



**CREATE
LASTING
IMPACT**



MODEL UNITED NATIONS ASSEMBLY 2026

Facilitated by the Rotary Club of Canberra Sunrise at the
Museum of Australian Democracy
22–23 August 2026

CONTENTS

Participating Schools + States Represented 3

Message from the Rotary Club of Canberra Sunrise 4

Canberra – The Nation's Capital 6

What is MUNA? 8

MUNA Contacts 10

Guest Speakers 11

Keynote Speaker and Program Key 12

Program 13

Session 1 – Resolution 17

Session 2 – Resolution 18

Session 3 – Resolution 19

Session 4 – Resolution 20

Session 5 – Resolution 22

Session 6 – Resolution 23

MUNA Procedures 25

Adjudication of MUNA debating Teams 34

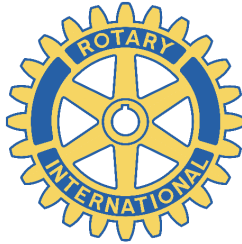
Rotary Club of Canberra Sunrise

Acknowledgements 38

Notes 39

PARTICIPATING SCHOOLS + STATES REPRESENTED

BLOC	SCHOOL	COUNTRY
1. ASIA/ PACIFIC	Erindale College ACT	Indonesia
	Southern Highlands Christian School NSW	China
	Narooma High School NSW	Pakistan
	St Ives High School NSW	South Korea
	Eden Marine High School NSW	Afghanistan
	Lindisfarne Anglican Grammar School NSW	India
2. EUROPE	St Peter's Anglican College Broulee NSW	Netherlands
	St Mary's Cathedral College Sydney NSW	Poland
	Chevalier College NSW	Czech Republic
	Hills Grammar School NSW	Russia
3. MIDDLE EAST	St Mary's Cathedral College Sydney NSW	Saudi Arabia
	Alfred Deakin High School Deakin ACT	United Arab Emirates
	Oxley College NSW	Lebanon
	Hills Grammar School NSW	Egypt
4. DEVELOP- ING NATIONS	Daramalan College ACT	South Africa
	Sacred Heart Girls' College VIC	Cuba
	Winmalee High School NSW	Mexico
	Macarthur Anglican School NSW	South Sudan
5. WESTERN/ OTHER	Carroll College Broulee NSW	New Zealand
	Oakhill College NSW	Israel
	Wadalba Community School NSW	United States of America
	Ulladulla High School NSW	United Kingdom



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) 2026.

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 27th occasion that we have hosted this event here in Canberra at the Museum of Australian Democracy (MoAD). Also known as Old Parliament House, MoAD provides the perfect venue for debating United Nations 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 Parks Canberra Resort.

We wish you all success in your considered positions during the debate and trust you will enjoy the MUNA 2026 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 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 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

McCoy Circuit, Acton ACT

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 sponsoring 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 27th 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 22 – 23 August 2026 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 21 August at the accommodation centre at Discovery Parks 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, and develop the bloc identity and strategies for the debate.

All participants will be presented with a certificate of participation in MUNA 2026. There are also prizes for the teams which are adjudicated to have achieved first, second and third best overall performance. 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

Ainslie Sowden

ROTARY MUNA 2026 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: Laura Telford 0448 909 440

FORMAL DINNER CONTACT (SATURDAY NIGHT 22 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 Strategy and Plans in Air Force Headquarters, responsible for air domain concept development, air power research and analysis and Air Force International Engagement. From 2021–2024, he was posted to the Permanent Mission of Australia to the UN where he held the role of Australia's Military Advisor to the United Nations. 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 Head of Learning and Museum Experience 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 22 AUGUST

JANICE RODRIGUES AUSTRALIA'S 2026 YOUTH REPRESENTATIVE TO THE UNITED NATIONS

Janice (she/her) is a youth and community engagement practitioner, organiser, and racial and gender justice advocate from New South Wales. Drawing on her lived experience as a young woman from South West Sydney, she brings a deep understanding of how place, culture, and access shape opportunity, and is committed to centring the voices of those most often excluded from power and policy conversations.



Janice currently works as a Youth & Community Engagement Officer at Multicultural NSW, where she facilitates and manages the Multicultural Youth Network (MYN), leading youth engagement initiatives and supporting culturally responsive programs that strengthen leadership and participation among young people from multicultural communities. Prior to this, she spent three years as a Youth Program Coordinator at the Western Sydney Migrant Resource Centre, supporting newly arrived refugee and migrant young people through community-led and culturally responsive programs.

Janice brings governance experience as an Advisory Board Member for Multicultural NSW and Management Committee Member at CuriousWorks, a Western Sydney-based arts organisation. An experienced public speaker and media contributor, Janice has appeared on ABC and holds a Bachelor of Politics and International Relations from the University of Sydney.

As Youth Representative, she is committed to ensuring young people are treated as leaders and collaborators, and that youth perspectives meaningfully shape domestic policy and Australia's global engagement.

PRESENTATION OF CERTIFICATES AT CLOSING CEREMONY ON SUNDAY 23 AUGUST

JUDY FORD

Judy Ford is the District Governor of Rotary District 9705 which takes in southern NSW and the ACT. She joined Rotary in 1994 and has spent three decades of service, leadership, and dedication working in leadership roles to support communities. Outside of Rotary, Judy is an accomplished educator, fundraiser and leader. Judy is committed to inspiring clubs to create lasting impact in their communities.



FRIDAY 21 AUGUST 2026

DAY	EVENT	LOCATION	NOTES
1500	Registration Open	DISC	Students arrive
1700	Registration Closes	DISC	
1800	Dinner – Buffet	DISC	
1845	Official Welcome	DISC	Rotary Club of Canberra Sunrise
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 22 AUGUST 2026

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 stored at direction of MoAD staff
0855	VIPs arrive & met by MUNA Convenor	MoAD	Greg Hood AO
0855	All Students assemble inside Chamber	MoAD	Photos Commence

SATURDAY 22 AUGUST (Continuation)

DAY	EVENT	LOCATION	NOTES
0900	Rotary Welcome and Acknowledgement of Country	MoAD	Ainslie Sowden 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 Judy Ford
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
1710	Buses leave MoAD & arrive DISC	MoAD	Students change for dinner

SATURDAY 22 AUGUST OFFICIAL DINNER

DAY	EVENT	LOCATION	NOTES
1830	Students assemble/sit for Official dinner	DISC	
1900	Welcome – Students and Guests (seated)	DISC	Roger Crosthwaite
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	Janice Rodrigues Australia's 2026 Youth Representative to the United Nations
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 23 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 at direction of MoAD staff

SUNDAY 23 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 Judy Ford
1230	Certificate & Prize presentation by Judy Ford	MoAD	Photographs – certificates and prize winners
1255	Closing Remarks	MoAD	President Ainslie Sowden
1300	MUNA 2026 is officially closed		Mr. Greg Hood AO All depart-own arrangements

PROGRAM KEY

- DISC – Discovery Parks 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 2026 RESOLUTIONS

Resolution 1. 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, nondiscriminatory 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.

Resolution 2. The role and importance of a policy of neutrality in maintaining and strengthening international peace, security and sustainable development

The General Assembly,

Guided by the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, Commemorating the eightieth anniversary of the United Nations, and recognizing the urgent need to promote and strengthen multilateralism and that the United Nations plays a central role in this regard,

Noting the relevant resolutions of the Council of Foreign Ministers of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation that underscore the role of a policy of neutrality in maintaining and strengthening international peace, security and sustainable development,

Underlining that the national policies of neutrality of some States, without prejudice to the rights and obligations of States under the Charter of the United Nations, can contribute to the strengthening of international peace and security in relevant regions and at the global level and can play an important role in developing peaceful, friendly and mutually beneficial relations between the countries of the world,

Recognizing that such national policies of neutrality are aimed at promoting the use of preventive diplomacy, including through the prevention of conflict, mediation, good offices, negotiation, the use of special envoys, informal consultations, peacebuilding and targeted development activities,

Recognizing also the positive role that neutral countries could play in the provision and delivery of humanitarian assistance in situations of complex emergencies and natural disasters,

Underlining that policies of neutrality can contribute to fostering peace and security, and to strengthening subregional, regional and international cooperation and interconnectivity, including in economic, social and humanitarian areas,

1. Recognizes that neutrality, without prejudice to the rights and obligations of States under the Charter of the United Nations, can reflect a principled commitment to conflict prevention through impartiality, good offices, mediation and confidence building, while maintaining constructive engagement with all parties in the interest of international peace and security;
2. Invites the Secretary-General to cooperate closely with neutral States, with a view to implementing the principles of preventive diplomacy and using those principles in their mediation activities;
3. Recommends to all Member States, organizations of the United Nations system and other international, regional and subregional organizations the use of the full potential of neutral States and mediation in the peaceful settlement of disputes, conflict prevention and resolution in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations;
4. Encourages the effective use of the territories of neutral countries for hosting peace talks and conflict resolution and settlement processes, including through the establishment of dedicated mediation facilities, and notes the proposal of Turkmenistan to set up on its territory the Peace Mediation Chamber, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations, without prejudice to existing United Nations mandates;
5. Reiterates the request to the Secretary-General to develop, within existing resources, under the leadership of all States Members of the United Nations, guidance for upholding and implementing the principles of neutrality for peace and security, with a specific focus on consolidating lessons learned and key principles for the effective application of neutrality in international relations.

Resolution 3. 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.

Resolution 4. Promoting interreligious and intercultural dialogue and tolerance in countering hate speech

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the commitment made by all Member States under the Charter of the United Nations to promote and encourage universal respect for and observance of all human rights and fundamental freedoms without distinction as to, inter alia, religion or belief, Recalling also that discrimination against human beings on the basis of religion or belief constitutes an affront to human dignity and undermines the enjoyment of the human rights and fundamental freedoms proclaimed in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and enunciated in detail in the International Covenants on Human Rights,

Recalling the importance of committing to advance equitable and inclusive approaches to harnessing artificial intelligence benefits and mitigating risks from the spread of hate speech, misinformation and disinformation,

Reaffirming the positive role that the exercise of the right to freedom of opinion and expression can play in strengthening democracy and combating religious intolerance, and reaffirming further that the exercise of the right to freedom of expression carries with it special duties and responsibilities,

Strongly deploring all acts of violence against persons on the basis of their religion or belief, as well as any such acts directed against their religious symbols, holy books, homes, businesses, properties, schools, cultural centres or places of worship,

Highlighting the global concerns about the exponential spread and proliferation of hate speech, disinformation and misinformation, particularly on social media platforms and using artificial intelligence, thereby increasing the need for the dissemination of factual, timely, targeted, clear, accessible, multilingual, accurate and science-based information,

1. Recognizes the importance of interreligious and intercultural dialogue and its valuable contribution to promoting social cohesion, peace and development,
2. Recognizes that there is no universally agreed definition of hate speech, and in this regard stresses the importance of working on an agreed definition of hate speech that can help in countering it, in accordance with international law;
3. Condemns any advocacy of hatred that constitutes incitement to discrimination, hostility or violence, whether it involves the use of print, audiovisual or electronic media, social media or any other means;
4. Expresses its concern that incidents of racial and religious intolerance, discrimination and related violence, as well as of negative racial and religious stereotyping, continue to rise around the world,
5. Emphasizes that freedom of religion or belief, freedom of opinion and expression, the right to peaceful assembly and the right to freedom of association are interdependent, interrelated and mutually reinforcing, and stresses the role that these rights can play in the fight against all forms of intolerance and of discrimination based on religion or belief;
6. Urges Member States to refrain from creating or disseminating false or misleading information, as well as from conducting or sponsoring domestic or information operations that wilfully spread hate speech,
7. Also calls upon digital technology companies and developers to continue to develop solutions and publicly communicate actions to counter potential harms, including hate speech, bias and discrimination, from artificial intelligence-enabled content,
8. Urges Member States and social media companies to take active measures to counter hate speech and address its increasing spread,
9. Invites Member States and other relevant stakeholders to counter hate speech and disinformation directed at migrants, refugees, and stateless and displaced persons, including in digital spaces, by promoting intercultural dialogue, inclusive education and public awareness campaigns that highlight the positive contributions of migrants to host societies,

10. Calls upon Member States, who have the primary responsibility to counter discrimination and hate speech, and all relevant actors, including political and religious leaders, to promote inclusion, unity, tolerance and mutual respect and to speak out and take strong action against racism, xenophobia, hate speech, violence and discrimination.

Resolution 5. Education for Democracy

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming 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 Disabilities and other relevant instruments,

Acknowledging the importance of taking measures to ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promoting lifelong learning opportunities for all, including expanded opportunities for all children, particularly girls, to access quality education,

Reaffirming that democracy is a universal value based on the freely expressed will of people to determine their own political, economic, social and cultural systems and their full participation in all aspects of their lives, Recognizing that education for democracy nurtures responsible and active learners, capable of contributing effectively to peace and prosperity in their societies and beyond,

Recognizing that, while democracies share common features, there is no single model of democracy and that democracy does not belong to any country or region, Recognizing that education contributes to the strengthening of democracy, good governance and the rule of law at all levels, the reduction of economic inequality, the realization of human rights, gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls, the development of human potential, the eradication of poverty and the fostering of greater understanding among peoples,

1. Reaffirms the fundamental link between democratic governance, peace, development and the promotion and protection of all human rights and fundamental freedoms, which are interdependent and mutually reinforcing;
2. Strongly encourages Member States to integrate education for democracy, along with civic education, human rights education, education for peace and education for sustainable development into their education standards and to develop and strengthen programmes aimed at the promotion and consolidation of democratic values and democratic governance and human rights,
3. Encourages Member States and national, regional and local education authorities to further efforts to strengthen, through education, the connections between democratic governance, peace, sustainable development and the promotion of human rights and fundamental freedoms;
4. Calls upon Member States to continue to increase investment in accessible, safe, inclusive and equitable quality education and lifelong learning for all to advance the prospects of future generations and foster the building of peaceful, just, democratic and sustainable societies;
5. Also calls upon Member States to take steps to close the digital divides between and within countries, including the rural urban, youth-older persons and gender digital divides, and strengthen and adopt measures and mechanisms to ethically and responsibly harness the potential of digital technologies, including artificial intelligence, to advance education for democracy while promoting digital inclusion by addressing the challenges associated with access, affordability, digital literacy and digital skills.

Resolution 6. Support for lasting peace in Ukraine

The General Assembly,

Noting with concern that the full-scale invasion of Ukraine by the Russian Federation has persisted for four years and continues to have devastating and long-lasting consequences for Ukraine and for regional and global stability,

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

Expressing grave concern at the continued and intensified attacks by the Russian Federation against civilians, civilian objects and critical energy infrastructure, and the grave deterioration of the humanitarian situation, Welcoming the efforts of the United States of America, European countries and other Member States aimed at ending the war,

1. Calls for an immediate, full and unconditional ceasefire between the Russian Federation and Ukraine;
2. Reiterates its call for a comprehensive, just and lasting peace in line with international law, including the Charter of the United Nations;
3. Also reiterates its call for the complete exchange of prisoners of war, the release of all unlawfully detained persons, and the return of all internees and of civilians forcibly transferred or deported, including children, as a significant confidencebuilding measure;
4. 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.

MUNA PROCEDURES 2026

PRINCIPLES

The MUNA 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 around 20 – 22 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.

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. (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. 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 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 one reply of a maximum 1-minute duration, 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 three 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 opportunity 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, 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 areas, content, presentation and engagement.

Content

this includes evidence of research; demonstration of 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.



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

MUNA is the flagship of the Rotary Club of Canberra Sunrise and is now in its 27th year.

We greatly appreciate and extend our thanks to other Rotary Districts and Clubs for their contributions to MUNA 2026, whether that be as a sponsor of a school team, or through assistance organising and staffing the event.

We are also indebted to the large number of other volunteers and organisations without whom we could not have hosted MUNA 2026.

Rotary Districts and Clubs

District 9660 (A large portion of northern NSW, from Newcastle and Lake Macquarie, to the western areas such as Dubbo, Cobar, and Bourke; up to Lightning Ridge, and across to Moree, Inverall, Glen Innes, then onto Woolgoolga, and back along the East Coast to Newcastle)

District 9675 (Southern Sydney, the Illawarra, and the Southern Highlands)

District 9800 (Melbourne metropolitan area, extending north-west toward Bendigo and up to Echuca Moama on the Murray).

District 9685 (Northern Sydney, stretching from the Blue Mountains to the Central Coast and the northern beaches).

District 9640 (Grafton NSW up through the Gold Coast to Goondiwindi QLD).

District 9705

Rotary Club of Aurora Gungahlin
Rotary Club of Batemans Bay
Rotary Club of Bega
Rotary Club of Bowral-Mittagong
Rotary Club of Bungendore
Rotary Club of Canberra Burley Griffin
Rotary Club of Canberra
Rotary Club of Canberra Sundowners
Rotary Club of Canberra Weston Creek
Rotary Club of Moruya
Rotary Club of Canberra Murrumbidgee
Rotary Club of Narooma
Rotary Club of Tuggeranong
Rotary Club of Woden Daybreak
Rotaract Club of Canberra

Organisations and Volunteers

Museum of Australian Democracy
Restaurant Associates
Discovery Park – Canberra
Secretarys-General
Adjudicators
Diplomatic Note Runners
Toastmasters
Rostrum

Blank pages for recording the contact details of friends you may have made at MUNA 2026





