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Debate Format

Keywords:

Delegation = The group of students who represent their country

Representative = A student from a delegation that is specialized on the subject discussed in the corresponding day

Moderators = The students from Transylvania College who will facilitate the discussion and help the delegates throughout the conference with topic-related questions

Official Session = A session where the delegates are all together and discuss the topic of the day

Group Session = A session where the delegates are split into a specialized and general group

Specialized Group = A debate group composed of ONE delegate from EACH delegation who is the representative (note: specialized groups change every day, as the topics change every day)

General Group = A debate group composed of all the delegates that are not the representatives from each delegation

Formal Session = A session within the group session in which delegates have a formal discussion about the topic

Informal Session = A session within the group session in which delegates can get up from their seats and discuss freely with other delegates on the topic

Voting Session = A session in which each delegation has the right to vote on solutions (in the group sessions) and Solution Papers (in the official sessions at the end of the day)

Key Information:

Each student from a delegation is expected to choose one of the themes to specialize in (that means that the delegate has to master the arguments they are going to bring, he/she needs to be prepared to represent the position of the delegation in the specialized group).

Exceptions: A delegation that has only two delegates is expected to choose one of the delegates to specialize in two topics. A delegation that has six delegates is expected to choose two of the delegates to specialize in one of the topics.

Structure (in chronological order):

(1) The Official Session (30 mins):

- All delegates will be together
- It will be overseen by the 5 moderators;

→ To begin, the moderators will greet the delegates and welcome them to the day of debates;

→ When the 5 moderators are all together, they will call alphabetically call each country to take the attendance;

→ Following so, the representatives from each delegation will present the position of their country using the research

paper they have prepared beforehand, and will answer to questions from other delegates and moderators if the case be it;

→ To conclude the official session, the delegates will be split into two groups:

specialized group and a general group;

(2) The Formal Session (30 mins):

- The General Committee will have 3 moderators;
- The Specialized Committee will have 2 moderators;

→ Begin by presenting general question delegates are expected to answer to;

→ Each delegation is given 10 minutes to develop a position on question at hand;

→ Each delegation presents their position to other delegates in an open discussion, and answers to their questions;

(3) First Informal Session (10 mins):

- Delegates are expected to collaborate with other delegates in composing solutions;

→ Delegates will begin writing solutions to general question addressed;

(4) Second Informal Session (30 mins):

- Delegates return from the activity & lunch in order to complete their solutions to the general question;
- Emphasis is made on the fact that delegates must collaborate, the solutions must be applicable for all countries present at the conference, and delegates must be able to act upon the manifesto to bring change to their communities;
- A minimum of 1 solution is expected per delegation;

→ Delegates need to finish their solutions;

(5) Collecting solutions (20 mins):

- Collect minimum of 1 solution per delegation;
- As short-list will contain 5 final solutions, a minimum of 1 solution is acceptable;

→ Each delegation will come up to moderator and input their solutions in the dedicated google docs which will be created in advance and shared between all moderators for easy access, in addition, the document will be split on countries, and furthermore on general & specialized committee solutions;
→ The short-list will not take into account the country who suggested the solution, or whether the solution came from the general or the specialized committee, for simplicity's sake;

(6) Voting Session (30 mins):

- 5 final solutions will be selected to be represented in the "Manifesto";
- Solutions will be voted using placards that delegates will raise;
- Delegates are encouraged to object to a solution if the case be it, time will be made for this after each solution is read out, before the voting stage;
- Following each vote, For & Against cards are counted, this will aid in deciding the final solutions   (the 5 most voted solutions will pass);
- Only 1 vote is allowed per country present at the conference *NOT delegation, as some countries have multiple delegations;

→ All moderators will open the google docs;
→ All solutions will be collected on a lower section of the document, where the votes will be counted   (again, the solutions will be common and the country / committee will not be taken into account for simplicity, as well as for the fact that solutions must be common and applicable in all countries either way)
→ Once everyone has access to the document, and the document is projected on a screen, a moderator is delegated to write down the votes on the document, which will automatically update on the projected screen, so all delegates see the votes in real time;
→ Once all solutions have been voted for, and objections have been made, the short-list is created, bringing the debate day to an end;

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(7) Conclusion:

→ Moderators thank the debaters for their presence, and give information according to the day of the conference.