



**United Nations
Association of Australia
Victorian Division**

MODEL UNITED NATIONS IN SCHOOLS

Program Brochure

“Your goal may be to resolve a conflict, to cope with a natural disaster or to bring nations together on an issue like climate change. You may be playing a role, but you are also preparing for life. You are acting as global citizens.”

Former UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon on the Model United Nations Program

ASYLUM SEEKERS & REFUGEES



PEACE

CLIMATE CHANGE



WOMEN

UNAA Victoria Model UN Conference Program

A Model UN Conference (MUNC) is a simulation of a session of the UN General Assembly through a creative forum of role-play and debate. Students step into the shoes of country ambassadors and draw on negotiation and diplomacy skills to ensure their country's views are heard. Over the course of the MUNC, students have the opportunity to interact with other delegates during the caucus sessions, present their country's position to the General Assembly and move amendments to a Draft UN Resolution and its specific recommendations.

The objective of a MUNC is to find the best possible solution to the problem at hand through multilateral diplomacy. Delegates aim to reach a compromise based upon their allocated country's national interests, international responsibilities and humanitarian obligations. The outcome is formalised in the adoption of a brand new UN Resolution.

By taking part in a MUNC, students not only learn about UN bodies and member states, but also about the importance of dialogue, diplomacy, negotiation, and building consensus. These skills are fundamental to the development of global citizens and future leaders.

UNAA Victoria Model UN Conference Program

Key Learning Outcomes for Victorian students:

- **Use problem-solving skills to think critically about world issues and global citizenship.**
- **Learn to see an issue from multiple sides by stepping into the shoes of a foreign country's ambassador.**
- **Learn the art of diplomacy through negotiation and thinking outside of the box to reach multilateral agreements.**
- **Improve public speaking, writing and communication skills, increase self-confidence and develop a capacity for leadership.**
- **Offers a sense of humility and fosters multi-cultural exchanges as students gain a new perspective of being part of something larger that challenges their ideas about their place in the world.**
- **Teamwork to solve global challenges opens students' eyes to the power of the international community to make change when working in cooperation.**

Victorian Curriculum Links

MUNC's are targeted at middle to senior secondary school students (Years 9-12) and can run across multiple classes and/or year levels.

They provide learning outcomes that align with Middle Years Humanities subjects such as Geography, History and Civics and can become key practical exercises in VCE units such as Global Politics, Environmental Science, Economics and Geography.

A MUNC can accommodate a minimum of 60 students and a maximum of 120 students.

UNAA Victoria Model UN Topics

The United Nations (UN) General Assembly's current focus is on the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (or SDGs) adopted on 25th September 2015 as part of the new UN Sustainable Development Agenda to replace the Millennium Development Goals. The 17 goals have 169 targets which the world will aim to meet over the next 15 years by focusing on the core areas of sustainable development, economic empowerment, humanitarian and social partnership and environmental action.

Our 8 new topics offer a greater link to the 17 SDG's while also covering issues that are relevant to students and to the current global discourse both within the UN and on the national level.



New global topics to choose from:

- **Achieving Gender Equality: Empowering Woman and Girls**
- **Asylum Seekers and Refugees: A Global Humanitarian Crisis**
- **Combating Climate Change: Committing to Global Action**
- **Countering Global Terrorism: Addressing War, Conflict and International Security**
- **Hear My Voice: Recognising the Rights of Indigenous Peoples**
- **Planet Ocean: Protecting the World's Oceans, Seas and Marine Resources**
- **Rewrite The Future: Quality Education For All**
- **Zero Hunger: Addressing Global Poverty and Universal Food Security**



“Learning about global perspectives on an issue I usually only see through an Australian lens”.

Our Lady of Mercy College Delegate, 2017

UNAA Victoria Conference Management

The UNAA Victoria will:

- **Identify the MUNC topic in consultation with the participating school.**
- **Write a Draft Resolution – the central UN document that delegates debate and amend at the MUNC.**
- **Produce all MUNC materials, including a *Delegate Information Pack* for participants, a *Teacher Information Pack* for teaching staff, and a list of allocated countries specific to the topic.**
- **Assist participants with any questions they may have about the MUNC.**
- **Arrange an acting Secretary-General to moderate the proceedings of the day.**
- **Coordinate and manage all aspects of the MUNC including management on the day.**
- **Post-MUNC: provide the participants with a feedback report based on surveys collected at the end of the event.**

Support required from the participating school:

- **Provide a suitable venue: The venue must be large enough to seat participants comfortably, as well as provide breakout areas for informal caucuses. The venue also needs to have sufficient audio-visual facilities including: projector, lectern and microphones (multiple roving microphones preferred for question time).**
- **MUNC preparation: Assign countries and distribute conference materials to delegates, as well as assist them in preparing for the day.**

UNAA Victoria Model UN Conference Fee

- **The conference management fee for a one-day UNAA Victoria Model UN Conference is \$5,000 plus GST. (*Concessions available*)**

Example Model UN Conference Schedule

8:45am – 9:00am **Registration:** Delegates arrive and take their seats according to allocated country groups.

9:00am – 9:10am **Conference Commences:** UNAA Victoria, School Opening Addresses.

9:10am – 9:30am **Opening Address:** *Secretary-General* explains the conference Protocol such as raising your country placards to speak.

9.30 am – 11:00am **Session 1: Position Statements**

Delegates to speak in alphabetical order per country for a maximum of 3 minutes.

11:00am – 11:20am MORNING TEA

11:20am – 12:30pm **Session 2: Caucus**

During this time, delegates debate the Resolution and its clauses, expressing their country's views and seeking the views of other countries before moving to draft, edit and perfect their proposed amendments to the Resolution on the Amendment Slips. Amendments must have at least one seconder and be submitted at the end of the session before lunch. The Caucus Session can take two forms:

1. **Moderated Caucus:** The session begins in a Moderated Caucus, meaning a formal debate. Delegates can add themselves to a speakers list by raising their placard. Speakers have up to 2 minutes speaking time.
 2. **Unmoderated Caucus:** Delegates may raise their country placard to motion for an Unmoderated Caucus of 5 or 10 minutes, meaning delegates are free to move around the room to discuss their amendments with their allies and potential supporters. The Secretary General will call for a seconder and put the motion to a vote, requiring a simple majority.
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12:30pm – 1:30pm LUNCH

1:30pm – 2:30pm **Session 3: Amendments**

Amendments submitted before Lunch will be debated and voted upon, requiring a simple majority. As many amendments will be dealt with as time permits.

2:30pm – 2:45pm **Session 4: Voting on the Final Resolution**

2:45pm – 2:55pm **Closing Address:** *Secretary-General*

2:55pm – 3:00pm **Conference Concludes:** UNAA Victoria, School Closing Addresses

UNAA Victoria Model UN Conference Structure

The Sample Schedule above is an example of the specific stages of a MUNC. The schedule may be altered according your school's timetabling or other considerations, in consultation with the UNAA Victoria Education Program Coordinator during the event planning process.

Further information

For further information, please contact:

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About the United Nations Association of Australia (Victorian Division)

The United Nations has over 100 associations working around the world to raise awareness about the UN and its work and to engage local communities on key UN issues such as human rights, gender equality, climate change, peace and security.

In Victoria, the United Nations Association of Australia (Victorian Division) or UNAA Victoria carries this out.

UNAA Victoria is a non-profit, non-government, membership based organisation, which works to:

- **Raise awareness of the UN an its programs and**
- **Engage local communities in key UN issues such as the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), which include targets relating to human rights and climate change.**

Since 2003, UNAA Victoria has run Model UN Conferences in schools, universities and organisations to actively train people in advocacy, debating and global thinking.

Through the Strategic Partnerships Program, the Department of Education and Training Victoria collaborate with UNAA Victoria to run several Model UN Conferences each year in regional and suburban areas.

Since 2014, UNAA Victoria has also run Model UN Conferences in languages other than English for VCE students. These are organised in collaboration with the Languages Unit, Department of Education and Training Victoria and Victorian teacher language associations. To date, Language Specific Model UN Conferences have been in held in French, German, Indonesian and Italian.