

Virtual Conference - Frequently Asked Questions

When will we get more information?

Research Reports have been uploaded on the website at www.bermun.de/delegates. In the Download section, you can find our BERMUN2 Delegate Instructional Guide and more information about resolution writing. All guides about the virtual aspects of BERMUN2 will be published by February 17.

What is the BERMUN Platform?

A former JFKS student and software developer created a virtual MUN platform to complement a virtual debate's video conference (e.g. Zoom) and enhance future face-to-face conferences. The debate system allows delegates to participate and chairs to manage the debate. Moreover, it provides spaces for communication and sharing of information among individual delegates, within a committee, and delegations across committees. The voting systems and bilateral relations via an interactive world map, and integrated press page create a more engaging and interactive experience. Finally, it allows for pre-conference lobbying and discussion outside the scheduled debate sessions.

How can I get an access code for the BERMUN platform?

The Platform will open up for participants on February 20. Directors will be able to download a list with access codes on Form II of the database. The link to the platform will be available on the BERMUN website.

How will MUN Directors and teachers access and monitor their students on the platform?

Directors and teachers play a critical role in monitoring, coaching, and encouraging their students throughout a Model UN conference, whether virtual or in-person. Therefore, all MUN Directors and teachers will be provided with full access to their participant accounts and all committee sessions on the BERMUN2 Platform. Just like at face-to-face conferences, we ask that faculty and chaperones do not speak or participate in committee sessions so that the debate and resolutions properly reflect the delegates' work.

What steps will be taken to ensure that online meetings are held on a secure platform?

Access to the BERMUN Platform is only granted to those students and directors registered in our BERMUN2 database. Personalized access codes will be distributed to MUN Directors and should not be shared with others. Student Officers and Admin Staff are trained in managing effective video-conferencing and online conference sessions in regards to conduct, technological aspects as well as safety.

Will you be providing resources or training sessions?

Yes! We are offering various resources to help students participate virtually regardless of whether this is their first or twentieth conference. A "Guide to Virtual BERMUN" will be available which will parallel our existing "Delegate Instruction Guide". We will also offer an online training session for all delegates and directors (February 28).

What will the Opening and Closing Ceremonies look like?

Both ceremonies will be shown as a livestream broadcast. Participants will be able to watch online and ask questions during the Q&A time with our keynote speakers during the opening ceremony.

How large will the virtual committees be?

Committees for the 2021 BERMUN2 conference will range from 20 (ICJ, Jr. MUN) to 34 (SC) to 50 (GA3, PC and HRC).

Will there be cookie breaks and guest speakers like at a regular conference?

While a virtual conference will never be the same as an in-person conference, we are working hard to provide a different, yet familiar, atmosphere for BERMUN2 2021. Cookie breaks and lunch/dinner breaks will be coordinated to allow each school/delegation to take breaks at the same time, to encourage socializing as much as possible



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during these restricted times. We will have guest speakers during the Opening Ceremony only. Delegates will have the chance to contribute to the ceremony by sending messages via the platform to the Secretariat.

What is the dress code?

Even though BERMUN2 2021 will be a virtual conference, all participants and faculty advisers should dress in a formal manner suitable for an academic conference. The gentlemen should wear a suit or a jacket, shirt and tie; the ladies likewise a suit and a blouse. *Please dress accordingly.*

How can I contact my Student Officer Team?

After February 22, all participants will have access to the BERMUN2 Platform. Through the messaging features of the platform, participants can contact their Student Officers and other delegates.

Summary Tips for online debate

A detailed guide with lists of recommended equipment and technical requirements as well as best practices will be published in the Virtual BERMUN Conference Guide Delegates & Directors.

- It is highly recommended that you have a reliable internet connection, a good computer, the latest **Zoom App** downloaded (do not only use a web browser/link), a workable video camera, and headphones with a built in speaker to maximize your audibility and minimize other noise.
- Be respectful and professional. Treat all people kindly and act your part as a delegate. If you are experiencing any inappropriate behaviour such as - but not limited to - abusive language, bullying, or inappropriate postings, please address the issue with the participant, take a screenshot, and/or report the incident by contacting your chairs, committee admin and/or your director. Help the BERMUN2 team to make the conference an inclusive and enjoyable experience for all.
- Be prepared to un-/mute yourself on the video call smoothly and quickly to save time for debate. Consider having different tabs/windows open for the various pages of the BERMUN2 platform so that you can transition faster. All delegates must be visible during video calls.
- If you are experiencing technological issues, be patient and contact fellow students at your school or you can reach out to your committee admin, chair or the BERMUN2 Tech Team for assistance.
- Use the platform to its fullest extent! Populate your personal page and contribute to the embassy page with useful information you and others may need during the conference. The platform's pages can be really helpful tools for debate if you know how to use them.

What is the timeline for preparation and deadlines?

February 22 (Mon)	Access codes are distributed to Directors, BERMUN2 Platform opens
February 26 (Fri)	Delegates populate their 'Public Profile' under My Office
February 27 (Sat)	Online Practice Session for Participants (ask your Director for more details) 15:30-17:00 CET
March 1 (Mon)	Ambassadors populate their Embassy page and upload Opening Speech
March 3 (Wed)	Delegates have researched and prepared country policies, resolutions Delegates view speeches and engage with their Ambassador on Embassy page
March 4-6 (Thu -Sat)	BERMUN2 begins - Opening Ceremony and First Committee Sessions See Conference Program for detailed schedule

BERMUN2 XVI

Managing Migration in the 21st Century

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