

# **JCC: JOHN F. KENNEDY CABINET VS NIKITA KHRUSHCHEV CABINET**

**STARTING DATE: 20 JANUARY, 1961**

The JCC: John F. Kennedy Cabinet vs Nikita Khrushchev Cabinet consists of two sides which will hereinafter be referred to as ‘Cabinets’:

**The John F. Kennedy Cabinet**

**The Nikita Khrushchev Cabinet**

## **A. GENERAL PROVISIONS OF THE CONFERENCE**

### **Article 1: Scope**

1. These rules of procedure shall, in their entirety, apply to all sessions of the TED University MUN Conference 2019 (hereinafter referred to as TEDUMUN 2019, the Conference) unless otherwise stated by the Secretariat.
2. These rules are self-sufficient, except for modifications provided by the Secretariat, and will be considered adopted in advance of the session.
3. Only the rules mentioned within this document are applicable throughout the Conference.

### **Article 2: Official Language**

1. English shall be the only official and working language of the Conference.

### **Article 3: Dress Code**

1. The dress code is formal business attire and is mandatory during the Conference.

### **Article 4: Participation**

1. Cabinet Members are participants who constitute the parliamentary discussion within the Cabinets individually.
2. Observers are the participants who are allowed to join the sessions, but do not have a representative role. Thus, they are deprived of any official contribution to sessions or informal talks. The status of an observer is limited to only ‘observing’ the process of the entire Conference.

### **Article 5: Credentials**

1. The credentials of all Cabinet Members have been accepted upon registration.
2. Actions relating to the modification of rights, privileges, or credentials of any Cabinet Member may not be initiated without the written consent of the Secretary-General.
3. Any representative to whose admission a Member objects will provisionally be seated with the same rights as other representatives, pending a decision from the Secretary-General.

4. Badges given upon registration are used to show the verification of credentials. Every participant is required to have their badges with them at all times. TEDUMUN 2019 holds the right to restrict participation of anyone without a badge.

#### **Article 6: Secretariat**

1. The Secretary-General or a member of the Secretariat designated by them at any time may deliver either written or oral statements to the Cabinets.
2. The decisions of the Secretariat shall not be appealable.

#### **Article 7: The Secretary-General**

1. The Secretary-General shall act in full capacity in all meetings of TEDUMUN 2019 and shall perform other functions that are entrusted to them. Decisions taken by the Secretary-General in this context are final.
2. Each Cabinet Member undertakes to exclusively respect the international character and the responsibilities of the Secretary-General and their staff and to not to seek to influence them in the discharge of their responsibilities.

#### **Article 8: Courtesy**

1. All participants shall show diplomatic courtesy at all times.
2. Participants behaving in a crude and/or inappropriate manner may be subject to academic warnings, restricted rights, or expulsion based on the decision of the Secretary-General.

### **B. GENERAL RULES OF THE CABINET: COMPOSITION AND SESSIONS**

#### **Article 9: Quorum**

1. The Cabinets shall commence the parliamentary discussions when at least one half of their Members (as declared at the beginning of the Conference) are present in the Cabinet room.
2. Substantive voting necessitates the presence of a majority of the Members of the Cabinet.
3. A quorum will be assumed to be present during sessions, unless specifically challenged and shown to be absent or deemed as such by the Cabinet Members.
4. The quorum can only be challenged at the very beginning of a session, before moving on to the substantive voting procedure. Challenging the quorum shall be done via Point of Parliamentary Inquiry, Point of Order, or a message paper sent to the President in the John F. Kennedy Cabinet and the Premier in the Nikita Khrushchev Cabinet.

#### **Article 10: Members of the Cabinet**

1. The Cabinet consists of Cabinet Members referred to in Article 4 and the President in in the John F. Kennedy Cabinet and the Premier in the Nikita Khrushchev Cabinet (hereinafter referred to as the Heads of Cabinet, Cabinet Staff).

#### **Article 11: Communication**

1. Written notes are the means of communication between Cabinet Members or between Cabinet Members and Cabinet Staff.

2. Notes are to be distributed by the Administrative Staff present in each Cabinet. Cabinet Members may not convey message papers to other Cabinet Members themselves.
3. All notes must be in English, written in a formal manner, and about the agenda of the Cabinet; otherwise the Administrative Staff may take the note to the Heads of Cabinet for investigation and the Heads of Cabinet may decide not to pass the note if the language or the content is found to be inappropriate.
4. Note-passing can be suspended at any time upon the decision of the Cabinet Staff. This decision is not appealable.
5. Note-passing is automatically suspended during Roll Call, unmoderated caucuses, and voting procedures.

#### **Article 12: Electronic Devices**

1. The use of any electronic devices that allow the participants to communicate among themselves or with those outside of the Cabinet room is strictly prohibited.

### **C. RULES GOVERNING PARLIAMENTARY DISCUSSIONS**

#### **Article 13: Beginning of the Sessions**

1. Each session shall commence with the Roll Call taken by the President in the John F. Kennedy Cabinet and the Premier in the Nikita Khrushchev Cabinet, which shall be performed in alphabetical order.
2. Cabinet Members that have not responded to the Roll Call will be treated as absentees, even if they are physically in the Cabinet, until they send a message paper to the Cabinet Staff stating their status as present.
3. Cabinet Members that have missed more than half of the time allocated for the session cannot alter their statuses from absent. Such Cabinet Members cannot join the debate, nor exercise their voting rights. Cabinet Members marked absent may not join the debate or vote until their status is changed by the Cabinet Staff.
4. Quorum is met when exactly one-half of the Members of the Cabinet are present. Session cannot begin unless the quorum is met.
5. At the beginning of the first session, each Cabinet Member must deliver an Opening Statement in their respective Cabinet which will last for a maximum of 60 seconds.
6. A General Speaker's Lists **shall not** be established and the President or the Premier shall declare the floor open for any points or motions.

#### **Article 14: Specific Powers of the Heads of Cabinet**

1. Any document or action plan will be null and void instantly, with a declaration from the President or the Premier.
2. The President in the John F. Kennedy Cabinet shall cast a tie-breaker vote during the voting procedures; however, in an ordinary voting procedure with no even votes, he shall have an equal vote with every other Member of the Cabinet.

3. The Premier in the Nikita Khrushchev Cabinet, per his discretion, shall employ voting as a formality and indication of the opinion of the Cabinet, but retains ultimate veto power over any and all decisions; this power is not appealable.

#### **Article 15: Motions Governing the Debate**

There exist only two types of Caucuses: Semi-Moderated Caucuses and Unmoderated Caucuses.

1. Semi-Moderated Caucus
  - a. A Semi-Moderated Caucus is a caucus that takes place within the formal proceeding of the Cabinet's session. Its purpose is to facilitate debate on specific issues.
  - b. The Cabinet Member raising the motion must briefly explain the purpose of the Semi-Moderated Caucus. They **do not** specify a total time limit or a time limit for individual speeches.
  - c. The President or the Premier is the only authority with the means of deciding the total time of the Caucus and may interrupt or terminate the speech of any Cabinet Member.
  - d. In Semi-Moderated Caucuses, the right to speak will be granted by the President or the Premier and Cabinet Members may remain seated while they are delivering their speech.
  - e. The maximum time duration of a speech is 5 minutes.
  - f. A "*Motion for a Semi-Moderated Caucus*" requires a simple majority to pass.
2. Unmoderated Caucuses
  - a. An Unmoderated Caucus is a caucus that takes place within the formal proceeding of the Cabinet's session. Its purpose is to facilitate formal lobbying time for working on documents.
  - b. The motion for an unmoderated caucus is in order any time the floor is open.
  - c. The Cabinet Member introducing the motion must briefly explain the purpose of the caucus and specify a time limit, not to exceed twenty minutes. The Heads of Cabinet may alter the time limit for the caucus.
  - d. A "*Motion for an Unmoderated Caucus*" will be put to a vote and its adoption requires a simple majority of the Cabinet Members.
  - e. The Heads of Cabinet may rule the motion out of order and appealing their decision is not possible.
  - f. Delegates **are strictly forbidden** from accessing any electronic device during the unmoderated caucuses.

#### **Article 16: Motion for an Extension**

7. When the time allocated for an unmoderated caucus comes to an end, motions for extensions shall be in order. Motion for an extension shall be given right after a caucus has lapsed.
8. The extension shall never exceed the time determined for the original caucus.
9. An unmoderated caucus shall only be extended once.

### **Article 17: Termination of the Caucus**

1. At any time during a semi-moderated or unmoderated caucus, any delegate may raise a "*Motion to Terminate the Debate*" and this motion shall be put to a vote immediately.
2. For a motion for the termination of the caucus to be given, the Cabinet Staff does not have to announce that the floor is open.
3. The motion requires simple majority to pass.
4. The Heads of Cabinet may overrule this motion and their decision is non-appealable.

### **Article 18: Closure of Debate**

1. A Cabinet Member may propose a motion for closure of debate at any time when the floor is open.
2. The Heads of Cabinet may rule such a motion out of order and their decision is not subject to appeal.
3. Upon the motion, the President or the Premier may recognize up to two speakers against the motion.
4. Closure of debate necessitates a two-thirds majority.
5. After closure of debate, the Committee proceeds to an immediate vote on the documents on the floor.

### **Article 19: Suspension and Adjournment of the Meeting**

1. A Cabinet Member may propose a motion for a suspension of the meeting for a specified time with the purpose of suspending all Cabinet functions until the next session.
2. A Cabinet Member may propose a motion for the adjournment of the meeting to suspend all Cabinet functions for the duration of the Conference.
3. The Heads of Cabinet may rule such motions out of order and these decisions are not subject to appeal.
4. There are no debates for these motions, for they are immediately put to a vote and will require a simple majority to pass.
5. A motion to adjourn the meeting will be out of order until three-quarters of the time allotted for the last session has elapsed.

### **Article 20: Tabling (Postponement) and Resumption of Debate**

1. Whenever the floor is open, a Cabinet Member may raise a motion for the postponement of debate on a document currently on the floor.
2. This motion requires a two-thirds majority to pass and will be debatable to the extent of one speaker in favor and one against.
3. No debate or action will be allowed on any document on which debate has been postponed.
4. A motion to resume debate on a document on which debate has been postponed will require a simple majority to pass and will be debatable to the extent of one speaker in favor and one against.

## D. RULES GOVERNING POINTS

### Article 21: Point of Personal Privilege

1. Cabinet Members may request the Cabinet Staff to correct discomforts that hamper their ability to participate in the proceedings such as the room temperature or audibility.
2. Since the “*Point of Personal Privilege due to Inaudibility*” is the only point that may interrupt the speaker, Cabinet Members are kindly requested to pay utmost attention in its usage.

### Article 22: Point of Order

1. During the discussion of any matter, a Cabinet Member may raise a “*Point of Order*” to indicate an instance of improper parliamentary procedure.
2. The point of order will be immediately decided by the Heads of Cabinet in accordance with these Rules of Parliamentary Procedure. The Heads of Cabinet may rule out of order those points that are improper.
3. A Cabinet Member raising a point of order may not speak on the substance of the matter under discussion unless the President or the Premier specifically requests the Cabinet Member to do so in a limited amount of time specified by the President or the Premier.
4. A point of order may only interrupt a speaker if the speech is not following proper parliamentary procedure. A point of order concerning other parliamentary procedures shall be raised after the Cabinet Members have finished their speeches.

### Article 23: Point of Parliamentary Inquiry

1. A Cabinet Member may raise a “*Point of Parliamentary Inquiry*” to ask the President or Premier a question regarding the rules of the procedure.
2. This point can never interrupt a speaker.

### Article 24: Point of Information

1. A Cabinet Member may raise a “Point of Information” to ask the President or Premier a question regarding the substance of the proceedings.
2. This point cannot interrupt a speaker.

## E. RULES GOVERNING DOCUMENTS

### Article 25: Collective Directives

1. A collective directive is a motion, action plan, or strategy adopted by the Cabinet as a legal document. Since it is considered as the declarative will of the Cabinet (signed by all Cabinet Members), it is adopted by consensus of the Members present.
2. A directive **cannot** be adopted without the presence and consent of the President or Premier.
3. Directives vary regarding their content:
  - a. Political Directives: A political directive may entail all measures including but not limited to emergency legal measures, removal of officials at or below ministerial level, actions conducted through or regarding civil servants, and press conferences.

- b. **Military Directives:** A military directive will entail any executive order regarding all military measures, including but not limited to air strikes, deployment of forces, and no fly zones.
- c. **Ministerial Directives:** A ministerial directive is a unilateral executive order from a minister, or ministerial-level government official within the capacity bestowed upon them, on the expertise, topic, or field of assignment. A ministerial directive can be drafted without the presence of the President or the Premier in the Cabinet room; however, the document will be null and void instantly with a declaration from the President or the Premier.
- d. **Joint-Ministerial Directives:** One or more Ministers, or ministerial level officials may draft and execute a joint-ministerial directive, however the executive action to be taken from thereon must be within the capacity of the Minister(s). The number of drafters of a joint-ministerial directive must always be one less than the Cabinet Members present, or it will be classified as a collective directive. A joint ministerial directive can be drafted without the presence of the President or the Premier in the Cabinet room; however, the document will be null and void instantly with a declaration from the President or the Premier.

#### **Article 26: Diplomatic Instruments**

1. **Diplomatic Notes:** Diplomatic notes are used for correspondence and are a formal communication between governments, speaking on behalf of and under the direction of the government presenting it.
2. **Note Verbal:** A note verbal is an informal diplomatic note. A note verbal can be directed to a foreign ambassador or head of a ministry of foreign affairs, and starts with a diplomatic courtesy phrase. The note is delivered by an office director or higher rank, or an officer authorized by the chief of mission.
3. **Note Collective:** A note collective is a joint note written by two, or more, governments to one, or more, government(s).

#### **Article 27: Directive Format and Approval**

1. Directives require the statement of authority, signatures, and the action that will take place.
2. Directives, whether they are voted upon or not, require the approval of the President or the Premier to be recognized and debated upon.
3. Directives **must** be directly submitted to the respective Heads of Cabinet via message paper when their drafting is finalized.
4. If the Heads of Cabinet accept the content of the submitted Directive, they shall put the document to a vote in the respective Cabinet.

### **F. RULES GOVERNING VOTING PROCEDURES**

#### **Article 28: Procedural Voting**

1. Procedural voting is in order in all cases except for voting on a document.
2. Procedural voting does not accommodate abstentions, thus requires all Cabinet Members to cast an affirmative vote or a negative vote. In the event that the counted votes are less

than the number of Cabinet Members present; the Cabinet Staff shall take the vote repetitively until the number is met.

3. Note passing is automatically suspended during procedural voting.
4. Procedural voting procedures will be exercised through raising placards unless the Cabinet Directors choose to ease the process via seconds and objections. The procedure in that case shall go as follows:
  - a. For motions that require simple majority to pass, the Directors shall ask first for seconds and then for objections as, “*Are there any seconds/objections?*” Delegates who are in favor of the motion shall say “*Second!*” while those who are against shall say “*Objection!*” accordingly. If there are no seconds raised, the motion shall automatically fail and if there are no objections raised, the motion shall automatically pass without a voting procedure.
  - b. For motions that require 2/3 majority to pass, the Heads of Cabinet shall first ask for seconds, as, “*Are there any seconds?*” Cabinet Members who are in favor of the motion shall say “*Second!*” If there are no seconds raised, the motion shall automatically fail. If there are seconds to the motion, the Heads of Cabinet shall then move on to objections. In case no objections are raised, the Heads of Cabinet shall repeat “*Are there any objections?*” for a total of three times. If the consent of the Cabinet is thus confirmed, with no objections for all three times the question is repeated, the Cabinet shall surpass the procedure envisaged in relevant Articles.

#### **Article 29: Substantive Voting**

1. The only substantive voting is on documents, with each Cabinet Member having one vote.
2. Note passing is automatically suspended during substantive voting.
3. Each vote may be a ‘yes’, ‘no’ or ‘abstain’ unless otherwise is provided in these Rules of Parliamentary Procedure.
4. All matters will be voted upon by placards unless otherwise is provided in these Rules of Parliamentary Procedure.
5. Abstentions shall be added to both for and against votes.
6. Abstentions shall not damage the consensus.
7. After the Heads of Cabinet have announced the beginning of voting, no Cabinet Member shall interrupt the voting except with a point of personal privilege or a point of order in connection with the conduct of the voting.

#### **G. PRECEDENCE**

##### **Article 30: Precedence of Points and Motions**

1. Points shall always have precedence over motions.
2. The precedence of points and motions is as follows:

Point of Personal Privilege

Point of Order

Point of Parliamentary Inquiry

Point of Information

Motion to Adjourn the Meeting

Motion to Suspend the Meeting

Motion to Close the Debate

Motion to Table (Postpone) the Debate

Motion to Resume the Debate

Motion to Extend the Previous Caucus

Motion for an Unmoderated Caucus

Motion for a Semi-Moderated Caucus

3. Upon the proposal of more than one unmoderated caucuses, the longer unmoderated caucus motion shall be put to vote first.