



# THESSISMUN



## Rules of Procedure **UN Security Council**



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**United Nations Security Council**



## Introduction

- a.** The Security Council has primary responsibility, under the Charter, for the maintenance of international peace and security. It is so organized as to be able to function continuously, and a representative of each of its members must be present at all times at the United Nations Headquarters. On 31 January 1992, the first ever Summit Meeting of the Council was convened at the Headquarters to be attended by Heads of States and Governments of 13 of its 15 members and by the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the remaining two. The Council may meet elsewhere than at its Headquarters; in 1972, it held a session in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, and the following year in Panama City, Panama.
- b.** When a complaint concerning a threat to peace is brought before it, the Council's first action is usually to recommend to the parties to try to reach agreement by peaceful means. In some cases, the Council itself undertakes investigation and mediation. It may appoint special representatives or request the Secretary-General to do so or to use his good offices. It may set forth principles for a peaceful settlement.
- c.** When a dispute leads to armed conflict, the Council's first concern is to bring it to an end as soon as possible. On many occasions, the Council has issued cease-fire directives, which have been instrumental in preventing wider hostilities. It can also send United Nations peacekeeping forces to help calm tensions in troubled areas, keep opposing forces apart and create conditions of calm in which peaceful settlements may be sought. The Council may decide on enforcing measures, economic sanctions (such as trade embargoes) or collective military actions.
- d.** A Member State against which preventive or enforcing action has been taken by the Security Council may be suspended from the exercise of the rights and privileges of membership by the General Assembly on the recommendation of the Security Council. A Member State, which has persistently violated the principles of the Charter, may be expelled from the United Nations by the Assembly on the Council's recommendation.
- e.** A State, which is a Member of the United Nations but not of the Security Council, may participate, without a vote, in its discussions when the Council considers that that country's interests are affected. Both Members of the United Nations and non-members, if they are parties to a dispute being considered by the Council, are invited to take part, without a vote, in the Council's discussions; the Council sets the conditions for participation by a non-member State.
- f.** The Presidency of the Council rotates monthly, according to the English alphabetical listing of its member States.



## 1. Security Council Board

### 1.1. Chairpersons

The Board of the Security Council shall be composed of a President and a Vice-President.

### 1.2. Competence of the Chairpersons

The competence of the Chairpersons may not be questioned by the delegates at any time and for whatever reason.

### 1.3. Self-Governance of the Security Council

#### 1.3.1. Membership of the Board to the Security Council

The President and the Vice-President of the Security Council are members of the council and while they execute their duties as President and Vice-President participate in the deliberation and voting process. As all members of the Security Council, they vote on both procedural and substantial matters, and they reserve their right to request the floor to address the chamber in their national capacity in execution of their diplomatic functions in the discussion of each topic at hand.

#### 1.3.2. Matters not covered by the present Rules

The Security Council reserves the right to decide internally, in cooperation with the Secretary General or the Deputies acting on their behalf and the Board, on matters not covered in the present Rules of Procedure. Ultimately the decision of the Secretary General or the Deputy Secretary Generals outranks that of the Council.

### 1.4. Chairpersons: Authorities and Responsibilities

#### 1.4.1. Authority of the President

The President shall exercise ultimate authority over the Security Council, presiding in an equitable and objective manner. The President also reserves the right to propose a motion at any time, which will help the work and procedures of the Council move forward and should be taken seriously into account by the Council. In case of disruptive or dilatory behavior of any participants, the President reserves the right to take any appropriate action.

#### 1.4.2. Responsibilities of the President

The President is responsible for all procedural matters pertaining to the Security Council, including but not limited to, moderating debate, determining the applicability of rules and, if necessary, clarifying the meaning of the existing rules without needing any approval of the



Security Council.

### **1.4.3. Authority of the Vice-President**

The Vice-President shall have authority over all Security Council support operations. The Vice-President shall have as primary responsibility to ensure that the delegates are accurately representing the position of their countries with respect to substantive issues and topics. The Vice-President reserves the right to take appropriate actions to ensure the proper representation of country-policies by the delegates.

### **1.4.4. Responsibilities of the Vice-President**

The Vice-President shall also be responsible for ensuring the relevancy of the content and format of the Draft Resolutions before their submission for verification by the Secretary General or the Deputy Secretary Generals. The Vice-President shall also assist the President with all Security Council presiding matters.

### **1.5. Caucus of the Board**

The Chairpersons reserve the right to halt the procedures within the Security Council in order to take 30 seconds of internal Caucus.

## **2. Secretariat**

### **2.1. Authorities of the Secretary General**

The Secretary General or their authorized Deputies may attend Security Council sessions and cannot be excluded from the proceedings. The Secretary General may authorize their Deputies to act in their place at the meetings of the Security Council.

### **2.2. Responsibilities of the Secretary General**

The Secretary General, or the Deputies specifically authorized to act on their behalf, may make either oral or written statements to the Security Council concerning any question under consideration by it, at any time. Proposals of the Secretary General or the Deputy Secretary Generals, although non-binding, are considered of high importance and delegates are highly expected to abide by them. The Secretary General shall also be responsible for the preparation of documents required by the Security Council.

### **2.3. Requesting the Presence of the Secretary General**

Delegates may request the presence of the Secretary General, or the Deputy Secretary Generals acting on their behalf, during debate on a substantive matter in order to express their opinion on the issue at hand. Any statements made by a member of the Secretariat are considered as



representing the opinion of all members of the Secretariat and acting in favor of the United Nations, which they represent at all times during the conference.

## 3. Delegations

### 3.1. Members

The Security Council shall consist of fifteen members of the United Nations. The People's Republic of China, the French Republic, the Russian Federation, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America shall be Permanent Members of the Security Council.

### 3.2. Observers and Non-Council Members

Observers are Non-Council Members included in the initial formation of the Council as set out in the first Quorum, when the Council considers that the topics of the Agenda affect a particular country's interests. The Security Council also reserves the right to invite a non-Council Member as party to a dispute under consideration whenever it deems appropriate, as described in rule 12.13. Non-Council Members are granted Observer status.

Observers shall enjoy debating rights and participate in all procedural matters, but shall not have voting rights on substantial issues, nor have the right to submit draft resolutions and amendments.

### 3.3. Permission to Approach the Bench

Any delegate wishing to contact the President for a very delicate matter may ask for permission to approach the Bench. This is a last resort in case of *emergency*.

## 4. Parliamentary procedure

### 4.1. Roll Call

Attendance shall be kept by the Board with a Roll Call at the beginning of every Security Council session, or if it is asked for by a member of the Security Council, according to section 5.1 concerning the verification of quorum. Delegates shall establish their presence in the Security Council by raising their placards and declaring "*Present*" or "*Present and Voting*". Delegates having declared themselves *Present and Voting* cannot abstain during votes on all matters until the next Roll Call.

### 4.2. Procedural Matters

Procedural matters are those matters relating to the structure of the Security Council session as



defined in the ThessISMUN Rules of Procedure. They include, but are not limited to, voting on establishing a Speaker's List, motions and the adjournment of the Security Council session. All Delegates must vote on procedural matters by raising their placards and no Delegate may abstain.

### 4.3. Substantial Matters

Substantial matters are defined as those matters relating to the specific topic at hand. On all substantial matters, all delegates who are "Present" may abstain. According to art. 27 of the Charter of the United Nations, the required majority for that motion to pass is nine including the five concurring votes of the Permanent Members. Delegates that have established their presence at the initial Roll Call shall act accordingly. **Roll Call vote on substantive matters is in order following the voting procedure as set in section 17.1.** The Abstention of a Permanent Member during the voting procedure on a substantial matter does not hinder the matter under consideration to pass.

## 5. Majority

### 5.1. Majority on Procedural Matters

Decisions of the Security Council on procedural matters shall be made by an affirmative vote of nine (9) members.

### 5.2. Majority on Substantive Matters

All votes on substantive matters require a majority of nine (9) votes in favour, including the concurring votes of all Permanent Members. If one or more Permanent Members vote against a draft resolution, amendment or on any other substantive matter, the item that the Security Council is voting upon, fails. The abstention of a Permanent Member does not block the approval of a motion.

## 6. Quorum

To begin a Council session all members of the Security Council must be present, which will be verified through Roll Call carried out by the Chairpersons, following rule 4.1. If quorum is not met thirty (30) minutes after the scheduled start time of the Security Council session, the Security Council shall start its session with the number of delegates already present, unless otherwise instructed by ThessISMUN Secretariat. Participants arriving during or after the Roll Call, are required to send a note to the President stating their presence in the Council. As long as participants have not informed the President of their arrival they will not be recognized or allowed to vote. All participants who have not informed the President of their arrival until



voting procedure begins are not eligible to vote. The total number of delegates will be determined by the attendance list from the most recent Council session. If quorum is in question in the first Security Council session, the list of delegations expected to attend will serve to determine the total number of delegates in attendance. Quorum will be assumed to be present unless specifically challenged and shown to be absent. The Board may at any time, and especially before entering voting procedures, revisit the quorum at its own discretion.

## 6.1. Motion to Verify the Quorum

Delegates may propose a *Motion to Verify of Quorum*, where the Board will proceed with Quorum confirmation by initiating a Roll Call. This motion, upon its proposition, passes automatically.

## 7. Agenda

The Agenda items are ordered randomly. This cannot be considered as binding for the order in which topics will be addressed by the council. The President may entertain a motion to set the agenda immediately after setting the quorum so as to define which topic area takes precedent in the debate.

### 7.1. Only topics set on the provisional Agenda provided by ThessISMUN shall be considered by the Security Council.

### 7.2. Motion to set the Agenda

Following the *Motion to Set the Quorum*, a *Motion to Set the Agenda* on a specific topic will be in order. The Board will consider the Motions in the order in which they were made. The Board has the discretion to take one (1) Speaker in favour and one (1) Speaker against the Motion and proceed with a vote. The Speaker's Time in Favour and Against the Motion shall be equal and determined by the President and the Speakers will receive the floor in rotation (in favour – against).

If the Motion passes, requiring a majority of nine (9) affirmative votes, the Agenda will be set in the manner suggested by the Motion. If the Motion fails, the President shall consider the next Motion and repeat the aforementioned process. If no Motion to set the Agenda receives the necessary majority, then the Security Council will discuss as first the topic that gathered the most positive votes during the voting procedure. The order in which the Agenda is set at the beginning of the conference shall remain the same for the duration of the conference. Once the Agenda is set, the President will entertain a Motion to Establish a Speakers' List. If there is only one item in the Agenda then it falls within the discretion of the Board to automatically adopt it and set the Agenda accordingly.



### 7.3. Alteration of the Agenda

In the event of an international crisis or emergency, the Secretary General or their Deputies may call upon the Council to table debate on the current topic area so that the more urgent matter may be attended to immediately. After a resolution has been passed on the crisis topic, the Council will return to debate the tabled topic. If a resolution on the crisis topic fails, the Council may return to debate on the tabled topic area only at the discretion of the Secretary General or their Deputies.

## 8. Speakers' List

### 8.1. Motion to Establish a Speakers' List

To establish a Speakers' List, a delegate shall rise to a *Motion to Establish a Speakers' List*, also determining the individual speaker's time. The Motion needs to be first approved by the Board and then is voted upon, requiring a majority of nine (9) affirmative votes to pass. If there is more than one *Motion to Establish a Speakers' List*, suggesting a different Speaker's Time, they will be voted upon, starting from the most disruptive one.

### 8.2. Adding a Delegation to the Speakers' List

A Delegation can be added to the Speakers' List only if not already included. The delegate may either raise their placard when the Board calls for Delegates to do so or send a note to the Board stating their will to be added to the Speakers' List.

Speakers must keep their remarks germane to the subject under discussion. When the Speakers' List is exhausted, debate is automatically closed according to sections 13.9 and 13.10 even if a motion to close debate would not normally be in order.

## 9. Debate

### 9.1. Formal Debate

The Security Council shall by default be in Formal Debate unless otherwise advised by the Board. Delegates should refer to the Speakers' List for the speaking order, as described in Sections 8.1 and 8.2.

### 9.2. Informal Debate

During formal debate a motion can be put forth by any delegate for a Moderated Caucus or an Unmoderated Caucus, both of which constitute informal debate. Informal debate can only occur on substantive issues. Motion to enter informal debate is in order following the procedures



outlined in sections 12.2 through 12.5.

### 9.3. Recognition

A Delegate may only address the Security Council if they have received permission from the Board.

### 9.4. Interruptions

A Speaker may not be interrupted by another Delegate unless that Delegate has risen to a *Point of Personal Privilege*. A *Point of Order* and a *Right of Reply* cannot interrupt a speaker. Only once a Speaker has concluded and the floor is given to the Board, a delegate may move to a *Point of Order* or a *Right of Reply*.

### 9.5. Relevance of Speech

The Board may call a Delegate to order if their speech is not relevant to the subject being discussed or is not stated according to diplomatic courtesy.

### 9.6. Time Limit

When a delegate exceeds their allotted time, the Board may call the Speaker to order without delay. However, the Board has the discretion to be reasonably flexible about the time limit to allow a Delegate to finish their thought in order to account for the varying fluency of English among the Delegates.

## 10. Yields

Only during formal debate, a Delegate may yield any remaining time at the end of their speech in one of the following manners:

### 10.1. To Questions

The Board will use the remaining time to entertain questions for the Speaker from the Security Council. Delegates wishing to ask questions shall raise their placards and wait to be recognised by the Board. The Board shall rule questions that are rhetorical, leading or not relevant to the Speaker's speech out of order. Only the Speaker's answer shall be subtracted from the remaining speaking time.

### 10.2. To Another Delegate

A Speaker wishing to give the remaining time allotted to their speech to another Delegate can do so. That Delegate has to immediately take the floor. A Speaker that has been yielded to cannot yield their time again.



### 10.3. To the Board

A Delegate can yield any remaining time to the Board. It is at the discretion of the Board to yield the floor to the next speaker on the Speakers' list or open the floor for Points or Motions. If a specific yield has not been established by the Speaker, the floor will automatically be given to the Board. During Moderated Caucus the floor will also be automatically given to the Board.

## 11. Points

All points listed below, except for 11.1. Point of Personal Privilege, are not allowed to interrupt a speaker. 11.2. *Point of Order* and 11.3. *Point of Parliamentary Inquiry* are in order both during Formal and Informal Debate, at any given time, provided that they do not interrupt a speaker. 11.4. *Right of Reply* is in order only during Formal Debate.

### 11.1. Point of Personal Privilege

A delegate may rise to a *Point of Personal Privilege* if a matter impairs the delegate's participation in council activities. The Board shall try to effectively address the source of impairment. A *Point of Personal Privilege* can interrupt the speaker in any case. However, this motion should be used with the utmost discretion.

### 11.2. Point of Order

A Delegate may rise to a Point of Order if a Delegate or the Board are not properly following the Rules of Procedure. The Board will rule on the validity of the point immediately. A Delegate rising to a Point of Order may not comment on the topic of the discussion. A Point of Order ruled dilatory by the Board may not be appealed. This point may not interrupt a Speaker.

### 11.3. Point of Parliamentary Inquiry

A Delegate may rise to a Point of Parliamentary Inquiry requesting an explanation from the Board on the Rules of Procedure. This point may not interrupt a Speaker.

### 11.4. Right of Reply

A Delegate whose personal or national integrity has been impugned by another Delegate's comments may rise to a *Right of Reply*. Disagreement with the content of a Delegate's speech does not constitute sufficient justification for a Right of Reply. The Board will recognise the *Right of Reply* at their discretion as well as decide on how to resolve the matter. This point may not interrupt a speaker but should be addressed the moment they will have finished their speech. Should the Board rule the *Right of Reply* out of order, the decision cannot be appealed. No delegate may call for a *Right of Reply* on a *Right of Reply*.

For a Sample *Right of Reply* see the General Assembly (Plenary) Rules.



## 12. Motions

Motions are proposed by the Delegates in order to facilitate the debate or the overall procedure, by raising their placards and waiting to be recognised. All proposed Motions shall be first approved by the Board, which will then ask for Seconds and Objections, as defined in Rule 13. If there are more than one Motions proposed, the Council shall vote upon them starting from the most disruptive one.

### 12.1. Motion to Split the Topic Area

A Delegate may propose a *Motion to Split the Topic Area* in order for the Security Council to come up with more than one resolution so as to separately discuss different aspects of the same Topic Area. The delegate who proposes the Motion will have to provide sufficient justification for the proposed splitting of the Topic Area. This Motion is considered to be substantial.

### 12.2. Motion for a Moderated Caucus

A Delegate proposing a *Motion for a Moderated Caucus* must indicate a total duration of the caucus, speaking time for each individual speaker and purpose of the Motion. The Board may suggest a more appropriate total duration, speaker's time or purpose, or may rule the Moderated Caucus out of order without possibility of appeal. If the Motion passes, the Security Council will enter informal debate whereby the Board will recognise at their discretion Delegates who raise their placards to speak about the issue at hand.

### 12.3. Motion to Extend the Moderated Caucus

A Delegate may propose a *Motion to Extend the Moderated Caucus* if they feel that additional time benefits the work of the Security Council. The Delegate proposing an Extension of the Moderated Caucus must suggest a duration for the extension, not exceeding the initial Moderated Caucus. The individual speaker's time and the purpose of the Caucus remain the same. The Board may suggest a more appropriate total duration and put it to vote or may rule the Motion out of order without possibility of appeal. Only one extension of the Moderated Caucus is allowed.

### 12.4. Motion for an Unmoderated Caucus

A Delegate proposing a *Motion for an Unmoderated Caucus* must indicate a total duration and purpose for the Caucus. The Board may suggest a more appropriate caucus length or topic and put it to vote or may rule the Unmoderated Caucus out of order without possibility of appeal. Once the Motion passes, the Security Council will start an informal discussion on the topic specified in the Motion, without leaving the conference room.



## 12.5. Motion to Extend the Unmoderated Caucus

A Delegate may propose a *Motion to Extend the Unmoderated Caucus* if they feel that additional time would benefit the work of the Security Council. The Delegate who proposes a Motion to Extend the Unmoderated Caucus must suggest a duration for the extension, not exceeding the initial Unmoderated Caucus. The Board may suggest a more appropriate caucus duration and put it to vote or may rule the Extension of the Unmoderated Caucus out of order without the possibility of appeal. Only one extension of the Unmoderated Caucus is allowed.

## 12.6. Motion to Table Debate on a Topic

A Delegate may raise a *Motion to Table Debate* in order to end debate on a substantive issue without voting any Draft Resolutions that may be on the floor. If the Board rules the Motion in order, it is within its discretion to call one (1) Delegate to speak in favour and one (1) Delegate to speak against before proceeding with a vote.

This Motion is considered to be a substantial one.

If the Motion passes, the Board shall entertain a Motion to Establish a new Speakers' List, on the new topic addressed by the Security Council. After the new topic has been discussed according to the Rules of Procedure, the Board shall entertain a Motion to Return to a Dismissed Topic as defined in article 12.7.

## 12.7. Motion to Return to a Dismissed Topic

If a Motion to Table the Debate passes, the Board may entertain a *Motion to Return to a Dismissed Topic*. In that event, the Board has the discretion to entertain one (1) Speaker in favour and one (1) Speaker against. If the Motion passes, debate on the dismissed topic resumes and the Council returns to the existing Speakers' List of the Dismissed Topic. This Motion is considered to be a substantial one.

## 12.8. Motion to Close Debate on a Draft Resolution

A Delegate may propose a *Motion to Close Debate* in order to end debate on a Draft Resolution. Should there be amendments on the floor, it is highly recommended to follow the procedure regarding Amendments, as discussed in Rules 14.3-14.3.6. If the Board rules the Motion in order, it is in their discretion to entertain one (1) speaker in favour and one (1) speaker against the Motion.

Voting on this Motion is considered substantial.



## **12.9. Motion to Close Debate on the Topic Area under Discussion**

A Delegate may propose a Motion to Close Debate in order to end Debate on the Topic Area under Discussion, whereby the Security Council will enter immediately voting procedure on all Draft Resolutions on the floor. If the Board rules the Motion in order, it is in their discretion to entertain one (1) speaker in favour and one (1) speaker against the Motion.

Voting on this Motion is considered substantial.

## **12.10. Motion for a minute of silent prayer or meditation**

At any given time, if deemed appropriate by the Board, there is the opportunity for a minute of silent prayer or meditation. Any State may move for a minute of silent prayer or meditation. The Board will allow at most two motions for silent prayer or meditation in each session. It is possible to add a special reason to the request. Any decisions concerning this motion are not subject to appeal.

## **12.11. Motion to Declare a State as Party to the Dispute**

A Delegate of the Security Council may propose a *Motion to Declare as a Party to the Dispute* any member of the United Nations which is not a member of the Security Council or any state which is not a member of the United Nations. The delegate who suggests the motion will have to provide sufficient justification. The Board has the discretion to recognize one (1) speaker for and one (1) speaker against this motion.

A State declared to be Party to the Dispute shall enjoy debating rights and participate in all procedural matters and have the right to submit draft resolutions and amendments but it shall not have voting rights on substantial issues. The matter is considered to be a substantial one.

## **12.12. Motion to Declare the Vote Substantial**

This is a Motion which may only be used by the Permanent Members of the Security Council. It may be entertained on any procedural Motion. The aim of this Motion is to change the required vote on the procedural Motion into a substantial vote, thus giving the Permanent Members the possibility to veto a normally procedural motion.

As soon as any member introduces this motion, the procedural motion in question is thereby automatically declared substantial. The Board will then ask, whether there is any objection to declare the motion substantial. If there is objection, the Council will vote on whether to re-declare the motion procedural.

The vote to re-declare the motion procedural is a substantial vote.



### **12.13. Motion for a “Question and Answer” Period**

A formal “Question and Answer” period may be instituted by the Board, upon the request of a Council member, for the purposes of questioning the Representative(s) of a country, organisation, etc. on the issue at hand. The Delegate rising to this Motion shall specify a suggested total duration of the Question and Answer Period, as well as the purpose.

The Question and Answer Period shall be presided and monitored by the Board and conducted by the Council as a whole.

Any speaker who shall be invited to provide any answer in any “Question and Answer” session will be granted precedence over all members of the Security Council.

### **12.14. Motion to Conduct Business in Closed Session**

Unless it decides otherwise, the Security Council shall meet in public. However, there might be instances where Delegates might wish to share sensitive information and/or materials. This Motion serves to preserve the privacy and confidentiality of the Security Council meetings. Once passed all non-members of the Security Council are required to immediately exit the room. This includes all auxiliary personnel such as Journalists, Observers, Advisors etc.

The Secretary General, as well as their Deputies if explicitly authorized by the latter, is not affected by this motion. The Security Council may, or may not, allow for the Administrative Staff to remain in the room. No communication with the outside world, whatsoever, is allowed.

The only possible means of communication is through the Secretary General and their Deputies.

Voting on this Motion is considered to be substantial.

### **12.15. Conducting Business in Public Session**

After a *Motion to Conduct Business in Closed Session* has passed, the Security Council may conduct business again in Public through a *Motion to Conduct Business in Public*.

Voting on this Motion is considered to be substantial.

### **12.16. Motion to Adjourn the Meeting**

A Delegate may rise to a *Motion for the Adjournment of the Meeting* in order to suspend all Security Council activities until the next scheduled meeting. The Board may rule the Motion



out of order without possibility of appeal.

## 12.17. Motion to Adjourn the Session

A Delegate may rise to a *Motion for the Adjournment of the Session* to cease permanently all Council activities. The Board may rule the Motion out of order without possibility of appeal. This motion is in order only to be used for the end of the conference.

## 13. Seconds & Objections

After a delegate proposes a Motion, the board may ask for seconds, i.e. delegates agreeing with the motion. All delegates wishing to second the motion will have to raise their placards or voicing their seconding. If there are no seconds the motion will automatically fail.

If there are seconds, the board will ask for objections, i.e. delegates disagreeing with the proposed motion. All the delegates wishing to express their objection will raise their placards or voice their objection. If there are no objections, the motion will automatically pass.

If there are objections, the board will enter into a voting procedure.

## 14. Resolutions and Amendments

### 14.1. Resolutions

### 14.2. Draft Resolutions

Any document submitted to the Board under proper Resolution format, and assigned a number by the Secretariat will be referred to as a Draft Resolution. Delegates may refer to a document as a "Draft Resolution" in a speech only after it has been assigned a number by the Secretary General or the Deputy Secretary Generals. If Draft Resolutions are complementary or fairly identical, the Board may recommend that the penholders of the Draft Resolutions combine the documents prior to the end of the debate.

If a Delegate wishes to submit a Draft Resolution, they must submit it to the Board under the name "Topic Area [number of item of the Agenda] – [Name of the Delegate's Country] – Draft Resolution". The methods of formal submission of Draft Resolutions fall within the discretion of the Board.

Any Member of the Security Council and any Party to the Dispute may submit a Draft Resolution, without the need for signatories, co-sponsors etc. Observers may not submit a Draft Resolution.



### 14.2.1. Resolution denomination

A Draft Resolution that has been put to a vote by the Security Council and passed may be referred to as a Resolution.

### 14.2.2. Format Draft

Resolutions must be properly formatted according to the guidelines found in the “ThessISMUN Guide for Research and Resolution Writing” paper.

### 14.2.3. Penholder

The penholder is recognised as the main contributor to the Draft Resolution. There is only one penholder for each draft Resolution. The penholder must be present for a Draft Resolution to be introduced to the Council. The penholder must agree to support a Resolution unless major changes have been introduced through the amendment process.

### 14.2.4. Withdrawal of Penholder status

Penholding of a draft resolution may be withdrawn at any time before voting on it has begun. Penholding of a resolution may be withdrawn, if the penholder considers that a passed amendment alters the content to such an extent, that their Delegation can't support the Draft Resolution as a whole.

### 14.2.5. Introduction of a Draft Resolution

A Delegate may propose a *Motion to Introduce a Draft Resolution*. Once the provided document has been assigned a Draft Resolution number by the Secretary General or the Deputy Secretary Generals, the Board will entertain a Motion to Introduce the Draft Resolution, requiring a majority of nine (9) affirmative votes. Once the Motion has passed, the Board shall invite the Sponsor of the Draft Resolution to read out only the operative clauses of the Draft Resolution to the Security Council. The penholder or another Member of the Council personally authorized by the penholder will then be recognised for five (5) minutes to speak in favour of the Draft Resolution. The Speaker may yield their remaining time to Questions or to another Delegate if they wish to do so.

A new debate upon this Draft Resolution shall begin and a new Speakers' List shall be established.

### 14.2.6. Withdrawal of a Draft Resolution

A draft resolution may be withdrawn by its penholder any time before the Amendment procedure starts, as defined by Rules 14.3-14.3.6. This request should be submitted in written form to the Chairperson.



## 14.3. Amendments

An Amendment may add, strike out or revise a part of the Draft Resolution. The Amendment has to be first approved and numbered by the Board. It is in the discretion of the Board to define the period of time, during which the floor will be open for Amendments.

### 14.3.1. Motion to Introduce Amendments

A Delegate may propose a *Motion to Introduce Amendments* after the time for the submission of Amendments has elapsed. If the Motion passes, the Board will introduce to the Council all Amendments approved by the Board. During this procedure, the penholder will be called upon to define to the Council and the Board which Amendments are friendly and which unfriendly.

### 14.3.2. Amendments to Pre-Ambulatory Clauses

Amendments to Pre-Ambulatory Clauses are not in order. However, the Board may rule such an amendment in order if serious mistakes have been noticed in the Pre-Ambulatory Clauses.

### 14.3.3. Non-Substantive Amendments

Amendments correcting grammar, spelling or formatting mistakes on Draft Resolutions will be automatically adopted without being voted upon by the Security Council, at the discretion of the Board. Following the initial introduction of the Draft Resolution by its Sponsor, delegates are permitted to point out any such problems to the Board.

### 14.3.4. Friendly Amendments

Substantive Amendments approved by the penholder of a Draft Resolution will automatically be integrated in the Draft Resolution without the need to be voted upon by the Security Council. Amendments to Friendly Amendments are out of order.

### 14.3.5. Unfriendly Amendments

Substantive Amendments to a Draft Resolution not approved by the penholder of the Draft Resolution are considered unfriendly. Unfriendly Amendments will be put to a vote prior to the vote on the Draft Resolution as a whole.

Amendments to Unfriendly Amendments are out of order.

The Board reserves the right to entertain, upon its discretion, one (1) speaker in favour and one (1) speaker against each Unfriendly Amendment. In order to pass, Unfriendly Amendments need a majority of nine (9) affirmative votes, including the concurring votes of the 5 Permanent Members. The Abstention of a Permanent Member does not hinder the adoption of an



amendment.

### 14.3.2. Withdrawal of Amendments

The penholder of an Amendment may request its withdrawal at their discretion, before its inclusion in the Draft Resolution.

### 14.3.3. Voting on Amendments

After all Amendments have been defined by the penholder as friendly or unfriendly (Rule 14.2.1.), the Board will read one by one all unfriendly Amendments, entertaining, upon its discretion, one (1) speaker in favour and one (1) speaker against.

The Council shall vote upon each Amendment separately, after finishing debating on it. All subsequent Amendments shall be discussed and voted upon in accordance with the aforementioned procedure, and in the order defined by their assigned number.

If one Amendment implies the rejection of a second Amendment, the second Amendment will not be voted upon. An Amendment that has passed shall be automatically integrated into the Draft Resolution. Once all Amendments relating to a Draft Resolution have been voted upon, the Board shall read the operative clauses as they have been modified.

If two or more amendments to a draft resolution are proposed, the President shall rule on the order in which they are to be voted upon. Ordinarily, the Security Council shall first vote on the amendment furthest removed in substance from the original proposal and then on the amendment next furthest removed until all amendments have been put to the vote, but when an amendment adds to or deletes from the text of a motion or draft resolution, that amendment shall be voted on first.

## 15. Voting Procedure

When the Board announces that the Security Council is entering the voting procedure, no entering or exiting from the room will be permitted, unless there is an emergency or until the voting procedure has come to an end. All auxiliary personnel, such as Journalists, Observers, Advisors etc. are required to immediately exit the room. The Board may or may not allow the Administrative Staff to remain in the room. The Secretary General is not affected by this motion.

Note passing is suspended.

At this time, Motions to Split the House, Divide the Question or Roll Call Voting are in order.



After the vote, regardless of whether the Draft Resolution has failed or was adopted, if the Council has elected to pursue its standard practice of voting by hand, the President will open the floor to any Delegate who wish to address the Council. Any Delegate who wishes to take the floor will be afforded one (1) minute to address the Chamber and explain their country's vote.

## 16. Order of Voting

Draft resolutions on the same Topic Area should be voted according to the number they were assigned by the Secretariat.

### 16.1. Motion to Reorder Draft Resolutions

A Motion to Reorder Draft Resolutions will be in order immediately after entering the voting procedure, and before voting has started on any draft resolution. The delegate proposing a Motion to Reorder Draft Resolutions will have to state the order in which they desire the Draft Resolutions to be voted upon.

## 17. Method of Voting

The standard method of voting in the Security Council is the vote by raising of hand.

Each Delegate of the Security Council has one vote and must demonstrate their voting intentions by raising their placard at the Board's request unless there Board has ruled in order a *Motion for a Roll Call Vote* (see Rule 17.1). Delegates must vote "in favour" or "against" on procedural matters and "in favour", "against" or "abstain" on substantive matters. No Delegate shall vote on behalf of another Delegate. No Delegate can "pass".

Abstentions are not counted as negative votes.

### 17.1. Roll Call Vote

The *Motion for a Roll Call Vote* is an alternative method of voting and is in order only for substantive matters. This Motion is automatically accepted unless the Board rules it out of order. The decision is not subject to appeal. The Roll Call starts alphabetically, according to the English alphabetical listing of its member States. The Roll Call will not start until the Board has officially closed the floor and cleared it of all pending Motions to be voted upon.

### 17.2. Passing

During Roll Call, a Delegate may choose to *pass*. The Board will place the Delegate at the



bottom of the voting list. A Delegate who has passed once during a voting sequence may not *pass* again or *abstain*, but must ascertain their vote. A delegate who has passed cannot vote “*with Rights*”.

### 17.3. Voting with Rights

During Roll Call, a Delegate may request a right of explanation after voting. Upon completion of voting, and after the Delegates who passed have ascertained their vote, the Board will allow those voting with rights to explain their vote. The Board may limit the speaking time at their discretion.

### 17.4. Voting on Draft Resolutions

Draft Resolutions will be voted upon, in the order that they were numbered by the Secretary General and the Deputy Secretary Generals, unless a motion to Reorder Draft Resolutions (rule 16.1) has passed.

### 17.5. Motion to Split the House

The *Motion to Split the House* is in order when the Delegate proposing this Motion wishes to exclude abstention from the voting options during the final vote on the Draft Resolution. This Motion has to be proposed immediately after the Security Council Closes Debate and enters Voting Procedure.

This Motion is a substantial one.

Once the Motion passes, delegations shall not be allowed to *abstain* during the voting of the resolution.

### 17.6. Motion to Divide the Question

Prior to the start of the voting procedure on a Draft Resolution, a Delegate may rise to a *Motion to Divide the Question* in order to vote on an individual operative clause, a group of operative clauses or clause by clause. A Delegate must specify how they wish to divide the operative clauses. The penholder reserves the right to not consent in the fragmentation of the voting upon their Draft Resolution. In this case, the *Motion to Divide the Question* fails.

The divided section that fails during voting will be taken out of the final Draft Resolution. Only those sections that have passed will remain. Subsequently, the Security Council will proceed to vote on the new final Draft Resolution as a whole.



## 18. Appendix of Points and Motions

<i>Rule</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Debatable</i>	<i>Votes Required</i>	<i>Interrupt Speaker</i>
Point of Personal Privilege	Feeling discomfort	No	No	Yes
Point of Order	To point out a misuse of rules	No	No	No
Right of Reply	Reply to an insult	No	No	No
Point of Parliamentary Inquiry	Clarify the Rules	No	No	No
Motion to Verify Quorum	Seeking to verify the presence of delegates	No	Automatically passes	No
Motion to Set the Agenda	Set the Working Agenda	Yes (at the discretion of the board)	9/15	No
Motion to Establish a General Speakers' List	Open the Speakers' list	No	9/15	No
Motion to Split Topic Area	Discuss separately two or more sections of the same Topic	No	9(+P5)/15	No
Motion for a Moderated Caucus	Initiate a Moderated Caucus	No	9/15	No
Motion for an extension of the previous Moderated Caucus	Extension of the previous Moderated Caucus	No	9/15	No
Motion for an Unmoderated Caucus	Initiation of an Unmoderated Caucus	No	9/15	No
Motion for the extension of the previous Unmoderated Caucus	Extension of the previous Unmoderated Caucus	No	9/15	No



Motion to Declare the Vote Substantial	Changes a procedural vote to a substantial one. The Council votes on whether to re-declare the vote procedural. Only P5	No	9(+P5)/15	No
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	may propose this.			
Motion for a minute of silent prayer or meditation	Silent prayer or meditation for a major issue	No	At the discretion of the Board	No
Motion for a “Question and Answer” Period	Make questions to a non-Council member present at the time	No	9/15	No
Motion to Declare a State Party to the Dispute	A vote of a state party to the dispute is considered as an abstention	Yes (at the discretion of the board)	9(+P5)/15	No
Motion to Conduct Business in Closed Session	All non Members of the Security Council exit the room	No	9(+P5)/15	No
Motion to Conduct Business in Public	Conducting business in Public session	No	9(+P5)/15	No
Motion to Table Debate	Postpone debate	Yes (at the discretion of the board)	9(+P5)/15	No
Motion to Introduce Draft Resolution	Introduction of a Draft Resolution	No	9/15	No
Motion to Introduce an Amendment	Introduction of an Amendment	No	9/15	No
Motion to Close Debate on a Draft Resolution	Close the separate debate on a Draft Resolution	Yes (at the discretion of the board)	9(+P5)/15	No
Motion to Close Debate on the Topic Area under Discussion	Close debate on the Topic Area	Yes (at the discretion of the board)	9(+P5)/15	No



Motion for a Roll Call Vote	Roll Call Vote	No	At the discretion of the Board	No
Motion to Divide the Question	Divide the operative clauses to groups and vote each group separately	Yes (at the discretion of the board)	9(+P5)/15	No
Motion to Split the House	States can not abstain from the vote	Yes (at the discretion of the board)	9(+P5)/15	No
Motion to Adjourn Meeting	Adjourn until next	No	9/15	No



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