

Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC)



Background Guide

Letter from the Secretary-General and Director General

Hello delegates, advisors, parents, and teachers,

On behalf of us, your Secretary-General Isabella Balbi Masso and Director-General Alexandria Cerini, and all of our Secretariat, we would like to welcome you all to the 37th iteration of the Florida International Model United Nations Conference! This upcoming FIMUN will continue to be held at Florida International University's beautiful Modesto A. Maidique Campus from March 14th to 16th, 2025.

This year we have selected the theme of "Diplomacy in a Divided World," where delegates will be prompted to show diplomacy during challenging and engaging scenarios in a wide variety of General Assembly, Specialized, and Crisis Committees. Both of us originate from opposite sides of the ocean and have seen the division of the world, especially in our modern day. We are strong believers that every person, even young students, have the ability to show diplomacy and change the world. Being able to act with diplomacy in cases of adversity, disadvantage, and injustice is a skill that every person should learn and harness to make the world a better place, not just for themselves but for everyone.

We are working hard to provide every delegate with a committee that they will love, and an unforgettable experience where they will make new friends, learn new skills, and discover the amazing world of Model UN! This year we will be hosting 15 committees each one focusing on a different current, historical, or fantasy issue, with an amazing staff who are prepared to make this FIMUN the best one yet!

We are incredibly honored and excited to welcome you all to our amazing campus and conference this March, and cannot wait to see each and every one of you succeed!

See you soon,

Isabella Balbi Masso and Alexandria Cerini
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Secretary-General and Director-General
Florida International Model United Nations 37

Letter from the Under-Secretary General

Dear Delegates,

My name is Carlos Ricaurte, and I have the privilege of being your Under-Secretary-General (USG) for Specialized Committees on this iteration of FIU Model UN's High School Conference, FIMUN 37. I am a Senior currently double majoring in Political Science and International Relations, with a certificate in Latin American Studies. Last year I had the opportunity of being your Committee Director for FIMUN 36's UNSC Committee focused on the 1961 Congo Crisis, through which I learned the deep value and importance that FIMUN represents for you all and our team here at FIU.

I was born and raised in Cartagena de Indias, Colombia, and I came here to the United States as an International Student in Spring 2022. Ever since I joined the FIU Model UN Team the year after that, in Spring 2023, I haven't regretted it one bit, knowing the immense value it has brought to me as a speaker, researcher, and person. A value that, with the amazing and creative work brought on to you by this year's Secretariat, CDs, Staffers, and many others, I know will see itself greatly reflected onto you all. Within our SPEC Committees, we once again ascertain FIMUN's commitment to having fun and learning about critical, real-world issues through constructive and entertaining debate. Everything from discussing matters of technology and development within our Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) and UN Office of Legal Affairs (UNOLA) to a stroll into the world of competitive Football with FIFA, this year's committees have it all. We take a deep dive into the historical struggles of Latin Americans through the Sao Paulo Forum, the similar struggles of native fauna within the Everglades via our Council of Critters, and how we report on all these things happening, through our intrepid UN Correspondents Association, or Press Corps.

As we move ever closer toward FIMUN 37, I am excited to see your creativity, leadership, and debate released onto these committees. We as the FIMUN Secretariat remain committed to this, ensuring you get to enjoy yourselves within a framework of mutual respect, diplomacy, and cultural awareness. In the end, you are representing real people with real, systemic struggles after all. Remember that through any challenges you might face, Secretariat and your CDs are here to help. Should you have any questions, doubts, or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact your Committee Directors, Chairs, or me, your USG.

¡Buena suerte!

Carlos Ricaurte
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Under-Secretary-General for Specialized Committees
Florida International Model United Nations 37

Letter from the Director

Dear Delegates,

Greetings, Assalam Alaikum, السلام عليكم, and welcome to the 37th Florida International University Model United Nations High School Conference! My Name is Muhammad Anas Ebrahim, but I prefer to go by Anas Ebrahim. This week, I am your Director for “The Organization of Islamic Cooperation” (OIC). I am excited to meet all of you and embark on this collaborative journey, where your thoughts and ideas will be heard and crucial in leading our committee. Your participation is not just meaningful, but it is what makes this conference truly meaningful.

The OIC is an intergovernmental organization consisting of Muslim Majority nations. The organization states it is 'the collective voice of the Muslim world.' It works to 'safeguard and protect the interests of the Muslim world in the spirit of promoting international peace and harmony.' As this organization, we will discuss and negotiate the workings of Muslim nations, finding common ground for the betterment of the people and the countries involved in this committee. We understand that each state has unique interests and concerns, and we acknowledge that writing, negotiating, and passing resolutions is not easy. We are ready to face a challenge together with your creativity and diplomacy.

Despite the importance of preparation, we encourage you to approach this conference with collaboration and integrity. Each delegate is encouraged to maintain honesty throughout FIMUN. Plagiarism or cheating will not be tolerated and may result in sanctions and disqualification. Please treat your fellow delegates, chairs, and staff respectfully and courteously.

We aim to keep the 2025 FIUMUN committee running smoothly by assisting you in understanding parliamentary procedure and ensuring that all delegates' views are heard and respected. We are committed to maintaining a fair and respectful environment for all delegates and ensuring your security and respect. If you have any questions regarding the procedure, please do not hesitate to contact FIMUN.

We are here to support you every step of the way. Once more, I look forward to meeting you all, hearing your unique, distinguished proposal, and learning about all of your delegates. Best of Luck to you All!

Best and Warmest Regards,

Anas Ebrahim

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Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) Director

Florida International University Model United Nations 37

Letter from the Chair

Dear Delegates,

Greetings, and welcome to the 37th Florida International University Model United Nations High School Conference (FIMUN)! My name is Martin Brown, and for this week, I will be your Chair for the "Organization of Islamic Cooperation" (OIC). Your participation in this committee will present a unique challenge and offer valuable opportunities for collaboration. Thank you for being part of this conference. It is your engagement that gives this event its true meaning, and we hope to make a positive impact on your Model United Nations journey. Anas and I are excited to meet all of you and look forward to hearing the insightful and impactful contributions you will bring to the committee.

The Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) is an international organization founded in 1969, composed of 57 member states, with the goal of promoting solidarity among Muslim-majority countries. Its primary objectives include protecting the interests of Muslims worldwide, fostering economic cooperation, and addressing political, social, and cultural issues. The OIC works to strengthen ties between member states, advocate for the rights of Muslims, and contribute to peace and stability in the Muslim world.

This committee will focus on understanding the intricacies of negotiation, drafting resolutions, and passing them under the pressures of each nation's unique interests and concerns. It is a challenge that requires hard work, determination, communication, creativity, and cooperation—all within the framework of diplomacy.

Honesty and originality are core values within this committee, so we ask that you come prepared to collaborate. Be ready to embrace both triumphs and mistakes, and we ask that you refrain from using plagiarism or any form of dishonesty. Plagiarism will not be tolerated and may result in sanctions or disqualification. Additionally, we ask that you engage in the competition with integrity and treat your fellow delegates, chairs, and staff with the utmost respect.

We want you to succeed, and if you have any questions, please don't hesitate to reach out. We look forward to seeing the fresh and innovative ideas you will bring to the table. Good luck, and thank you once again for participating in this prestigious conference!

My Regards,

Martin Brown
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Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) Chair
Florida International University Model United Nations 37

Sensitivity Statement

FIMUN 37 has a zero tolerance policy on racism, sexism, xenophobia, homophobia, and transphobia. If delegates are found to be engaging in any such actions or rhetoric are open to disqualification from awards.

We ask all delegates to be conscious of the histories and context of their countries or characters for their committees. Many of our committees focus on the stories and topics relating to historically oppressed and marginalized communities and regions. While these committees are simulations, the histories behind them are real, and disrespect towards the histories and existences of people represented in our committees will not be tolerated.

On our website, we have an anonymous report form if delegates encounter such actions. While we hope to avoid the need for such, this form will be checked regularly by our Secretariat to ensure that all delegates at FIMUN 37 can enjoy their weekend comfortably.

Land Acknowledgement

We acknowledge that our university is located on the ancestral homelands of sovereign Native nations, including the Tequesta, the Calusa, and today, the Seminole Tribe of Florida, and the Miccosukee Tribe of Indians of Florida. We pay our respects to the traditional custodians, the Elders past and present, by fully recognizing Indigenous sovereignty as well as the historical and contemporary relationship between Indigenous peoples and their traditional homelands. It is within our responsibility as an academic institution to uphold knowledge about the history of our institution with the original stewards of this land that we live, learn, and work on. We encourage our delegates to read and learn about ways to support our local Indigenous communities in their efforts to preserve Seminole and Miccosukee land and water rights, cultural practices, and the conservation of the environment.

Consistent with our University's commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion, FIU is working towards creating an academic environment that is inclusive of Indigenous students, faculty, and staff who have often been rendered invisible due to structural discriminatory practices. At FIU, we hold ourselves accountable to serving local, regional and worldwide Indigenous communities through academic policy-oriented research, education, partnerships, community service, as well as enrollment initiatives to overcome the effects of Indigenous exclusion and erasure in our own academic institution. It is our hope that acknowledging the land helps us to better understand that harm has been done and address the legacies of violence in our communities in order to create a pathway to true healing

Rules of Procedure

Motions

Motion to Open/Resume Debate

Opens the floor for debate. Delegates may now begin to provide further motions.

Motion to Open Speakers List

Opens the Speakers List, wherein delegates can deliver speeches without a set topic.

Motion for a Moderated Caucus

Opens a set speakers list for debate on a specified topic. Total time and speaking time must be specified within the motion.

Motion for an Unmoderated Caucus

Opens time for unregulated working time for delegates to work within their blocs on working papers/draft resolutions/directives.

Motion for a Round Robin

Opens a Round Robin, where every delegate in the room delivers a speech for a set time without a designated topic. Will start from the delegate that motioned and will either go clockwise or counterclockwise at delegate's discretion.

Motion for a Gentlemen's Unmoderated/Consultation of the Whole

Similar rules as to a normal Unmoderated Caucus, however all delegates must remain in their seats.

Motion to Introduce Working Papers/Draft Resolutions/Directives

Opens the floor to begin formal procedure on papers. Order of address if not specified will default to order in which each paper was introduced.

Authors Panel

Generally motioned for alongside the introduction of Working Papers/Draft Resolutions. Involves a Reading Period for Delegates to read papers, an Introduction where a panel of Delegates present the paper, and a Question and Answer portion, where sponsors of the paper are asked questions by fellow delegates about the paper.

Motions for For and Against Speeches

Opens a short speakers list where (generally speaking) 2 delegates are called to speak for and against a given working paper/draft resolution/directive.

Motions to Enter Voting Procedure and Voting Methods

Goes alongside a motion to end debate when in General Assembly and certain Specialized Agencies. Delegates will vote on papers on the floor. If no voting method is specified, committee will default to placard vote.

Placard vote operates the same way as votes for procedural matters. Delegates raise their placards to vote For, Against, or to Abstain if they stated they were Present.

Roll Call vote will have the chair call Roll Call once more, and when delegates are called they will state whether they vote For, Against, or if they Abstain.

Votes by Acclimation involves calling for general consensus, where the paper will pass unless anyone votes Against. Then placard vote is in order.

Points

Point of Inquiry

General question regarding committee or the conference

Point of Order

Question or correction regarding parliamentary procedures

Point of Personal Privilege

Personal request unrelated to committee. (e.g temperature in the room or seating issue)

Rules and Procedures:

The OIC will be observed as a Hybrid committee, meaning this committee will retain aspects of both Crisis and GA within the session of this conference. The first half will constitute a Crisis committee, with updates depending on your directives, remaining within the committee's topic. After each crisis update, the delegations will vote to pass directives, which will influence the crisis updates and the topic for the GA section of this committee.

After the final crisis update, the delegations will have a final topic to discuss to construct resolution papers. This part of the committee will continue as a traditional GA with blocs and, later, an Authors Panel.

More Important Information:

A crisis committee is a dynamic and interactive setting distinct from a typical General Assembly. In this format, there are two primary rooms: the committee room, where delegates debate recurring issues and propose solutions, and the crisis room, where the crisis director and staff respond to crisis notes and create crisis updates. Delegates prepare by reading the committee's background guide and developing crisis arcs, which are secret, detailed plans to influence committee actions through crisis notes. These notes, written to the crisis staff, outline specific actions and are crucial for driving the narrative within the committee.

During the committee sessions, delegates debate pressing issues, draft crisis notes, and work on directives—concise resolutions responding to crisis updates. The crisis staff selects the most impactful actions from crisis notes to incorporate into crisis updates, which are then addressed in the committee. Effective participation involves crafting creative and detailed crisis arcs, writing clear crisis notes, and collaborating on directives to solve the evolving scenarios presented in the crisis updates.

History

Founding and Early Years

The Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) was founded on September 25, 1969, following an arson attack on the Al-Aqsa Mosque in Jerusalem on August 21, 1969. (Ciment & Hill, 2012) The attack prompted leaders from the Islamic world to convene in Rabat, Morocco, to discuss measures to safeguard Islamic holy sites and to promote solidarity among Muslim nations. This meeting laid the foundation for what would become the OIC. The First Islamic Summit Conference was held in Rabat, where the OIC Charter was adopted, establishing the organization with 30 member states.

Objectives and Structure

The OIC aims to promote Islamic solidarity among member states, protect Islamic holy sites, and support the Palestinian cause. Additionally, it seeks to enhance economic cooperation, cultural exchange, and scientific collaboration among its members. The organization operates through various organs, including the Islamic Summit, the Council of Foreign Ministers, the General Secretariat, and specialized committees and institutions.



(2nd Islamic Summit)

1970s: Consolidation and Expansion

- **Initial Years:** After its founding, the OIC focused on establishing its structures and processes. The OIC Charter, adopted in March 1972, provided a formal framework for the organization's functions and objectives.
- **Expansion of Membership:** The OIC's membership quickly grew as more Muslim-majority countries joined, recognizing the need for a unified voice on issues affecting the Islamic world. By the decade's end, membership had expanded to include most Muslim-majority countries.
- **Economic Cooperation:** The 1970s saw the establishment of critical economic institutions within the OIC framework, most notably the Islamic Development Bank (IDB) in 1975, aimed at fostering economic development and cooperation among member states. (2nd Islamic Summit)

1980s: Conflict Mediation and Development

- **Regional Conflicts:** The OIC meditated on several regional conflicts, including the Iran-Iraq War and the Soviet-Afghan War. The organization sought to promote regional peace and stability through diplomacy and dialogue.
- **Economic Initiatives:** The OIC continued emphasizing economic cooperation, launching various initiatives to boost trade and investment among member states. The emphasis was on reducing dependency on non-Muslim-majority economies.

The 1990s: New Challenges and Broader Focus

- **Human Rights and Social Issues:** The 1990s marked a broadening of the OIC's focus to include human rights, women's rights, and social development. The organization established the Independent Permanent Human Rights Commission (IPHRC) to address these issues within the context of Islamic values.
- **Global Diplomacy:** The OIC became more active in global diplomacy, engaging with international organizations like the United Nations. The organization sought to represent the interests of the Islamic world on the global stage, particularly concerning the Palestinian cause and conflicts in Bosnia and Herzegovina and Kosovo.

2000s: Addressing Modern Challenges

- **Combating Terrorism:** The rise of global terrorism brought new challenges to the OIC. The organization condemned terrorism in all its forms and called for international cooperation to address its root causes. In 1999, the OIC adopted the OIC Convention on Combating International Terrorism.
- **Science and Technology:** Recognizing the importance of scientific and technological advancement, the OIC launched initiatives to promote research and development in member states. This included the establishment of COMSTECH (the OIC Standing Committee on Scientific and Technological Cooperation).

2010s: Strategic Vision and Reform

- **OIC-2025 Programme of Action:** In 2016, the OIC adopted the OIC-2025 Programme of Action, a strategic plan aimed at addressing key challenges and promoting development across various sectors, including education, health, and economic growth.
- **Reform and Modernization:** The OIC undertook significant reforms to enhance its efficiency and effectiveness. This included restructuring its institutions and processes to address contemporary issues and improve coordination among member states.



2020s: Continued Advocacy and Development

- **COVID-19 Pandemic:** The OIC played a crucial role in coordinating the response to the COVID-19 pandemic among its member states, promoting solidarity and cooperation in areas such as vaccine distribution, healthcare, and economic recovery.
- **Sustainable Development:** The OIC has continued emphasizing sustainable development, aligning its initiatives with the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The organization focuses on poverty alleviation, education, gender equality, and environmental sustainability.

Notable Conferences and Initiatives

13th Islamic Summit Conference (Istanbul, 2016)

- **Key Issues:** The 13th Islamic Summit, held in Istanbul, Turkey, from April 14 to 15, 2016, addressed many issues, including the Palestinian cause, conflicts in Syria and Yemen, and Islamophobia.
- **Resolutions:** The summit adopted the Istanbul Declaration, which emphasized the need for greater unity among Muslim nations and called for increased efforts to combat terrorism and extremism.
- **Strategic Vision:** The OIC-2025 Programme of Action was a key outcome of the summit, setting out a strategic vision for the organization's future activities and priorities.

Current Committee:

Role of Science and Technology: Understanding and Empowering

In the "Role of Science and Technology: Understanding and Empowering" committee, delegates will explore the critical importance of science and technology in advancing the socio-economic development of OIC member states. Key focus areas include enhancing STEM education, strengthening cybersecurity frameworks, and integrating technology into healthcare and water management systems. By addressing challenges such as barriers to education, cyber threats, and water scarcity, delegates will work towards formulating strategies that empower their nations to utilize technology effectively. The committee aims to foster collaboration among OIC nations to harness technological advancements for the betterment of the Muslim world. Delegates will propose policies that enhance their country's science and technology sectors while exploring opportunities for international cooperation in environmental sustainability, healthcare innovation, and cybersecurity. Through this process, they will contribute to OIC member states' overall well-being and prosperity.

Introduction:

Science and technology have become cornerstones for progress and development in today's rapidly advancing world. For the nations represented within the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC), the need to understand, utilize, and innovate within these fields is crucial. As delegates, you will analyze and propose strategies to empower OIC member states through advancements in science and technology.

Critical Areas of Focus:

- Significance of Education in Science and Technology:
 - Current Status: Many OIC member states face challenges in providing quality education in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) fields.
 - Discussion Points:
 - What are the barriers to STEM education in these nations?
 - How can OIC members collaborate to enhance STEM education?
 - Investing in research and development (R&D) is essential to foster innovation.
- Cybersecurity and Cybercrimes:
 - Current Threat Landscape: As technology advances, so do cyberspace threats. Cybersecurity is critical in protecting national infrastructure, financial systems, and personal data.
 - Discussion Points:
 - What are the common cyber threats faced by OIC nations?
 - How can member states develop robust cybersecurity frameworks?
 - The role of international cooperation in combating cybercrime.
- Health Infrastructure:
 - Technological Integration in Healthcare: From telemedicine to health information systems, technology has the potential to revolutionize healthcare delivery in OIC countries.
 - Discussion Points:
 - How can technology improve healthcare access in rural or underserved areas?
 - The importance of data security in health information systems.
 - The role of technology in combating pandemics and managing public health crises.
- Water Safety and Management:
 - Challenges in Water Security: Many OIC nations face water scarcity and pollution challenges. Technology can be pivotal in water management, purification, and conservation.
 - Discussion Points:
 - How can technology be used to ensure safe drinking water for all?
 - The potential of intelligent water management systems in agriculture and urban areas.
 - International cooperation in water resource management within the OIC.
- Environmental Sustainability:
 - Role of Technology in Sustainability: Climate change and environmental degradation are pressing issues. Technology offers solutions for renewable energy, waste management, and sustainable agriculture.
 - Discussion Points:
 - How can OIC nations adopt green technologies?
 - The potential of technology in reducing carbon footprints and combating climate change.
 - Collaboration between OIC members for sustainable development goals (SDGs).

Conclusion:

The future of OIC nations lies in their ability to harness the power of science and technology. Delegates will work towards empowering their nations and ensuring that advancements in these fields contribute to the overall well-being and prosperity of the Muslim world through collaboration, innovation, and strategic planning.

Delegate Preparation:

- Research Assignments:
 - Study the current status of STEM education in your assigned country.
 - Identify major cyber threats and cybersecurity measures in your nation.
 - Explore how technology is used or could be used in healthcare and water management in your country.
- Policy Proposals:
 - Develop actionable policies your country can implement to enhance its science and technology sectors.
- Collaboration Opportunities:
 - Identify areas where your country could collaborate with other OIC members to address common challenges.

Expectations:

Throughout this weekend, we encourage each delegate to give their utmost effort in representing their assigned roles with dedication, enthusiasm, and professionalism while also enjoying this committee's collaborative experience. Model UN is not just a simulation—it's a platform for immersing yourself in global diplomacy's challenges, sharpening your debate and negotiation skills, and engaging with complex international issues in a dynamic and thought-provoking environment.

Above all, respect, inclusivity, and professionalism will be upheld throughout the proceedings. Any form of negative behavior, such as derogatory comments, inappropriate actions, or violations of committee rules, will be met with immediate action to maintain the integrity and safety of the event. We are committed to fostering a respectful atmosphere where every participant feels valued and heard, regardless of their background or position.

Treat your fellow delegates, the dais, and the overall process with the respect and seriousness they deserve. Ensuring the committee functions as a space of intellectual exchange, personal growth, and meaningful debate. This weekend is a chance to compete and form lasting friendships, expand your understanding of global affairs, and leave with a sense of accomplishment. Let's make this a positive, memorable, and transformative experience for everyone involved!

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