

V I S M U N 2 0 2 6

Rules of Procedure

Joint Crisis Committees

SECTION I — GENERAL RULES

Rule 1. Scope & Application

These rules of procedure are applicable to the Joint Crisis Committees at VISMUN Model United Nations 2026, during all scheduled and extraordinary sessions. No other rules of procedure apply.

Rule 2. Delegate Conduct

Delegates shall be courteous and respectful to all staff and other delegates. Moreover, as high-ranking officials in their respective countries, delegates are expected to play their roles accordingly. This includes using appropriate diplomatic language, abstaining from profanity and other inappropriate behaviour, and respecting the privacy and property of others.

English will be the official and only working language of the conference. Delegates may not use affected accents during committee. National costumes are not permitted; delegates must wear Western business attire during all committee sessions except day two.

The Chair will immediately call to order delegates who do not abide by this rule. Delegates who feel that they are not being treated respectfully are encouraged to discuss their concerns with their Director or a member of the Secretariat.

Delegates are expected to be present at the beginning of every scheduled committee session, at which point roll call will be taken. Delegates who will not be present for part or all of a committee session should inform their Committee Staff verbally or by email.

Rule 3. Electronic Aids

Delegates are not permitted to use any electronic devices during committee session. Delegates may access such devices and use the Internet outside of committee, however.

Delegates are expected to attend the conference having already conducted the necessary research.

Rule 4. General Powers of the Secretariat

The Secretaries-General and other members of the Secretariat reserve the right to suspend or modify these rules at any time. Additionally, members of the Secretariat may also serve as a member of the Committee Staff and allow any speaker to address the committee.

Rule 5. Quorum

[Quorum provisions to be specified by the Secretariat.]

SECTION II — COMMITTEE RULES AND FORMAT

Rule 6. General Powers of the Executive Board

The Committee Staff, also known as the Dais, comprises the Director, the Deputy Director, and Rapporteur, as appointed by the Secretariat.

The Director is the final authority on these Rules of Procedure and may suspend, amend, or adapt them at any time. The Director may propose the adoption of any procedural motion, given no significant objection, and may also interrupt the flow of debate to address the committee, show a presentation, or bring in a guest speaker or expert witness. The Director may also advise delegates on possible courses of action and debate.

Each committee session will be announced opened and closed by the Chair. Further, the Chair will direct the flow of debate, grant the right to speak, ask questions, announce decisions, rule on points of order, and ensure and enforce adherence to these rules. Lastly, the Chair may rule any motion dilatory and therefore out of order.

Rule 7. Specific Powers of the Committee Staff

The Dais of the American Cabinet acts as the governing body and nominal President in the session.

The Dais of the Iranian Cabinet acts as the governing body and nominal Supreme Leader in the session. The Supreme Leader holds a substantive veto and must approve all decisions, decrees, administrative rules, and regulations issued by the Cabinet. Upon approval, all decisions are binding, including actions of a military nature.

Rule 8. Role of Delegates

Delegates assume the responsibilities of their assigned characters in government, but should contribute to debate in all policy areas. Delegates retain advisory privileges with regards to the progress of the Crisis — that is, while the Dais may retain ultimate decision-making authority, it is the responsibility of the delegates to craft, propose, and vote upon directives.

Rule 9. Flow of Debate

In the Joint Crisis Committees, there is no set agenda. As each Cabinet is expected to respond to the multitude of issues raised throughout the conference as corollaries of its own actions, the opposing Cabinet's actions, and other simulated events, each Cabinet is generally granted the freedom to deal with issues as it sees fit.

The default format of debate is a continuous moderated caucus. While there is no speaking time limit, the Chair may institute and enforce a de facto limit should the lack thereof prove to be an impediment to the efficacy of the Cabinet. Speeches must be pertinent to the issues currently facing the Cabinet; delegates whose remarks are not relevant may be called to order.

Points and Motions: Points and motions are questions or suggestions directed towards the Chair. They can only be made before or after another member's speech — with the possible exception of a Point of Personal Privilege — and are entertained at the discretion of the Chair.

SECTION III — POINTS AND MOTIONS

Rule 10. Unmoderated Caucus

A motion for an unmoderated caucus suspends the moderated caucus and the custodial responsibility of the Cabinet from the Chair. The motion must include a time limit, is not debatable, and requires a second. An approved unmoderated caucus may be terminated prior to its expiration at the discretion of the Chair.

Rule 11. Adjournment

A Motion to Adjourn ends the ongoing deliberation and executive authority of the Cabinet appointments. This motion is debatable, requires a second, and requires no objection from any Cabinet member for passage. This motion is used at the end of a term or other constitutional transfer of executive authority.

Rule 12. Point of Personal Privilege

A Point of Personal Privilege may be exercised if a delegate experiences personal discomfort or danger, which impairs his or her ability to participate in the proceedings. A Point of Personal Privilege may only interrupt a speaker if the delegate is in dire discomfort or danger, or cannot hear the speaker.

Rule 13. Point of Order

A Point of Order may be made to indicate an instance of improper procedure. The Director will rule on the Point of Order in a manner that best facilitates debate, at his/her discretion; the Director's ruling is not subject to appeal. A delegate rising to a Point of Order may not speak on the substance of the matter currently under discussion. A Point of Order may not interrupt a speaker. Additionally, the Director has the right to address a delegate directly if proper procedure is not being followed.

Rule 14. Point of Inquiry

A Point of Inquiry permits delegates to ask questions concerning the Rules of Procedure, crisis updates, or for general clarification on a pertinent subject. A Point of Inquiry may not interrupt a speaker. Delegates with lengthier queries or queries specific to their position should not rise to this point, but should rather approach the Executive Board during unmoderated caucus or send a note.

Rule 15. Right of Reply

A Right of Reply may be granted, upon request, to a delegate whose personal or national integrity has been impugned by another delegate. There is no vote on this motion: the Director will grant the Right of Reply at his or her discretion, and this decision is not appealable. The Director will recognize the delegate to speak for no longer than half a minute. A Right of Reply to a Right of Reply is out of order, but delegates granted a Right of Reply will be called to order immediately should their own remarks be offensive. A motion for a Right of Reply may not interrupt a speech; the motion must either be made verbally immediately after the offending speech or submitted in writing to the Director shortly thereafter.

SECTION IV — DIRECTIVES

Delegates do not need to indicate the type of Directive they are issuing. However, types of Directives are as follows:

4.1 Action Orders — Directives

A directive is a document formatted in a particular manner that provides instructions to your government on a specific plan of action or set of actions. These plans or sets of actions must be aimed primarily at advancing your foreign policy and secondarily at resolving the crisis at hand. The best directives are those that can achieve both the advancement of foreign policy and the resolution of the crisis at the same time. However, not all portfolios or States would be in a position to write such directives due to their position(s), stakes, and objectives in the given crisis.

Directives can be sent in by an individual delegate or by a group of delegates. When sent in by a group of delegates, it is called a joint directive.

Overt Directives

All directives are by default considered overt in nature. Information on both the execution and outcome of such a directive shall be communicated to the committee.

Covert Directives

If you want your government to take certain actions but do not wish to have the involvement of your government in taking such actions disclosed, you should send covert directives. Only the outcome of such directives will be communicated either to the delegate from whom the directive was received or to the committee as a whole. Such directives are usually used for espionage, sabotage, intelligence, and other such operations the details of which should ideally not be disclosed to the public.

If an action is conspicuous and cannot be carried out covertly, it would not matter if it was enclosed within a covert directive; its execution and outcome will be communicated to the entire committee.

How to Write a Good Directive

Each directive must aim to achieve one specific, well-defined objective using the most effective and resource-efficient means. There may be secondary objectives for each action taken, but the achievement of a secondary objective must always be seen as an added benefit, not an absolute requirement for the plan of action mentioned in the directive.

Directives must be as detailed as possible. If you want your government to initiate a complex mission or set of actions, divide the mission or set of actions into sensible composite parts and write a directive for each composite part separately. All the directives aimed at accomplishing said mission must be sent together or must have a mention of the name of the mission they are a part of.

The nature of the directive (covert/overt) must be mentioned clearly. In the absence of any mention of the nature of the directive, the Executive Board will assume and evaluate the directive as an overt directive.

Directive Format

Title	Any title for the operation/mission — required only in the case of a series of directives from a single operation/mission.
Type	Covert / Overt Directive
From	[Delegate name and portfolio]
Primary Objective	A one to two line description of what you wish to accomplish using this directive.
Secondary Objective	(If any) Any objective that may also be achieved while executing this directive.
Mission Brief	A three to four line description of how the aforementioned objective(s) will be accomplished.
Plan of Action	A detailed description of what you wish your government or its specific agency/agencies to do to accomplish the aforementioned objective(s).
Additional Info	(If any) Any additional details that you wish to convey.
References	(Not mandatory) Sources of information used to suggest the above plan of action.

4.2 Portfolio Requests

These are communications from individual delegates to their respective governments seeking information unavailable to them at the moment, based on which they can decide to take action. Such requests are encouraged only when the information sought is publicly unavailable.

Portfolio Request Format

From	Delegate of [country]
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To	Designation of the person within your government who has the authority to provide the information being sought.
Query	[Question or query]

4.3 Press Releases

These are public statements that the country of a delegate would like to issue. These can be sent in by individual delegates or a group of delegates. If passed, these shall be publicly displayed in the committee.

Press Release Format

Type	Press Release / Statement
From	[Delegate / Country]
Statement	[Body of the press release]

4.4 Communiqués

These are secret communications that delegates can individually or collectively send to other delegates not present in their cabinet, their own government, or governments of States that may or may not be present in the committee. The content of these can include, but is not limited to, negotiations, requests, threats, or demands.

Communiqué Format

From	Delegate of [country]
To	[Name of the country/designation to which you wish to send the communiqué]
Message	[Body of the communiqué]

SECTION V — DIRECTIVE APPROVAL

Rule 16. Directive Format & Approval

Directives are actions presented by the Cabinet to the Chair. Directives, which can vary in length from a few lines to several sentences, are expressions of the Cabinet's will. Cabinet consensus should be the goal; therefore, only points that pertain to information that has been debated by at least five speakers immediately prior to the time of its proposal will be entertained. However, multiple Directives on the same topic may be proposed to the Chair.

The Chair will offer the opportunity to present Directives after every fifth speaker. A delegate must wait to be recognized by the Chair before presenting his or her Directive.

Directives are approved by a simple majority vote, barring any veto from the Dais (see Section II — Committee Rules and Format), except for those involving nuclear weapons or ultimatums, which must be passed by consensus.

