



Delegate Guide



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Letter from the Secretary-General

Dear Esteemed Delegates, Advisors, and Parents,

Welcome to the second iteration of the Yale Model United Nations China Conference! My name is Alexandra Ceballos, and I have the great pleasure of serving as your Secretary General this year. We are excited to once again return to China to host this year's iteration of the conference on May 23rd-25th 2025 in Shenzhen, China.

I look forward to working alongside an incredible team of Yale undergraduates to build an experience that goes beyond the traditional offerings of a Model United Nations conference. This year, Yale Model United Nations China will be guided by the mission of Learning through Action, providing our delegates the space and opportunity to learn alongside and from one another. This year, our committee offerings span across many topics and experience levels, all led by our Yale Directors. From exploring the application of technological advances in addressing healthcare to a reimagining of the 2008 Beijing Olympics, there is truly a space for everyone. Beyond our in-committee offerings, our Delegate Events, Workshops and Life at Yale panel will definitely provide everyone in attendance with the experience of a lifetime.

At the heart of this conference is a mission: bringing together delegates from around the world to discuss and develop their public speaking and collaboration skills. Our pedagogical focus will ensure that every delegate, regardless of their experience level, is able to make the most of the unique environment our conference will offer them. We're excited to introduce engaging Director Office Hours sessions prior to conference and Delegate Trainings integrated into our Conference Schedule, all aimed at bringing a transformational experience to our delegates.

It is our pleasure to once again collaborate with WELAND International to bring this conference to life. We hope to see you at Yale Model United Nations China in Shenzhen this May, and invite you to stay in touch with us on our website <https://www.ymunchina.org/> and via email at secgen@ymunchina.org.

Alexandra Ceballos 崔爱姗

*Yale Model United Nations China 2025
Secretary-General*

UNA-USA Procedure

Start of Committee:

- Dais (Chairs) begins with roll call
- Delegates may respond “Present” or “Present and Voting”
 - A delegate who is “Present” may abstain from procedural votes
 - A delegate who is “Present and Voting” may not abstain from procedural votes
- Next, the Dais asks for points or motions
- In the first committee session, a delegate must move to open the Speakers’ List
- During the first committee session, the agenda must also be set (choose topic 1 or 2)
- For all other committee sessions, the Dais will ask for points or motions

Speakers’ List:

- The Speakers’ List is the default format of committee, if there are no points or motions
- A country may only appear on the list once at any given time
- A delegate can be added by raising their placard when the Dais asks or by sending a note to the Dais
- The speaking time will be set by at default by the Dais, but a delegate may move to change the speaking time. The final decision is, however, to the discretion of the Dais
- If there is still time remaining when a delegate concludes his or her speech, he or she must yield his or her time in the following ways:
 - “I yield my time to the Dais”: ends the speech
 - “I yield my time to another delegate”: allocates the remainder of the time to that delegate. The second delegate may not yield to a third delegate
 - “I yield my time to questions”: allocates the remainder of the time to questions from the committee.

Moderated Caucus:

- When the Speakers’ List is open, a delegate may introduce a motion for a moderated caucus, which is a structured form of debate where a delegate seeks to discuss a specific subset of the agenda topic.
- A delegate may not yield her or his time; if delegate finishes early, the Dais will move to next speaker
- A motion for a moderated caucus must include the following: a specific topic, time duration, and speaking time (which will be voted on)
- Example: “The Delegate of Norway motions for a moderated caucus, with a duration of 9 minutes, 45 second individual speaking time on the topic of pre-existing educational initiatives
- Common moderated caucus times : 10 min / 1 min ; 9 min/ 45 sec ; 6min/ 30 sec

Unmoderated Caucus:

- When the Speakers' List is open, a delegate may introduce a motion for an unmoderated caucus, the least formal debate format
- Delegates may move around the room and speak freely to one another to discuss ideas, write working papers/draft resolutions
- Delegate may not leave the room without permission from the Dais
- Important: If the Dais does not find an unmoderated caucus appropriate for the current progress of the committee, the motion may be ruled dilatory.

Working Papers:

- The first stage of resolutions are "working papers," or the first draft of a resolution
 - Working papers, like draft resolutions, require sponsors and signatories
 - Signatories are delegates who would like to see the paper debated
 - Sponsors are delegates who have written and substantially contributed to the ideas expressed in the paper
 - Sponsors must submit working papers to the Dais for feedback
 - Presenting working papers is a 3-step process, each having a duration set by the Dais
 - A silent reading period
 - A presentation period
 - A Question and Answer period

Draft Resolutions:

- Following the presentation of working papers, delegates work to refine them into draft resolutions, which should be improved and edited versions of working papers
 - Like working papers, they will be assigned numbers based on the order in which they were received by the Dais
- When a working paper is ready to be introduced as a draft resolution, one of its sponsors may move to introduce draft resolutions
 - This motion is not voted on, but instead is at the discretion of the Dais
 - Introducing draft resolutions is a 3-step process, each having a duration set by the Dais
 - A silent reading period
 - A presentation period
 - A Question and Answer period

Amendments:

- If delegates wish to improve a draft resolution, they may pass an amendment
 - Amendments must first be written down with a sponsor and signatories
 - If all sponsors of the draft resolution agree that the amendment should be added, it is considered a “friendly amendment,” meaning it can be added without debate
 - If at least one sponsor does not agree with the amendment, it is considered an “unfriendly amendment”. In this case, the Dais will call for one speaker for and one speaker against the amendment and needs support from a majority of the committee

Amendments:

- After presenting Draft Resolutions and Amendments, delegates may motion to enter voting procedure
 - If the motion passes, doors are closed and no delegates may enter or exit the room until all voting has been completed
 - This process will look different for every committee, depending on its progress. In some cases, the Dais will allow for 2 speakers for and 2 speakers against a given resolution. In others, the Dais will continue directly into voting.
- During voting procedure, it will be at the Dais’ discretion to either ask for each country’s vote individually (“roll-call vote”) or to vote by raise of hands
- Delegates may not pass two draft resolutions that have conflicting clauses
- Once a draft resolution passes, it becomes a Resolution

Points and Motions

Points and motions are tools for delegates to ask questions about committee and its proceedings, rather than the content of debate.

Motions change what the committee is doing and generally require a vote. Delegates may only introduce motions when the Dais inquires “Are there any points or motions on the floor?” When motions require a vote, the vote may be either substantive or procedural. Some votes require a two-thirds majority to pass, while others require a simple majority.

Points do not require a vote. Points may be raised during caucuses, and some points may be used to ask questions of a speaker. Delegates are encouraged to wisely select appropriate moments within which to select points that might be disruptive to the committee environment.

Please refer to the following pages that will provide you a comprehensive list of points and motions. At YMUN China 2025, only the motions/points mentioned in this document are allowed. Should delegates bring up motions/points outside of the list provided, they will be ruled dilatory by your Dais.

Position Paper Guidelines

Position papers allow delegates the opportunity to display their research and insight into a comprehensive one-page document. For each topic that your committee has, delegates are expected to complete one (1) one-page document and include the following information:

1. What is the problem?

In this section, you should identify the problems in each topic you will discuss. What are its stakes? Who are the various groups (e.g. peoples, countries, etc.) that are affected? Why does the topic matter? And what, if anything, is currently being done about it? Identify the topics by thoroughly reading the topic guides. The topic guides are great starting points for your research. Make sure to restate and synthesize the problem in your own words.

2. How does the problem affect my country/organization/representative?

This section should summarize how your position is affected by the problem. Why does your country care about the issue? Here, you should employ information from the topic guide and incorporate your independent research. You will need to research information on your assigned country's role in the topics. Ensure that you cite your sources properly (MLA or Chicago is preferred, but all consistent and traceable references are accepted).

3. What is my country's bloc position?

In this section, you should consider how your country or representative would navigate the committee room. Which other countries or positions are ideologically or practically aligned with the views of the country or position you represent? You will be expected, once again, to consult and cite outside resources to determine and fully understand your position.

4. How can the problem be solved?

Here, you will want to examine what your country or representative believes will work in solving the issue at hand. This is where additional research will be most integral. Consider innovative but practical and coherent approaches to tackling these problems.

In order to be considered for awards, all delegates must submit a total of 2 position papers (one for each topic assigned to their committee) upon arrival at the conference location on Day 1 at registration. Please have the position papers printed and stapled with your **Country Name, Delegation Name, and Committee Name** at the top, right-hand corner. Please refer to the following example:

Central African Republic *Country Name*

The X School *Delegation Name*

SOCHUM (Social, Humanitarian, and Cultural Committee) *Committee Name*

Position Paper for Topic A:

The Central African Republic has been burdened with wars and dictatorships since the 1960's, and despite being endowed with internationally coveted resources such as expansive diamond mines, 73% of its population live on less than US\$1 a day. During the past 15 years, life expectancy has declined from 45 to 35 years of age due to poor health care and the HIV/AIDS epidemic which plagues 35% of the CAR's population. Moreover, the lack of essential drugs and vaccinations has contributed to the recent outbreaks of other diseases such as Malaria, tuberculosis, polio and water-borne viruses. The World Health Organization's resident representative in the Central African Republic stated in a recent interview that the CAR's health system is "very precarious", adding that most health workers in rural areas have abandoned their posts because of the region's insecurity and unpaid wages.

Presently, the UN is appealing for 45 million dollars for humanitarian assistance for the CAR, however, they anticipate receiving less than a third of that. The CAR recognizes that although it has a need for vaccinations and other salutary goods, our health care system will never be able to reach the thousands of people in need without the physical manpower provided by doctors, nurses and other healthcare workers. At the center of our nation's policy is the belief that without an international effort, there is no way of solving an international problem. The Central African Republic proposes a resolution which mandates that the subsidy paid by governments to train a doctor or nurse should be calculated, and repaid in an exact amount to the government if that person chooses to migrate. The cost would be paid by the country to which the person is migrating, as it is benefiting from the transfer of "human capital" trained at great cost by the country of origin. However, the delegation also recognizes that income alone will not be sufficient recompense for the lost immigrants and therefore proposes that in developing countries, (with a population of migrating workers over a certain percentage), the trained individuals would have to serve a short number of years in their country of origin before being allowed to migrate to practice in a different country. The CAR also recommends that the UN channels funds through organizations like UNESCO, OECD and the World Bank to help improve the wages and living conditions of healthcare workers in third world countries, (like the CAR), who have no other means of financially motivating their citizens to remain and practice in their own nation.

References:

World Health Organization 2025 data.who.int, Central African Republic [Country overview]. (Accessed on 25 March 2025)

Working Papers and Draft Resolutions

Writing a Working Paper/Draft Resolution:

A resolution is one very long sentence that describes how a committee will address the topic they've discussed. Resolutions include two types of clauses, called preambulatory clauses and operative clauses.

Preambulatory Clauses, or “preambs” set up the context of a resolution. They in and of themselves do not do anything; they serve to justify the actions taken later on in the resolution. The preambulatory clauses are not numbered, and end in a comma rather than a semicolon. All preambulatory clauses begin with a **preambulatory phrase** (present participles) that are *italicized*.

Operative Clauses are the main substance of a resolution. These are the clauses that actually do something (calling for one specific action). Each clause is numbered and ends with a semicolon, with only the last clause in a resolution ending with a period. All operative clauses begin with an **operative phrase** that is underlined. Operative clauses can have sub-clauses, that are indicated with a lowercase letter, and sub-sub clauses are indicated with lowercase roman numerals. There are no underlined words in sub or sub-sub clauses, and all operative clauses cannot exceed sub-sub clauses. In all of our YMUN China committees, with the exception of UNSC and BOCOG, operative clauses cannot call for binding action (only recommendations). Words like “requires,” “forces,” and “obligates” may not be used in operative clauses except for in committees that may pass binding resolutions, such as the UN Security Council

Sponsors and Signatories

Draft resolutions and working papers must have a certain amount of sponsors and signatories to be decided by the Dais. **Sponsors** are delegates who wrote the working paper, or whose ideas are substantially represented in the paper. **Signatories** are delegates who would like to see the working paper debated. Signatories need not agree with the content of the resolution they are signing, they must only agree that it is worthy of discussion. Sponsors count towards the total number of signatories. Delegates are free to be signatories to any number of resolutions, but delegates can only be sponsors of **one resolution maximum**.

Please refer to the following example (though note it is a significantly reduced version of the more long-form version of resolutions delegates will contribute to during YMUN China 2025.

Committee: Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

Topic: Emergency Preparedness

Sponsors: Angola, Malaysia

Signatories: France, Myanmar, Mongolia, Japan, Russia, Qatar, South Africa, Saudi Arabia, Malawi, Canada, Ukraine, Argentina, Uganda, Brazil, Turkmenistan, Peru, Burundi

Noting that national food stockpiles are at their lowest levels since 2042,
Deeply saddened by the recent famine in Germany that claimed thousands of lives,
Reaffirming our international commitment to food security,

The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

1. Recommends that all member states stockpile sufficient food to last for one year in the event of a catastrophic crop failure,
 - a. Emphasizing foodstuffs that do not spoil easily, such as:
 - i. Grains,
 - ii. Canned foods, and
 - iii. Other dried foods, and
 - b. Storing these foodstuffs in a physically secure location to reduce the risk of destruction as a result of a natural disaster or an act of war;
2. Encourages the establishment of international emergency food transport routes that can be mobilized to carry food across borders within 48 hours;
3. Proclaims June 14th to be International Food Security Awareness day.

Sample Operative Phrases:

Accepts	Endorses	Further requests
Affirms	Expresses its appreciation	Further resolves
Approves	Expresses its hope	Has resolved
Authorizes	Further invites	Notes
Calls	Deplores	Proclaims
Calls upon	Designates	Reaffirms
Condemns	Draws the attention	Recommends
Confirms	Emphasizes	Regrets
Congratulates	Encourages	Reminds
Considers	Endorses	Requests
Declares accordingly	Expresses its appreciation	Solemnly affirms
Deplores	Expresses its hope	Strongly condemns
Designates	Further invites	Supports
Draws the attention	Further proclaims	Takes note of
Emphasizes	Further reminds	Transmits
Encourages	Further recommends	Trusts

Sample Preambulatory Phrases:

Affirming	Emphasizing	Noting further
Alarmed by	Expecting	Noting with deep concern
Approving	Expressing its appreciation	Observing
Bearing in mind appreciation	Fulfilling	Reaffirming
Believing	Fully aware	Realizing
Confident	Further deploring	Recalling
Contemplating	Further recalling	Recognizing
Convinced	Guided by	Referring
Declaring	Having considered	Regretting
Deeply concerned	Having examined	Seeking
Deeply conscious	Having received	Taking into consideration
Deeply convinced	Keeping in mind	Taking note
Deeply disturbed	Nothing with satisfaction	Viewing with appreciation
Deeply regretting		Welcoming
Desiring		

Awards Criteria

Guidelines

This year, Yale Model United Nations China will feature both delegation and individual awards. The team at YMUN China is committed to providing an enjoyable and educational conference experience for all. Whether attending as a first-time delegate or seasoned delegate, you are sure to gain invaluable experience through the guidance and professionalism YMUN China chairs have to provide.

When it comes to awards consideration, delegates will be evaluated based on the following pillars,

1. Participation:

- This criteria seeks to acknowledge the means by which delegates express themselves within the committee environment. Whether this be through moderated caucuses, unmoderated caucuses, or in note form, this pillar highlights delegate's eloquence and succinctness in speaking.
- Participation will be evaluated through speeches, engagement with fellow delegates and the dais, in addition, to the quality of participation. It will also be evaluated based on a delegate's grasp of parliamentary procedure, and ability to engage in a professional environment.

2. Collaborative Engagement:

- This criteria seeks to acknowledge the means by which delegates interact with the room and perspectives around them. A collaborative spirit seeks to include and integrate solutions that will address committee topics from a global lens. This pillar highlights delegates' ability to encompass not only their individual nation's perspective, but also building solutions that a global community can contribute to.
- Collaborative Engagement will be evaluated based on a delegate's ability to create encompassing and research-grounded contributions to the committee. As this can take place in many forms, this criteria highlights the collaborative aspect in order to truly represent the spirit driving our conference.

3. Substantive Contributions:

- This criteria seeks to acknowledge the preparation and research that delegates brought into the conference. Contributions to the committee can be like being a key voice in one of the solutions a committee brings to the table, but likewise brainstorming ideas and supporting voices that may otherwise go unheard. Substantive contributions are best received when they are impromptu and off-paper, showing a delegate's ability to take on matters as they arise in the committee environment.
- Substantive Contributions will be evaluated based on a delegate's impact on the committee.

Beyond these three pillars, YMUN China chairs will evaluate interdisciplinary criteria including substantive knowledge, debate technique, quality of position paper, and usage of collaborative skills in-committee. Delegation awards will be calculated based on the performance of individual delegates in other committees.

Consideration Eligibility:

In order to be considered for individual awards, all delegates must submit a total of 2 position papers (one for each topic assigned to their committee) upon arrival at the conference location on Day 1 at registration. Please have the position papers printed and stapled with your **Country Name, Delegation Name, and Committee Name** at the top, right-hand corner.

Delegation awards have no consideration requirement, but delegates who do not submit position papers will have a negative impact on the calculation of a delegation's score as a whole.

Ineligibility:

According to Yale Model United Nations China policies, delegates may become ineligible for awards for the reasons including but not limited to the following:

- Failure to submit position papers upon arrival at the conference location on Day 1 at registration.
- Use of Artificial Intelligence tools on position papers or working papers
- Conducting any kind of committee-related activities (i.e. working on working papers) outside of committee session time
- Failure to abide by delegate behavioral expectations including but not limited to bullying, harassment, and discrimination

Committee Policies

As a part of our commitment to creating a safe learning environment for all delegates, Yale Model United Nations China would like to highlight our Committee Policies. The policies listed on this document are to be followed by all delegates, and will be enforced by members of the YMUN China team as necessary.

Technology Policy:

Delegates are only allowed to utilize electronic devices during unmoderated caucuses when given permission by the Committee Director. Use of electronic devices should be limited to working on working papers and draft resolutions. Delegates are strongly encouraged to have devices (like laptops and tablets) for use during these periods.

Artificial Intelligence Policy:

The use of Artificial Intelligence to write speeches, position papers or any conference materials is not allowed. Should a committee director be made aware of AI usage, the delegate will be reported to the Secretary-General and Director-General of Committees and will be disqualified from award consideration.

Policy on Professionalism

All delegates attending the Yale Model United Nations China conference are expected to engage respectfully and appropriately with all members of the conference team and fellow delegates. Mistreatment of fellow delegates, chairs, or Secretariat members will result in removal from committee and conversations with members of the Senior Secretariat.

Language Policy

Yale Model United Nations China's working language is English. When committees are in session, delegates are only permitted to engage and communicate in English. In the case a delegate faces a personal circumstance during which they would feel more comfortable speaking another language, delegates are encouraged to speak to members of the Dais who can address the situation.

Notes Policy

Delegates are permitted to bring notes for committee sessions, including but not limited to topic guides, this delegate guide, etc. Delegates cannot pre-draft working papers or draft resolutions in any way. If delegates are found to have done so, delegates will be disqualified from award consideration at the discretion and purview of the committee director.