

YCCEXMUN

United Nations General Assembly (UNGA)

**Agenda: United Nations Security Council
Reforms: A Step Towards Democratizing Global
Governance?**

Committee Chairs:

Garv Chawla

Sarthak Pandit

Dear Delegates,

Welcome to the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) at **YCCE X MUN**. We are excited to have you participate in this simulation where we will be discussing one of the most pressing issues in international politics—reforming the United Nations Security Council (UNSC). The role of the UNSC in maintaining global peace and security is undeniable, but the structure of its permanent membership and decision-making power has long been a topic of contention.

The Executive Board expects you to engage in thorough research and present well-informed arguments that will drive productive discussions. This background guide is designed to give you a fundamental understanding of the agenda, but it is merely a starting point. We encourage delegates to go beyond this document, explore multiple perspectives, and bring unique insights to the committee. The debate in UNGA is meant to be dynamic and inclusive. As your Chairs, we will facilitate discussions and ensure that the committee operates efficiently, but the course of the debate will be shaped by your participation. Your ability to engage in diplomatic negotiations, adhere to your assigned country's foreign policy, and propose viable reforms will determine the success of this session.

We look forward to an engaging, well-researched, and thought-provoking debate. Should you have any questions, feel free to reach out to us.

Regards,

Chairpersons:

Garv Chawla

Sarthak Pandit

Understanding the Agenda

1. Introduction to the United Nations Security Council (UNSC)

The UNSC is one of the six principal organs of the United Nations, responsible for maintaining international peace and security. It has the authority to impose sanctions, authorize military interventions, and establish peacekeeping missions. However, its structure has remained largely unchanged since its establishment in 1945, raising concerns about its legitimacy and effectiveness in addressing contemporary global challenges.

2. The Need for UNSC Reforms

Several key concerns have fueled the debate on UNSC reforms:

- **Exclusive Permanent Membership:** The five permanent members (P5) – the United States, Russia, China, the United Kingdom, and France – hold veto power, allowing them to block any resolution regardless of majority support.
- **Lack of Representation:** The current structure does not reflect the geopolitical realities of the 21st century. Major regional powers like India, Brazil, Germany, and Japan lack permanent representation.
- **Decision-Making Challenges:** The use of the veto power has often led to deadlocks, preventing swift action during global crises.
- **Global Power Shifts:** Emerging economies and regional blocs (such as the African Union) demand a greater voice in international security matters.

3. Proposed Reforms

There are several proposals for reforming the UNSC, including:

- **Expansion of Permanent and Non-Permanent Seats:** Countries such as India, Japan, Germany, and Brazil (G4 nations) advocate for permanent membership, while the African Union calls for greater representation.
- **Regulating or Abolishing Veto Power:** Some nations propose limiting the use of the veto, especially in cases of humanitarian crises or mass atrocities.
- **Regional Representation:** Calls for a more balanced representation based on geographic regions to ensure inclusivity.

4. Challenges to Reform

- **P5 Resistance:** The permanent members are reluctant to dilute their influence.
- **Diverging Interests:** Countries pushing for reforms have differing priorities and often lack a unified proposal.
- **Complexity of Amendments:** UNSC reforms require amendments to the UN Charter, which demands broad consensus among member states.

Delegate Preparation Guide

1. Foreign Policy & Research

- Understand your country's stance on UNSC reforms.
- Research past proposals and voting patterns related to Security Council restructuring.
- Analyze regional alliances and power dynamics that influence UNSC reform efforts.
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2. Rules of Procedure

- The committee will follow the UNA-USA Model UN Rules of Procedure to maintain order and efficiency.
- While procedural compliance is important, substantive debate takes priority. Delegates should not hesitate to engage actively.
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3. Role of the Executive Board

- The Chairs will facilitate discussions but will not influence the direction of the debate.
- Delegates are encouraged to present innovative solutions and challenge existing norms through diplomacy and negotiation.

4. Citing Evidence & Sources

- Delegates must use credible sources to substantiate their arguments. Acceptable sources include:
 - United Nations Reports (<https://www.un.org/en/sc/>)
 - Government Websites (Ministries of Foreign Affairs, Permanent Representatives to the UN)
 - Multilateral Organizations (NATO, ASEAN, African Union)
 - State-Operated News Agencies (e.g., BBC, Al Jazeera, Reuters)

Conclusion

The question of UNSC reforms is central to ensuring a more democratic, equitable, and effective system of global governance. Delegates are expected to critically analyze existing structures, propose viable solutions, and engage in constructive diplomacy to navigate the complexities of international politics.

We look forward to an enriching and intellectually stimulating debate at YCCE X MUN!