Political Science 87 (International Diplomacy) is a simulation of international diplomacy addressing an acute problem or crisis. This quarter we will examine the diplomacy among European powers on the eve of World War I.

**Hypothetical Scenario: The Congress of Geneva.** The date of the first meeting is July 1, 1914. After news of the assassination of Franz Ferdinand on June 28 reached the capitals of Europe, the leaders decided to try to find a diplomatic solution to the Austrian-Serbian crisis and the other issues that are threatening a widening war in Europe. The states that had frequently assembled as the Concert of Europe have agreed to send representatives to a conference in Geneva. They have agreed to designate Switzerland as the convener and chair of the Congress. Other invited governments are:

- Kingdom of Albania
- Austro-Hungarian Empire
- Kingdom of Belgium
- Kingdom of Bulgaria
- Kingdom of Denmark
- Republic of France
- German Empire
- Kingdom of Greece
- Kingdom of Italy
- Grand Duchy of Luxemburg
- Kingdom of Montenegro

These governments are:
- Kingdom of the Netherlands
- Kingdom of Norway
- Ottoman Empire
- Republic of Portugal
- Kingdom of Romania
- Russian Empire
- Kingdom of Serbia
- Kingdom of Spain
- Kingdom of Sweden
- Swiss Confederation
- United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland

**Assignment.** Each student will represent one of these governments. Each week the students will assemble as a session of the Congress to discuss resolutions proposed by the member-states. You should attempt to author at least one resolution for discussion during the five meetings of the Congress.

**Background.** I will give a lecture during the first meeting that will provide a brief sketch of the issues, interests, and events leading to the outbreak of World War I.

**Rules of Procedure.** We will use the attached Rules of Procedure.

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**Grades.** Freshmen Seminars are graded on a Pass/Fail basis. You should attend each week, author at least one resolution, and participate in the discussions as a representative of “your” government.
RULES OF PROCEDURE

Before meetings:
1. Proposed resolutions must be submitted to the Secretary of the Congress as an e-mail attachment by noon on the day before the meeting.
2. The Provisional Agenda will be circulated as an e-mail attachment by 5 pm on the day before the meeting.

At the opening of each weekly meeting:
1. The first item of business is Adoption of the Provisional Agenda.
   a. At this time representatives may propose Amendments to the Provisional Agenda with the addition of proposed resolutions.
   b. At later times in a meeting representatives may introduce proposed resolutions if the President deems this to be an “urgent matter.”

To speak:
1. To speak on the substance of a resolution, amendment, or motion, a representative should indicate this to the President by raising a hand with one finger (no not that finger). The President will place names on the speaker’s list in the order each representative raises a hand.
2. To make a procedural motion (which takes precedence over speaking on the substance), a representative should indicate this to the President by raising her/his hand with two fingers.

Procedural motions:
1. Procedural motions require no seconds. The representative proposing a motion may withdraw it until it has been voted on. If a representative withdraws a motion, another representative may reintroduce the same motion.
2. The order of precedence of motions is as follows (highest to lowest):
   [1] To suspend the meeting for a set period of time (for example, to hold a caucus for ten minutes);
   [2] To adjourn the meeting (until the next week’s regularly scheduled meeting);
   [3] To postpone discussion of the question to a certain day or indefinitely;
   [4] To introduce an amendment; or

Amendments:
1. Amendments must be presented in writing. Proponents may circulate these in printed or electronic form or write them on the whiteboards of the conference room.

Voting:
1. Adoption of a procedural motion requires a simple majority.
2. Adoption of a resolution or amendment requires a simple majority, but any one of the 5 great powers (Austria, France, Germany, Russia, UK) may kill a resolution or amendment by voting “no.” (An abstention by a great power does not kill a resolution.
3. Amendments should be voted before the entire resolution. The President shall decide the order in which amendments are considered.
4. A resolution may be divided for separate votes on major parts—upon the motion of any representative, but only with the consent of the proponent of the resolution.

2
RESOLUTIONS

Most actions of the Congress will be expressed in resolutions submitted in draft form under the sponsorship of one or more governments. Resolutions recommend action to be taken by the states of Europe.

NOTE: To be included on the agenda for Tuesday’s meeting, you should submit your proposed resolutions by Monday at noon. Submit them to the Secretary of the Congress as an e-mail attachment. The Secretary of the Congress will circulate a formal agenda to all members by 5 pm on Monday.

STRUCTURE OF RESOLUTIONS

Each resolution has three parts: the heading, the preamble, and the operative clauses.

I. HEADING

To: Congress of Geneva

Subject: the topic of the resolution

Sponsored by: sponsoring country or list of sponsoring countries

The Representatives of the Sovereign Powers of Europe assembled in Geneva.

II. PREAMBLE

The purpose of the preamble is to show that there is a problem that needs to be solved. The preamble of a resolution does everything except propose action or make a substantive statement on the topic at hand. Preamble clauses may begin with:

Accommodating, acknowledging, affirming, alerting, anxious, approving, aware, bearing in mind, being convinced, believing, cognizant, concerned, confident, conscious, considering, contemplating, convinced, declaring, desiring, determined, emphasizing, encouraged, endorsing, expressing appreciation, expressing deep appreciation, expecting, fulfilling, fully aware, grieved.

Guided by, having adopted, having approved, having considered, having examined further, having received, having reviewed, keeping in mind, mindful, noting, noting further notice, noting with approval, noting with concern, noting with grave concern.

Noting with regret, noting with satisfaction, observing, reaffirming, realizing, recognizing, referring, regretting, reiterating, seeking, stressing, welcoming.

III. OPERATIVE CLAUSES

Operative clauses express views, call for action, or instruct others to act so as to achieve some policy goal. Operative clauses should be organized in a logical progression, and each clause should contain a single idea or policy proposal.

Operative clauses may begin with:

Accept, adopt, affirm, appeal, appreciate, approve, authorize, call upon, commend, convey, concur, commend. Endorse, express appreciation, express their appreciation, express their conviction, express their regret, express their sympathy, express their thanks, express the belief, express the hope.

Further recommend, further request, further resolve, implement, invite, note, note with appreciation, note with approval, note with interest, note with satisfaction, reaffirm, reaffirm their belief.

Recognize, recommend, regret, renew their appeal, repeat, suggest, strongly support, support, take note of, transmit, urge, welcome.
The resolution has a distinctive format. The whole resolution is written as one sentence. Specifically,

[1] italicize the first word or phrase of each clause.
[3] Use commas to separate preamble clauses.
[4] Use semicolons to separate operative clauses.
[5] End the final operative clause (and the whole resolution) with a period.

**SYNTAX**

**SAMPLE RESOLUTION**

To: Congress of Geneva  
Subject: The Situation in Ruvakia  
Submitted by: The Representative of Her Serene Highness, Lucille, Grand Duchess of All the Ruvakinias

_The Representatives of the Sovereign Powers of Europe assembled in Geneva,_  
_Recognizing_ the continuing threat to the sovereign independence of Ruvakia as a major threat to the peace of Europe,  
_Recalling_ their previous calls for an immediate and unconditional end to all aggression against Ruvakia,  
_Deeply disturbed_ that the continued fighting and particularly the use of force by Chudmurtian Defense Forces and the Mordvashian Liberation Army has slaughter uncounted numbers of innocent civilians in Ruvakia,

1. _Demand_ that the Chudmurtian Defense Forces withdraw from Ruvakia;  
2. _Condemn and call for_ an end to the external support given to the dastardly subversives by the Mordvashian tyranny;  
3. _Encourage_ all member states to provide resources for humanitarian aid in Ruvakia.