Notepaper Advice

At MUN conferences, delegates are able to pass notes to each other and to their Chairs. At HABSMUN there will be members of the Secretariat in each committee room and in the General Assembly to deliver notes.

Why are notes needed?

Notes form a crucial part of MUN. Delegates might want to use notes to:

* Ask the Chair a question about procedure or about the debate
* Ask a fellow delegate to yield on a certain topic
* Clarify their delegation’s views to another delegate
* Ask the Chair why they have or have not been recognised to speak recently
* Build diplomatic ties with another delegate

How do I send a note?

Unless note passing has been temporarily suspended, notes can be sent at any time during committee or GA debates, except during voting. Write clearly on the outside of the note the name of the delegation to which you want to send the note, or ‘Chair’ if you wish to send the note to the Chair. Hold the note up in the air, and a member of the Secretariat will take it and deliver it.

We ask that the content of notes remains respectable; notes passed in GA could be ‘censored’. The Press Team reserves the right to publish any notes in Le Munde, our daily newspaper. Please note that Chairs and Presidents are permitted to suspend note passing at any time if they feel it necessary.

Notes sent between committees are the bane of a Secretariat’s conference, and HABSMUN is spread across much of the large campus. Although we do allow the sending of inter-committee notes, we ask for a level of care and respect for the collective feet of the HABSMUN Secretariat. Inter-committee notes are sometimes essential; for example, an ambassador might need to learn the result of a vote on one of his delegate’s resolutions. Secretariat will not, however, pass ‘chat’ notes between committees. Ultimately the decision to send notes will be at the discretion of the Secretariat.

About notepaper

Each delegation is required to bring its own official notepaper to HABSMUN. Only official notepaper will be passed by Secretariat and all notes must be written in English. Official notepaper need not be ornate, or particularly formal, but it serves as the lens through which the initial image of a delegation is projected, and as a means of identifying who has sent which notes.

Typical MUN notepaper includes the name of the delegation, often accompanied by the nation’s flag and sometimes the UN flag, as well as the names and committees of each of the delegates in the delegation, noting the ambassador, and sometimes with a photo of each person. We ask that images and captions remain respectful to the nation being represented. Examples of possible notepaper styles are provided for reference below.