

## Hand-out MUN Debate training

### How to give a great and memorable speech!

When thinking of good arguments to support your case, think of who you want to persuade. Some countries at the Model United Nations will never be persuaded because what you are proposing is not in their interest. Some will always support it. And then there is the third category: those who are still undecided. It's those countries that you should aim to persuade. Choose arguments that may not necessarily have persuaded you, but that will persuade the undecided countries.

### SEXI arguments

A great argument should always be SEXI. Arguments should consist of the following:

- S – State
- Ex – Explain
- I – Illustrate

Start your argument by clearly stating what you believe to be true and why that is your belief (state). After that, explain your argument: why is it true? Finally, present an example, fact or statistic that supports your argument (illustrate). Especially if you have an advisory function, it is wise to show that your arguments are based on facts. It makes you more credible.

### Figures of speech & oneliners

A great speech is a memorable speech. At the MUN conference there will be a significant amount of speeches. How can you make your speech stand out? Get creative and use one or more of the following figures of speech:

#### Three-part list

"It's an honor, a privilege and a pleasure to be here!"

#### Contrast

Two contrasting ideas are presented.

"Do we want good education for all children in the World or do we want good education for only the rich?"

#### Anaphora

Subsequent sentences start with the same words. This type of repetition increases the odds that your message is remembered.

#### Powerful opening

A speech should always start with a strong open. After you've thanked the chair, guests and delegates, pause for a second and then open in a creative fashion.

- You can present a *striking fact*: "Did you know the UN has fewer employees than the New York City fire department?"
- You can pose a *rhetorical question*: "What could be a better time to act than now?"
- Stress the *importance of the moment*: "Today is an important day in history."