionate impact of armed conflicts on women and girls, especially refugees and internally displaced persons,
Recalling Security Council Resolutions 1325 (2000), 1820 (2008), and 2467 (2019) on Women, Peace and Security,
Recognizing the essential role of UN Women, the OHCHR, and the Special Representative on Sexual Violence in Conflict,
Bearing in mind that impunity for perpetrators remains a major obstacle to peace, justice, and long-term stability,
Taking into consideration the crucial work of NGOs providing medical, psychological, and legal support to survivors



United Nations S/RES/2791 (2025)

Security Council

Distr.: General
12 September 2025

Resolution 2791 (2025)

Adopted by the Security Council at its 9993rd meeting, on 12 September 2025

The Security Council,

Recalling its previous resolutions concerning Sudan, in particular 1591 (2005), 1651 (2005), 1665 (2006), 1672 (2006), 1713 (2006), 1779 (2007), 1841 (2008), 1891 (2009), 1945 (2010), 1982 (2011), 2035 (2012), 2091 (2013), 2138 (2014), 2200 (2015), 2265 (2016), 2340 (2017), 2400 (2018), 2455 (2019), 2508 (2020), 2562 (2021), 2620 (2022), supplemented by 2664 (2022), 2676 (2023), 2725 (2024), 2750 (2024), 2736 (2024), and 2772 (2025), its Presidential Statement of 11 December 2018 (S/PRST/2018/19), and its press statements, and reiterating its strong commitment to the unity, sovereignty, independence, and territorial integrity of Sudan,

Reaffirming the importance of all parties to the conflict ensuring the protection of civilians and promoting accountability for human rights violations and abuses and violations of international humanitarian law,

Recalling the final report of the Sudan Panel of Experts (S/2025/239),

Expressing deep concern at reports of conflict-related sexual violence, and emphasizing the importance of accountability for those responsible for such violations and abuses,

Underscoring that the measures recalled in paragraph 1 to respond to the situation in Darfur are not targeted towards the Sudanese authorities,

Taking note of the Secretary-General's letter of 24 November 2023 to the Security Council (S/2023/918) and the Government of Sudan's letter of 30 November 2023 to the Committee (S/AC.47/2023/COMM.8) with reference to paragraph 5 of its resolution 2676 (2023), requesting an assessment on progress achieved on the key benchmarks established in paragraph 4 of its resolution 2676 (2023),

Recognizing the need to safeguard due process, and to ensure fair and clear procedures for delisting individuals and entities designated pursuant to resolution 1591 (2005) and subsequent resolutions, and welcoming the adoption of resolution 2744 (2024) enhancing the mandate and procedure of the Focal Point for Delisting,

Determining that the situation in Sudan continues to constitute a threat to international peace and security in the region,

Acting under Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations,

OPERATIVES

- Decides to strengthen programs preventing violence against women by integrating mandatory gender-sensitive training into all peacekeeping operations;
- Invites Member States to establish or improve survivor support centers providing medical care, psychological assistance, and legal aid;
- Recommends the implementation of national mechanisms for the secure collection and preservation of evidence related to conflict-related sexual violence;
- Encourages cooperation between Member States, UN Women, UNHCR, and NGOs to develop awareness campaigns in refugee camps;
- Requests Member States to systematically investigate and prosecute perpetrators of conflict-related sexual violence in accordance with international law;
- Supports the increased participation of women in mediation, negotiation, and peacekeeping processes;
- Urges the Secretary-General to submit an annual report on the implementation of this resolution and on the situation in conflict-affected areas;
- Decides to remain actively seized of the matter.

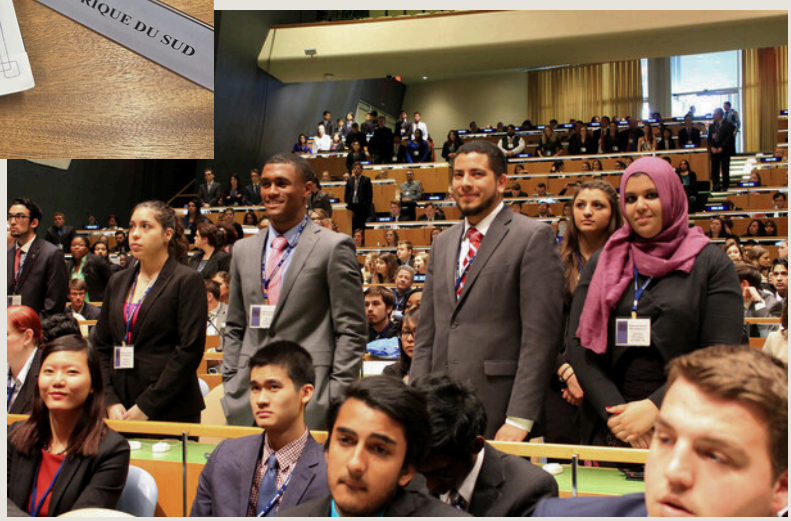
The Awards:

At the end of a Model UN conference, the best delegates are recognized for their performance. There are two types of awards:

- **Honorable Awards :** hold real academic value and can be proudly included on a résumé:
- Best Delegate: The most prestigious award, given to the participant who was the most persuasive and influential.
- Honourable Mention: Awarded to delegates who made a strong contribution to the debates.
- Best Newcomer: Given to a first-time participant who showed exceptional potential.

- **Fun and Light-hearted Awards:** reflect the friendly and humorous spirit of MUN conferences:
  - Biggest Dictator
  - Most Likely to Start World War III
  - Or other creative prizes imagined by the organizers.

Whether serious or playful, these distinctions embody the true spirit of MUN — a blend of diplomacy, discipline, and camaraderie.



The Main Types of Model UN:

The Most Common Types of MUN Committees

1. Classic / Traditional MUN
Format: Simulation of official UN bodies (General Assembly, Security Council, UNHCR, etc.).
Goal: Debate, negotiate, and draft resolutions.
Style: Traditional UN procedure — formal, competitive, and focused on public speaking.

2. War MUN / Crisis MUN
Format: Simulation of a crisis situation (war, cyberattack, coup d'état, global disaster, etc.).
Goal: React in real time to evolving events.
Style: Emphasis on strategy, urgent communications, and political or military decision-making.

3. UA-MUN (United Ambassadors Model)
Format: Reformed simulation modelled after the actual functioning of the UN.
Goal: Promote realistic diplomacy and cooperation rather than confrontation.
Style: Less theatrical, more focused on genuine diplomatic negotiation.

More Creative Formats

11. Fantasy / Alternate History MUN
Format: Takes place in fictional or alternate universes (e.g. UN in 2050, Star Wars, the Roman Empire).
Goal: Develop creativity and diplomatic skills beyond real-world contexts.

Specialized (Non-UN) MUN Models

4. NATO MUN (North Atlantic Treaty Organization)
Format: Delegates represent NATO member states.
Goal: Manage military and collective security issues (armed interventions, cyber defense, strategic alliances).
Style: Strategic discussions, military planning, and decision-making by consensus (as NATO decisions are usually unanimous).

5. EU MUN (European Union)
Format: Simulation of EU institutions (Parliament, Commission, Council of the EU).
Goal: Draft and vote on legislation, address internal crises (Brexit, migration, climate, etc.).
Style: Based on EU-specific procedures such as qualified majority voting and trilogues.

6. AU MUN (African Union)
Format: Simulation of the AU Peace and Security Council or the Assembly of Heads of State.
Goal: Resolve regional conflicts and strengthen African cooperation.
Style: Inspired by the African Union's own mechanisms.

7. OAS MUN (Organization of American States)
Format: Simulation of the OAS, representing Latin America and the Caribbean.
Goal: Address democratic crises, migration issues, human rights, and regional security.

8. ASEAN MUN (Association of Southeast Asian Nations)
Format: Simulation of ASEAN summits or committees.
Goal: Discuss regional relations, economics, maritime security, and climate issues.
Style: Emphasizes consensus-based decision-making.

9. League of Arab States MUN (Arab League)
Format: Simulation of Arab League summits.
Goal: Address Middle Eastern issues such as conflicts, economic cooperation, and cultural diplomacy.

10. Specialized Agency MUN (UN Specialized Committees)
Examples:

- WHO MUN: Global health, pandemics, public health policies.
- WTO MUN: International trade, customs barriers, global markets.
- UNESCO MUN: Culture, education, and heritage preservation.
- Historical Security Council: Re-enactment of past international crises.

Ready for Model UN? Join us and experience something unique!

Each MUN is an opportunity to learn, debate, and grow — be prepared, dare to speak up, and make the most of the experience!

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