

A First-Timer's Guide to Researching for an MUN

So you've signed up for an MUN. Exciting, right? But if this is your first time, the idea of "research" can feel daunting. Every experienced delegate has been there, and the good news is that with the right approach, research becomes less of a task and more of a weapon. The first step is always to familiarise yourself with the Rules of Procedure, after which research is your weapon.

Start with the country, not the committee

Before you delve into complex global issues, take the time to get to know your country. What is its history like? Who are its allies? What's their stance on pressing world issues? This context makes it easier to understand how your country would respond to world problems.

Break down the agenda.

Reading everything on the internet about your topic may not be the best strategy. Instead, split it into three chunks: the core problem, its impact, and what's already being done. For example, if the topic is cyber security, check how your country has been affected, what steps it has taken, and how it votes in the UN.

Find your country's voice

Your main job is to represent your country's stance. Look for government press releases, past UN speeches, or even reliable news articles. Even if your country isn't directly involved, it will still have an angle through trade partners, alliances, or political leanings.

Use detailed facts to stand out

Logos makes a difference: saying "millions are affected" sounds vague. However, stating that "3.5 million people were displaced in 2023" makes your point stronger. Use trusted sources like the UN, World Bank, or WHO, as citing them gives you instant credibility.

Think solutions, not just problems

It's easy to talk about how bad an issue is, but committees are about solving things. Come up with 2–3 realistic proposals your country would support. They don't have to be revolutionary, but small, practical steps show you really understand the problem.