

MODEL UNITED NATIONS

# MUN WARSAW

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## DELEGATE HANDBOOK



**EUROPEAN  
COUNCIL**  
15 delegates

**EUROPEAN  
PARLIAMENT**  
15 delegates

**FOREIGN AFFAIRS  
COUNCIL**  
10 delegates

Warsaw, July 2026

# WELCOME TO MUN WARSAW

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**Dear Delegates,**

It is with great pleasure that we welcome you to MUN Warsaw — a two-day simulation of European Union institutions bringing together 40 participants in the heart of Warsaw. MUN Warsaw simulates European Union institutions rather than the United Nations — reflecting the project's focus on Poland's role in the EU. MUN Warsaw is supported by **Fundacja ORLEN** under the Model United Nations grant programme.

Over two intensive days, you will take on the roles of Heads of State, Members of the European Parliament, and Foreign Ministers, engaging in the debates and negotiations that shape the future of Europe. Three committees will simulate distinct EU institutions, each with its own working methods, decision-making logic, and formal output.

MUN Warsaw is designed to reflect the authentic complexity of European governance. Unlike a standard parliamentary debate, the EU operates through a system of interlocking institutions with different mandates, different procedures, and different relationships to democratic legitimacy. Understanding these distinctions — and working within them — is at the heart of this simulation. We wish you productive deliberations and inspiring discussions.

With diplomatic regards,

**The MUN Warsaw Organizing Committee**

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# 1. ABOUT MUN WARSAW

## 1.1 What is Model United Nations?

Model United Nations (MUN) is traditionally a simulation of the decision-making processes of the UN, however we offer a unique opportunity to apply its mechanisms to the European Union. Participants take on the roles of EU institutional actors — Heads of State and Government, Members of the European Parliament, Ministers — and work through real political questions using procedures that reflect those of the actual institutions they represent.

MUN Warsaw is deliberately designed to reflect the institutional diversity of the EU. Unlike simulations of the United Nations, where all committees broadly follow the same parliamentary logic, the three bodies at MUN Warsaw operate according to genuinely different procedures, produce different types of formal output, and interact with each other in ways that mirror real inter-institutional dynamics in Brussels.

If you have experience in Model United Nations, much of your debating and negotiating skill will transfer directly. However, we encourage you to set aside some MUN conventions and engage with the specific logic of the institution you are representing — particularly with regard to voting, consensus, and the nature of the documents your committee will produce.

## 1.2 The Three Committees

COMMITTEE	DELEGATES	TOPIC	OUTPUT
European Council	15	Future of EU Enlargement — Ukraine and the Western Balkans	European Council Conclusions
European Parliament	15	EU Institutional Reform and Rule of Law Mechanisms	Parliamentary Resolution
Foreign Affairs Council	10	Common Security and Defence Policy — Towards a European Defence?	Council Conclusions

## 1.3 The Commission President

One seat within the European Council is assigned to the President of the European Commission. This is institutionally accurate: under Article 15 of the Treaty on European Union, the President of the European Commission participates in European Council meetings by right.

The Commission President is a specially recruited role at MUN Warsaw. In addition to participating fully in European Council deliberations, the Commission President will deliver a formal address to the Closing Plenary, presenting the Commission's institutional perspective on the work of all three committees. This reflects the Commission's role as the EU's executive body and guardian of the Treaties, accountable to all EU institutions.

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## 2. EUROPEAN COUNCIL

### European Council

Summit of Heads of State and Government

15

delegates

### 2.1 The Institution

The European Council brings together the Heads of State or Government of all EU member states, together with the President of the European Council and the President of the European Commission. It defines the general political directions and priorities of the European Union. It does not exercise legislative functions — it does not propose, debate, or pass laws. Its role is strategic: it sets the direction, and the other institutions follow.

In practice, European Council meetings (summits) are among the most politically significant events in the EU calendar. They are where the most difficult political questions — those that cannot be resolved at ministerial level — are ultimately decided. The dynamic is one of high-stakes diplomacy between equals, not parliamentary debate.

### 2.2 Composition at MUN Warsaw

The European Council committee at MUN Warsaw consists of 15 delegates. Each delegate represents the Head of State or Government of an EU member state, with the exception of one seat assigned to the President of the European Commission. The President of the European Council is a specially recruited role responsible for chairing the committee.

Role	Delegate
<b>President of the European Council</b>	Specially recruited role — chairs the committee
<b>President of the European Commission</b>	Specially recruited role — participates per Art. 15 TEU
<b>Member States (13)</b>	Germany, France, Poland, Italy, Spain, Netherlands, Sweden, Hungary, Romania, Czech Republic, Greece, Portugal, Belgium

#### The European Council President

The President of the European Council chairs the meetings, facilitates consensus, and presents the Conclusions on behalf of the institution.

The President does not represent a member state and does not advocate for a national position.

This is a specially recruited role at MUN Warsaw, selected for experience and facilitation skills.

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The President may propose compromise language, invite delegations to speak, and call for informal consultations — but does not vote.

## 2.3 Decision-Making: The Consensus Principle

This is the most important procedural difference between the European Council and any parliamentary body you may have encountered in other simulations. The European Council does not, as a rule, vote. It operates by consensus — meaning that all delegations must be able to accept the final text of the Conclusions, even if not all are equally enthusiastic about every element.

In practice this means:

- There is no formal speakers list in the traditional sense — the President manages the floor dynamically
- Delegations signal their positions, concerns, and red lines through interventions and bilateral consultations
- The President proposes draft language and tests whether it commands consensus
- A single delegation can block consensus — but doing so carries significant political cost
- The work is as much about finding acceptable language as it is about winning arguments

### A note on abstention

In the rare cases where the European Council does proceed to a formal vote (on procedural matters), abstentions by members do not prevent the adoption of conclusions that require unanimity. This reflects Article 235 TFEU.

At MUN Warsaw, this will only arise in exceptional circumstances defined by the President.

## 2.4 Working Methods

### Opening Statements

Each delegation delivers a brief opening statement at the start of the summit — not a speech to a chamber, but a formal declaration of their country's position. Statements should be statesmanlike in tone, focused on national interests and priorities, and no longer than two minutes. The Commission President delivers a statement presenting the Commission's institutional position.

### General Debate

Following opening statements, the President opens the floor for general debate. This is less structured than a parliamentary debate — the President may invite specific delegations to speak, facilitate exchanges between delegations with opposing views, or call for a pause to allow bilateral consultations. Delegations should expect to be questioned by others and to engage in direct dialogue.

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## Informal Consultations

A significant portion of real European Council work happens outside the formal meeting room — in bilateral conversations, small group discussions, and corridor diplomacy. At MUN Warsaw, the President may call informal consultation periods during which delegates are free to move, meet in groups, and negotiate directly. This is not a recess — it is working time, and the most important coalitions are often built here.

## Drafting the Conclusions

The European Council Conclusions are drafted iteratively throughout the session. The President — or a small drafting group appointed by the President — proposes text based on the positions expressed in debate. Delegations may propose alternative formulations. The process continues until consensus is reached on the full text.

## 2.5 The Output: European Council Conclusions

European Council Conclusions are a specific type of document with their own conventions and language. They are not resolutions in the MUN sense. Key characteristics:

- Written in the third person: 'The European Council recalls... reaffirms... agrees...'
- Structured around operative paragraphs that are politically binding in the sense that they commit member states' governments to a course of action
- Language is precise and often the result of intense negotiation — every word matters
- They typically include sections that 'recall' prior commitments, 'note' current situations, and 'agree' or 'call on' institutions to act
- They do not have a preamble in the parliamentary resolution sense

### Language conventions for Conclusions

'The European Council reaffirms its commitment to...' — restating existing positions

'The European Council agrees that...' — a new political commitment

'The European Council calls on the Commission to...' — tasking the Commission

'The European Council invites the Council to...' — directing ministerial work

'The European Council will return to this matter at its [next] meeting' — deferral language

## 2.6 Topic: The Future of EU Enlargement

The European Council committee will address the question of EU enlargement, with particular focus on Ukraine's candidate status and the long-standing accession processes of the Western Balkans countries — Serbia, Montenegro, Albania, North Macedonia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, and Kosovo.

### Key questions for deliberation

- What conditions must be met before enlargement negotiations can advance, and who assesses compliance?
- Can the EU's current institutional architecture absorb new members, and what reforms are prerequisites?
- How should the strategic imperative of Ukraine's accession be balanced against the technical requirements of the process?
- What is the appropriate timeline, and how are the Western Balkans' long-standing candidacies to be treated?
- What are the budgetary implications of enlargement and how should they be addressed?
- How do member states with different geopolitical positions — eastern, western, northern, southern — align their interests?

## 3. EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

### European Parliament

The directly elected legislature of the European Union

15

delegates

### 3.1 The Institution

The European Parliament is the only directly elected institution of the European Union, representing approximately 450 million EU citizens. It shares legislative power with the Council of the EU, approves the EU budget, and exercises democratic scrutiny over the other institutions — most notably the European Commission, which requires Parliament's confidence to take office.

Unlike the European Council, the Parliament operates as a genuine deliberative assembly. It debates, amends, and votes on texts. Its internal organization around political groups — transnational families of parties — means that the primary loyalties of MEPs are to their political group, not their national delegation. A German Social Democrat votes with the S&D group, not with Germany.

### 3.2 Political Groups at MUN Warsaw

The European Parliament committee at MUN Warsaw is organized around five political groups, attempting to reflect the composition of the Parliament following the 2024 European elections.

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Delegates are assigned to a political group, not a member state. Your task is to represent the political position of your group, coordinate with your fellow group members, and build cross-group coalitions to advance your position.

POLITICAL GROUP	SEATS	POLITICAL ORIENTATION
European People's Party (EPP)	4	Centre-right, Christian democratic, pro-integration
Socialists & Democrats (S&D)	3	Centre-left, social democratic, progressive
Patriots for Europe (PfE)	3	National conservative, sovereigntist
Renew Europe	2	Liberal, centrist, strongly pro-European integration
European Conservatives and Reformists (ECR)	2	Conservative, intergovernmentalist, sovereigntist
Greens/EFA	1	Green, progressive, federalist, civil liberties focused <i>The Greens/EFA delegate may submit amendments as a single-person group.</i>

### 3.3 Key Roles in the Parliament

#### The Committee Chair

Appointed by the Organising Committee

Manages the floor, the speakers list, and procedural motions.

Ensures the committee follows its rules of procedure.

Does not advocate for a political position and does not vote except to break a tie.

Rules on points of order and manages time.

#### The Rapporteur

Elected by the committee at the start of proceedings

The Rapporteur is the MEP entrusted with leading the drafting of the committee's resolution.

They coordinate with political group coordinators, incorporate amendments, and present the draft text to the full committee.

The Rapporteur plays a central political role — they broker compromises and are expected to be active throughout all sessions. Elected by simple majority at the start of the first working session.

#### Political Group Coordinators

Designated within each group

Each political group designates one of its members as Group Coordinator.

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Coordinators attend informal coordination meetings called by the Rapporteur.

They are responsible for ensuring their group's position is reflected in amendments and for directing how their group votes. The Coordinator role is internal to each group — it is decided among the group members themselves.

## 3.4 Working Methods

### Opening Statements by Political Group

The first session opens with a statement from each political group, delivered by the Group Coordinator or a designated speaker. Unlike the European Council, where states deliver national positions, Parliament groups deliver political positions. Statements should reflect the group's ideology, priorities, and stance on the topic of institutional reform and rule of law.

### General Debate and Speakers List

The Chair maintains a Speakers List. MEPs request the floor by raising their nameplate. Speaking time is set by the committee at the start of the session — typically two minutes per intervention. The Chair may grant additional time for responses or points of clarification at their discretion.

Importantly, MEPs speak as members of their political group, not as representatives of their home country. A French EPP MEP does not speak for France — they speak for the EPP position, which may well be at odds with the French government's view.

### Amendments

Amendments to the draft resolution are submitted in writing to the Chair. They must be signed by at least two MEPs from different political groups, or by all members of a single group. Amendments are debated and voted upon in order. The Rapporteur gives an opinion on each amendment before the vote — recommending acceptance or rejection — which carries significant political weight.

### The Commission President's Address

During the simulation, the President of the European Commission will deliver a formal address to the Parliament. MEPs will have the opportunity to put questions to the Commission President. This reflects the Parliament's constitutional role in holding the Commission to account and is one of the most politically charged moments of the simulation.

## 3.5 Voting

The European Parliament votes by simple majority of votes cast. Each MEP has one vote. Voting is conducted by show of hands as the default; a roll-call vote may be requested by any political group. Abstentions are recorded but do not count towards the majority calculation.

On coalition building

With 15 MEPs across 6 groups, no single group commands a majority. Building cross-group coalitions is essential.

The natural majority in the current Parliament tends to form around EPP + S&D + Renew. However, on rule of law issues specifically, the lines are less predictable.

PfE and ECR will likely seek to weaken or block strong rule of law provisions. Greens and S&D will push for the most ambitious language.

The Rapporteur's political skill lies in finding a text that a majority can support.

### 3.6 The Output: Parliamentary Resolution

The European Parliament produces a Resolution — a formal statement of the Parliament's political position. It is structured as follows:

- The European Parliament — the institution is named as the author
- Having regard to... — references to relevant Treaties, prior resolutions, and legislative texts
- Whereas... — recitals establishing the political and legal context (preamble)
- 1. [Operative paragraphs] — the substantive positions, each numbered, beginning with a verb: 'Calls on...', 'Urges...', 'Reaffirms...', 'Condemns...', 'Welcomes...'
- Instructs its President to forward this resolution to... — the transmission clause

### 3.7 Topic: EU Institutional Reform and Rule of Law

The European Parliament committee will address the twin challenges of EU institutional reform and the protection of the rule of law within member states. These issues have dominated the EU's internal political agenda for over a decade and have intensified in the context of prospective enlargement.

#### Key questions for deliberation

- How should the EU's rule of law conditionality mechanism be strengthened, and what role should Parliament play?
- Should Article 7 TEU procedure be reformed to make it more effective?
- Is it time for the European Parliament to gain the right of legislative initiative?
- How should qualified majority voting be extended into areas currently requiring unanimity?
- What institutional reforms are prerequisites for EU enlargement to proceed?
- How should the balance between national sovereignty and EU oversight be drawn on matters of judicial independence?

## 4. FOREIGN AFFAIRS COUNCIL

### Foreign Affairs Council

Ministers of Foreign Affairs and Defence of EU Member States

10

delegates

#### 4.1 The Institution

The Foreign Affairs Council is a configuration of the Council of the European Union, bringing together the Foreign Ministers — and, when defence matters are on the agenda, the Defence Ministers — of all EU member states. It is the principal body responsible for the EU's Common Foreign and Security Policy (CFSP) and Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP).

Unlike other Council configurations, the Foreign Affairs Council has a permanent chair: the EU's High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy, who is also a Vice-President of the Commission. This arrangement reflects the unique nature of EU foreign policy, which sits between intergovernmental and supranational governance.

#### 4.2 Composition at MUN Warsaw

The Foreign Affairs Council at MUN Warsaw consists of 10 delegates, each representing the Foreign and/or Defense Minister of an EU member state. The committee is chaired by the High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy.

Role	Delegate
<b>High Representative</b>	Specially recruited role — chairs the committee
<b>Council Presidency</b>	Ireland (EU Council Presidency)
<b>Member States (8)</b>	France, Germany, Poland, Italy, Sweden, Hungary, Spain, Finland

#### 4.3 Decision-Making: Unanimity on Defense

Defense and security matters within CFSP/CSDP are governed by unanimity in the Council. This means that every member state represented at the table has an effective veto. One minister's objection is sufficient to block a decision — not merely to modify it, but to prevent it entirely.

This unanimity requirement shapes everything about how the Foreign Affairs Council works:

- The Presidency's role is not just to manage debate but to actively seek compromise — including through 'confessional' bilateral consultations where ministers tell the Presidency privately what they truly need
- Delegations rarely state their absolute position publicly in the opening phase — the initial debate is about signaling priorities, not drawing red lines
- Language is everything: a single adjective ('binding', 'permanent', 'operational') can be the difference between consensus and deadlock
- Abstentions are permitted under CFSP and do not prevent adoption — a delegation that objects but does not wish to block can abstain, with its reasons recorded

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## 4.4 Working Methods

### Opening Statements

Each minister delivers a brief opening statement setting out their country's position on European defense. Statements should be focused on national interests, existing treaty obligations and commitments (NATO, neutrality, defense spending), and the country's vision for CSDP. Two minutes per delegation.

### The High Representative's Role

The High Representative chairs the debate, proposes the agenda, and — crucially — conducts the drafting process. In real Council meetings, the High Representative circulates successive compromise texts and tests whether they command sufficient support. At MUN Warsaw, the High Representative may call informal consultation periods, meet with delegations bilaterally, and propose draft language for Council Conclusions.

### Confessionals

Confessional meetings are a distinctive feature of Council working methods. The High Representative meets each delegation privately — briefly, typically five minutes — to understand their genuine red lines as distinct from their public positions. Information shared in confessionals is confidential. The Presidency uses this information to craft compromise language. At MUN Warsaw, confessional periods will be built into the session structure.

### Drafting Council Conclusions

The High Representative proposes draft Conclusions, which are then negotiated paragraph by paragraph. Delegations may propose alternative formulations. Where a delegation signals that it cannot accept a particular paragraph, the High Representative must either find compromise language or bracket the paragraph — indicating that it remains unresolved — and return to it. The goal is a clean, unbracketed text that all delegations can accept.

## 4.5 The Output: Council Conclusions

Council Conclusions on CSDP are similar in format to European Council Conclusions but reflect ministerial-level rather than heads of state-level commitments. Key characteristics:

- Written in the third person: 'The Council recalls... reaffirms... agrees...'
- Adopted by unanimity — every paragraph must be acceptable to all delegations
- Use careful, precise language — 'notes', 'welcomes', 'encourages', and 'agrees' have very different political weights
- May include annexes for more detailed commitments or technical provisions
- Politically but not legally binding in the traditional sense — they express political will and direct Commission and EEAS action

### Language calibration in Council Conclusions

- 'The Council notes...' — acknowledges without endorsing
- 'The Council welcomes...' — positive but non-committal
- 'The Council encourages...' — soft political support
- 'The Council calls on...' — stronger political direction
- 'The Council agrees...' — collective political commitment
- 'The Council decides...' — the strongest formulation, implies binding action

## 4.6 Topic: Common Security and Defense Policy

The Foreign Affairs Council will address the question of the EU's Common Security and Defense Policy, and specifically the debate over deeper European defense integration — including the idea of a permanent EU defense capability. Russia's war against Ukraine, uncertainty over NATO burden-sharing, and the increasing calls for European strategic autonomy have made this one of the most urgent debates on the EU's agenda.

### Key questions for deliberation

- What does 'European strategic autonomy' mean in practice, and how far should it go?
- How should EU defense structures relate to NATO — complementary, parallel, or potentially competing?
- What is the future of the European Defense Fund and joint procurement mechanisms?
- How should member states with constitutionally enshrined neutrality (Ireland, Austria, Malta) be accommodated?
- Should CSDP decision-making move towards qualified majority voting, and if so in which areas?
- What form should EU support for Ukraine's defense take, and what are the limits?

## 5. THE CLOSING PLENARY

### 5.1 Purpose and Format

The Closing Plenary brings all three committees together in a joint session at the end of the simulation. It is the moment when the outputs of each body are formally presented and the inter-institutional picture of MUN Warsaw's deliberations comes into focus — and the first moment when delegates from all three committees sit in the same room and see the full scope of what has been negotiated and decided.

This is a genuinely distinctive feature of a Model United Nations. Unlike single-committee simulations, MUN Warsaw produces three separate institutional outputs that may converge, complement, or contradict each other — just as the real European Council, Parliament, and Foreign Affairs Council frequently do. The Closing Plenary is the occasion to see those relationships clearly.

The Closing Plenary is not a legislative session. The three committees do not negotiate with each other, amend each other's texts, or vote jointly. Each institution has produced its own output through its own procedure, and that output stands independently. What the plenary provides is a formal occasion to present those outputs, to reflect on the political tensions and convergences between them, and to hear from the Commission President.

Delegates are encouraged to listen actively across committee lines — and to use the open floor to raise cross-institutional observations. Where did the European Council's enlargement conclusions sit in tension with the Parliament's resolution on rule of law? Where did the Foreign Affairs Council's defence conclusions align with or diverge from the European Council's strategic direction? These are the questions that make the Closing Plenary more than a ceremony.

### 5.2 Structure of the Closing Plenary

1. Formal opening by the MUN Warsaw Chairs
2. Presentation of European Council Conclusions by the European Council President
3. Presentation of the European Parliament Resolution by the Rapporteur
4. Presentation of Foreign Affairs Council Conclusions by the High Representative
5. Address by the President of the European Commission
6. Open floor: cross-institutional observations and reactions
7. Closing remarks and award ceremony

## 5.3 The Commission President's Address

The Commission President's address at the Closing Plenary is a significant moment. Having participated in the European Council and observed the full arc of the simulation, the Commission President speaks on behalf of the institution that is the EU's executive engine and guardian of the Treaties.

The address should reflect on what the three committees have produced, signal where the Commission's priorities align and where tensions remain, and — in the tradition of Commission addresses to the European Council — outline what the Commission intends to do next. It is not a neutral summary: the Commission President advocates for the Commission's institutional interests.

### A note on institutional realism

In the real EU, the outputs of the European Council, the Parliament, and the Foreign Affairs Council on these topics would not automatically align. Enlargement conclusions from the European Council may set conditions that Parliament finds insufficiently ambitious. FAC conclusions on defense may not go as far as some MEPs would wish.

These tensions are features, not errors. The Closing Plenary is an opportunity to name them honestly — and to understand that the EU's complexity is precisely the point.

## 6. GUIDANCE FOR DELEGATES

### 6.1 Preparation

#### Know your position

Whether you represent a member state (European Council, Foreign Affairs Council) or a political group (European Parliament), your first task is to understand the position you are representing — not your personal view, but the institutional position of your assigned role. Research the following:

- For member state roles: your country's foreign policy, its relationship with EU institutions, its position on the specific topic of your committee, and its key alliances
- For Parliament roles: your political group's manifesto and positions, its stance on rule of law and institutional reform, and the key political families within the group
- In both cases: what are your red lines? What can you accept? What would you actively block?

#### Prepare an opening statement

Every delegate delivers an opening statement. It should be two minutes long at maximum, clearly structured, and focused on your position and priorities — not a general introduction to the topic. Assume your audience already knows the background. Tell them where you stand and why.

### 6.2 Position Paper

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Submission of a position paper before the conference is mandatory for all delegates. The position paper is the primary pre-conference preparation document — it serves both as a tool for your own preparation and as a signal to the Organising Committee and fellow delegates of where you stand on the committee topic.

Position Paper — Format and Requirements	
<b>What is it?</b>	A short pre-conference document setting out the official position of your assigned role (member state or political group) on the committee topic. It is not a personal essay — it represents the institutional or political position you will defend during the simulation.
<b>Length</b>	400–600 words. Concise and precise — quality of argument matters more than length.
<b>Structure</b>	(1) Brief introduction to your role and its general stance on EU affairs; (2) your position on the specific committee topic; (3) your key priorities and red lines; (4) any alliances or coalitions you intend to build.
<b>Language</b>	English.
<b>Submission</b>	Mandatory. Deadline and submission address to be communicated by the Organising Committee. Delegates who do not submit a position paper by the deadline may risk losing points in the final assessment of their participation for the purposes of awarding best delegates.

Position papers' purpose is to ensure that every delegate arrives prepared, and to give Chairs an overview of the positions in the room before debate begins.

### 6.3 Diplomatic Style

EU institutions have a distinctive diplomatic culture. It is formal but not overly, direct but constructive, always oriented towards finding common ground — even when the positions appear irreconcilable. Some conventions to observe:

RECOMMENDED	AVOID
Speaking through the Chair: 'Mr/Madam President...'	Addressing other delegates directly by name during debate
Referring to your role: 'The delegation...' / 'The group...'	Speaking in first person: 'I believe...', 'I think...'
Substantive criticism of another position: 'The delegation cannot support this formulation because...'	Personal criticism of other delegates or their competence
Citing Treaty articles, prior conclusions, or Commission proposals as evidence	Using electronic devices during formal sessions

## 6.4 The Art of Compromise

In EU institutions, the ability to find compromise is not a weakness — it is the core skill. The EU was built on the understanding that 27 countries with divergent interests must find ways to act together. Delegates who hold rigidly to their opening position and refuse to negotiate are not being strong — they are failing to engage with the institution's logic.

Effective compromise in EU simulations involves:

- Understanding the difference between your red lines (what you genuinely cannot accept) and your opening position (what you would ideally like)
- Finding the formulation that addresses your core concern while giving others what they need
- Building relationships during informal sessions that make formal progress possible
- Knowing when to accept a less-than-ideal text in the interest of getting something adopted

## 7. AWARDS AND ASSESSMENT

### 7.1 Award Categories

#### Best Delegate — per committee

Awarded to one delegate in each of the three committees.

Recognizes the combination of substantive knowledge, negotiating effectiveness, procedural accuracy, and contribution to the committee's output.

#### Outstanding Delegate — per committee

Awarded to one or two delegates per committee.

Recognizes active and high-quality participation, constructive engagement, and contribution to the committee's deliberations.

#### Best Output Award

Awarded to the committee that produced the most substantive, realistic, and well-crafted formal output.

Assessed by the Organizing Committee against the standards of the real institution being simulated.

#### MUN Warsaw Special Award

Awarded at the discretion of the Organizing Committee for an exceptional contribution to the quality, spirit, or atmosphere of the simulation.

May be awarded to a delegate, a Chair, or the Commission President.

### 7.2 Assessment Criteria

#### CRITERION

Knowledge of subject matter and institutional position

Quality and frequency of interventions

Negotiating effectiveness and coalition building

Adherence to procedure and diplomatic culture

Contribution to the committee's formal output

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## 8. POLICY BRIEF COMPETITION

The Policy Brief Competition is the analytical core of MUN Warsaw and a central element of the *MUN Think Tank Academy: Polska w Europie — Młodzi Analitycy dla UE* project. It connects the simulation experience to real-world policy analysis, offering participants the opportunity to produce work of professional quality for publication by a leading Polish think tank.

### 8.1 What is a Policy Brief?

A policy brief is a short analytical document addressed to decision-makers — ministers, parliamentarians, EU officials — rather than to an academic audience. Its purpose is not to describe a problem, but to recommend a course of action. Every sentence should serve the argument; every argument should lead to a concrete recommendation.

The format used in this competition follows the standard adopted by leading European think tanks, including the European Council on Foreign Relations (ECFR) and the Institute of New Europe (INE), the project's publishing partner.

### 8.2 Format and Structure

Each Policy Brief must follow the structure below. Adherence to this structure is a condition of eligibility for the jury evaluation.

Section	Content and purpose
<b>1. Title page</b>	Title of the brief, author's full name, date, and the note: <i>"Przygotowany w ramach MUN Think Tank Academy: Polska w Europie — Młodzi Analitycy dla UE"</i>
<b>2. Abstract + primary thesis</b>	3–5 sentences: the problem and the key recommendation. A decision-maker with 30 seconds must understand what you are arguing.
<b>3. Context and issue statement</b>	Why is this issue urgent and politically significant? Facts, data, geopolitical context. Analysis only — no opinions at this stage. (~400–500 words)
<b>4. Analysis</b>	Causes of the problem, existing approaches and their weaknesses. May be divided into 2–3 subsections with subheadings. (~500–600 words)
<b>5. Recommendations</b>	3–5 specific, numbered recommendations. Each must be addressed to a named institution (e.g. "Rada Europejska powinna...", "Rząd RP powinien..."). Recommendations must be actionable, not general. (~300–400 words)
<b>6. Conclusion</b>	Brief conclusion: why these recommendations matter and what is the relevant time horizon for action. (~150 words)
<b>7. References</b>	Minimum 5 sources. APA or Chicago format. Credible (scientific, institutional) sources e.g. think tanks, EU institutions, peer-reviewed publications.

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The Policy Brief may be written in Polish or English. Length: 1,500–2,000 words (excluding title page and bibliography). Font: Times New Roman 12pt, 1.5 line spacing, standard margins.

### 8.3 Thematic Scope

Policy Briefs must address one of the thematic areas of the MUN Warsaw conference. Chosen topics should correspond to the topics debated by the three committees and reflect the current challenges facing Poland and the European Union:

- Over 20 years of Poland's EU membership — a balance of experience, achievements and future challenges
- The future of European integration — the perspective of enlargement to Ukraine and the Western Balkans
- The EU's Common Security and Defense Policy in the context of the new geopolitical situation
- Institutional reforms of the European Union and the debate on the future shape of integration
- The Weimar Triangle and Poland–Germany–France cooperation in the context of the EU's future
- China as a strategic challenge for the European Union

Participants are encouraged to select a topic that relates to their assigned committee and country position, but this is not a requirement.

### 8.4 Submission and Deadline

<b>Deadline</b>	8 August 2026, 23:59 CET
<b>Submission</b>	Electronic submission to the Organising Committee email address
<b>Format</b>	PDF file, filename: "Surname PolicyBrief_MUNWarsaw2026"
<b>Language</b>	Polish or English
<b>Eligibility</b>	All registered MUN Warsaw 2026 participants; one submission per participant

### 8.5 Evaluation Process

All submitted Policy Briefs will be reviewed by a jury of experts from the Institute of New Europe (INE). The jury will evaluate each submission against the following criteria:

Criterion	Description
<b>Quality of analysis</b>	Are claims grounded in evidence? Is the diagnosis of the problem accurate and well-supported?
<b>Originality and feasibility of recommendations</b>	Are the recommendations specific, actionable, and realistic? Do they go beyond generic statements?
<b>Thematic relevance</b>	Does the brief address one of the conference themes in a substantive way?

<b>Clarity and structure</b>	Is the argument coherent and well-organised? Does the structure serve the argument?
<b>Appropriateness for the target audience</b>	Is the brief written for institutional decision-makers, not an academic audience?

## 8.6 Publication and Recognition

The best Policy Briefs will be published on the website of the Institute of New Europe — a recognized think tank specializing in European affairs and security — under the author's full name. Selected briefs will be transmitted to Polish ministries and European institutions, including the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Sejm Committee on European Union Affairs, and the European Parliament Bureau of Analysis. Authors of published briefs will receive a certificate of publication issued by INE.

Publication under your own name on the platform of a professional think tank, with distribution to national and European institutions, is a significant professional credential. The Policy Brief Competition is designed to give participants a genuine first experience of contributing to public policy debate.

# 9. CODE OF CONDUCT

## 9.1 Dress Code

MUN Warsaw is a formal simulation. Business formal attire is required throughout both days — suit and tie for men, trouser suit or formal dress for women.

## 9.2 Conduct

### Non-negotiable standard

All forms of discrimination, harassment, or behaviour that violates the dignity of any participant are absolutely prohibited.

Violation of this standard results in immediate exclusion from the simulation.

Any incident should be reported immediately to the Organizing Committee.

- Phones must be silenced during formal sessions — they may be used for reference materials only
- Do not leave the committee room during a session without informing the Chair
- Food is not permitted during sessions; drinks are allowed
- Substantive disagreement is encouraged; personal disrespect is not

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## 10. GLOSSARY

TERM	DEFINITION
<b>Acquis Communautaire</b>	The full body of EU law — treaties, regulations, directives, court judgments — that candidate countries must adopt before accession.
<b>Article 7 TEU</b>	The Treaty provision allowing the EU to suspend a member state's voting rights for serious and persistent breach of EU values, including rule of law.
<b>Bracketed text</b>	Text in a draft Council or European Council document that has not yet been agreed. Brackets indicate that negotiations on that passage are ongoing.
<b>CFSP</b>	Common Foreign and Security Policy — the framework governing EU foreign policy, largely intergovernmental and decided by unanimity.
<b>Confessional</b>	A private meeting between the Council Presidency and an individual delegation, used to understand that delegation's genuine red lines away from the public debate.
<b>Copenhagen Criteria</b>	The conditions a country must meet to join the EU: stable democratic institutions, functioning market economy, and ability to implement EU law.
<b>CSDP</b>	Common Security and Defense Policy — the EU's framework for military and civilian missions and operations abroad.
<b>European Council Conclusions</b>	The formal output of a European Council summit. Adopted by consensus, they set the EU's strategic direction and task other institutions with specific actions.
<b>High Representative</b>	The EU's chief diplomat — formally the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy, who chairs the Foreign Affairs Council.
<b>Ordinary Legislative Procedure</b>	The standard EU law-making process, requiring agreement between the European Parliament and the Council of the EU on the same text.
<b>Qualified Majority Voting (QMV)</b>	The standard voting method in the Council of the EU: requires 55% of member states representing 65% of the EU's population.
<b>Rapporteur</b>	The MEP responsible for leading the drafting of a parliamentary report or resolution and steering it through the committee.
<b>Strategic autonomy</b>	The EU's capacity to act independently in foreign and security policy, without depending on external actors — principally the United States through NATO.
<b>TEU</b>	Treaty on European Union — one of the two founding treaties of the EU (alongside TFEU), establishing its institutional framework and core values.

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<b>Trilogue</b>	Informal three-way negotiations between Parliament, Council, and Commission to reach agreement on legislation before formal votes.
<b>Unanimity</b>	Decision-making rule requiring all member states to agree. Used in CFSP/CSDP and certain sensitive policy areas. A single objection is a veto.
<b>EPC</b>	European Political Community — intergovernmental forum launched in October 2022 by President Macron, gathering EU and non-EU European leaders to discuss security, energy, and connectivity. Distinct from EU institutions.
<b>EUNAVFOR</b>	European Union Naval Force — EU military operations at sea (e.g., Operation Atalanta in the Indian Ocean, Operation Aspides in the Red Sea). Established under CSDP.
<b>NextGenerationEU</b>	EU's €750 billion recovery instrument adopted in 2020 to help member states recover from the COVID-19 economic crisis. The largest stimulus ever financed by the EU through joint debt issuance.
<b>PESCO</b>	Permanent Structured Cooperation — EU defence framework launched in 2017 enabling 25 member states to develop joint defence capabilities. 60+ projects since inception covering land, air, sea, and cyber domains.
<b>REPowerEU</b>	EU plan adopted in May 2022 (COM/2022/230) to end Russian fossil fuel imports, accelerate renewable energy deployment, and ensure energy security following Russia's invasion of Ukraine.
<b>Schengen Area</b>	Zone of 29 European countries (as of 2025) that have abolished internal border controls. Croatia joined in 2023; Bulgaria and Romania completed full integration (air and sea) in 2025.
<b>Spitzenkandidaten</b>	Process where European political parties nominate lead candidates for President of the European Commission before EP elections. Used in 2014, debated since 2019. Aims to democratize the Commission appointment.
<b>Versailles Declaration</b>	Statement adopted by EU Heads of State at the European Council of 10-11 March 2022, committing to bolster EU defence capabilities, reduce energy dependencies, and build a more robust economic base.

## 11. PRACTICAL INFORMATION

### 11.1 Contact

#### Organising Committee — MUN Warsaw

Email: [jan.starosta@ine.org.pl](mailto:jan.starosta@ine.org.pl)

Phone: +48510844931

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**Good luck and fruitful deliberations.**

**MUN WARSAW — July 2026**

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