



# RIMUN 2019 Continuous Crisis Rules of Procedure

## General Rules of Procedure

1. **SCOPE:** These rules apply to all CONTINUOUS CRISIS committees of RIMUN, including Ad-Hoc, Donald Trump's Cabinet, and the Game of Thrones Committee.
2. **STAFF COMPOSITION:** All crisis committees will have a set of "front-room" and "backroom" staff, each responsible for different elements of committee proceedings.
  - a. **FRONT-ROOM STAFF:** Members of the front room staff include Chairs and Vice-Chairs. Front room staff are responsible for managing the workings inside the committee, most significantly moderating debate.
  - b. **BACKROOM STAFF:** Members of the back room staff include the Crisis Director and Crisis Staff. Backroom staff are responsible for creating and executing the committee crises and responding to both committee actions and delegates' personal crisis notes.
3. **POWERS OF THE CHAIRS:** The committee chairs will declare the opening and closing of each meeting and may interrupt proceedings to allow for crisis breaks, guest speakers, expert witnesses, or announcements. All rulings are at the discretion of the committee chairs. Chairs may advise delegates on the possible course of debate and are encouraged to examine directives, communiqués, and press releases with a critical eye.
4. **POWERS OF THE CRISIS STAFF:** The committee's Crisis Director and Crisis Staff will create and execute all crisis breaks and simulations of the committee. They will also respond to both committee and personal directives and guide the flow of debate in committee through their actions.
5. **COURTESY:** Delegates will show courtesy and respect to the staff and to other delegates. No side talk is allowed during debate. The chairs may immediately call to order any delegate who fails to comply with this rule.
6. **LAPTOPS:** Delegates may use laptops during committee debate and caucusing. This rule may be changed at the discretion of the chair.
7. **LANGUAGE:** RIMUN 2019 is a bilingual conference. All continuous crisis committees will be conducted in English.

## Rules Governing Debate

1. **ROLL CALL:** The chairs will declare committee open when debate is scheduled to begin. Before debate commences, chairs will take roll call attendance. Delegates may respond as **PRESENT** when the chair calls their name. Delegates will not be allowed to be **PRESENT AND VOTING** in crisis committees. If a delegate arrives after roll call is taken, they must send a note to their chair alerting them of their presence.
2. **STRUCTURE OF DEBATE:** Delegates will not debate a specific topic in order to pass a single, comprehensive resolution on said topic. Instead, they will be responding to a series of individual crises (see Appendix A) created by the backroom through debating and writing different document responses (see “Crisis Documents”) in a fast-paced, exciting form of debate.
3. **CONTINUOUS DEBATE:** Crisis committees at RIMUN will not set an Agenda and will not use Primary and Secondary Speaker’s Lists to facilitate general debate. Instead, all debate will take place through **ROUND ROBINS** and **MODERATED/UNMODERATED CAUCUSES**.
4. **ROUND ROBIN:** Delegates may introduce a **motion for a round robin** in order to allow all members of committee to comment on either the general debate or a specific topic. In a round robin, beginning with the delegate who made the motion, each delegate will be asked to deliver a speech, with the chair calling on delegates one after the other. Motions for round robins must be accompanied by a speaking time per delegate and may be accompanied by a subject for discussion. This motion needs a simple majority to pass.
5. **MODERATED CAUCUS:** Delegates may introduce a **motion for a moderated caucus** in order to debate specific subjects. The delegate making the motion must briefly explain its purpose, a time length, and a time limit per speech. A simple majority is required for passage. If a motion passes, the delegate making the motion will have the right to speak first. If no other delegates wish to speak, the caucus will end immediately. The chair may dissolve a caucus based on personal discretion.
6. **UNMODERATED CAUCUS:** Delegates may introduce a **motion for an unmoderated caucus** for a specified period of time in order to move about the room and debate freely. Delegates need not specify a purpose when motioning for the caucus. A simple majority is required for passage. The chair may declare this motion out of order based on personal discretion.
7. **EXTENSIONS OF CAUCUSES:** Delegates may **motion to extend** a moderated or unmoderated caucus by a certain amount of time once it has elapsed. This motion needs a simple majority to pass. Extended caucuses may not be re-extended.
8. **SUSPENSION, RESUMPTION, OR ADJOURNMENT OF DEBATE:**
  - a. **SUSPENSION AND RESUMPTION:** Delegates may make a **motion to suspend** the committee for a break or until the next session. This motion requires a simple

majority to pass. Suspensions may be ended with a **motion to resume debate**, which needs a simple majority to pass.

- b. **ADJOURNMENT**: Delegates may make a **motion to adjourn** the committee, ending all its functions, at the end of the conference. This motion needs a simple majority to pass.
9. **INVITING GUEST SPEAKERS**: Delegates may raise a **motion to invite a guest speaker** to ask a person outside of committee (portrayed by a member of crisis staff) to come and speak to them and answer questions. This motion needs a simple majority and consent of the Crisis Director to pass and must specify who the guest speaker requested is.
10. **NOTES**: Delegates may pass physical, paper notes to one another or to committee chairs during debate to converse or ask questions without having side-conversations and interrupting debate. Delegates may not read notes that are not addressed to them.
11. **RIGHT OF REPLY**: A delegate whose personal character or national integrity has been impugned by another delegate may submit of Right of Reply in writing to the dais. If the chair allows a Right of Reply, the offended delegate will be granted a 30-second speech to defend their position. The chair's decision to grant the Right of Reply is unappealable.

## Points

Delegates may raise one of three points at any time during debate to address non-substantive issues:

1. **POINT OF PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRY**: Delegates may raise this point to ask a question to the dais about parliamentary procedure or other logistical matters of the committee.
2. **POINT OF ORDER**: Delegates may raise this point to correct the chair on matters of parliamentary procedure.
3. **POINT OF PERSONAL PRIVILEGE**: Delegates may raise this point to bring up personal issues that are hindering them from participating, such as the room being too hot or too cold.

## Precedence of Points and Motions

1. Point of Personal Privilege
2. Point of Order
3. Point of Parliamentary Inquiry
4. Adjournment of the Meeting
5. Suspension of the Meeting
6. Resumption of the Meeting
7. Invite a Guest Speaker
8. Extension of the Caucus
9. Round Robin

10. Unmoderated Caucus
11. Moderated Caucus
12. Introduction of a Directive/Communiqué/Press Release
13. Introduction of an Amendment

## Crisis Documents

1. **DIRECTIVES:** Directives are the primary form delegates in crisis committees have of responding to events. They specify certain concrete actions the committee plans to take in response to the events of a crisis or identify broader plans and goals of the committee-at-large. They may be written in bullet-point form or in the same format as draft resolutions, excluding preambulatory clauses. (See Appendix B for a sample directive.)
2. **COMMUNIQUÉS:** Communiqués are a second type of crisis document in which the committee may communally send messages to individuals, organizations, or countries outside of their committee to communicate a certain message or ask for aid. Communiqués must identify the intended recipient and include the message being sent. (See Appendix C for a sample communiqué.)
3. **PRESS RELEASES:** Press releases are the third type of document delegates may write and pass as a committee; they are messages the committee crafts to be published to the world-at-large. Press releases can be used to control a media narrative or release information to a large group of people in a short amount of time. (See Appendix D for a sample press release.)
4. **CRISIS NOTES:** Crisis notes, also known as personal directives, are individually-written action orders sent directly from delegates to crisis staff mobilizing the resources of their character in order to respond to crises or achieve certain goals. Delegates may write and send crisis notes at any time for crisis staff to respond to. It is up to the discretion of the crisis staff to decide how they want to put delegates' personal directives into action. (See Appendix E for a sample crisis note.)
5. **SUBMISSION OF DOCUMENTS:** Committee directives, communiqués, and press releases must gain the required number of sponsors and signatories and then be submitted to and approved by the chair in order to be voted on by the committee. Crisis notes will be directly sent to a member of the crisis staff for response.
6. **SIGNATORIES AND SPONSORS FOR DIRECTIVES, COMMUNIQUÉS, AND PRESS RELEASES:** Directives, communiqués, and press releases require a certain amount of sponsors and signatories to be approved by the chair and presented to the committee.
  - a. **SPONSORS:** Sponsors are delegates who have directly contributed to the writing of the committee document. The chair will specify how many sponsors per paper will be allowed depending on the size of the committee.

- b. SIGNATORIES: Signatories are delegates who wish to see a certain committee document debated. The chair will specify how many signatories per paper will be necessary for approval depending on the size of the committee.
7. INTRODUCTION OF DIRECTIVES, COMMUNIQUEÉS, AND PRESS RELEASES: A delegate may make a **motion to introduce a directive/communiqué/press release** once it has been submitted to and approved by the chair. This motion needs a simple majority to pass. After this motion passes, the document will be read to the rest of the committee by the chairs.
8. QUESTION AND ANSWER SESSION: Delegates may make a **motion to suspend the rules for a question and answer session** for a specified period of time once a committee document has been introduced. During Q&A sessions, chairs may call on delegates to ask questions to the sponsors of the introduced document. No follow-up questions nor speeches from delegates asking questions will be allowed. This motion needs a simple majority to pass.
9. AMENDMENTS: Once a committee document is introduced, delegates may submit amendments. Amendments may be written by any delegate in committee and they add, delete, or change certain aspects of a specified committee document. (See Appendix F for a sample Amendment.) Amendments may be introduced to the committee with a **motion to introduce**, which needs a simple majority to pass. There are two types of amendments:
  - a. FRIENDLY AMENDMENTS: Friendly Amendments have the approval of all of the sponsors of the draft resolution which they amend. They are automatically incorporated into the document and do not need to be voted on.
  - b. UNFRIENDLY AMENDMENTS: Unfriendly Amendments do not have the approval of all of the sponsors of the draft resolution which they amend. They must be introduced to the rest of committee and need a two-thirds majority to pass.

## Rules Governing Voting

1. SIMPLE MAJORITY: A simple majority of the committee is composed of 50% + 1 of the committee.
2. TWO-THIRDS MAJORITY: A two-thirds majority consists of exactly the number of delegates who compose two-thirds of committee.
3. PROCEDURAL VOTES: All votes other than those on directives, communiqués, press releases, or amendments are considered procedural. All delegates must vote on procedural matters. No abstentions will be allowed.
4. SUBSTANTIVE VOTES: All votes on committee documents are considered substantive. Delegates may abstain in substantive votes.
5. VOTING PROCEDURE: In order to vote on committee documents, the committee must enter into voting procedure. To do this, delegates may make a **motion to enter voting procedure**, which needs a two-thirds majority to pass. In voting procedure, the chambers are

sealed, nobody is allowed to enter or exit the room, note-passing is banned, and all side-conversations must be terminated. The committee will vote on committee documents in the order in which they were introduced. At this juncture, all points may be entertained, but only motions for a Roll Call Vote and Division of the Question will be allowed. Once all introduced committee documents are voted on, delegates may make a **motion to exit voting procedure**, which needs a simple majority to pass.

6. **PASSAGE OF DIRECTIVES, COMMUNIQUÉS, AND PRESS RELEASES:** Committee documents need more YES votes than NO votes to pass. Abstentions will not be counted as votes. An unlimited number of documents may pass in each committee. If two contradictory documents pass, the one voted on last will take precedence.
7. **PLACARD VOTING:** The automatic form of voting for all committees is placard voting. This consists of the chair asking for all delegates voting a certain way to raise their placards, then counting the number of placards raised. In a placard vote, delegates may vote YES, NO, or ABSTAIN.
8. **ROLL CALL VOTING:** During Voting Procedure, delegates may make a **motion for a roll call vote**, which only needs the chair's approval to pass. In this style of voting, the chair will verbally ask for the vote of all the delegates in committee. Delegates may vote YES, NO, ABSTAIN, PASS, YES with Rights, or NO with Rights. Delegates who Pass at first may not abstain in the second round of voting.
9. **VOTING WITH RIGHTS:** Delegates voting YES with Rights or NO with Rights reserve a thirty-second speech at the end of voting to explain their decision. Voting with Rights should only be used to explain the decision of a delegate if their vote seems particularly egregious or out-of-character (eg. they vote for a resolution that is against their previously-stated policy).
10. **DIVISION OF THE QUESTION:** During Voting Procedure, delegates may make a **motion to divide the question**. This motion allows the committee vote upon different parts of a document separately. This motion takes place in four stages:
  - a. First, a delegate must motion to divide the question. This needs a two-thirds majority to pass.
  - b. Second, delegates will propose motions on how to procedurally divide the document, such as to vote on each bullet-point separately or to vote on a certain sentence separately from the rest of the document. These proposals need a simple majority to pass.
  - c. Third, delegates will vote on each part of the divided document individually, as if each part were their own, smaller document. These pieces need a simple majority to pass.
  - d. Fourth, all parts of the divided document that were passed are reconstituted into a new document that must be voted on and needs a simple majority to pass.

## *APPENDIX A: Sample Crisis*

**New York Times**

### ***Fears Rise as Russian Military Units Pour Into Ukraine***

By **DAVID M. HERSZENHORN** | March 2014

KIEV, Ukraine — Tanks and other military vehicles pouring over the border from [Russia](#) into eastern [Ukraine](#) by the special monitoring mission. Nightly artillery battles in the region's biggest city, Donetsk, and reports of fighting around another regional capital. And now, sightings of the "green men," professional soldiers in green uniforms without insignia, the same type of forces that carried out the invasion of Crimea last spring.

A senior [NATO](#) official confirmed on Wednesday what Ukrainian military officials and monitors from the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe have been saying for days now: Russian troops and military equipment are crossing the border into [Ukraine](#), seemingly preparing for renewed military action, though what exactly remains unclear.

## *APPENDIX B: Sample Directive*

### **Directive 1.1**

**Sponsors:** Secretary of State, Secretary of Finance

**Signatories:** United Nations Ambassador, Attorney-General, Secretary of Defense

The United States Cabinet:

1. Sends 3 OCB-135B surveillance drones to monitor actions of Russian troops along the Russia-Ukraine border:
  - a. Demands control center report immediately back to the US Cabinet at the first sign of violence or violent fire;
  - b. Prepares a fleet of 5 more OCB-135B drones to be mobilized and sent to monitor the Russian border with the Black Sea and the Russia-Ukraine border at the command of the US Cabinet;
2. Imposes sanctions against Russian all government officials and military leaders responsible for mobilizing troops and weapons into Ukraine through freezing US assets and asserting a travel ban:
  - a. Calls upon NATO members to impose similar sanctions regimes;

- b. Notes that these sanctions will be re-considered on the conditions of a successful cease-fire between Russia and Ukraine and the removal of all Russian troops and weaponry from Ukraine border.

### *APPENDIX C: Sample Communiqué*

#### **Communiqué 1.1**

**To:** The Cabinet of the Russian Federation

**From:** The Cabinet of the United States

The United States is alarmed by the recent Russian military incursion into Ukraine and its threat to peace and stability in the region. We demand Russia immediately remove all its troops and weaponry from Ukraine, otherwise the United States will be forced to take direct action in response.

### *APPENDIX D: Sample Press Release*

#### **Press Release 1.1**

The Cabinet of the United States is alarmed by the recent incursion of Russia into sovereign Ukrainian territory and its threat to peace and stability in the region. It implores the international community to join with it in its attempts to curtail Russian aggression and protect the sanctity of the Ukrainian government and people.

### *APPENDIX E: Sample Crisis Note*

#### **CRISIS NOTE**

To my dear Secretary Linda,

Based on intelligence I received from the bug I had placed in the Secretary of the Interior's kitchen, I have reason to believe that the Secretary of Defense is committing acts of treason through conspiring with the Russian Cabinet in order to ensure their attack on Ukraine is successful. We cannot allow this to continue.

Please divert \$100,000 USD from my department's budget into a fund entitled "Drugs in Chicago Public Housing Research Investigation." Use this money to hire a trusted private military company to



place a tail on the Secretary of Defense and install a bug in his house. Once we have further information on his schedule, we can continue the assassination plan.

To thank you for your help, I have also attached a \$1,000 USD bonus check to this letter. Please ensure this stays a secret.

Sincerely,  
Secretary of Housing and Urban Development

### ***APPENDIX F: Sample Amendment***

#### **Amendment to Directive 1.1**

**Sponsors:** CIA Director

**Signatories:** National Security Advisor, Secretary of Housing and Urban Development

DELETE “and asserting a travel ban” from Clause 2.