

LAIMUN XXVIII Crisis Rules of Procedure

Note: This document serves as a guide for delegates. Chairs have final discretion on procedures during debate. If you have any questions, please email the Crisis Directors and USG at crisis@mchsmun.com.

1. Roll Call

- a. Present
 - i. Delegates that reply “present” during roll call do have the option to abstain during voting bloc for committee directives.
- b. Present and Voting
 - i. Delegates that reply “present and voting” do not have the option to abstain during voting bloc for committee directives.

2. Motions

- a. Motion for a Round Robin
 - i. Due to the unique layout of Crisis Committees, debate will begin with a round robin speakers list. It is essentially a moderated caucus where all delegates get the chance to speak for a certain amount of time on their position and committee goals. Time for speaking is up to the delegates' discretion
 - ii. The speaking time for each individual is typically 1 minute, 45 seconds, or 30 seconds.
- b. Motion for a Moderated Caucus
 - i. Delegates can motion and vote for a moderated caucus. Motions are accompanied with a topic, total moderated caucus time, and individual speaking time. In a moderated caucus, delegates speak for a certain amount of time on the set topic. The number of speakers during a moderated caucus is based on the total set time.
 - ii. For Example:
 1. 10 minute moderated caucus with 30 second speaking time would have 20 speakers.
 2. 6 minute moderated caucus with 45 second speaking time would have 8 speakers.

- iii. Extensions to moderated caucuses cannot exceed more than half of the total time of the previous moderated caucus.
- c. Motion for an Unmoderated Caucus
 - i. Delegates can motion and vote for an unmoderated caucus. Unmoderated caucuses are sessions where delegates are allowed to freely move around the room (or outside if necessary) and collaborate with other delegates. Delegates can use this time to create committee directives and press releases.
- d. Motion to Introduce a Committee Directive
 - i. Delegates can motion to introduce committee directives and press releases that they have written. The chairs will read the committee directives and press releases, then motions for amendments, Q & A, moderated caucuses for and against, and voting bloc on it will be in order.
- e. Motion to Introduce an Amendment
 - i. Delegates can motion to introduce an amendment on a committee directive or press release that had already been introduced but has not yet been passed by vote. This can add, remove, or modify the language of a clause or sub-clause.
 - ii. If it is a small change they can verbally describe it. If it is larger, they will write it up and send it to the chairs to be read.
 - iii. If the original sponsors verbally agree to accept the amendment, it is automatically applied to the directive.
 - iv. If the original sponsors do not agree, it is considered "unfriendly" and must be voted on by the committee in voting bloc.
- f. Motion for a Q&A
 - i. A question and answer session can be motioned for on one or many committee directives, press releases, or amendments that have already been introduced.
 - ii. The motion can include a time, or the Q & A can continue until no questions remain or the presenter yields time back to the chair

- iii. $\frac{1}{4}$ th of the original sponsors can be selected to answer for each item having a Q & A
- g. Motion to Divide the Question
 - i. Separates a set of operatives or sub-operatives from a committee directive to be voted on separately from the rest
 - ii. Requires a vote from the committee to pass
- h. Motion to Move Into Voting Bloc
 - i. Delegates can motion for voting bloc once committee directives have been presented on or unfriendly amendments have been presented or read off by the chair. Delegates that are present and voting may not abstain. Note-passing or any form of communication between delegates is not in order.
 - ii. Delegates motioning for voting bloc can specify what they would like to vote on as long as it has been presented already
 - 1. For example, if multiple directives and amendments have been introduced, a delegate can motion for voting bloc on just a few of the directives or amendments

3. Points

- a. Point of Inquiry
 - i. Point of Inquiry is a privilege delegates have in which they can use at any point unless directly instructed by the chair. This can be to clarify an amendment presented, to re-read a committee directive or ask for really anything. The chair will grant the point and give an answer to the best of their ability. If a delegate needs to use the restroom a point of inquiry does not need to be used.
- b. Right of Personal Privilege
 - i. Delegates have the right of personal privilege to speak privately with a chair or an advisor if something in committee is happening that is upsetting them. This can also be used to go to the restroom if it is in the middle of debate.

4. Crisis Update

- i. Where we get our namesake. Every hour or so, a member of the backroom staff will come into committee and deliver an update on the unfolding events of the topic.
 1. Perhaps a prominent leader has died and left a power vacuum, or a winter storm has frozen everyone's ships in place.
 2. Maybe a new disease is spreading rapidly, or the people of a certain country have decided to revolt.
- ii. Whatever the update may be, it will fundamentally change the events of committee, and it will be in your best interest to respond to it.
 1. This can be done through speeches, moderated caucus, or even committee directives (see below).
 2. Keep in mind that these updates may affect your specific character or your plans. Strategize accordingly. We promise backroom is not attempting to single you out, we carry out the updates we think will make for the most interesting debate. Oftentimes when a crisis update negatively impacts a delegate, it's a sign that they were doing very well and we needed to balance out committee by giving them a challenge.
- iii. Your activity in the backroom will influence what we introduce as a crisis update. They ensure there will be no shortage of things to talk about. Crisis debates are a lot of things, but they are never boring and the updates are a big reason why.
- iv. After the presentation of an update, there will be time for clarifying questions about the nature and details of the events that have occurred.

5. Directives

- a. Committee Directives
 - i. Committee directives are the equivalent to a working paper for crisis. They are pre-resolution papers that respond to the crisis. They need to be completed in a timely manner and presented upon from sponsors in a formal caucus. Committee directives also need signatories and are open to

amendments. Committee directives must respond to the most recent crisis. This gives the backroom staff and the chairs something to work with in order to move the debate forward. Committee directives are voted on by the committee and often require joint member activities that cannot be accomplished simply through personal directives.

- ii. There will be a minimum number of sponsors as well as signatories for committee directives to be allowed up for formal to ensure collaboration.

b. Personal Directives

- i. Personal directives are the notes that delegates send to the backroom staff. The chairs will never see these notes, and they are completely confidential between the delegate and the backroom staff. Personal directives are anything from letters to a personal friend or ally, to acquiring farmland, to building infrastructure, or even troop recruitment or movement. Essentially, they are the “solutions” of Crisis, except they actively influence and alter the events unfolding throughout debate. Use them to develop your own personal story. Backroom will take into account personal directives as we develop crisis updates and direct the flow of debate. Delegates will receive a grade from the backroom staff on the quality of personal directives and in some instances quantity. This grade will affect the delegates overall performance but is independent of the score received from the chairs. Personal directives should follow a crisis arc, or in other words develop a story. For a delegate to obtain maximum points they must use their portfolio powers to develop a clear storyline which has a definitive end. Personal Directives can be sent at anytime, and will be collected by crisis staff periodically and responded to. All personal directives are either approved or denied by the backroom staff. Personal powers are highly recommended to be used in personal directives.

6. Press Releases

- a. Press releases are written as personal directives that are later presented to the entire committee during a crisis update. These are in many cases media campaigns to spread propaganda. In a single committee they can be used strategically, to tell the entire committee what a delegate has been accomplishing through their personal directives. Press Releases are drafted the same way as personal directives, except they must be clearly labeled a press release or the backroom staff will never release the information. Press Releases can be formatted as an anonymous letter or as a signed letter depending upon the delegate's preference. Press Releases can also be from a single sponsor or multiple ones. Press Releases will be counted toward a delegate's backroom score.
7. **Communiques**
 - a. Personal Communique
 - i. A personal communique is a very useful tool when it comes to crisis.
 - ii. In a joint crisis, this is a way for delegates to individually communicate with another delegate in another committee to formulate plans in a crisis. This is a way to develop a delegate's crisis arc. Through communiques and personal directives a delegate could even potentially "transfer" committees following their crisis arc. Meeting requests can be mutually granted under supervision of a crisis staff member. Anything said in the meeting can not and will not negatively affect a delegates score as long as it is on topic with debate. A personal communique must be addressed to a specific delegate in the other room by listing their name or position. Personal communiques will be counted by backroom staff like personal directives and will be graded as such. These communiques should develop your crisis arc and overall move debate some way.
 - iii. Communiques can also be requested with figures not played by delegates but present in the narrative of the crisis. For example, in a single-cabinet crisis for the US during the cold war, someone could hypothetically request a communiqué with a member of the USSR. In this case, a crisis staff member will act as that character to have a conversation with you.