



Five Steps to Prepare for Peoria Academy Model United Nations Conference

Step 1: Get Your Assigned Committee, Assigned Country, and Read the Background Guide

Your counselor will have a copy of the Committee, Role and Country Assignment. The Background Guide will be found on the PA MUN website. The Committee chairs will also have a welcome video for each committee member and will update on the status of the issues.

Step 2: Research Your Committee Topic

After reading the Topic Background Guide, you will need to learn more general UN sustainable goal and/or topics found in the Topic Background Guide. The Background Guide will give you an overview of the problem. Research can help you identify the primary causes of the problem, and look for possible solutions.

Step 3: Research Your Country Profile and Policy

Research your country's profile and your country's policies - (Look at the Best Delegate Research Map (<https://bestdelegate.com/researchmap/>)) It will be helpful to know:

- What type of government structure does your country have?
- Where is your country located?
- What does your country's economy look like? Is your country developed or developing?
- Who are your country's allies?
- What does this topic matter to my country and how does it impact us?
- What has my country done about this issue/topic?
- What does my country want to do about this issue/topic?

Advanced Research uses the SPEAR Method:

Speeches: What has your government said about the topic?

Programs: What government programs, funds, or agencies address the topic?

Events: Has your government attended any major events on the topic?

Agreements: Has your government supported the major agreements on the topic?

Reports: Has your government submitted any reports on the topic?

Step 4: Brainstorm Your Solutions

There are many ways to do this including:

- What types of solutions has your country and/or the United Nations implemented or currently implementing;

- Are these past or current solutions working? Why or why not?
- Amend or expand the solutions currently in place to make it better.
- Create new solutions

Step 5: Write Your Opening Speech

The opening speech is the first opportunity to share your country's policy on the issues/topic. You must make a positive impression and engage other members of your committee to listen to your ideas/solutions. It can be no longer than 1 minute in length.

The General Format for an Opening Speech Follows: Hook, Point, Action

Hook: Grab their attention in the beginning of your speech so that you capture their attention with a Question, Quote, Statistic, Story, or a Point

Point: After capturing the attention of your audience with the hook, get to the main message and purpose of your speech. State your country's policy and then provide 2-3 reasons why your country has adopted this policy.

Action: End with a "Call to Action." This is when you propose your possible solutions. Present your "call to action" in a way that is persuasive to the committee, UN and the international community.

Here is an example of an Opening Speech written in 2023 by Delegate Isabella Williams:
Hello fellow delegates and honourables chairs, as the delegate from Algeria, it is an honor to address you today about nuclear disarmament. Algeria's stance on Nuclear disarmament has been obvious since January of 1995 when they joined the NPT (Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons) to become a non-nuclear weapon state. After our own land was used in the 1960s for nuclear test sites by the French, we believe in erasing such weapons from the world due to our awareness of the great danger caused by them. Since then, Algeria is still trying to help remediate the destruction which had been caused by those nuclear test sites so long ago. Only two years ago, in January of 2021, Algeria's prime minister signed a decree to help improve the conditions of the past nuclear test sites. Africa itself remains a nuclear-weapon-free zone, and hopes to stay that way. Algeria is also willing to assist fellow countries in disarmament, and strives to do so soon. I yield my remaining time to the chair.

Congratulations! You are now Ready to Attend the Peoria Academy Model United Nations Conference!