

YLA MODEL UNITED NATIONS

Manual



Teens gain a window on the world and an international perspective through experiential, hands-on learning as they seek solutions to world issues.



Ohio-West Virginia Youth Leadership Association

522 Sandhill Road
Point Pleasant, WV
304-675-5899

3309 Horseshoe Run Rd
Parsons, WV
304-478-2481

1132 Bell Hollow Rd
Latham, OH
937-588-2018

yla@ylaleads.org

www.ylaleads.org



Our Purpose

YLA Model United Nations offers a “window on the world” opportunity for students to participate and experience personal perspective in solving global and international issues.

History and Results

We held our first Model United Nations in 1981. Hundreds of adults with a Model UN experience are now more informed on international issues, the art of diplomacy, and how nations interact to achieve their national interests in a world of competing nations.

“I came into Model UN with no knowledge about the UN or my nation. I left with that knowledge plus the ability to think as my nation and a greater appreciation of other nations.”

Who Participates

YLA Model United Nations is open to all. YLA offers UN Assemblies for High School and Middle School students. YLA UN welcomes youth groups, Student Councils, HI-Y and TRI-Ys, faith based groups, home and on-line students, and youth not in an organized youth group.

Student Positions

- ◆ Ambassadors representing a nation
- ◆ Officers
 - Secretary General
 - President of the General Assembly
 - Council Presidents

Adults serve as advisors to local participants and assist with the UN Assembly.

Assistance

YLA staff assistance, training, and program materials are available. Contact YLA at 304-675-5899, 304-478-2481 or email yla@ylaleads.org

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Program Specifics



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In This Chapter

- ◆ Dates & Deadlines
- ◆ Dress
- ◆ Meals
- ◆ Housing
when applicable
- ◆ Cancellations and Refund Policy
- ◆ Code of Conduct



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Dress

Model United Nations is a model of the United Nations in action. Included is the way we act, speak, conduct ourselves, represent our nation, and the way we dress. UN Assembly and Council sessions require appropriate attire.

Students may wear business attire of their nation or may wear generally accepted business attire. Men may wear coats and ties or sweaters and slacks during Assembly and Council sessions. No sport shirts or blue jeans. Women wear professional business attire. No spaghetti straps or exposed midriff allowed. Women may wear nice pants outfits.

Casual dress including blue jeans are appropriate at recreation and the hotel.

Meals

Lunch will be provided.

Location

University of Charleston
Riggleman Hall
2300 McCorkle Avenue SE
Charleston, WV 25304

Cancellations and Refund Policy

The best laid plans can go awry. Due to the significantly lower fees charged to participants, YLA has **no flexibility to provide refunds**. Therefore, our policy is NOT to provide refunds. Your deposit is a down payment (your word) that you will attend. We will make advance payments to other parties to hold space for you. Please do not ask for this deposit money to be applied to another's final payment—it has already been used to hold your space and is not refundable.

Groups MAY substitute another individual for the cancelling student.

Things to remember:

- A. Local YLA groups who want to provide refunds to anyone who cancels need to set aside money to provide such refunds locally.
- B. Delegations do not refer parents, participants, school, or other administrators to YLA with refund questions. Handle these questions locally.
- C. Once a delegation registers for a conference, that delegation is responsible for the entire payment for that number of student and adult delegates.
- D. Local groups may want to consider purchasing an insurance policy that pays, if for some reason the group needs to cancel out of the program. Check with your insurance company about coverage (i.e. trip insurance).
- E. Weather—Our first priority is always safety. If a weather event happens in your area and you are unable to attend, we understand your absence and want you to stay safe. Do not place yourself or others in danger.

Note: Please inform school and other administrators, parents, and students about this cancellation and refund policy prior to signing up anyone for a conference or program.

Code of Conduct: YLA Programs

Participants – youth and adults - in YLA programs demonstrate responsibility and the highest levels of personal and group character. Due to that, few rules are required.

In general, our rules are summarized in these three (3) points:

1. Treat others as one wants to be treated;
2. Do not fail to do something that would help others, make the place we are using cleaner, safer, and a better experience for all;
3. Do not do anything that hurts or could potentially harm another person, place, or thing.

Some specifics may be helpful –

1. Attend all sessions of the program;
2. Wear name badges as called for by the program;
3. Names of anyone absent from a session are referred to the program director and the appropriate advisor;
4. Adult sponsors and chaperones are responsible for the supervision of their Delegation;
5. No food, drink, or gum in UN assembly or Council sessions;
6. Not permitted at YLA programs are tobacco, alcoholic beverages, illegal drugs, or weapons;
7. When staying at a hotel: There is no coed visiting in housing rooms;
8. All participants are in their own room, observe quiet hours at the time indicated by the curfew and will not leave their room until the end of curfew;
9. Room changes are not made unless made by YLA staff;
10. Participants do not invite or receive visitors unless approved by the Advisor and YLA staff. Visitors, alumni, etc. are not permitted in the lodging facility guest sleeping rooms at any time. Guests are restricted to lobbies and visitor areas.

YLA MODEL UNITED NATIONS

Dates & Deadlines



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In This Chapter

- UN Calendar



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UN Calendar

October

20 YLA Affiliation due for lowest fees

January

8 Participation Agreement and Individual Registration Forms are due. Adults and students are to register online. Go to our website www.ylaleads.org, chose Programs, Model United Nations then click "How to Register". It will take you to the Active registration system.

February

1 Officer nomination forms are due for the following year's Model United Nations. They maybe faxed to 304-675-5977, emailed yla@ylaleads.org or mailed.

1 Position papers, supplements, and any fees not paid are due.

Add \$25 late fee for each student or adult missing final deadline.

Two weeks prior to UN books delivered to advisors

March

14 **Model United Nations**

May

15 Last day to register for Teen Leadership Summit at the early bird rate.

June

15-21 **YLA /UN / YG High School Leadership Summit** at Horseshoe

ADVISORS—Please visit our website for fillable forms.

Dates and Locations

Model United Nations

University of Charleston
Riggleman Hall
2300 McCorkle Avenue SE
Charleston, WV

Explain and Recruit

Present the opportunity to students, parents and interested teachers. Explain the program, responsibilities, costs and deadlines.

Your Goal

- ◆ Recruit students who will do their share of the work, meet deadlines, carry out their responsibilities, and participate the United Nations Assembly;
- ◆ Create a base of adult support (parents, other teachers and adult volunteers) who will assist throughout the process.

Involve the Youth Leadership Association

YLA staff will help you and your group have a successful United Nations experience. Staff will meet with you and your group. We can help with the initial student meeting and other times you request. Just contact us and we'll help. We're also available by phone, text, and e-mail.

Next Steps

Submit **Participation Agreement**, (check out the website for new fillable forms being added) and your nation request(s) by the deadline. The participation fee (\$ per person) may be paid directly to the YLA office in check form or can be paid online through our ACTIVE registration system. We will accept late sign ups as long as space remains and the final deadline will be met. PAs and the PA fee may be submitted together to YLA, 522 Sandhill Road, Pt. Pleasant, WV 25550. **Registration Forms** for students and chaperones are to be completed online through Active. You can online through our website by clicking on "Programs" at the top of the home page and selecting Model United Nations, clicking "How to Register". Need assistance 304-675-5899 or e-mail yla@ylaleads.org.

Everyone is welcome! Those who Affiliate with the YLA by October 20th each year receive our lowest rates.

Nation Requests: Each nation has 2 students. If eight sign up, divide them into 4 groups of 2 students and represent 4 nations. If only one student wants to participate, they are welcome and will represent a nation. Nations are requested on the Participation Agreement. Fill up one nation (2 students) before requesting a second nation.

A maximum of two students write one position paper. No more than two students on one resolution.

Delegations representing more than one nation are to choose nations from different continents before choosing two from one continent. That way we have greater representation of nations and their interests in Model UN. Each delegation is encouraged to represent at least one Security Nation (list on Participation Agreement).



Model United Nations Position Paper Guidance

The following position paper guidance is based on that used at the Harvard Model United Nations (UN) conference. The intent of a position paper is to express the interests, policies, and areas of international cooperation related to your topic for the country you represent. It should, therefore, be from the point of view of your assigned country and specifically address the topic your committee will discuss. It should also include a bibliography of the sources you consulted in your research. If you directly quote the resources please be sure to cite them in the text. Sources should be “primary” resources as much as possible, such as:

- United Nations documents on the issue and country.
- Government sources from the country you represent.
- U.S. Department of State, Department of Defense, and Central Intelligence Agency sources.
- Nongovernmental Organizations working in your country and on your topic.

Once you have completed your preliminary research, you are ready to write your position paper. The paper should be no more than one single-spaced page.

Each position paper has three basic parts: your country’s national interests, your country’s national policies, and your opinion on potential areas of cooperation.

- National interests are what a country would like to see happen in the world for itself.
- National policies are the country’s attempts to secure its interests through various programs.
- Areas of cooperation are possible policies and programs that other countries would also agree to, either actively by helping or passively by not being in their way. These must align with your country’s national interests.

An example position paper follows.

Country: Mongolia

Committee: Futuristic

Topic: Privacy and Security in the Age of Surveillance

National Interests: In 2030, video surveillance systems and advanced recognition technologies are being used around the world and are being taken advantage of by governments to monitor and track the activities of people every day. The data captured from the systems are stored and protected by private companies as well as government security organizations. Undisclosed entities have hacked into thousands of the databases globally and have been able to obtain the personal data of millions of people over the world. Mongolia recognizes the high importance of dealing with issues induced by this situation, especially personal privacy rights and abuse of advanced video surveillance networks by governments to target ethnic minorities.

National Policies: The current policies of Mongolia are based in its Constitution, which guarantees the basic human rights of its citizens. In the past, a special law regulating relations connected with personal secrecy did not exist. The adoption of the Law on Personal Secrecy by the Mongolian Parliament in 1995 was, according to the Brookings Institution, "...a novelty in the legal practice of Mongolia, attesting to the legalization of the protection of human rights, honor, and reputation." With this law, there has been a significant step forward towards guaranteeing human rights, freedoms and "...realization of the concept that in settling civil suits and disputes the courts shall not apply legislation that contradicts the Constitution which like any country, are the general principles of the Civil Code of Mongolia." According to the Privacy Law, the government should also protect citizens' personal information in accordance with the procedures and on grounds determined by law. Only officials of authorized state organizations have access to personal data of citizens that is kept in accordance with procedures and on grounds determined by law.

Henceforth, the national interests and policies of Mongolia must conform with its laws and constitution. The National Program for Improving Human Rights' goals are to make the Privacy Law more detailed, develop an information list that contains citizens' private information, conduct training for officials dealing with citizens' privacy who are employed at all types of organizations, and to raise responsibility of the officials by obliging them to take an oath. This is one step that Mongolia has already taken to make sure the data of all citizens is kept confidential and the system is more difficult to manipulate. Mongolia's law of Intelligence Operations determines the lawful disclosure of private information. According to the law, only a few organizations have a right to conduct such activities as surveillance. However, they must first obtain a prosecutor's written permission based on probable cause.

Areas of Cooperation: As earlier stated, Mongolia already has implemented The National Program for Improving Human Rights- however it seeks to also improve personal privacy by creating technological barriers on the databases. Mongolia seeks to cooperate with other countries desiring increased protection for private information, to include a framework for international standards respected by all member states. Further, Mongolia believes technical assistance from the UN for countries with less technological sophistication would be valuable to this end.

References

<https://ncsi.ega.ee/country/mn/> https://www.nato.int/cps/en/natohq/news_180697.htm
<https://www.osac.gov/Content/Report/930cac54-dd6a-4174-bd06-1838c16c2880>
http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2018-06/19/c_137264873.htm
<https://www.un.org/disarmament/meetings/firstcommittee-74/>
<https://mfa.gov.mn/en/documentation/55280/>
<https://www.privacyshield.gov/article?id=Mongolia-Information-Technology>
<https://www.brookings.edu/opinions/same-rules-new-dimensions-for-mongolias-national-security-adapting-to-the-new-geo-economic-environment/>
<https://carnegieendowment.org/2019/09/17/global-expansion-of-ai-surveillance-pub-79847>
<http://www.worldlii.org/int/journals/EPICPrivHR/2006/PHR2006-Mongolia.html>

Nation Assignments

- ◆ Once YLA receives your Participation Agreement and PA fee with your nation request, nations are assigned and you will be notified.
- ◆ Nations are assigned on a first come first served basis as we receive Participation Agreements and Participation Fees with Nation Request(s).

Once You Receive Your Nation Assignments

- ◆ Students get started learning all they can about their assigned nation;
- ◆ With another student in their nation, each pair of student Ambassadors writes a Position Paper on an issue of international interest to their nation that is appropriate for United Nations consideration. **No more than two (2) Student Ambassadors write/sponsor a Position Paper. Officers are not Resolution partners.**

If a nation has an odd number of students, one student writes and presents a Position Paper without a partner.

The Secretary General and President of the General Assembly are **not** members of any nation and do not write a Position Paper. Council Presidents and Vice Presidents are members of a nation and do write a Position Paper.

A Resolution is a written proposal to the United Nations that calls upon the nations assembled to take action to solve or deal with an international issue.

Resolutions are turned in to the Youth Leadership Association by the deadline listed in the UN Calendar.

The YLA prepares Resolution Books with all Resolutions and Model UN Procedures. A Resolution Book for each registered student and adults will be sent to your Delegation prior to Model UN.

At Model United Nations, Resolutions are considered in a Council and those passed by Council are considered by the General Assembly.

Meet the Final Deadline

- ◆ Final Fees if not already paid
- ◆ Position Paper (2 copies, 1 Position Paper per each pair of Student Ambassadors)
- ◆ Position Paper Supplement (1 per Position Paper with up to 5 Resources)
- ◆ Individual Registration Form (1 for each student and adult)

Note – Remember any of these submitted by US postmark after deadline will require an additional late fee payment.

Fees for YLA Model United Nations

The full tuition (cost) to the Youth Leadership Association is more than the fee YLA charges. The fee is set below actual cost to help students participate.

The fee includes program and lunch. The fee may be paid in full with the initial Participation Agreement or the fee may be paid in two payments – the initial Participation Agreement Fee and the Final Fee. Current fees and due date(s) are in the Participation Agreement found on the website.

Refund Policy

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Training Opportunities

YLA staff is available to help. Just ask! We'll visit your school, talk by phone or video chat, or communicate by text message or e-mail. Our office phone numbers are 304-675-5899, 304-478-2481, or our main email address is yla@ylaleads.org.

- ◆ YLA Leadership Summits at Horseshoe each June.
- ◆ YLA annual Fall Conference each November.
- ◆ Make A Difference Day at Cave Lake each October.
- ◆ UN Student Manual on YLA's web site.