



International Space Station (ISS)



Topic: Crisis Topic

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I. Quorum

| | | |
|------------|---------------|-----------------------|
| -Argentina | -Italy | -Spain |
| -Australia | -Japan | -Sweden |
| -Belgium | -Kazakhstan | -Ukraine |
| -Canada | -Malaysia | -United Arab Emirates |
| -China | -Mexico | -United Kingdom |
| -France | -Netherlands | -United States |
| -Germany | -Norway | |
| -India | -Russia | |
| -Indonesia | -South Africa | |
| -Israel | -South Korea | |



II. Crisis Committee

- What is a crisis committee?

A crisis committee is a special group used in Model United Nations (MUN) where people make important decisions quickly. In a crisis committee, participants pretend to be leaders of a country that needs to respond to a sudden and serious problem, like a conflict or emergency.

Different from regular debates, these committees are quick, with new events or upgrades happening often to keep everyone thinking about solutions. The goal is to come up with smart and quick solutions as the situation changes. This helps people practice working as a team, thinking under pressure, and solving problems in real time.

III. How does it work?

A crisis committee operates in two main types of sessions: moderated and unmoderated. During the moderated caucus, crisis topics are introduced and expanded. Participants must raise their placards to be recognized and should wait for the Chair to call them before speaking in the moderated caucus. In the unmoderated caucus, participants talk about solutions to the crisis with the other participants. Every session is timed and watched by the chair. The chiefs will continue to bring updates on the crisis.

IV. What is the ISS?

The International Space Station (ISS) was created by five space agencies: NASA (United States), Roscosmos (Russia), the European Space Agency (ESA), the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA), and the Canadian Space Agency (CSA). Launched in 1998. The ISS is a special laboratory in space that allows scientists to do experiments that are impossible to do on Earth.



One job of the ISS is to study how long space travel affects the human body. This research is important for planning future missions to places like Mars, where astronauts will stay for a long time. The ISS has contributed to advancements in medical technology, including improvements in healthcare and drug development. For example, they have tested new treatments for diseases like osteoporosis, which is important for maintaining astronaut health during long missions. The ISS is a great success in the world. It began in 2000, the station has turned from a basic base into a strong laboratory for experiments in microgravity.

The ISS is important because it helps us explore what's outside of the planet, learn more about our world, and prepare us for a future, like living on Mars. They give us information about things we don't know yet. They do research and they work together with other countries. It also helps us monitor global climate and environmental change.

V. Topic Information

Canada is involved in the ISS, accepting Canadian scientists to do important research that benefits people in Canada. Canada has made a lot of discoveries about how people live and work in space.

Astronauts on the ISS are protected by Earth's atmosphere; missions to places like Mars will expose astronauts to even more radiation and greater challenges due to the long duration and isolation. The Canadian Space Agency works with the ISS to study these health risks and find ways to keep astronauts healthy and improve space travel.

Japan is also important in the ISS with its "Kibo" module, meaning "hope" in Japanese. This module, built and operated by Japan, allows astronauts to do experiments in space's environment. The European Space Agency (ESA), is Europe's entrance to space. ESA makes sure that investments in space benefit both Europeans and people around the world. ESA is involved in various things: space exploration, scientific research, designing launch vehicles, improving navigation, monitoring Earth with satellites, and going to space safely.

Roscosmos, Russia's space agency, is a big partner in the ISS program. Russia



contributed with two important modules, *Zarya* and *Zvezda*.

The space station is important because it allows humans to live and work in space continuously. Since the first crew arrived in the ISS, there has always been someone aboard. Also, China is not part of the ISS due to a U.S. law that prevents NASA from working with China on space projects. The crew of seven astronauts live and work aboard the ISS, traveling at a speed of five miles per second and orbiting Earth approximately every 90 minutes.

VI. UN Actions

The United Nations believes space is important for peace and development. The International Space Station (ISS) helps with important research in medicine, climate change, and technology. It also helps the UN encourage countries to work together and share knowledge for the good of everyone.

Since it was created, the ISS has helped with the UN's goals, especially in health, education, climate action, and sustainability. The ISS allows experiments that can't be done on Earth, which has helped scientists learn more about human health, how to respond to disasters, and how to monitor climate change.

VII. Current Issues

The International Space Station is facing a lot of challenges as it gets older. Since its launch in 1998, the station has become old, with parts of it showing tears, such as leaks and failures. Also the ISS is getting more expensive, and fixing these issues is becoming harder. This concerns the safety of astronauts, as problems with air quality and the station's structure could put their lives at risk.

Another problem is the high cost of keeping the ISS working, especially for NASA, which has paid a lot of expenses. The ISS has cost over \$100 billion to build and maintain. NASA plans to transition to new space stations in 2030, which may be the end of the ISS. Space junk is becoming a bigger danger for the ISS. As more satellites



and spacecraft are launched, the amount of junk around the Earth has increased. A clean space is needed to protect the station and other future space missions.

VIII. Guiding Questions

Position papers are not required for crisis committee participants. However, to prepare for the simulation, we recommend you research the following topics related to the crisis:

- The risks of space station malfunctions and the importance of repairs.
- NASA's response times in emergencies.
- The role of countries working together on space missions during emergencies.
- The security and safety tracking measures and protocols used for spacecraft and astronauts in the ISS.

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