

ARTICLE I: MODERATION

SECTION 1: Establishment of Moderator Offices

- (a) There shall be one “Head Moderator”, four “Head Clerks” whom shall form a “Triumvirate”, a Board of Appeals and one or more “Deputy Clerk(s)”.
- (b) There may be positions inferior to the Head Moderator, the Triumvirate, and the Board of Appeals that serve at their discretion and pleasure.
- (c) The phrases “moderators” or “moderating team” or “moderation” or “moderation team” in this Constitution shall refer to the summation of the Head Moderator and the Triumvirate.
- (d) The phrases “Appellate Board” or “Meta Judiciary” in this Constitution shall refer to the Board of Appeals.

SECTION 2: Head Moderator

- (a) The Head Moderator shall be considered the highest moderating official on /r/ModelUSGov, and he or she shall possess appellate authority over all decisions made by other moderators, except those pertaining to the removal of the Head Moderator and ultimate and final appellate authority within the power of the Board of Appeals.
- (b) The Head Moderator shall be charged with solving any crises that should arise beyond the abilities of the other moderators.
- (c) The Head Moderator shall be responsible for growing and advertising the subreddit, and the Head Moderator shall also create the simulation states (the political subdivision of the simulation that act as state governments, as opposed to real state borders).
- (d) The Head Moderator may develop policies and rules for /r/ModelUSGov subordinate to and inferior of this Constitution with the advice and consent of the Triumvirate unless restrictions on specific issues in the bylaws are provided for in this constitution.
 - (i) The records and rulings of the Board of Appeals may not be altered, obscured or otherwise edited by the Head Moderator.
 - (ii) This shall be codified into a ModelUSGov Meta Bylaws.
 - (1) These bylaws shall be maintained by the position of the Head Moderator or any position created by the Head Moderator to complete this goal.
- (e) The Head Moderator shall appoint his or her successor, who must then be approved by a simple majority vote of the community, but if the Head Moderator shall leave office before appointing a successor, then the Triumvirate shall appoint a successor, subject to the same community approval.

- (i) If the position of Head Moderator and all positions of the Triumvirate shall be vacant with no successors appointed, then a previous Head Moderator, in good standing, shall appoint a successor.
 - (1) If multiple former Head Moderators are available to serve in that position then the most recent shall serve as Interim Head Moderator unless they should forgo their right and it will be passed down to each successive Head Moderator in a similar fashion until an Interim is selected.
 - (2) Good standing shall be defined as an individual not currently banned from the community and will apply to all subsequent sections of this document.
- (f) The Head Moderator may be removed for misconduct, inactivity, or other grave and stated public cause by either:
 - (i) A three-fourths vote of the Triumvirate and a two-thirds vote of the community;
or
 - (1) Between the time of a vote of the Triumvirate for removal of the Head Moderator and the end of the vote of the community for the same, the Triumvirate, in corpore, shall act as Head Moderator.
 - (2) If all positions of the Triumvirate are empty between the time of a vote for removal of the Head Moderator and the end of the vote of the community for the same, the last Head Moderator in good standing shall operate as Head Moderator and may select a Triumvirate to act as an Interim Triumvirate until a new moderator is elected by the community.
 - (ii) A three-fifths vote of the Community; or
 - (1) Same rules shall apply as outlined in Article 1; Section 2, Subsection (f) Clause f(i)-(1)-(2).
 - (iii) If the Head Moderator has not made a post on reddit within the last 30 days or spoken in whatever official ModelUSGov telecommunication software the community is then using, then he or she shall be deemed inactive by that fact alone, and the office shall become vacant, unless three-fourths of the Triumvirate vote to override this.
 - (1) If the Head Moderator has not begun elections in a timely manner (within 7 days of the planned day), then the Triumvirate may run elections until the reappearance of the Head Moderator.
- (g) At the six month point of the Head Moderator's tenure or upon the acquisition of 50 signatures of current good standing community members and no shorter than 2 months into the Head Moderators tenure, the Head Moderator must conduct a Vote of Confidence on their office.
 - (i) The Head Moderator may only be removed if the vote of confidence garners a two-thirds majority vote for removal.

- (ii) If the vote of confidence garners a two thirds majority support for removal, then the Head Moderator shall be removed from office and barred from choosing a successor and the next Head Moderator shall be selected as outlined in Article 1, Section 2, Subsection E of the meta constitution.
- (iii) This process shall repeat itself every 6 months into the Head Moderator's tenure.
- (h) The Head Moderator shall not hold any political office within the simulation nor be a member of any party in the simulation, but shall be as non-partisan and impartial as humanly possible. Any abuse of moderator authority for the benefit or detriment of their parties, coalitions, caucuses, or other sim members shall be seen as a grave and serious violation of his or her fiduciary duty to the community and shall warrant removal from their position and other just punishments.
- (i) The first Head Moderator under this Constitution shall be /u/CincinnatusoftheWest.
- (j) The Head Mod shall be tasked with the oversight and execution of the rules of /r/ModelUSGov at the Reddit and Discord levels. This includes the main subreddit, main Discord, and all officially sanctioned offshoots.
- (k) The duties of the Head Mod shall include, but are not limited to, removing comments in violation of the rules, maintaining community forums and subreddits and live internet chat channels and other mediums of communication for pleasure or strategy, issuing more minor punishments and bans for rule infractions, and such other activities as are necessary or useful for the thriving of the simulation and the community more generally.
- (l) The Head Mod shall be responsible for the selection, hiring, and supervision of Deputy Censors and Discord Clerks, who will be employed to assist with his duties.
 - (i) The first Head Mod to act with these new responsibilities shall be /u/GuiltyAir

SECTION 3: Triumvirate of Head Clerks

- (a) The Three Head Clerks, which form the Triumvirate (making each a triumvir), shall be considered the highest ordinary moderation officials on /r/ModelUSGov, running and organizing the day-to-day operations of /r/ModelUSGov. Like the Head Moderator, the Head Clerks shall not be allowed to maintain any elected political offices or partisan affiliations within the simulation. Any abuse of moderator authority for the benefit or detriment of parties, coalitions, caucuses, or other sim members shall be seen as a grave and serious violation of his or her fiduciary duty to the community and shall warrant removal from their position and other just punishments.
- (b) The Triumvirate shall consist of four individual offices: Head Federal Clerk, Head State Clerk, Head Censor, and Head Elections Clerk.
 - (i) Head Federal Clerk

- (1) The Head Federal Clerk shall be tasked with the oversight and organization of /r/ModelUSGov at the federal level, including the House of Representatives, Senate, Executive branch, and the Supreme Court.
 - (2) The duties of the Head Federal Clerk shall include, but are not limited to, the posting of legislation, the counting of legislative votes, the smooth functioning of legislative bodies and their committees, and such other activities as are necessary or useful for the thriving of the simulation and the community more generally.
 - (3) The Head Federal Clerk shall be responsible for the selection, hiring, and supervision of Federal Deputy Clerks, who will be employed to assist with his duties. This includes roles such as House and Senate Clerks and the Clerk of Court.
 - (4) The first Head Federal Clerk under this Constitution shall be /u/DaytonaNerd.
- (ii) Head State Clerk
- (1) The Head State Clerk shall be tasked with the oversight and organization of /r/ModelUSGov at the state level, including the legislative, executive, and judicial branches of the states and their effective operation.
 - (2) The duties of the Head State Clerk shall include, but are not limited to, the posting of legislation, the counting of legislative votes, the smooth functioning of legislative bodies and their committees, and such other activities as are necessary or useful for the thriving of the simulation and the community more generally.
 - (3) The Head State Clerk shall be responsible for the selection, hiring, and supervision of State Clerks, who will be employed to assist with his duties.
 - (4) The first Head State Clerk under this Constitution shall be /u/jb567.
- (iii) Head Censor
- (1) The Head Censor shall be tasked with the oversight and execution of the rules of /r/ModelUSGov at the Reddit and Discord levels. This includes the main subreddit, main Discord, and all officially sanctioned offshoots.
 - (2) The duties of the Head Censor shall include, but are not limited to, removing comments in violation of the rules, maintaining community forums and subreddits and live internet chat channels and other mediums of communication for pleasure or strategy, issuing more minor punishments and bans for rule infractions, and such other activities as are necessary or useful for the thriving of the simulation and the community more generally.

- (3) The Head Censor shall be responsible for the selection, hiring, and supervision of Deputy Censors and Discord Clerks, who will be employed to assist with his duties.
 - (4) The first Head Censor under this Constitution shall be /u/WaywardWit.
- (iv) Head Elections Clerk
- (1) The Head Elections Clerk shall be tasked with the management and regulation of elections held on /r/ModelUSGov. This includes Federal and State Elections exclusively, with parties still being allowed to run internal elections under their own rules and regulations.
 - (2) The duties of the Head Elections Clerk shall include, but are not limited to, the posting of regular polls throughout the term, the tracking of all information deemed relevant to the administration and execution of elections, the management of the Simulated Elections calculator, the grading of all Bills, Executive Orders, and Directives submitted and posted on /r/ModelUSGov, oversight of the Elections Board
 - (3) The Head Elections Clerk shall act as the Chair of the Elections Board. The Head Moderator shall appoint the Chair of the Events Board with the approval of the Head Elections Clerk.
 - (4) The Head Elections Clerk shall be tasked with selection, hiring, and supervision of Elections and Events Clerks, who will be tasked with assisting with his or her duties.
 - (5) The first Head Elections Clerk shall be selected within two weeks of this constitutional amendment passage.
- (c) The duties of the Triumvirate as a unit shall include issuing more lengthy bans to rulebreakers, meting out other justly deserved punishments, the maintenance of the subreddit wiki, the maintenance of the subreddit sidebar and CSS, the maintenance of flairs and other images, maintaining the approved submitters list.
- (d) The Triumvirate, by a two-thirds vote, may develop policies and rules for /r/ModelUSGov subordinate to and inferior of this Constitution with the advice and consent of the Head Moderator.
- (i) This shall be incorporated into the ModelUSGov Bylaws.

- (e) Except for routine and clerical actions, for which a single Head Clerk may act on their own authority, the actions of the Triumvirate shall require a three-fourths vote unless otherwise stated.
- (f) The Triumvirate, upon a unanimous decision, shall be able to overturn a decision by the Head Moderator and propose an alternative course of action in which all members of the Triumvirate agree to.
- (g) When the office of a single Head Clerk shall go vacant, the remaining Head Clerks shall appoint a replacement, subject to the confirmation of the Head Moderator. If two or more offices of Head Clerk shall go vacant, then the Head Moderator shall appoint the replacements.
- (h) At the six month point of the Head Clerk's tenure or upon the acquisition of 50 signatures of current good standing community members and no shorter than 2 months into the Head Clerk's tenure, the Head Moderator must conduct a Vote of Confidence on the Head Clerk's Office.
 - (i) The Head Clerk may only be removed if the vote of confidence garners a two-thirds majority vote for removal.
 - (ii) If the vote of confidence garners a two thirds majority support for removal, then the Head Clerk shall be removed from office and barred from choosing a successor and the next Head Clerk shall be selected as outlined in Article 1, Section 3, Subsection g.
 - (iii) This process shall repeat itself every 6 months into the Head Clerk's tenure.
- (i) A Head Clerk may be removed for misconduct, inactivity, or other grave and stated public cause by either;
 - (i) A three-fourths vote of the Triumvirate or on the concurrence of a Head Clerk and the Head Moderator; or
 - (ii) A three-fifths vote of the community.
 - (iii) However, if the remaining Head Clerk or the Head Moderator believes the Head Clerk in question to be wrongly accused or otherwise not deserving of removal, then they may permit them an appeal to the party chairs (or similarly designated party official if a conflict of interest arises or if a party has a nonsingular office at its top), who may overturn the removal by a unanimous minus one vote.
 - (1) If a Head Clerk has not made a post on reddit within the last 30 days or failed to appear in the official ModelUSGov telecommunication software, then he or she shall be deemed inactive by that fact alone, and the office shall become vacant, unless the remaining two Triumvirs override this.

SECTION 4: Board of Appeals

- (a) The Board of Appeals shall consist of three senior members of the sim appointed by the Head Moderator, with consent of the Triumvirate, to serve 1 year terms or until the individual's resignation, removal, or reappointment.
 - (i) An individual may serve at max 2, 1 year, terms on the Board of Appeals.
 - (ii) Senior member shall be defined as an individual having been a member of the sim for one year or more or served in a meta position for over 3 months if they have not been a member of the sim for more than 1 year.
- (b) The Board of Appeals shall function as the ultimate authority on the Meta Constitution for ModelUSGov.
 - (i) The Board of Appeals shall be able to override decisions by the Head Moderator or the unanimous Triumvirate regarding interpretations of the meta constitution and these rulings shall be binding upon the entirety of the sim.
 - (A) These rulings shall be made public in the ModelUSGov Bylaws.
- (c) The Board of Appeals shall create an appeals process in which banned members of the community may appeal punishments assigned by the Head Moderator or the Triumvirate.
 - (i) This appeals process shall not include lesser punishments, mutes, or bans lasting less than 48 hours which the process of appeals shall be retained by the Head Moderator and the Triumvirate.
 - (ii) This appeals process shall not include cases of termination or hiring regarding meta positions.
 - (iii) This appeals process shall be outlined in the ModelUSGov Bylaws.
- (d) The members of the Board of Appeals shall not be allowed to maintain any elected political offices or partisan affiliations within the simulation. Any abuse of moderator authority for the benefit or detriment of parties, coalitions, caucuses, or other sim members shall be seen as a grave and serious violation of his or her fiduciary duty to the community and shall warrant removal from their position and other just punishments.
 - (i) The Board of Appeals member shall be removed by an unanimous decision of the Head Moderator and the remaining members of the Board of Appeals.
- (e) If a Board of Appeals member has not made a post on reddit within the last 30 days or failed to appear in the official ModelUSGov telecommunication software, then he or she shall be deemed inactive by that fact alone, and the office shall become vacant, unless the remaining two Triumvirs override this.

SECTION 5: The Elections Board

- (a) The Events Board by majority vote with the consent of the Head Elections Clerk shall have the right to award modifiers to those who participate in an event.

- (a) The Triumvirate shall have the ability to overrule any additional modifiers by three-fourths vote, or two-fourths vote and with the consent of the Head Moderator.
- (b) 30 members of the simulation may petition the Triumvirate to consider retracting a modifier.
 - (a) The Triumvirate shall then vote to retract said event or modifier, a three-fourths majority vote shall be required for said vote to pass.

SECTION 6: Deputy Clerks

- (a) The Deputy Clerks shall be assistants to and advisers of the Head Clerks, and when called into service by him or her, of the Head Moderator also.
- (b) The Triumvirate shall determine the number of Deputy Clerks and what powers and duties to delegate to each, and each Deputy Clerk shall serve at the pleasure of the Triumvirate, who may remove a clerk under their authority at any time or reason.
- (c) Deputy Clerks shall be allowed to maintain their political offices and partisan affiliations within the simulation, but the abuse of moderator authority for the benefit of their parties, coalitions, or caucuses shall be seen as a grave and serious violation of their fiduciary duty to the community and shall warrant removal from their position and other just punishments.

SECTION 7: Approved Submitters

- (a) The President of the United States, the Vice President of the United States, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the Press Secretary, and the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court shall be approved submitters, alongside all moderators, and anyone the Head Moderator or the Triumvirate determines to be necessary as an approved submitter on /r/ModelUSGov.
- (b) If the President of the United States, the Vice President of the United States, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the Press Secretary, the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, or another officeholder whom the Head Moderator or Triumvirate has deemed as needing to have approved submitter status abuses the privilege, then the Head Moderator or the Triumvirate may develop an alternate scheme of approval of posts for that individual while they hold that office.

SECTION 8: Outside Subreddits

- (a) Core subreddits must have Head Moderator and the four Head Clerks as moderators with full permissions.
- (b) Core subreddits will be defined as /r/ModelUSGov, /r/ModelUSHouse, /r/ModelUSSenate, /r/ModelSupCourt, /r/ModelWHPress, all state subreddits, and all other public subreddits directly related to the running of the government or the simulation.
- (c) Press subreddits may be banned from posting in /r/ModelUSPress or /r/ModelUSGovPress by the Head Moderator because of abuse of press privileges, harassment, demeaning content, or other grave reason.
- (d) Press subreddits will be defined as public subreddits that produce content related to /r/ModelUSGov and which link to /r/ModelUSPress or /r/ModelUSGovPress.
- (e) Party subreddits must have the Head Moderator as a moderator with full permissions.

ARTICLE II: ELECTIONS

SECTION 1: Federal Election Frequency and Structure

- (a) There shall be a federal election every 3 months, during which every member of the House of Representatives and half of the Senate shall be up for election, so that Representatives serve 3 month terms and Senators serve 6 month terms. During every other federal election, the President and Vice President shall also be elected, so that each shall serve a 6 month term concurrent with the other.
- (b) The size of the House of Representatives shall be determined by the Head Moderator and the Triumvirate, with public notice given before the federal election in which the change takes place. The size of the Senate shall be determined by the number of simulation states multiplied by two.
- (c) Any changes to the values of the numbers of representatives shall be recorded into the ModelUSGov Bylaws.
- (d) The Head Moderator, with unanimous approval from the Triumvirate, may determine to extend any 2 month period under this constitution from 60 days to up to 120 days for the purposes of elections, provided said decision is made prior to the election and announced to the community.
- (e) The size of the House of Representatives shall be determined by the Head Moderator and the Triumvirate, with public notice given before the federal election in which the change

takes place. The size of the Senate shall be determined by the number of simulation states multiplied by two.

- (i) Any changes to the values of the numbers of representatives shall be recorded into the ModelUSGov Bylaws.
- (f) The Head Moderator, with unanimous approval from the Triumvirate, may determine to extend any 2 month period under this constitution from 60 days to up to 120 days for the purposes of elections, provided said decision is made prior to the election and announced to the community.

SECTION 2: Senators

- (a) Senators may be associated with a party, but are considered to be individual candidates.
- (b) If a senator chooses to resign or is expelled by the Senate, then they will be replaced based on the laws of the state from which they were elected within the limits of the United States Constitution.
 - (i) If the Senator is subject to meta punishment and convicted, the Senator's seat will be allocated based on the laws of the state from which they were elected within the limits of the United States Constitution.
 - (ii) If the Senator is subject to meta punishment requiring investigation, the Senator's seat will be given to party of that Senator until a determination of guilt is made.
 - (1) If the individual is an independent member of the sim, their seat shall remain vacant until such time as a determination of guilt is made in which the seat will either be returned to the Senator or be replaced based on the laws of the state from which they were elected within the limits of the United States Constitution.
 - (2) If the Senator is found guilty the seat shall be forfeited and will be replaced based on the laws of the state from which they were elected within the limits of the United States Constitution.
 - (3) If the Senator is found not guilty, the seat shall be returned to the Senator to serve his remaining term or until his resignation.

SECTION 3: Representatives

- (a) The Regulation of seat ownership shall be described in the Bylaws.
 - (i) Any change to these regulations shall only come into effect after a new election to the seat which this regulatory change affects.

SECTION 4: President and Vice President

- (a) The President and Vice President may be associated with a party, but are considered to be candidates outside of their party.
- (b) Candidates for President and Vice President shall run on a joint ticket.
- (c) The President and Vice President shall be elected through the Electoral College, with each state receiving a number of electors equal to their number of representatives plus their number of senators. In order to be elected President and Vice President, a ticket must receive a majority of the electoral votes.

SECTION 5: State Election Frequency and Structure

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- (a) There shall be a state election every 3 months, following the end of the federal election, during which 3 governors, lieutenant governors, and every state legislator shall be up for election, so that legislators serve terms of 3 months and governors, and lieutenant governors serve terms of 6 months.
- (b) Elections for state legislatures shall be based on the entire state and shall use D'Hondt list proportional representation.
- (c) Elections for the governor and lieutenant governor of each state shall be conducted using First Past The Post elections. Governors and lieutenant governor shall be elected on a joint ticket, unless otherwise stated by a state constitution and consented to by the Head Elections Clerk.
- (d) There shall be no elections for other statewide offices outside of governors and lieutenant governors, such as the attorney general or secretary of state, unless explicitly stated by a state constitution and consented to by the Triumvirate.

SECTION 6: State Officials

- (c) Governors and lieutenant governors may be associated with a party, but are considered to be individual candidates.
- (d) If a governor or lieutenant governor chooses to resign or is convicted on articles of impeachment, then they will be replaced based on the laws of the respective state.
- (e) State legislators are elected on party lists; as such, seats in state legislatures belong to the parties.
- (a) If a legislator chooses to resign or is expelled by their state legislature (or is otherwise removed according to the constitution, laws, and rules of their state), then their party must choose a replacement, but if their party fails to choose a replacement in a reasonable

time (as determined by each state, but one week if a state is silent on the matter), then there shall be a by-election (unless a state shall prescribe another method). If they are an independent candidate, or if the party fails to replace them in one week, a special by-election will be held in the manner to be determined by and at the discretion of the Head Moderator (unless a state shall prescribe another method).

(1) The Head Moderator may permit independent candidates for the state legislatures to submit an ordered list of up to five people who will replace them should their seat go vacant, but such a list must be published to the community before the election takes place to ensure the community voting on them is aware of who their potential replacement might be.

SECTION 7: Advertisement

- (a) During congressional terms, when no date for the next federal election has been announced, there will be no limit to advertising offline and through posts on reddit subreddits under 500,000 subscribers.
- (b) At no time may any person advertise through non-reddit advertisements not approved by the Head Moderator.
 - (i) Members of your own party being defined as approved submitters on your party's official subreddit and say apply to subsequent clauses of this section.
 - (ii) The qualifications for an approved advertisement shall be included in the ModelUSGov Bylaws.
- (c) The Head Moderator, with the consent of the Triumvirate, may further restrict or even abolish advertising during certain periods or altogether, and the Head Moderator may apply these rules to byelections at his or her discretion.
 - (i) These advertising rules shall be included in the ModelUSGov Bylaws.

SECTION 8: Simulated Elections

- (a) All elections are on /r/ModelUSGov shall be simulated and ran by the Head Elections Clerk and the Elections Board.
- (b) The system by which simulated elections will be run shall be included in the ModelUSGov Bylaws.
 - (i) The Head Elections Clerk shall have the right to introduce a new system for simulated elections or amendments to the current system for simulated elections at any time which shall require a majority vote of the community to take effect.

- (ii) The section of the ModelUSGov Bylaws that lays out the system of simulated elections may only be amended by a majority vote of the community.
- (iii) The Head Elections Clerk shall have the right to make minor changes to the section of the ModelUSGov Bylaws that lays out the system of simulated elections.
 - (1) All minor changes must be publicized on /r/ModelUSMeta.
 - (2) The Board of Appeals shall have the power to provide the definition of a minor change.

SECTION 9: Prohibition of Dual Mandate

- (a) No person may hold a federal position and a major state position or state legislator position concurrently, and no person who serves as a justice or judge – whether federal or state – may serve in any other position, state or federal (excluding party officers or a moderator role).
 - (i) An exception to clause (a) shall be that a member of the House of Representatives or the Senate, including the Vice President, may serve as a justice of any state other than the one in which they were elected.
 - (ii) An exception to clause (a) shall be that a member of one State Assembly, including the Lieutenant Governor, may serve as a justice in one other state other than the one in which they were elected.
- (b) Individuals who have a prohibited dual mandate shall resign from one or more positions, at their choosing, until such a conflict no longer exists.
- (c) The Head Moderator, with the advice and consent of the Triumvirate, may relax, abolish, strengthen, or clarify the provisions of this section, provided such decision is published to the community and the rules are enforced in a universal and equitable manner.
 - (i) The current rules on Dual Mandate shall be included in the ModelUSGov Bylaws.

ARTICLE III: STATES

SECTION 1: Borders and Structure

- (a) The simulation states and districts shall be constructed by the Head Moderator with the advice and consent of the Triumvirate, but no such redistricting or state reconfiguration shall take effect until the following election after which they are published.

- (i) The current configuration of states shall be published during the announcement of elections and be incorporated into the ModelUSGov Bylaws.
- (b) No real life state shall be divided to form a simulation state, but multiple real life states may be merged to form a simulation state, and the “building blocks” of simulation states shall be real life states, which people shall register in through the Electoral Roll.
- (c) Each state shall have its own subreddit, and it may utilize additional ones for courts, legislative activities, and similar things.
- (d) Each simulation state shall adopt its base laws from a real life state (its “base state”), and whenever a simulation state is destroyed, it shall have a successor state which shall maintain the simulation laws, rulings, executive orders, and other actions made and developed there within the simulation.
- (e) The Model United States is currently split up into five states: Western, Central, Southern, Eastern, and Northeast.
 - (1) Western State; The base state is California.
 - (2) Midwestern State; The base state is Illinois.
 - (3) Southern State; The base state is Florida.
 - (4) Eastern State; The base state is Virginia.
 - (5) Northeast State; The base state is New York.

SECTION 2: State Moderation

- (a) The authority of the Head Moderator and Triumvirate extends to the states and their subreddits, but the authority of the Deputy Clerks shall extend at the discretion of the Triumvirate.
- (b) The Head State Clerk shall appoint a State Clerk for each state, who shall be tasked with running the state subreddit from day-to-day, including removing comments in violation of the rules, the posting of state legislation, the counting of legislative votes, the maintenance of the state subreddit wiki, the maintenance of the subreddit sidebar, the maintenance of flairs and other images, the smooth functioning of legislative bodies and their committees, maintaining the approved submitters list, maintaining community forums and subreddits and live internet chat channels and other mediums of communication for pleasure or strategy, and such other activities as are necessary or useful for the thriving of each state and the state’s community more generally.
- (c) Each State Clerk may employ one or more Deputy State Clerks, but any such appointment may be vetoed by the Triumvirate, or by the Head Moderator.

SECTION 3: State Constitutions and Laws

- (a) Each state shall use the constitution of its base state but may also employ a meta constitution that overrides the state constitution in the prescribed for instances, including in political aspects, but whenever the meta constitution is silent, the real life state constitution shall prevail.
- (b) Each state shall maintain the laws, resolutions, executive orders, and court orders produced by its activities in a wiki, and such things shall endure with the base state of that state, so that wherever the base state goes among the simulation states, such activities and history follow it.

SECTION 4: State Officials

- (a) At minimum, each state shall have a legislature, a governor, and a lieutenant governor.
 - (1) The Head Moderator, with the advice and consent of the Triumvirate, may also require each state to have at least one court if he or she deems the federal judiciary to be burdened.
- (b) The Head Moderator, with the advice and consent of the Triumvirate, may standardize the sizes and mode of election of legislatures and governors to make state elections easier to conduct. However, the Head Moderator should attempt to respect reasonable differences among states.

ARTICLE IV: LEGISLATION AND CONGRESS

SECTION 1: Submission of Legislation

- (a) Members of Congress who desire to submit legislation shall submit it to the moderator mail of /r/ModelUSHouse or /r/ModelUSSenate, whether they are a member of the House of Representatives or Senate, respectively.
 - (1) The moderating team may request an alternative means of submission to this, and such a request shall overrule this subsection.
 - (a) This alternative means of submission shall be incorporated into the ModelUSGov Bylaws.

- (b) The Head Moderator, the Head Clerks, and Deputy Clerks may decline the submission of a piece of legislation if it is not serious, has formatting too dissimilar to the example format, or if a very similar piece of legislation has already been voted on in the same Congress (but a piece of legislation that was vetoed by the President, and the passage of a new form of which was negotiated by the President and Congressional leadership shall be allowed).

SECTION 2: Example Format for Legislation

- (a) Look Here for the Example Format for Legislation:
<https://docs.google.com/document/d/15Bm0cdSpMK6ub7MWh33TXPBXeMHI5un7gqApFOubleO/edit?usp=sharing>
- (b) Moderators may field questions about legislation formatting.

SECTION 3: Amendment of Legislation

- (a) If committees are present, once the legislation has passed out of committee and to the floor of either house, amendments can be proposed by any member of the house the bill is currently in, regardless of the house of origin. If committees are not present in a house, then such amendments can be offered as soon as the legislation is posted in such house.
- (b) Legislation may be amended at any time by the approval of the submitter of the legislation before amendments to said legislation or the legislation itself goes to vote in committee, or absent committees, before the whole house in question.
- (c) Upon the floor of either house, the failure to vote on an amendment by a member of Congress shall be considered abstention in absentia.
- (d) Each house and committee shall determine the length of periods to offer and vote on amendments by their own rules.

SECTION 4: Passage Through Congress

- (a) Legislation will be voted on a single time in either house. If they pass through the first house, then they will be voted on a single time in the other house, unless it fails in committee.
- (b) The leadership of either house or of committees shall be able to expedite and delay legislation according to the rules of their house.

SECTION 5: Voting Procedures

- (a) Members of each house are to comment their votes on any bill, resolution, amendment, or other motion in the House or Senate subreddit.
 - (1) The moderating team may request an alternative means of voting to this, and such a request shall overrule this subsection.
- (b) The moderation shall endeavor to inform members of each house of votes occurring within their house.

SECTION 6: Veto Override

- (a) Any member of Congress may begin a veto override vote in either house.
- (b) The voting on of the veto override shall be left to the discretion of the leadership of each house as prescribed by the rules of that house.
- (c) No veto override may occur more than 14 days after a veto nor after a session of Congress ends, but the same legislation may be submitted in a new Congress as if it was going through for the first time.

SECTION 7: Quorums

- (a) For a vote on legislation by members of either house of Congress to be considered “valid”, half plus one of members of each house must have voted “aye”, “nay” or “abstain” on it.
 - (1) This subsection applies to floor votes only, as amendment and committee votes are controlled elsewhere in this Constitution and by the rules of each house.
- (b) If a quorum is not reached, then the measure fails, but can be re-voted on at the discretion of the leadership of the house in question.

SECTION 8: Attendance of Members of Congress

- (a) If a member of Congress is inactive in voting, in a duration directed by the Federal Bylaws, without advance notice, their seat will be vacated and filled appropriately.
- (b) When members of Congress give notice of their future inactivity, they may vote in advance by sending votes to the moderators beforehand (including conditional votes of simple complexity) or they may appoint a proxy to vote on their behalf, subject to approval by the moderating team.

SECTION 9: Records

- (a) The Head Moderator and the Triumvirate shall maintain a public record of all the votes of each member of Congress on each measure voted on by each house on the floor of that house.

SECTION 10: Laws, Constitution, and Events

- (b) Except where changed by the simulation itself, the simulation adopts all the laws, regulations, rules, codes, orders, and other authorities of the United States government as its own within the simulation.
- (c) The simulation shall abide by the Constitution of the United States within the simulation, except where explicitly changed by the simulation.
- (d) No legislation, regulations, executive orders, constitutional amendments, or court orders passed or handed down in real life after the canonical start date. -- shall apply to this simulation, unless the moderating team deems it so important so as to make an exception, but such exceptions must be announced to the community.
- (e) Events that occur in real life, such as terrorist attacks, natural disasters, and similar events shall also occur within the simulation unless the moderation team deems them not to have, but such exceptions must be announced to the community.
 - (1) Nothing in this subsection shall prohibit the moderators from approving events pertaining to the simulation such as terrorist attacks, natural disasters, and similar events.

ARTICLE V: CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES

SECTION 1: Creation

- (a) Each house of Congress can create or modify committees by the passage of a resolution.
- (b) Congress may establish conference committees and joint committees by resolutions.

ARTICLE VI: POLITICAL PARTIES AND INDEPENDENT GROUPINGS

SECTION 1: Requirements of a New Party

- (a) New parties can be formed if they can achieve at least ~~thirty (30) members~~ twenty (20) members, have adopted a constitution regarding their operations, have adopted a platform or manifesto regarding their political positions or ideology, have established party leaders or spokesperson(s), have elected at least one member in either a state or federal election, and have their membership approved by the moderating team (e.g. the member of a party is not merely a brigade from another model government or the alternates of other members).
- (b) New parties' formation shall be accepted or rejected by the Triumvirate and the Head Moderator in order to restrict the formation of similar parties, non-serious parties, or those which they feel have no place in polite political discourse or in the current meta situation of the subreddit.
- (c) The Triumvirate and the Head Moderator may establish other requirements for the formation of parties, provided such requirements are published publicly to the community.
 - (i) These public requirements shall be outlined in the ModelUSGov Bylaws.

SECTION 2: Minor Parties

- (a) Minor parties are a party which have not yet achieved full party status. It is the stage before a group becomes an official party, and minor parties possess some, but not all, of the rights of a party.
- (b) Minor parties require at least ten (10) members (screened by the moderating team to ensure they are not brigading members or the alternate accounts of other members), a constitution regarding their operations, a platform or manifesto regarding their political positions or ideology, and one or more party leaders or spokespersons in order to be recognized.
- (c) Minor parties may have a flair, be linked in the "Join a Party Thread," and have their own subreddit.

- (d) In federal elections, minor parties may run a legislative D'Hondt list in two states
 - (i) In federal elections, minor parties may run a Senate candidate in the same state as they are submitting their D'Hondt list.
- (e) In state elections, minor parties may run a legislative D'Hondt list in two states
 - (i) In state elections, minor parties may run, or jointly run, a gubernatorial ticket in the same state as they are submitting the legislative D'Hondt list.
- (f) For the purpose of presidential and vice presidential candidates, minor party candidates must satisfy the requirements of independents.

SECTION 3: Independent Groupings.

- (a) Independent groupings are a group of independents who wish to create a new political party. It is the stage before a group becomes a minor party, and independent groupings possess some, but not all, of the rights of a party.
- (b) Independent groupings require at least five (5) members (screened by the moderating team to ensure they are not brigading members or the alternate accounts of other members), a constitution regarding their operations, a platform or manifesto regarding their political positions or ideology, and one or more party leaders or spokespersons in order to be recognized.
- (c) Independent groupings may have a flair, be linked in the "Join a Party Thread," and have their own subreddit.
- (d) In elections, Independent Groupings run as though they are independents. They will not be listed as a group on the D'Hondt lists.

SECTION 4: Demotion or Promotion

- (a) The Triumvirate, in conjunction with the Head Moderator, shall have the ability to demote a party to a minor party or to an independent grouping or promote an independent grouping to a minor party based on the activity, membership, and the seriousness of the party, and on other important factors.
- (b) The Triumvirate, in conjunction with the Head Moderator, shall have the ability to dissolve an independent grouping, minor party, or party based on the activity, membership, and the seriousness of the party, failure to maintain the requisite number of members, violation of meta rules, and on other important factors.

- (c) The Triumvirate, in conjunction with the Head Moderator, shall be able to amend section 1, 2, and 3 of Article VI with a simple majority vote.

ARTICLE VII: CONDUCT

SECTION 1: Rights Reserved by the Moderators

- (a) Moderators reserve the right, at any time, to delete a comment or post or to ban a member for a length of their choosing. In addition to this, the moderators reserve the right, if they so choose, to contact the proper authorities at the sight of serious harassment or threats.
- (b) Appeals can often, but not always, be made to the Triumvirate and then to the Head Moderator, and finally the Board of Appeals but serious enough offences may cause the privilege of appeal to be waived for a reasonable time based on the nature of the offense.
 - (i) The process of Appeals shall be written by the Board of Appeals and published in the ModelUSGov Bylaws.
 - (ii) Reasonable time as defined in this section shall not exceed 1 year from the date of the initial punishment for the purpose of appeals.

SECTION 2: Appropriate Conduct

- (a) Everyone is expected to maintain appropriate conduct in /r/ModelUSGov, its core subreddits, its press subreddits, its party subreddits, its live internet chat channels, and its other mediums of communication and simulation.
 - (i) Any bans will apply across all core subreddits.
- (b) The Triumvirate may oversee and change the punishments of those under them and from an individual Triumvir, and the Head Moderator may accept appeals from the Triumvirate.
- (c) The Head Moderator, in conjunction with the Triumvirate, may establish certain rules for the simulation and its subreddits, forums, and other channels.
 - (i) These rules shall be outlined in the ModelUSGov Bylaws.

SECTION 3: Honesty

- (a) At the moderators' discretion, those who are caught "cheating" (e.g. having duplicate accounts in separate parties, having multiple accounts to vote with, or having multiple accounts that hold office) will be permanently banned from /r/ModelUSGov.

- (b) After a long period, appeals may be heard by the Board of Appeals as to why such a ban should be lifted, but an appeal is unlikely to be successful, and for good reason.

SECTION 4: Doxxing

- (a) Doxxing is considered harmful conduct and is bannable.
- (b) If you are caught intentionally publishing the private information of another person without their consent you may be subject to meta punishment dependent on the sensitivity of the information and the severity of the harm it might cause.
 - (i) The length of punishment and criteria can be found either in the discord rules or the ModelUSGov Bylaws.

SECTION 5: Poaching

- (a) Poaching of new members is not allowed in the “Join a Party” thread.
- (b) Only members of the party requested may respond to requests to join a party, unless a question about parties’ views are asked.

ARTICLE VIII: MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

SECTION 1: Supreme Court Challenges

- (a) Community members should consult the Supreme Court rules before submitting a Supreme Court challenge against laws or other successful legislation.
- (b) Supreme Court challenges may not be filed against any moderator for action they took as a moderator.
- (c) Nothing in this section shall prevent moderators from seeking the advisory opinions of the Supreme Court on various meta decisions.
- (d) The moderators and the Supreme Court shall keep records of Supreme Court cases.

SECTION 2: Moderator Duty Towards Interest

- (a) The moderators shall endeavor to ensure the various offices (e.g. cabinet officers, committee chairs, et cetera) are relevant and interesting to the simulation.
- (b) The moderators shall endeavor to keep the interests of the community alive and well and spur a community of debate, respect, and fun.

SECTION 3: Unclear Situations

- (a) In cases where there are no provisions have been set by the /r/ModelUSGov Constitution or simulation rules, moderators may rule as they see fit, but they are obligated to submit an amendment to this Constitution for referendum as soon as possible, to create a simulation rule, or to keep a list of binding precedents and abide by stare decisis in the application of them, depending on what is applicable.

SECTION 4: Events Board

- (a) The Head Moderator and Triumvirate will establish an Events Board.
- (b) Members of the Events Board will initially be chosen by the Triumvirate and announced to the sim on the Meta Subreddit, /r/ModelUSMeta.
 - (i) Section 4, Subsection B will only apply to the members announced in the first week after the approval of this amendment.
- (c) The members of the Events Board will fall under the purview of the Head Elections Clerk who shall act as the Chair of the Events Board.
- (d) The Chair of the Events Board shall choose a Deputy Chair should they wish.
- (e) The Events Board will have two core purposes:
 - (1) Draft simulation-made events, and post the events on a press subreddit and cross-posting them to the Press Subreddit, /r/ModelUSPress.
 - (2) Create a rubric in which to gauge the successful response of each event
 - (a) The Chair of the Events Board may use the outcome of these events to assign modifier bonus or penalties as outlined in the current modifiers and subject to Triumvirate and head moderator approval.
- (f) 30 members of the sim may petition the Triumvirate to consider retracting an event storyline.
 - (i) The Events Board will then vote to retract all articles related to the events.
- (g) All events will require approval of the Chairman of the Events Board before publishing articles or conducting discussions or actions.
- (h) Events of considerable concern (Weather Events, Mass Shootings, and etc.) that happen within the United States of America and its territories shall not be considered simulation canon:

- (i) If there is an event that the Triumvirate believes is important to the canonicity of the simulation and is blocked by the above subsection, then they may allow that event to become canon if there is a 3/4 agreement.
 - (1) If there is disagreement in the community then 25 members of good standing may submit a resolution the Triumvirate to remove said event from simulation canon.
 - a) After receiving the resolution and confirming the signatures, the Triumvirate must remove the event from canon.
- (ii) Events of considerable concern (Weather Events, Mass Shootings, and etc) that happen outside the United States of America and its territories shall not be considered simulation canon:
 - (1) If there is an event that the Triumvirate believes is important to the canonicity of the simulation and is blocked by the above subsection, then they may allow that event to become canon if there is a 2/4 agreement.
 - a) If there is disagreement in the community then 35 members of good standing may submit a resolution the Triumvirate to remove said event from simulation canon.
 - i) After receiving the resolution and confirming the signatures, the Triumvirate must remove the event from canon.

SECTION 5: The Model World

- (a) All countries within the Model World shall henceforth be recognized as canon to ModelUSGov. The Model World shall be defined as /r/CMHoC, /r/MhOir, /r/MBundestag, /r/Iksdagen, and /r/RMTK.
- (b) The Head Elections Clerk, with the consent of the Head Moderator, may choose to admit or remove another simulation into ModelUSGov's canon following a community referendum.

ARTICLE IX: AMENDMENT

SECTION 1: The Head Moderator Shall Amend the Simulation State Lists and Compositions

- (a) The Head Moderator shall amend Article III, Section 1(e) of this Constitution whenever he or she shall reform the simulation states, and no community approval shall be necessary for such an amendment, but three-fourths of the Triumvirate must consent.
- (b) These amendments shall include the number, names, and composition of simulation states.

SECTION 2: General Amendment

- (a) The Constitution of /r/ModelUSGov shall be able to be amended or rewritten by:
 - (i) The submission of an amendment proposed by the Triumvirate and/or Head Moderator and approval of the community; or
 - (ii) Through submission of an amendment by a member of the community who has gained the signatures of forty (40) non-banned community members, and approval via community vote; or
 - (iii) Through an emergency constitutional amendment as described in Article IX Section 4.
- (b) Members of the simulation may also submit a resolution to express the views of the community, without amending the actual Constitution document. These resolutions will be outlined in the ModelUSGov Bylaws.
 - (i) Resolutions may be submitted by a member of the community who has gained the signatures of forty (40) non-banned community members.
- (c) Signature Verification
 - (i) Signatures on a community-proposed amendment or resolution must be verified by the Triumvirate and Head Moderator to ensure that the members have agreed to have their signature placed on it, and that the signatures are for users who are non-banned.
 - (ii) Signatures shall be verified in whatever method the Triumvirate and Head Moderator choose to use.
 - (1) An attempt by the Triumvirate or Head Moderator to verify a user's signature must be made at least once per seven (7) days.
 - (2) Once forty (40) signatures are verified in the affirmative, the proposal shall proceed to discussion and voting without needing to verify the other signatures.
 - (3) If after a month, the minimum of forty (40) signatures has not been verified, the proposal shall be considered void. The proposer will be notified of this and will have the option to resubmit the amendment once one (1) week has passed.
- (d) Timing of Voting and Discussion:

- (i) All proposed amendments to the Meta Constitution and community resolutions must be Fully Publicized for no less than three (3) days before voting can commence. During this period, a comment period shall allow for the community to discuss the merits of the referenda.
 - (1) “Fully Publicized” shall mean a sticky post on the /r/ModelUSMeta subreddit, a post on the /r/ModelUSGov subreddit, and an @everyone ping on the ModelUSGov “main” Discord chat.
 - (ii) All voting on amendments and community resolutions must be open for no less than three (3) days and no more than five (5) days before the results are counted and published.
 - (1) Voting shall be announced to the community with a sticky post on the /r/ModelUSMeta subreddit, a post on the /r/ModelUSGov subreddit, and an @everyone ping on the ModelUSGov “main” Discord chat.
 - a) Once voting on the amendment or resolution begins, the discussion thread may be unstickied.
 - b) Once voting ends, the voting thread may be unstickied.
 - (2) The maximum length that the voting is open for shall be open for Triumvirate discretion, but is subject to the terms in Section 2(d)(ii).
- (e) Amendment and Resolution Quorum:
- (i) All amendment proposals must receive a vote total that is greater than or equal to 60% of the total verified members from the community for the vote to be considered binding, rounded down. Of these votes, 60% or more must be in support of the amendment for it to pass and be added to the constitution. If the amendment proposal receives a total vote count with less votes, the proposal may be resubmitted after a week has passed since the voting results are made public regardless of the percentage distribution of votes.
 - (1) The number of total verified members from the community shall be taken from the most recent activity check.
 - (ii) All community resolutions must receive a vote total greater than or equal to 60% of the total verified members from the community for the vote to be considered binding, rounded down. Of these votes, 60% or more must be in support of the resolution for it to be considered binding. If the community resolution receives a total vote count with less votes, the proposal may be resubmitted after a week has passed since the voting results are made public regardless of the percentage distribution of votes.
 - (1) The number of total verified members from the community shall be taken from the most recent activity check.
- (f) The moderation team can determine the qualifications for being able to vote in such a constitutional vote.

- (i) These qualifications shall be outlined in the ModelUSGov Bylaws.

SECTION 3: Simple Constitutional Fixes

- (a) At any time, the Triumvirate or Head Moderator can change the Constitution in order to fix grammatical errors, fluency errors, spelling errors, punctuation, or headers or to change formatting.
- (b) The Triumvirate or Head Moderator may not change the wording of any article, section, subsection, or other part or division so that it causes it to be interpreted differently.

SECTION 4: Emergency Constitutional Amendments

- (a) The Head Moderator, with the advice and consent of the Triumvirate, will be able to edit the Constitution, without holding any votes on the amendments, if it is deemed to be an urgently necessary amendment. They will have to announce the edit to the subreddit with justification.
- (b) The emergency amendment must be put to a vote of the simulation community within seventy-two (72) hours of it being passed in accordance with Section 2 of this Article.
- (c) Any and all emergency amendments must be Fully Publicized in accordance with the process outlined in Section 2: General Amendment Subsection d(i)(1).

ARTICLE X: ENACTMENT

- (a) This Constitution will be enacted immediately after $\frac{1}{2}+1$ of all voters select yes to the following question on a subreddit wide referendum. Question: “Do you support the enactment of the proposed constitution?”
- (b) The moderation team can determine the qualifications for being able to vote in such a constitutional vote.

Respectfully submitted,
/u/CincinnatusoftheWest, Author