

AMUN Conference Preparation Newsletter

22–25 November 2025 20 September 2025

Accessibility, Professionalism and the AMUN Way

Greetings from the AMUN Secretariat. At AMUN, we believe that diplomacy is more than debate. It's about creating an inclusive, respectful and engaging environment for every participant. In this message, we're highlighting how accessibility, professionalism and our unique debate style help make that possible.

Accessibility and Accommodations at AMUN

The AMUN Secretariat wants to ensure that all Conference attendees are able to enjoy the conference and participate fully in their simulations. If any member of your delegation requires any accommodations or modifications to get the most out of the AMUN experience, please contact us at mail@amun.org as soon as possible so we can discuss appropriate arrangements. Additionally, you may speak to us once the Conference has started by visiting the Executive Office in the Ohio Room on Level 2 of the Sheraton.

Read more about AMUN's commitment to accessibility on the <u>AMUN For All of Us</u> page of our website.

Diplomatic Courtesy: Professionalism in Action

At the United Nations, decorum and respect are assumed among trained, professional diplomats, so they are not codified in a specific rule. At AMUN, however, we enshrine this principle in **Rule 2.2** of the <u>Rules of Procedure</u> to underscore the importance of diplomacy, professionalism, and mutual respect throughout the Conference.

Whether in person, in writing or online, all representatives and attendees are expected to conduct themselves as the finest diplomats would—showing courtesy and respect to fellow delegates, hotel staff, faculty advisors and the AMUN Secretariat. Just as you would expect from interactions with professional diplomats or heads of state, this standard applies in every conference setting.

Maintaining this environment is a shared responsibility. AMUN can set expectations, but creating a respectful, harassment-free and productive space depends on the active participation of every attendee. We ask that professors and club leaders take time to

prepare students for diplomatically-courteous behavior before arriving.

For more details on Rule 2.2, see the <u>AMUN Handbook</u> or read <u>Diplomatic Courtesy 101</u> on the <u>AMUN Accords</u>. Your partnership helps ensure a welcoming and collaborative conference experience for all.

Why AMUN Doesn't Use A Speakers List

AMUN does not use a speakers list during the Conference—a departure from United Nations practice, where they are standard in all committees, councils and plenary sessions. We have made this choice for several reasons:

- **Time constraints.** At the United Nations, hearing from every Member State and Observer can take days, much longer than the entire four-day AMUN Conference.
- **Educational value.** Traditional speakers lists allow for prepared statements but little questioning or debate. This limits opportunities for extemporaneous speaking, defending ideas, and responding to unexpected challenges.
- **Model UN dynamics.** In Model UN, formal debate functions more like informal caucusing at the United Nations in New York. That's essential, because UN resolutions often present months of work by large staffs, while AMUN representatives must produce resolutions in just three days. A more interactive, back-and-forth debate style helps students meet that challenge.

For more on AMUN's approach, see Where's the Speakers List?! on the AMUN Accords.

Spots Still Available in Specialized Simulations!

There are still openings for students to participate in AMUN's specialized conference simulations: the <u>International Court of Justice</u> (ICJ), <u>International Press Delegation</u> (IPD) and <u>Historical Commission of Inquiry</u> (COI).

- Have students interested in law? Encourage them to apply for <u>ICJ</u>, where they'll analyze real-world legal disputes in a dynamic courtroom setting.
- Know students who love to write or are considering a career in journalism? IPD
 offers them a unique chance to report on events as they unfold during the
 Conference—and get their work published in the AMUN Chronicle!
- For students drawn to history and in-depth research, <u>COI</u> 2005 offers a rich, investigative simulation exploring a pivotal year in international affairs.

These simulations have limited space and fill quickly—be sure your students take advantage of these unique opportunities!

Please note that only one participant per school will be accepted for the ICJ and COI simulations.

Questions, Comments or Concerns?

If you have any questions about this email, please reach out to us at mail@amun.org— we're happy to help!

If you are no longer the primary contact for your school's Model UN program, please send updated information to mail@amun.org or complete our Change of Address/Contact form.

Best of luck with your preparations,

Tessa Schutt Secretary-General

Alexandra Middlewood

Executive Director

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