



ADMUN 2020

Background Guide

Historical Committee

Developing a New Nation

Welcome Letter

Hello delegates! We are excited to be your chairs at ADMUN 2020. Our names are Emerson Rising and Clara Doyle, 7th and 6th-grade students at Alice Deal Middle School. We chose this committee because we are interested in history, especially the revolutionary war. We love model UN and look forward to the chance of sharing this fun experience with you! If you have any questions, feel free to contact us at ERADmodelun@gmail.com. Delegates should bring two copies of the position paper to the conference: one for the chair and one for yourself. Please see the Position Paper rubric on our ADMUN website for specifications. We look forward to seeing you on April 4th!

Emerson and Clara

Committee Background

The First Continental Congress originally convened on September 5, 1774, with all colonies present except Georgia. The purpose of this meeting was to get rid of the Coercive Acts, which closed the port of Boston to merchant shipping. The First Continental Congress was also created to provide a voice to the colonies. Overall, the First Continental Congress served as the government during that time. The Second Continental Congress came together on May 10, 1775 in Philadelphia to decide how to deal with the impending British military threat. This committee had many of the same delegates as the First Congress and struggled to finance the war. The Second Continental Congress committee lasted until 1781 when it was succeeded by the Congress of the Confederation until 1789. This Model UN committee is tasked with forming a new government with each colony's best interests in mind once the war ended. This committee will take place on April 4, 1787, about four years after the Treaty of Paris Was ratified and represents the Confederation Congress.

Topic Background

Topic 1: Governmental Structure

After the Revolutionary War, the states were governed by the Articles of Confederation. Most countries, having been established over a long period of time, had not experienced the need for a government revision as the early years of the new United States did. These historic countries were often monarchies because the kings and queens told the people they had the God-given right to rule. England is especially notable because it is a constitutional monarchy, so there were more checks and balances on what the king or queen could do. In the years following the victory at Yorktown, the Confederation Congress stumbled through the Articles of Confederation before settling on the Constitution as the most efficient way to ensure peace and prosperity for the country. Delegates in this committee can decide on any governmental strategies including but not limited to Democracy, Monarchy, Fascism, Oligarchy, Dictatorship, Theocracy, Communism, and Republic. After deciding on the type of government, delegates are encouraged to decide upon include setups of postal, military, and food, and other systems. Delegates are reminded that they do NOT have to follow the actual United States foundation. When creating the government delegates should consider how to best gather the people's approval as their main criteria.

Topic 2: Banking System

During the Revolutionary War, one of the major problems for the Continental Congress was money and since it was an informal government, it could not tax people which made funding the Continental Army hard. They attempted to ask states and wealthy landowners, but funding was always low. The debt crisis of the 1780s, caused by the debt incurred from the American

Revolution, was narrowly avoided by extending debt payments, and imprisonment for debt was relaxed. In 1781, the Bank of North America opened under the control of mastermind Robert Morris, however, this bank was just a first attempt and slowly fizzled out as Alexander Hamilton slowly took over the banking industry. In the last decade and a half of the 18th century, many currencies including Spanish, Portuguese, French, and British were used, and exchange rates fluctuated among geographic regions. Delegates must decide what currency to use and how to get the best exchange rate out of it. Delegates must also find a reasonable tax rate and other sources of money for the new country. In addition to this, a stable economy is needed to help economics and businesses grow. In order to do this, some type of banking system, either central or decentralized is mandatory to keep the economy afloat.

Questions to Consider

What type of government will the new country be?

How will slaves be treated?

What will happen to Native Americans?

How will the Government be organized?

How will the banking system be organized?

What currency will be used?

How will the government make money?

Committee Delegates

Note: There is one representative from each colony as well as six other prominent people during the era. The list is organized alphabetically by colony, with other people at the top.

Prince Hall:

An African American Freemason activist during the Revolutionary War

Samuel Huntington:

Represents Connecticut, 7th President of the Continental Congress

John Dickinson:

Represents Delaware

Lyman Hall:

Represents Georgia, first Georgian delegate to the Continental Congress (Second), Signer of the Declaration, and Governor of Georgia

Charles Carroll:

Represents Maryland, the richest person in the colonies, a Signer of the Declaration

John Adams:

Represents Massachusetts, Lawyer, Signer of the Declaration

Samuel Adams:

Represents Massachusetts, founder of the Sons of Liberty

Josiah Bartlett:

Represents New Hampshire, sometimes the only delegate from New Hampshire, serving on all the committees

William Patterson:

Represents New Jersey, a man who held legal positions

Alexander Hamilton:

Represents New York, an orphan who is interested in the banking system.

John Jay:

Represents New York, Sixth president of the Continental Congress

Samuel Johnston:

Represents North Carolina, elected to, but declined the presidency of the Convention

Benjamin Franklin:

Represents Pennsylvania, multi-professional, Founder and head of the postal service

David Howell:

Represents Rhode Island, a lawyer who became attorney general of Rhode Island

John Rutledge:

Represents South Carolina

Thomas Jefferson:

Represents Virginia, drafted the Declaration of Independence

George Washington:

Represents Virginia, Founding Father and military commander during the Revolutionary War

James Madison:

Represents Virginia

Peyton Randolph:

Represents Virginia, the president of the First Continental Congress

Research Links

[https://www.history.com/topics/american-revolution/the-continental-congress.](https://www.history.com/topics/american-revolution/the-continental-congress)

[https://www.britannica.com/topic/Continental-Congress.](https://www.britannica.com/topic/Continental-Congress)

[http://ohiohistorycentral.org/w/Confederation_Congress?rec=2327.](http://ohiohistorycentral.org/w/Confederation_Congress?rec=2327)

<https://courses.lumenlearning.com/boundless-ushistory/chapter/the-second-continental-congress/>

<https://www.ushistory.org/us/14d.asp>

https://ohiohistorycentral.org/w/Confederation_Congress

<https://history.house.gov/People/Continental-Congress/Continental-Confederation-Congresses/>