



AMUN Conference Preparation Newsletter

22–25 November 2025

10 September 2025

Prepping for the Security Council

Greetings from the AMUN Secretariat. While this update is geared towards students in our Security Council simulations, it also includes details that may be relevant for delegations called as Parties to the Dispute.

In this communication, you'll find:

- Details on upcoming situation reports for the Contemporary Security Councils
- AMUN's approach to maintaining realism in the simulations
- Guidance for working effectively with—and around—the P5 veto
- Research strategies to strengthen your preparation

We're thrilled about what's already shaping up to be another fantastic conference—with two simultaneous Contemporary Security Councils for the first time ever—and we look forward to welcoming you this November!

Updates to the Contemporary Security Councils Briefs

In preparation for the Conference, the Contemporary Security Councils Simulations Staff will post short situation reports—topic updates—in the [Security Council](#) sections of the [AMUN Handbook](#). These updates will appear directly under the Security Council heading at the top of the page and will be posted regularly, so we encourage you to check back often.

The first 2025 update—covering Threats to International Peace and Security—will be available at the end of September. New updates will also be emailed out as conference alerts as they are released.

Commitment to Realism in the Security Councils

At AMUN, our Conference is more than just a fun celebration of the United Nations—it's first and foremost an educational experience for every participant. The foundation of any strong educational simulation is realism. Maintaining that realism can be challenging, especially in the Security Councils, where we must balance our educational goals with the immediate impact of Member States' actions on the simulations.

To help ensure a smooth experience, we strongly encourage all Security Council participants to read our *AMUN Accords* post, [Why Realism Is Important: The Goals Of AMUN's Security Council Simulations](#), and familiarize themselves with AMUN's philosophy and objectives for Security Council work.

Understanding the Veto

One of the defining features of the Security Council—and a key difference from other UN bodies—is the veto power held by its five permanent members. A single “no” vote from any of these members stops a resolution in its tracks, regardless of majority support. This dynamic shapes every debate, negotiation and alliance within the Council.

Successful delegates understand not only the rules surrounding the veto but also how to work within its constraints: building consensus, seeking compromise and finding creative solutions that can win the support—or at least the abstention—of all permanent members. For a deeper dive into how the veto works and strategies for navigating it, read our *Accords* post, [Understanding the Security Council Veto](#).

Research Tips

One of the most exciting parts of serving on the Security Council is the depth and intensity of its debates. With fewer members and complex, high-stakes topics, discussions are often lively and sometimes heated. The best way to hold your own in the room is to come prepared. Solid research is essential.

If you're new to AMUN's Security Council—or especially if you're new to Model UN altogether—here are some [key tips](#) to guide your preparation:

- 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 [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. The most helpful tools? The UN's [World Statistics Pocketbook](#), the BBC's [Country Profiles](#) and the CIA'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 [AMUN Handbook](#) and also be well

abreast of the current events (or the historical events leading up to the Council's 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 issues and negotiate agreements, then formalize those agreements through written resolutions. Make sure your game plan focuses on negotiations with other representatives and involved parties. 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 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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