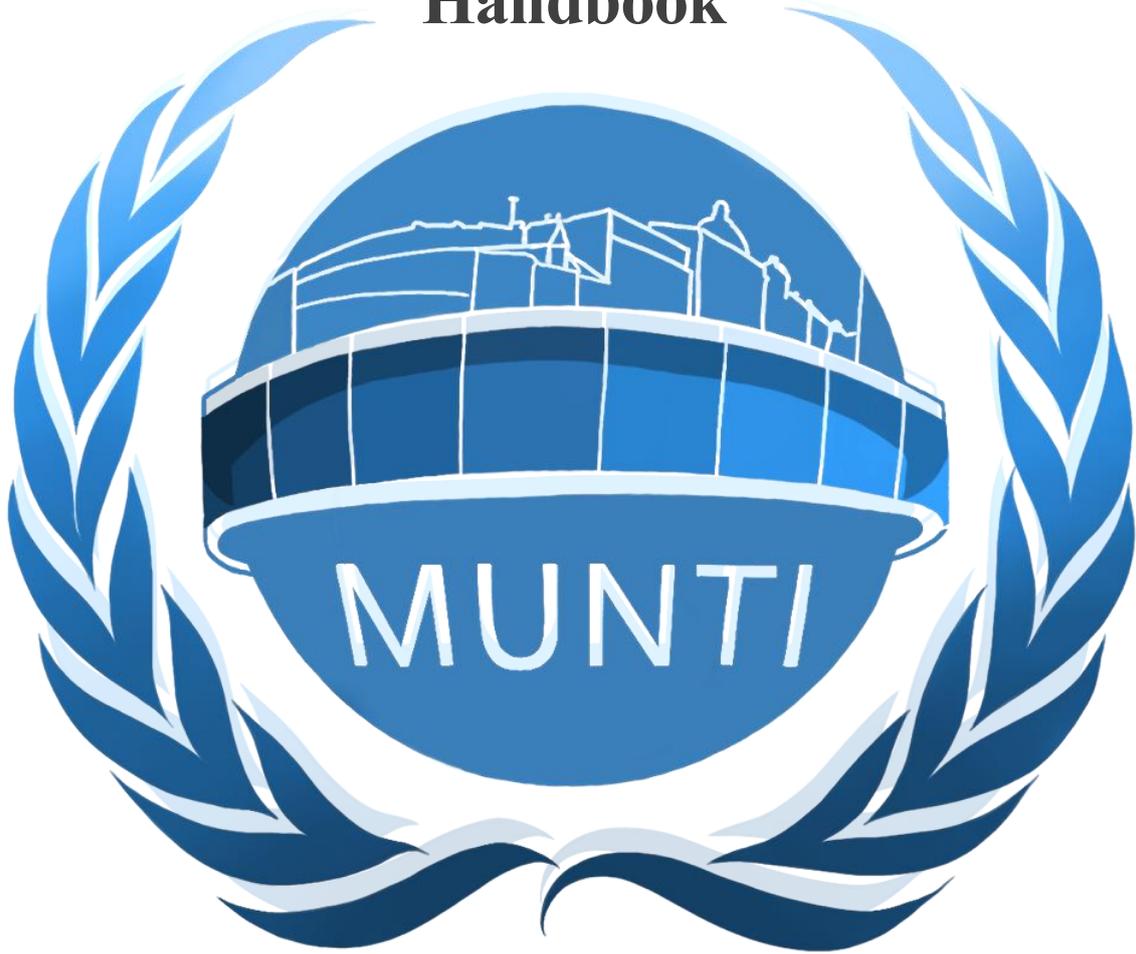


MUNTI

First-Timer Handbook



Welcome to Model United Nations!

Model United Nations, also known as Model UN or MUN, is an extra-curricular activity in which students role-play delegates to the United Nations and simulate UN committees. This activity takes place at MUN conferences, which is usually organized by a high school or college MUN club. At the end of most conferences, outstanding delegates in each committee are recognized and given an award certificate. There will also be chosen 'The Best Delegate' in each committee. Thousands of middle school, high school, and college students across the country and around the world enjoy participating in Model United Nations, which involves substantial researching, public speaking, debating, and writing skills, as well as critical thinking, teamwork, leadership abilities and forming new friendships.

What do you stand to gain from the experience?

MUN provides students with the unique opportunity to discuss and debate current global affairs so that they are more able to understand and appreciate the causes of conflicts that affect our world. The combination of research, preparation, involvement, and interaction will help to develop delegates' debating, researching, and public speaking skills - all skills that will help the delegates in their later life. MUN is not only highly educational, as it broadens your knowledge of the world we live in, but it is also fun!

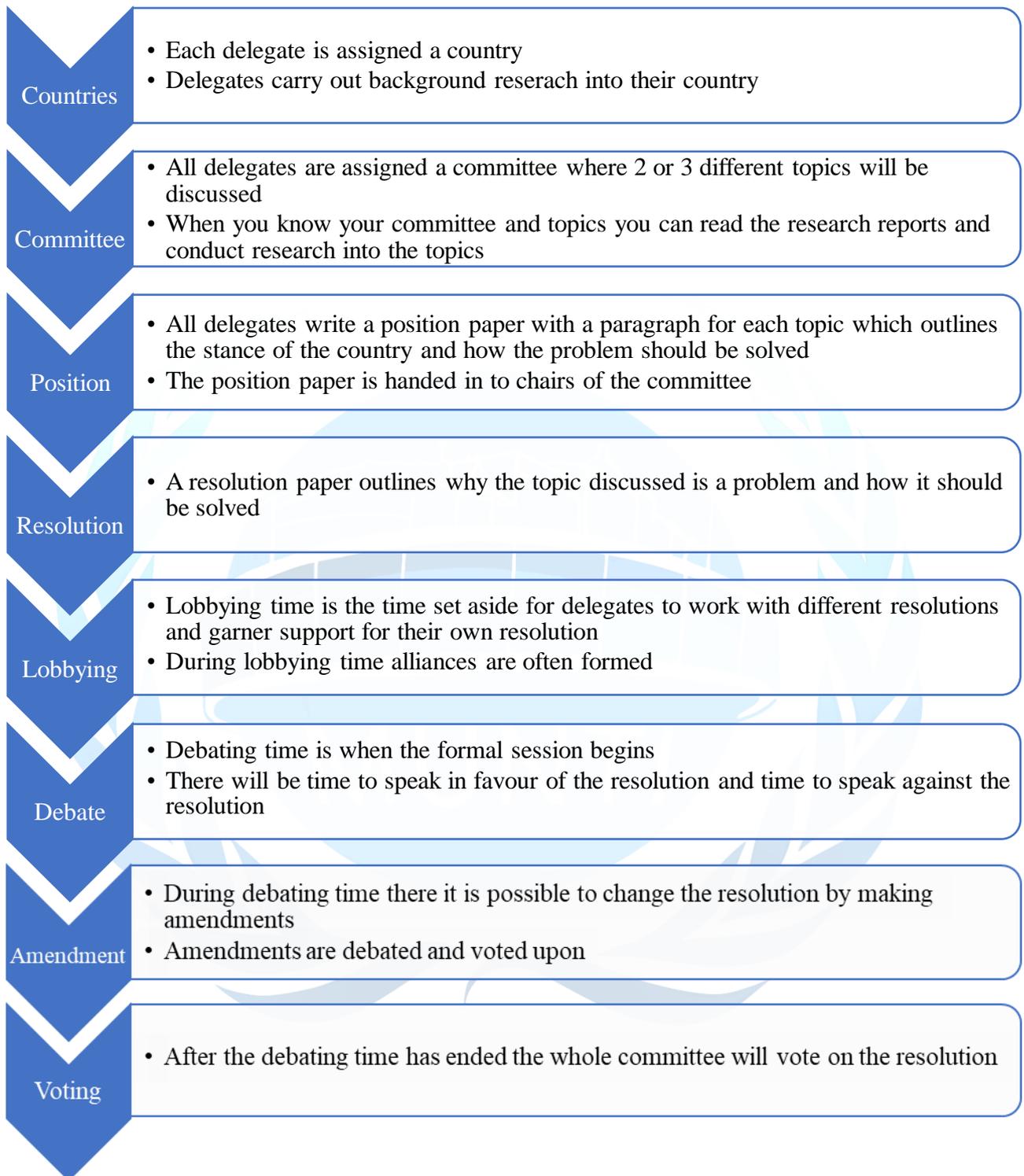
Even though we try and encourage stimulating debate, we primarily want you to enjoy yourself. Model United Nations is also a great social event where you can meet and get to know new people, and there will be a party as well as an informal pizza night for delegates to socialize. There are many MUN events across Denmark and beyond, so it's a great chance to meet people from different backgrounds with different points of view.

Overwhelmed?

MUN is as much for beginners as for experienced delegates and our chairs will be happy to assist you on the day if you have more questions. There will be many first-time delegates at the conference, so don't be nervous. Everyone has been a first-time delegate at one point, and the MUN team are a lovely group of people who will be more than happy to help you throughout the day.

Step	Task	Check List
1	Country/ Organisation Profile	
2	Committee	
3	Topics & Position papers	
4	Opening Speech	
5	Resolution	

Step-by-step



Step-By-Step

In-Depth

Countries

Each delegate gets a country which the delegate has to represent during the debate. The process starts the second that you know which country you will represent. Then you can start doing research and write down relevant information about the country.

Committees

There are different committees and each committee has two or three topics which will be discussed. You will have to read the research reports, which include a lot of information about the topics which will be discussed. The research reports can be found at the website munli.net under the committee tab. Each committee differs in delegate number and countries represented, but often delegates will be able to wish for a certain committee or a country.

Position Paper

A position paper is a paper you write with your individual country's stance on the given topics. Each delegate must write a position paper and send it to the chairs of the committee by the 11th of November before the conference begins. It is your best friend at the conference, and you use it to form arguments and standpoints. Feel free to contact your chairs with any questions and read the research reports thoroughly and use the given links. More information about position papers can be found at the website munli.net under the 'How to MUN' tab.

Resolution

A resolution is a document which outlines how the topic discussed should be solved. It consists of pre-ambulatory clauses at the beginning which describe the problem. They are followed by operative clauses which state how the problem should be solved. The operative clauses are numbered. Delegates are encouraged to write a resolution or some operative clauses as preparation for the conference.

Lobbying

Lobbying takes place at the beginning of the debate on each topic, and delegates use this time to discuss with their fellow delegates about the topic and work on the resolution which will be debated. Often multiple resolutions are written but only one will be debated.

Amendments

Amendments are changes to the operative clauses that a resolution consists of, and by proposing amendments delegates can add new words and clauses or strike out words and clauses. Making amendments is the core of the debate.

Voting

There are two kinds of voting, voting for an amendment and voting for the resolution as a whole. When a delegate either adds a new operative clause to the resolution by making an amendment, makes changes to existing operative clauses or wishes to strike an operative clause, the committee has to vote in order for the amendment to go through. Voting for the resolution as a whole happens after many hours of debating where all has been said and done. The committee votes on the resolution, and if there is a majority for the resolution, it gets accepted and no changes can be made. If a majority is against it the resolution gets deleted.

How does it work?

Roll Call/Attendance:

The formal session will begin with a formal roll call conducted by the chair to mark the presence of each delegate.

As the chair takes the roll call, the delegates need to mark their presence by stating “Present” and raise their country placard.

1. The opening speech

The opening speech is a speech that each delegate makes in the committee before the lobbying session to introduce the stance of the country to other delegates. The speech should be approximately 1 minute and can be inspired by the position paper.

2. Lobbying session

This is the time allocated for informal discussions at the beginning of debate on each topic.

All the delegates will work in groups to make the draft resolution. This resolution is basically the solution to the agenda of the committee.

For the debate sake, there need to be groups formed with opposing or at least different views.

As they continue with their discussions in the groups, the chairs will approach and guide them in their thought process.

3. Debate

Now you are all set and ready for a good debate! By now at least one resolution should have been created during the lobbying session which will steer the debate meaning that the delegates will have to discuss the contents of the resolution. The resolution consists of operative clauses and delegates will debate whether to keep them, strike them out or create new ones by making amendments. Each amendment is submitted to the chair through note passing and will be debated and voted upon. Finally the resolution is voted upon. The same procedure of lobbying, debate and voting is repeated for each topic in the committee.

You will know what to speak for or against when you know your country’s standpoint. You work solely based on the knowledge you have acquired from your country, which is also why it is very important to make a well-written position paper!

During the debate delegates will have to keep the following guidelines in mind:

- 1) All informal communication during the debate has to be through note passing. All amendments/comments to the chairs also go through note passing. This means, no talking under the debate!
- 2) Things such as going to the toilet and leaving the conference room have to be asked for. This is possible through raising your placard and asking for a ‘Point of Personal Privilege’ and then stating what you want to do.
- 3) Throughout the whole debate, you take on the identity of a representative from your chosen country. This means that all your points/arguments must be from your country’s standpoint.
- 4) This is a tricky one but remember to always refer to yourself in third person or plural. For example:
 - ‘I think this resolution is...’ **WRONG!**

- ‘The People’s Republic of China thinks...’ RIGHT!
- ‘The delegate would like to...’ RIGHT!
- ‘We think that it is a horrible idea to...’ RIGHT!

On the website munli.net delegates can find more information about resolution writing, position papers and procedure, and the chairs of your committee will be happy to help you both before and during the conference!

Practical information

Language

Speaking languages other than English at any time is strongly discouraged. During formal debate delegates will have to remember the guidelines outlined above, for instance to avoid using I, but delegates can use informal language when they are not in formal debate.

Dress code

It is important to note the dress code at Model United Nations conferences. During the conference participants are expected to dress formally with subdued colours. All delegates are also expected to wear blazers.

Gentlemen wear suits and ties, while ladies wear dresses or skirts of appropriate length or formal suits. Shirts should have appropriate prints and necklines.

Inappropriate dress wear includes, but is not limited to:

- Team accessories such as scarves and hats
- Sports shoes/sneakers and denim clothes
- National costumes or military attire
- Butterflies or funky ties

It is mandatory to be dressed in a blazer whilst in session. It is allowed to have your button open when seated, but the blazer must be buttoned when speaking.

There will be no dress code for the café Saturday night or the informal evening Thursday.

IT

Delegates are encouraged to bring laptops, as all delegates will have access to Wi-Fi and conference material digitally.

However, paper will still be available for delegates to communicate between nations and to propose amendments.

Resolutions will be sent to the chairs over Google Docs and displayed on a screen during session.