



UNHRC



DELIBERATING ON
STATE SURVEILLANCE VS RIGHT TO PRIVACY
IN DIGITAL AGE

Rules of Procedure

Introduction to the United Nations Human Rights Council

The **United Nations Human Rights Council (UNHRC)** is the principal United Nations body responsible for promoting and protecting human rights worldwide. Established in **2006** by **UN General Assembly Resolution 60/251**, the Council consists of **47 Member States** elected by the General Assembly and is headquartered in **Geneva, Switzerland**. It provides a global platform for addressing human rights issues, adopting resolutions, monitoring Member States through the **Universal Periodic Review (UPR)**, and working with the **Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR)** to strengthen international human rights standards.

1. The Board of the Council

1.1. Chairpersons.

The Board of the Human Rights Council shall be composed of a Chair, a Co-Chair and the United Nations High Commissioner of Human Rights (UNHCHR).

1.2. Competence of the Chairpersons.

The competence of the Chairpersons may not be questioned by delegates.

1.3 Authority and Responsibilities

1.3.1. Authority and Responsibilities of the Chair.

The Chair shall exercise ultimate authority over his/ her respective committee proceeding in an equitable and objective manner. They also reserve the right to propose a motion at any given time which should be seconded by a delegate and given that there are no objections.

The Chair is responsible for all procedural matters pertaining to the

committee including, but not limited to, moderating debate, determining the applicability of rules and, if necessary, clarifying on the meaning of the existing rules without approval from the committee.

1.3.2. Authority and Responsibilities of the Co-Chair.

The Co-Chair shall have authority over all committee support staff and ensure that delegates are accurately representing the position of their countries with respect to substantive issues and topics.

The Co-Chair shall also be responsible for ensuring relevancy of the content and format of the resolutions before their submission for verification by the Secretary General or the Deputy Secretary General. The Co-Chair shall also assist the Chair with all committee proceeding matters.

1.3.3. Authorities and responsibilities of the UNHRC

As the principal United Nations office mandated to promote and protect human rights for all, OHCHR leads global human rights efforts speaks out objectively in the face of human rights violations worldwide. We provide a forum for identifying, highlighting and developing responses to today's human rights challenges, and act as the principal focal point of human rights research, education, public information, and advocacy activities in the United Nations system. Since Governments have the primary responsibility to protect human rights, the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) provides assistance to Governments, such as expertise and technical trainings in the areas of administration of justice, legislative reform, and electoral process, to help implement international human rights standards on the ground. We also assist other entities with responsibility to protect human rights to fulfil their obligations and individuals to realize their rights

2. Parliamentary procedure

2.1 Roll Call.

Attendance shall be conducted by the Chairpersons by a Roll Call at the beginning of every committee session. Delegates shall establish

their presence in the committee by raising their placards and declaring “**Present**”.

2.2 Motion Establishment.

Motion to establish is used to formally propose the creation of a committee body, working group, or the start of a specific procedure such as a moderated or unmoderated caucus. It is usually raised by a delegate when recognized by the Chair, stating clearly the purpose, duration, and agenda of the motion.

2.2.1 how to raise motion

When the Chair asks, “***Are there any points or motions on the floor?***” raise your placard and wait to be recognized. Once called upon, clearly state your motion with all required details.

For example: “***The delegation of [COUNTRY] would like to move for a [THE TYPE OF MOTION MOD OR UNMOD] to discuss [SPECIFIC TOPIC] for a total time of 40 minutes with 60 seconds speaking time per delegate***”

2.3 Recognition of Speaker’s list for GSL

the **recognition of the Speakers’ List for the General Speakers’ List (GSL)** is the process by which the Chair officially opens the floor for formal debate. Once the agenda is set, the Chair announces that the GSL is open, and **delegates who wish to speak raise their placards to be added to the list.**

2.4 General Speaker’s List (GSL)

The **General Speakers’ List (GSL)** is the main form of formal debate in a MUN committee. Once the agenda is set, the Chair opens the GSL and delegates raise their placards to be added to the list. Speakers are then recognized one by one to present their country’s position, concerns, and proposed solutions on the agenda. Each delegate is given a fixed speaking time, making the GSL the foundation of structured discussion and the primary way to introduce ideas during the committee session.

2.5 Moderated Caucus

A **moderated caucus** is a structured form of debate in MUN used for focused discussion on a specific subtopic of the agenda. A delegate raises a motion stating the topic, total duration, and speaking time per speaker,

2.6 Second Moderated Caucus on topic given by the executive board

After the first moderated caucus the committee will move to the second moderated caucus on the topic “Example; - Solutions of the challenges and human rights violations faced by women in conflict zones, with special emphasis on Afghanistan. “

2.7 Unmoderated caucus

The unmoderated caucus allows for open dialogue/Lobbying and focusses on an informal type of debate on a specific subtopic of the agenda that is decided by the delegates itself.

2.8 Documentation

2.8.1 Working Paper. A Working Paper is an informal document used by committee Delegates to work on building a Draft Resolution. A Working Paper will be distributed at the Chair's discretion if requested by a Delegate. A Working Paper can be presented by the Delegate either when it is the Delegate's turn to speak, according to the Speakers list or when a motion for a formal debate is passed, with the purpose of discussing the working paper. Delegates are strongly advised to have prepared working papers on their topics

2.8.2 Draft Resolutions. A Working Paper submitted to the Chair under proper Resolution format will be referred to as a Draft Resolution. Delegates may refer to a document as a "Draft Resolution" in a speech only after it has been assigned a number by the Secretary General or the Deputy Secretary General. If Draft Resolutions are complementary or fairly identical, the Chair may recommend that the Sponsor of the Draft Resolutions combine the documents prior to the end of the debate.

2.9 Resolution denomination.

A Draft Resolution that has been put to a vote by the committee and passes may be referred to as a “Resolution”.

Sponsor.

Sponsor is recognized as the main writer of the Draft Resolution. There is only one Sponsor for each draft Resolution. The Sponsor must be present for a Working Paper to be introduced to the floor as a Draft Resolution. The Sponsor must agree to support a Resolution unless major changes have been introduced through the amendment process.

Signatories.

Signatories are recognized as the supporters of the Draft Resolution. The required number of Signatories will be set by the Chair being equal to at least the 1/5 of the total members present at the committee. The respective number of Signatories must be present on a Working Paper to be introduced to the floor as a Draft Resolution. Amendments to the Draft Resolution are not required to be approved by Signatories. Signatories are not required to support the Draft Resolution during voting procedure; they only agree to put their names as those who are interested in seeing the Working Paper nominated as a Draft Resolution for further debate. Signatories can sign only one resolution per Topic Area. However, there is no restriction in the voting procedure.

Introduction of a Draft Resolution.

A Delegate may move to introduce a Draft Resolution. Once the Working Paper has been assigned a Draft Resolution number by the Secretary General or the Deputy Secretary General, the Chair/the sponsor will entertain a motion to introduce the Draft Resolution. Once the Motion has passed, the Chair shall invite the Sponsor of the

Resolution to read out only the operative clauses of the Draft Resolution to the committee. The Sponsor (or one of the Signatories) will

Passing of the Draft Resolutions

When one draft Resolution passes with the majority amount of votes the committee will be considered a success and therefore it will end.

3. Majority

Unless otherwise specified, no motions are debatable and all require a simple majority vote to pass

3.1. Simple Majority.

A procedural or substantive matter requiring a simple majority to pass implies that fifty percent plus one vote (50% + 1) of the committee must vote in favour of the matter to pass. If the vote is a tie, the matter will be considered to have failed.

3.2. Two-thirds (2/3) Majority.

A procedural or substantive matter requiring a two-thirds (2/3) majority to pass implies that two-thirds (2/3) of the committee must vote in favour for a matter to pass. If there is at least one vote in favour or against and the remaining votes are abstentions subject is considered to have either passed or failed.

4. Agenda

The Agenda reflects the order in which topics will be addressed by the committee. This is the primary order of business to be considered by the committee in the first session. At this time the Chair may entertain a motion to set the speaking time

5. Debate

5.1. Formal Debate.

A committee shall by default be in Formal Debate unless otherwise advised by the Chair. Delegates should refer to the Speakers' List for the speaking order.

5.2. Informal Debate.

During formal debate a motion can be made by any delegate for a

Moderated Caucus or an Unmoderated Caucus both of which constitute informal debate. Informal debate can only occur on substantive issues and is out of order once a motion to close debate has been passed.

5.3. Recognition.

A Delegate may only address the committee if he/she has received permission from the Chair.

5.4. Interruptions.

A Speaker may not be interrupted by another Delegate unless the Delegate has risen to a Point of Personal Privilege. Point of order does not interrupt a speaker. Only once the Speaker has concluded and the floor is given back to the chair, a delegate may move to a Point of Order.

6. Speeches

6.1. Motion to establish the speaker's time.

A Delegate may move to set a time limit on speeches. The Chair may either rule the Motion dilatory at his/her discretion or put it to vote. A Delegate exceeding the allotted time for a speech may be called to order by the Chair.

6.2. Relevance of Speech.

A Chair may call a Delegate to order if his/her speech is not relevant to the subject matter being discussed.

7. Yields

Only during substantive formal debate, a Delegate may yield any remaining time at the end of his/her speech in one of the following manners:

7.1. To Questions.

The Chair will use the remaining time to entertain questions for the Speaker from the committee. Delegates wishing to ask questions shall raise their placards and wait to be recognised by the Chair. The Chair shall rule questions that are rhetorical, leading or not relevant to the Speaker's speech out of order. Only the Speaker's answer shall be subtracted from the remaining speaking time.

7.2. To another Delegate.

A Speaker wishing to give the remaining time allotted to his/her

speech to another Delegate can do so. A Speaker that has been yielded to cannot yield his or her time again.

7.3. To the Board.

The Floor will automatically be given to the next speaker on the Speakers list. If a specific yield has not been established by the Speaker, the floor will automatically be given to the Chair. During Moderated Caucus the floor will also automatically be given to the Chair.

8. Points

8.1. Point of Personal Privilege.

A Delegate may rise to a Point of Personal Privilege if a matter impairs him/her from participating fully in committee activities. The Chairpersons shall try to effectively address the source of impairment. This point may interrupt a Speaker only due to inability

8.2. Point of Order.

A Delegate may rise to a Point of Order if a rule of procedure is not properly observed by a Delegate or by Chairpersons. The Chair will rule on the validity of the point. A Delegate rising to a Point of Order may not comment on the topic of discussion. A Point of Order ruled dilatory by the Chair may not be appealed. This point may not interrupt a Speaker

8.3. Point of Parliamentary Inquiry.

A Delegate may rise to a Point of Parliamentary Inquiry requesting an explanation from the Chair on the Rules of Procedure. This point may not interrupt a Speaker.

1



ROLL CALL



2



MOTION ESTABLISHMENT FOR GSL



3



GENERAL SPEAKERS LIST (GSL)



4



**MOTION ESTABLISHMENT FOR
MODERATED CAUCUS 1**



5



MODERATED CAUCUS 1



6



**MOTION ESTABLISHMENT FOR
MODERATED CAUCUS 2**



7



MODERATED CAUCUS 2



8



UNMODERATED CAUCUS / LOBBYING



9



DOCUMENTATION



10



MAJORITY PASS OF DOCUMENTATION