



OG

**Model United Nations**

Rules of Procedure

# OG Rules of Procedure

Welcome to OG's Model United Nations. This document outlines the Rules of Procedure that will govern committee sessions, ensuring a fair, structured, and productive debate.

These rules are designed to facilitate meaningful discussions, encourage diplomatic engagement, and maintain the integrity of the conference. OG is committed to upholding the highest standards of debate, fostering an environment where delegates can develop their public speaking, negotiation, and critical thinking skills.

Whether you are a seasoned delegate or participating in Model United Nations for the first time, a thorough understanding of these rules will enable you to engage effectively in debate, navigate procedural motions, and contribute to well-reasoned resolutions.

We encourage all participants to familiarise themselves with this document before the conference. By adhering to these rules, delegates will help ensure that OG conference remains an enriching and dynamic experience for all involved.





# I. General Rules

## 1. Duties of the Secretariat

The Secretariat shall (a) receive, print, and distribute documents, reports, and Resolutions of the conference Committees to the members of OG; (b) facilitate the proceedings with the provision of materials and staff; and (c) generally perform all other work required for the running of the Committees and the conference.

## 2. Appointment of Directors and Delegates

The Secretary-General shall be responsible for the appointment of all Committee Directors, Assistant Directors and Delegates prior to the conference, with the recommendation of the Secretariat; and may replace them at any stage if they fail to fulfil their obligations under the rules.

## 3. Arbitration

In cases of conflict, the final interpretation of the Rules of Procedure shall be up to the Secretary-General or designated members of the Secretariat. Such interpretation shall be in accordance with the general guiding principles of OG.

## 4. Language

English will be the official and working language of the conference unless otherwise specified by the Director or the conference organisers.

Any representative wishing to address any OG MUN body or submit a document in a language other than English shall provide translation into English.

This rule does not affect the total speaking time allotted to those representatives wishing to address the body in a language other than English. As such, both the speech and the translation must be within the set time limit.





# I. General Rules

## 5. General Conduct

Delegates shall show courtesy and respect to other Delegates, the Directors, the Secretariat, and all Faculty Advisors. The committee Director shall immediately call to order any Delegate who fails to comply with this rule.

Should a Delegate repeatedly show disrespect or cause disruptions, the Director shall have the discretion to expel them from the session for a limited period of time. The Secretariat reserves the right to remove any Delegate from the conference, either permanently or for a limited period of time.

## 6. Dress Code

Delegates are expected to dress formally at all times. This includes Western business attire or the equivalent in the country which the delegate represents or hails from. School uniforms will be accepted solely if they fit the parameters of business attire. The Secretariat and Committee Directors reserve the right to stop any delegates not dressed in proper Western business attire or equivalent from participating in committee sessions.

## 7. Participation of Non-members

Representatives of accredited Observers will have the same rights as those of full members, except that they may not sign or vote on substantive matters. Substantive issues include the final vote on a Resolution. All Observers are allowed to vote on any procedural matter. More details on voting can be found in the section *Rules Governing Voting*. A representative of an organisation that is not a member of the United Nations, or an accredited Observer, may address a Committee only with the prior approval of the Director.

## 8. Voting on Procedural Matters

All members of a committee, whether Member States or Accredited Observers, are required to vote on procedural matters. No abstentions are allowed in procedural voting, and the Director may resubmit a motion for voting at their discretion if committee members are not all participating in the vote, even in cases when there is a perceptible majority in favour or against.



## II. General Committee Rules



### 9. Committee-specific Procedures

Certain Committees simulated at OG MUN conferences may follow rules of procedure which diverge from those listed below in order to better model the real-life working of those Committees. This may include, but is not limited to, requiring supermajorities on substantive or procedural points, as well as different motions. If such is the case, the Director must agree on such derogations with the Secretariat and make Delegates aware of these during the first session of the Conference.

Delegates in Crisis committees will always follow the separate Rules of Procedure established by their specific committees, unless otherwise specified.

### 10. General Powers of the Committee Directors

In addition to exercising the powers conferred upon them elsewhere by these rules, the Director shall declare the opening and closing of each meeting of the Committee, direct the discussions, ensure observance of these rules, accord the right to speak, put questions to the vote and announce decisions.

The Director, subject to these rules, shall have complete control of the proceedings of the Committee and over the maintenance of order at its meetings.

The Director has final authority over the interpretation of the Rules of Procedure, second only to the Secretary-General and appointed members of the Secretariat. They shall rule on points of order. They may propose to the Committee the closure of the General Speakers' List, a limitation on the time to be allowed to speakers and on the number of times the Delegate of each Member State may speak on an item, the Adjournment or Closure of the Debate, and the Suspension or Adjournment of a Meeting.

## II. General Committee Rules



### 10. General Powers of the Committee Directors (continued)

The Director may temporarily transfer their duties to a member of the Secretariat or one of the Assistant Directors. Committee Directors may also advise Delegates on the possible course of debate. In the exercise of these functions, the Committee Directors will be at all times subject to these rules and responsible to the Secretary-General.

Included in these enumerated powers is the Directors' power to assign speaking times for all speeches incidental to motions and Amendments. Further, the Director is to use their discretion, upon the advice of the Secretariat, to determine whether to entertain a particular motion in accordance with the general guiding principles of OG. Such discretion should be used on a limited basis and only to advance the progress of debate.

### 11. Statements by the Secretariat

The Secretary-General or a member of the Secretariat designated by them may, at any time, make either written or oral statements to the Committee. These statements can influence debate, relate to committee and/or conference proceedings, or be related to clarification of Rules of Procedure, amongst other matters.



# III. Rules Governing Quorum and Agenda

## 12. Provisional Agenda

The provisional Agenda shall be drawn up by the Secretary-General and communicated to members of OG at least thirty days before the opening of the session. The provisional Agenda shall usually include two topics, of which one should be elected by the Committee during the conference for discussion.

## 13. Roll Call

At the beginning of each session, the Committee Directors will call on Member States in English alphabetical order to state their status of attendance. Member States may reply 'present' or 'present and voting', where 'present and voting' means the Member State cannot abstain on any substantive vote. Observers are required to reply 'present' in accordance with *Rule 7*.

For purposes of these rules, members 'present' or 'present and voting' refers to Member States with voting rights for that Committee (not including observers), while 'all members' additionally includes any Observers present.

## 14. Quorum

Quorum must be established in order for the committee to enter any form of debate or voting procedure. The Director may declare a Committee open and permit debate to proceed when at least **one-third** of the members of the Committee are present.

The presence of Delegates of a **simple majority** of the Member States of the body concerned shall be required for any decision on a substantive motion to be taken. A Quorum may be assumed to be present unless specifically challenged and shown to be absent by a Roll Call.





# III. Rules Governing Quorum and Agenda

## 15. Setting the Agenda

The first order of business for the Committee will be the consideration of the Agenda. A motion should be made to set the agenda to one of the topics being considered ('Motion to Set the Agenda'). A Speakers' List will be established 'for and against' the motion. Speakers from both sides will speak in alternate turns, usually given a minute each.

A 'Motion to Close Debate' will be in order after the Committee has heard **at least** two speakers for the motion and two against. In cases where fewer than two Delegates wish to oppose the motion, an equal number of speakers for and against the motion shall be heard, after which a Motion to Close Debate shall be entertained (see *Rule 21*).

When debate is closed, the Committee will move to an immediate vote on the motion to set the agenda wherein a **simple majority** is required to pass the motion. If the motion fails, the other agenda item will automatically be placed on the Agenda.

The vote is procedural, and hence all Delegates will be required to cast a vote. There shall be no abstentions. In the case that the provisional Agenda of the Committee or plenary consists of only one topic, that topic shall be adopted with neither a discussion nor vote.

In the event of an international crisis or emergency, the Secretary-General, or their representative, may call upon a Committee to table debate on the current agenda item in order to address the urgent matter. After a Resolution has been passed on the crisis topic or when the crisis has elapsed, the Committee will return to debate on the tabled agenda item.

# IV. Rules Governing Debate



## 16. Speaker's List

After the Agenda has been determined, a continuously open speakers' list, known as 'the General Speakers' List (GSL)' will be established for the purpose of general debate. The Director shall ask the Committee for those who wish to be added to the Speakers' List when it is first open and ask again from time to time; the Director shall keep a written copy of the order of the speakers. Any Delegate wishing to be added to the Speakers' List can do so by sending a written note to the Director. No Delegate may be on the Speakers' List twice at the same time.

This Speakers' List will be followed for all instances of debate on the agenda item, except when superseded by procedural motions. Speakers may speak generally on the Agenda Item being considered and may address any Resolution currently on the floor. Should the Speakers' List elapse, debate on the agenda item shall be considered closed.

## 17. Proposing Motions

At any point when the floor is open, the Director may call upon delegates wishing to propose motions. The Director shall recognise motions one by one; such that the latest motion is equal or supersedes all the others already raised. The Director may stop entertaining motions at any time and move to vote on those already heard. This is up to the Director's discretion, for the purpose of moving debate forward.

The Director will then entertain motions one by one, starting from the most superseding. In the case of several motions having equal priority, the Director shall decide the order. Should there be a motion to extend a caucus — moderated or unmoderated, that motion shall be entertained before any other motions. When a motion is entertained, it shall then be put to a vote in accordance with the rules for that motion. If the vote fails, the motion is discarded and the Director shall move to the next most superseding motion as established above. This continues until a motion is passed or the floor returns to the General Speakers' List. If a motion passes, all other motions previously raised are removed from the floor.

# IV. Rules Governing Debate



## 18. Order of Motions

The order of motions that may be raised while the floor is open are, from most to least superseding:

1. Setting the Agenda
2. Adjourning the Meeting
3. Suspending the Meeting
4. Closing Debate
5. Adjourning Debate
6. Resuming Debate
7. Introducing Draft Resolutions
8. Introducing an Unfriendly Amendment
9. Introducing a Friendly Amendment
10. Censure
11. Introducing Working Papers
12. Unmoderated Caucus
13. Moderated Caucus

A longer motion of one type does not necessarily supersede a shorter motion of the same type unless the Director specifies. Therefore, the order of voting in motions of the same type falls under the discretion of the Director.

## 19. Unmoderated Caucus

In an Unmoderated Caucus, the committee departs from the Speakers' List and moves to informal debate, with delegates able to circulate around the room and speak freely.

A Motion for an Unmoderated Caucus is in order at any time when the floor is open, prior to Closure of Debate. The Delegate making the motion must briefly explain its purpose and specify a time limit for the caucus, not exceeding twenty minutes. A **simple majority** is required to adopt the motion. The Director may rule the motion dilatory or out of order if the motion is not constructive to debate.



# IV. Rules Governing Debate



## 20. Moderated Caucus

In a Moderated Caucus, the Director will temporarily depart from the Speakers' List and call on Delegates who wish to speak. During a moderated caucus, there will be no yielding and no opportunity for Points of Information.

A Motion for a Moderated Caucus is in order at any time when the floor is open, prior to Closure of Debate. The Delegate proposing the motion must briefly explain its purpose and specify a time limit for the caucus (not to exceed twenty minutes), and a time limit for the individual speeches. The total time of the caucus must be divisible by the time allocated for each speech.

A **simple majority** is required to adopt the motion. The Director may rule the motion dilatory or out of order if the motion is not constructive to debate.

## 21. Adjournment of Debate

This motion is proposed in order to adjourn debate on the current Agenda.

After Seconds and Objections have been heard, permission to speak on the motion shall be accorded only to a maximum of two Delegates favouring and two opposing the adjournment. In case fewer than two Delegates wish to speak for either side, the Director would allow the same number of speakers for and against the motion unless otherwise prescribed by the Director. The motion shall be put to a vote immediately thereafter, requiring the support of a **two-thirds majority** of the members present or present and voting to pass.

If a Motion for Adjournment passes, the Agenda Item is considered dismissed, all documents on it tabled, and no further action will be taken on it. The Committee proceeds to the second Agenda Item under discussion, or an alternative Agenda Item as directed by the Secretariat (e.g. crisis). The Director may at their discretion rule this motion out of order, if for instance the Committee has already moved to the second agenda item.

# IV. Rules Governing Debate



## 22. Resumption of Debate

This motion is proposed in order to resume debate on the Agenda previously adjourned. After Seconds and Objections have been heard, permission to speak on a motion to reconsider shall be accorded to two speakers opposing the motion, after which the motion will be put to a vote immediately, requiring the support of a **two-thirds majority** of the members *present* or *present and voting* to pass.

## 23. Closure of Debate

After Seconds and Objections have been heard, permission to speak on the motion shall be accorded to two Delegates for and two opposing the closure. In case less than two Delegates wish to speak for either side, the Director would allow the same number of speakers for and against the motion unless otherwise prescribed by the Director.

The motion shall be put to a vote immediately thereafter and shall require a **two-thirds majority** to pass.

If the Committee favours the Closure of Debate, the Committee shall immediately move to vote on all proposals introduced under debate. Once this is done, the Committee shall immediately adopt the second agenda item, or an alternative agenda item as directed by the Secretariat.

## 24. Suspension of the Meeting

While the floor is open, a Delegate may move for the Suspension of the Meeting, specifying a time for reconvening. A **simple majority** is required to adopt the motion. This motion may also be used to propose short breaks during the session.

Delegates should note that unmoderated caucuses are considered to be part of the debate, and should not be used as committee breaks.

# IV. Rules Governing Debate



## 25. Adjournment of the Meeting

A **simple majority** is required to adopt the motion. This motion, if successful, would end the session until the Committee's next regularly scheduled meeting (next annual OGMUN conference). The Director will thus not entertain it until the end of the last session of the Committee.

## 26. Withdrawing a Proposal

A motion may be withdrawn by its proposer at any time before voting has commenced. A motion thus withdrawn may be reintroduced by any Delegate. Any motion approved by the Committee may not then be withdrawn by the Delegate who moved for its introduction.

## 27. Motion to Censure

A 'Motion to Censure' is a motion to formally criticise or reprimand a delegate for consistently violating committee rules, disrupting debate, or by proposing actions and/or policies that deviate from the committee's mandate and the principles of the United Nations.

This motion must be submitted to the Director **in writing**, accompanied by a short explanation of the reason for the request. It will be put to vote at the Director's discretion and needs a **two-thirds majority** to pass.





# V. Rules Governing Speech

## 28. Granting of Speeches

No Delegate may address a session without having previously obtained the permission of the Director.

The Director may at their discretion call a Delegate to order if the speech:

- (a) is not relevant to the subject under discussion;
- (b) is considered personally offensive to any party;
- (c) infringes upon the sovereignty of a Member State; or
- (d) otherwise goes against the rules and spirit of OGMUN.

## 29. Time Limit on Speeches

The Director may limit the time allotted to each speaker on the General Speakers' List. In moderated caucuses, the delegate proposing the caucus establishes the speaking time. The minimum time limit is fifteen seconds, and the maximum time limit is two minutes. When a Delegate exceeds the allotted time, the Director may call the speaker to order.

*Should the Director not explicitly state a different speaking time for the General Speakers' List, the time limit shall be limited to 90 seconds.*

Delegates may move to change the speakers' time on the General Speakers' List should they feel that extending or shortening the time limit would be beneficial to debate. After Seconds and Objections for the motion have been heard, it shall be put to a procedural vote, requiring a **simple majority** to pass.

## 30. Yields

A Delegate granted the right to speak on a substantive issue (*only during the General Speakers' List*) may yield in one of three ways:

- **Yield to another Delegate:** That Delegate can accept the yield, and the remaining time will be given to the said delegate, who may not, however, make any further yields.



# V. Rules Governing Speech

## 30. Yields (continued)

- ***Yield to Points of Information:*** Delegates wishing to ask a question will be selected by the Director and be limited to one short question each. The Director will have the right to call to order any Delegate whose question is, in the opinion of the Director, rhetorical, leading, or not designed to elicit information. Only the time taken for the speaker's answers to questions will be deducted from the speaker's remaining time.
- ***Yield to the Chair:*** Such a yield should be made if the Delegate does not wish to yield to questions or another Delegate. The Director will then move to the next speaker.

Delegates must declare any yield by the conclusion of their speech. If time runs out, the Director will simply move on to the next speaker, or, at their discretion, entertain up to two 30 second comments.

## 31. Right of Reply

A Delegate whose national integrity has been impugned by another Delegate may request a Right of Reply. Requests must be submitted to the Director in writing, accompanied by a short explanation of the reason for the request.

A remark that impugns a Delegate's 'national integrity' is one directed at the governing authority of that Member State (including *ad hominem* attacks) and/or one that puts into question that Member State's sovereignty.

The Director shall make the decision to grant the Right of Reply or otherwise and determine an appropriate time limit for the reply (if any). A Right of Reply to a Right of Reply is out of order.

# VI. Points



## 32. Raising Points

Any of the points below may be raised by any Delegate at any point, provided that it does not interrupt any speaker (with the exception of a Point of Personal Privilege in necessary circumstances). A Delegate wishing to raise a point shall raise their placard and state the name of their point at the appropriate time and then wait for the Director to ask them to state it fully. The Director shall then take any action required as per the Rules below. Points shall be recognised ahead of any motion or speakers.

## 33. Point of Personal Privilege

Whenever a Delegate's ability to participate in the proceedings is impaired or when a Delegate is in discomfort (e.g. the speaker is inaudible, discomforting room temperature, etc.), they may raise a Point of Personal Privilege. While a Point of Personal Privilege may interrupt a speaker, Delegates should be courteous in their use of this point. If appropriate, the Director will request that the speaker raise their volume and/or clearly or take any other appropriate action.

## 34. Point of Order

During the discussion of any matter, a Delegate may raise a Point of Order to indicate an instance of improper parliamentary procedure. A Delegate may not, in Point of Order, speak on the substance of the matter under discussion, and a Point of Order may under no circumstances interrupt the speech of a fellow Delegate. Any questions on order arising during a speech made by a Delegate should be raised at the conclusion of the speech. The Point of Order will be immediately ruled on by the Director in accordance with these Rules of Procedure.

## 35. Point of Parliamentary Inquiry

When the floor is open, a Delegate may raise a Point of Parliamentary Inquiry to ask the Director a question regarding the rules of procedure. A Point of Parliamentary Inquiry may never interrupt a speaker. Delegates with substantive questions should not raise this Point, but should rather approach the Committee Staff during caucus.





# VII. Rule Governing Substantive Proposals

## 36. Working Papers

Delegates may propose Working Papers for Committee consideration. Working Papers are intended to aid the Committee in its discussion and formulation of Resolutions. They can be of varied format to serve these purposes and need not be written in Resolution format. Working Papers are not official documents but they do require the approval of the Director to be made available to the Committee. Delegates must submit them for approval and have them introduced to the committee by the Director before discussing them in their speeches.

Working Papers do not require the signatures of one-fifth of the members of the Committee like Draft Resolutions. They will be displayed on projectors where possible, but will not be printed by the Secretariat.

## 37. Draft Resolutions

A Draft Resolution may be introduced when it receives the approval of the Director and is signed by **one-fifth** of the number of Member States (not including Observers). This should include Sponsors, and Signatories listed in alphabetical order.

Signing a Draft Resolution merely demonstrates the Signatories' desire for the Draft Resolution to be discussed, and need not indicate support of the Draft Resolution. The Signatory also has no further obligations.

The role of a Sponsor indicates support of the Draft Resolution. Sponsors of a Resolution count towards the total number of Signatories. Observers may both sign and sponsor Draft Resolutions, though this will not count toward the total number of signatories required (at the Director's discretion). Draft Resolutions shall be written in the same style with regards to form, grammar and punctuations as those of the Committee being modelled.



# VII. Rule Governing Substantive Proposals

## 38. Introducing a Draft Resolution

Once a Resolution has been approved as stipulated above and has been made available to the Committee, a Delegate may propose a motion to introduce the Draft Resolution. After the motion is entertained by the Director, the Draft Resolution shall be considered 'introduced' and 'on the floor', and may henceforth be referred to by its designated number. No formal vote is required.

At the discretion of the Director, a Panel of Authors may also be entertained. More than one Draft Resolution may be on the floor at any one time, but typically only one Resolution may be passed per Agenda item - though this remains at the Director's discretion. Delegates are welcome to explore any possibilities of merging two or more non-contradictory Draft Resolutions on the floor and submit it as a new Draft Resolution.

After a Draft Resolution on the floor has been passed by the Committee, or all Draft Resolutions have been put to a vote, the Committee will move to discuss the next Agenda item.

## 39. Panel of Authors

After a Draft Resolution has been introduced, any of its Sponsors may call for a Panel of Authors to be convened for the purpose of answering questions raised by the Committee relating to the Draft Resolution.

The granting of a Panel of Authors shall be decided at the discretion of the Director.

If granted, the Director shall set a time limit of no more than ten minutes during which members of the floor may ask short questions for the sole purpose of clarifying the content or meaning of the Draft Resolution. Questions targeted at the substantive merits of the Draft Resolutions will not be in order during Panels of Authors and should be discussed during formal debate instead. Time taken for questions and for answers may count towards the time limit.



# VII. Rule Governing Substantive Proposals

## 40. Amendments

An Amendment is a proposal that adds to, deletes from or revises the operative clauses. Delegates may amend any Draft Resolution that has been formally introduced. An Amendment can be friendly or unfriendly.

A Friendly Amendment is one that is agreeable by all the sponsors of the Draft Resolution and should be submitted to the Director in writing along with the signatures of all sponsors.

On the other hand, in order for Unfriendly Amendments to be considered, they should be submitted in writing to the Directors for approval, along with the names of **one-eighth** of the member states *present* or *present and voting*, not including Observers, as Signatories of the Amendment.

Amendments shall have one Sponsor exactly (the proposer of the Amendment) counting towards the required number of Signatories.

The Directors may, at their discretion, approve the proposal or Amendment for circulation among the Delegates. Provided that an Amendment has received approval from the Directors, it may be formally introduced by the Sponsor when the floor is open.

Amendments to Amendments are out of order; however, part of a Draft Resolution which has previously been amended may be further amended. Amendments may not affect perambulatory clauses.

## 41. Introducing an Unfriendly Amendment

Once an Unfriendly Amendment has been approved by the Director, its Sponsor may raise a motion to introduce it per *Rule 15*. After the motion is entertained by the Director, the amendment can be considered 'introduced' and the Director shall read out or project the operative clauses of the Amendment.



# VII. Rule Governing Substantive Proposals

## 41. Introducing an Unfriendly Amendment (continued)

The Director shall then establish a speakers' list separately for and against the Amendment such that there are an equal number of speakers in both. Once the speakers' list has elapsed on both sides, any Delegate may raise a motion to extend the number of speakers by up to five for and against the motion. Seconds and Objections will be heard and the Director shall rule on this motion without a vote.

Should this not happen or if the motion to extend is rejected, the Committee shall vote on making the unfriendly Amendment part of the Draft Resolution. This is a substantive vote, with a **two-thirds majority** required.

## 42. Introducing a Friendly Amendment

If an Amendment is signed by all the sponsors of a Draft Resolution and once it has been approved by the Director, it may be introduced as a Friendly Amendment by its Sponsor as per *Rule 15*.

Upon entertaining the motion, the Director shall read out or project the operative clauses of the Amendment. The Committee shall then immediately vote on introducing the Amendment and making it part of the Draft Resolution without further discussion of it. This is a substantive vote and requires a **two-thirds majority** to pass. At the Director's discretion, the committee can forgo this vote.

An Amendment should be declared as friendly when it is submitted for approval to the Director. Friendly Amendments are usually only considered if they are making a minor change to the Draft Resolution supported by the vast majority of the Committee.

## 43. Competence

A motion to question the competence of the Committee to discuss a Draft Resolution or an Amendment is in order. A Motion of Competence should only be called if it is not in the Committee's authority to discuss what is proposed by the document, or if it is not in its power to implement it should it pass.





## VII. Rule Governing Substantive Proposals

### 43. Competence (continued)

Such a motion should be raised orally only after the operative clauses have been read out or projected but before a speakers' list has been established.

The motion requires a **simple majority** to pass and is debatable to the extent of one speaker for and one against. Should the motion pass, the Draft Resolution or Amendment shall be discarded.

# VIII. Rules Governing Voting



## 44. Procedural Voting

Each member of the Committee, including Observers, shall have one vote on a procedural motion. Delegates will express their vote by raising placards, and a **simple majority** is required unless explicitly stated elsewhere in these rules.

Delegates must vote for or against in procedural votes; abstentions are not in order.

## 45. Substantive Voting

A substantive vote is taken only on passing a Draft Resolution or Amendment. In a substantive vote, members may vote 'Yes', 'No', or 'Abstain'; members 'present and voting' cannot abstain. Observers may not vote. Delegates will express their vote by the raising of placards, except in the case of a Roll Call vote where each Delegate will verbalise their vote when the Member State is called by the Director (see *Rule 46*).

After the Director has announced the beginning of voting, no Delegate can interrupt the voting except on a Point of Personal Privilege or a Point of Order relating to the conduct of voting. Delegates may not leave or enter the Committee room while voting is taking place.

## 46. Motion to Reorder a Substantive Proposal

If two or more substantive proposals are on the floor, they will be voted on in the order in which they were submitted, unless the Committee decides otherwise. A motion to reorder the proposal will be in order immediately after Closure of Debate, but prior to voting.

If the motion to reorder receives a **simple majority**, the Director will take all suggested reordering combinations of the substantive proposals and call a vote on them in the order in which they were suggested. Voting on reordering will continue until either a motion passes, or all of the motions fail, in which case the Committee will move into voting procedure, voting on the proposals in their original order.

# VIII. Rules Governing Voting



## 47. Division of the Question

After debate has been closed, a Delegate may move for the operative clauses of the Draft Resolution(s) to be voted on separately. This should be raised orally after debate has closed but before substantive voting has started. A Motion to Reorder supersedes division of the question. Pre-ambulatory clauses and sub-operative clauses may not be separated by division of the question.

If there are multiple motions for different divisions, those shall be voted upon in an order to be set by the Director where the most radical division will be voted upon first. The most radical division is considered that which separates the Draft Resolution into the greatest number of divisions, unless the Director expressly states that another proposal would be substantively more radical.

A Motion to Divide the Question is procedural and requires a Second. If there are Objections, the motion shall be voted upon, requiring the support of a **simple majority** of those *present* or *present and voting* to pass. If the motion passes, the Draft Resolution will be divided accordingly, and a separate procedural vote will be taken on each divided part to determine whether or not it is included in the final draft.

Parts of the Draft Resolution that are subsequently passed will be recombined into a final document, which is then carried into the final vote on the proposal. This final vote is substantive. If all of the operative parts of the Draft Resolution are rejected, the proposal will be considered to have been rejected as a whole. Amendments cannot be divided.

## 48. Definition of Majority

Unless specified otherwise in these rules, decisions of the Committee shall be made by a simple majority of those present during the session. In a substantive vote, abstentions are not counted as votes for or against, so a simple majority of 'Yes' over 'No' votes is required, unless specified otherwise by the Committee-Specific Procedures.

# VIII. Rules Governing Voting



## 48. Definition of Majority (continued)

A simple majority is defined as more votes in favour than against. A tie is taken as a failure. A two-thirds majority requires at least twice as many votes for as against.

## 49. Method of Voting

The Committee shall normally vote by a show of placards. During voting procedure on a substantive matter, a Delegate may motion for a Roll Call vote. A motion to Divide the Question supersedes a motion for a Roll Call vote. The Director will call on Member States in alphabetical order thereafter. One Delegate per Member State shall reply 'Yes', 'No', 'No with Rights', 'Abstention', or 'Pass'. Any representatives replying 'Pass', must, on the second time through, respond with either 'Yes' or 'No' and may not pass again or abstain from voting.

Only those Member States, who designated themselves as 'present' or 'present and voting' during the beginning of that session or have communicated in some other manner their attendance to the Director and/or Secretariat, are permitted to vote. As such, no others will be called during a Roll Call vote.

## 50. Right to Explain Vote

A sponsor of a proposal may speak in explanation of their vote against the proposal. Herein representatives may choose to vote 'No with Rights' and make a brief statement consisting solely of the explanation of their vote after voting has been completed. Any requests for an explanation of vote by a delegate who is not a sponsor of the proposal in question must be submitted to the Director in writing before debate on the Agenda Item is closed, in which case the Director may use their discretion to grant the Delegate the right to briefly address the Committee immediately after voting on the proposal has come to an end.

Note that voting with rights is only to be used in **extraordinary circumstances** such as: a Delegate voting against a Draft Resolution they have sponsored, or voting against their country's public policy but in favour of their national interest.



