

**UNITED NATIONS  
SECURITY COUNCIL**



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# **HANDBOOK**

**ENGLISH**



# 2020

**DIPLOMACY AS AN ART OF TELLING | SALUTE TOGETHER**

## GSMUN 2020

UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL  
HANDBOOKA. GENERAL RULES ON THE COMMITTEE:  
COMPOSITION AND SESSIONS**Article 1: Participants and their Powers**

1. The Council consists of 5 permanent members (P5 countries: China, France, Russian Federation, the United Kingdom, and the United States of America), 10 non-permanent members which are elected by the General Assembly for two-year terms, and temporary observers which are summoned to the Committee on the issues that they play a key role.

2. Permanent members of the UNSC (P5) are the only countries that have the power of veto within the Council. The use of the power of veto is only valid in the voting procedures of substantive matters such as Draft Resolutions or amendments. This power enables P5 to prevent any adoption of a substantive document regardless of its international support. Additively, the absence of a P5 country does damage the passage of a substantive document in order a substantive document to pass as there are nine affirmative votes.

3. Non-permanent members are considerably selected from all of the continents equally by the General Assembly to serve two-year terms in the Council. They have their rights to speak and vote on any procedural or substantive matter as the permanent members; however, they do not have the power of veto or the right to collectively appeal to use of the veto.

4. As specified in the UN Charter, if a permanent or non-permanent member of the Council happens to have direct involvement in the conflict under discussion, the respective country's right to vote will be temporarily disabled.

**Article 2: Quorum**

1. The presence of one-quarter of the total number of the permanent and non-permanent members is needed for the commencement of a session of the Council; additively, a session cannot start if a permanent member is absent without official note from the representative regarding their inability or decision not to attend. If no note arrives at the Committee Board regarding the scheduled absence of a permanent member, the Council shall wait for ten minutes for missing member's arrival; if he or she does not arrive in ten minutes, the respective country will be deemed as absent in all substantive proceedings of the Council throughout the session.

## B. RULES GOVERNING DISCUSSIONS

**Article 3: Confidential Session**

1. A motion for a confidential session can only be given as the **first motion** of a formal session of the Council, and this motion requires a simple majority to pass.

2. This motion should only be used during the discussions of highly sensitive matters or confidential plans of the Council.

3. Once the Committee is moved with a private session, all of the press and consultants will be immediately removed from the Council chamber, broadcasting and verbatim recording of the Council will be suspended for the duration of the session.

4. The Committee Board may overrule this motion any time, and their respective decision is not appealable.

**Article 4: Consultation of the Whole**

1. When the floor is open, usually during a confidential session – not have to be-, a member of the Council may raise a motion for the consultation of the whole. This motion requires a simple majority to pass.

2. Once the Council is moved with a consultation of the whole, observers and press corps will be asked to leave the Council chamber

for the duration of the procedure. The maximum time limit for a consultation of the whole is 15 minutes, also a topic of discussion should be stated while stating the motion.

3. During this closed meeting only for the permanent and non-permanent members of the Council, the moderation will be partially transferred to the delegates. There is no maximum time limit for an individual speech. The first speech will come from the submitter delegate, then when his or her speech is finished, he or she will accord the right to speak to another delegate. This procedure will be followed by the subsequent delegates until the end of the allocated time for the consultation of the whole. Delegates may sit or stand while delivering their speeches, but they should remain near to their seats.

4. This motion cannot be given more than one time in a single private session. Therefore, it cannot be extended.

5. The Committee Board may overrule this motion any time, and their respective decision is not appealable.

#### **Article 5: P5 Meeting**

1. When the floor is open, usually during a confidential session, a permanent member of the Council may raise a motion for a P5 meeting. This motion requires the consensus of the permanent members present in the Council. A topic of discussion and a total time, not exceeding ten minutes, shall be indicated while stating the motion.

2. Once this motion passes, the P5 members will be guided to the designated area for their meeting by the administrative staff. While the permanent members are not present in the council, other members and observers may move with further discussions on only procedural matters.

3. This motion cannot be given more than one time in a single session.

4. The Committee Board may overrule this motion any time, and their respective decision is not appealable.

### **C. RULES GOVERNING SUBSTANTIVE DOCUMENTS**

#### **Article 6: Press Releases**

1. The Council may decide to prepare a press release in order to inform the international community about their official stance and actions.

2. There are no official formatting of rules for the press releases issued by the Security Council; however, traditions within the Council suggest that the document should be comprised paragraphs which all start with these words: The members of the Security Council.

3. The introduction, voting, and adoption process of a press release are nearly the same with a draft resolution; the only difference is that a press release requires **consensus** to be publicized.

4. The voting of press releases will be implemented through the silent procedure. In this procedure the Committee Director will conduct a ten seconds period of silence, delegates may state their objections by breaking the silence during the designated period by any kind of voice generated by them.

#### **Article 7: Draft Resolutions**

1. Formatting, approval, introduction process of draft resolutions shall be the same with all specifications made in the Rules of Procedure of GSMUN2020 as it is stated at the beginning of this handbook. The only difference for the adoption of draft resolutions in the Security Council will be that they will need **9 affirmative votes with no veto from a P5 country** for adoption.

#### **Article 8: Communication Papers**

1. Member of the Council may write “communication papers” in order to communicate with their capital. They may ask questions or request/give advice. Members may also receive communication papers from their countries at any time during committee proceedings. That apparatus mustn't be overused.