



American Model United Nations Conference Preparation Newsletter

02 October 2018

Security Council Updates

Information for Contemporary and Historical SC Participants

Greetings from the AMUN Secretariat. This email contains important information for participants in any of AMUN's Security Council simulations.

Contemporary Security Council Situation Reports

In preparation for Conference, the Simulations Staff for the Contemporary Security Council will be posting short situation reports, or updates, to the topics featured in the *Issues at AMUN* Security Council chapter. The situation reports will be posted to the [Security Council](#) chapter of the online *Issues at AMUN* handbook, listed directly under the Security Council heading at the top of the page. They will be posted on a regular basis, so please check the page occasionally.

A Commitment to Realism in the Security Councils

For AMUN, our conference isn't just fun, or a way to share our love of the United Nations, it's first and foremost an Educational Experience for all of our Conference attendees. The key to any educational simulation? Realism. Maintaining realism during a simulation is challenging, but nowhere more so than the Security Council. In the Security Council we have to balance our educational goals with the immediate impact on the simulation that actions taken by Member States have.

To avoid frustration, we strongly encourage all Security Council participants to read [Why Realism Is Important: The Goals Of AMUN's Security Council Simulations](#) and understand AMUN philosophies and goals behind running a Security Council simulation.

Understanding the Veto: The Power of the P5

One key difference between the Security Council and other UN bodies? The veto. Understanding the dynamics of the veto and how to work successfully in a room where one nay vote can change the

course of discussions is key to successfully navigating the UN Security Council. Read about the dynamics of the veto power in our *AMUN Accords* post, [Understanding the Security Council Veto](#).

Tips to Researching

Part of the fun of being on the Security Council is how intense the debates get. The smaller membership size and the complicated topics make for engaging, and sometimes heated, discussions. The best way to be prepared to participate is to have your research done. If you're new to being on a Security Council, or more importantly, new to Model UN in general, here are some [key research tips](#):

1. **Read the Conference Materials** - AMUN provides topic briefs for all our simulations and the Security Council is no different. Find the Security Council topic briefs in our [Issues at AMUN](#) handbook.
2. **Understand how the United Nations Works** - Specifically, how the [Security Council](#) works, but having a deep understanding of the [UN Charter](#) and [Principal Organs](#) is also very helpful.
3. **Know Your Country** - You should, at a minimum know and understand the basic contours of your country's population, geography, social and cultural structure, alliances and trade partners, and governmental system. Most helpful tools? The UN's [World Statistics Pocketbook](#), the BBC's [Country Profiles](#) and the United State's [World Factbook](#).
4. **Do a Deep Dive on the Topics** - In the case of the Security Council, you should be intimately familiar with the topics outlined in the *Issues at AMUN* handbook and also be well abreast of the current events (or the historical events leading up to the Council start date).
5. **Make a Conference Game Plan** - In other United Nations bodies, representatives usually work in smaller groups to write resolutions that address the issues, and these resolutions and the ideas they represent are then debated. In the Security Council, representatives debate the issue and negotiate agreements, then formalize those agreements through written resolutions. Make sure your game plan focuses on negotiations with other representatives. Know who has similar needs and wants and who approaches the issues differently than you. Know what you can compromise on and what you can't.

Questions, Comments or Concerns?

If you have any questions about this email, please contact us directly at mail@amun.org and we will be happy to help. As always, if you are no longer the primary contact for your school's model UN club or class, please contact us at mail@amun.org with updated contact information or fill out our [Change of Address/Contact](#) form online.

Good Luck on Your Preparations,

Nia Indelicato
2018 Secretary-General

Shannon L. Dunn
AMUN Executive Director

Follow us on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) for Conference updates and
United Nations News and Content.



Copyright © 2018 by American Model United Nations International, 1212 N. Columbian Avenue, Oak Park, IL 60302. Contact us by phone at 1.773.777.2682 or by fax at 1.877.220.6755. All rights reserved. To Unsubscribe from these emails at any time, please click [here](#).