



VMUN 2025

Delegate Code of Conduct



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The purpose of the VMUN Delegate Code of Conduct is to ensure a safe and comfortable conference environment for all attendees.



General Expectations

CONDUCT EXPECTATION

- I. I commit myself to strive for respectful and responsible behaviour throughout the duration of the conference, according to the standards as set forth by VMUN.
- II. I will be respectful, and will not partake in any behaviour that will offend, or hurt other delegates or conference attendees.
- III. I will not engage in any harassment or discrimination that is directed at one or more specific persons and that is based on any of the protected grounds under the BC Human Rights Code, including race, religion, colour, ancestry, place of origin, marital status, family status, age, sex or sexual orientation, gender identity, or physical or mental disability.
- IV. I will avoid bringing any baseless abasement to VMUN in person or online at any time, including during committee breaks, the delegate social, or any other unsupervised times.
- V. I will comply with all conference policies as they relate to upholding the standard of excellence of VMUN at all times.
- VI. I understand, accept, and will respect all of my conference-related commitments and responsibilities.
 - A. I will arrive to committee sessions on time, and will attend any other required meetings as outlined by the committee director, or my respective sponsor teacher.
 - B. In the event of an absence, I will obtain the necessary permission from my sponsor teacher and notify the VMUN Secretariat in advance or as soon as possible.
- VII. I will take pride in my personal appearance, and will maintain professionalism throughout the conference.
 - A. I will be dressed appropriately at all times for all events as outlined by VMUN.
 - B. I will abide by the expectations around personal presentation as outlined in the Dress Code section and always observe the accepted standards of personal hygiene.
- VIII. I will behave in a way that will reflect positively on the conference by acting with integrity, empathy, respect, and humility.
 - A. I recognize that integrity is a clear expectation and that borrowing intellectual property (notes, position papers, etc.) without their permission could be considered stealing or plagiarism.
 - B. I will avoid disruptive behaviour at all times, and will strive to treat everyone with respect.
 - C. I will avoid any possession, use, or distribution of alcohol, cigarettes, e-cigarettes, cannabis and illicit drugs or related paraphernalia, weapons, replica weapons, or any other dangerous or illegal items or substances.
- IX. I will demonstrate responsible use of protection of the natural environment through conservation and sustainable practices
 - A. I will not invite guests who do not have permission to attend VMUN.
 - B. I will follow the curfew time that has been posted, and will remain in my assigned hotel room.



Delegates are expected to conduct themselves appropriately at all times. Those who engage in misconduct may be subject to varying levels of disciplinary action as outlined below.

Level I misconduct is minor misconduct by a delegate and includes minor rule violations. Level I misconduct includes, but is not limited to:

- » Inappropriate clothing;
- » Repeatedly late to committee sessions;
- » Disrupting committee sessions by distracting delegates around you;
- » Any form of disrespectful behaviour;
- » Misusing technology during committee sessions.

Level I misconducts will be addressed by the committee director. Delegates involved in the misconduct will have their behaviour addressed, but may not necessarily be disciplined.

Level II misconduct is a single incident of mid-level delegate misconduct or ongoing Level I misconduct. Level II misconduct includes, but is not limited to:

- » Continuation of Level I misconduct;
- » Ongoing disruption of the committee session that adversely affects the progression of debate;
- » Skipping committee sessions or leaving the conference without seeking appropriate permission;
- » Violation of curfew;
- » Inviting guests who are not a part of the conference.

Level II misconducts will be brought to the attention of the VMUN Secretariat. The VMUN Secretariat will decide the extent to which the disciplinary action taken will be. The delegate's sponsor teacher will also be contacted.

Level III misconduct is very significant delegate misconduct. Level III misconduct includes, but is not limited to:

- » Continuation of unmodified Level I and Level II misconduct;
- » Fighting, threatening to injure another person, and unwarranted physical confrontation;
- » Smoking or vaping;
- » Possession of drugs or other harmful substances;
- » Vandalism;
- » Possession of a weapon including knives, fireworks, pellet guns, or replicas or such items.

Level III misconducts will immediately be brought to the attention of the VMUN Secretariat and the attendee's sponsor teacher. Based on the severity of an attendee's actions, the VMUN Secretariat, in consultation with the VMUN Board of Directors, may ask the attendee to leave the conference.



Bullying and Harassment

CONDUCT EXPECTATION

- I. I commit myself to respectful and kind behavior towards all attendees and staff and will not partake in any unwelcome conduct that has the intention to humiliate, offend, or intimidate others at any point in time throughout the duration of the conference. I will neither take part in nor condone (provoke or encourage) any form of violence, including bullying, harassment, threat-making, intimidation, verbal, sexual, or physical abuse and harassment, or discrimination in any form including discrimination on the basis of race, colour, ancestry, place of origin, religion, marital status, family status, physical or mental disability or challenge, gender, sexual orientation or age.
- II. I will comply with all VMUN policies and consequences in regards to bullying and harassment as they relate to upholding the standard of excellence of the conference at all times.
- III. I will immediately report any instances of suspected bullying or harassment to the VMUN Secretariat.
- IV. I understand that all of the following behaviour is deemed unacceptable by VMUN standards and will be met with immediate disciplinary action.
 - A. Verbal aggression or insults, both online and in-person (e.g. using derogatory names, spreading malicious rumours, etc.).
 - B. Physical or sexual violence/harassment including harmful hazing/initiation practices.
 - C. Vandalizing or stealing the property or belongings of VMUN, Conference Participants, or the general public.

TARGETS OF HARASSMENT

Anyone who is the target of bullying and/or harassment is encouraged to report it to the VMUN Secretariat and their sponsor teacher, and not to suffer in silence. Speaking out and reporting bullying and/or harassment ensures that VMUN can appropriately address the actions and may help prevent other individuals from future bullying and/or harassment.

CONSEQUENCES FOR HARASSMENT

Delegates who do not abide by the VMUN Bullying and Harassment conduct expectations will be immediately met with disciplinary action, including potential removal from the conference. All instances of misconduct will be reported to the VMUN Secretariat as well as the respective delegate's school sponsor teacher; however, depending on the severity of the case, the VMUN Secretariat, in consultation with the VMUN Board of Directors, may be in contact with the delegate's respective school for further disciplinary measures.



Drug and Alcohol Policy

For the safety and comfort of all participants, all attendees at Vancouver Model United Nations-associated events must refrain from using alcohol and drugs, including cannabis, at all times. The term “drug” refers to substances including, but not limited to, inhalants, prescription medication used without authorization from a physician, as well as other illicit substances. Possession of drugs or alcohol at VMUN at any time, or at a VMUN-associated event regardless of location, or appearing at VMUN while under the influence of drugs or alcohol is absolutely forbidden.

The exception to the above is that while at VMUN, delegates may use or be under the influence of prescription drugs that they have been prescribed, and should disclose to their sponsor teacher any prescription drugs that they take that could have a conference-related impact.

CONSEQUENCES FOR CONTRAVENTIONS

Delegates who are suspected of using or possessing drugs or alcohol, including if they smell of cannabis or alcohol, are found in possession of related paraphernalia, engage in suspicious behaviour that gives rise to a reasonable basis to suspect drug or alcohol use, and/or show signs of impairment, will be subject to investigation. Delegates who provide drugs or alcohol to other delegates are also in violation of the above-mentioned policy. Such cases will be dealt with severely. Delegates found to have engaged in such misconduct will have their participation at VMUN reviewed immediately and their Sponsor Teacher will be contacted. The VMUN Secretariat, in consultation with the VMUN Board of Directors, reserves the right to remove individuals in violation of this agreement from the conference.

Plagiarism

VMUN has a zero-tolerance policy for plagiarism, which includes, but is not limited to, using someone else’s work, ideas, or words without proper acknowledgement. If you are found to have plagiarized any portion of your position papers, resolution papers, speeches, or any other work, you will be disqualified from award eligibility and your school may be notified. If you are unsure as to whether something is plagiarism, please consult your Director. As a best practice, always cite any information that is not your own original content.

Additionally, the use of generative artificial intelligence engines such as ChatGPT and QuillBot is strictly prohibited at VMUN. The VMUN Secretariat reserves the right to use artificial intelligence detection tools to verify that all work is original. Delegates who are found to have used generative artificial intelligence engines in any work will be disqualified from award eligibility and their school may be notified.



Technology Use Policy

During committee session, the following etiquette is expected to be followed by all delegates at VMUN:

- » Electronic devices and internet access for non-academic purposes (e.g. texting, playing games, etc.) are not permitted at any time.
- » Earbuds and other headphones are not permitted unless authorized by the Dais Team.
- » Laptops and tablets are only permitted for educational purposes (e.g. to aid in the writing of working papers and draft resolutions, accessing previous research and notes, etc.).
- » Use of electronic devices and access to the internet are prohibited in all crisis committees.

Staff members reserve the right to ask delegates who contravene this policy to stop, and may revoke their technology privileges.

Dress Code

Dress expectations for all committee sessions is Western Business Attire, which follows the model set by the United Nations. Participants should avoid wearing clothes, footwear, hair styles, jewelry, cosmetics, and/or other personal fashion choices that may be offensive, contain discriminatory elements, or cause a disturbance to the committee and/or conference.

Dress expectations for the Delegate Social is casual attire. However, all attendees are strongly encouraged to dress appropriately to avoid making others feel uncomfortable.

