

Genoa Model United Nations (GeMUN)

www.gemun.it

Official Rules of Procedure

I. COMMITTEES

1. The secretariat shall decide which committees to convene for each session; at least three committees of the General Assembly (GA) have to be present at each session. All such committees shall participate in the plenary meeting of the GA.
2. The Security Council must be present at each session but shall not take part in plenary meetings of the General Assembly.
3. English shall be both the official and the working language of each Committee and of the General Assembly. Delegates must refer to themselves and to others as delegations, avoiding the use of personal pronouns such as “I” and “You”.
4. Direct dialogue between delegates is forbidden.
5. All General Assembly Committees will have to work Resolution by Resolution; all other committees will work Clause by Clause.

II. THE CHAIRMAN

6. The chairman shall behave in accordance with the GeMUN chairing guidelines.
7. Subject to the most recent programme of events, the Chairman shall declare the opening and closing of each meeting, direct the discussions, ensure observance of these rules, accord the right to speak, put questions, and announce decisions. The Chairman shall rule on points of order and, subject to these rules, shall have complete control over the proceedings and the maintenance of order. The Chairman may limit speaking time, the number of interventions per delegation, or declare the closure of debate. He or she may also propose the suspension or adjournment of the meeting.
8. The Chairman may declare a meeting open and permit the debate to proceed when at least one quarter of the members of the committee are present. The presence of at least two-thirds of the members shall be required for any decision to be taken.
9. If the Chairman is absent, the Deputy Chairman shall take his or her place and assume the same powers and duties. If any officer is unable to perform their functions, a new officer shall be appointed by the GeMUN Board of Directors for the unexpired term.
10. When debate is limited, and a representative exceeds the allotted time, the Chairman shall call the delegate to order without delay.

III. GENERAL BEHAVIOUR

11. The Secretary-General, or a designated representative, may at any time make oral or written statements to any committee or subcommittee concerning matters under consideration.
12. No representative may address the committee without having previously obtained the permission of the Chairman. The Chairman shall call upon speakers in an order determined at their discretion and may call a speaker to order if remarks are not relevant.
13. A representative may rise to a point of order at any time. The Chairman shall immediately decide the point in accordance with these rules. A representative may appeal the ruling to the Commission on Rules and Procedure. The debate shall continue unless the ruling is overturned. A point of order may not address the substance of the matter under discussion.
14. No proposal shall be discussed or put to the vote unless it has been shared with all delegations. Procedural motions may be considered even if their text has not been submitted in advance.
15. A motion may be withdrawn by its proposer at any time before voting on it has commenced, and may be reintroduced by any member.

IV. VOTING

16. Each member of the Committee shall have one vote that has to be expressed by show of placard.
17. Decisions shall be taken by a majority of members present and voting.
18. For these rules, the phrase "members present and voting" refers to members casting an affirmative or negative vote. Members abstaining from voting are not considered to have voted.
19. Note passing between members shall be suspended during voting procedures.
20. Once voting has begun, no representative shall interrupt the process except on a point of order or a point of information to the Chair related to the conduct of voting. The Chairman may allow explanations of the vote, but shall not permit the main submitter of a proposal or amendment to explain their vote on it.
21. In the event of a tie, the proposal shall be considered rejected.
22. The Chairman is allowed to pass a proposal for a "clear majority" only if the matter under discussion is an amendment or a motion; it is the duty of the Chairman to always announce the votes on a resolution.

23. Amendments shall be voted upon before the proposal to which they apply, following the order established in these rules.
24. Amendments to the second degree shall not be in order in any committee, except for the Security Council.

V. RESOLUTIONS AND CLAUSES

25. Each resolution shall have one main submitter.
26. In order to be debated, a resolution or clause must be signed by at least one-sixth of the members present. This number may be increased at the discretion of the Chairman.
27. During lobbying time, each delegation may sign a number of proposals determined by the Chairman, typically equal to one-fifth of the delegations present.
28. No resolution shall include either financial amounts or references to specific financial resources.
29. These Rules of Procedures may be amended by a decision of the Panel of Experts and the GeMUN Secretary-General, in accordance with the THIMUN Rules of Procedure.
30. Plagiarism or the excessive use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) is not permitted at GeMUN. If detected during lobbying time, the proposal shall not be discussed. If detected during debate, the Chair shall inform the committee and, depending on severity, the proposal may be amended or tabled.

General Assembly (GA-Plenary Session) Rules of Procedure

INTRODUCTION

This document aims to provide a comprehensive and exhaustive reference to the Rules of Procedure for the GeMUN General Assembly Plenary Sessions.

GENERAL RULES

- **Chairs:** The board of the General Assembly Plenary Session shall be composed of: the President of the General Assembly (PGA), the Co-President of the General Assembly (Co-PGA), and two Deputy Presidents. Only the President of the General Assembly (PGA) and the Co-President of the General Assembly (Co-PGA) may moderate the debate and exercise decision-making power over the work of the Assembly.
- **Delegations and others:** Only delegations from GA Committees are allowed into the assembly, and no exception shall be made. Visitors and non-members shall be admitted in restricted numbers in order to avoid issues related to excessive noise.

PROCEDURES

- **Opening of the assembly:** The PGA will call the assembly to order, take roll call and verify the presence of at least half of the House (quorum). If a quorum is not met fifteen (15) minutes after the scheduled start time of the plenary session, the present President of the GA will decide whether to open the session. Delegations arriving during or after the roll call are required to send a note to the Secretariat stating their presence in the General Assembly. Until delegations have informed the President of their arrival, they will not be recognised or allowed to vote.
- **Discussion of resolutions:** During the General Assembly Plenary, there will be no lobbying, and only one resolution per GA Committee will be discussed. The Committee's resolution shall be selected the day before by the Student Officers of the respective committee, without external interference. For example, if three GA Committees are present at the conference, three resolutions will be discussed at the General Assembly. No other resolutions or clauses will be accepted during the plenary session.

The discussion of resolutions shall proceed in committee order (1st, 2nd, and 3rd). The debate shall follow normal debate procedures as in all other committees. Delegations will be able to submit amendments to add, strike, or modify parts of a resolution. Amendments to the second degree are out of order at all times, as stated in GeMUN ROPs. The discussion of amendments shall follow the same debate procedures as in all other committees.

NGOs and Observers shall also have the right to speak.

Voting procedures apply in the GA Plenary as in all other committees.

Security Council Rules Of Procedure

GENERAL CONSIDERATIONS

The Security Council has a primary responsibility for maintaining international peace and security. It is tasked with identifying potential threats to international security and calls upon disputing parties to reach a peaceful resolution.

The Security Council is a non-GA committee, meaning it works clause by clause. It is the only UN body capable of adopting legally binding clauses.

There are 15 member countries, of which five are permanent members, commonly referred to as the P-5: China, France, Russia, the United Kingdom, and the United States of America.

The remaining 10 non-permanent members are elected by the General Assembly for two-year terms.

English is the official working language of the Security Council, and the use of any other language is prohibited.

PROCEDURES

For the meeting to begin, all P-5 members must be present, along with at least two-thirds of the house. Once the chairs have introduced themselves, a roll call will be held: the co-president will call the names of the delegations, who should respond with "present."

- **Veto Power:** Any member of the P-5 may exercise their veto power only during open debate by raising their placard and saying "Veto power!" aloud. When the veto power is invoked, all delegations, except the P-5, must leave the room after being informed by the chairs. Officers may remain but cannot interfere with the P-5 unless directly addressed. Veto power allows the P-5 to discuss the current clause freely and decide whether to amend, table, strike, or leave it unchanged. Once the P-5 reaches a decision, the chairs will invite the other delegations to return and call one of the P-5 to explain the decision. The veto power may not be exercised on amendments.
- **Amendments to the Second Degree:** In the Security Council, amendments to the second degree are permitted. Therefore, during close debate, any delegation can submit an amendment to the amendment under discussion. It is up to the delegate to write the amendment on an official GeMUN amendment sheet (specifying that it is a second-degree amendment) and request the floor to present it once it has been approved by the officers. During voting procedures, abstention is permitted, as it is in regular amendment voting.

OFFICERS

The Security Council is led by two main Presidents and two Deputy Presidents. One of the main Presidents may declare the meeting open once all the P-5 members and two-thirds of the Council members are present. When one of the P-5 invokes veto power, the officer in charge will ask all delegations, except the P-5, to leave the room. During the P-5 discussion, the chairs do not manage the debate but must ensure that all discussion is conducted in



English. After the debate, the chairs will invite the other delegations to return and will yield the floor to a P-5 member to summarise the decision.

When the chairs receive a second-degree amendment, they must ensure it is in order and send a note to the submitter confirming its approval and readiness for discussion. Close debate Rules of Procedure apply, but after voting procedures, the chairs must remember that the house remains in close debate. During voting, all UN Member States shall have three voting options: in favour, against, or abstention.