Florence Model United Nations

Conference Guide

Organized by the International School of Florence

FloMUN promotes diplomacy, democracy, and diversity to further inspire critical-thinking in young minds through the use of global education.

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INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL OF FLORENCE

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Conference Schedule

The Schedule for the conference can be found here.

Preparation for the Conference

Conference Preparatory Work

In preparation for the Conference, each delegate must

a. Extensively research their
    i. Committee,
    ii. Country,
    iii. Topics,
b. Prepare one clause per topic (total of two clauses) and submit them via the form provided in the Committees and Topics part of the Conference Guide by ....

Clause by Clause Debate

FloMUN will mainly hold a clause by clause debate, which means each clause is individually debated and voted on, and if passed to the resolution, each resolution (one resolution per topic) will also be debated and voted on.

Resolution by Resolution Debate

Some committees of FloMUN, like Security Council, Historical Security Council, and Council of European Union, will hold a resolution by resolution debate: instead of presenting singular clauses of their own, each delegate will have to merge their own clauses and/or resolution with others in order to provide a range of full resolutions in the house that are signed by multiple delegates. These are then debated and voted on individually, which means that there may be more than one passed resolution per topic.

Committees and Topics

1. Human Rights Committee

Submit clauses here

Topic 1: The issue of global access for women's health, including universal abortion rights
Topic 2: Discussing the issue of war refugees and humanitarian corridors in the Israeli-Palestinian situation.

2. ECOSOC Committee

Submit clauses here

Topic 1: The issue of human capital flight
Topic 2: Discussing the issue of grain supply during the Russian-Ukrainian situation.

3. SPECPOL - Political Committee

Submit clauses here

Topic 1: Resolving the situation in the region of Nagorno-Karabakh
Topic 2: Dealing with the surge of coups in Gabon.

4. Council of the European Union

Submit clauses here

Topic 1: Re-homing forcefully displaced people into EU countries from Morocco
Topic 2: The acceptance of Ukraine in the EU.

5. Security Council

Submit clauses here

Topic 1: Solving concerns around the corruption in Haiti
Topic 2: The issue of the Israeli-Palestinian situation.

6. Environmental Committee

Submit clauses here

Topic 1: Combatting ocean acidification as a result of high levels of carbon dioxide emissions
Topic 2: Discussing the environmental and health impacts from the overuse of chemical fertilizers.

7. Disarmament and International Security Committee (DISEC)

Submit clauses here

Topic 1: The issue of the development of advanced missile and AI weapon systems
Topic 2: Reaching land and water demilitarization in Yemen.

8. Social, Humanitarian & Cultural Committee (SOCHUM)

Submit clauses here

Topic 1: The issue of the lack of subsistence and property rights of indigenous groups in Australia
Topic 2: Evaluation of humanitarian aid towards civilians in Syria.

9. Historical Security Council

Submit clauses here

Topic 1: The issue of US involvement in the Vietnam war
Topic 2: The Cambodian genocide and the Khmer Rouge (1978 to 1985).

10. Camera dei Deputati

Submit clauses here

Topic 1: Risolvere i casi di stupro minorile nel sud-Italia
Topic 2: Opinione pubblica sul tema degli omosessuali.

General Debate Procedure

Pre-debate

Roll call

Ice breakers

Opening speeches

Lobbying

The delegates are split into groups according to their standpoint on the topic, this is done to discuss the topic and improve each other's clauses.

Opportunity to merge clauses and submit final clauses to the chair with two signatories and/or co-submitters. However, each delegate can only sign 2 clauses per topic.

Debate Procedure

Clause is presented

Speech by main submitter

Point of Informations to the main submitter

Open debate: speeches or amendments

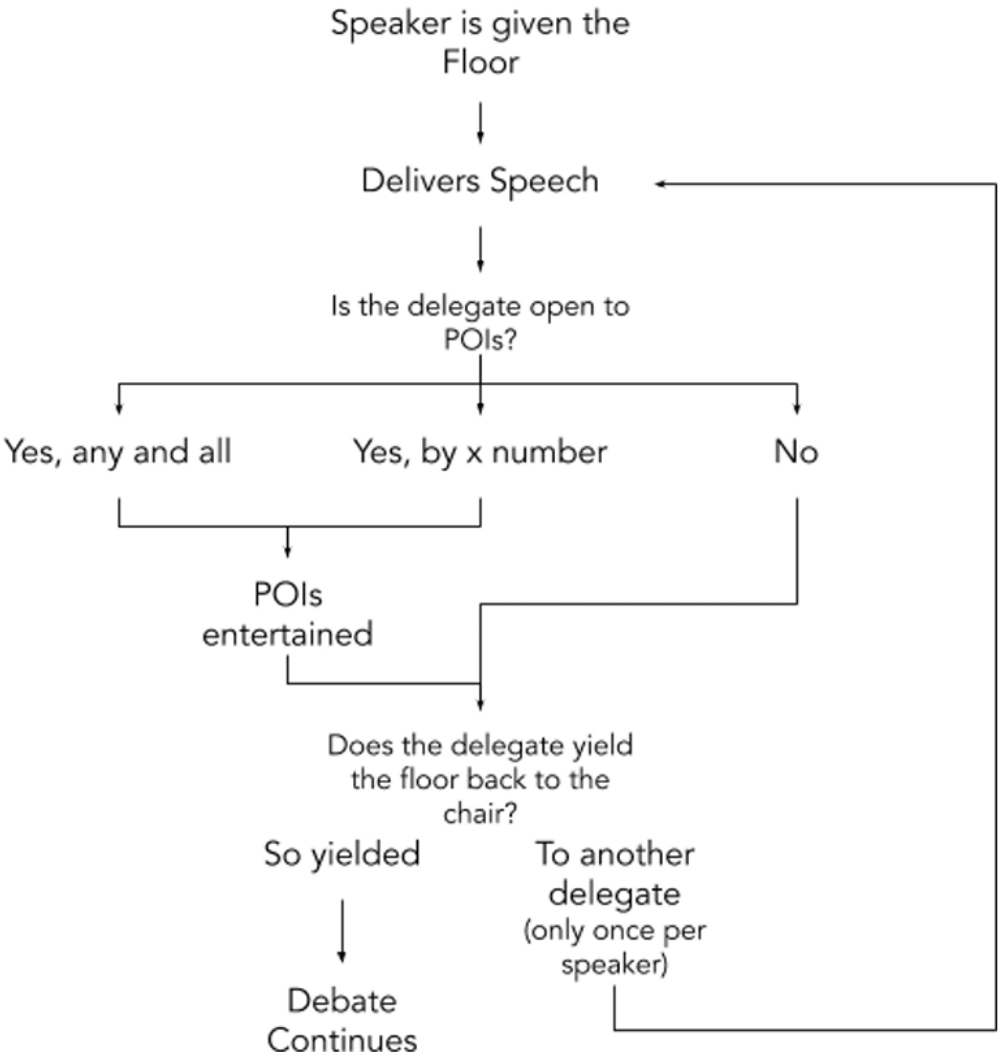
Time in favor of the clause: speeches by delegates

Time against the clause: speeches by delegates

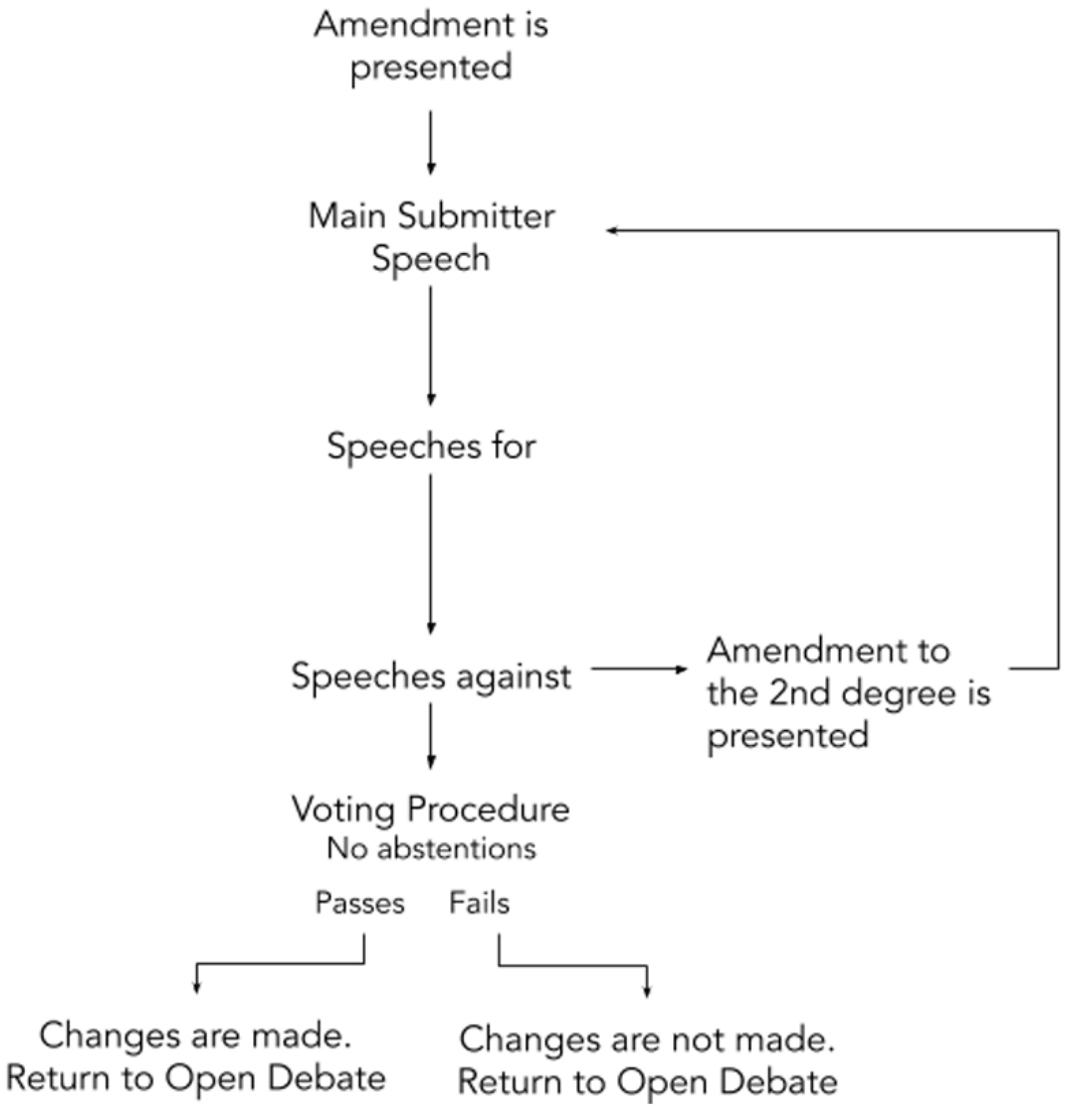
Time to vote in favor of the clause

Time to vote against the clause

Speeches


Speaker is given the Floor
Delivers Speech
Is the delegate open to POIs?
Yes, any and all
Yes, by x number
No
POIs entertained
Does the delegate yield the floor back to the chair?
So yielded
To another delegate
(only once per speaker)
Debate Continues

Amendments


Amendment is presented
Main Submitter Speech
Speeches for
Speeches against
Amendment to the 2nd degree is presented
Voting Procedure
No abstentions
Passes
Fails
Changes are made. Return to Open Debate
Changes are not made. Return to Open Debate

Security Council and Historical Security Council Debate Procedure…

In the Security Council, each delegate represents the head of state/government of their nation and therefore can be referred to as their name (e.g. Italy: Giorgia Meloni) and personal pronouns are permitted.

In order to pass clauses and resolutions, 9 out of the 15 countries must vote in favor of the topic.

However, if any of the following states vote against, the draft fails to pass:

- China;
- France;
- Russian Federation (USSR in Historical Security Council);
- United Kingdom;
- United States of America.

Such a procedure is known as "issuing a veto". Note that such a procedure does not occur if the previously mentioned countries abstain from voting.

Procedure for issuing a veto:

1. Announce the veto as a speech against, followed by,
    a. Consultation of the Whole: (if approved by chairs) means that this motion must be accepted by the Chair before being put to a vote. It will pass with a simple majority (50%) of delegates, and the motion must include a topic and time limit (no more than 10 minutes). During this time, delegates must stay in their seats. The delegate who called the motion will be the first speaker, and after talking they may select the next speaker. The floor must pass to at least two other people before a delegate is permitted to speak again. At the Chair's discretion, a Consultation of the Whole may be ended early,
    b. Amendments.

If the country issuing the veto is satisfied, the veto will be resolved.

CoEU Debate Procedure…

In the Council of the European Union, each delegate represents the head of state/government of their nation and therefore they can be referred to as their name (e.g. Italy: Giorgia Meloni) and personal pronouns are permitted.

A 55% majority is needed to pass clauses and resolutions, however if four nations vote against, it fails to pass.

Procedure for issuing a four-country veto:

1. Announce the veto as a speech against, followed by,
    a. Consultation of the Whole: (if approved by chairs) means that this motion must be accepted by the Chair before being put to a vote. It will pass with a simple majority (50%) of delegates, and the motion must include a topic and time limit (no more than 10 minutes). During this time, delegates must stay in their seats. The delegate who called the motion will be the first speaker, and after talking they may select the next speaker. The floor must pass to at least two other people before a delegate is permitted to speak again. At the Chair's discretion, a Consultation of the Whole may be ended early,
    b. Amendments,

This procedure will cause the veto to be resolved.

Camera dei Deputati - Procedura…

Questa è la prima volta nella storia di FloMUN in cui viene introdotta la Camera dei Deputati. All'interno di questa istituzione, i partecipanti potranno discutere e risolvere problemi italiani che incidono sul Paese con la prospettiva dei Gruppi Parlamentari della Camera.

La Camera è, in molti modi, simile ai diversi apparati di MUN, ma essa contiene diverse regole aggiuntive:

- Discussione:
    a. Disegno (in generale):
        - Esposizione dei punti di vista dei vari gruppi parlamentari;
        - Esposizione di deputati che hanno posizioni dissenzienti rispetto a quelle dei propri Gruppi;
    b. Ciascuno articoli del disegno;
        - Discorsi, emendamenti e votazioni per ogni articolo;
    c. Disegno
        - Discorsi, emendamenti e votazioni per il disegno definitivo.
- Ciascuno Gruppo è composto dai diversi deputati e da un Presidente, il cui ruolo è più importante;
- Dopo aver richiamata l'oratore due volte a concludere, il presidente toglie la parola;
- A differenza di MUN, vi si presentano discorso contrari e poi a favore in quest'ordine;
- Se un deputato viene intaccato nella propria condotta o si sente attribuire opinioni contrarie a quelle espresse, ciò viene inteso come fatto personale e il deputato può chiedere la parola e indicare in che consiste il fatto personale;
- In qualunque occasione siano discussi provvedimenti adottati da Governi precedenti, i deputati che erano appartenenti a questi Governi hanno il diritto di ottenere la parola al termine della discussione;
- Ciascun deputato può parlare una sola volta nella stessa discussione, tranne che per dichiarazioni e richiami;
- I deputati possono chiedere al Gruppo al Governo di rispondere su questioni determinate agli obiettivi dei disegni del Governo stesso, e questo gruppo parlamentare può rispondere immediatamente, chiedere di differire la risposta al momento della replica, o dichiarare di non poter rispondere e indicare il motivo;
- Qualora siano stati presentati una pluralità di emendamenti, subemendamenti o articoli aggiuntivi tra loro differenti solo a scalare di cifre, dati o espressioni

altrimenti graduate, il Presidente pone in votazione quello che più si allontana dal testo originario e un numero determinato di emendamenti intermedi sino a quello più vicino al testo originario, dichiarando assorbiti gli altri;

- Il Presidente può porre in votazione gli emendamenti, gli articoli aggiuntivi e i subemendamenti presentati da deputati dissenzienti dai rispettivi Gruppi in caso la rilevanza venga riconosciuta;
- Chi ritira un emendamento ha il diritto di esporre la ragione per non più di 30 secondi. Un emendamento ritirato dal proponente può accadere solo da 2 deputati o dal presidente di gruppo;
- Qualora vi siano presentati più emendamenti per uno stesso testo, essi vengono presentati in quest'ordine:
    a. Interamente soppressivi;
    b. Parzialmente soppressivi;
    c. Modificativi;
    d. Aggiuntivi;
- Qualora la commissione voglia presentare subemendamenti, vi sono richiesti almeno 3 deputati totali (separati o congiunti) o un presidente di Gruppi.
- Ciascun relatore di minoranza, invece, può presentare un solo subemendamento per ogni emendamento o articolo aggiuntivo;
- Quando il testo da mettere ai voti sia suscettibile di essere distinto in più parti aventi ciascuna un proprio significato logico e un valore normativo, può essere richiesta la votazione per parti separate;
- Se vengono presentati emendamenti o articoli aggiuntivi che non sono legati all'argomento in discussione, il Presidente considera tali inammissibili;
- Alla fine della votazione, i deputati hanno la facoltà di esprimere la spiegazione del proprio voto per non più di 30 secondi;
- Ciascun Gruppo deve presentare e porre in votazione almeno un emendamento.

Motions and points:

- Point of Information →
- Point of Order →
- Point of Parliamentary Inquiry →
- Point of Personal Privilege →
- Motion to Follow Up →
- Motion to Rephrase Point of Information →
- Motion to Introduce an Amendment →
- Motion for Unmoderated Caucus →
- Motion to Move into Close Debate →
- Motion to Move into Voting Procedure →
- Motion to Divide the House →
- Right to Reply → Fatto personale

Rules of Debate

Point of Information

This point is used for a delegate to ask a question directed to the speaker related to the speech just given. It may only be raised after the Chair announces the speaker is "open to points of information." Delegates wishing to make a point must raise their placard at this time and wait for the Chair to call on them. The Chair will firstly call all the delegates selected to make a point, and then each chosen delegate must raise and state their point, in the order in which they were called.

Point of Order / Point of Parliamentary Inquiry

This point may be raised when no one is speaking, and pertains to the conduct of delegates. It should be raised only when a delegate is out of order, or when there is an error in parliamentary procedure.

Point of Personal Privilege

This is the only point that can interrupt a delegate. It is raised when a delegate has a question about room conditions or health, or when a delegate cannot hear a speaker.

Motion to Follow Up

This motion can be entertained only after a delegate has posed a point of information to a speaker, received an answer, and wishes to clarify or extend his or her point of information. It must follow the same delegate's Point of Information and the speaker is given a chance to respond. It requires no second, however it can be rejected by the speaker and must be approved by the Chair.

Motion to Rephrase Point of Information

This motion can be entertained by a speaker after having received a point of information from a delegate. It is made to the Chair, who then calls for the delegate to reword their Point of Information.

Motion to Introduce an Amendment

During debate on a clause, delegates may submit possible amendments to the Chairs. Once this is done, this motion suggests that the amendment be brought to the floor for general debate. After the Chair approves the motion, the submitter will display or read aloud the amendment. The delegate motioning the amendment has time to give a speech in its support and the House is then given debate time to discuss it. The amendment is finally voted on, and it is either added to the final resolution or discarded. This motion may not be made once debate has been closed. Friendly amendments are only in order if they do not change the meaning of the clause. If the main sponsor would like to submit a friendly amendment to their own clause, such motion passes automatically.

Motion for Unmoderated Caucus

This motion moves for a break from the moderated caucuses to allow delegates the freedom to freely move about and discuss the topic with one another. The motion must specify a length of time and purpose. This motion requires a 'second' and approval by the Chair, however it may be objected by any delegate who can bring a speech or amendment to debate. It may not be made once general debate has been closed. Be advised that at FloMUN delegates can use their computers during the entire conference.

Motion to Move into Close Debate

This motion concludes open debate, preventing any new amendments and sub-amendments from being presented. If this motion is successful, the Chair will entertain a set number of speeches in favor and against, in that order, regarding the resolution, the clause, the amendment, or the sub-amendment in discussion. This motion requires a 'second' from another delegate and approval by the Chair, however it can also be rejected. If no delegates wish to speak against the topic at hand, either a resolution, a clause, an amendment or a sub-amendment, no delegate can vote against the topic during voting procedures.

Motion to Move into Voting Procedures

This motion closes debate on the topic at hand, either an amendment, a clause or a resolution. If this is during an amendment, voting will take place on whether to add it to the resolution. If this is to close debate on a resolution, the

resolution on the table will be voted upon. This motion requires a 'second' and approval by the Chair, however it can also be rejected. If accepted by the Chair, a speech in favor and against may be made before voting. This motion may not be made once debate has been closed, and if successful, will move the body into voting procedures.

Motion to Move into Previous Question

This motion closes the section of debate the body is engaged in, whether discussing an amendment or a resolution, and calls for movement into the next section (for example, if the body is currently in time in favor of an amendment, it would move into time against it). The motion requires a 'second' and approval by the Chair, however it can also be objected by any delegate who has an amendment or speech to bring to debate. It will rarely be entertained during the last speeches for and against the resolution as a whole. This motion cannot be used to move into voting procedures.

Motion to Divide the House

This motion may be entertained only while voting for an amendment or the resolution as a whole. It is used in case there is not a clear majority or there are an overwhelming number of abstentions in the house. This motion calls for each delegate to announce their voting verdict and removes the option to abstain. The Chair will call upon the delegates one by one and receive their answers. This motion requires a second and approval by the Chair.

Motion to Extend Points of Information

This motion may be entertained once POI's are finished. This is at the chair's discretion and objections/seconds are not in order, rather, delegates can specify by what amount they wish to extend it by.

Right to Reply

This motion may be entertained when another delegate openly criticizes or offends the nation of a delegate (NOT the delegate themselves). In this scenario, the victim delegate has the possibility to interrupt any occurring speeches and propose a right to reply. This motion simply requires the Chair's approval, but it can be rejected. When a right to reply is entertained, the delegate whose country has been criticized may make

a speech defending their state's position and overturning the received offenses. Note that there is no right to reply to right to reply, but the delegate whose motion is entertained may not assume an offensive stance regarding other countries or delegations.

Motions not in Order at FloMUN

- Motion to impeach the chair
- Motion to table / adjourn / withdraw a resolution / clause
- Motion to adjourn debate
- Motion to evict a delegate

How to Write a Clause

Preambulatory Clauses

Preambulatory clauses offer background information on the issue, resolution and topic. It may state previous solutions on the issue and highlight the importance that solving the issue has. Further, it can reference previous UN resolutions and organizations involved in the issue, or define key terms about the topic. A preambulatory clause must begin with the following, in italics.

Acknowledging
Acting
Affirming
Alarmed by
Alarmed
Anxious
Appreciating
Approving
Aware of
Bearing in mind
Believing
Cognizant
Concerned
Confident
Conscious
Considering
Contemplating
Convinced
Declaring
Expressing concern also
Expressing concern
Expressing its appreciation
Expressing its satisfaction
Expressing satisfaction
Firmlyconvinced
Fulfilling
Fully alarmed
Fully aware
Fully believing
Further deploring
Further recalling
Guided by
Having adopted
Having considered
Having considered further
Having devoted attention
Having examined
Noting with deep concern
Noting with regret
Noting with satisfaction
Observing
Reaffirming
Reaffirming also
Realizing
Recalling
Recalling also
Recognizing
Recognizing also
Recognizing with satisfaction
Referring
Regretting
Reiterating
Reiterating its call for
Reminding
Seeking
Seized

Deeply concerned
Deeply conscious
Deeply convinced
Deeply disturbed
Deeply regretting
Deploring
Desiring
Determined
Emphasizing
Encouraged
Expecting
Expressing appreciation
Having heard
Having received
Having reviewed
Having studied
Having adopted
Having approved
Having considered
Having decided
Keeping in mind
Mindful
Noting
Noting further
Noting with approval
Stressing
Taking into account
Taking into consideration
Taking note
Taking note also
Taking note further
Underlining
Viewing with appreciation
Viewing with apprehension
Welcoming
Welcoming also

Examples of preambulatory clauses

"*Deeply concerned* by the insufficient amount of humanitarian aid provided to civilians in the region,"

"*Emphasizing* the importance of worldwide access to healthcare in order to respect the essential human right to life,"

Operative clauses

Operative clauses state the solutions that the sponsors of the resolution proposes to resolve the issue. The key difference between a Preambulatory and an Operative Clause is that an operative clause must be an action. The operative clauses should be specific to the topic, and be as detailed as possible. They should be numbered, begin with the following words, and be underlined.

Accepts
Acknowledges
Adopts
Advices
Affirms
Also calls for
Also recommends
Also strongly condemns
Also urges
Appeals
Appreciates
Approves
Authorizes
Calls
Calls for
Calls upon
Commends
Concurs
Condemns
Demands
Deplores
Designates
Directs
Draws the attention
Emphasizes
Encourages
Endorses
Expresses its appreciation
Expresses its hope
Expresses its regret
Further invites
Further proclaims
Further recommends
Further reminds
Further requests
Further resolves
Has resolved
Instructs
Recalls
Recognizes
Recommends
Regrets
Reiterates
Reminds
Renews its appeal
Repeats
Requests
Requires
Solemnly affirms
Stresses
Strongly advises
Strongly condemns
Strongly encourages
Suggests
Supports
Takes note of
Transmits

Confirms	Introduces	Trusts
Congratulates	Invites	Underlines
Considers	Notes	Underscores
Decides	Notes with satisfaction	Urges
Declares	Proclaims	Welcomes
Declares accordingly	Reaffirms	

Examples of operative clauses

"Calls for the establishment of a global fund to support low-income countries in their efforts to transition to renewable energy sources,"

"Recommends the establishment of a joint task force between the United Nations and relevant regional organizations to combat human trafficking and ensure the protection of victims."

"Urges member states to increase funding for humanitarian aid and development assistance in conflict-affected regions, with a particular focus on education and healthcare services."

Speaking in Formal Debate

- Delegates need to address each other in the third person at all times.
- It is recommended that they start speeches with "honorable chair, fellow delegates."
- Personal Pronouns, I, you, y'all, he, she, it, me, him, her, us, and them with the exception of we and they, are not allowed.
- Delegates should stand when giving any kind of Points, and should not sit down until it has been addressed.
- Delegates must avoid the use of insults and informal language and should always be diplomatic.
- Delegates should address the chair and the house before presenting their speech.
- Delegates cannot speak directly to each other, and any conversation should occur through the chair.

Formal Debate Lingo

You want to…	So say…
Make a point of information	(Raise your placard *when and only when* the chair asks if there are any POIs) Approach the floor if called upon.
Speak for a resolution/amendment	"Thank you honorable chairs. This delegate strongly urges the house to support this resolution/amendment, because…"
Speak against a resolution/amendment	"Thank you honorable chairs. This delegate strongly urges the house NOT to vote for this resolution/amendment, because…"
Go to the bathroom	Pass a note to the chair and ask :)
Ask a question about a resolution (you should do this when the main submitter is at the podium and you are asking him a POI)	"Thank you honorable chairs. Can the delegate please clarify what is meant by *_be specific about what you are confused on… don't just ask what an entire paragraph means_* in clause ___, sub-clause ___?"
Support a resolution in a POI	"Thank you honorable chairs. Does the delegate agree that clause ___, sub clause___, is a powerful and effective clause, because …?"
Disagree with a resolution in a POI	"Thank you honorable chairs. Would the delegate agree that clause ___, sub-clause ___, lacks *__Clarity? Logic? Consideration for the poor? Realistic goals? Whatever you think is missing!__*, and makes this resolution unworthy of our votes?"
Speak for *your* resolution	"Thank you honorable chairs. Distinguished members of the house. Today the delegate of (*your country)* would like to urge all members of the house to vote for this resolution, because…"

Respond to a POI (this will happen if you say that you are open to POIs after speaking for/against a resolution AND for/against an amendment)	"Thank you for your point of information. *Then answer the question appropriately. Remember, if the delegate is insulting your resolution through a question, you may simply answer in the negative, such as, 'The delegate disagrees/The delegate was not aware/The delegate does not see this as a problem' But, if possible, try to explain and argue for your resolution. And if the delegate is supporting your resolution you may simple respond, 'Thank you, this delegate strongly agrees!' "*
If the delegate speaking is quiet/mumbles	*To the chair:* "May the chair please ask the delegate to repeat the question?"
If another delegate asks a confusing question or makes a statement rather than a question	*To the chair:* "May the chair please ask the delegate to reword their question?"

Other things to remember when in debate:

*Always speak to the chairs; *never* directly to a delegate.

*Always start your speech or Point of Information by saying, "Thank you honorable chairs" or "Thank you."

* Never say "I believe…", say, "The delegate of ___ believes..." THIRD PERSON! Other words not to use: I, you, us etc. NO PERSONAL PRONOUNS

Expectations and norms

At FloMUN, delegates are expected to adhere to certain expectations and norms, which are as follows:

Research and Preparation: Delegates are expected to research and prepare thoroughly for the conference. They should be familiar with their country's position on various global issues, understand the working of the UN, and be well-versed in parliamentary procedure.

Professionalism: Delegates are expected to behave professionally and maintain decorum throughout the conference. This includes dressing appropriately, using respectful language, and engaging in constructive dialogue.

Respect for Diversity: Delegates should respect the diversity of opinions and perspectives of other delegates. They should refrain from making derogatory remarks or using language that could be considered offensive.

Active Participation: Delegates are expected to actively participate in committee sessions, engage in debates, and contribute to finding solutions to global issues.

Diplomacy: Delegates should demonstrate diplomacy and negotiate in good faith, seeking to find common ground with other countries. They should not resort to aggressive or confrontational tactics.

Adherence to Rules: Delegates must adhere to the rules of the conference and parliamentary procedure. They should raise points of order if they feel that the proceedings are not following the established rules.

FLOMUN 2024 Media Release Form

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Parent or guardian email address:

_____

Name of parent or guardian signing this form:

_____

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