

## Committees 101

This section deals with the common committees present in various Model United Nations conferences. Often, specific committees have specific procedures or limitations. Such specifications are noted below as well as a brief explanation of what each committee does. As committees are constantly being created, improved, and revised, the list provided below equates only a fraction of the committees showcased by MUN conferences.

### General Assemblies

General assemblies are the primary organs of the United Nations. Hence, they are much larger in size and cover broader topics. With some general assemblies containing up to 193 members, its area of discussion often needs to encompass a very wide range of perspectives.

- **Disarmament and International Security Committee (DISEC)**
- **Economic and Financial Committee (ECOFIN)**
- **Social, Humanitarian, and Cultural Committee (SOCHUM)**
- **Special Political and Decolonization Committee (SPECPOL)**
- **Legal**

### Specialized Agencies

Specialized agencies are groups that focus on a specific genre of issues. It ranges from labour to health, from global security to the environment. The below are some of the common specialized agencies from past MUN conferences.

- **World Cities Summit (WCS)**
- **International Labour Organization (ILO)**
- **Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)**
- **United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)**
- **World Health Organization (WHO)**
- **United Nations Human Rights Council (UNHRC)**
- **Group of 20 (G20)**
  - organization of world's 20 biggest economic powers
- **United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)**
- **Kremlin**
  - equivalent of the head of the Russian government
- **United Nations Security Council (UNSC)**
  - In the UNSC, five countries hold the Permanent 5 (P5) status (USA, Russia, France, UK, China). These P5 countries have the ability to veto (completely reject) any resolutions.

### Regional Bodies



Regional bodies allows you to focus on problems that occur only in a specific region. Whether it be fighting terrorism in Europe to resolving Sunni-Shia conflict in the Middle East, the nations in the committees are often directly affected by the topic in hand.

- **European Union (EU)**
- **League of Arab States (LoS)**
- **Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC)**
- **North Atlantic Trade Organization (NATO)**
- **United Kingdom House of Commons (UKHOC)**

### **Historic Committees**

Historic committees allow you to experience events that have already occurred in the past. In a historic committee, you have the ability to change the course of history. However, due to copious amounts of historically significant events, no specific set of committees exist within the scope; they are always subjected to change to fit the historic event of choosing.

- **Peace of Westphalia (PoW)**
- **Paris Peace Conference (PPC)**

### **Crisis Committees**

Crisis committees are the most diverse, advanced, and fast-paced committee type available. It has a thematic topic with a simple scenario that develops constantly through your directives. There is no one specific "committee" for crisis committees, instead, common types of crisis committees exist. Therefore, topics do not have much boundary other than the fact that it has to hold a crisis status.

- **Joint Crisis Committee**
  - consists of two independently running subcommittees whose decisions and actions immediately affect the perpetual crisis at hand
- **Historic Crisis Committee**
  - equivalent to a crisis committee version of a historic committees
  - deals with historically significant events that are considered crisis status
- **Pentagon (or other government organization dealing with crisis)**
  - government organization such as Pentagon, CIA, FBI, dealing with both national and international crisis involving the nation of given organization

