

# Göttingen Model United Nations 2026

June 25th – 28th

## Rules of Procedure



Göttingen Model United Nations 2026

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## Preamble

The purpose of this set of rules is to enable, organize, structure and facilitate the formal debate and discussion during the Conference. Naturally, not every possible conflict and/or situation can be foreseen. Therefore, all Chairs and executive staff have the authority to make ultimate decisions based on thoughtful judgment and personal experience in cases of conflict that are not dealt with or clearly specified in this present set of rules. All Chairs and delegates are invited to consult with executive staff members in cases of conflict concerning the *Rules of Procedure*. As far as the situation allows, these decisions shall be taken in accordance with the *Rules of Procedure of the United Nations General Assembly*.

## Chapter I – Code of Conduct

### 1. Language

The working language to be used for all forms of communication shall be English.

### 2. Courtesy

Delegates shall address the chairpersons and other delegates in the third person and in a courteous, diplomatic, professional and respectful manner.

### 3. Dress Code

All delegates are required to adhere to formal business attire in order to maintain the diplomatic atmosphere of the conference. This includes suits, pantsuits, skirt suits, or a combination of a blazer with a blouse and skirt or formal trousers. Casual clothing is not permitted. This includes items such as jeans, sneakers, or overly relaxed outfits.

Alternatively, formal national or traditional clothing is explicitly permitted and considered appropriate.

### 4. Attendance

Presence of the Delegates during the committee meetings is mandatory. Reason for any absence must be communicated to the respective Chairs and the secretariat. Only Delegates who attended 75% of the Committee meetings are eligible for any awards or certificate of participation.

## **5. Use of Electronics**

Laptops, electronic notebooks, mobile phones and other means of electronic devices are permitted for debate/research purposes.

## **6. Plagiarism**

Plagiarism is not allowed and will lead to the document in question being disregarded during debate. Furthermore, delegates found plagiarizing will be excluded from receiving any kind of award.

## **7. AI Programs**

Natural language generation software used for writing speeches, position papers, resolutions or any other kind of document important to the debate is prohibited. However, it may be used for research purposes.

## **8. MUN Command**

MUN Command is the official conference software. It is used by the Chairs to oversee the time of speeches, administer the Speakers' list and facilitate the organisation of debates. Moreover, the extent to which the software will be used within debate is at the discretion of the Chairs.

## **9. Communication**

Delegates shall refrain from direct conversation during debate. In order to communicate with each other, delegates may send written notes to fellow committee members. Such written notes may also be used for communication with the Chairs.

## **10. University Property**

The property of the Georg-August-University Göttingen, of the Model United Nations Society Göttingen e.V., other hosting institutions and of other delegates is to be respected, kept, and preserved. Legal measures will be employed against damages and violation of rights that may also lead to expulsion from the Conference.

## **11. Pre-Writing**

Part of any MUN is to create own resolutions, containing the points the Committees

discussed during the Conference. Therefore, any pre-written resolution will not be tolerated during the Conference. If we see any pre-written resolutions or if any pre-written resolution is handed in, this can lead to the expulsion from the Conference.

## Chapter II – General Structure and Debate

### 12. Chair Authority

The Chairs shall,

- a. Open, close and adjourn the meeting of the respective committee,
- b. Open and close debate,
- c. Inform the Delegates of the amount of delegations in the house and, in accordance with Rule No. 14b, the necessary quorum to reach a simple or qualified majority,
- d. Ensure, observe and enforce the application of the *Rules of Procedure* of the Conference,
- e. Administer the Speakers' List (including the setting of the speaker's time), grant and/or revoke the right to speak to individual delegates and reprimand delegates once their speaking time has elapsed,
- f. Rule on Points and Rights of Reply,
- g. Reply to Points of Parliamentary Inquiry,
- h. Review all draft resolutions, conclusions, and all amendments and decide whether their introduction is in order,
- i. Discipline delegates behaving disrespectfully during debate and/or violating the rules of the Conference by giving them warnings and reporting them to the Secretary General who shall take proper actions to restore order; should the delegate refuse to change his/her behavior, the Chairs may expel the delegate from the debate or, in extreme cases, ask the Secretary-General to expel the delegate from the Conference.

### **13. Procedural Decisions**

All final procedural decisions will fall under the Chair's discretion including all procedures that may not be clearly specified in the *Rules of Procedure*. The Chairs or delegates may always consult the Secretariat for clarifications on the *Rules of Procedure* or International Public Law. The *motion to appeal the decision of the Chair* can be overruled by the Secretariat in exceptional cases.

***The general structure of the debate shall contain the following items:***

### **14. Roll Call**

The Chairs shall administer a roll call at each reconvention after an adjournment of the session in order to determine the quorum.

- a. Once the name of a committee member is called out, the respective delegate shall answer with "present" if the delegate wishes to retain the right to abstain during substantive votes, or "present and voting" if the delegate wishes to indicate that they are not willing to abstain during substantive votes, or "present and observing" if the delegate represents an observing body and is therefore not granted the right to vote on substantive matters.
- b. The Chair may declare a meeting open and permit the debate to proceed when at least one third of the registered members of the committee are present (Quorum). The presence of a majority of the registered members shall be required for any substantive decision to be taken. Registered delegations are all delegations officially registered by the Conference's registration staff.

### **15. General Speakers' List**

The General Speakers' List is the default mode of debate. No delegate may address the committee without having previously obtained the permission of the Chair. The Chair shall call upon speakers in the order in which they signify their desire to speak. The Chair may call a speaker to order if his remarks are not relevant to the subject under discussion.

- a. After the speech of a delegation, the Chair may ask for points or motions and recognize them. If no points or motions are raised, the chairs shall call the next delegation on the list to address the floor.

- b. Any delegation may ask at any time to be added or withdrawn from the Speakers' List by sending a written note containing the request to the Chair or by raising the placard once the Chair invites delegations to join the List or by putting the placard in a vertical position.
- c. The debates on each of the topics start with an empty Speakers' List.
- d. The session's initial speaking time shall be set by the Chair and may later be modified by raising the *Motion to Change the Speaking Time*.

## 16. Yields

Unless the speech was delivered during a moderated caucus, a delegate must yield the floor to one of the following:

- a. The Chairs: The Chairs then may ask for and recognize any points or motions on the floor.
- b. Another delegate: His or her remaining time will be offered to that delegate. The delegate that has been yielded the floor may address the committee or yield the floor to the chairs. The speaking time of the original speaker cannot be extended, and the delegate who has accepted the yield cannot yield back to the original delegate, to a third delegate or to questions.
- c. Questions: The chairs shall recognize other delegations wishing to ask a question to the speaker, who reserves the right to refuse to answer. At the discretion of the Chair follow-up questions may be granted. The remaining time of the original speaker shall only be used for the answering of the question, not for the phrasing of it. The inquiry ends only with elapsing of the original speaking time or if the original speaker yields his/her time back to the Chair.

## 17. Right of Reply

If a delegate feels that the integrity of their country was threatened by the statements of another delegation, they may call for a Right of Reply immediately after the original speaker has finished by raising the placard and clearly stating "Right of Reply". It is up to the discretion of the Chair to decide if the right shall be granted. A delegate granted a Right of Reply shall be given 30 seconds to reply. A Right of Reply to a Right of Reply is out of order.

## **18. Voting**

All votes ruling on draft resolutions, conclusions and amendments shall be considered substantive; all other votes shall be considered procedural. Abstentions are not in order during procedural votes.

## **19. Observers**

Representatives of accredited observers will have the same rights as those of full members, except that they may not sponsor a proposal or vote on final conclusions. Furthermore, observers will be granted the right to vote on procedural motions but not on substantive issues.

## **Chapter III - Points and Motions**

### **20. Conditions**

Points and motions may only be raised once the Chair has declared the floor open to points and motions. Only a *Point of Personal Privilege* referring to audibility of the recent speaker may interrupt a speech.

### **21. Voting on Motions**

All motions except *Motions to Introduce Draft Resolutions, Amendments* and the *Motion for Roll Call Vote* shall be put to a vote. The Chairs do not have to entertain any motion at any time.

### **22. Objections**

The Chair may ask for seconds and objections for motions in order to facilitate the voting procedure. Seconds are given by another delegate wishing to discuss the motion. If there are no seconds, the motion automatically fails. In case of seconds and objections, the committee automatically moves into voting procedure on the motion. If there are seconds and no objections, the motion automatically passes.

### **23. Multiple Motions**

If multiple motions are raised and one of the motions passes, all other motions that have been raised and that have to be voted upon automatically fail.

## **24. Speakers for Motions**

If two speakers shall speak in favour and two against a motion and two speakers for each cannot be found, only one speaker in favour and one against shall be entertained.

## **25. Order of Precedence of Points and Motions**

The order of precedence of points and motions is listed as follows:

- a. Points shall take precedence over motions.
- b. Points shall take the following order of precedence:
  - Point of Personal Privilege;
  - Point of Order;
  - Point of Parliamentary Inquiry;
  - Right of Reply.
- c. Motions shall take the following order of precedence:
  - To Appeal the Decision of the Chair;
  - To Introduce a Draft Resolution;
  - To Introduce an Amendment;
  - To Introduce a Working Paper;
  - To Suspend the Meeting;
  - To Close Debate;
  - To Change the Agenda;
  - To Set the Agenda;
  - To Reconsider an Agenda Item;
  - To Close Speakers' List;
  - To Re-Open the Speakers' List;
  - To Change the Speaking Time;

- *For a P5 Caucus (Security Council);*
- *For a Closed Door Session (League of Nations, Security Council);*
- *To Expel a Member from the League of Nations (League of Nations);*
- *For the Invitation of an Ambassador (League of Nations, Security Council);*
- *For Conflict Settlement by the Council (League of Nations);*
- *For an Advisory Opinion (League of Nations, Security Council);*
- To Extend the Caucus Time;
- For an Unmoderated Caucus;
- For a Consultation of the Whole;
- For a Moderated Caucus;
- For a Tour de Table;
- For a Minute of Silent Prayer;

d. The order of precedence during the voting procedure shall be:

- Motion to Vote Clause by Clause;
- Motion to Split/Divide the Question;
- Motion for Roll Call Vote.

***The points in order during debate, which may be raised once the chairs ask for points, include:***

### **26. Point of Personal Privilege**

This point may be raised if a delegate feels uncomfortable (i.e. cannot hear the speaker, feels it is too warm in the room, etc.). No delegate may interrupt a speaker, unless the current speaker is inaudible.

## **27. Point of Order**

A point of order is an intervention directed at the Chair, requesting them to make use of some power inherent in their office or specifically given them under the *Rules of Procedure*. It may, for example, relate to the manner in which the debate is conducted, to the maintenance of order, to the observance of the *Rules of Procedure* or to the way in which the Chairs exercise the powers conferred upon them by the *Rules*. Under a *Point of Order*, a delegate may request the Chair to apply a certain rule of procedure or they may question the way in which the Chair applies the rule. Thus, within the scope of the *Rules of Procedure*, delegates are enabled to direct the attention of the Chair to violations or misapplications of the *Rules* by other delegates or by the Chair themselves.

## **28. Point of Parliamentary Inquiry**

This point allows asking the Chair a question about the *Rules of Procedure* if a delegate feels need for clarification.

***The motions in order during the debate include:***

## **29. Motion for a Minute of Silent Prayer**

Any delegate may bring in a motion for a minute of silent prayer. They may choose to name a specific reason for their request. This motion may only be in order before the first Roll Call takes place.

## **30. Motion to Set the Agenda**

This motion is in order during agenda setting. The delegates will have to decide which of the topics shall be addressed first. In case of multiple motions to set the agenda, the motions shall be voted upon in the order in which they were brought to the floor. The Chair shall then ask for up to two speakers in favour and up to two speakers against this motion. This procedural vote requires a simple majority.

## **31. Motion to Change the Agenda**

This motion is in order when an urgent matter requires the attention of the committee. The delegate that raised the motion must clearly state the new item they would like to discuss. The Chair shall then ask for up to two speakers in favour and up to two speakers against this motion. This is a procedural motion, requiring a simple majority to pass. Once the motion passes, the original agenda item is temporarily suspended until the agenda is set back to the

original topic, either by completing debate on the new item or another *Motion to Change the Agenda*.

### **32. Motion to Change the Speaking Time**

The committee may limit the time to be allowed to each speaker on the General Speakers' List. The delegate who raises this motion must specify the new speaking time. The Chair may then ask for up to two speakers in favour and up to two speakers against this motion. This is a procedural motion and requires a simple majority to pass.

### **33. Motion to Close the Speakers' List**

This motion may be raised if a delegate feels that no further speakers should be invited to join the Speakers' List. This motion is procedural and requires a simple majority to pass.

### **34. Motion to Re-Open the Speakers' List**

If the Speakers' List shall be re-opened, delegates may raise the *Motion to Re-Open the Speakers' List*. This is also a procedural motion and requires a simple majority to pass.

### **35. Motion for a Moderated Caucus**

If a delegate raises this motion, **they** must explain the topic of the moderated caucus, specify the overall duration and the individual speaking time. The purpose of such a caucus is to facilitate discussion on aspects or sub-topics of the present agenda item. Yields are not in order during a moderated caucus since the Chair shall recognize individual delegates wishing to speak. The motion is procedural and requires a simple majority to pass.

### **36. Motion for an Unmoderated Caucus**

This motion may be raised if a delegate wishes to suspend formal debate for a certain period of time and to converse freely with other delegates. The delegate raising the motion must specify its overall duration. There is no official topic of an unmoderated caucus, however, delegates may agree within negotiations on a certain focus. The motion is procedural and requires a simple majority to pass.

### **37. Motion to Extend the Caucus Time**

This motion may be raised if a delegate feels the need for further discussion. The delegate must specify the time by which they would like to extend the Caucus. This is a procedural motion and requires a simple majority to pass.

### **38. Motion for a Consultation of the Whole**

During a consultation of the whole, parliamentary procedure is temporarily halted to allow for informal discussions in the committee room. Speaking times and the order of speakers are decided on an informal, ad-hoc basis by the delegates, with the Chair intervening as needed. The delegate proposing the motion must specify a topic and a time limit. This motion is procedural and requires a simple majority to pass.

### **39. Motion for a Tour a Table**

A tour de table is a caucus where each delegate has the opportunity to speak on a matter in alphabetical order. When proposing this motion, the delegate must briefly state the topic and suggest the speaking time for each individual, not exceeding ninety seconds. If multiple motions for a tour de table are presented simultaneously, they shall be voted on starting with the longest proposed speaking time, as it is considered the most disruptive. The Tour de Table interrupts the General Speakers List. Each delegate speaks immediately after the previous speaker finishes. The Chair should only intervene to call on the next speaker if a delegate exceeds their speaking time or if there is confusion about the next speaker.

### **40. Motion to Introduce a Draft Resolution**

This motion may only be raised if the relevant working paper has been presented to and approved by the Chair beforehand. One of the sponsors shall then read out the operative clauses of the draft resolution. This motion automatically carries.

### **41. Motion to Introduce a Working Paper**

This motion may be raised once a working paper has reached a presentable state. This motion automatically carries.

### **42. Motion to Introduce an Amendment**

This motion may only be raised if the amendment has been presented to and approved by the Chair beforehand. One of the main submitters shall then read out the amendment. This motion automatically carries.

### **43. Motion to Close the Debate**

This motion may be raised to immediately end the debate on the current amendment or draft resolution. The Chair shall invite up to two delegates to speak in favour and against this motion. It requires a qualified majority to carry and is considered a procedural motion. This

motion is only in order if the quorum for a substantial vote is present. Therefore, this motion is not a substantive matter but will be treated as such.

#### **44. Motion to Suspend the Meeting**

If passed, the Motion to Suspend the Meeting suspends the meeting until the time specified in the motion. If no timeframe was addressed in the motion, the Chair shall use their discretion to set the time to reconvene the house. The Motion requires a simple majority to pass.

#### **45. Motion to Reconsider an Agenda Item**

This motion may be raised, if an agenda item on which debate has been adjourned and no resolution passed upon shall be debated again. This motion is not debatable and requires a 2/3 majority vote.

#### **46. Motion to Appeal the Decision of the Chair**

This motion may only be raised if a delegate does not consent with a decision of the Chair. If this motion is successful, the Chair shall alter their ruling according to the appeal. If this motion fails, the Chair's decision shall stand. Any decisions concerning the *Motion for a Minute of Silent Prayer*, the *Motion to Adjourn the Meeting* and the *Right of Reply* cannot be appealed. This motion is not debatable and requires a qualified majority.

***These motions concerning the voting procedures are in order:***

#### **47. Motion for Roll Call Vote**

If a delegate raises this motion, the Chair will call upon every delegation individually during the voting procedure on a draft resolution. The delegates are then allowed to additionally vote "yes with rights" and "no with rights", which grants them the right to explain their voting behaviour after the voting procedure. In addition, the delegates may "pass" their vote in the first round of the Roll Call. If a delegate passes in the first round, they cannot abstain in the second round. This motion carries automatically.

#### **48. Motion to Vote Clause by Clause**

This motion is in order when the delegate putting the motion forward wishes to vote on each of the operative clauses separately. After voting on each clause separately, the committee has to vote on the whole resolution once again. This is a procedural motion that requires one speaker in favour, one speaker against and a qualified majority to carry.

#### **49. Motion to Divide the Question**

This motion is in order when the delegate putting the motion forward wishes to split up the different operative clauses into sections. The delegate must specify the order in which **they** would like the voting to take place. If there are several *Motions to Split the Question*, the Chair shall consider and decide upon the order of voting on them, since only one *Motion to Split the Question* is possible for a single draft resolution. The Chair shall invite one delegate to speak in favour and one delegate to speak against this motion. Each speaker has 30 seconds. This is a procedural motion that requires a simple majority to carry. If the motion does not carry, the normal voting procedure continues. If a Motion to Divide the Question passes, a separate vote will be taken on each divided part to determine whether or not it is included in the Final Draft. The different parts require a simple majority to stay in the suggested Draft Resolution.

### **CHAPTER IV - Draft Resolutions and Amendments**

#### **50. Introduction of a Resolution**

All draft resolutions must be presented to and approved by the Chair before being introduced to the committee.

- a. In order for a draft document to be considered by the Chair, it needs at least one main submitter (sponsor) and several signatories (minimum of two), which in total must comprise 1/5 of the present members of the committee.
- b. Once a draft document is properly introduced and has been read out to the delegates, it becomes official and may be referred to during speeches, amended and voted upon. Draft documents that have not yet been properly introduced may not be referred to.
- c. A main submitter is obliged to vote in favour of his or her Draft Resolution, unless it is altered by an unfriendly amendment. Signatories are not subject to such an obligation.

#### **51. Passing a Resolution**

Any draft resolution requires a simple majority to pass. If no *Motion for Roll Call Vote* has been raised, the Chair shall first ask for votes in favour, then for votes against, then for abstentions. If the draft resolution passes, it becomes the official resolution of the committee

on the specific topic, and the committee shall move on to the next agenda item. After a resolution passes, clapping is in order.

## **52. Amendments**

All amendments must be presented to and approved by the Chair before being introduced to the committee.

- a. In order for an amendment to be considered by the Chair, it needs at least one main submitter (sponsor) and several signatories, which must be a minimum of 1/5 of the present members of the committee.
- b. Once an amendment has been properly introduced, the Chair shall call for an immediate moderated caucus with a time limit set by the Chair to discuss the amendment. During this special caucus, *Motions to Extend Debate Time* and *Motions to go directly into Voting Procedures* on the Amendment are in order.
- c. An amendment may only change the wording of one clause at a time. However, it is in order to propose to strike more than one clause or to add more than one clause at a time or to rearrange the order of clauses.
- d. If the submitters of the amendment are identical with the submitters of the draft resolution that is being amended, the amendment shall be considered a *friendly amendment* and shall be included without debate or voting. Also, if all submitters agree to accept an amendment by a non-submitter, that amendment shall also be considered friendly and there shall be no debate or voting. All other amendments shall be considered unfriendly.
- e. Amendments to an amendment are generally only in order if they are friendly. However, delegates can introduce more than one amendment on the same clause after each other.

## **53. Voting on Amendments**

Any unfriendly amendment requires a simple majority to pass. The Chair shall first ask for votes in favour, then for votes against, then for abstentions.

## CHAPTER V – Majorities

### 54. Bases for Majorities

Majorities for voting are based on all present members (counting those delegations abstaining from substantive voting). Present delegations are all delegations recognized as “present” during the Roll Call.

### 55. Simple Majority

A simple majority requires more than half of all present members' votes. Most of the procedural votes require a simple majority (exception: *Motion to Close the Debate*, *Motion to Vote Clause by Clause* and *Motion to Appeal the Decision of the Chair*).

### 56. Qualified Majority

A qualified majority requires 2/3 of all present members. This high majority is required for motions which change the procedure drastically (*Motion to Close Debate* and *Motion to Vote Clause by Clause*) or for passing a Resolution (*Voting on a draft resolution*, refer to Rule no. 46)