

2026 Peoria Academy Model United Nations

Good Health and Well-Being



Welcome From Your Co-Secretary Generals

We are pleased to welcome you to the Peoria Academy Model United Nations Conference of 2026. We are your secretary generals, Iyla Robinson, Evelyn Kauffman, and Logan Farrell. We are so glad that you are here, and we hope that you will all show camaraderie and respect while at this conference. Thank you for attending, and we hope you have a good time!

Sincerely,

Iyla Robinson, Evelyn Kauffman, Logan Farrell

A Message From Your Chairs

We are so glad you have joined our committee! I am your chair, Ammini G. Your co-chair, Rhiannon W., will assist me in ensuring that you build your teamwork skills, learn, and most importantly, have fun during the Peoria Academy Model United Nations. During this conference, we hope you remember that everyone has a valid opinion, and not to put others down because of it.

In this committee, our subtopics are *Prevention and Treatment of Substance Abuse* and *Harm Reduction Strategies*. You will have to work with your fellow delegates to discover new and innovative solutions to these real-world problems. Please come to our conference on April 24th prepared. Such preparations include reading the background guide, writing an opening speech, developing your country's opinion on both discussed topics, and looking into other sources involving the topics at hand.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact your chair at (aguzzardo@peoriaacademy.org) or your co-chair at (rward@peoriaacademy.org).

Sincerely,

Ammini G. and Rhiannon W.

Instructions for Preparation

Welcome delegates! We hope that this conference will be a great opportunity for you to engage in diplomacy and debate concerning important and relevant issues.

Before the Conference

- 1) Learn about your assigned UN Sustainable Development Goal. A great way to do this is to visit <https://sdgs.un.org/goals> Find your goal, then scroll down the page to look at Events and News for the latest real world activity about the topic.
- 2) Research your assigned country and topic: There are many ways to get started with this. One great resource is [Our World in Data](#). In the search bar, type in your country and your assigned committee name. You will find excellent figures and graphs to help you in your opening speech. You will also find general information about your country on their Wikipedia page.
- 3) Inquire into the connections between your UN Sustainable Development Goal and your assigned country to write your opening speech. In Google, ask:
 - a) How is your country affected by your committee's UN Sustainable Development Goal?
 - b) What actions has your country taken in this area?
 - c) Which actions might they be interested in taking in the future? If none of these apply to your country, does it affect your allies?

After researching these connections, write an opening speech. It can be no longer than one minute long when you read it aloud slowly, loudly, and with excellent diction.

During the Conference

1. Listen and Take Notes. As your fellow delegates give their opening speeches, take notes on countries whose ideas align with yours. When the time comes to pass notes, send them a note of congratulations on their speech and say you want to work together.
2. Be brave and talk to everyone. When in unmoderated debates, try to talk to all the delegates. You need to build coalitions and work together to create ideas. Be as creative in your solutions as you can!
3. Use the Resolution Guide. Use the provided resolution guide (also found on our website) to draft an official resolution. Decide who will present and who will answer questions.

ENSURE HEALTHY LIVES AND PROMOTE WELL-BEING FOR ALL AT ALL AGES

NOTABLE STRIDES HAVE BEEN MADE TOWARDS IMPROVING GLOBAL HEALTH OUTCOMES



146 OUT OF 200
COUNTRIES OR AREAS HAVE ALREADY MET OR ARE ON TRACK TO MEET THE UNDER-5 MORTALITY TARGET



EFFECTIVE HIV TREATMENT HAS CUT GLOBAL AIDS-RELATED DEATHS BY **52% SINCE 2010**



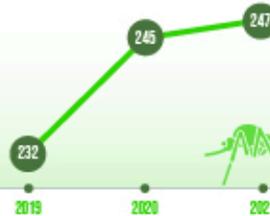
AT LEAST ONE NEGLECTED TROPICAL DISEASE HAS BEEN ELIMINATED IN **47 COUNTRIES**



25 MILLION CHILDREN MISSED OUT ON IMPORTANT ROUTINE IMMUNIZATIONS IN 2021
.....
6 MILLION MORE THAN IN 2019

MALARIA CASES HAVE SURGED WORLDWIDE

MALARIA CASES (MILLIONS)



OUT-OF-POCKET PAYMENTS FOR HEALTH PUSHED OR FURTHER PUSHED



MILLION PEOPLE
(4.9% OF POPULATION)

INTO EXTREME POVERTY

A WOMAN DIES EVERY TWO MINUTES

FROM PREVENTABLE CAUSES RELATED TO PREGNANCY AND CHILDBIRTH
.....
(2020)



Background Guide

Welcome delegates to the 2026 Peoria Academy Model United Nations Conference. You are on the Good Health and Well-Being committee. In this committee, you will develop quality, reliable, sustainable, and resilient ideas for Good Health and Well-Being.

Your subtopics for this committee will be Prevent and Treat Substance Abuse and Harm Reduction Strategies. While great progress has been made in many areas, we still need to work on preventing and treating substance abuse, along with harm reduction strategies.

Below are explanations of each topic, as well as resources and questions to aid you in your research. We encourage you to look at these sources before continuing to do further research. These should not be your only sources, but they are an excellent way to start.

Subtopic A: Prevent and Treat Substance Abuse

- Strengthen the prevention and treatment of substance abuse, including narcotic drug abuse and the harmful use of alcohol, through education, early intervention, and access to healthcare services.
- Regulate the alcohol market to protect younger citizens by enforcing age restrictions and raising public awareness about the risks associated with underage drinking.
- Target 3.5 of the World Health Organization focuses on improving prevention and treatment strategies for substance abuse at a global level.
- Treatment for substance abuse includes outpatient counseling, behavioral therapy, and medications for opioid use disorder (MOUD) to support long-term recovery.
- The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) provides guidance on which medications are safe and effective to use in the treatment of substance use disorders.

Sources for Subtopic A:

- <https://www.cdc.gov/overdose-prevention/treatment/index.html>
- <https://www.who.int/data/gho/data/themes/topics/indicator-groups/indicator-group-details/GHO/sdg-target-3.5-substance-abuse>

Questions about Subtopic A to help prepare for the conference:

1. What policies and regulations can your country implement to effectively control alcohol abuse nationwide?

2. What measures does your country currently use to monitor and enforce laws related to alcohol consumption?
3. How can your country improve access to treatment and recovery services for individuals struggling with substance abuse?
4. What major challenges does your country face in preventing and treating substance abuse?

Subtopic B: Harm Reduction Strategies

- The term “Safer Consumption Spaces” will mean: Medically supervised facilities where individuals can use illicit drugs under the supervision of trained professionals who can intervene in case of an overdose and provide referrals to treatment and social services.
- Community-based programs that provide free sterile needles and syringes, safe disposal of used equipment, and access to other health services to reduce the spread of HIV and hepatitis.
- Connecting people to primary care, mental health services, housing assistance, and other essential social supports to address underlying social determinants of health.
- Services are provided without judgment or the requirement to stop using substances.
- The priority is preventing harm, not the behavior itself.
- Distributing test strips to allow individuals to check their drugs for unwanted substances like fentanyl, helping them make informed decisions and prevent unintended overdoses.
- Providing opioid overdose reversal medication and training individuals, families, and first responders on how to use it.

Sources for Subtopic B:

- <https://hri.global/flagship-research/the-global-state-of-harm-reduction/the-global-state-of-harm-reduction-2024/>
- <https://www.emro.who.int/asd/health-topics/drug-related-harm-reduction.html>

Questions about Subtopic B to help prepare for the conference:

1. Does your country currently have harm reduction facilities, and if not, what steps will be taken to implement them?
2. Does your country support the implementation of harm reduction strategies, or does it oppose these approaches?
3. How can harm reduction strategies be funded and sustained while addressing public concerns about safety?

4. What role should international organizations play in supporting countries that lack the resources/ funds to implement harm reduction programs?