



UNSC



United Nations Security Council

High School Crisis Committee

Background Guide

Virginia Invitational

V I M  N C

Model United Nations Conference

11th Session

March 1st-2nd, 2024

VIMUNC XI



Esteemed delegates and sponsors of VIMUNC XI,

Welcome to the eleventh annual Virginia Invitational Model United Nations Conference. As the MUN year winds down, we hope to provide the best experience yet, with paramount service and attention to detail that creates the greatest conference. From broad UN organizations to regional bodies, from corporations to criminal organizations, VIMUNC has committees that truly serve every interest. With experienced chairs, czars, and staff, we will ensure that every delegate truly has a positive experience, and we hope that you can enjoy your experience with us.

VIMUNC's 21 committees and over 850 delegates make this year's conference one of the largest editions ever, and we look forward to expanding our outreach across the DMV region to continue to provide a wonderful experience for all delegates. With a large MUN team that has years of experience, we hope that every single minute of the committee is filled with substantive debate that will create learning experiences that last for years to come.

So much hard work has been put into every single crisis update, background guide, and dossier, and we sincerely hope that the work and care placed in each aspect of this conference is displayed in its quality. If at any time you feel something about the conference is unsatisfactory, please don't hesitate to talk to your chairs, a staffer, or a member of the Secretariat.

Thank you so much for your commitment to VIMUNC XI, and best of luck in your committee, future conferences, and ambitions.

Sincerely,
Mei Torrey
Secretary-General, VIMUNC XI

MEI TORREY

SECRETARY-GENERAL

PEYTON WALCOTT

DIRECTOR-GENERAL

RYAN DADOO

CHIEF OF STAFF

SOPHIA BONGIOVI

*UNDERSECRETARY-
GENERAL OF GENERAL
ASSEMBLIES AND
SPECIALIZED AGENCIES*

MATT TAM

*UNDERSECRETARY-
GENERAL OF CRISIS*

UNSC

(United Nations Security Council)

*TOPIC A: Settling Extraterrestrial Land Disputes
on Mars*

TOPIC B: Finding Peace on Earth

Overview of the Body

Timeline and Structure of the Committee:

- This committee is UNSC, set in the year 2124.
- Crisis notes can be addressed to any person not already in the dossier, however, if you create a character (ie. the president of Russia) please specify who they are for backroom.
- Delegates will act as singular ambassadors from their country, meaning they have all the capacities bestowed upon a modern-day ambassador but they do not have the power of a ruler or other political figure; those powers must be obtained in committee!
- Countries will be assumed to have the same political structures they do today.
- Delegates will be expected to be politically correct; no hate speech, personal affronts, or other types of inflammatory language or actions will be tolerated to any degree and will be grounds for disqualification if brought to the attention of the dias.

Crisis 101

A high school Model United Nations (MUN) crisis simulation works by simulating real-time crises and challenges within a variable committee setting. Unlike traditional MUN committees that focus on debating resolutions, crisis committees introduce unexpected events, emergencies, and developments that require delegates to respond quickly and strategically. Here's how a high school MUN crisis simulation typically works:

1. Committee Setup

Current Situation: The crisis simulation begins with a scenario chosen by the dias, detailed later on in this guide. This could be a historical event, a modern global crisis, or a futuristic scenario.

Assignments: Delegates are assigned specific roles and responsibilities within the crisis committee, such as heads of state, government officials, diplomats, military commanders, intelligence agents, journalists, or representatives of non-state actors, depending on the topics.

Background Guides: Delegates receive background guides and research materials that provide context, information, and objectives related to their assigned roles.

2. Crisis Management

Crisis Updates: Throughout the conference, the czar and crisis staff deliver crisis updates and directives that present new challenges, opportunities, and developments. These updates can take the form of news articles, intelligence reports, emergency briefings, or diplomatic cables.

Variable Events: The crisis committee experiences dynamic events, such as political developments, military actions, humanitarian emergencies, diplomatic initiatives, or surprise attacks, that shape the course of the committee.

Decision-Making: Delegates must analyze information, assess risks, formulate strategies, and make decisions in response to the evolving crises and challenges presented by the scenario. These will take the forms of public directives, private directives, or joint private directives

3. Committee Dynamics

Frontroom: The front room is where the crisis committee convenes for formal sessions where delegates engage in debate, negotiation, and decision-making to achieve their objectives.

Caucuses: Delegates participate in moderated caucuses (formal speech and debate) and unmoderated caucuses (informal discussion and writing) to discuss strategies, coordinate responses, and build alliances with other actors.

Backroom: The backroom of the committee is ruled over by a separate chair called czar, who takes notes addressed to backroom frequently and either allows or rejects characters' arcs.

4. Committee Directives

Public Directives: Delegates follow each crisis update with a round of writing short resolutions with sponsors and signatories, followed by a presentation and possible question and answer period before voting and passing legislation to respond to the current situation.

Private Directives: In back room, delegates write letters, forge alliances, build resources, and establish an arc to make themselves the most relevant and powerful delegate in committee. Their secret actions in back room often affect front room committee through crisis updates.

Joint Private Directives (JPDs): Delegates form alliances with each other to address common challenges and pursue shared objectives. In order to establish these partnerships they might make exchanges or support themselves in back room to further individual goals.

5. Resolution and Conclusion

Drafting and Debate: Delegates draft directives to address specific aspects of the crisis, propose initiatives, or coordinate international responses and then debate their content and amendments.

Resolution Passage: Resolutions and directives are voted on by the committee, and those that have majority support are adopted as official outcomes of the crisis simulation.

Committee Background:

The UN Security Council has five permanent members in addition to their elected members, each representing their respective state. This committee has 4 primary goals: to maintain international peace and security, to develop friendly relations among nations, to cooperate in solving international problems and in promoting respect for human rights, and to be a center for harmonizing the actions of nations. In this committee, delegates should be focused on establishing peace and ending major conflicts, as well as protecting individual citizens of the world amidst these various conflicts. A UNSC delegate has the power to propose new legislation involving investigations, agreements, or compromises, or presenting the issue to the General Assembly for further review.

In the case of violence, the UNSC is also responsible for subduing the conflict and providing humanitarian aid to refugees caught in the crossfire. In specific cases, the UNSC even has the power to refer cases to the International Criminal Court for further review. In previous violent and harmful conflicts, many have said the UNSC has been unable to prevent war crimes and protect the common people, so it is the duty of this committee to live up to its responsibilities during this trying conflict.

TOPIC A: Settling Extraterrestrial Land

Disputes on Mars

Topic Background

The year is 2124, and Earth is caught in the midst of World War III. The catalyst for this global conflict is multifaceted, with underlying tensions stemming from overpopulation, resource scarcity, territorial disputes, and the omnipresent threat of disease. As nations vie for control over dwindling land and resources, the intensity of the conflict has escalated to unprecedented levels, leaving devastation in its wake.

However, amidst the chaos on Earth, humanity has also ventured beyond its terrestrial confines, establishing colonies on the red planet, Mars. This newfound extraterrestrial frontier presents both opportunities and challenges for Earth's warring factions. The colonization of Mars has opened up a new arena for territorial expansion, resource acquisition, and geopolitical maneuvering.



Yet, the settlement of extraterrestrial land on Mars is far from harmonious. In a reflection of Earthly power dynamics, the distribution of Martian territory is heavily influenced by military might, with the most powerful nations securing the largest swathes of land. Consequently, the Martian landscape has become a battleground, with competing factions engaging in conflict to assert their dominance over coveted territories.

Moreover, the unequal distribution of Martian land has exacerbated socio-economic disparities, with less affluent nations unable to stake their claim amidst the chaos of interplanetary conflict. As a result, mass casualties have ensued, further perpetuating the cycle of violence and instability.

Key Points to Consider:

Geopolitical Implications: The allocation of Martian land carries significant geopolitical implications, with control over key regions dictating influence and power dynamics both on Earth and beyond.

Humanitarian Concerns: The ongoing conflict on Mars has led to widespread human suffering, with civilian populations bearing the brunt of the violence. Addressing humanitarian crises and ensuring the protection of vulnerable populations must be a priority.

Sustainable Development: The sustainable development of Martian resources is essential for the long-term viability of human colonization efforts. Delegates must consider mechanisms for equitable resource distribution and environmental preservation.

Peaceful Resolution: Delegates must work towards a peaceful resolution to the Martian land disputes, balancing the interests of all stakeholders while mitigating the risk of further conflict.

TOPIC B: Finding Peace on Earth

Topic Background



As World War III rages on, the need for a comprehensive and lasting peace settlement has never been more urgent. The origins of the conflict are deeply rooted in systemic issues such as overpopulation, resource scarcity, and territorial disputes, compounded by the proliferation of advanced weaponry and the threat of pandemics.

The citizens of Earth are either stuck in a corporate wheel, perpetually crushed underfoot by capitalist powers, or caught in the midst of global conflict and forced out of their homes and lives. Disease, new technology and weaponry, dwindling resources, lack of available land and overpopulation, unemployment, and oppressive businesses and governments all contribute to the terrible lives and ongoing warzone that is our planet during this terrible time.

If peace on Earth isn't achieved, space will become the only viable option as global warming becomes one of the major issues forcing people to look outwards for new living space. Although colonization of other planets is potentially feasible, it has caused a slew of other issues and would be unrealistic regardless of monetary and logistical constraints.

To achieve lasting peace on Earth, delegates must confront these underlying challenges head-on, addressing the root causes of conflict while fostering cooperation and understanding among nations. The consequences of inaction are dire, with the specter of total annihilation looming large over humanity.

Key Points to Consider:

Addressing Root Causes: Delegates must identify and address the root causes of conflict, including overpopulation, resource scarcity, and socio-economic inequality. Sustainable solutions that promote equitable development and resource management are essential.

Multilateral Cooperation: Achieving peace will require unprecedented levels of multilateral cooperation and diplomacy. Delegates must prioritize dialogue and negotiation, seeking common ground and building trust among nations.

Disarmament and Non-Proliferation: The proliferation of advanced weaponry has only served to escalate conflicts and increase the likelihood of catastrophic violence. Delegates must explore measures for disarmament, arms control, and non-proliferation to reduce the risk of future conflicts.

Building a Sustainable Future: As we strive for peace, delegates must also envision a sustainable future for humanity. This includes investments in renewable energy, environmental conservation, and the promotion of global cooperation in tackling existential threats such as climate change.

Conclusion:

As delegates of the United Nations Security Council, during possibly the last session to ever meet if this issue is not solved, the responsibility falls upon you to navigate these turbulent waters and chart a course towards peace and stability for humanity. The challenges ahead are daunting, but with cooperation, determination, and a shared commitment to the common good, a brighter future is within reach.

Questions to Consider

- How do you, as ambassadors of countries facing mass fatality, mitigate the casualty count before the UN as an organization is completely disbanded?
- Is it possible to save Earth or should the culture, people, homes, and history there be abandoned?
- With a new planet at hand, MAD, or Mutually Assured Destruction, no longer works as a method of keeping peace between countries. How will you avoid total nuclear warfare?
- What solutions are there that allow underdeveloped nations not to be brutally overpowered and forced out of existence in the course of this war?

Potential Resources :

For overall background knowledge and research refer to the following links:

- [UNSC Website](#)
- [What is Climate Change - NASA](#)
- [Public Health and Overpopulation - Harvard International Review](#)
- [Preparing and Preventing Epidemics and Pandemics - WHO](#)
- [Colonizing Mars - National Space Society](#)
- [Mars Exploration - NASA](#)
- [Mars Settlement - UNSW](#)
- [Space Colonization - NASA](#)
- [Preventing World War III - World Economic Forum](#)
- [Avoiding World War III - The Economist](#)
- [The Control of War - Britannica](#)
- [Peace and Security - United Nations](#)

Bibliography

“The Case for Colonizing Mars, by Robert Zubrin.” *NSS*,

nss.org/the-case-for-colonizing-mars-by-robert-zubrin/.

“The Case for Colonizing Mars, by Robert Zubrin.” *NSS*,

nss.org/the-case-for-colonizing-mars-by-robert-zubrin/.

Frankel, Joseph. “The Control of War.” *Encyclopædia Britannica*, Encyclopædia Britannica, inc.,

www.britannica.com/topic/war/The-control-of-war.

“Henry Kissinger Explains How to Avoid World War Three.” *The Economist*, The Economist

Newspaper, 17 May 2023,

www.economist.com/briefing/2023/05/17/henry-kissinger-explains-how-to-avoid-world-war-three.

“How to Prevent a Third World War.” *World Economic Forum*, 10 Nov. 2018,

www.weforum.org/agenda/2018/11/how-to-prevent-world-war-3/.

Ignatius, David. “Opinion | the Big Question for 2024: Can the Spread of War Be Stopped?” *Can*

the Spread of War Be Stopped?, 4 Jan. 2024,

www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/2024/01/04/big-question-2024-war-global-order-gaza-ukraine/.

Martin, Neil. “Mars Settlement Likely by 2050 Says UNSW Expert – but Not at Levels

Predicted by Elon Musk.” *UNSW Sites*, 9 Mar. 2021,

www.unsw.edu.au/newsroom/news/2021/03/mars-settlement-likely-by-2050-says-unsw-expert-but-not-at-levels-predicted-by-elon-musk.

“NASA Mars Exploration.” *NASA*, NASA, 3 June 2014, mars.nasa.gov/.

“Peace and Security.” *United Nations*, United Nations,
www.un.org/en/global-issues/peace-and-security.

“Preparing and Preventing Epidemics and Pandemics.” *World Health Organization*, World Health Organization,
www.who.int/activities/preparing-and-preventing-epidemics-and-pandemics.

Scott, Sophia. “Public Health and Overpopulation: The United Nations Takes Action.” *Harvard International Review*, Harvard International Review, 20 June 2022,
hir.harvard.edu/public-health-and-overpopulation/.

“Space Colonization.” Edited by Kaveon Smith, *NASA*, NASA, 27 Sept. 2023,
www.nasa.gov/headquarters/library/find/bibliographies/space-colonization/.

“United Nations Security Council |.” *United Nations*, United Nations,
www.un.org/securitycouncil/.

“What Is Climate Change?” Edited by Holly Shaftel, *NASA*, NASA, 27 Sept. 2023,
climate.nasa.gov/what-is-climate-change/#:~:text=Global%20warming%20is%20the%20long,gas%20levels%20in%20Earth's%20atmosphere.

DOSSIER

Permanent Members

1. China
2. France
3. The Russian Federation
4. The United Kingdom
5. The United States

Elected Members

6. Algeria
7. Ecuador
8. Guyana
9. Japan
10. Malta
11. Mozambique
12. Republic of Korea (South Korea)
13. Democratic People's Republic of Korea (North Korea)
14. Sierra Leone
15. Slovenia
16. Switzerland
17. Canada
18. Spain
19. Afghanistan
20. Saudi Arabia
21. India
22. Vietnam
23. Syria
24. Kazakhstan
25. Lesotho