

# MUNA 2023

## Participant Manual for Delegates

**Location:**

*Arden Anglican School – Assembly Hall*

*6B Essex Street*

*EPPING NSW 2121*

**Dates & Times:**

*Saturday 20 May 2023 8:30am to 5:30pm*

*Sunday 21 May 2023 9:00am to 2:30pm*

# Introduction

MUNA 2023 is fast approaching and we hope you and your colleagues are well advanced in researching the country you will be representing at the Model United Nations Assembly.

You should read this document thoroughly and study the MUNA 2023 website ([www.muna.com.au](http://www.muna.com.au)) so you can prepare well for your MUNA experience.

To actively participate, your Delegation needs to research your allocated country, and adopt a position on each Resolution/Amendment that is consistent with the known views and behaviours of your country, as might be reflected at the actual United Nations. Your Delegation will be judged on a variety of aspects, including your demonstrated awareness of such positions.

Please ensure that your delegation indicates their speaking preferences at <http://www.muna.com.au/pre-work>, however, you must also note that your Delegation must be prepared to debate **any and all** of the Resolutions because you may be called on to do so by the Secretary General.

As detailed on the MUNA 2023 website, your country is part of a voting bloc (Eastern European, Asian, etc). You should get to know your fellow bloc members before or in the early stages of the MUNA weekend, as together you can advance a collective point of view, and work out debating and voting tactics.

You are encouraged to attend MUNA 2023 exhibiting the national dress or icons of your country. On Sunday morning, there is a Parade of Nations. Your Delegation's presentation here will be part of the official judging process and an Award will be made. You may use one or two props in the Assembly to enhance your representation of your country as long as they are respectful and do not detract from the MUNA experience.

The MUNA committee can accept only those participants who can attend the whole MUNA weekend. Substitutes are not allowed, unless exceptional circumstances apply. Each Delegation must also ensure that each team member participates and speaks proportionately during the Assembly. It is also important that each member speak clearly and introduce themselves by name on each occasion they address the Assembly (see Guidelines, page 7). These aspects will be monitored over the weekend judged accordingly. NOTE: Any team withdrawing within two weeks of MUNA will need to have their school refund the application fee to the sponsoring club or forfeit the fee if it has been paid by the school.

Voting on Resolutions, and amendments to Resolutions, will be by show of hands, with observers making the counts. During counts, all non-delegates are requested to be quite clear of the area occupied by Delegations.

The spirit of MUNA is that Delegations and members participate on merit as reflected in their research and preparation, and in the contest of their ideas, argument and counter argument before their peers.

Delegations and members are asked to participate on an honest and independent basis. In the interests of these objectives and of fairness, delegations are to use devices only to recover notes and do research. Delegations are not to accept coaching or external help during sessions. Teachers and support personnel are requested to stay clear of the area occupied by Delegations during sessions.

It is important that you read the full contents of this document, know and observe the attendance

times, and that you attend all sessions in their entirety in order to participate and enjoy the challenges of the MUNA Assembly. This will help you ensure that you have the best possible opportunity to display your debating, presentation, research skills, and have a fun time at MUNA.

You are advised to be in attendance well before the starting times, particularly for set-up on the Saturday morning.

Covid-19 Rules and Policies of the NSW Government and NSW Education Department are to be followed including Log in and temperature measurements will be undertaken on entry and any person showing signs of cold or flu are recommended to stay and home , isolate and get tested and will not be permitted to enter and participate in MUNA 2023.

We look forward to greeting you at MUNA 2023.

Greg Keighran

The Rotary Club of Beecroft

on Behalf of Rotary International District 9685

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# Rules

1. The Secretary General is the ultimate authority and his/her rulings are not subject to debate. Speakers may not speak until recognised and invited to by the Secretary General.
2. Resolutions: Each Resolution will have a mover and a seconder (from different countries)
3. The mover will speak first, and the seconder will follow, both speaking 'to/for' the Resolution.
4. The next speaker will speak AGAINST the Resolution.
5. The speakers who follow will alternate between speakers *to/for* and speakers *against* the resolution.
6. Speakers to Resolutions will be limited to 3 minutes for each speaking turn unless otherwise specified. One stroke of the warning bell will be given at 2.30, two strokes at 2.45 and three strokes at 3.00, at which time the delegate will be asked to resume their seat.
7. Except for the mover (which has a right of reply limited to 1 minute), countries may speak only once to each Resolution and each Amendment.
8. Motions for a second speech: If a country wishes to speak a second time, it may request (via a Diplomatic Messenger) another country to move a Motion that this be allowed. A seconder (ie. a second country) is required to support this Motion before it is put to the whole assembly for a vote. The Motion is put to a vote without discussion. A simple majority (51%) is required to pass it.
9. **Points of Order** will be allowed by the Secretary General only when it is felt that the rules have been broken. Points of Order are to be made by interrupting a Delegate speaking. The Secretary General rules absolutely on the validity of these points.
10. **Points of Clarifications/Personal Explanations** will be allowed by the Secretary General only on matters when a Delegate claims to have been misquoted or misrepresented. Clarifications etc. can be made by interrupting a Delegate speaking. The Secretary General rules absolutely on the validity of these matters.
11. **Amendments** Countries may propose amendments to the resolution under consideration for debate once the debate on the resolution is completed.
  - All proposed amendments must be in the hands of the Secretary General before the completion of debate on the resolution.
  - All amendments must be submitted on the supplied proforma which requires that the resolution embodying the proposed amendment be written out in full which the proposed amendment highlighted.
  - Any amendment whose purpose is not clear to the Secretary General will be returned to the proposing country for redrafting.
  - An amendment whose purpose is to negate the original resolution will not be accepted.

- All amendments must be supported by a proposer, a seconder and two other countries, and all four countries must sign the amendment form where indicated.
- The proposer and seconder of the original resolution and the first and second speakers against the resolution may not propose or support amendments.
- As it is likely that more amendments will be put forward than can be dealt with in the time available, the Secretary General will select which amendments will be put to the Assembly.
- During the debate on any amendment, only two speakers for the amendment (the Proposer and Secunder) and two speakers against the resolution will be heard. Each speaker will be limited to two minutes.
- If an amendment is passed by a simple majority of countries, the amended resolution becomes the substantial resolution for debate, though it may be further amended.
- At the conclusion of the debate on amendments, the mover of the original resolution will have a one minute right of reply should they wish.

In summary, the order of operations for each resolution will be:

**1. Debating the Resolution (Max. 3 minutes per speaker)**

- a. The mover will speak 'to/for' the Resolution
- b. The seconder will speak 'to/for' the Resolution
- c. The next speaker speaks 'against' the Resolution
- d. The next speaker speaks 'to/for' the Resolution
- e. The next speaker speaks 'against' the Resolution
- f. The next speaker speaks 'to/for' the Resolution
- g. The next speaker speaks 'against' the Resolution
- h. The next speaker speaks 'to/for' the Resolution
- i. The original mover has the right of reply if they want it (1 minute)
- j. A vote is taken on the Resolution

**2. Debating Amendments to the Resolution (Max. 2 minutes per speaker)**

Up to 6-8 Amendments may typically be debated for each Resolution (time permitting).

- a. The mover of the amendment will speak 'to/for' the Amendment.
- b. The next speaker will speak 'against' the Amendment.
- c. The next speaker (seconder) will speak 'to/for' the Amendment.
- d. The next speaker will speak 'against' the Amendment.
- e. A vote is taken on the Amendment.

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**PLEASE NOTE**

Over the weekend, each member of a Delegation is expected to participate proportionately in the Assembly debates. This is viewed as being important assessment criteria for the MUNA Judges.

# Guidelines

1. Bloc Meetings (Groups of Countries with shared interests) will be held prior to debate over each Resolution to establish voting strategies. Bloc meetings may also be instigated by the Secretary General to allow discussion of mutual standpoints on issues. Smaller Groups may decide to meet to discuss certain positions and motions. Delegates are encouraged to use this process - it is one that the MUNA judges see as important.
2. Future Bloc Meetings may be called during debate of a Resolution. These are called by way of a motion via a Diplomatic Note to the Secretary General, with proper procedures applying. A motion calling a Bloc Meeting must be passed by two thirds of the Assembly, or at the instigation of the Secretary General.
  - a. Bloc meetings are less formally structured than the General Assembly, but Bloc members are expected to allow the fair expression of views by any delegation wishing to do so, as part of ensuring that a Bloc position represents a genuine consensus.
3. Any Delegate speaking to the Assembly must clearly start his/her remarks with "Mr (or Madam) Secretary General, my name is .... and I speak on behalf of the ..... Delegation".
4. All 6 Resolutions will be debated. Delegations must be *prepared* to speak on all Resolutions.
5. During on-line registration, Delegations will be asked to indicate their preferences to speak *to/for* or *against* each Resolution (your research should help you form your country's position on each Resolution). Based on these preferences, the Secretary General will allocate speaking slots in order to ensure every Delegation has an opportunity to speak several times during the weekend.
6. Once the allocated Delegations have spoken, debate is open to other Delegates wishing to participate.
7. Delegates must represent the known views of their nominated Nation, as might be reflected at the actual United Nations. They should not put forward their personal views and risk a penalty if they do.
8. Diplomatic Notes are an important part of MUNA but will only be allowed by the Secretary General on the following basis-
  - a. That all messages are in the spirit of MUNA.
  - b. That messages are not frivolous or offensive.
  - c. That all messages must be delivered by MUNA Diplomatic Messengers and will be vetted.

9. Delegations that do not have all members consistently present at all sessions may be penalised. Substitutes/alternatives are not allowed, unless exceptional circumstances apply. All members of a Delegation are expected to speak and participate proportionately in the debates and this will be considered as part of the MUNA judging.

## Judging Criteria

The intent of MUNA is to increase the knowledge, debating/presentation skill levels and interpersonal skills of all participants. MUNA Judging will be undertaken by evaluating individual and Delegation performance against the Rules and Guidelines above, together with the criteria listed below.

### **Knowledge of the country you represent:**

Delegations will be evaluated by their demonstration of knowledge of the character (eg. history, politics, policies, culture, demographics) and position of the country they represent and by acting in accordance with that position, as appropriate to the debate.

### **Knowledge of the Issues:**

Delegations will be evaluated on their knowledge of the issues that are being debated. This could include statistics, previous decisions, or other important context that surrounds the issue that is being debated.

### **Presentation Skills:**

Delegates will be judged on how well they present to the Assembly (eye contact, posture, body language, enthusiasm, use of humour, emotive language, etc.)

### **Debating Skills:**

Delegates will be judged on how well they debate motions, amendments and points of order. This includes how well they:

- Structure their arguments
- Create and present a compelling case
- Respond to opposing arguments.

Delegations will be evaluated by their ability to demonstrate correct, appropriate and professional use of parliamentary procedure to facilitate debate and discussion and by the proportionate contribution of each member of the team.

Note: Application of Parliamentary procedure may include procedures that are obstructionist in nature - if being obstructionist is totally within a country's national interest. Delegations who exhibit greater understanding of parliamentary procedure and use it with relevance to the proposed amendments will receive a more favourable evaluation. However, the Secretary General will not countenance a motion "that the motion be put" or that "the speaker no longer be heard" where they are not in the spirit of open debate. Amendments can be used to point the debate in a particular direction, but those without rationale, those doomed to failure, or those that do not assist a country's interests will be judged accordingly.



**Attitude:**

This will be judged by considering the behaviour of the delegation, their recognition of rules and interpersonal skills. Delegations will be assessed on how well they demonstrate correct and appropriate behaviour befitting the nature and purpose of the (Model) UN Assembly. This includes proper decorum, attitude, ability to listen and compromise, tact, courtesy, general spirit and ability to work cooperatively with all participants in the process: e.g. other delegations, their own delegation members and organisers.

**Deductions:**

As detailed earlier, failure of teams to obey attendance rules may attract a penalty. Unruly or inappropriate behaviour and discourtesy may also be costly.

**National Dress:**

Delegations are encouraged to adopt their country's national dress on both days to enhance to their presentations. However, frivolous depictions of national dress are not encouraged and may be viewed harshly by the adjudicators.

There will be a Parade of Nations on Sunday morning, subject to a specific award for the Delegation with the most appropriate/ interesting national dress.

# Resolutions for 2023

## **RESOLUTION 1: WORLD FOOD – MACDONALD’S**

This General Assembly notes, given the universal availability of a Macdonald’s burger and chips, its price in local currency is commonly used by economists to assess the relative values of currencies. We believe that, having been given this status, this delicacy should be recognised as a “World Food” and served at all functions held under the auspices of the United Nations.

## **RESOLUTION 2: ACTION ON CLIMATE CHANGE**

This General Assembly notes with dismay the slow progress being made globally toward reduction of the gaseous emissions to the atmosphere that are several disrupting our global climate and posing an existential threat to human society. Since the bulk of these emissions come from the burning of fossil fuels, this General Assembly urges all members to cease opening new coal and gas projects from 2025, and to impose tariffs on imports from nations which do not take the proposed action.

## **RESOLUTION 3: BORDERS AND NATIONAL SOVEREIGNTY**

This General Assembly acknowledges the right of sovereign nations to secure their borders by establishing “spheres of influence” around them, and by taking pre-emptive action against any perceived threat in those regions. Viewed in this light, we believe that the Special Military Operation undertaken by the Russian Federation in the Ukraine, directed at countering a perceived threat from the eastward expansion of the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation, has a legitimate purpose.

## **RESOLUTION 4: EXPLOITATION OF SPACE**

This General Assembly notes with concern the current and proposed launch of many thousands of low altitude communication satellites by private sector firms, intended to increase access globally to the Internet. Not only do these satellites pose a major new impediment to Earth-based astronomy, their rapidly increasing number poses a collision threat, resulting in a serious increase in hazardous space debris. We believe that all such launches should require prior approval by a UN body established for the purpose.

## **RESOLUTION 5: DISCRIMINATION POLICY**

This General Assembly notes with concern widespread continuing discrimination against individuals in minority groups defined by their sexual orientation. This General Assembly regards all such discrimination as a violation of fundamental human rights. We urge all nations to take appropriate action, such as decriminalising homosexual behaviour and permitting same-sex marriage.

**RESOLUTION 6: ANTARCTIC TREATY**

This General Assembly notes the existence of the Antarctic Treaty of 1959, and, in particular, its 1993 Madrid Protocol which forbids any activity on the continent and in surrounding oceans directed toward the discovery and exploitation of mineral or energy resources. We believe that this provision discriminates against legitimate economic activity by organisations with expertise in this area and denies access by the global community to potentially valuable resources in great demand. We believe that the Treaty should be withdrawn and amended to remove this constraint.

Country Allocations 2023 (To Be Updated for 2023)

