

Ambassadors, you are now ready to begin your Security Council debate on making a reality of the Olympic Truce. Happy negotiating!

Learning objectives for today

- To simulate the work of the UN Security Council
- To negotiate an Olympic Truce resolution

1. PRESENTING YOUR COUNTRY'S POSITION

You will now have 1–2 minutes to present your country's position to the rest of the Security Council. Your Chair will tell you how long you have.

Stand up and speak clearly. Remember not to say 'I' but to use the name of your country, for example, 'Egypt believes' or 'Japan's view is that...'

2. DEBATE THE ISSUES RAISED

As a class, you will now debate the points raised. Remember to focus on the Olympic Truce and the resolution that you will be preparing. If you want to speak, raise your placard. Your Chair will recognise you and let you know how long you have to make your point.

3. WORK IN SMALL GROUPS TO PRODUCE A DRAFT UN RESOLUTION

Your Chair will divide you into small groups. Working together, you will come up with a draft resolution by writing down five actions that UN member states can take to further the aims of the Olympic Truce.

4. PRESENT YOUR GROUP'S DRAFT RESOLUTION

Each group will have two minutes to present its draft resolution to the whole Council. You can either nominate a speaker or split the presentation between you. Remember that the entire Security Council will be voting on the resolutions afterwards so this is your chance to pitch for votes!

5. SECURITY COUNCIL VOTE

You will now vote on each of the draft resolutions. When you are voting, your Chair will ask for all those in favour to raise their placards. Then for all those against. Then for all those abstaining.

Resolutions can only pass if at least nine members vote in favour. Remember that if one of the five permanent members – China, France, Russia, the UK and the USA – votes against a resolution, it will not pass even if it has nine or more votes. This is because these countries have 'veto' power. An abstention by a permanent member does not count as a 'no' vote.

RESULTS

Did any of the resolutions pass?

What were the strong points of the resolution(s) that passed?

How will the actions in the resolution(s) help to further peace? What might be the problems?

Reflections

What are the three most important things you learned today?

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

What skills did you develop during this lesson?

Do you think it's fair that China, France, Russia, the UK and the USA - the victorious powers after World War II - still have the right of veto on the Security Council?

Should this right be taken away? Should any other countries have this right?

