

CoEU

Council of the EU

TOPIC:

**Assessing the United States
of America's Manipulation of
Politics in European Nations**

**President: Sarah Khattab
Deputy President: Karim Farhat
Chair: Celine Assi**



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I- Committee Description:

A. Definition:

The European Union brings together **twenty-seven** different European countries since World War II to ensure lasting peace on the European continent. While the EU began as an economic union, it rapidly became a political union as well. In order for the European Union to function effectively, it operates through seven European institutions, nine EU bodies, and over thirty decentralised agencies. Decision-making is led by four main institutions: the European Parliament, the European Council, the Council of the European Union, and the European Commission. **This committee simulates the Council of the European Union, also referred to as CoEU.** The CoEU represents government ministers from each EU country who meet to discuss, amend, and adopt laws, and coordinate policies. The ministers have the authority to commit their governments to the actions agreed on in the meetings.



Note: Delegates must keep in mind that all resolutions adopted by the Council are not binding; for the purpose of this simulation, EU nations are here to find resolutions.

B. Roles/Duties:

- **Negotiating and adopting EU legislation:** The ministers of all 27 EU member states come together in the Council to negotiate and then adopt EU legislation. In the Council, the ministers' job is to work together to find EU-level solutions to common problems. This involves a level of flexibility and compromise, as they seek common solutions that deliver benefits for both the EU as a whole and for their respective countries. Most EU

legislative proposals require joint adoption by the two EU co-legislators: the Council of the EU and the European Parliament.

- **Adopting the EU budget:** The Council adopts the EU's annual budget together with the European Parliament. The budget period covers one calendar year; the budget is usually adopted in November/December and runs from 1 January the following year. The EU's annual budget is based on the multiannual financial framework (or MFF), a long-term budget which is usually set for seven years.
- **Coordinating member states' policies:** The Council coordinates member states' policies in specific fields, such as economic policy or employment. In other fields, such as education, culture, youth and sport, which are national competences, the Council adopts EU policy frameworks and work plans which set out the priorities for cooperation between member states and the Commission.
- **Developing the EU's common foreign and security policy:** The Council defines and implements EU common foreign and security policy based on guidelines set by the European Council. This includes EU development and humanitarian aid, defence and trade. Together with the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy, the Council ensures the unity, consistency and effectiveness of the EU's external action.
- **Concluding international agreements:** The Council takes the final decision on concluding the EU's international agreements with non-EU countries and international organisations. These are mostly trade agreements. The Council gives a mandate and

negotiating directives to the Commission, which negotiates on behalf of the EU. At the end of the negotiations, the Council votes to sign and conclude the agreement. All international agreements, except for those under foreign and security policy, require the consent of the European Parliament.

C. Prominent Accomplishments:

- **Implementation of the Lisbon Treaty (2009):** The Lisbon Treaty reformed the structure of the EU and the way it works, making it more democratic, efficient, and transparent. It clarified and strengthened the roles of the European Council.
- **Implementation of the Maastricht Treaty (1993):** This treaty established the European Union. It was a major step in European integration; it brought European countries closer together and expanded cooperation beyond economic matters.
- **Defining and Implementing the Common Foreign and Security Policy (CFSP):**
The Council of the EU, together with the High Representative, plays a central role in defining and implementing the EU's foreign and security policy.
- **Developing the EU Single Market:** The CoEU played a major role in expanding the EU Single Market, allowing the free movement of goods, capital, services, and labour/people. It has additionally fuelled economic growth and made the everyday life of European businesses and consumers easier. This has fostered economic growth in the EU.
- **Economic and Monetary Union (EMU):** The EMU has taken the EU one step further in its process of economic integration, bringing the benefits of greater size, internal efficiency and robustness to the EU economy as a whole and to the economies of the individual Member States. This offers opportunities for economic stability, higher growth, and more employment - outcomes of direct benefit to EU citizens.

II- Introduction to Topic:

A. Significance/Importance:

Since World War II, the United States and Europe have worked closely together in areas such as security, trade, and diplomacy. U.S. support has helped rebuild European economies, strengthen security through NATO, and expand trade between both sides. However, this close partnership has also sparked debate over how much influence the United States should have on European political decisions. Some critics contend that political pressure, intelligence operations, and economic leverage have sometimes made it harder for European governments to make decisions independently. Others believe this level of influence is a natural part of maintaining a strong alliance. As a result, one of Europe's biggest challenges is balancing its partnership with the United States while protecting its political sovereignty.

Delegates' focus should be on the strategic and institutional dimensions of U.S.–EU relations, notably the evolution of transatlantic relations and areas of cooperation and divergence. In addition, delegates should examine the extent to which U.S. political, economic, technological, and security interests influence EU decision-making, as well as existing European mechanisms for safeguarding strategic autonomy, democratic resilience, and institutional sovereignty. Delegates should also keep in mind the challenge of maintaining constructive transatlantic cooperation while limiting undue external influence, taking into account the legal, diplomatic, and institutional limitations of potential EU responses.

B. Main Events:

1. The Marshall Plan (1948):

After World War II, Europe faced severe economic damage and needed help to recover. In response, the United States introduced the Marshall Plan, providing billions of dollars in financial aid to Western European countries. The program played a major role in rebuilding European economies and improving living conditions across the region. It also increased American influence in Europe and brought many Western European countries closer to the United States during the Cold War.



2. American Involvement in the 1948 Italian Election:



The 1948 Italian election took place during the early years of the Cold War, when tensions between the United States and the Soviet Union were rising. Concerned that the Communist Party might come to power, the United States provided financial support, political assistance, and covert backing to anti-communist groups. American officials argued that these actions were necessary to prevent Soviet influence from spreading. Critics, however, believed they crossed the line into interference in Italy's democratic process and influenced the outcome of the election.

3. The NSA Surveillance Revelations (2013):

In 2013, former intelligence contractor Edward Snowden leaked classified documents revealing that the U.S. National Security Agency had conducted surveillance on European citizens, institutions, and political leaders. The leaks drew widespread criticism across Europe and strained relations between the United States and several of its allies. They also sparked debate over privacy, government accountability, and the limits of intelligence gathering, even among close partners.

4. Renewal of U.S.–European Relations (2021):

Relations between the United States and Europe began to improve in 2021 after several years



of political and economic disagreements. During the EU–U.S. Summit in Brussels, both sides agreed to work more closely on trade, technology, climate change, security, and democratic values. The meeting also led to the creation of the EU–U.S.

Trade and Technology Council, giving both sides a new way to address economic and technological issues together.

5. U.S.–European Cooperation Following the War in Ukraine (2022–Present):

Russia’s invasion of Ukraine in 2022 brought the United States and European countries closer together on security and foreign policy. The United States and its European allies coordinated sanctions against Russia, supported Ukraine financially and militarily, and strengthened cooperation through NATO. At the same time, the war also renewed debate over Europe’s reliance on the United States for security and whether European countries should become more independent in their defense and foreign policy decisions.

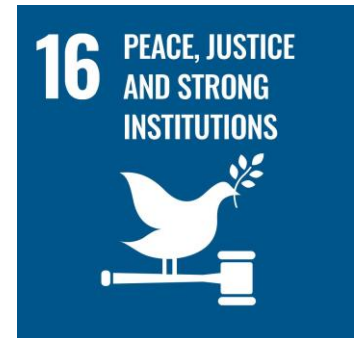


6. U.S.–EU Trade Tensions and Economic Pressure (2025–2026):

Economic disagreements between the United States and Europe became more visible again in 2025 and 2026 as tariffs and trade measures affected European exports. European governments criticized some of these policies and discussed possible responses while continuing negotiations with Washington. These tensions showed that trade and economic pressure can still shape relations between allies and influence the political choices governments make.

C. Link to SDGs:

SDG 16: It promotes peaceful societies and strong, accountable institutions. Free and fair elections, transparent governments, and respect for the rule of law are all essential to a healthy democracy. When foreign powers influence political decisions through economic pressure, intelligence activities, or electoral interference, public trust in democratic institutions can be weakened. Protecting national sovereignty while encouraging cooperation between countries helps strengthen democracy and supports the goals of SDG 16.



SDG 17: It focuses on building and strengthening global partnerships, given that no individual country can achieve sustainable development alone. International cooperation is necessary in various areas such as security, trade, diplomacy, and economic development in order to address global challenges. This links to the topic, as the

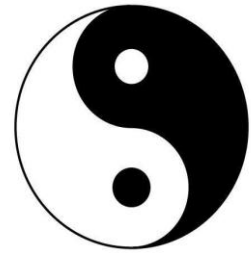


main issue is whether the partnership between the United States and European nations is based on cooperation and equal partnership, or if certain political decisions have been shifted by political influence and manipulation. This is relevant since the debate investigates whether political influence strengthens international cooperation or weakens the independence and equality necessary for genuine global partnerships.

D. Link to the Theme:

The conference theme, “Yin and Yang: The Harmony In Opposites” reflects the importance of maintaining balance between opposing forces. This aligns with the committee’s topic, where the benefits of international cooperation must coexist with the protection of national sovereignty. Although cooperation between the United States and European nations has

strengthened political, economic, and security ties, it has also raised questions about the extent to which American influence has shaped the political decisions of its European allies. The concept of Yin and Yang reminds delegates that alliances must have mutual respect, transparency, and equality, and not dependence or coercion. Delegates must consider whether political influence has strengthened collective interests or compromised the independence of sovereign nations.



[E. Link to Pillars of Good Governance](#)

Rule of Law: The rule of law is a central pillar of good governance, ensuring that all individuals are equally bound by laws and principles. Regarding this topic, it is important to examine whether foreign interference, intelligence activities, electoral participation, and the democratic processes of European nations are being affected. Upholding the rule of law requires international relations to be transparent and governed by legal frameworks, while ensuring that nations' sovereignty is maintained, and their political decisions are made independently and lawfully.

Accountability: Accountability is the requirement of government and public institutions to explain and justify their decisions and actions. Throughout history, there have been countless allegations and debates over whether or not governments have been transparent in their foreign policies. This directly relates to the committee's topic, as there are many allegations that the United States' political influence and involvement in the affairs of European nations have raised questions about the government's transparency and if they should be held accountable for actions that may affect another nation's sovereignty.

F. Historical Background:

Following the conclusion of World War II, the United States of America rose as a dominant economic, military, and political power in Europe through multiple efforts like the **Marshall Plan in 1948**, which provided foreign aid to Western Europe. **13.3 billion dollars** were transferred from the United States of America to 17 European Countries for European recovery. This aid provided much-needed capital and materials that enabled Europeans to rebuild the continent's economy. Around the same period as the Marshall Plan, the **American intervention in the Italian elections of 1948** was a turning point in the political history of postwar Italy and a watershed in the development of U.S foreign policy. During 1948, the U.S consequently intervened in the election by heavily funding the centrist coalition led by Christian Democracy (DC) and launching an anti-communist propaganda campaign in Italy. The U.S. Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) claims that the Soviet Union responded by sending exorbitant funds to the FDP coalition; however, the PCI disputed this claim and expressed its discontent with what it perceived as a lack of support from the Soviets. **The establishment of NATO in 1949** further strengthened the transatlantic cooperation while increasing the American military presence in Europe during the Cold War. **The 2003 Iraq War** highlighted divisions within the U.S.–European partnership, as the war split European governments. Additionally, in 2013, former intelligence contractor **Edward Snowden** leaked classified documents revealing that the U.S. National Security Agency (NSA) had conducted **surveillance** on European citizens, institutions, and political leaders.

These events laid the foundation for the debate on the extent of the United States of America's political influence and intervention in European nations.

III- Subtopic:



Free

Subtopic: Electoral Interference and Economic Leverage in Shaping European Political Decision-Making

and fair elections are a key part of any democratic system because they allow citizens to choose their

leaders without outside pressure. In Europe, however, concerns about foreign involvement in political decisions are not new. Over the years, these concerns have included financial support for political groups, diplomatic pressure, intelligence activities, media influence, and the use of economic tools to shape government decisions.



One of the clearest historical examples is the 1948 Italian election. At the time, the United States feared that a Communist victory could increase Soviet influence in Western Europe. American officials supported anti-communist groups and used political and economic influence to shape the election. Supporters saw this as part of the wider Cold War struggle, while critics viewed it as interference in Italy's domestic politics.

**“Elections
belong to
the people.
It's their
decision.”**
—Abraham Lincoln

U.S. influence was not limited to Italy. During the Cold War, the United States maintained close ties with political parties, labour organizations, and anti-communist groups in several Western European countries. In some cases, financial and political support was used to

strengthen groups that were seen as more favorable to American interests. These actions were often defended as necessary to contain Soviet influence, but they also raised questions about how far one country should go in influencing another country's politics.

Similar concerns have appeared more recently. Before Germany's 2025 federal election, U.S.

Vice President JD Vance publicly criticized parts of Germany's political system and met with Alice Weidel, a leading figure in the Alternative for Germany party. Around the same time, Elon Musk openly supported the AfD and used his social media platform to promote the party. These



events drew criticism in Germany and renewed debate over how much influence foreign political figures or powerful private individuals should have during an election campaign.

Political influence can also happen outside elections. Public statements by American officials, diplomatic pressure, security agreements, sanctions, and trade negotiations can all affect how European governments respond to major political issues. In many cases, these actions are part of normal relations between allies. Still, critics argue that the line between cooperation and pressure can become unclear when one side has much greater economic, military, or political power.

Economic leverage is another important part of the issue. Trade agreements, sanctions, financial aid, investment, and access to major markets can strengthen cooperation, but they can also give stronger economies more influence over their partners. A country that depends heavily on another state for trade, technology, investment, or security may have less freedom when making certain decisions. Others argue that this kind of influence is simply part of close international partnerships and does not automatically amount to political manipulation.

As U.S.–European relations continue to change, the main question is not whether influence exists, but where the line should be drawn. European governments must find a way to maintain cooperation with the United States while still protecting elections, national sovereignty, and their ability to make independent political decisions.

Delegates should focus on the nature and implications of the USA’s influence in the EU electoral process, with special attention to the documented instances of political and digital influence, lobbying, media activity, disinformation, and other forms of involvement from external parties. Also, delegates should be able to distinguish between legitimate diplomatic engagement, political influence, and electoral interference, while assessing the adequacy of existing EU and national safeguards. Resolutions should explore mechanisms for the detection, attribution, prevention, and coordinated response to foreign interference, while keeping in mind democratic freedoms, freedom of expression, electoral sovereignty, and constructive transatlantic relations.

IV- Main Actors:

1. The United States of America:

The United States of America and the European nations have the world's most extensive economic and political ties to each other. Through the USA’s diplomatic relations, economic partnerships, and role in NATO, the United States has exercised significant influence in European affairs, particularly since the end of World



War II. But this significant influence on politics in European nations has raised questions regarding foreign political involvement. During the period of the Cold War, the United States of America had several electoral interventions, with the Council on Foreign Relations identifying and verifying **81 cases** of U.S. interference in foreign elections between 1946 and

2000, including **53 covert cases**. One clear example is the **1948 Italian general election**, where the United States fought to prevent a Communist victory by supporting anti-Communist forces. This case was part of a wider American strategy in post-war Europe, which combined political, economic, and military cooperation to strengthen Western Europe and limit Soviet expansion. The United States later on became deeply attached to the evolution of post-war Europe. These relationships contributed to the creation of the Western political and security order and helped establish the United States as a long-term partner in European affairs. The effects of this relationship continue to shape transatlantic cooperation today.

2. The Republic of France:

France plays a major role in the European Union, as it plays a leading role in shaping EU foreign and security policy and is a major political, economic, and military power. After World War II the alliance between France and the United States began, alongside the creation of NATO in 1949, where both countries became founding members. However, tensions emerged during the Cold War, particularly when France decided it wanted greater independence and control from the U.S. and withdrew from NATO's combined military command in 1966. By making this



decision, it made evident France's desire to lessen American influence over national policies and improve its own independence and sovereignty. Although the United States has had a drastic influence on France in the past, that influence has pushed France towards developing more independence in its national decisions, allowing it to invest more in its own military capabilities and economic decisions. This has allowed France to be able to cooperate with the United States without having excessive interference from it.

This then led to France's pursuit of European 'strategic autonomy' under President Emmanuel Macron to reduce its reliance on the United States and avoid becoming America's dependent.

3. The Federal Republic of Germany:

Being the most populous EU member state, the Federal Republic of Germany is an influential member of the European Union, having the largest economy. Germany has significant power in the direction of EU policy and makes it a key actor in European decision-making due to its political and economic importance. Furthermore, given Germany and



the United States' alliance after the Second World War, Germany was provided with significant American economic and political support during the Cold War. This American intervention led to questions regarding the boundary between legitimate international cooperation and foreign political influence. Germany's position therefore makes it a significant case for examining whether the USA's engagement in European nations represents legitimate cooperation or an undue influence on domestic political affairs. Today, Germany is one of the United States' closest and strongest Allies in Europe. This relationship is built on them being trading partners and sharing economic, political, and security relationships.

4. The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland:

The United Kingdom is a highly influential member state in Europe both economically and politically. Although it is no longer a member of the European Union, it is still a large European power and plays a major role in European security, trade, and diplomacy. During the Second World War, the alliance between the UK and the United States began to form with a military partnership against the Axis powers. This relationship grew post-war, when both countries became founding members of NATO. Their alliance expanded into various sectors such as

intelligence sharing and nuclear cooperation. While there have been few occasional tensions occurring, particularly when British governments disagreed with U.S. military intervention, their relationship has been generally strong. However, because of these factors, the influence that the United States has had on the United Kingdom has been significant. Nonetheless, the



UK is not fully dependent on the United States and maintains its own independent nuclear deterrent, pursues its own foreign policy decisions, and continues to act as a sovereign global actor. Although the United States is one of the UK's closest allies and has significant influence, the UK still remains independent in its political decision-making. The UK and US have since maintained one of the most significant relationships and have continued to cooperate in defense, intelligence, nuclear security, NATO, and support for Ukraine. Moreover, the UK still describes the US as its most important defence and security ally, emphasizing how close their relationship is.

5. The Republic of Poland:

Poland is a highly important member of the EU due to its large population and role as a connection between Western Europe and the post-Soviet East. Throughout the Cold War, Poland had no relations with the United States, since it had been a part of the Soviet-led Warsaw Pact. However, after 1989, it began to build an alliance with the U.S. after it shifted to the West, joining NATO in 1999 in order to move towards improving its nation's democracy and security. Since then, Poland and the U.S. have kept a strong security partnership, particularly in military assistance and NATO operations. However, occasional tensions occur over Poland's internal politics and EU relations. Overall, the United States has had a large influence in Poland's post-Cold War development, and although it helped the nation develop, it has raised speculation about Poland's independence within the EU. Poland and the United States' cooperation has

strengthened through NATO and increased U.S. military presence in Poland, especially following Russia's invasion of Ukraine. This makes the U.S. an important part of Poland's security policy.

6. The Republic of Italy:

As one of the founding states of the European Union, the Republic of Italy has played a major role in political and economic relations. After World War II, Italy and the United States developed a strong alliance and became one of the founding members of NATO, which then strengthened its position in the Western alliance. This alliance would later be very important in 1948, as the Italian general election took place, when the United States grew concerned about the possibility of a



Communist victory and took various measures to support anti-Communist forces. This American intervention included political and monetary funds to support the Christian Democratic Party, in addition to the campaigns put in place to influence and manipulate Italian citizens. These measures were viewed by the United States as necessary and beneficial to prevent Communist expansion and protect Western interests. This involvement by the USA also raises questions about the extent to which a foreign power should influence another nation's democratic process. Italy has since maintained a strong alliance with the United States through support of NATO and transatlantic security cooperation.

7. Hungary:

Hungary joined the European Union in 2004 and developed a relationship with the United States after the Cold War. Moreover, after aligning with Western institutions and becoming a

democratic nation, it built a closer alliance with the United States through NATO and EU integration. Relations between the two countries have generally been cooperative; however, recent tensions have occurred over issues such as democratic standards, media freedom, and Hungary's closer ties with Russia. However, the U.S. has strongly influenced Hungary through NATO and allowed it to become more connected to the West



after the Soviet Union's influence over Hungary ended. This relationship raises questions about whether the United States' involvement in Hungary represents actual cooperation or whether it can develop into extreme foreign influence over Hungary's political decisions. Simultaneously, Hungary's pursuit of a more independent foreign policy demonstrates the tension between maintaining strong international alliances and preserving national sovereignty. Hungary's relationship with the United States has become more complicated in recent years, despite both countries remaining NATO allies. Due to divergent views, disagreements have unfolded over democratic standards, the rule of law, Hungary's relationship with Russia, and its approach to the war in Ukraine. However, Hungary continues its cooperation with the United States through NATO and in areas such as security and law enforcement.

8. The Kingdom of Spain:

Having joined the European Communities in 1986 and becoming an influential member of the European Union, the Kingdom of Spain is an important European Actor. Throughout the Cold War, Spain's geographical position led the United States to form close economic and military ties with Spain. Leading up to 1953, the USA and Spain made an agreement that granted the United States access to military facilities in Spain in exchange for economic and military assistance. USA's policies also aimed to use American influence to encourage Spain to adopt policies that aligned with its own interests. While this relationship strengthened cooperation between the two countries, it also raises questions about whether such influence remained

within the boundaries of legitimate diplomacy or extended into the political affairs of a European nation. Spain has maintained a strong relationship with the United States, specifically through NATO and defense cooperation, allowing the two countries to continue working together.

V- Suggested Solutions:

- Increase political transparency: Require political parties, lobbying groups, and organizations to clearly disclose foreign funding, donations, and outside political support.
- Improve election monitoring: Support independent institutions that can investigate possible foreign involvement in elections, political campaigns, and political advertising.
- Set clearer rules for foreign lobbying: Foreign governments, companies, and organizations seeking to influence European policymakers should be required to register and disclose their activities.
- Protect independent journalism: Supporting independent media can give citizens access to reliable information and reduce the influence of misleading or politically motivated content.
- Improve transparency in political media: Political advertisements and online campaigns should clearly identify who funds or sponsors them, especially when the support comes from abroad.
- Strengthen election cybersecurity: European governments can improve the protection of election systems, government institutions, and political organizations against cyberattacks and data breaches.



- Reduce excessive economic dependence: European countries can diversify trade relationships, energy sources, investments, and financial partnerships to avoid relying too heavily on any single foreign power.
- Maintain a balanced U.S.–European partnership: Security, economic, and diplomatic cooperation with the United States can continue while ensuring that the relationship remains based on mutual respect and political independence.

VI- Questions to Consider, Tips and Suggested Sites:

A. Questions to Consider:

- What is your country's current relationship with the United States, and how has it developed over time?
- Has your country previously faced political, economic, electoral, or diplomatic pressure from the United States?
- How reliant is your country on the United States for trade, investment, security, technology, or military support?
- How does your country view foreign involvement in elections and domestic political decision-making?
- What laws or institutions does your country currently have to prevent foreign interference in elections or political campaigns?
- How can your country protect its political sovereignty without damaging its economic or security relationship with the United States?
- What forms of foreign political influence does your country consider acceptable, and when does that influence become interference?
- Has economic pressure, such as sanctions, trade restrictions, or financial assistance, affected your country's political decisions in the past?

- What role should the European Union play in protecting European states from foreign political interference?
- How should your country respond if evidence of foreign funding, lobbying, surveillance, or election interference is discovered?

B. Tips:

- Prepare relevant points of information to stay active during the conference.
- Prepare draft resolutions in **bullet-point form** beforehand, then refine them during the unmoderated caucus. .
- Be aware of your allies and adversaries.
- Review the CoEU's special rules of procedure and motions in this background guide to ensure a smooth conference flow.
- Focus on other delegates' speeches and jot down any valuable piece of information.
- Always remain diplomatic, keeping emotions and personal beliefs in check.
- Limit the use of AI while researching, prioritizing the use of credible resources.
- Do not hesitate to participate and ask delegates a question regarding a topic they stated.
- Most importantly, enjoy the experience!

C. Suggested Sites:

- Consilium - European Council:
<https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/policies/united-states/>
- Council of the European Union: <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/council-eu/>
- U.S Department of State: <https://history.state.gov>
- European Parliament: <https://www.europarl.europa.eu/thinktank/en/home>

- European Commission: https://commission.europa.eu/topics/countering-information-manipulation/countering-foreign-interference-and-cyberattacks_en
- NATO: <https://www.nato.int>

VII- Committee Guidelines:

This committee will operate in accordance with the standard HHHS MUN Rules of Procedure, **along with some additions/modifications**, which include:

A. CoEU Rules of Procedure:

CoEU Speaker's List:

The CoEU Speaker's List can never be exhausted (having no speakers) under any circumstance during the conference. If the speaker's list is empty, then the committee will move to voting procedures for the draft resolution. To avoid diminishing the delegate experience, the dais may (at their discretion) pick on delegates to deliver impromptu speeches **without preparation**. Hence, delegates are advised to **know their material, rather than memorize speeches**.

Unlike the traditional HHHS MUN opening speech structure, the **speaker's list does not need to follow a set format**; delegates may voice concerns, offer suggestions, or outline the direction they would like the conference to take, suggestions, or even the direction in which the delegate would like to see the conference moving forward. Thus, it is important that delegates utilize the speaker's list to the best of their abilities.

CoEU Voting Procedure:

Note that for the voting procedure, the dais members will be using the EU 30+ Voting Calculator in the standard EU27 committee format, which reflects the voting system used in the Council. This calculator ensures a fair representation of each country's vote by weighing it according to the country's population. For simplicity, we will use the Qualified Majority Rule, where at least 55% of member states need to vote in favor, representing at least 65% of the EU population. **Delegates are not expected to fully understand this procedure before the conference, as the members of the dais will guide delegates through the voting process when the time comes.**

B. CoEU Additional Motions:

In CoEU, there exists **one additional motion** that is designed to improve inclusivity and clarity in debate.

Motion for a Round Table: This allows every delegation present to briefly express its position on a specific subtopic when the committee feels that hearing all viewpoints is necessary. Under this motion, a single speaking time is set, and delegates speak in alphabetical order, ensuring equal participation and preventing domination of the discussion by a few voices. This motion is particularly useful for mapping out national positions before moving toward drafting or voting. *(This requires an absolute majority.)*

VIII- Delegations Present:

	Austria
	Belgium

Western Europe	France
	Germany
	Ireland
	Luxembourg
	Netherlands
	Portugal
	Switzerland
Northern Europe	Denmark
	Finland
	Sweden
	United Kingdom
	Norway
Southern Europe	Cyprus
	Greece
	Italy
	Malta
	Spain
	Bulgaria

Central and Eastern Europe	Croatia
	Czechia
	Estonia
	Hungary
	Latvia
	Lithuania
	Poland
	Romania
	Slovakia
	Slovenia
North America:	The United States of America
International Organization:	North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO)

IX- Contact Information:

- **President:** Sarah Khat tab - khattabsarahh@gmail.com
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X- President's Note:

Dear delegates,

“At what point does cooperation become interference?” If you find yourself thinking about this question a little too much throughout the committee, then congratulations, you are officially ready for the Council of the European Union. I, Sarah Khattab, your president for this year's CoEU, am thrilled to welcome you to this committee, where we will come together to tackle a topic with no simple answer.

This committee is not only a space that will strengthen your public speaking skills, sharpen your listening skills, and broaden your knowledge; it is also a unique committee that differs from the traditional MUN format. This distinction becomes especially evident in the way CoEU approaches resolutions and decision-making, setting it apart from other committees.

You are entering a committee where the line between **cooperation and interference is very thin**; for years, the United States of America and European nations have had one of the strongest alliances and economic partnerships. However, beneath this alliance lies a complicated history of political interference, competing interests, and decisions that have shaped European politics. In this committee, you will not just examine what happened; you will question **why it happened, whose interests it served, and where the boundaries of foreign influence should lie**.

I cannot wait to see what you will bring to the table. My co-dais members and I are truly honoured to serve you in this extraordinary committee!

Sarah Khattab

President, Council of the European Union

XI- SGs' Note:

Dear Delegates,

As your Secretary-Generals, we hope this background guide gives you a strong foundation for the discussions ahead and helps you approach your committee with confidence. Beyond preparation, this conference is an opportunity to challenge yourself, step into new perspectives, and take part in conversations that demand thought and initiative.

This year's theme, "Yin and Yang: The Harmony in Opposites", reflects the idea that opposing sides can exist in balance, whether between conflict and cooperation or speaking and listening. It reminds us that meaningful progress often begins when we learn to understand perspectives different from our own.

As Leo Buscaglia said, "Change is the end result of all true learning," and we hope this experience leaves you with a stronger sense of the value your voice can carry. We cannot wait to meet you and see what you bring to this conference.

Warm regards,

The 15th HHHSMUN Secretary Generals

Mia, Hani and Omar

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