

How to Use Your Background Guide to Research (from MUNUC.org)

How to Examine your Guide

The background guide your chair wrote is a resource, but it is not exhaustive. Your research should take you beyond the basics covered in the background guide and delve directly into solutions to the problem. A common misconception that many delegates have is that research is directly related to information about their assigned country. While you should feel free to discover more about the nation you are representing, you should primarily focus on potential solutions for the topics you will be discussing over the course of the weekend.

Once you have read your background guide, look at the citations made by your executives to find the original sources where they conducted their research. Use these sources as a place to kickstart your own research. They may provide greater context and more potential sources of information for you to explore in your research.

How to Navigate a Country's Policy

It's important that you are at least somewhat aligned with your real country policy (e.g. USA is very unlikely to align with the DPRK). However, the extent to which you need to adhere to country policy is usually dependent on the chair's preferences. Most times, they would prefer to see reasonable collaboration in the committee room. If you are ever in doubt, however, it is a good idea to ask the dais to clarify how strictly they would like delegates to adhere to country policy either after a committee session or during an unmoderated caucus.

How to Navigate a Person's Agenda

Much of the same can be said for a person's agenda. Use the bio section of your person to inform their agenda and their background. Chair's would prefer that there is reasonable collaboration within a committee room, but it is also important to not stray too far from the values of your person.

Beginner Committee Research Tips

Gather a good amount of background information on your country. You want to be well versed in the specifics of your country that pertain to the topic at hand. It will also be useful to know what specific action your country has previously taken regarding the topic of your committee. Using these pieces of information, try and piece together what future actions your country would be willing to take on that topic.

Advanced Commi Research Tips

Your committee's background guide will include (or your advisor will provide) a biography for the individual you are representing. This bio should give you an idea of your character's broad ideology, connections, and existing resources. Use the bio and any citations found in it to inform the direction of your research.