



Rules of Procedure

ICE

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Introduction

Honorable chair, and fellow delegates,

Welcome to the CMCMUN Program, and more particularly, to our International Crisis Events. If you are not an experienced delegate, you will neither enjoy nor be able to keep up with an International Crisis Event (ICE) committee; which is why if you are registered for an ICE committee I strongly recommend you leave it and register for another committee. If you are an experienced delegate, expect ICEs to work sort of like Crisis Committees - and yet also quite differently. Some of my delegates have described ICEs as “the dais wants the world to end and the delegates try to stop that from happening.” And while 20 delegates working against the dais should in theory find it easy, the problem, of course, is that each country also has its own agendas.

Fair warning - before we go any further: most delegates who experience an ICE tend to stop enjoying regular committees and most people who have ever been part of an ICE’s dais will willingly give up an opportunity to chair a regular committee if that means they get to be even a Mampaker in an ICE’s dais. You have been warned!

The basic premise of an ICE is that the conference starts at a time where everything is about to go berserk. Which is why even an extensive and expert dais will struggle keeping up with more than 20 delegates at a time in an ICE: news are constantly coming in from everywhere at once and situations are evolving at a dramatic pace. While delegates struggle to find alliances and to work problems out as they come, the media, spies, intelligence agencies, and technology itself, are all working to make that as difficult as possible.

Which is why there are three things you will need in an ICE: a laptop (not a tablet) that can connect to a WiFi network, a considerable amount of research, and an extreme attention to detail.

Do not expect a precise topic. You might, or might not, get a suggestive area in which to be expert - for instance, the ICE may be calling for experts in chemical warfare, or in nuclear weaponry. More likely, you will not know what to expect beforehand, so you will need to be prepared with as much information as possible about the country you will be representing. But be open to change, because - as you may just discover firsthand - the world in an ICE is much more dynamic than it is even in real life at times of war.

Beyond that, I wish you the best of luck, in the hopes of seeing you debate soon!

Georges Sacre,
CMCMUN Secretary General

Committee Setup and Terminology

An ICE committee, like a traditional committee in MUN, is a discussion by country representatives called **delegates** in a group called a **committee**. A committee is headed by a **dais**, which consists of a **chairperson** or **chair**, who regulates the flow of the conference; a **fact-checker**, who checks the veracity of facts used by the delegates, fetches information for the Chairperson, fetches information upon which the Newscaster can come up with realistic news to publish, and, if need be, provides results to investigations into unknown sources of crises; a **chronicler**, who keeps up with all the happenings of the ICE and documents the contents of each speech on the Network-Based Conference Management software (NBCMS); a **newscaster**, who creates bits of news and injects them into the flow of the ICE; an **usher**, who filters the messages that delegates send one another via the NBCMS and ensures they remain diplomatic, an **observer**, who keeps track of the delegates' performance, and a **mapmaker**, who populates the interactive map provided by the NBCMS.

Using the pronoun "I" is not recommended in an ICE; but it is allowed when delegates are speaking on behalf of themselves. When in doubt, however, delegates should use a impersonal form. For instance, "*I do not believe it necessary to argue over this.*", "*The delegate of the Maldives does not believe it necessary to argue over this.*" or "*France supports the decision of Poland*".

Delegates are required to remain seated in their place and can communicate among themselves by sending formal notes by way of the **usher**, who is required to read all such notes and ensure that only respectful, diplomatic notes, in the language of the ICE, are received by their intended recipient. The committee is seated in a closed circle, and speakers address it without leaving their seats. Each delegate has a **placard**, on which the name of the country they are representing is printed. Delegates will raise their placards in order to signal their presence, ask to speak, or vote.

A polite, diplomatic speaker will usually start their speeches by thanking the chair and addressing their fellow delegates. Typical speeches will therefore start with formulae such as: "*Thank you honorable chair. Fellow delegates, ...*", or "*Honorable chair, fellow delegates....*".

ICE Committees do not follow any flow; however due to their origins in regular Parliamentary Procedure committees, certain **motions** are used every now and then. Every motion needs to be **seconded** by another delegate and submitted to a vote; however, considering the urgency of ICEs, motions will only require a **simple majority** (half) of the **quorum** (delegates present). This is also partly because, in ICEs, motions are much less important, and thus much less frequent, than in regular committees.

Finally, due to the dynamic nature of ICEs, delegates might get carried away and need to be sanctioned. The two sanctions possible are to be asked to **drop their placard** (the chair asks the delegate to flip their placard face-down temporarily, possibly explaining their absence from the committee with a newscast, for instance, "*The capital of Japan has been bombed and the delegate of Japan has been called home; Japan, please drop your placard.*" then "*This dais acknowledges the return of the delegate of Japan; please, delegate, restore your placard.*"), or to be asked to **leave the committee** (permanently).

Standard ICE happenings

When allowed into the conference hall, delegates look for their placards and take the seat assigned to them by the location of their placards, which will generally be placed alphabetically or reverse-alphabetically.

Launching of the session

As soon as all the delegates are seated, the chair will launch the session. They will remind the delegates of the main rules of decency within the session.

“Good morning, delegates. We are now in formal session; please refrain from speaking in any language but English and from using any electronic devices except your computers. Connect them to our Wireless Network and log in to your ICE NBCMS account, at the address displayed on the screen, using your CMCMUN.org email address and password. Please abide by the rules of procedure of the CMCMUN ICE.”

The dais will not take attendance explicitly, rather noting the delegates who speak, when they do speak, instead. As soon as the delegates are signed in to the system, they will have access to a Virtual Desk, on which usher notes appear and from which they can send notes of their own. They will also have access to a Timeline, on which the happenings of the conference will be noted down as it goes. This includes delegates’ speeches (and war/peace declarations), of which the main idea is noted by the Chronicler, news as announced (or not) by the Newscaster, and investigation results as announced by the Fact-Checker. Finally, they will also have access to a Map, updated in real-time by the Mapmaker. Alternatively, the map might be projected and unaccessible through the NBCMS.

In an ICE, speeches are not timed and there is no Speakers’ List. Delegates raise their placards when they wish to speak, are given the floor by the chairperson, and speak as long as they need to. If the delegate speaking begins to ramble, begins to repeat themselves, or stops making sense, the chair can stop them by knocking the **gavel** (a wooden, hammer-shaped tool) twice and thanking them. However, this will rarely ever happen, if at all. Should a delegate repeatedly need to be stopped from talking, they can be asked to drop their placard.

Delegates may raise a **point of information** to the chair or to other delegates anytime nobody has the floor. The chair will need to acknowledge the delegate’s point of information and the person they wish to ask a question, then ask that person if they would like to respond.

Example: nobody is speaking. Germany raises their placard and says “Point of Information”.

CHAIR: “Yes, delegate of Germany?”

DEL. OF GERMANY: “To the delegate of Uruguay.”

CHAIR: “Go ahead.”

DEL. OF GERMANY: “What is the ratio of cows to human beings in Uruguay?”

CHAIR: “Thank you for your question. Uruguay, would you like to answer?”

DEL. OF URUGUAY: “Certainly. There are four cows for every human being in Uruguay.”

Should they feel any discomfort, delegates may also raise a **point of personal privilege**.

