

Western European MEP VI: Lier

CULT PREP MODULE: COMMITTEE ON CULTURE AND EDUCATION

1 COMMITTEE MEETINGS

1.1 Purpose

During the committee meetings you'll work, debate, and discuss the existing issue, to write the best resolution possible. To successfully complete this task, good preparation, dedication, and cooperation is required.

1.2 Process

1) Creation of the IC's:

The first thing we'll do is brainstorm about the IC's. This means that all committee members can submit their IC suggestions about what seems most important to them. After that, all committee members will get the chance to share their opinions and thoughts on the proposed IC. This can be about why they're so important, but also about why they should be removed, merged with another IC proposal.

2) Reformulation of the IC's:

When the debate about the IC's is finished, there will be time to rephrase the IC's (if this is necessary). This step's really important because there are strict guidelines about the formulation of IC's.

3) OC-brainstorm:

Firstly, there will be a little brainstorm to get the debate started/going. We won't spend much time on this step.

4) The creation of OC's:

Once the debate has started, we'll see where it takes us. Some OC's will take more time than others, but we can't predict that.

5) Reformulation of the OC's:

When the debate about an OC is finished, someone (or a small group) will get the chance to reformulate the OC, so that the guidelines about the formulation are being followed. When the reformulated OC is approved, the debate about that OC will be closed, so that we can move on to a new OC.

1.3 Rules

a) Electronic devices:

During the debate, the use of electronic devices isn't allowed. This means that you should bring everything (arguments, statistics, articles, pictures...) you want to use during the debate, on paper. We apply this rule to encourage profound research before the session and to ensure attention during the committee meetings.

b) Politeness:

- **Addressing everyone correctly**
 - *CP's and presidency*: Madame/Mister president
 - *Committee members*: The delegate of X

- **Asking for the floor:**
 - When you want the chance to speak, you have to raise your plague-card (you'll receive this during the first committee meeting).
 - You only speak when one of the CP's says you can, and you always thank them for the floor ("Thank you for the floor, Madame/Mister President")
 - Raising your card while anyone else is speaking won't be tolerated, as well as interrupting them

- **General rules:**
 - you can stay seated while you're speaking, because otherwise the debate won't go fluently
 - when the presidency enters the room, you always stand up immediately
 - you always speak through the CP, so without the use of personal pronouns:
I don't think your argument is valuable because...
I don't agree with the argument that the delegate of X brought up because...

c) Dresscode:

- **Committee meetings, *business casual*:**
 - *Boys*: dress pants, shirt, turtleneck... full suit and tie is not mandatory during the meetings
 - *Girls*: dress pants, appropriate skirt or dress, blouse, turtleneck...

- **General Assembly, *formal***
 - *Boys*: full suit, (bow)tie, dress shoes
 - *Girls*: dress pants, suit, heels/flats, skirt...

NOTE: Sneakers, crop tops, jeans... are not allowed

2 Point of View

We wish to have meaningful debates during our committee meetings and that you are prepared to discuss the issue. Therefore, we ask you as a delegate for the Culture and Education committee to write a document in which you express your opinion about the issue regarding our committee. We want a clear standing from you about the topic. The document needs to be a minimum of 1 page and is to be submitted to us via email on **Sunday 11/02 before 11.59 pm that day**.

3 General Assembly

3.1 Purpose

During the general assembly, every committee will get the chance to present and defend their resolutions. After a long debate (see 'process') the members of other committees will decide whether the resolution is approved or disapproved (by means of a vote).

3.2 Process

The Presidency calls for the members of the first committee to present their resolution to the General Assembly. (The committee is usually seated in front of the GA).

We want every delegate to have read the document about the procedure of the GA. If you have question about this, you can ask us.

General Assembly procedure:

https://www.mepbelgium.be/files/ugd/d47537_5e37713be2474cfb830538de46e0fee7.pdf

3.3 Rules

a) Electronic devices:

During the General Assembly, the use of electronic devices is not allowed. This means that you should bring everything you want to use during the debate on paper. We apply this rule to encourage profound research before the session and to ensure attention during the general assembly. You will have all the resolutions printed out and given in advance of the General Assembly.

b) Politeness:

– Addressing everyone correctly

- *CP's and presidency*: Madame/Mister president
- *Committee members*: The committee member of X / The delegate of X

– Asking for the floor:

- When you want to speak, you have to raise your plague-card.

- You only speak when one of the presidents give you the word, and you always thank them for the floor (“Thank you for the floor, Madame/Mister President”)
 - You should lower your plaque-card when someone else is speaking and raising your card while anyone else is speaking won’t be tolerated, as well as interrupting them.
- **General rules:**
- When you are given the floor, you stand up, so everyone can see who’s talking.
 - Before you start speaking, you make sure the buttons of your suit are closed.
 - You always speak through the presidents, so without the use of personal pronouns:
I don’t think your argument is valuable because...
I don’t agree with the argument that the delegate of X brought up because...
 - In some cases, the Presidency will ask you if you want a follow up question, you thank for the floor again and ask for a follow up or not if the answer was clear enough.

4 Evaluation

- **Preparation:** How much you researched about the current policies in your country or in the EU, the (historical) context and evolution through the years...
- **Participation:** How much you participate in the debates, and how qualitative the arguments you bring up are. You will be evaluated in the committee meetings as well as the GA.
- **Appearance under General Assembly:** How much you participate under the GA makes a big part of how you are evaluated. The way you defend the resolution and how much, if your answers and questions are formulated well, if you speak in a clear and precise way...
- **Listening:** How close attention you pay to other’s arguments, and what you do with the information you receive by them.
- **Compromising:** How much you engage yourself in negotiations, and the willingness to find an appropriate compromise if needed.
- **Respect:** Do you address everyone correctly, is your language use appropriate, do you always speak via the CP or do your arguments look more like personal attacks...?
- **General attitude:** Being on time, following the dress codes, being friendly towards others, being respectful towards others and the material.

5 Contact information

Sien Vets - Belgium

**MEP-experience:**

- Delegate national MEP 2022, Koekelberg, Belgium
- Committee President National MEP 2023, Dworp, Belgium

E-mail:

Sien.vets@leerling.sgclier.be

Phone number:

+32 474 04 90 69

Sara Sabeta - Norway

**MEP-experience**

- Delegate International MEP Berlin, Germany 2021
- Delegate National MEP Norway 2021, 2022
- Delegate MEP Helsinki, Finland 2023
- Committee President MEP Baltic Sea Region Utoya, Norway 2023
- Vice President National MEP Norway

E-mail:

Sabetasara@gmail.com

Phone number:

+47 97 32 45 16

6 Practical

You can find our contact details above. If you have any questions at all, you can always ask us. Besides that, we would like to ask you all to send us your phone numbers, so that we can make a group chat on WhatsApp. That will make communicating much easier.