

MODEL UNITED NATIONS OF LÜBECK



RULES OF PROCEDURE

Preface

These Rules of Procedure henceforth manifest the official rules and guidelines governing the conduct of the Model United Nations of Lübeck (MUNOL) conference. They are based on the basic principles set forth in the Charter of the United Nations and adjusted to the settings of an international student conference. Thus, never losing that aim, these Rules of Procedure are especially formed for and based on the experience of the past MUNOL conferences. Therefore specialised in regards to official proceedings, the MUNOL Rules of Procedure must show a unique character.

These rules, being a fifth, and completely revised version of those in existence before, amend former versions by eliminating shortcomings and thus, ensure a coherent and fair manner of conduct. Their main objective is to provide MUNOL with clearly formulated rules of conduct, behaviour and procedures.

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Rules of Procedure of the Model United Nations of Lübeck (MUNOL)
Fifth, completely revised and newly established version
by the MUNOL Association

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I. General Rules

Art. 1 Application

- (1) These rules of procedure apply to all forums simulated at MUNOL.

Art. 2 Definition of ‘Terms‘

- (1) Chair/ President/ Student Officers: The students, who direct the discussion and are in charge of MUNOL forums
- (2) Simple majority: When voting on a certain item under consideration, a simple majority is reached when more nations vote in favour than against.
- (3) Two-thirds majority: When voting on a certain item under consideration, a two-thirds majority is reached when more than two-thirds of nations vote in favour.
- (4) Relative majority: When voting on several items under consideration, the item that gets the most votes in favour in total reaches a relative majority.
- (5) Usage of male and female terms: In these Rules of Procedure only the male forms are used. This is due to simplification, not discrimination.

Art. 3 Forums

- (1) The main committees of the General Assembly (GA), which may be simulated at MUNOL, are the following:
 - First Committee (Disarmament and International Security)
 - Second Committee (Economic and Financial)
 - Third Committee (Social, Humanitarian and Cultural)
 - Fourth Committee (Special Political and Decolonisation)
 - Fifth Committee (Administrative and Budgetary)
 - Sixth Committee (Legal)
- (2) Other forums simulated may be:
 - The Security Council (SC)
 - The Human Rights Council (HRC)
 - The Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) or one of its sub-commissions

Art. 4 Provisional Agenda

- (1) The provisional agenda for a session shall be published in written form by the Secretary-General at least ninety days before the official opening of the session.

Art. 5 Chair

- (1) If the presiding Chair finds it necessary to be absent during a meeting or any part thereof, the assisting Chair automatically takes his place as presiding Chair.
- (2) A Deputy Chair acting as presiding Chair shall have the same powers and duties as the Main Chair.

Art. 6 Credentials

- (1) All MUNOL participants shall be identified by the official MUNOL badge available during registration at the Information Desk. The loss of the badge consequently leads to the loss of all powers of a delegate. This instance must therefore be brought to the attention of the Secretariat immediately, where a new badge can be bought for a fee of five Euros.
- (2) Placards are provided by the Secretariat and are needed for any voting procedure. Non-governmental organisations (NGOs) and inter-governmental organisations (IGOs) are provided with coloured placards which indicate their observer status without substantive voting rights (Art. 44). In the Security Council, the permanent members are provided with coloured placards in order to indicate their use of their veto power in substantive votes.
- (3) ‘Motion/Point-Cards’ are distributed to all delegates. Art. 40 and Art. 41 specify their purpose.

Art. 7 Dress Code

- (1) Male delegates, as well as male MUN- Directors and all other male participants are to be suitably dressed, wearing long trousers, jacket, shirt and tie.
 - (2) Female delegates female MUN- Directors and all other female participants are to wear a trouser-suit, a dress or a coat and a skirt. Skirts and dresses should not end higher than one palm over the knees. Dresses and shirts must have an appropriate neckline. Shoes must be formal and heels must be of an appropriate height.
 - (3) Neither blue jeans nor sneakers are allowed for any participant.
 - (4) All participants of MUNOL are to wear their badge provided by the Secretariat visible at all times.
 - (5) Non-compliance with the dress code may lead to a reprehension and is to be corrected for the further proceedings of the conference.
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Art. 8 Behaviour

- (1) Delegates shall under any given circumstances maintain decorum.
- (2) The usage of electrical devices during debate is only granted in order to research and write speeches.
- (3) Disregarding paragraph (1, 2) of this article may lead to a reprehension by the Chair as well as to contacting the Secretary-General.

Art. 9 Language

- (1) The official language of the conference shall be English. Accordingly, participants are encouraged to maintain the official language during social events too.

Art. 10 Plagiarism

- (1) Proved plagiarism leads to the exclusion of the relevant document from the discussion.
- (2) The President will in this case make use of his power to declare a reprehension.

Art. 11 General Rules of Conduct

- (1) The Chair and the members of a forum are to be addressed in third person singular only.
- (2) Each delegate refers to himself in third person singular or first person plural only, when speaking on behalf of his delegation.
- (3) The delegates always rise in order to speak and remain standing while speaking and receiving answers.
- (4) There is no dialogue on the floor.

Art. 12 Ad-Hoc Meetings

- (1) These meetings have the general purpose to inform the forum about general procedures, important announcements and/or changes in the Programme of Events.

Art. 13 Notepapers

- (1) The passing of notepapers is a possibility for the delegates to communicate within their forum solely on agenda-related issues. They have to be written in English and their content has to comply with Art. 8 of these Rules of Procedure.

- (2) By raising a hand a delegate signals to be in need of a notepaper or an amendment sheet and is provided with the necessary form by the Administrative Staff. The notepaper will be screened by the Administrative Staff for its compliance with paragraph (1) of this article. If not in order, it is handed over to the Chair for further consideration.
- (3) Any delegate may contact his ambassador using a notepaper and so may the ambassador in reverse, however, there will be no other notepaper passing between forums. Notepapers sent to ambassadors will be screened by the Chairs.
- (4) The Chair may at any point of time suspend notepaper passing.
- (5) Notepaper passing is out of order during moderated caucus and voting procedures.

II. Secretary-General and Conference Management

II.1 The Secretary-General

Art. 14 Position

- (1) The Secretary-General is the final and sole institution concerning any decisions upon the interpretation of these rules.
- (2) In his performance of duties, the Secretary-General shall not seek or receive instructions from any person or authority external to the organisation.
- (3) The Secretary-General and his Deputy are elected each year by members of the Officials De-Briefing to whom a voting right is conferred by the “Statute concerning the Voting Procedures for Student Officers” of the MUNOL Association.
- (4) The Secretary-General may designate his Deputy to act on his behalf.
- (5) The Secretary-General is to be addressed either with ‘Your Excellency’ or ‘Most distinguished Mr. Secretary-General’.

Art. 15 Powers

- (1) The Secretary-General or his Deputy may bring to the attention of the Security Council any matter which in his opinion may threaten the maintenance of international peace and security.
- (2) The Secretary-General or his Deputy may make either oral or written statements to any forum at MUNOL concerning any question under consideration by it. Delegates can request such a statement by contacting their Chairs, who will determine whether it is useful for the debate to ask the Secretary-General or his Deputy for a statement.

II.2 Conference Management

Art. 16 Conference Manager

- (1) The Conference Manager is the final and sole institution concerning any decision upon the organisation of the MUNOL session.
- (2) The Conference Manager may designate his Assistant to act on his behalf.
- (3) The Conference Manager's office is the Secretariat. The official MUNOL Staff follows his instructions.
- (4) The Conference Manager and his Assistant are elected each year by members of the Officials De-Briefing to whom a voting right is conferred by the "Statute concerning the Voting Procedures for Student Officers" of the MUNOL Association.

Art. 17 Secretariat

- (1) The Secretariat shall receive, print and distribute documents, working papers and draft resolutions of all MUNOL forums.
- (2) The Secretariat shall have the custody, proper preservation and distribution of all documents and credentials.
- (3) The Secretariat shall generally perform all other work required by the forums.

Art. 18 Staff Members

The different official MUNOL Staffs and their activities shall be found in the Students Guide.

III. Course of Procedural Events (chronological)

III.1 Opening Ceremonies

Art. 19 Official Opening

The President of the General Assembly (PGA) declares the session as opened.

Art. 20 Minute of Silent Prayer and Meditation

- (1) Prior to the opening speeches, a delegation may request a minute of silent prayer or meditation. This may be done in a written form.

- (2) The President of the General Assembly, after consulting the Secretary-General, decides on the matter.

Art. 21 Opening Speeches

- (1) Opening Speeches are held after the official opening of the conference. They allow the ambassador of each delegation to set forth his country's position concerning the items on the agenda. Opening speeches are limited to one minute.
- (2) NGOs and IGOs may, but do not need to hold an opening speech.
- (3) After every five opening speeches, Rights of Reply can be entertained by the President. They must clearly refer to one or more points addressed in the past five speeches. The President of the General Assembly shall upon consideration of appropriateness decide on whether to allow such points and may decide without justification.

III.2 Rules Governing the Path to a Draft Resolution

Art. 22 Working Paper

A working paper is a written form of a country's opinion about one item under discussion, which may be presented in the format of a draft resolution. One working paper for each topic in his forum is to be prepared by each delegate prior to the opening of the official conference. Working papers are intended to aid the forum in its discussion and formulation of draft resolutions.

Art. 23 Informal Caucus

In informal caucus, also referred to as lobbying, delegates may merge their working papers in order to ameliorate their positions. Informal caucus is excluded from formal debating rules and offers delegates the possibility to negotiate at their own discretion while maintaining English as the working language (Art. 9).

Art. 24 Moderated Caucus

- (1) The moderated caucus is an informal debate that is obligatory for delegates to attend.
- (2) The sponsors (Art.35) present the opinions and ideas put down in their working papers regarding an agenda item. Following, they may be open to Points of information (Art. 40 (2) ii.).
- (3) The purpose of moderated caucus is to facilitate substantive debate, for the delegates to lobby for their improved working papers at critical junctures in the discussion, for

the different delegations to enlarge their spectrum of input and to enhance the forum's detailed knowledge about the items under discussion.

- (4) Motions are not in order during moderated caucus.
- (5) Notepaper-passing is suspended for the duration of moderated caucus.

Art. 25 Informal Caucus (continued)

The forum returns, if approved by the Chair, to informal caucus to complete the working papers and to reach the necessary number of signatories (co-sponsors).

Art. 26 Formal Clearing

- (1) Each working paper has to go through the Approval Panel, after being briefly checked by the Chair. It has to be marked as approved by the Approval Panel before entering the Formal Clearing Office.
- (2) When approved by the Approval Panel, the working paper is considered by the Formal Clearing Office for a formal correction and it may then proceed to the Chairs.

Art. 27 Approval Panel

- (1) The Approval Panel is a forum attended by MUN-Directors. Its purpose includes, but is not limited to, the correction of all grammatical and spelling mistakes in the working papers.
- (2) The Approval Panel may never, under any circumstance, change the substance of a working paper.

Art. 28 Draft Resolution

A working paper is considered a draft resolution after having been approved and formally cleared. It can then be forwarded to the respective committee.

III. 3 Rules Governing the Path of a Draft Resolution

Art. 29 Discussion

- (1) Each draft resolution is discussed in formal debate (Ch. IV.2) in the respective committee of the General Assembly, the SC, the HRC, and the ECOSOC or in any other forum simulated at MUNOL.

- (2) Numerous draft resolutions may be passed in each main committee. The main committees forward only one of those draft resolutions to the General Assembly for ultimate consideration. Draft resolutions are forwarded to the General Assembly by the votes of a relative majority in the forum. This vote follows the procedures of Art. 45. All resolutions forwarded to the General Assembly have to be approved by the Secretary General.
- (3) Each draft resolution that is passed in the SC, the HRC, the ECOSOC or in any other forum simulated at MUNOL is, by that, ultimately accepted.

III.4 Closing Ceremonies

Art. 30 Official Closing

The President of the General Assembly officially declares the conference as closed.

IV. Rules Governing Formal Debate

IV.1 General

Art. 31 General Powers and Duties of the Chair

- (1) The Chair shall:
 - Direct the discussions in moderated caucus and formal debate
 - Ensure the observance of these rules
 - Have complete control of the proceedings
 - Accord the right to speak
 - Decide about the amount of time allotted to speakers
 - Declare the opening and closing of each session of the forum

Art. 32 Special Powers of the Chair

- (1) The Chair, except for the case mentioned in Art. 41 (9) ii., decides upon any doubtful or conflicting interpretation concerning these Rules of Procedure.
- (2) The Chair must, in any case, be able to explain in what manner his decision is in complete accordance with the Rules of Procedure of MUNOL.
- (3) For the clarification of a doubtful or conflicting interpretation, the Chair may call upon the Secretary-General for advice.

- (4) The Chair may declare reprehensions consequent to a delegate's non-compliance with Art. 8. Three reprehensions lead to the delegate's exclusion from the debate for an amount of time to be decided by the Chair. In case of a serious violation of these rules, the exclusion may come into effect immediately. While excluded from the debate, a delegate may not participate in the voting procedures.

Art. 33 Roll Call

The Chair conducts a roll call at the beginning of every session in order to determine the presence of the quorum (Art. 34).

Art. 34 Quorum

The Chair may declare a forum open and permit debate to proceed when more than one half of the members of the forum are present.

Art. 35 Sponsors

- (1) The delegation introducing a working paper or draft resolution is referred to as 'sponsor'.
- (2) Signatories are referred to as 'co-sponsors'.
- (3) Co-sponsoring expresses a delegate's general will to debate a working paper. However, this does not oblige any co-sponsor to vote in favour of the respective resolution.
- (4) A working paper will only be accepted by the Chair and thus become a draft resolution, if it is supported by a minimum of 20% of the members of the forum.
- (5) The sponsor is always the primary speaker in favour of the introduced draft resolution.
- (6) After having forwarded a draft resolution to the General Assembly, the forum itself is the sponsor. The Chair of the forum, being the representative of the forum, reads out the operative clauses to the General Assembly.

Art. 36 Competence

- (1) Each Committee member may question the forum's competence to debate the issue under discussion. The doubt must be communicated to the Chairs in written form, indicating plausible reasons.
- (2) The Chair must inform the forum about the incident and explain his decision upon it.

Art. 37 Public Meetings

All forums have to be open to the public during formal debate.

IV.2 Formal Debate

Art. 38 Structure of Debate

- (1) Every formal debate is commenced in closed debate, consisting of a time in favour and a time against the item under discussion, to be set by the Chair. Once the forum moved into open debate, representatives may either speak in favour or in opposition.
- (2) The debating time is to be set after the sponsor has read out the operative clauses of his draft resolution. When discussing an amendment (Art. 42), the debating time is to be set after having read out the proposed change to the resolution.

Art. 39 Speeches

- (1) In formal debate, raising the placard symbolizes a request for the floor. After having obtained the permission to take the floor, the speaker is to address the Chairs before addressing the house.
- (2) The speech is delivered solemnly in order to support the own or in order to oppose a divergent opinion on the item under discussion.
- (3) Following the speech, a delegate may be open for Points of Information (Art. 40 (2) ii.).
- (4) At any moment in formal debate, a speaker may yield the floor to another delegation, under reserve of the Chair's final assessment. Consecutive yielding is not in order.
- (5) If not to another delegation, the floor is to be yielded back to the Chair.

Art. 40 Points

- (1) Points, other than the exceptions made in paragraph (2) i. and iii. of this article, have to be made by raising the Motion/Point Card. The delegate has to wait until recognized by the Chair. The delegate must then rise and state the Point.
- (2) The following Points are the only ones to be used during official MUNOL procedures:
 - Point of Personal Privilege
 - Point of Information to the Speaker
 - Point of Order
 - Point of Parliamentary Inquiry

- Point of Information to the Chair
 - i. The Point of Personal Privilege may refer to any personal discomfort, which impairs a delegate's ability to participate in the proceedings. A delegate may rise for this Point to request that his discomfort be corrected. The delegates should use this power with the utmost discretion because a Point of Personal Privilege referring to audibility may interrupt a speaker.
 - ii. The Point of Information to the Speaker allows the delegates to address the speaker in form of a question about the previously held statement. It is up to the speaker to decide on the number of Points he/her wishes to address. If the speaker opens himself up for any Points of information, the Chair may still limit the number of possible questions.
 - iii. The Point of Order is used to indicate an instance of improper parliamentary procedure. The Point of Order will be immediately decided by the Chair in accordance with these Rules of Procedure. The Chair may rule out of order those Points that are improper. A delegate rising for a Point of Order may not speak about the substance of the matter under discussion. A Point of Order may only interrupt a speaker if the speech is not following proper parliamentary procedure.
 - iv. The Point of Parliamentary Inquiry allows questioning the Chair about any item regarding the Rules of Procedure. A Point of Parliamentary Inquiry may never interrupt a speaker.
 - v. The Point of Information to the Chair allows the delegates to state questions concerning any issue which none of the Points mentioned in Art. 40 (2) ii.-iv. refers to. This point may never interrupt a speaker.

Art. 41 Motions

- (1) Motions can be made by raising the Motion/Point-Card. The delegate is to wait until recognized by the Chair. The delegate must then rise and state the Motion. Every Motion interrupts the formal debating process and has instantly to be decided upon.
- (2) The Motions mentioned in paragraph (4)-(9) of this article are the only ones to be used during official MUNOL procedures.
- (3) The Motions mentioned in paragraph (5) of this article can be objected. If an objection is filed, the Motion will not be considered by the Chairs unless he decides to overrule the caveat.
- (4) Motions that are decided upon by the Chair and cannot be seconded or objected are the following:
 - Motion to Follow Up
 - Motion for a Right of Reply

- Motion to Explain the Vote
- Motion to Amend the Resolution
 - i. The Motion to Follow Up is a possibility to consecutively use statements clarified in Art. 40 (2) ii.-v.
 - ii. The Motion for a Right of Reply is a delegate's option to state a complaint about a possibly offending or insulting diction or behaviour of a previously heard speaker. The Chair is to decide whether that was the case and how to further proceed.
 - iii. The Motion to Explain the Vote may be put forward by any delegate of the forum and can only be put forward after voting procedures. With this motion, delegates can request an explanation from any other delegate in the forum why they voted the way they did in the last voting procedure.
 - iv. The Motion to Amend the Resolution is explained in Art. 42.

(5) Motions that need to be seconded at least twice to be considered, are decided upon by the Chair and that can be objected are the following:

- Motion to Suspend the Meeting
- Motion to Close the Debate
- Motion to Move into Time Against
 - i. The Motion to Suspend the Meeting can interrupt the formal debate for a limited amount of time due to an exceptional reason.
 - ii. The Motion to Close the Debate ends the current discussion and leads directly into voting procedures.
 - iii. The Motion to Move into Time against immediately ends the time in favour of the item under discussion.

(6) Motions that need to be seconded at least twice to be considered and are decided upon by the forum with a simple majority under reserve of the Chair's final assessment as to their conformity with the purposes and principles of MUNOL are the following:

- Motion to Limit/Extend Debating Time
- Motion to Move into Open Debate
- Motion to Declare this an Important Question
 - i. The Motion to Limit/Extend Debating Time allows the Delegates to shorten or prolong the time available for a specific discussion.

- ii. The Motion to Move into Open Debate allows the Delegates to speak either in favour or against the item under discussion. It may only be put forward in time against of the draft resolution.
 - iii. The Motion to Declare this an Important Question allows the delegates to make the draft resolution become a matter to be decided upon by the forum with a two-thirds majority. An important question is an issue that is regarding international peace and security, the admission of new members, the suspension of the rights and privileges of membership and the expulsion of members. When the Chair entertains this Motion, the submitting Nation has the floor to explain why this issue should be regarded as one of the topics above.
- (7) Motions that are to be seconded at least twice to be considered and decided upon by the forum with a two-thirds majority are the following:
- Motion to Adjourn the Debate
 - Motion to Appeal against the Decision of the Chair
- i. The Motion to Adjourn the Debate unconditionally terminates the discussion of the item under consideration without entertaining voting procedures.
 - ii. The Motion to Appeal against the Decision of the Chair applies in cases where the forum doubts decisions made by the Chair. It is a means of the delegates to force the ratification of their interpretation of the concerned rule. If the forum appeals against the Chair's decision and if the Chair considers his overruling inconsistent with the principles of these Rules of Procedure, the Secretary-General shall have the final decision to settle the conflict.
- (8) The Motion to Adopt the Amendment by Acclamation can be put forward in order to pass an Amendment consensually without voting procedures. This Motion is never voted on. If objected once, it will not be entertained.
- (9) The Motion to Divide the House leads to a roll call vote where delegates may vote in favour, against or abstain. If put forward, it cannot be objected and the Chair immediately decides upon its accomplishment.

Art. 42 Amendments

- (1) The Motion to Amend the Resolution allows the delegates to change, strike out and/or add clauses, parts of clauses and/or single words in the operative part of a draft resolution. One Amendment may only change one operative clause or one sub-clause at a time.

- (2) Amendments have to be handed in to the Chairs in written form. By raising a hand, a delegate signals to be in need of an amendment sheet or notepaper and is provided with the necessary form by the Administrative Staff. After having filled out the form it is delivered to the Chairs via the Administrative Staff.
- (3) Following, the delegate has to raise the Motion/Point-Card in order to put forward the motion. The entertainment of the motion by the Chair depends on the conformity of the proposed amendment with these Rules of Procedure (paragraph (1) of this article). If entertained, the formal debate on the draft resolution is suspended for the duration of a limited time of formal debate on the amendment.
- (4) Amendments are discussed following the same rules as draft resolutions (Ch. IV.2).
- (5) Amendments are decided upon by procedural vote (Art. 45).
- (6) Friendly Amendments are changes made to the draft resolution or to an amendment that are immanently non-substantive matters, including but not limited to grammatical or spelling mistakes and the resolution format, which are decided upon by the Chair in agreement with the resolution's sponsor.
- (7) Amendments to amendments are not in order, except for friendly amendments to amendments and in the Security Council.
- (8) An amended part of a draft resolution may be further amended.

IV. 3 Voting Procedures

Art. 43 General

- (1) All Points and Motions are out of order during voting procedures except the Point of Personal Privilege referring to Audibility (Art. 40 (2) i.).
- (2) Conferring voting rights is not in order under any circumstances.

Art. 44 Substantive Vote

- (1) The vote is regarded as substantive when referring to a draft resolution.
- (2) Each member state of the simulated forum has one vote. One may vote in favour, against, or may abstain from the vote. To reach a majority, only those in favour and against are taken into account.
- (3) All draft resolutions need a simple majority to be passed, except for important questions, which need a two-thirds majority to be passed. Important questions are those declared an important question by the forum or the Secretary-General of MUNOL.

- (4) NGOs and IGOs may not participate in a substantive vote. However they can show their opinion by showing their coloured placard, but their vote will not be saved on record.

Art. 45 Procedural Vote

- (1) The vote is regarded as procedural when referring to a Motion or an amendment.
- (2) Each member state and observer represented in one of the simulated forums has one vote. One may vote in favour, against, or may abstain from the vote. To reach a majority only those in favour and against are taken into account.
- (3) All Motions that are voted on by the forum need a simple majority to be passed except for those mentioned in Art. 41 (6), (7), (10) and (11).
- (4) NGOs IGOs have the right to participate in any procedural vote.

Art. 46 Differing Regulation

Special voting procedures for the Security Council are set forth in Art. 52 (2) and (3).

V. The General Assembly

Art. 47 Special procedures of the general Assembly

- (1) Before entering into formal debate on the item under consideration, delegates are accorded an appropriate amount of time to get familiar with the text of the resolution to be discussed.
- (2) According to the Moderated Caucus Procedure (Art. 24) the sponsor, the Chair of the committee as the representative of the forum, will concisely present the idea, the measures and the effects of the resolution. He may refer to specific clauses and may read them out, if he deems it essential for the understanding of the resolution.
- (3) The house will be allowed to raise Points of Information regarding the content of the resolution. Questions and answers are formulated informally, short dialogues are allowed.
- (4) The Chairs of the respective committee act as expert Chairs being able to explain positions of involved countries, recent events or other relevant information.
- (5) After this moderated caucus, formal debate on the respective resolution ensues.

VI. The Security Council

Art. 48 General

Rules mentioned in this section are special to the Security Council.

Art. 49 Primary Right of Consideration

While the Security Council is discussing any dispute or situation assigned to it, no other forum shall make any recommendation with regard to that dispute or situation unless the Security Council so requests.

Art. 50 Right of Invitation

The ambassador of any member nation of MUNOL which is not a member of the Security Council, if it is a party to a dispute under consideration by the Security Council, may be invited to speak, without vote, in the discussion relating to the dispute. Delegates can request such an invitation by contacting their Chairs, who will determine whether it is useful for the debate to invite the ambassador in question.

Art. 51 Special Debating Procedures

- (1) In formal debate, the operative section of a draft resolution is discussed and voted on clause by clause.
- (2) During the discussion of any substantive matter, any permanent member of the Security Council may propose a suspension of the meeting for a P5 caucus. It has to be seconded by all permanent members in order to be entertained. The matter is treated as a motion.
- (3) During the discussion of any substantive matter, any member of the Security Council may propose a suspension of the meeting for an informal caucus. It has to be seconded at least five times in order to be entertained. The matter is treated as a motion.

Art. 52 Voting Procedures

- (1) Each member of the Security Council shall have one vote.
- (2) Decisions of the Security Council on procedural matters shall be made by an affirmative vote of nine members.

- (3) Decisions of the Security Council on all other matters shall be made by an affirmative vote of nine members, including at least three of the permanent members¹. If one of the permanent members votes against, this may not be taken as an automatic veto. The permanent member voting against has to be asked by the presiding Chair and may accept or decline to use the veto power.

Art. 53 Amendments

- (1) Amendments in the Security Council are considered substantive matters and are therefore voted on according to the substantive voting procedure (Art. 52 (3)).
- (2) In the Security Council, amendments to an amendment (second degree) are in order. The adoption of an amendment of second degree does not automatically lead to the passing of the originally proposed amendment (first degree).

VII. Closing Remarks

Art. 54 Amendments to these Rules

These rules of procedure may only be amended by a decision of the MUNOL Association.

¹ In response to the Council's blockade during the Cold War, it has become customary international that, although an expression of skepticism, abstentions by one of the five permanent members are considered affirmative votes.