



South Florida High School Model European Union

Simulation Guide



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FAU

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Introduction

The South Florida High School Model European Union (SFHSMEU) 2022 Conference will take place on Florida Atlantic University's Boca Raton Campus on **Friday, April 22 from 9:30 AM to 4:30 PM**. Sessions will take place in Grand Palm (UN-31) Rooms 1-4 and Live Oak (LO-31) Rooms A-D.

All teams **MUST** have a **teacher/club advisor**, who will be the one to train students for the conference. This teacher/club advisor, or another district approved chaperone, **MUST** also **accompany their students** to the in person simulation on April 22. During the Conference, students will simulate a meeting of the Council of Ministers, whether that be Foreign Affairs (FAC), Economic and Financial Affairs (EcoFin), Agriculture and Fisheries (AgriFish), or Environment (ENV).

We ask that all teachers/club advisors register students as soon as possible, but no later than **March 22**. Once registration closes, the SFHSMEU administrative team will start assigning member states to each team. Advisors will decide which students will fill each specific role in the simulation. Please note that while advisors are asked for their preferred member states when registering for the Conference, there is no guarantee those member states will be assigned. Keep in mind, **every member state and role is equally important to making the simulation a successful and rewarding exercise.**

Preparing for the Simulation

The most important thing students and teacher advisors can do to help make the simulation exercise a successful and rewarding experience is to be **prepared**. Preparation should include **research** and **understanding** of the way the European Union institutions work as well as their decision and policy-making practices, particularly for the Council of Ministers. Understanding **current European Union policy priorities** is also key for preparation. Once specific roles are assigned, begin researching the minister that you will be representing, including their party affiliation, policy preferences, and current attitude toward European integration. Please keep in mind that during the simulation, **each participant should assume the role of the minister** for the entirety of the SFHSMEU Conference.

These are some websites that you may find useful in preparing for the Conference:

The European Union (official site):

https://europa.eu/european-union/index_en

The Council of the European Union (please note that this is also known as the Council of Ministers – we use Council of Ministers for the purpose of the simulation to try and avoid confusion)(official site):

<https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/council-eu/>

Please be sure to click on all of the tabs to the left.

The European Commission (official site):

https://ec.europa.eu/info/index_en

EU Observer (non-profit independent online newspaper for EU news): <https://euobserver.com/>

Euractiv (media company focusing on EU policy and politics): <https://www.euractiv.com/>

While preparing for the simulation, if there are any questions, please direct them to the administrative team via email at cpimenta2013@fau.edu.

Procedures and Goals for the Simulation

In the Council of Ministers, the presidency rotates every six months to each member state in alphabetical order. (Though in reality this does not apply to the Council of Foreign Ministers, we will use this format for the purposes of the simulation). The minister from the member state holds the presidency chairs and organizes all Council meetings.

Each Council meeting will be provided with draft legislation, developed by Dr. Aimee Arias in collaboration with students from FAU's Leon Charney Diplomacy Program. The draft legislation for the Foreign Affairs Council meeting will be related to Foreign Affairs. The draft legislation for the Economics Council meeting will be related to economics or finance. The same will go for the Agriculture and Fisheries Council and the Environment Council. Please keep in mind that there are some overall pressing issues that may be discussed in either or both meetings such as COVID-19 and vaccines (and related topics). Students should be able to address these issues from the perspective of the minister they are representing.

The main goal of the simulation is to have the ministers discuss draft legislation, enter formal and informal negotiations, propose amendments, and attempt to pass legislation by consensus or by vote. In each meeting, the ministers will consult with European Commissioners on

amendments and their alignment with the intention of the proposals. In the Foreign Affairs Council, all proposals require a unanimous vote to pass. In the Economic and Financial Affairs Council, Agriculture and Fisheries Council, and Environment Council, qualified majority voting is used.

For additional information on qualified majority voting please see:

<https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/council-eu/voting-system/qualified-majority/>

To practice, please see the voting calculator here:

<https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/council-eu/voting-system/voting-calculator/>

The presidency of the Economics Council meeting will be using this calculator to tabulate votes during the simulation.

Rules

All student delegates must attend all formal and informal meetings in their entirety. Student delegates must maintain diplomatic character at all times. This means that during the entire simulation exercise, students represent the ministers/commissioners they were assigned. Student delegates should dress in formal attire and behave as if they were attending an actual Council of Ministers meeting. There is a zero tolerance policy for disruptive behavior.

Unlike Model UN, there are limited rules of formal procedure. All student delegates must raise their hand to be recognized. The chair will maintain a speaker list. Student delegates must not speak out of order. No speaker may be interrupted except by the chair. The chair will determine times for breaks, informal sessions, and any meeting extensions.

Student delegates must come prepared before the actual simulation. Student delegates should have a folder (virtual or print) to refer to during the simulation. Student delegates should NOT be searching for information in real time during the simulation.

Teachers/club advisors may attend every session as observers. Observers may only answer student questions or coach during formal breaks (not informal sessions).

Awards

Students of FAU's Leon Charney Diplomacy Program will serve as judges during the simulation. The last session of the SFHSMEU Conference will be an awards ceremony. Awards will be given to Outstanding Delegate (1st place), Distinguished Delegate (2nd place), and Honorable Delegate (3rd place) in each Council of Ministers meeting.

Contact Information

If you have any urgent questions during the simulation, please contact Dr. Aimee Arias at akanner2@fau.edu or Cristina Pimenta at cpimenta2013@fau.edu. Prior to the simulation, teachers/club advisors will be provided with Dr. Arias's cell phone number in case of emergency.