

Introduction to Crisis

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WSHS Model United Nations

Crisis vs. General Assembly

Crisis is different from General Assembly in two major ways:

- ❖ Crisis not only involves the normal committee room, but also involves a crisis staff room where crisis notes are sent
- ❖ The committees are usually smaller and each delegate is given a character. Most of the time Crisis committees focus on a smaller group or organization, either historical, fictional, or current, and characters are given based on this.

Committee & Topics

- ❖ Committee moves extremely quickly—directives passed often, lots of topics on the table (main topic & goal in the backgrounder)
- ❖ Topics of debate often come as a result of crisis updates; updates come from either crisis notes if someone passed one that affected the entire committee, or the chair and crisis staff create updates to speed up the committee
- ❖ Crisis notes are private notes that each delegate writes in a paper pad, and sends to the crisis staff room for approval; they carry out a delegate's crisis arc — the delegate's plan of action for the committee in order to achieve something for their personal motives

Crisis Notes

- ❖ Notes are really creative, with purpose to create crisis updates and influence the committee through actions that match your own motives.
- ❖ Each note must be very precise in its description of the action
- ❖ Your requests in the note will either get denied or accepted by the crisis staff based on how well they thought you wrote it and if it is possible within the context of the crisis:
 - If approved, and it affects the entire committee, a crisis update will come out
 - If rejected, either nothing happens or it backfires and you get caught doing something bad or something goes wrong (usually happens if you have big loopholes in your note writing)
- ❖ Joint crisis notes are ones written through the teamwork of more than one delegate to act out *both* delegates' *personal* motives or crisis arcs

Directives

- ❖ Directives are similar to resolutions but they are much more concise, quick, and you have to pass multiple during a committee; they show your relations with other members of the committee
 - They represent a group effort towards a group goal or solution: NOT your personal arc.
 - Sponsors & signatories in proportion to number of people in committee

Strategies

- ❖ Speaking: be clear, assertive, confident. Use evidence and know background of the committee well, and use any other relevant information — *debate is not strictly factual, even in historical crises you should not follow history completely because chairs want to see your creativity and imagination.*
 - ❖ Gather “sheep people”
 - ❖ Speak in character
 - ❖ Stay relevant to the topic
 - ❖ Be flexible
 - ❖ Follow a crisis arc