



MUNUC Expo

Guidelines for Draft Resolutions

What are draft resolutions?

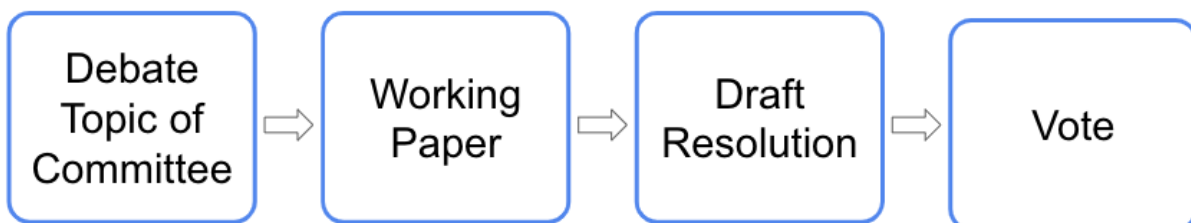
As delegates discuss solutions to the problems faced by the committee, the **draft resolution** will serve as a document containing all of the delegates' organized ideas and solutions. Draft resolutions are essential documents to all General Assembly-style committees as they highlight delegate debate, collaboration, thought, and progression throughout the committee. These draft resolutions will also be presented in front of the committee for the delegates to vote on. Typically, draft resolutions are extremely comprehensive and should be written by multiple delegates working together. There might also be page-limited depending on the dais.

How do draft resolutions fit into the committee?

As GA committees tend to have many delegates, draft resolutions in GAs are very extensive and usually involve the collaboration between multiple countries who have been working together throughout the committee or share similar ideas. The content of the draft resolution should also closely follow the content discussed during the committee sessions, and for committees with multiple topics, only one topic should be included into the final draft resolutions.

In most committees, draft resolutions are preceded by working papers, where delegates submit a draft of their ideas surrounding the committee topic and present them for the committee to debate. However, unlike working papers, draft resolutions have a stricter formatting requirement (that follows UN conventions, such as this [UN Resolution](#)) and will be voted on around the end of the conference.

Writing a draft resolution



Before writing a draft resolution or even a working paper, the committee needs to first thoroughly debate the topic at hand. This is because we want our final solutions to be reflective of the committee's stance and be as inclusive of ideas as possible. The initial round of debate also provides delegates a wonderful opportunity to form **blocs** and work with them on their solutions.

After the committee has a better idea about other people's solutions and positions, delegates can start working with their peers as blocs to draft a working paper. While working papers typically do not have a stylistic requirement, it is strongly encouraged that working papers also follow the format of UN Draft Resolutions. These working papers will be introduced to the committee through authorship panel discussion which includes a presentation and Q&A component, where the specific timing will be designated by the dais.

What are blocs?

Blocs are groups of delegates who share similar ideas and stances. A bloc typically works together on the the working paper and draft resolutions. Note that blocs are not sedentary and delegates are free to move around blocs and work with as many people as they wish. Always remember that MUNUC supports collaboration and open-mindedness!

The working paper can be seen as the first draft of our ideas and solutions, so it is completely fine if it is less polished. They are also typically done in smaller blocs compared to draft resolutions, as delegates tend to find more similarities during working paper presentations, which might lead to mergers that will form a larger bloc to write the draft resolution.

Following the working paper, draft resolutions are expected to be more comprehensive and sophisticated, as it will represent the fruit of the labor of the committee over the weekend. Usually, draft resolutions are the outcomes of a **merger** between two or more blocs that might have worked separately at the working paper stage, but recognized similarities during working paper presentations. It is also common for the

dais to set page-limits for the working papers, so merging repetitive content is also strategic on that end.

Like working papers, draft resolutions will also have an authorship panel component with time for presentation and Q&A. However, unlike working papers, draft resolutions accept **amendments** before voting.

MUNUC believes that ample rest is the key to great performance during the committee, so we do not encourage writing outside of committee sessions. This would mean that most of the working paper would be written during unmoderated caucus. It is recommended for delegates to provide updates to the dais via speeches delivered during a moderated caucus as they work on their working papers and draft resolutions.

What are amendments?

In most MUN conferences, we divide amendments into friendly and unfriendly amendments. Friendly amendments are suggested edits that are approved by *all sponsors* of the draft resolution and passes automatically. Unfriendly amendments are unapproved by *all sponsors* of the draft resolution, and would be voted on before the resolution itself.

Structure of a Resolution

A draft resolution is divided into **preambulatory clauses** and **operative clauses**.

1. Preambulatory clauses

Preambulatory clauses introduce the topic by discussing past actions that have already been taken by the committee or the stance the committee takes on the topic. Some common starting phrases of preambulatory clauses are “recognizing,” “understanding,” “discouraging,” etc.

These clauses should highlight that the committee has done thorough research on the background of the problem, as well as how the committee believes that this challenge at hand is important and relevant.

Note that preambulatory will always start with verbs in the present participle form (-ing).

2. Operative clauses

Operative clauses are the meat of a draft resolution as they delineate the steps the committee designated as possible solutions to the problem. Unlike preambulatory clauses, operative clauses start with action verbs such as “recommends,” “encourages,” “supports,” among others.

As these clauses contain the committee's real solutions, they should be as clearly organized as possible. It is permitted, and often even encouraged, for delegates to include subclauses or sub-sub clauses here to provide as much detail as possible surrounding their ideas.