



# NEXUS

## MODEL UNITED NATIONS

### BASIC CHITS

#### 1.1. Introduction

- In addition to verbal debates, committees use a structured written system of communication on paper sheets known as “chits”. There are times when the fixed-time speeches often prevent delegates from fully presenting their research; chits then serve as an intermediate.
- Chits are handwritten on designated notepads during committee sessions and must follow a specific structure. These notes can be directed either to fellow delegates or to the Executive Board, depending on their purpose.
- There is no set limit on the number of chits a delegate can submit, and there is no fixed marking system. Evaluation criteria are set by the Executive Board and shared once quorum has been established.
- Chits are mainly divided into four types: Via EB / POI Chits, Substantive Chits, Transitive Chits, and To-EB Chits.

#### 2. Substantive Chits

- Substantive chits are sent only to the Executive Board and aim to share well-reasoned, agenda-related content that is analytically important. These chits allow delegates to submit arguments, insights, or policy evaluations directly for review.
- To be effective, a substantive chit needs to show depth of thought, relevance, and clear reasoning. Highlighting critical points is encouraged to help with quick assessment. Delegates should keep it concise while ensuring intellectual strength.



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- Due to time limits during speeches and caucuses, delegates might not be able to present all their intended arguments orally. Substantive chits provide a way to submit overlooked points or summarize key aspects of an unrepresented speech.
- Delegates are advised to refrain from submitting multiple chits with identical points, as the evaluation criteria prioritize quality and coherence. Excessive quantity, if marked on average, may inadvertently diminish the overall score.
- Delegates should make substantive contributions that go beyond mere presentation of facts or statistics. They should provide context, explaining the importance of an issue, its relevance to the agenda, and its potential consequences.

### 3. Format for Substantive Chit

Substantive Chit  
To: Executive Board  
From: Your Portfolio

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### 4. Via EB / POI / Question Chits

- Via EB chits, also known as POI chits, are used to formally ask questions or seek clarification from other delegates. These chits provide a controlled way for delegates to inquire while keeping proper decorum in the committee.
- Each POI chit must include four key elements: the sender's portfolio, the recipient's portfolio, the phrase "Via: Executive Board," and the actual question. Although the chit is meant for another delegate, the Executive Board reviews it before it is delivered.



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- Delegates can use POI chits to challenge claims, ask for evidence, or explore policy positions. While limited exchanges can occur, all communication must strictly pertain to the committee's agenda.
- Delegates can respond to POI chits. Responses must be written on a separate chit attached to the original, clearly stating both portfolios and the phrase "Via: Executive Board," followed by a structured answer or justification.
- The Executive Board evaluates POI chits. Including "Via: Executive Board" is required for grading. Chits without this specification will not be considered for evaluation.
- Movement of a POI Chit within the Committee
- A delegate drafts a chit and signals to an OC member. The chit is submitted to the Executive Board for review and grading. The OC member delivers the approved chit to the recipient. The recipient drafts a reply and signals the OC. The response is routed back to the Executive Board for evaluation. The signed reply is returned to the original sender.
- It is important to know that delegates do not have to respond to POI chits and can choose not to answer if they wish.

### 5. Format of Via EB / POI / Question Chit and Reply Chit

Point Of Information Chit

To: receiver's portfolio

From: your portfolio

Via: EB

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Reply Chit

To: receiver's portfolio

From- your portfolio

Via- EB

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### 6. To-EB Chits

- Chits sent to the Executive Board serve a procedural purpose and are different from communication between delegates. Their most common purpose is to request inclusion on the speakers' list.
- Such chits must be concise, formal, and technical. Delegates should not try to have lengthy interactions with the Chair through written notes. Questions not related to procedure should be raised through a Point of Parliamentary Inquiry.
- If a question requires a lot of explanation, it should be discussed during an unmoderated caucus or break to avoid disrupting committee proceedings.

### 7. Format of To-EB Chits

To: The Executive Board

From: your portfolio

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### 8. Transitive Chits

- Transitive chits allow direct communication between delegates without Executive Board oversight. They are mainly used for clarification, negotiation, and informal diplomatic exchanges.
- These chits are helpful when something said during formal debate needs further explanation. For example, a delegate might want clarification on a policy proposal or to check the implications of another delegate's position.
- The format is similar to POI chits, but "Via: Executive Board" is left out. Since these chits bypass the Executive Board, they are not evaluated and do not carry marks.

### 9. Format of Transitive Chits

To: receiver's portfolio  
From: your portfolio

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### 10. Guidelines for Writing Effective Chits

- Delegates are encouraged to focus on quality rather than volume when submitting chits. Each chit should provide a unique, well-researched contribution instead of generic or repetitive questions.
- Questions should be based on credible research and directly connected to the flow of debate. Broad, unfocused inquiries offer limited value.
- Clarity and precision are crucial. Delegates should avoid unnecessary elaboration and concentrate on relevance.



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- Doing research on other countries' policy positions and weaknesses before the committee is recommended. Preparing a list of potential questions will help strategize during debate.
- The best time to submit a POI chit is right after a delegate's speech.
- Substantive chits should ideally stay within 80 words and should not repeat points already made in committee unless adding new insight.
- Finally, delegates must be mindful of timing and frequency. Well-timed and spaced chit submissions can significantly enhance their effectiveness.

