



**UNITE
FOR
GOOD**



MODEL UNITED NATIONS ASSEMBLY 2025

Facilitated by the Rotary Club of Canberra Sunrise at the
Museum of Australian Democracy

16-17 August 2025

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PARTICIPATING SCHOOLS + STATES REPRESENTED

BLOC	SCHOOL	COUNTRY
1. ASIA/ PACIFIC	Katoomba High School NSW	China
	Chevalier College Southern Highlands NSW	Vietnam
	Saint Stephens College Gold Coast QLD	North Korea
	Lumen Christi Catholic College Pambula Beach NSW	Singapore
	Narooma High School NSW	Timor Leste
2. EUROPE	St Peter's Anglican College Broulee NSW	Switzerland
	Merici College Braddon ACT	Germany
	Macarthur Anglican School Cobbitty NSW	Russia
	Daramalan College Dickson ACT	Netherlands
	Melrose High School Pearce ACT	Ireland
3. MIDDLE EAST	St Peter's Anglican College Broulee NSW	UAE
	Central Coast Grammar School Erina Heights NSW	Iran
	Alfred Deakin High School Deakin ACT	Egypt
	St Mary's Cathedral College Sydney NSW	Saudi Arabia
4. DEVELOP- ING NATIONS	Frensham Mittagong NSW	Chile
	Erindale College Wanniasa ACT	South Africa
	The Hills Grammar School Kenthurst NSW	Brazil
	Narooma High School NSW	Ecuador
5. WESTERN/ OTHER	Southern Highlands Christian School Bowral NSW	USA
	Brighton Secondary College Brighton East VIC	Japan
	Carroll College Broulee NSW	Canada



MESSAGE FROM THE ROTARY CLUB OF CANBERRA SUNRISE

The Rotary Club of Canberra Sunrise is delighted to welcome delegates, fellow Rotarians, school counsellors, and families and friends of delegates to Canberra for the National Model United Nations Assembly (MUNA) 2025.

The Model United Nations (UN) Assembly aims to involve senior secondary school students in a hands-on experience of a UN-style conference, with the aim of increasing international understanding and goodwill, which is one of the objects of Rotary. The format is modelled on a session of the main deliberative organ of the United Nations, the General Assembly. However, the need to provide a satisfying experience for participants within the time available demands significant simplification and adaptation of the procedures and scope of the General Assembly.

This is the 26th occasion that we have hosted this event here in Canberra, and the Museum of Australian Democracy (MoAD, also affectionately known as Old Parliament House), provides the perfect venue for debating United Nations (UN) resolutions – a venue that was the home of our democracy from its opening almost a century ago on 9 May 1927, until the opening of our new Parliament House, just up the hill, on 9 May 1988.

It was in this historic building that the late Queen Elizabeth II performed the opening of the Australian Parliament in 1954, 1974 and 1977.

The organisation of an event such as MUNA, requires dedication and commitment from a team of tireless workers who have come together to provide this unique opportunity for delegates. I wish to thank the MUNA organising committee, Secretarys-General, adjudicators, runners, fellow Rotarians, and the teams at MoAD, Restaurant Associates, CDC Canberra Bus Services, and Discovery Park Resort.

We wish you all success in your considered positions during the debate and trust you will enjoy the MUNA 2025 experience here in our nation's capital.

CANBERRA

THE NATION'S CAPITAL

We hope that you enjoy your stay in the nation's capital and that you learn a great deal, not only about the country you are representing at this weekend's Model United Nations Assembly (MUNA), but also about the other countries represented here. Don't forget that this is also an important opportunity to learn about Australia while you are here in your capital city.

While the formal program will take you to the Museum of Australian Democracy (MoAD) there are also many national institutions to visit next time you come to Australia's national capital. These include:

NATIONAL PORTRAIT GALLERY

King Edward Terrace, Parkes

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

King George Terrace, Campbell

NATIONAL MUSEUM OF AUSTRALIA

Lawson Crescent, Acton Peninsula

PARLIAMENT HOUSE

Parliament Drive, Canberra

QUESTACON

The National Science and Technology Centre – Parkes

NATIONAL LIBRARY OF AUSTRALIA

Parkes Place, Parkes

NATIONAL GALLERY OF AUSTRALIA

Parkes Place, Parkes

NATIONAL ARBORETUM

Forest Drive Molonglo Valley

AUSTRALIAN INSTITUTE OF SPORT

Leverrier Street, Bruce

NATIONAL FILM AND SOUND ARCHIVE

and many more

We have a full program organised to make this an experience you will not forget. It is up to you to make the most of the opportunity that Rotary has offered you – to learn, to get involved, to make friends and to have fun!

Your parents, friends and sponsor Rotary club and district members are very welcome to watch the proceedings in the House of Representatives Chamber, numbers permitting. Everyone in the Chamber must abide by heritage rules, including:

- No bags are allowed in the House of Representatives Chamber;
- No liquids, such as bottles of water or drink are permitted in the House of Representatives Chamber - a drinks station will be established just outside of King's Hall;
- Digital devices are welcome to be used but must not be connected to mains for charging in the Chamber;
- MoAD rules allow only one laptop or tablet per team to be brought into the chamber; and
- All rules pertaining to the preservation of the unique heritage value of the House of Representative Chamber must be obeyed.

If there is anything we can do to make your stay more enjoyable, please ask one of the organisers.

What is MUNA?

The objective of a Rotary Model United Nations Assembly (MUNA)

in Australia is to involve secondary school students in a hands-on experience of a United Nations-style conference and through that experience to increase the students' sense of international understanding and goodwill, one of the primary goals of Rotary International.

Rotary believes that it is through our youth that we can look forward to increased world peace. All students participating in MUNA are encouraged to dress in the national costume of the country they are representing for the Assembly deliberations.

MUNA was first introduced to Rotary in Australia at Lake Cargelligo, NSW in 1980 and the concept was then passed on to the Forbes Rotary Club in 1984. Since then, MUNA has spread throughout most districts of Australia, New Zealand and Papua New Guinea. In 1989, the then President of Rotary International, Royce Abbey placed MUNA on the World Youth Activities Committee Agenda for Rotary and similar sessions are now held in many countries.

In 1997, the Rotary Club of Canberra Sunrise took up the challenge to organise a National MUNA Conference, which attracted teams from many parts of Australia. This year marks the 26th National MUNA organised in Canberra by the Rotary Club of Canberra Sunrise (there were no MUNA events in 2020, 2021 due COVID-19 restrictions).

The conference is being held in the historic House of Representatives Chamber of MoAD on 16 – 17 August 2025 and you will be provided with the opportunity to speak in the place where Australia's laws were debated and then made.

There is also an opportunity on the evening of 15 August at the accommodation centre at Discovery Park Canberra, to confirm speaker teams for and against each resolution, to identify speaker teams for and against each resolution, to meet other teams in your bloc, to and develop the bloc identity and strategies for the debate.

All participants will be individually presented with a certificate. There are also prizes for the winning teams. Adjudicators will determine the teams with the best overall performances. The adjudicators may also award highly commended prizes.

An award, the Totenhofer Peace Prize, is awarded to the team which makes the greatest contribution in the debate for world peace.



ROTARY CLUB OF CANBERRA SUNRISE

Email: canberra.sunrise@gmail.com

CORE WORKING GROUP

Greg Hood AO, Helen Deutsch, David Elder, Peter McDermott AM CSC,
Roger Crosthwaite and Gabi Quadraccia
with many other volunteers working over the weekend

MUNA CONTACTS

CLUB PRESIDENT

Rosemary Everett

ROTARY MUNA 2025 COORDINATOR

Greg Hood AO 0418 123 145

MUNA REGISTRAR (REGISTRATION QUESTIONS)

Helen Deutsch 0413 221 883

MUSEUM OF AUSTRALIAN DEMOCRACY (MOAD) & RESTAURANT ASSOCIATES (RA)

Julie Ratchford compass-group.com.au
MoAD Contact Dr. Stephanie Smith
Inquiries: 02 6270 8222
Website: <http://www.moadoph.gov.au>

ROTARY CLUB OF CANBERRA SUNRISE – SLEEPOVER SUPERVISORS

Male: Neil Spalding 0439 248 377
Female: Christy Kaehne 0417 617 490

FORMAL DINNER CONTACT (SATURDAY NIGHT 16 AUGUST)

Gabi Quadraccia 0439 414 674

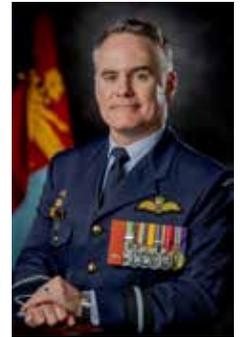
GUEST SPEAKERS

The Rotary Club of Canberra Sunrise is pleased to welcome these eminent Australians who will address us during MUNA:

SPEAKING ON FRIDAY EVENING

AIR COMMODORE JARROD PENDLEBURY CSC

is the Director-General Futures, Risk & Outreach in the Department of Defence, responsible for defining future options for the Australian Defence Force. His previous posting was to the Permanent Mission of Australia to the UN where he held the role of Military Advisor. In this position, he was responsible for representing Australia's peace and security interests in the UN as a multilateral diplomat. During this posting, he led Australia's efforts to establish an innovation hub in the Department of Peace Operations.



SPEAKING AT THE OFFICIAL OPENING ON SATURDAY MORNING

DR STEPHANIE SMITH

is a dedicated advocate for education and learning, with a particular focus on play-based learning, student voice, learner agency and media literacy. In her role as the Learning Manager at the Museum of Australian Democracy (MoAD), Steph is committed to fostering an innovative and student-centric approach to education. She leads a dynamic team of educators in the creation and implementation of engaging programs, resources, and professional development aimed at supporting students and teachers nationally. She has a particular focus on empowering young people to be active participants in our democracy, as well as supporting the development of their critical thinking skills. Steph aims to nurture the next generation's leadership potential, foster solution-based thinking, and cultivating robust media literacy skills.



KEYNOTE SPEAKER AT THE OFFICIAL DINNER ON SATURDAY 16 AUGUST

DR LORRAINE FINLAY

Australian Human Rights Commissioner (since 22 November 2021) and a former member of the Rotary Club of Canberra Sunrise. She has specialised in human rights and public law and was Senior Human Trafficking Specialist with the Australian Mission to ASEAN. Lorraine worked as a State Prosecutor in WA and at the High Court of Australia. She holds a PhD in Law from the University of Queensland, and a dual Masters' Degree in Law from New York University and the National University of Singapore. She has also been actively involved in a variety of community organisations and has been awarded the Centenary Medal and WA Law Society Youth Community Service Award for volunteering.



PRESENTATION OF CERTIFICATES AT CLOSING CEREMONY ON SUNDAY 17 AUGUST

MR ROBERT SHORE

Robert Shore is the District Governor of Rotary District 9705 which takes in southern NSW and the ACT. He joined Rotary after taking students to participate in the Model United Nations Assembly (MUNA) and twice organised similar events. He has been President of three Rotary Clubs: Leeton, Northbridge and Parkes. He has served as the District Membership and Innovations Director and was responsible for organising Rotary's response on the ground during the Eugowra floods. He and his wife Judith are both members of Batemans Bay Rotary Club.



FRIDAY 15 AUGUST

DAY	EVENT	LOCATION	NOTES
1500	Registration Open	DISC	Students arrive
1700	Registration Closes	DISC	
1800	Dinner – Buffet	DISC	
1845	Rotary Club Canberra Sunrise	DISC	Welcome/Outline
1900	Guest Speaker	DISC	Air Cdre Jarrod Pendlebury CSC
2000	Muna Rules	DISC	
2040	Counsellors Briefing	DISC	
2100	Student Preparation Time	DISC	
2200	Lights Out	DISC	

SATURDAY 16 AUGUST

DAY	EVENT	LOCATION	NOTES
0730	Breakfast	DISC	
0815	Students assemble at bus	DISC	
0825	Bus leaves for MoAD	DISC	
0845	Students arrive Queen Victoria Terr Bridge	MoAD	Bags to Members Dining Room (MDR1)
0855	VIPs arrive & met by MUNA Convenor	MoAD	Greg Hood AO
0855	All Students assemble inside Chamber	MoAD	Photos Commence

SATURDAY 16 AUGUST (Continuation)

DAY	EVENT	LOCATION	NOTES
0900	Rotary Welcome and Acknowledgement of Country	MoAD	Rosemary Everett RCCS President
0903	Overview of Museum of Australian Democracy	MoAD	Dr. Stephanie Smith, Learning Mgr. briefs on Heritage issues
0915	Guest of Honour – opens MUNA	MoAD	District Governor Robert Shore
0925	Intro of Adjudicators & Secretary-General	MoAD	Greg Hood AO
0930	Assembly in session (1)	MoAD	SG+ Recorder
1100	Morning tea	MDR1	Teams, Counsellors, Rotarians
1115	Assembly in session (2)	MoAD	SG + Recorder
1245	Group photo (front steps)	MoAD	Delegates
1250	Lunch	MoAD	Teams, Counsellors, Rotarians
1345	Assembly in session (3)	MoAD	SG + Recorder
1515	Afternoon Tea	MDR3	Teams, Counsellors, Rotarians
1530	Assembly in session (4)	MoAD	SG + Recorder
1655	Closing comments: debating/adjudicators	MoAD	Greg Hood AO, Gabi Evans
1700	Chamber sessions conclude	MoAD	Bags retrieved from MDR1
1710	Buses leave MoAD & arrive DISC	MoAD	Students change for dinner

SATURDAY 16 AUGUST OFFICIAL DINNER

DAY	EVENT	LOCATION	NOTES
1830	Students assemble/sit for Official dinner	DISC	
1900	Welcome – Students and Guests (seated)	DISC	Peter McDermott AM CSC
1908	Toast to Rotary International	DISC	President, DG responds
1910	Entrée	DISC	
1920	Day's summary of events: selected student	DISC	Student selected during day
1935	Main Meal	DISC	
2015	Dessert	DISC	
2025	Keynote Address + Q&A (30+10m)	DISC	Dr Lorraine Finlay AHRC
2105	Vote of Thanks: selected student	DISC	Student selected during day
2115	MC Closing Remarks & students depart	DISC	Students prepare for Sunday
2200	Lights out	DISC	

SUNDAY 17 AUGUST

DAY	EVENT	LOCATION	NOTES
0730	Breakfast	DISC	Wake up at 0700
0815	Student assemble w/ bags	DISC	
0830	Students + bags depart DISC – arrive MoAD	DISC	Bags stored in MDR1

SUNDAY 17 AUGUST (Continuation)

DAY	EVENT	LOCATION	NOTES
0900	Assembly in Session (5)	MoAD	SG + Recorder
1030	Morning Tea: Students & Councillors	MoAD	
1045	Assembly in Session (6)	MoAD	SG + Recorder
1215	Summary and advice on debating/awards	MoAD	Adjudication reports & views
1225	Closing Ceremony	MoAD	District Governor Robert Shore
1230	Certificate & Prize presentation by DG Robert Shore	MoAD	Photographs – certificates and prize winners
1255	Closing Remarks	MoAD	President Rosemary Everett
1300	Muna 2025 is officially closed		Mr. Greg Hood AO All depart-own arrangements

PROGRAM KEY

- DISC – Discovery Park Canberra
- MoAD – Museum of Australian Democracy
- RCCS – Rotary Club of Canberra Sunrise
- SG – Secretary-General
- MDR1 – MoAD Main Dining Room 1
- MDR3 – MoAD Main Dining Room 3

MUNA 2025 RESOLUTIONS

Session 1: Strengthening the role of the UN in the promotion of democratization and enhancing periodic and genuine elections

The General Assembly,

Stressing the importance, generally and in the context of promoting free, fair and inclusive elections, of respect for the freedoms of peaceful assembly and association and expression, including the freedom to seek, receive and impart information, in accordance with the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, and noting in particular the fundamental importance of access to information and media freedom, including through accessible and easy-to-understand formats for new information and communications technologies.

Recognizing the potential of online communication tools to promote freedom of expression and expand political participation, as well as to empower persons who belong to underrepresented groups and those who are marginalized.

Noting the importance of ensuring orderly, open, fair, and transparent democratic processes that protect the rights to peaceful assembly, association and freedom of expression and opinion.

Reaffirms the obligation of all States to take all appropriate measures to ensure that every citizen has the effective right and opportunity to participate in elections on an equal basis, and calls upon States to take measures to eliminate laws, regulations and practices that discriminate, directly or indirectly, against citizens in their right to participate in public affairs, including based on race, colour, ethnicity, national or social origin, sex, sexual orientation and gender identity, language, religion, political views or on the basis of disability.

Strongly condemns any manipulation of election processes, coercion and tampering with vote counts, particularly when done by States, as well as by other actors, and calls upon all Member States to respect the rule of law and the human rights and fundamental freedoms of all persons, including the right to vote and to be elected at genuine periodic elections.

Session 2: Preventing and combatting crimes that affect the environment

The General Assembly,

Alarmed by existing research indicating that crimes that affect the environment have become some of the most lucrative transnational criminal activities and are often closely interlinked with different forms of crime and corruption and that money laundering and the illicit financial flows derived from them may contribute to the financing of other transnational organized crimes and terrorism.

Recognizing that crimes that affect the environment may also have a negative impact on economies, public health, human safety, food security, livelihoods and habitats.

Recognizing the fundamental role of effective international cooperation in preventing and combating crime and to this end underlining the importance of addressing, tackling and effectively responding to international challenges and barriers.

Urges Member States to adopt effective measures to prevent and combat crimes that affect the environment, such as illicit trafficking in wildlife, including, inter alia, flora and fauna as protected by the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora, in timber and timber products, in hazardous wastes and other wastes and in precious metals, stones and other minerals.

Calls upon Member States to make crimes that affect the environment, in appropriate cases, serious crimes.

Also calls upon States, in accordance with national legislation, to take all

appropriate measures within their means to provide effective assistance and protection for those persons who contribute to combating in a peaceful manner crimes that affect the environment.

Session 3: State of global food security

The General Assembly,

Expressing deep concern over the current state of global food insecurity, with 811 million people affected by hunger in 2020, exacerbating humanitarian needs and increasing the risk of famine around the world, especially in developing countries, including African countries, least developed countries, landlocked developing countries, small island developing States and middle-income countries.

Noting the unprecedented surge in international food commodity prices which, according to the Food Price Index of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, reached their highest peak in March 2022 since its inception in 1990 in particular the rise in global prices of vegetable oil and grain, including wheat, further affecting people in vulnerable situations.

Reaffirming the right of everyone to have access to safe, sufficient, and nutritious food, consistent with the right to adequate food and the fundamental right of everyone to be free from hunger.

Determined to address the global food security crisis on the basis of unity, solidarity and renewed multilateral cooperation, and recognizing the fundamental role of the United Nations system in catalysing and coordinating a comprehensive global response.

Calls upon the international community to urgently support countries affected by the food security crisis through coordinated actions, including the provision of emergency food supplies, food programmes, financial support, and increased and diversified agricultural production, and to promote a universal, rules-based, open, non-discriminatory and equitable multilateral trading system under the World Trade Organization.

Calls upon Member States and other relevant stakeholders to keep food and agriculture supply chains functioning, including capacity for seeding, protecting standing crops, rearing livestock, infrastructure for processing food, and all logistical systems, ensure the continued trade in and movement of food and livestock, products and inputs essential for agricultural and food production to markets, minimize food loss and waste.

Session 4: Comprehensive, just and lasting peace in Ukraine

The General Assembly,

Recalling the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations,

Recalling also the obligation of all States under Article 2 of the Charter of the United Nations to refrain in their international relations from the threat or use of force against the territorial integrity or political independence of any State, or in any other manner inconsistent with the purposes of the United Nations, and to settle their international disputes by peaceful means.

Reaffirming that no territorial acquisition resulting from the threat or use of force shall be recognized as legal.

Stressing, two years into the full-scale invasion of Ukraine, that the achievement of a comprehensive, just and lasting peace would constitute a significant contribution to strengthening international peace and security.

Deploring the dire human rights and humanitarian consequences of the aggression by the Russian Federation against Ukraine, including the continuous attacks against critical infrastructure across Ukraine with

devastating consequences for civilians, and expressing grave concern at the high number of civilian casualties, including women and children, the number of internally displaced persons and refugees in need of humanitarian assistance, and violations and abuses committed against children.

Underscores the need to reach, as soon as possible, a comprehensive, just and lasting peace in Ukraine in line with the principles of the Charter of the United Nations.

Welcomes and expresses strong support for the efforts of the Secretary-General and Member States to promote a comprehensive, just and lasting peace in Ukraine, consistent with the Charter, including the principles of sovereign equality and territorial integrity of States.

Calls upon Member States and international organizations to redouble support for diplomatic efforts to achieve a comprehensive, just and lasting peace in Ukraine, consistent with the Charter.

Reaffirms its commitment to the sovereignty, independence, unity and territorial integrity of Ukraine within its internationally recognized borders, extending to its territorial waters.

Reiterates its demand that the Russian Federation immediately, completely and unconditionally withdraw all of its military forces from the territory of Ukraine within its internationally recognized borders and calls for a cessation of hostilities.

Session 5: Integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences on Education

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the Charter of the United Nations, including the principles and purposes contained therein, and recognizing that human rights, the rule of law and democracy are interlinked and mutually reinforcing and that they belong to the universal and indivisible core values and principles of the United Nations.

Reaffirming also the right of everyone to education, which is enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the Convention on the Rights of the Child, the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities⁵ and other relevant instruments.

Recognizing the importance of equal opportunities for young people, including young women, to be an integral part of decision-making processes and participate in all spheres of life, and reaffirming that lifelong learning is an indispensable means for effective participation in the knowledge societies and economies of the twenty-first century and for promoting inclusive and equitable societies.

Recognizing also the profound and disproportionate negative impact of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic on gender equality and on the realization of the right to education, deeply concerned that the related disproportionate impacts of the unprecedented global school closures, including on equal learning opportunities, have exacerbated pre-existing inequalities between and within countries.

Encourages Member States and national, regional and local education authorities, as appropriate, to further efforts to strengthen, through education, the connections between democratic governance, peace, sustainable development and the promotion of human rights and fundamental freedoms.

Session 6: Protection of civilians and upholding legal and humanitarian operations in Gaza

The General Assembly,

Guided by the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations,

Recalling its relevant resolutions regarding the question of Palestine.

Expressing grave concern at the latest escalation of violence since the 7 October 2023 attack and the grave deterioration of the situation in the region, in particular in the Gaza Strip and the rest of the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and in Israel.

Recalling the need to uphold the principles of distinction, necessity, proportionality and precaution in the conduct of hostilities.

Emphasizing that civilians must be protected, in accordance with international humanitarian law and international human rights law, and deploring in this regard the heavy civilian casualties and widespread destruction.

Calls for an immediate, durable and sustained humanitarian truce leading to a cessation of hostilities.

Demands that all parties immediately and fully comply with their obligations under international law, including international humanitarian law and international human rights law, particularly in regard to the protection of civilians and civilian objects, as well as the protection of humanitarian personnel, persons hors de combat, and humanitarian facilities and assets.

Also demands the immediate, continuous, sufficient and unhindered provision of essential goods and services to civilians throughout the Gaza Strip, including but not limited to water, food, medical supplies, fuel and electricity, stressing the imperative, under international humanitarian law, of ensuring that civilians are not deprived of objects indispensable to their survival.

Calls for the immediate and unconditional release of all civilians who are being illegally held captive, demanding their safety, well-being and humane treatment in compliance with international law.

Emphasizes the importance of preventing further destabilization and escalation of violence in the region, and in this regard calls upon all parties to exercise maximum restraint and upon all those with influence on them to work toward this objective.

Reaffirms that a just and lasting solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict can only be achieved by peaceful means, based on the relevant United Nations resolutions and in accordance with international law, and on the basis of the two-State solution.



MUNA PROCEDURES 2025

PRINCIPLES

The Model United Nations Assembly aims to involve senior secondary students in a hands-on experience of a UN-style conference, with the aim of increasing international understanding and goodwill, which is one of the objects of Rotary. The format is modelled on a session of the main deliberative organ of the United Nations, the General Assembly. However, the need to provide a satisfying experience for participants within the time available demands significant simplification and adaptation of the procedures and scope of the General Assembly. Likewise, the specific considerations applying to holding MUNA at the Museum of Democracy at Old Parliament House over 1½ days, whilst maximising participation amongst 15–20 teams make it likely that procedures will differ from those that may have applied in preliminary events in the run-up to MUNA. The principles that are applied in making the necessary adaptations are:

1. That the Assembly should address only a limited number of the charter functions of the General Assembly¹, viz.,

- to consider and make recommendations on the principles of cooperation in the maintenance of international peace and security, including the principles governing disarmament and arms regulation;
- to discuss any question relating to international peace and security and to make recommendations on it; 2
- to initiate studies and make recommendations to promote international political cooperation, the development and codification of international law, the realization of human rights and fundamental freedoms for all, and international collaboration in economic, social, cultural, educational and health fields;
- to make recommendations for the peaceful settlement of any situation, regardless of origin, which might impair friendly relations among nations.

¹ As detailed on http://www.un.org/ga/58/ga_background.html

- 2. Topics and scope of debate will be limited accordingly.**
- 3. That all delegates to the Assembly should faithfully represent the views and interests of their chosen country, rather than their own opinions;**
- 4. That the rules of debate should, to the extent possible, ensure the maximum number of delegates participate;**
- 5. That, in the interests of ensuring the maximum possible time for substantive debate, opportunities to influence the debate by procedural motions should be strictly limited;**
- 6. That, in an attempt to simulate the importance of real world alliances, the rules of procedure should specifically promote the active involvement of blocs in the business of the Assembly.**

The Rules

The Assembly shall consist of six debating sessions, each lasting for a period of approximately 1 hour and 20 minutes. In principle, one resolution is to be debated in each session. The resolutions proposed for debate at the six sessions have been sent to you and are made available on the MUNA website.

Resolutions for debate, and the order in which they are to be debated, will be determined by a vote of delegates prior to MUNA.

It is not possible to amend resolutions. Delegations are encouraged to negotiate with each other to identify measures that could be adopted in the implementation of a resolution, or other inducements relevant to the resolution, that might encourage the support of other delegations for a particular position.

² It is assumed that no debate is already the subject of a Security Council discussion, and may therefore properly be debated by the Assembly.

³ Of course, the Secretary General will assume in such cases that due consideration has been given to the broader effects of such a move on the peaceful conduct of world affairs and the coherence and stability of the Bloc of which they are a member.

Each team must sponsor or second at least one resolution. Teams may sponsor or second the affirmative or the negative case for a resolution. A sponsoring team will be responsible for:

- determining which of its members speak to the resolution, either for or against;
- negotiating with members of their own and other blocs to build support for their case.

Any delegation retains the right to speak for or against any resolution, regardless of the view that their Bloc may have taken to a particular resolution.³

The Debating Sessions

Blocs shall be seated together and may meet during breaks or communicate by diplomatic note in order to coordinate their approach to the Assembly. Blocs may request a suspension of proceedings prior to the start of debate in order to hold a maximum 5-minute Bloc meeting. The Secretary-General will determine

whether to accede to such requests based on the time available, and her or his decision will be final.

Warnings are to be given 30 seconds before expiry of speaking time for a three-minute speech, and 15 seconds for a one-minute speech. Speakers are to stand in their place to address the Assembly and are to address their remarks to the Secretary-General – for example "Secretary-General, the United States wishes etc."

Designated Speakers

At the commencement of each debating session, the Secretary General will remind the Assembly of the substance of the resolution for debate. She or he will then open the debating session by calling for maximum three-minute speeches from the speakers designated for that resolution, with speaking order passing from proposer to first against, seconder, then second against.

General Debate

The floor is then opened for general debate. Any delegation which has not yet spoken to the resolution may request that the Secretary-General's place them in the speaking order. The Secretary-General will start to accept requests to this effect after the commencement of the debating session (that is, when the Secretary General declares the session open and calls for the first Designated Speaker).

The Secretary-General has absolute discretion to determine the speaking order.

Speakers will be selected in the order in which their request is received by the Secretary General, except where the Secretary General, in her or his absolute discretion, determines that a different speaking order is required in order to ensure that opportunities to participate are equitably allocated across the weekend.

As far as possible, the speaking order will alternate between speakers for and speakers against the resolution. Where insufficient time remains to accommodate all requests to speak, the Secretary-General will determine how many speakers will be permitted to speak from both sides according to the time available and will advise the Assembly.

Each speech in general debate will be limited to three minutes. In addition to their speech, each delegation participating in general debate, **as well as the seconder and second speaker against**, has the right to two replies of a maximum 1-minute duration each, which may be exercised by the delegate rising in their place and being recognised by the Secretary General or by sending a diplomatic note to the Secretary-General. A right of reply can be exercised before a team has made a two minute speech in general debate. **Priority attaching to rights of reply will be at the discretion of the Secretary-General.**

General debate ceases when a time limit is reached, according to the following schedule for each debating session (and always subject to the Secretary-General's absolute right to vary the limit for whatever reason)

Summation

Following the end of general debate, the first speaker against and the proposer in order then have the right to a three-minute summation. When completed, the motion is automatically put to the vote, and the Secretary-General will announce the result, which shall be determined by simple majority. It is permissible for delegations to abstain from voting.

Clarification of information and Points of Order

If delegates wish to clarify points of fact or omission, they can do so during their two opportunities to reply.

No points of order are allowed, except to bring to the attention of the Secretary-General any language, either spoken or contained in diplomatic notes, which is considered inappropriate for the assembly (specifically denigration or anything that might be considered an affront to the religion or traditions of another delegate), or any matter contrary to these procedures.

The Secretary-General has the right to rule against any such language or adjudicate on any procedural issue, whether the object of a point of order or not, and to impose the loss of speaking privileges in general debate for the current resolution, or make a ruling on a procedural point, at the Secretary-General's discretion. In the interests of time, these rulings are absolute, and not subject to challenge.

In the interests of maintaining focus on substance and avoiding situations where a debate may not extend to fill the session, we do not allow motions that the motion be put.

⁴ NB **These times are indicative only and may be changed at any time depending on the final schedule of the Assembly**

⁵ This means any delegation may speak a maximum of six minutes in each Debating Session (the Proposer and the First Speaker Against through their opening speeches and summations (six minutes in total), and other speakers in general debate through their speeches and right of reply – five minutes in total). For this reason, **the Proposer and the First Speaker Against do not have the right to speak during the general debate.**

The Secretary-General will maintain a record of who has spoken and how often, across the weekend, and will attempt to give priority to teams who have done so less often. However, it is up to the delegation to put itself forward to speak.

Determination of Resolutions and Sponsoring of Debates

The resolutions for debate, and the order in which they will be debated, will be determined prior to MUNA by a vote of delegates. Once the resolutions to be debated are determined they will be advised to you. In this way, at the end of Friday evening, if possible, all teams will be guaranteed to speak at least once over the weekend. Delegates will also know which resolution is to be debated in each session, and which delegations are designated speakers.

- Each team will be invited to nominate four of the proposed resolutions to which it wishes to sponsor or second either the affirmative case or the negative case. If a first preference is uncontested, that preference will be granted.
- In case more than one team is seeking to sponsor the same resolution, either for or against, the Secretary-General will endeavour to resolve the sponsoring opportunities based on the other preferences of teams. Decisions of the Secretary-General will be final.
- If there are outstanding opportunities to sponsor a resolution, the Secretary-General will endeavour to resolve these on the Friday evening session before MUNA.

The Secretary General will inform the Assembly of the order of debate on the Friday evening before MUNA.

Teams may negotiate between themselves to swap designated speaking positions, provided always that the Secretary-General is informed of such changes prior to the opening of the debating session concerned.

Appropriate Conduct

Coaching of students on the floor or in their interaction in bloc meetings is not allowed, not only because it is not fair to those who may not be able to benefit from coaching, but also because it overemphasises the 'winning' of the competition at the expense of the learning to be gained by students from their experience of engaging independently in an event such as this. We recognise, however, that increased use of mobile devices of all sorts has made this very difficult to enforce, particularly for a volunteer organisation with limited resources, and have to rely on the honesty of both students and counsellors in supporting this rule.

We would also point out to delegates and counsellors that a delegation that is being coached will not be as involved in what other delegations are saying and so is not likely to be as able to show that they are capable of thinking on their feet as one that is fully engaged in the debate. This is likely to have a negative effect on their debating performance.

Please also note that the regulations at the Museum of Democracy at Old Parliament House allow only one laptop or tablet per team to be brought into the chamber, and that all rules relating to the preservation of the unique heritage value of the House of Representatives chamber must be obeyed.

Some Hints

The rules are established to encourage maximum participation. Any one delegation has a limited amount of time to speak to any one resolution. Your delegation will have maximum impact if you:

1. prepare thoroughly before arriving at MUNA, and
2. coordinate with other members of your bloc during the weekend to ensure all aspects of the argument on a resolution are presented. No single delegation has time to put the entire argument – involving the whole bloc also gives you the chance to respond comprehensively to your opponents' case.

Your preparation should include developing an understanding of opposing viewpoints, so you can anticipate and address these arguments convincingly. Furthermore, your bloc should organise itself so that arguments are put in a coherent, logical fashion, while leaving sufficient flexibility for different bloc members to respond to opposing positions. As in real life, debate is pointless if no one is willing to change their initial position. Think about what you as a delegation, or your bloc, may be able to accept as a compromise or a trade-off in order to reach a decisive vote. Think also about what your opponents may be willing to compromise on. Remember also that even if your delegation is on the same side as another speaker, your position may be based on a different justification, or even be critical of, the other speaker. In other words, you may both support the resolution, but use your speaking opportunity to distinguish your position from other speakers.

Equally, you may support the intent of a resolution, but still argue (and vote) against its form or proposed mechanism.

Although role-playing is strongly encouraged, particularly with regard to presenting the positions and cultures of the nation you represent, it should be constructive and contribute to the success of the debate. It should not become an opportunity for individual grandstanding, particularly where that might detract from the message you wish to transmit on behalf of your country. Show some respect – it might be reciprocated.

There are, of course, real reasons for the differences that exist between national positions. However, the United Nations is founded on the belief that these differences need not inevitably result in conflict, that no culture or nation is destined to cause or seek it. It is your job to find a way to both be faithful to the interests and identity of your nations, and to build peace within the international community.

Preparation

You can never do too much. In addition to building up your general knowledge about your country, and scanning of all sorts of material (not just the web) for information on the specific issues you will debate, you should practice debating the issues within your team. Surprise each other – then work out how you would handle it if it happened at MUNA.

Generally, the Embassy or High Commission of the country you represent will be very happy to assist you in improving your understanding of their national position on the issues, and developing your general knowledge of the country. It is suggested that your team approaches the relevant Embassy or High Commission directly to seek support.

You will likely have only one opportunity to propose or second a resolution or be the first or second speaker against a resolution. These roles give you more speaking time, and the possibility to show leadership within your bloc by coordinating its approach to the debate. It is therefore important that you choose which resolutions you wish to propose, oppose or second, and prepare your tactics and speech. However, this should not mean that your speech should be pre-written for reading out to the Assembly. You must allow some flexibility if you are to work in coordination with your bloc; and a speech that is lively and makes use of opportunities of the moment will have much more impact.



ADJUDICATION OF MUNA DEBATING TEAMS

Participation in MUNA is intended to be a rewarding and educational experience for every team member, and an opportunity for all those taking part to develop their skills as debaters. The sessions are designed to enable each participant to practice public speaking skills, to contribute as a member of a debating team and to learn about the procedures of formal debate in a situation that replicates 'real world' debating as far as possible.

A feature of all debating is that there is no single optimal approach which guarantees 'success'. Debates in democratic institutions of governance are opportunities to persuade others to your point of view. There are many aspects of being persuasive, including credibility of arguments, their logical consistency, fluency and eloquence, teamwork, understanding of the institutional rules of debate, and capacity to find constructive solutions through understanding of the points of view of others, whether they are adversaries or supporters.

Each listener hears every speech, every argument, every speaker from their own unique perspective, and will make judgements about all aspects of what is presented in a debate from that unique perspective. The performance of debaters and debating teams can only be assessed by the exercise of judgements about the overall contribution of each team, including content, presentation and methods of argument.

To ensure a balance of views in the adjudication of the debating in the course of the MUNA weekend, we have amassed an impressive panel of students, architects, lawyers, members of rostrum, government officials, Rotarians and other volunteers.

You will see different adjudicators at each session. Their judgements are combined to obtain a consensus view about which teams produce the best overall debating performances throughout the weekend and which team is most deserving of an encouragement award. Inevitably, some people will have views that are different from the collective consensus view of the adjudicators.

Adjudicators will focus on three primary areas, content, presentation and engagement.

Content

this includes demonstration of research; consistency and a logical development of persuasive arguments; and the recognition of your position vis-a-vis other delegations, and will consider relevance of arguments, depth of research / knowledge, and recognition of other delegates positions.

Presentation

examines clarity / lucidity / presence (engage with delegates rather than your notes or device). It also includes an assessment of the variation in tone and volume to provide emphasis and to capture delegates' attention. Adjudicators will consider lucidity, presence / engagement, and effective use of available time.

Engagement

you need to be in it to win it; adjudicators will examine involvement in the debates and the caucusing with other delegations. Your aim is to advance the prospects of a successful outcome from your country's standpoint in the vote on the resolution. The more you engage the better your prospects.

The adjudicators will also endeavour to provide feedback from time to time during the weekend to add to the learning experience and assist all teams to give of their best throughout the debating sessions.

Time management is also critical – allow time to state your key aims at the outset; expand with clear arguments and conclude with a summary. In all your dealings:

- make the most of your opportunities;
- do your best to represent the position your country would be expected to take;
- remember that a few compelling points made persuasively will advance your position better than a dump of relevant but ill-sequenced arguments; and
- show respect for other delegates, delegations, the institution of the United Nations and the role of the Secretary-General

You will be debating 6 resolutions. Your performance will be assessed for each but time may not allow all delegations to speak to every resolution. Be assured that the way we roll up performances by teams for each resolution recognises this fact. But ensure that you are heard when it is expected.

Experience has shown that the quality of debate improves over the weekend. Adjudicators cannot compensate for this but you can by remaining engaged throughout the proceedings. A strong performance on Sunday can offset teething issues at the start. Listen, learn and benefit.

The Totenhofer Peace Prize is presented each year to the delegation participating in MUNA which makes the best contribution to world peace. We seek to clearly distinguish the Totenhofer Peace Prize from the other debate prizes, which are intended to recognise the

most competent debaters in the debating sessions and are judged according to standard debating criteria.

The Totenhofer Peace Prize is awarded to the team that throughout MUNA has contributed to world peace most consistently throughout the MUNA sessions. The advancement of world peace will be demonstrated through the building of positions which allow the General Assembly to achieve the broadest possible base of support for the resolutions which it debates, or the broadest possible base for rejection of resolutions which are considered inimical to world peace. Delegations can demonstrate their influence in favour of world peace by:

- Displaying negotiating skill in ensuring that the resolutions which are debated are ones which advance world peace, either in their selection or by advancing proposals that resolutions be amended which make them more amenable to a broader number of members;
- Displaying negotiating skill within and between blocs to ensure that the points most likely to generate consensus are put most strongly and are most fully developed;
- Displaying their own skill during debates in advancing and developing such points at a substantive level – less attention will be paid to style of delivery in judging the Totenhofer Peace Prize.

The judging of the Totenhofer Peace Prize will be undertaken across all sessions over the entire weekend.





