

Committee Rules & Format

GENERAL POWERS OF THE COMMITTEE STAFF

The Committee Staff, also known as the Dais, comprises the Director, the Chair, and Crisis Staff, as appointed by the Secretariat.

The Director is the final authority on these Rules of Procedure and may suspend, amend, or adapt them at any time. The Director may propose the adoption of any procedural motion, given no significant objection, and may also interrupt the flow of debate to address the committee, show a presentation, or bring in a guest speaker or expert witness. The Director may also advise delegates on possible courses of action and debate.

Each committee session will be announced opened and closed by the Chair. Further, the Chair will direct the flow of debate, grant the right to speak, ask questions, announce decisions, rule on points of order, and ensure and enforce adherence to these rules. Lastly, the Chair may rule any motion dilatory and therefore out of order.

SPECIFIC POWERS OF THE COMMITTEE STAFF

The Dais acts as the governing body in the session. It holds a substantive veto and must approve all decisions, decrees, administrative rules, and regulations issued by the committee. Upon approval, all decisions are binding, including actions of a military nature.

ROLE OF DELEGATES

Delegates assume the responsibilities of their assigned characters, but should contribute to debate in all policy areas. Delegates retain advisory privileges with regards to the progress of the crisis—that is, while the Dais may retain ultimate decision-making authority, it is the responsibility of the delegates to craft, propose, and vote upon directives.

FLOW OF DEBATE

In the Continuous Crisis Committees, there is no set agenda. The Committee is expected to respond to the multitude of issues raised throughout the conference as corollaries of its own actions and other simulated events, so it is generally granted the freedom to deal with issues as it sees fit.

The default format of debate is a **continuous moderated caucus**. While there is no speaking time limit, the Chair may institute and enforce a de facto limit should the lack thereof prove to be an impediment to the efficacy of the committee. Speeches must be pertinent to the issues currently facing the committee; delegates whose remarks are not relevant may be called to order.

Points & Motions

UNMODERATED CAUCUS

A motion for an unmoderated caucus suspends the moderated caucus and the custodial responsibility of the committee from the Chair. The motion must include a time limit, is not debatable, and requires a second. An approved unmoderated caucus may be terminated prior to its expiration at the discretion of the Chair

ADJOURNMENT

A Motion to Adjourn ends the ongoing deliberation and executive authority of the committee appointments. This motion is debatable, requires a second, and requires no objection from any committee member for passage. This motion is used at the end of a term or other constitutional transfer of executive authority.

POINT OF PERSONAL PRIVILEGE

A Point of Personal Privilege may be exercised if a delegate experiences personal discomfort or danger, which impairs his or her ability to participate in the proceedings. A Point of Personal Privilege may only interrupt a speaker if the delegate is in dire discomfort or danger, or cannot hear the speaker.

POINT OF ORDER

A Point of Order may be made to indicate an instance of improper procedure. The Chair will rule on the Point of Order in a manner that best facilitates debate, at his/her discretion; the Chair's ruling is not subject to appeal. A delegate rising to a Point of Order may not speak on the substance of the matter currently under discussion. A Point of Order may not interrupt a speaker. Additionally, the Chair has the right to address a delegate directly if proper procedure is not being followed.

POINT OF PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRY

A Point of Parliamentary Inquiry permits delegates to ask questions concerning the Rules of Procedure, crisis updates, or for general clarification on a pertinent subject. A Point of Parliamentary Inquiry may not interrupt a speaker. Delegates with lengthier queries or queries specific to their position should not rise to this point, but should rather approach the Committee Staff during unmoderated caucus or send a note.

RIGHT OF REPLY

A Right of Reply may be granted, upon request, to a delegate whose personal or national integrity has been impugned by another delegate. There is no vote on this motion: the Chair will grant the Right of Reply at his or her discretion, and this decision is not appealable. The Chair will recognize the delegate to speak for no longer than two minutes. A Right of Reply to a Right of Reply is out of order, but delegates granted a Right of Reply will be called to order immediately should their own remarks be offensive. A motion for a Right of Reply may not interrupt a speech; the motion must either be made verbally immediately after the offending speech or submitted in writing to the Chair shortly thereafter.

Directives

Delegates do not need to indicate the type of directive they are issuing. However, types of directives include:

ENFORCEMENT ACTION

The committee may issue administrative measures, regulations, or legislation that have the force of law. These may include censorship of media, emergency legal measures, or the removal of officials at or below the ministerial level.

POLITICAL DIRECTIVES

The committee may communicate with and possibly direct local government organizations, legislative leaders, or allies as a method of garnering internal political support.

INTERNAL COMMUNICATION

The committee may communicate and issue memorandums to all aspects of a constituent government. Internal communication is meant to provide delegates with specific directives, instructions, reminders, or suggestions. It may also be used to reinforce specific political stances the committee has elected to take up, or to instruct internal ministries with respect to the media treatment of certain issues and events.

EXTERNAL COMMUNICATION

The committee may wish to deliver messages to those outside of its government.

- » **Communiqués:** Used to communicate with foreign governments or bodies expressing national policies or intentions.
- » **Public Service Announcements:** Messages that the Cabinet communicates to the general public, branches of government, and/or the military on a wide-scale basis. They are typically used as a propaganda tool.
- » **Invitations and Requests:** The Cabinet, or members of the Cabinet, may decide to issue requests to directly meet with witnesses, politicians, prisoners, or any other individuals pertaining to a particular crisis. This type of directive is useful for direct contact or negotiation; however, there is no guarantee that these requests will be accepted.

MILITARY DIRECTIVES

The committee may order its armed forces to conduct specific military operations.

- » **Operation Order:** A military order used specifically to launch a multi-unit military operation. This type of action order requires a detailed explanation of how the operation is to be carried out and a list of the operation's intended objectives.
- » **Sorties:** Used for the deployment of an aircraft or ship from a base of operation. Sorties usually have a specific mission, such as reconnaissance, rescue, patrol, sentry, or escort.

PUBLIC DIRECTIVES VS. PRIVATE DIRECTIVES

Public directives are to be voted on by the committee to pass and will be read aloud. Private directives are processed internally by the committee dais to be worked into the crisis arc, and will not be shared publicly with the committee. Delegates must indicate whether their directive is public or private when submitting.

OTHER DIRECTIVES

If the committee feels that there is some action that it should take that does not fall within the above categories, a written proposal may be submitted to the Chair for consideration.

DIRECTIVE FORMAT & APPROVAL

Directives are actions presented by the committee to the Chair. Directives, which can vary in length from a few lines to several sentences, are expressions of the committee's will. Committee consensus should be the goal; therefore, only points that pertain to information that has been debated by at least five speakers immediately prior to the time of its proposal will be entertained. However, multiple directives on the same topic may be proposed to the Chair.

The Chair will offer the opportunity to present directives after every fifth speaker. A delegate must wait to be recognized by the Chair before presenting their directive. Extremely short directives (up to two lines) may be presented orally at the discretion of the Chair. Directives require three signatures to be considered. Generally, directives will also require two sponsors, though this is up to the discretion of the dais. Sponsors want to see the directive passed, while signatories may simply want to see the directive debated.

Directives are approved by a simple majority vote, barring any veto from the Dais (see Committee Rules and Format), except for those involving nuclear weapons or ultimatums, which must be passed by consensus.