CIVITAS
Inspiring teens to be active citizens



United Nations Program

Delegate Handbook 2026-2027

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BRIEF OVERVIEW of the UNITED NATIONS

1. The United Nations was founded in 1945 with the main impetus coming from the United States and other victors in World War II. One of the main goals was to take steps towards a form of "collective security" to help maintain peace following World War II in which 60 million people died. The structure of the U.N. in many ways reflects the wishes of the victors of WW II. This is most evident by the five nations which have veto power in the Security Council: United States, Russian Federation (the former U.S.S.R.), United Kingdom, France, and China.

2. The structure includes a General Assembly, a Security Council, the International Court of Justice, a Secretariat, and a number of other lesser known agencies. Most of these other administrative arms of the United Nations have responsibility for peace-keeping (Mali, Kosovo, Syria, Haiti), for aid to developing nations, or for a variety of tasks ranging from managing international postal service to coordinating international air traffic control.

3. When the U.N. was founded in 1945, it had only 51 members. That number has presently grown to 193. In the General Assembly, voting is based on a one-nation one-vote system. Thus, a country such as Monaco (with a population the size of University City) has equal voting power to that of China (with a population of 1.4 billion, almost 1/5 of the planet's population). It is actually possible to form a two-thirds majority in the General Assembly from countries representing only 10% of the world's population and who pay only 5% of the United Nations dues.

4. The budget for the UN's core functions — the Secretariat operations in New York, Geneva, Nairobi, Vienna and five Regional Commissions — is $3.4 billion every year. This is about 7% of Missouri's annual budget (a whopping $56 billion) — and less than the cost of the 2024 U.S. election cycle (Spending for the Presidential race and Congressional races is estimated to be at least $14 billion.) The USA's share of the UN's regular budget is $760 million a year — less than $3 per American. The United States (and other nations) are often in arrears on payments. When countries do not pay dues, less UN programs get funded and less problems get solved.

5. The Security Council has primary responsibility for international peace-keeping. A United Nations peace-keeping force can be formed to enter a conflict only with the consent of nine of the fifteen members of the Council, including all five permanent nations. The most significant conflict in which the United Nations has become involved was in Korea (1950-53). There are a number of other major disputes in which the U.N. has not become involved (such as Vietnam, Nicaragua, Hungary, Czechoslovakia and more recently Iraq and Afghanistan.) However, perhaps a true evaluation of how well the U.N. has done in maintaining peace since 1945 is by noting the numerous successes which it has had when nations have been about to engage in war. The United Nations provides a forum for countries to concurrently debate their cases and seek an alternative to war.

WHAT A STUDENT LEARNS FROM MODEL UNITED NATIONS

Model United Nations is an experience in which students take on the roles of representing various nations in the U.N. and engaging in debate and voting about the issues. They can be very significant learning experiences for students because:

A-- Students learn a considerable amount about global awareness. They come to see that there are scores of interests which nations have in the world, and they do not necessarily match the positions of the United States.

B-- They learn a great deal about conflict resolution.

C-- They learn to take on the roles of delegates from different countries.

D-- They learn to discuss an issue in a fashion in which there are rules of procedure governing when, how, and under what conditions they may speak.

E-- They learn to work with others in building coalitions and acting in the form of bloc politics.

F-- They learn to speak in front of a larger group, enhancing both their speaking and listening skills.

G-- They learn to have fun in another constructive way.

H-- They learn better respect for one another.

The United Nations System

Building Our Future Together

PRINCIPAL ORGANS

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

SUBSIDIARY ORGANS

Intergovernmental and Expert Bodies

- Disarmament Commission
- Human Rights Council
- International Law Commission
- Joint Inspection Unit (JIU)
- United Nations Commission on International Trade Law
- Main Committees
- Standing committees and ad hoc bodies

Funds and Programmes[1]

UNDP United Nations Development Programme
- **UNCDF** United Nations Capital Development Fund
- **UNV** United Nations Volunteers

UNEP[6] United Nations Environment Programme
UNFPA United Nations Population Fund
UN-HABITAT[6] United Nations Human Settlements Programme
UNICEF United Nations Children's Fund
WFP World Food Programme (UN/FAO)

Research and Training

UNIDIR United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research
UNITAR United Nations Institute for Training and Research
UNSSC United Nations System Staff College
UNU United Nations University

Other Entities

ITC International Trade Centre (UN/WTO)
UNCTAD[1,6] United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
UNHCR[1] Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UNOPS[1] United Nations Office for Project Services
UNRWA[1] United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East
UN-WOMEN[1] United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women

SECURITY COUNCIL

SUBSIDIARY ORGANS

- Counter-Terrorism Committee
- International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals
- Military Staff Committee
- Peacekeeping operations and special political missions
- Standing committees and ad hoc bodies
- Sanctions Committees

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

COMMISSIONS AND OTHER SUBSIDIARY ORGANS

Functional Commissions

- Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice
- Narcotic Drugs
- Population and Development
- Science and Technology for Development
- Social Development
- Statistics
- Status of Women
- United Nations Forum on Forests

Regional Commissions[6]

ECA Economic Commission for Africa
ECE Economic Commission for Europe
ECLAC Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean
ESCAP Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific
ESCWA Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia

Other Bodies[8]

- Committee for Development Policy
- Committee of Experts on Public Administration
- Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations
- Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues

UNAIDS Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS
UNGEGN United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names
UNGGIM Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management

Research and Training

UNICRI United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute
UNRISD United Nations Research Institute for Social Development

SECRETARIAT

DEPARTMENTS AND OFFICES[7]

EOSG Executive Office of the Secretary-General
DCO Development Coordination Office
DESA Department of Economic and Social Affairs
DGACM Department for General Assembly and Conference Management
DGC Department of Global Communications
DMSPC Department of Management Strategy, Policy and Compliance
DOS Department of Operational Support
DPO Department of Peace Operations
DPPA Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs
DSS Department of Safety and Security
OCHA Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs
OCT Office of Counter-Terrorism
ODA Office for Disarmament Affairs
ODET Office for Digital and Emerging Technologies
OHCHR Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
OIOS Office of Internal Oversight Services
OLA Office of Legal Affairs
OOSA Office for Outer Space Affairs
OSAA Office of the Special Adviser on Africa
SRSG/CAAC Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict
SRSG/SVC Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict
SRSG/VAC Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Violence Against Children
UNDRR United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction
UNODC[1] United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
UNOG United Nations Office at Geneva
UN-OHRLLS Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States
UNON United Nations Office at Nairobi
UNOP[2] United Nations Office for Partnerships
UNOV United Nations Office at Vienna
UN YOUTH United Nations Youth Office

INTERNATIONAL COURT OF JUSTICE

TRUSTEESHIP COUNCIL[4]

RELATED ORGANIZATIONS[3]

CTBTO Preparatory Commission Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization
IAEA[1] International Atomic Energy Agency
ICC International Criminal Court
IOM[1] International Organization for Migration
ISA International Seabed Authority
ITLOS International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea
OPCW Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons
WTO[1] World Trade Organization

Peacebuilding Commission

HLPF[9] High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development

SPECIALIZED AGENCIES[1,3]

FAO Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
ICAO International Civil Aviation Organization
IFAD International Fund for Agricultural Development
ILO International Labour Organization
IMF International Monetary Fund
IMO International Maritime Organization
ITU International Telecommunication Union
UNESCO United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNIDO United Nations Industrial Development Organization
UN TOURISM World Tourism Organization
UPU Universal Postal Union
WHO World Health Organization
WIPO World Intellectual Property Organization
WMO World Meteorological Organization
WORLD BANK GROUP[5]
- **IBRD** International Bank for Reconstruction and Development
- **IDA** International Development Association
- **IFC** International Finance Corporation

Notes:

1 Member of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination (CEB).
2 The United Nations Office for Partnerships is the focal point vis-a-vis the United Nations Foundation, Inc.
3 These organizations are separate and independent from the United Nations. They have been brought into relationship with the United Nations through relationship agreements.
4 The Trusteeship Council suspended operations on 1 November 1994, as Palau, the last United Nations Trust Territory, became independent on 1 October 1994.
5 International Centre for Settlement of Investment Disputes (ICSID) and Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency (MIGA) are not specialized agencies in accordance with Articles 57 and 63 of the Charter, but are part of the World Bank Group.
6 The secretariats of these organs are part of the United Nations Secretariat.
7 The Secretariat also includes the following offices: the Ethics Office, United Nations Ombudsman and Mediation Services, and the Office of Administration of Justice.
8 For a complete list of ECOSOC subsidiary organs see un.org/ecosoc.
9 HLPF was established by the General Assembly. Meetings of HLPF are separately convened under the auspices of the General Assembly and of the Economic and Social Council.

This Chart is intended to provide a graphical reflection of the functional organization of the United Nations system and is for informational purposes only. The relevant rules of the organization concerned should be consulted in order to establish the legal status, functions and reporting lines of each entity shown in this Chart. The Chart does not include all offices or entities of the United Nations system.
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COUNTRY INFO, RESOLUTION RESEARCH, & TOPICS!

Links to all of these sites, previous resolutions, & more can be found at the Civitas site.
www.civitas-stl.com/resources

Country Research
World Bank Data
https://data.worldbank.org/

World Population Review
https://worldpopulationreview.com/

RESOLUTION RESEARCH

UNICEF
www.unicef.org

Human Rights Watch
www.hrw.org

United Nations News Center
http://news.un.org

World Health Organization
https://www.who.int/

UN Sustainable Development Goals
https://sdgs.un.org/goals

POSSIBLE RESOLUTION TOPICS

Air Pollution	Terrorism	Nuclear Weapons
Hunger/Food Insecurity	Healthcare	Landmines
Climate Change	Child Soldiers	Fair Elections
Education	Refugees	Economic Aid
AI/Technology	Police Brutality	Womens' Rights & Equality
Deforestation	Gang Violence Human	Mental Health
Clean Drinking Water	Trafficking	Corruption
Unemployment	Natural Disaster Relief	Any of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals!
Sustainable Development & Renewable Energy	Border Disputes/Security	

Model United Nations Research Sheet
(Click here for a digital version you can save & complete!)

Delegate's Name:_____Country:_____

On what continent is your country?_____

What is the capital of your country?_____

What countries does your nation border? _____

_____

If your country is not landlocked, what ocean/sea does it border?_____

_____

How many people live in your country? _____

Does your country have a national religion? If so, what is it? _____

_____

What is an official language of your country?_____

Are you a wealthy, poor, or middle class nation? **(Hint, see page 14 & 15)**

_____

How much does your country pay in U.N. dues? **(Pages 19-22)** _____

What is the literacy rate of your nation? _____

What is the infant mortality rate in your nation?_____

What goods does your country produce? (Hint, look at exports)_____

_____

What natural resources does your country have? _____

_____

Who is the leader of your government? _____

Model United Nations Research Sheet (continued)

How would you characterize the political situation in your country? Stable? In turmoil? _____

_____

Has your country been in the news lately? If so, why? _____

_____

What are some political, social, economic or military issues facing your country? _____

_____

_____

What nations are your allies? _____

Does your county have any enemies? _____

How corrupt is your country according to Transparency International's country index? (https://www.transparency.org/) _____

_____

According to the World Happiness Report, how happy is your country? (Note, some countries may not be included. http://worldhappiness.report/)

_____

_____

What is something fun or interesting you've learned about your country? _____

_____

_____

_____

_____

RESOLUTION WRITING

HEADING

Re.: (Topic of resolution goes here)
Resolution submitted to:
Resolution submitted by: (Your country/countries)
Date:

Articles and Problems

PREAMBLE

Preambulatory phrases to use with your problems & facts

Affirming	Convinced	Keeping in mind	Recalling
Alarmed by	Deeply concerned	Noting with deep concern	Recognizing
Approving	Emphasizing	Observing	Seeking
Aware of	Fully aware	Realizing	Taking into consideration
Confident	Guided by	Reaffirming	**Whereas**
	Having considered		

A – Articles of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights or Sustainable Development Goal
*
*
*

B – Problems & Facts -- acts which violate human rights & explain your resolution:
*
*
*

Suggestions or Solutions

OPERATIVE CLAUSES

Be It Hereby Resolved That The General Assembly:

1. Action Plan

2. Funding

3. Timeline

4. Evaluation

SAMPLE CIVITAS UNITED NATIONS RESOLUTION

Heading:

Re: Helping Children in Nepal
Submitted to: General Assembly
Submitted by: Norway, USA
Date: September 2026

Establishing in the PREAMBLE the principles that apply in this resolution:

Whereas Sustainable Development Goal #3 is Good Health and Well-Being, SDG Goal #4 is Quality Education, and SDG #13 is Climate Action, and

Whereas Article 26, section 1 of the UNIVERSAL DECLARATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS states, "Everyone has the right to education. Education shall be free, at least in the elementary and fundamental stages. Elementary education shall be compulsory. Technical and professional education shall be made generally available and higher education shall be equally accessible to all on the basis of merit.", and

Knowing on August 26, 2026 catastrophic floods struck riverside settlements near the border between Nepal and China, killing over 1,400 people, destroying towns and cities, and displacing over 33,000 people, and

Worried that schools that educated over 14,000 students were destroyed and those students are still not being educated over a month after the floods, and

Concerned that many of those children lost their homes and family members, and

Aware returning to school will provide the children with safety and stability during this time of tragic loss, and

Realizing that disasters like the floods in Nepal will become more frequent due to the melting of permafrost in the Himalayan mountain range caused by climate change,

Be It Hereby Resolved That the General Assembly:

1. The United Nations will begin a program called **Assist the Children of Nepal (ACON)** that will provide temporary schools and mental health care for the children in Nepal affected by the floods.

2. 46 temporary schools will be established near passable roads in the districts of Dhading, Nuwakot, and Rasuwa, each educating 300 students with 15 teachers per school and 2 therapists per school.

3. Most teachers will be from the schools destroyed with salaries still provided by the communities. 50 additional teachers will be hired by ACON. The therapists will also be hired by ACON.

4. The overall budget for ACON will be $10 million USD. The temporary schools are already provided through various worldwide donations. Supplies and desks will cost about $1.5 million for a year of operation. Salaries for the additional teachers and the therapists will be $7 million for a year. Transportation for the students will be $1 million for the year.

5. The United States has already donated $3 million specifically to education in Nepal following the floods. Norway is donating $2 million. We are requesting that the other countries within the Himalayas, such as Bhutan, China, India, and Pakistan, contribute $1 million to the program.

6. After a year, if the temporary schools need to continue because permanent buildings are not complete, we will ask the 10 nations who pay the highest dues to increase their dues by 0.1% to continue operation for 6 months.

7. If all Nepalese children whose schools and/or families were affected by the floods are back in school permanently after a year, this program will become a model for future climate change catastrophes that halt education for children.

Elevator Pitch Worksheet

Sponsors of resolutions: Instead of reading word-for-word your entire resolution, we're asking you to give a short pitch to introduce and explain your plan. Here is a basic outline of what your remarks should include.

1. The title of your resolution:

   _____

2. The most compelling facts about your issue: [Do NOT read your preamble. Summarize the most compelling argument.]

   _____

   _____

   _____

   _____

3. The key parts of your action plan:

   _____

   _____

   _____

4. Other countries directly affected by this problem:

   _____

   _____

   _____

5. A final powerful statement about why the UN should support this resolution:

   _____

   _____

   _____

Elevator Pitch Worksheet

Using the blank template found on page 9, here's what a sample elevator pitch would look like for the sample resolution found on page 8.

1. The title of your resolution:

"My resolution is about educating children in Nepal after the floods in August."

2. The most compelling facts about your issue:

"Horrible floods occurred in Nepal in August of 2026 caused by melting permafrost and shifting glaciers on the Himalayan Mountains. Over 14,000 students have yet to start school since the floods because their schools were destroyed. Many of the children also lost family members and their homes during the floods."

3. The key part of your action plan:

"Our resolution will provide supplies, teachers, and therapists for 46 temporary schools near the affected areas of Nepal. These schools will operate at least a year, and longer if permanent schools are not available."

4. Other countries directly affected by this problem:

"Many countries are currently suffering from a lack of educational opportunities for all of their citizens. However, Nepal is the only one affected by the recent catastrophic floods. Climate change becoming more intense seems likely, so other countries, especially near the Himalayas, may be directly affected in the future."

5. A final powerful statement about why the UN should support this resolution:

"14,000 children have lost their schools and have no current school to attend. Many also lost their homes and family members and are living in relocation camps. All of them have lost at least someone they knew. If these children can at least get back in school, it will be a stable, comforting part of their lives again. Since the schools will all have trained therapists, they can also get important counseling to help them heal."

The basics of resolution funding:

Step 1: Figure out an approximate cost

You will often have to make "educated guesses" at how much your programs will cost, but it's useful to at least go through that process of estimation. You can actually find out a lot about approximate costs just by googling your budget items. Often the cost of something varies depending on geography. However, here are a few useful facts:
More supplies & prices can be found at the UNICEF site or on the Civitas resources page. (http://www.unicef.org/supply/)

$2	***Polio vaccine:*** *10 doses of vaccines that will protect 3 children from polio*
$3	***Mosquito net:*** *Treated with long lasting insecticide, protects 2 people for 4 years from mosquitos/pests*
$7	***Fleece blankets:*** *Used for children in hospitals, refugee camps, and day care centers*
$17	***Chlorine water testing kit:*** *Basic kit used for monitoring water quality, 250 tests*
$23	***HIV Rapid Diagnostic Test:*** *30 test kits to quickly detect HIV*
$23	***Squatting plate:*** *Helps create hygienic sanitation stations in disaster zones or emergency situations*
$24	***First aid kit:*** *Basic kit designed for treating a range of minor injuries*
$24	***Deworming tablets:*** *Kills parasites found in local foods/water which stops disease and improves health. Treats 700 kids.*
$52	***Micronutrient powder:*** *Packets of vitamin powder to be added to food for children. (Prevents blindness and brain damage from dietary deficiencies, builds up immune system) Provides 1,700 packets, covering 4 children for 7 months.*
$55	***K.I.N.D. (Kids in need of desks):*** *Provides a work desk and bench for 3 students, so they do not have to work on the floor.*
$76	***Therapeutic milk:*** *90 packets of therapeutic milk which saves children suffering from acute malnutrition*
$130	***WASH & Dignity Kit:*** *Provides water purification tablets, soap, bucket, wash cloths, and other toiletries for 5 families (25 people) for 1 month*
$162	***School in a box:*** *Education supplies for 40 students and 1 teacher, lasts 3 months*
$319	***AFRIDEV Handpump:*** *Complete kit to install a durable handpump that can provide water for community of 300 people*
$1,100	***Better Shelter:*** *Tent/portable housing designed by IKEA that has solar powered lights & can house a family for 3 years.*
$2,114	***Midwifery kit:*** *Provides sanitation and medical gear to help a midwife safely deliver 50 babies. Helps decrease infant mortality.*
$5,032	***Diesel generator set:*** *A small diesel operated generator used for providing lights/cooling in emergency situations*
$6,516	***Solar water pump:*** *Complete kit to install a solar powered water pump ideal for farming and livestock. Works well in rural/remote regions.*
$40,500	***Transport van:*** *A vehicle that can carry 5,000 lbs of supplies, equipment, and/or staff to rural areas. Often used as portable schools and medical clinics.*

Step 2: Decide on your funding mechanism

In the past, students have devised a number of ways to fund their programs: asking for donations from wealthy countries, requesting a fee (*see bit about taxes below) be placed on international airline flights, organizing a benefit concert, and (perhaps the most popular) raising UN dues. While it may be difficult, <u>try to crunch the numbers and see if your method of funding will actually come close to paying for their program</u>. *Reminder, the UN cannot raise taxes. It doesn't collect any taxes and is a voluntary organization. But it can request taxes from countries or on certain items to help pay for things. Many times, businesses/countries will donate because they know it benefits them in the long run.

This packet (beginning on page 21) has information about UN Dues. The UN budget generated by dues is roughly $3.5 billion per year so keep that in mind when funding your programs by raising dues. For example:

Raising dues for the 10 nations that pay the highest amount of dues would create about:	If you raised dues on the 10 wealthiest nations (by GDP (PPP) per capita) it would look more like this:
0.1%= $1,985,983 0.5%= $9,929,917 1%= $19,859,835 5%= $99,299,179 10%= $198,598,359	0.1%= $111,668 0.5%= $558,342 1%= $1,116,685 5%= $5,583,423 10%= $11,166,847
The countries affected would be Brazil, Canada, China, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Russian Federation, United Kingdom, and USA.	The countries affected would be Brunei, Ireland, Kuwait, Luxembourg, Norway, Qatar, San Marino, Singapore, Switzerland, and the United Arab Emirates.

Although raising dues for the 10 richest nations sounds pretty straight forward, as you can see from the example above, you need to be specific. Those are two very different sets of countries and two very different amounts.

An in-depth guide to paying for your resolution

The United Nations does not have a lot of spare cash lying around so if you create a new program in your resolution, you're going to have to figure out how to pay for it. These pages will help you make a budget and show you the most common ways the UN pays for things.

Step 1: Estimate a cost. Most UN resolutions cost between $1-$100 million dollars. (some real-life examples can be found on page **11** in this book!) The three main components you will need to pay for are 1. Staffing, 2. Your action plan, 3. Equipment/transportation.
You do not have to have this budgeted out to the penny.

For example, let's say we're working on improving education in Madagascar. For my program, I want to build 5 schools. I'm going to need to hire teachers, construct the buildings, and fill the schools with educational stuff.

Let's start with staffing. I want each school to teach 500 students. I'll guess that I need 20 teachers per school. Doing some research, I've learned that the average yearly salary in Madagascar is $400. I want to overpay my teachers so I will give them $500 a year.

If I have 5 schools with 20 teachers each and I pay everyone $500, I will need $5,000 for staff. (5x20= 100 teachers x $500 wages = **$5,000** for staff)

Knowing that things are cheaper in Madagascar than in the United States, I'm just going to guess that building a school will be about $500,000 for land, workers, construction materials. ($500,000 per building x 5 schools total = **$2,500,000**.)

Last are supplies. I want every student to have a $100 tablet and $50 of other supplies like a book bag, art supplies, paper, whatever.

(500 students x 5 schools = 2,500 students total. 2,500 tablets at $100 each = **$250,000** PLUS I wanted 2,500 x $50 misc school stuff = **$125,000**.)

Proposed Budget for Education in Madagascar	
Staff	$5,000
Buildings	$2,500,000
Tablets	$250,000
School Supplies	$125,000
Total	**$2,880,000**

All total it looks like I need **$2.8 million** for my education program. I'm going to round it up to **$3 million** because maybe they need lunches, transportation, or more teachers. Having a little extra funding in case of emergency is a good idea.

Step 2. Figure out where the money should come from. Most resolutions are funded by the dues nations pay to belong to the UN. Let's go back to our $3 million education resolution. I could raise dues on countries with excellent education systems or wealthy places with tons of money. (Hi Monaco!) If I asked to raise dues on the 25 wealthiest nations, I would only need to increase it by 0.25% to raise $5 million.

I can also just flat out ask 10 countries to help me pay for this. If 10 nations all chipped in, they'd only have to pay $300,000 each. The more countries you ask to pay for something, the less everyone has to pay. Just remember to clearly state who you are asking money from/why.

An in-depth guide to paying for your resolution (continued)

Another way I can pay for education in Madagascar is by asking companies and non-profit organizations (NGOs) for donations. Maybe Samsung or Apple will donate some tablets. Maybe I can work with Teachers Without Borders for half of my staff. You can't rely on partnerships, volunteers, and donations to pay for 100% of a program but they can help you keep down the cost. Even hosting a general fundraiser like a benefit concert can help you make some well needed money.

The third way the United Nations pays for things are fines and suggested surcharges.
The key thing to keep in mind is that the UN is a voluntary organization. It cannot force a country or government to do something. It can ask very nicely though and often times that works. Companies like I might suggest that a voluntary surcharge of 1 cent be put on all flights to islands. Or that ½ cent surcharge be placed on every quart of vanilla ice cream sold. (Vanilla comes from Madagascar!) That would raise more than enough money to support my program, but I cannot force a company to do it. The same thing goes for fines. I can fine companies who hire 15-year-olds instead of letting them go to school to pay for my program or fine countries that have low literacy rates. I can request whatever I want, but it might not get honored.

To recap:

- Estimate a cost for your program.
- List a budget.
- Say specifically how much $$$ you want. No one will vote for a program without seeing a price tag.
- The three ways to raise money are 1. Dues, 2. Donations/Partnerships, 3. Fines & Taxes. Feel free to use a combo of any of those things.

BASIC INDICATORS for the 25 Richest Countries in the World

Country	GDP per capita (nominal, in US $)	Infant/U5 mortality rate (deaths per 1,000 births)	Total population	Total adult literacy rate (%)	Life Expectancy (in years)
	2024	2020	2024	2024	2023
1. Monaco	$270,100	1.9	38,423	97%	86
2. Liechtenstein	$210,600	4.2	40,900	100%	85
3. Singapore	$132,600	2.3	6,036,900	98%	84
4. Luxembourg	$128,200	3.3	681,973	100%	82
5. Ireland	$115,300	3.6	5,458,600	99%	82
6. Qatar	$110,900	5.7	3,173,024	94%	82
7. Norway	$91,100	2.5	5,606,944	100%	83
8. Switzerland	$82,000	3.5	9,082,848	99%	84
9. Brunei	$79,200	8.8	455,500	97%	75
10. Guyana	$70,300	27.6	772,975	89%	70
11. United States of America	$75,500	5.3	340,110,988	99%	79
12. Denmark	$73,700	3.2	6,004,342	99%	82
13. Netherlands	$70,900	3.5	18,080,943	99%	82
14. San Marino	$70,900	4.2	34,132	100%	86
15. United Arab Emirates	$68,600	5.3	10,678,556	98%	83
16. Iceland	$65,600	2.1	391,810	99%	83
17. Malta	$60,500	4.6	574,250	95%	83
18. Belgium	$63,100	3.3	11,825,551	99%	82
19. Sweden	$63,300	2.6	10,596,652	99%	83
20. Austria	$63,300	3.3	9,200,931	98%	82
21. Germany	$62,800	3.3	83,517,030	99%	81
22. Australia	$60,100	3.1	27,536,874	99%	84
23. Andorra	$65,900	3.5	88,306	100%	84
24. Bahrain	$59,100	8.3	1,594,654	98%	81
25. Finland	$55, 600	2.5	5,650,325	100%	82
WORLD	**$25, 591**	**29.6**	**8,232,000,000**	**86%**	**73**

*GDP nominal data taken from UN statistics at http://unstats.un.org/unsd/snaama/selbasicFast.asp

BASIC INDICATORS for the 25 Poorest Countries in the World

Country	GDP per capita (nominal, in US $)	Infant/U5 mortality rate (deaths per 1,000 births)	Total population	Total adult literacy rate (%)	Life Expectancy (in years)
	2024	2020	2024	2024	2023
1. Yemen	$200	41.9	32,684,503	70%	69
2. South Sudan	$400	69.9	15,786,898	35%	58
3. Burundi	$800	40.1	12,332,788	68%	64
4. Central African Republic	$1,100	80.6	6,470,307	37%	57
5. Somalia	$1,400	89.5	19,655,000	35%	59
6. Dem. Republic of Congo	$1,500	64.5	112,832,000	77%	62
7. Mozambique	$1,500	64.7	34,090,466	61%	64
8. Malawi	$1,600	39.5	20,734,262	62%	67
9. Liberia	$1,700	47.4	5,437,249	48%	62
10. Madagascar	$1,700	37.8	31,727,042	77%	64
11. Niger	$1,800	67.7	26,312,034	35%	61
12. Sudan	$1,900	41.8	51,662,000	61%	66
13. Afghanistan	$2,000	104.3	43,844,000	37%	66
14. Burkina Faso	$2,500	52.0	24,070,553	39%	61
15. Solomon Islands	$2,500	13.4	750,325	77%	71
16. Chad	$2,600	68.6	19,340,757	22%	55
17. Lesotho	$2,600	41.5	2,116,427	79%	57
18. Guinea-Bissau	$2,700	51.9	1,781,308	60%	64
19. Haiti	$2,800	42.6	11,867,032	62%	65
20. Togo	$2,800	38.5	8,095,498	67%	63
21. Ethiopia	$2,900	35.8	111,652,998	52%	67
22. Mali	$2,900	64.0	22,395,489	36%	60
23. Uganda	$2,900	32.6	45,905,417	77%	68
24. Gambia	$3,000	54.9	2,422,712	51%	66
25. Sierra Leone	$3,100	63.6	9,077,691	43%	62
WORLD	**$25, 591**	**29.6**	**8,232,000,000**	**86%**	**73**

*GDP nominal data taken from UN statistics at http://unstats.un.org/unsd/snaama/selbasicFast.asp
**North Korea should be on this list as #3 or #4, but they withhold data from the international community. However, they are a member of the United Nations.

INTRO TO MIDDLE SCHOOL
U.N. GENERAL ASSEMBLY SESSION

Your field trip will simulate a United Nations General Assembly session. Your session is on _____.

1. Bring a pencil/pen, your delegate handbook, and a country placard or sign. Make sure your placard is easy to read from a distance! (Also spell your country's name correctly!)

2. Vote and talk from the perspective of your country. The country you will represent is: _____.

3. If you are presenting your resolution:
   - Prepare a short elevator pitch on why others should care about your issue. (Check out page 9!)
   - Explain why your resolution is important for the world.
   - Take notes while delegates ask questions and propose amendments.
   - Respond to the questions and amendments.

4. After a resolution is presented, you may join the Speakers' List. On the list you can:
   - Ask questions about the resolution.
   - Suggest an amendment (change) that would be better for your country and/or the world community.
   - Make a comment in favor of the resolution, or in opposition to the resolution.

5. Vote on the resolution!
   - Yes
   - No
   - Every country must vote.
   - A resolution needs a majority to pass.

Responding to Resolutions—Student Name:_____Country:_____

Hopefully all resolutions for scheduled sessions will be posted about two weeks in advance on the Civitas website (www.civitas-stl.com). This handout should be brought to our session in your folder to use during resolution discussion and for documenting outcomes of the resolutions. Usually 5-6 resolutions are discussed per session.

Resolution Topic:_____*Read through the resolution carefully and jot down some notes below. Look up the countries proposing the resolution, and countries addressed in the resolution, on a map, for stronger context.*

1. What would the potential impact be on YOUR COUNTRY if the resolution is passed? It might be beneficial to do a little research on the topic and your country's involvement or need.

2. What clarifying questions do you have? Are operative clauses plausible? Would an amendment strengthen the plan?

3. What would the potential impact be on the GLOBAL COMMUNITY if the resolution is passed?

At Session: Did this resolution pass? _____YES _____NO Were any amendments approved? _____YES_____NO
Any thoughts to bring up later about the discussion of this resolution?

Resolution Topic:_____*Read through the resolution carefully and jot down some notes below. Look up the countries proposing the resolution, and countries addressed in the resolution, on a map, for stronger context.*

1. What would the potential impact be on YOUR COUNTRY if the resolution is passed? It might be beneficial to do a little research on the topic and your country's involvement or need.

2. What clarifying questions do you have? Are operative clauses plausible? Would an amendment strengthen the plan?

3. What would the potential impact be on the GLOBAL COMMUNITY if the resolution is passed?

At Session: Did this resolution pass? _____YES _____NO Were any amendments approved? _____YES_____NO
Any thoughts to bring up later about the discussion of this resolution?

Resolution Topic:_____*Read through the resolution carefully and jot down some notes below. Look up the countries proposing the resolution, and countries addressed in the resolution, on a map, for stronger context.*

1. What would the potential impact be on YOUR COUNTRY if the resolution is passed? It might be beneficial to do a little research on the topic and your country's involvement or need.

2. What clarifying questions do you have? Are operative clauses plausible? Would an amendment strengthen the plan?

3. What would the potential impact be on the GLOBAL COMMUNITY if the resolution is passed?

At Session: Did this resolution pass? _____YES _____NO Were any amendments approved? _____YES_____NO
Any thoughts to bring up later about the discussion of this resolution?

Resolution Topic:_____***Read through the resolution carefully and jot down some notes below. Look up the countries proposing the resolution, and countries addressed in the resolution, on a map, for stronger context.***

1. What would the potential impact be on YOUR COUNTRY if the resolution is passed? It might be beneficial to do a little research on the topic and your country's involvement or need.

2. What clarifying questions do you have? Are operative clauses plausible? Would an amendment strengthen the plan?

3. What would the potential impact be on the GLOBAL COMMUNITY if the resolution is passed?

At Session: Did this resolution pass? _____YES _____NO Were any amendments approved? _____YES_____NO
Any thoughts to bring up later about the discussion of this resolution?

Resolution Topic:_____***Read through the resolution carefully and jot down some notes below. Look up the countries proposing the resolution, and countries addressed in the resolution, on a map, for stronger context.***

1. What would the potential impact be on **YOUR COUNTRY** if the resolution is passed? It might be beneficial to do a little research on the topic and your country's involvement or need.

2. What clarifying questions do you have? Are operative clauses plausible? Would an amendment strengthen the plan?

3. What would the potential impact be on the **GLOBAL COMMUNITY** if the resolution is passed?

At Session: Did this resolution pass? _____YES _____NO Were any amendments approved? _____YES_____NO
Any thoughts to bring up later about the discussion of this resolution?

Resolution Topic:_____***Read through the resolution carefully and jot down some notes below. Look up the countries proposing the resolution, and countries addressed in the resolution, on a map, for stronger context.***

1. What would the potential impact be on **YOUR COUNTRY** if the resolution is passed? It might be beneficial to do a little research on the topic and your country's involvement or need.

2. What clarifying questions do you have? Are operative clauses plausible? Would an amendment strengthen the plan?

3. What would the potential impact be on the **GLOBAL COMMUNITY** if the resolution is passed?

At Session: Did this resolution pass? _____YES _____NO Were any amendments approved? _____YES_____NO
Any thoughts to bring up later about the discussion of this resolution?

Summary of United Nations Dues

How are membership dues calculated?

Membership dues (which are also known as assessments) are based primarily on each nation's share of the global economy. Additional criteria are based on a series of variables including the country's GNP, external debt, and per capita incomes. The General Assembly decides what percent each country will pay based on those figures. For 2026, the 27 countries contributing at the minimum rate were assessed $34,560 each. The largest contributor – the United States – was assessed $760,321,188. That may seem like a lot of money, but keep in mind that membership dues do not pay for all of the United Nations' entire yearly budget. **As of September 2026, 141 member states (out of 193) have paid their U.N. member dues in full.** (Check out the updated UN Honour Roll at https://www.un.org/en/ga/contributions/honourroll.shtml or on the Civitas resources page. Often countries do pay late!)

Country	% Share of Total Dues	Dues Owed 2026	Dues Paid in 2026?
Afghanistan	0.005	$172,800	
Albania	0.010	$345,601	**YES**
Algeria	0.087	$3,006,725	**YES**
Andorra	0.004	$138,240	**YES**
Angola	0.010	$345,240	**YES**
Antigua and Barbuda	0.002	$69,120	**YES**
Argentina	0.490	$16,934,427	**YES**
Armenia	0.007	$241,920	**YES**
Australia	2.040	70,502,510	**YES**
Austria	0.626	$21,634,594	**YES**
Azerbaijan	0.034	$1,175,042	**YES**
The Bahamas	0.015	$518,401	
Bahrain	0.050	$1,728,003	**YES**
Bangladesh	0.010	$345,601	**YES**
Barbados	0.007	$241,920	**YES**
Belarus	0.043	$1,486,082	
Belgium	0.773	$26,714,922	**YES**
Belize	0.001	$34,560	**YES**
Benin	0.005	$172,800	**YES**
Bhutan	0.001	$34,560	
Bolivia	0.018	$622,081	
Bosnia and Herzegovina	0.014	$483,841	**YES**
Botswana	0.013	$449,281	**YES**
Brazil	1.411	$48,764,236	**YES**
Brunei	0.019	$656,641	**YES**
Bulgaria	0.071	$2,453,764	**YES**
Burkina Faso	0.005	$172,800	**YES**
Burundi	0.001	$34,560	
Cambodia	0.008	$276,480	**YES**
Cameroon	0.014	$483,841	
Canada	2.543	$87,886,217	**YES**
Cape Verde (Cabo Verde)	0.001	$34,560	**YES**
Central African Republic	0.001	$34,560	
Chad	0.005	$172,800	**YES**
Chile	0.374	$12,925,460	
China	20.004	$691,339,320	**YES**
Colombia	0.197	$6,808,331	**YES**
Comoros	0.001	$34,560	
Congo	0.005	$172,800	
Costa Rica	0.063	$2,177,284	**YES**
Côte d'Ivoire	0.024	$829,441	**YES**

Country	% Share of Total Dues	Dues Owed 2026	Dues Paid in 2026?
Croatia	0.088	$3,041,285	**YES**
Cuba	0.122	$4,216,327	
Cyprus	0.035	$1,209,602	**YES**
Czech Republic (Czechia)	0.344	$11,888,659	**YES**
Democratic Republic of the Congo	0.010	$345,601	**YES**
Denmark	0.531	$18,351,389	**YES**
Djibouti	0.002	$69,120	
Dominica	0.001	$34,560	
Dominican Republic	0.069	$2,384,644	**YES**
Ecuador	0.065	$2,246,404	
Egypt	0.182	$6,289,930	**YES**
El Salvador	0.013	$449,281	
Equatorial Guinea	0.008	$276,480	
Eritrea	0.001	$34,560	
Estonia	0.045	$1,555,203	**YES**
Ethiopia	0.010	$345,601	**YES**
Fiji	0.003	$103,680	**YES**
Finland	0.386	$13,340,181	**YES**
France	3.858	$133,332,688	**YES**
Gabon	0.011	$380,161	
The Gambia	0.001	$34,560	**YES**
Georgia	0.009	$311,041	**YES**
Germany	5.692	$196,715,827	**YES**
Ghana	0.025	$864,001	**YES**
Greece	0.280	$9,676,815	**YES**
Grenada	0.001	$34,560	
Guatemala	0.046	$1,589,763	**YES**
Guinea	0.004	$138,240	**YES**
Guinea-Bissau	0.001	$34,560	
Guyana	0.011	$380,161	**YES**
Haiti	0.006	$207,360	**YES**
Honduras	0.010	$345,601	**YES**
Hungary	0.223	$7,706,892	**YES**
Iceland	0.035	$1,209,602	**YES**
India	1.106	$38,223,420	**YES**
Indonesia	0.579	$20,010,271	**YES**
Iran	0.386	$13,340,181	
Iraq	0.131	$4,527,367	
Ireland	0.472	$16,312,345	**YES**
Israel	0.609	$21,047,073	**YES**
Italy	2.813	$97,217,432	**YES**
Jamaica	0.007	$241,920	**YES**
Japan	6.930	$239,501,174	**YES**
Jordan	0.021	$725,761	
Kazakhstan	0.131	$4,527,367	**YES**
Kenya	0.037	$1,278,722	**YES**
Kiribati	0.001	$34,560	**YES**
Kuwait	0.222	$7,672,332	**YES**
Kyrgyzstan	0.003	$103,680	**YES**
Laos	0.006	$207,360	**YES**

Country	% Share of Total Dues	Dues Owed 2026	Dues Paid in 2026?
Latvia	0.050	$1,728,003	**YES**
Lebanon	0.022	$760,321	
Lesotho	0.001	$34,560	**YES**
Liberia	0.001	$34,560	
Libya	0.040	$1,382,402	**YES**
Liechtenstein	0.009	$311,041	**YES**
Lithuania	0.081	$2,799,364	**YES**
Luxembourg	0.073	$2,522,884	**YES**
Madagascar	0.004	$138,240	**YES**
Malawi	0.003	$103,680	
Malaysia	0.326	$11,266,578	**YES**
Maldives	0.004	$138,240	**YES**
Mali	0.005	$172,800	
Malta	0.020	$691,201	**YES**
Marshall Islands	0.001	$34,560	
Mauritania	0.003	$138,240	**YES**
Mauritius	0.010	$345,601	**YES**
Mexico	1.137	$39,294,781	**YES**
Micronesia	0.001	$34,560	**YES**
Moldova	0.006	$207,360	
Monaco	0.011	$380,161	**YES**
Mongolia	0.004	$138,240	**YES**
Montenegro	0.004	$138,240	**YES**
Morocco	0.059	$2,039,043	**YES**
Mozambique	0.002	$69,120	**YES**
Myanmar	0.010	$345,601	
Namibia	0.007	$241,920	**YES**
Nauru	0.001	$34,560	**YES**
Nepal	0.010	$345,601	**YES**
The Netherlands	1.298	$44,858,950	**YES**
New Zealand	0.302	$10,437,136	**YES**
Nicaragua	0.004	$138,240	**YES**
Niger	0.004	$138,240	
Nigeria	0.150	$5,184,008	
North Korea	0.005	$172,800	**YES**
North Macedonia	0.008	$276,480	**YES**
Norway	0.653	$22,567,715	**YES**
Oman	0.115	$3,974,406	
Pakistan	0.123	$4,250,887	**YES**
Palau	0.001	$34,560	
Panama	0.086	$2,972,165	**YES**
Papua New Guinea	0.009	$311,041	
Paraguay	0.023	$794,881	**YES**
Peru	0.145	$5,011,208	**YES**
Philippines	0.198	$6,842,891	**YES**
Poland	0.831	$28,719,405	**YES**
Portugal	0.328	$11,335,698	**YES**
Qatar	0.245	$8,467,213	**YES**
Romania	0.358	$12,372,499	**YES**
Russian Federation	2.094	$72,368,753	**YES**
Rwanda	0.003	$103,680	**YES**

Country	% Share of Total Dues	Dues Owed 2026	Dues Paid in 2026?
Saint Kitts and Nevis	0.001	$34,560	**YES**
Saint Lucia	0.002	$69,120	**YES**
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	0.001	$34,560	
Samoa	0.001	$34,560	**YES**
San Marino	0.002	$69,120	**YES**
São Tomé and Príncipe	0.001	$34,560	
Saudi Arabia	1.217	$42,059,586	
Senegal	0.007	$241,920	**YES**
Serbia	0.040	$1,382,402	**YES**
Seychelles	0.002	$69,120	**YES**
Sierra Leone	0.001	$34,560	**YES**
Singapore	0.479	$16,554,266	**YES**
Slovakia	0.149	$5,149,448	**YES**
Slovenia	0.077	$2,661,124	**YES**
Solomon Islands	0.001	$34,560	
Somalia	0.002	$69,120	**YES**
South Africa	0.251	$8,674,574	**YES**
South Korea	2.349	$81,181,567	**YES**
South Sudan	0.005	$172,800	
Spain	1.895	$65,491,302	**YES**
Sri Lanka	0.038	$1,313,282	**YES**
Sudan	0.008	$276,480	
Suriname	0.002	$69,120	
Swaziland/Kingdom of Eswatini	0.002	$69,120	
Sweden	0.822	$28,408,364	**YES**
Switzerland	1.029	$35,562,296	**YES**
Syrian Arab Republic	0.006	$207,360	
Tajikistan	0.003	$103,680	**YES**
Tanzania	0.010	$345,601	**YES**
Thailand	0.341	$11,784,979	**YES**
Timor-Leste	0.001	$34,560	**YES**
Togo	0.002	$69,120	**YES**
Tonga	0.001	$34,560	
Trinidad and Tobago	0.033	$1,140,482	
Tunisia	0.018	$622,081	**YES**
Türkiye	0.685	$23,673,637	**YES**
Turkmenistan	0.036	$1,244,162	**YES**
Tuvalu	0.001	$34,560	**YES**
Uganda	0.010	$345,601	
Ukraine	0.074	$2,557,444	**YES**
United Arab Emirates	0.574	$19,837,471	**YES**
United Kingdom	3.991	$137,929,176	**YES**
United States of America	22.000	$760,321,188	
Uruguay	0.079	$2,730,244	**YES**
Uzbekistan	0.024	$829,441	**YES**
Vanuatu	0.001	$34,560	
Venezuela	0.069	$2,384,644	
Vietnam	0.159	$5,495,049	**YES**
Yemen	0.003	$103,680	
Zambia	0.006	$207,360	**YES**
Zimbabwe	0.007	$241,920	**YES**
Total	**100.000**	**$3,456,005,400**	**—**

Civitas

Like Model United Nations?

Check out these other great programs from Civitas!

- **Model United Nations and other simulations**

Represent a country at a U.N. General Assembly. Do some research, write a resolution, and work with delegates from other schools to solve world problems. Civitas offers other simulations or workshops during the school year as well. This year we are having a Restoring Democracy conference on Feb. 19 and 20, 2027.

- **Common Ground Conversations**

Get together with students from other schools to talk about a wide range of issues via Zoom. Topics are selected by students and have recently included Women in Afghanistan, Potential Presidential Candidates for 2028, and the Iran War. You don't need to prep or do any homework, just show up and talk about your ideas. These are offered at least twice a month on weekday evenings or Sunday afternoons. Each conversation lasts an hour.

- **Guest Speakers and Field Trips**

Civitas brings a wide variety of experts — politicians, nonprofit leaders, professors, lawyers, activists, journalists—to speak to students. Students are encouraged to ask questions and interact with professionals they don't often meet personally. We also organize bus trips to various places, like a tour of St. Louis City neighborhoods, or the Westlake Landfill.

- **Documentary/Pizza Nights and Trivia Nights**

Watch movies, learn about issues, and talk about your thoughts afterwards with Civitas. We sometimes host movie nights (usually Fridays) where students can come together and watch contemporary films on important issues. Our Trivia Nights are fun-filled evenings where teams of students engage in a (very) friendly competition answering rounds of diverse trivia questions.

- **Public Policy Fellowship (high school only)**

Civitas will "go-to-bat" for students who attend a certain number of events in one school year. By becoming a Public Policy Fellow, especially for more than one school year, you can create an impressive college application opportunity, including a letter of recommendation from a Civitas staff member. Being a Public Policy Fellow also means you can apply for the Civitas paid summer internship.

- **Civitas Examiner**

The Examiner is a student-run newspaper published by Civitas. Students are encouraged to write stories on topics they are passionate about. While many of the stories are political, it's also a place for movie reviews, personal reflections, local pieces, and whatever thoughts student reporters want to share. The Civitas Examiner is published three times a year.

- **Civitas Internship (high school only)**

Each summer, Civitas invites students with enough Public Policy points to apply for a paid internship program. The overall focus of the program varies each year, depending on what's happening locally and nationally. In 2026, our topic was comparing pivotal events, cultural and political, of the 1960's to various movements since then.

Everything above is free for high school students! Middle school students are welcome to sign up for many of our events.
Check out www.civitas-stl.com for more info!