

PROCEDURE HANDBOOK

CRISIS

TASMUN ANNUAL SESSION

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TASMUN



XVII

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TASMUN XVI: Modern Crisis

TASMUN Modern Crisis Committees will follow these basic crisis procedures as directed:

It is essential to note that Crisis Committees mainly revolve around directives and updates. In a Crisis Committee there are two types of directives as listed: public directives, or short and straightforward operative clauses, which will be used for the fast-paced crisis committee instead of resolutions in conventional committees. Additionally, there are private directives which may be used by delegates to communicate their actions which consequence may influence the events of the committee, which will be introduced in the form of Crisis updates.

Powers of the Chairs

1. Additional Powers

In addition to the General Powers of the Chair outlined in the TASMUN Rules of Procedure, the Crisis Chairs shall have the power to coordinate the following activities:

- i. Set the Agenda in the Crisis,
- ii. Make statements to the Crisis, of any nature, at any time, as they deem necessary,
- iii. Call for a Recess for Caucusing or pass any caucus vote as they see fit,
- iv. Facilitate negotiations and consensus between Crisis Delegates, and
- v. Modify the Crisis Rules of Procedure, as they deem necessary.

Order of Debate

1. Roll Call

Like conventional THIMUN committees, Crisis proceedings will commence with the Formal Roll Call of Delegates. If any Delegates are not present during the Formal Roll Call, it will be understood that they have waived their right to vote for that session.

Those Delegates not present during the Formal Roll Call may request reinstatement of voting privileges by means of a note to the Chairs.

2. Opening Speeches

The committee sessions will begin with opening speeches. The chair will allow a set speaking time for each of the delegates (usually one to one and a half minutes). Delegates take turns making previously prepared speeches that will highlight their position on the topic.

3. Opening of the floor

Following the opening speeches or at any time a caucus isn't in session, the chair can open the floor to any points or motions of related nature. The floor will often open itself after the debate of a public directive. It is during this time delegates can raise a motion to move to a moderated or unmoderated Caucus as well as introduce another public directive. The chair may reject a point or motion at any time at their discretion if it isn't conducive to the committee as a whole.

4. Moderated Caucuses

- A moderated caucus may be introduced by a motion from any delegate during an open floor or after a Crisis update
- Moderated caucus must have a set topic, individual speaking time, and caucus duration proposed by the motioning delegate, all of which will be voted upon by the entire committee.
- There is no set speaking order for this type of caucus, rather each new speaker is chosen by the chair after the previous delegate concludes their speech. Delegates may not yield their time after their speech has concluded.

5. Unmoderated Caucus

- During a caucus of this type, delegates may speak with each other freely to begin collaboration on working papers or exchanging ideas.
- There is no set topic or speaking time for a caucus of this type, but a duration must be set by the delegate proposing the motion, which will then be voted on.
- During this time, delegates are suggested to draft public directives and speeches to keep the committee flowing and to address previous Crises
- Crisis updates may arise during an unmoderated caucus
- Unmoderated causes are seen as destructive to committee flow. Should a motion for one arise amongst motions for moderated caucuses, the committee has the option to vote on motions in the order of most to least destructive. In this case, the motion for the unmoderated caucus will be voted on first, no matter the order that it was originally taken in.
- If the Chair feels that having an unmoderated caucus would be counterproductive to the efficiency of the committee, they may reject any motions for unmoderated caucuses for a while. The most common reason for this occurring would be that the Chair feels there have not been enough moderated caucuses to warrant the start of working paper discussions.

6. Yielding

- Delegates may yield the remaining time of their speech (from a speakers' list and an authorship speech) in the following ways under the discretion of the chair:
 - Yield the time back to the Chair
 - If there are 30 or more seconds left, yield to another delegate:
 - Pre-yielding agreements are not required,
 - Yielding to a second degree are out of order

- Delegates may decline a yield upon request

7. Motions (Note: Crisis is almost completely governed by motions that will be voted on. The Chair may note which motions are favorable for the flow of the committee session).

Motions are how a crisis committee will move forward. Delegates may raise a motion when the floor is open to do so, and multiple motions may be proposed by delegates. After all, motions that delegates wish to raise have been raised, the chair will order them by importance at their discretion. Then, the committee will move through and vote on each motion, starting with the most important. Once a motion has passed, all other motions will be dismissed and the motion will take effect.

Motion to introduce a public directive

- The director must approve a public directive before this motion is raised.
- Only the main submitter of a public directive can raise this motion.
- This motion will start a debate process for a public directive that will involve introducing, discussing, and voting.
 - The delegate who raised the motion will read their public directive to the committee, clause by clause.
 - The delegate who raised the motion will accept Points of Clarification.
 - The delegate who raised the motion will accept Points of Information in regard to the directive for an amount of time set by the chair.
 - All delegates in the committee with a right to speak may ask a question.
 - If there are no questions, the duration for Points of Information may be reduced by the chair.
 - The chair must entertain a motion for a moderated or unmoderated caucus to discuss the implications of the raised public directive.
 - Any delegate may raise a motion for a moderated or unmoderated caucus and can set an appropriate duration.
 - Any other motions will be denied.
 - During this time, delegates may draft and submit amendments for the public directive
 - If no delegates are raising a motion, the committee will automatically move into a moderated caucus, individual speaking time of 30 seconds, and total duration of 15 minutes.
 - After the time for the caucus has expired, the committee may optionally extend a caucus once.
 - Finally, the committee will move into voting procedures for the public directive.

Motion to introduce an amendment

- Same procedure as above, but for amendments.
- POI time for the submitter of the amendment will be shortened to a maximum of 2 minutes.

Motion for a moderated caucus

- A moderated caucus serves as a method of more formal debate on any facet of the topic at hand. This caucus must have a set topic, individual speaking time, and caucus duration, all of which will be voted upon by the entire committee.

Motion for an unmoderated caucus

- Delegates may speak with each other freely in order to begin collaboration on working papers or exchanging ideas. There is no set topic or speaking time for a caucus of this type, but a duration must be set by the delegate proposing the motion, which will then be voted on.

Motion for an extension

- After either a moderated or unmoderated caucus, delegates have the option to motion for a short extension, usually for around five minutes. Extensions are viewed as more destructive to committee flow than unmods.

Motion to recess/close debate

- This signals the end of a particular session for a break.

Motion to adjourn debate

- This signals the end of the entire committee session.

Directives

1. Private Directives

- A private directive consists of a submitter, recipient, and content.
 - **Submitter:** the author is the only submitter of a private directive
 - **Recipient:** the recipient may be the director or any other creative, fictional, or historical person, organization, or entity relevant to the crisis situation
 - **Content:** the content must include an actionable direction, request, or question that is appropriate and relevant for the current crisis situation
 - Content that may be illegal or highly offensive in modern settings must be filtered by the director. Such content should be forwarded to the Secretariat for review, and the director may not approve it until the Secretariat completes their review.
- A private directive must be within the portfolio power of the submitter.
- A private directive must be submitted to the director or head chair for review.
- A directive has no effect until it is approved and executed by the director, which can be in the form of a written or verbal reply or future crisis update.
- A denied directive cannot be resubmitted for re-approval unless a director requests changes.

2. Public Directives

- A public directive consists of a main submitter, an optional co-submitter, sponsors, and content.
 - **Main Submitter:** the primary author is the main submitter of a private directive
 - **Optional Co-submitter:** if there are co-submitters who have contributed to the creation of the directive, they may be included as co-submitters
 - **Sponsors/signatories:** any delegate who is interested in debating a public directive, given their explicit verbal or written approval, may sign on as a sponsor/signatory of the directive
- A public directive must have at least a third of the committee's sponsorship to be submitted for review. Sponsorship should be counted by including the main submitter and co-submitters. Directives that do not meet this requirement must be denied automatically.
- A public directive must be within the portfolio power of the submitter, co-submitters, and the committee as a whole.

- A public directive must be submitted to the director or head chair for approval, after which the motion to introduce a public directive can be raised.
- A directive has no effect until it is approved and executed by the director and voted upon, which can be in the form of a written or verbal reply or a future crisis update.
- A denied directive cannot be resubmitted for reapproval.

3. Amendments

- Amendments work similarly to resolution amendments in regular committees and can only be applied to public directives that have been approved by the chair.
- Amendments may not be brought before the committee unless it has been approved by the directors which may be done by sending the amendment to the directors through an email form, formatted like such: amendment, for what purpose, and from who.
- Amendments must contribute substantially to the public directive as a whole, by adding, modifying, or striking portions of the public directive.
 - Add: These are the most constructive types of amendments that can be made to a resolution, and are thus highly encouraged. These add new content to a resolution by adding a new clause, sub-clause, or sub-sub clause.
 - Modify: These amendments replace a certain section of a clause, sub-clause, or sub-sub-clause with something else.
 - Strike: These types of amendments are discouraged due to their unconstructive nature, but can sometimes be necessary when the flaws of a clause, subclause, or sub-sub-clause are too overwhelming to be fixed.
- Moderated caucuses may be opened to discuss the amendment.

Crisis Updates

New information to a committee will be introduced in flash events known as Crisis updates. Crisis updates are essential to the flow of a crisis committee. Crisis updates may come fast, and delegates must consistently respond to new info and threats.

1. Crisis updates will be influenced by private and public directives submitted by the delegates
2. The delegates must work to resolve the conflict in the update on top of previous issues
3. Crisis directors may introduce crisis updates at any point within committee sessions
4. The Chair must entertain time for points of clarification on newly introduced updates

Crisis Voting Procedure

Voting

There are three different options when voting: for, against, or abstain. Abstain is only an option during a substantive vote.

1. Two types of voting procedures shall be recognized by the Chairs:
 - a. Procedural Vote

- b. Substantive Vote
- 2. Two types of majority votes shall be recognized by the Chairs:
 - a. The Simple Majority (SM), with more than one-half of the votes in favor of a motion
 - b. The Supermajority (SSM), with more than two-thirds of the votes in favor of a motion,
- 3. A procedural vote pertains to all procedural matters, including (in order of precedence)
 - a. Motion to adjourn debate (SSM)
 - b. Motion to extend speaking time (SSM)
 - c. Motion for an unmoderated caucus (SM)
 - d. Motion for a moderated caucus (SM)
 - e. Motion to introduce a public directive (SM)
 - f. Motion to introduce an amendment (SM)
 - g. Motion to close debate on a directive/amendment (SM)
- 4. A substantive vote pertains to all substantial documents, including:
 - a. Public directives (SM)
 - b. Amendments (SM)
- 5. Abstentions on procedural votes are out of order when:
 - a. Delegates who have responded “present and voting” during the roll call may not abstain from voting
 - b. A procedural vote is occurring

This document was partially adapted from the THIMUN Historical Crisis Committee and NBMUN Crisis rules of procedure.

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