



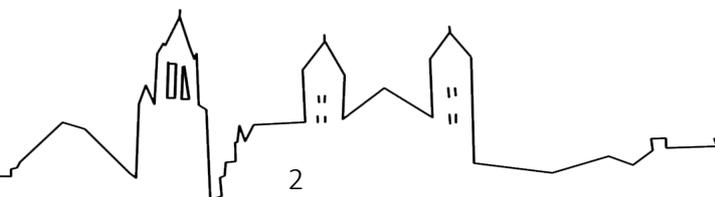
2nd – 5th of May 2019

Assessment Report

Group of 20

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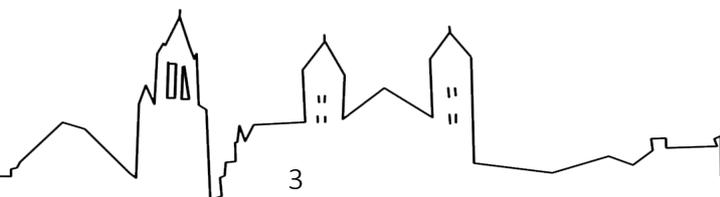
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Welcome Letter from the Secretariat

Dear delegates,

The EuroMUN 2019 Secretariat would like to warmly welcome you to the 11th edition of this conference. We are excited to provide an academically challenging experience which will motivate you to engage in insightful discussion while exploring our lovely city through the planned social program. Hopefully, you will enjoy the various events that will accompany the sessions, such as our talent night, our delegate's ball and our scavenger hunt through the city.

Our conference attracts individuals from over fifty nations to the city of Maastricht. This means that you will encounter points of view that are very dissimilar to your own. See this conference as an opportunity to push yourself outside of your comfort zone, alongside people who might seem different, but at their core, just like you, are looking to expand their horizons beyond what they are confronted with at home. Be respectful but don't be afraid to challenge your beliefs and have them challenged in return. EuroMUN is a forum for discussion: take advantage of it, challenge yourself.

The slogan for this year's edition of EuroMUN is: Exploring the European Idea.

The European Idea is not geographically limited, but it refers to the goals of European integration. It demonstrates a move away from wide-scale disputes and towards collaboration. Every institution, organization, body, and committee represented at EuroMUN reflects the same idea: the will to work together instead of against each other. That is what is at the core of this notion.

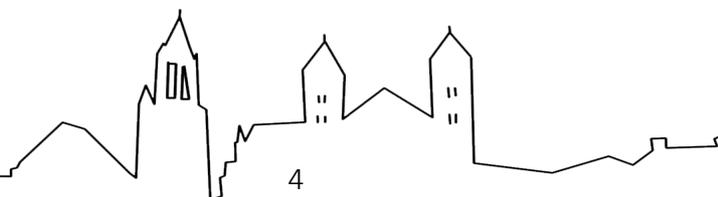
On that premise, the secretariat would like to pose the following question to you: What does the European Idea mean to you? Is it being connected through a common history? Or is it about staying united through adversity, change and the distinct characteristics of our culturally rich community?

Maastricht, the city where the Treaty on European Union was signed, provides the perfect backdrop to explore this concept. As the university hosts a diverse community of students from all over the world it truly demonstrates the possibilities the move towards collaboration can bring to the individual and the community. While we might not always fully appreciate the former, the benefits are not to be taken for granted. The environment in Maastricht and the assembly of delegates permit EuroMUN, now for the 11th time to provide this unique experience. Without each of these components, it would be impossible to replicate.

We hope that you enjoy your time at the European Model United Nations Conference 2019.

When in doubt: #fruitful

The EuroMUN Secretariat



Letter from the Chairs

Honourable delegates,

It is our pleasure to welcome you to this year's iteration of The Group of 20 at EuroMUN 2019. Although the committee itself cannot really go in line with the conference's slogan of "exploring the European idea", it could be adapted to read "exploring the global idea", since that is precisely what you as heads of state and government will be doing.

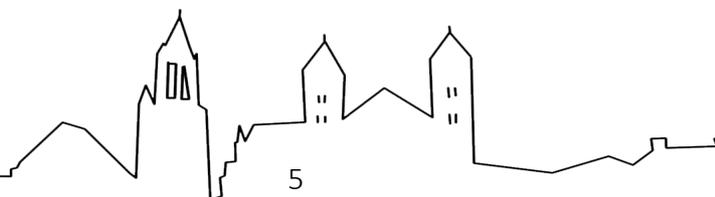
The Group of 20 has been growing in importance in the last few years, and the topics of their discussions have become increasingly crucial to shaping global trade. The topic that we have chosen for you this year is the factor that connects all matters of international trade: institutions.

Now, you're probably thinking that such a topic might seem too vague or broad to be discussed in detail. But that is precisely the point. The committee will be following the Consensus Based Approach – CBA – (more on that later), meaning that you will be given the opportunity to discuss anything that seems relevant to you in the overarching topic. This allows the debate to be more representative of what actual G20 summits are like, where each head of state can bring matters of importance to their countries to be discussed.

You will be tasked with looking into trade as whole, and how different international bodies (such as the WTO and World Bank) affect the flow of trade, the merits and downsides of multilateralism, trade and the environment, agriculture and food security, and infrastructure, while always taking note how international institutions play and could play a key role in each of these. Since this is also a leader's summit, we're also expecting you to be able to deal with rogue members taking the conversation in wholly different directions.

Don't let yourselves be demotivated by CBA. It may seem like a completely different concept compared to regular MUN (because it is), but having done this ourselves last year, we can attest to how much better and enjoyable the debate was in the end. We will be providing you with an appropriate guide to CBA and its procedures in this assessment report, as well as some FAQs with our personal experiences from last year. Furthermore, there will be a workshop before the beginning of our first session on Thursday.

An exception in CBA is that you are able to set the agenda which means that you can choose to discuss as many and whichever topics you want to. This assessment report will however give you some basic understanding of topics which could be relevant for the discussion. You can switch between them, skip some or add some as long as you can make a connection to the issue at hand.

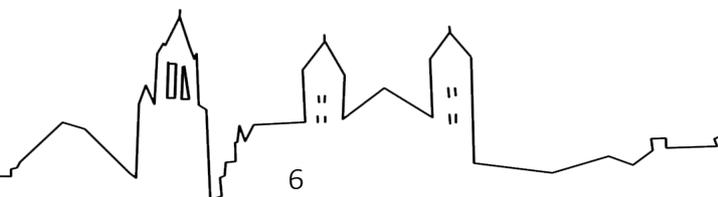


Remember, this is an expert committee, meaning that a lot of the research will have to be done by yourselves. We would also like to remind you all that the G20 focuses more on economic and trade matters, and therefore will not require any in-depth legislature analysis or debate.

We are very much looking forward to meeting you all and are more than certain that this year's G20 summit at EuroMUN will be significantly more successful than this year's summit in Argentina!

Best,

Leo and Olga



Introduction to G20

The Group of 20 (G20) was established in 1999 following the catastrophe of the Asian financial crisis. Its members include the 19 largest economies, as well as the European Union. It was initially arranged by the Group of 7 as a means to create a broader, more representative policy creating body. Prior to the 2008 financial crisis, summits were held primarily between finance ministers. However, following the crisis, it evolved to become what is arguably the most important international economic forum, seen by the attendees including the heads of state of the represented countries. The smaller number of participants, as well as its inclusive nature, make it a more effective platform for emerging nations, such as Indonesia, India, South Africa, or even China, since their voices carry more weight.

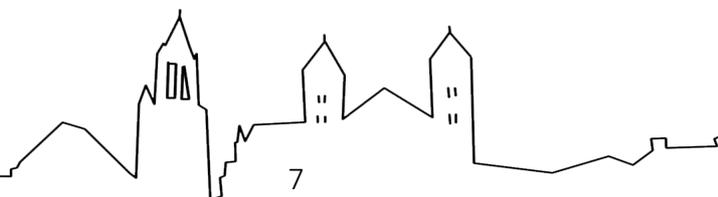
As it is not *stricto sensu* an international organisation, it does not have a Secretariat or enforcing powers: the declarations of the G20 have no legal effect, unlike UN Security Council resolutions. Rather, the G20 relies on its members to ensure compliance to the goals it sets in outcome documents, and while the voting is done by consensus (requiring that no party voices opposition), it is unanimity (requiring that all parties state that they agree) that truly makes the decisions effective and ensures their implementation.

As heads of state/government of their respective countries, delegates will be charged with discussing current international institutions, and their potential in international trade in the future.

Introduction to Trade

Trade as we know it truly kicked off with the Bretton Woods Agreement by liberalizing the financial sector. Another important development was the signing of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) in 1947, resulting in the first significant step towards liberalizing the international trade of goods. This also paved the way for the development of the World Trade Organization (WTO) in 1990 to create an institutional framework around the international trade of goods.

As international trade began to expand across nations, and more of the world was interconnected through trade, globalization sprung and was generally embraced by most. Further globalization has allowed for new means of business innovation, thus providing new business opportunities. Rodrik et al (2004) sees trade as an integrative measure, and that it has the role of being a driver of productivity change and income growth. Globalization also



brought the emergence of new economies in Asia (notably China, India, Indonesia), Latin America (Brazil, Argentina), Africa (South Africa, Nigeria, Rwanda), and parts of Central and Eastern Europe (Poland, Hungary, Slovenia).

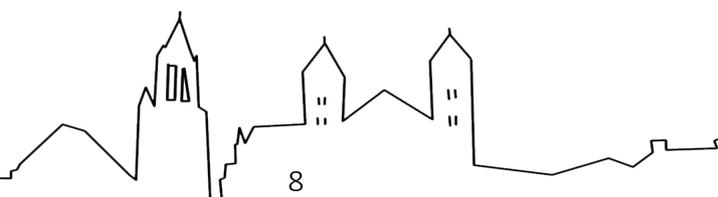
International trade allows for the opportunity to generate economies of scale, where countries and firms are able to exploit their competitive advantages to centralize production on a certain range of goods and services for the global market. It also makes them dependent on the global market to procure resources, intellectual property, and general commodities that they otherwise had no access to or had to pay higher prices in the domestic market. Generally, free international trade allows for cheaper goods as a whole, wider variety for consumers, and even further innovation. This view on international trade is known as the Standard Model.

This brings us to today, where recent trends have been marked by the rise of emerging markets - particularly China - as well as the salient criticism against globalization by key international players such as the United States, the rise of some African countries, and the fall of others, and ongoing tensions and international trade wars. The fate of globalization is at a crossroads of either more globalization and integration, or none at all; clearly a new form of globalization is needed.

Introduction into the Institutions

Institutions on the domestic and global level have grown increasingly in significance, both for overall rule of law, the basic functioning of society, and up until more recently, the economy and global trade. Institutions as defined by Douglass North (2010) are the “formal rules of the game but also informal norms of behaviour”. To get things straight, the World Bank Organization, for example, is not an institution, it is the embodiment and enforcer of the institution it represents. The United Nations, for example, is an international organization charged with the duty to guarantee and maintain international security. It sets both the formal rules of conduct represented in the various different UN bodies, as well as the generally accepted norms of behaviour on the international playing field.

Institutions play a key role in economic development and growth, by enforcing and protecting private property rights and ensuring contracts are enforced (Chaney, 2012). According to Rodrik et al (2004), the rules of the game, property rights, and the rule of law are all fundamental pieces of a functioning society, they further see institutions as trumping all other attributes towards economic growth. Better institutions on a domestic level leads to better protect property rights, which increases investment security, fosters technological progress, and overall economic development. Emphasis on the regional level should therefore be to



create institutions that benefit society and industries as a whole, in order to spur economic growth and international trade.

International trade institutions are present as different International Organizations (IOs) to keep trade fair and manage trade related issues on a global field. The need for international institutions was only first noticed post World War 2, where a shortage of resources prevented reconstruction of nations and development of economies (Krugman, 2015). The Bretton Woods Agreement of 1944 served as the landmark event for kick-starting international trade as we know it (Krugman, 2015). It laid the foundations of the International Monetary Fund (IMF), International Trade Organization (ITO), International Bank of Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) which has now become the World Bank Organization (WBO). This is where the first agreed rules of world trade were established, furthermore, a number of agreements established the “rules of the game” over time the most significant being:

- General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT): crucial for the WTO, agreements on non-tariff hindrances
- Agreement on Textile and Clothing (ATC): Removing quotas on textiles
- Agreement on Agriculture (AOA): Improvement on original GATT agreements on agriculture, allows for fairer trade on agriculture and removes the loopholes of tariffs, quotas and subsidies
- General Agreement on Trade Services (GATS): Uruguay Round, to set guiding rules on governing matters of goods to services
- Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS): Regulation of IPs, included in the general requirements of joining the WTO

World Trade Organization

The World Trade Organisation (WTO) was founded in 1995 and is considered one of the major changes in global trade after WW2. The organisation offers a platform to its currently 164 member states to negotiate trade agreements, which expand beyond the GATT agreement and cover trade in services and intellectual properties additionally to trade in goods¹. The WTO’s rules aim to make trade easier, more transparent and fairer. An example of this is a mechanism such as the Most Favoured Nation (MFN) rule, which makes member states treat all nations they trade with, with the same approach as their most favoured nation. This ensures that all nations get the same tariffs and no nation is discriminated against in terms of trade. While most of the global trade occurs under the WTO rules, those can be avoided through bilateral free trade agreements between countries².

¹ https://www.wto.org/english/thewto_e/whatis_e/whatis_e.htm

² https://www.wto.org/english/thewto_e/whatis_e/TIF_e/fact2_e.htm

One of the WTO mechanisms is the so called “Dispute Settlement System”. This mechanism aims at ensuring that countries do not violate WTO rules with the goal to make markets more stable and predictable. The dispute settlement mechanism at the WTO can be activated if any member state feels like another member state is violating WTO trade rules. It is one of the core mechanisms of the WTO³.

At first the mechanism tries to settle disputed between the states through dialogue. This means that the accused member state will be directly confronted, and the parties will try to find a compromise amongst each other, if this fails the accused state is put in front of a panel consisting of representatives of all WTO member states. Once any agreement is reached it can be reviewed by the appellate body, which consists of 7 rotating members that are elected by the Dispute Settlement Body for a term of 4 years. It is currently blocked by the USA after the country complained to be disadvantaged in trade through unfair treatment compared to China. The USA is blocking any new appointments which has the current number of members of the appellate body reduced to 4, once it hits 3 the body will not be able to continue its functions⁴. This is viewed as highly problematic as it would put the entire WTO in question as by losing the mechanism of supervision, the WTO would lose the element which distinguishes it from any other organizations. So far there have been multiple reform suggestions made on how to end the blockade, most notably a recent one by the EU, which aims at increasing the efficiency of the Appellate Body by ensuring that verdicts will be passed within the 90 timeframe and that the issues discussed will be reduced to those necessary to resolve the case⁵. However so far, no solution has been found.⁶

Since 2011 there have been pleas for a WTO reform. Besides the Dispute Settlement Mechanism member states also complained about the slow processes of the WTO especially since all decisions in the body are made by consensus, which often leads to deadlock. Furthermore, there have been complaints about the WTO rules equally applying for all member states regardless of their size and economic power and while many see this as an asset and argue that it leads to equal treatment, some plead that advantages would be needed for smaller economies in order to give them a chance to compete in global trade. However even though talks about possible reforms have been ongoing for years so far, no change has been achieved⁷.

³ https://www.wto.org/english/tratop_e/dispu_e/appellate_body_e.htm

⁴ <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-usa-trade-wto/u-s-blocks-wto-judge-reappointment-as-dispute-settlement-crisis-looms-idUSKCN1LC190>

⁵ <http://trade.ec.europa.eu/doclib/press/index.cfm?id=1945>

⁶ <https://www.cfr.org/backgrounder/how-are-trade-disputes-resolved>

⁷ <https://www.economicshelp.org/blog/4/trade/criticisms-of-wto/>

Multilateralism, Regionalism, Globalism?

Over the recent years there has been a shift from multilateralism back to protectionism and therefore back to regionalism and nationalism in trade⁸. US president Donald Trump made this especially clear with his "America First" policy and by starting a trade war by imposing tariffs on steel and aluminium. The USA however are by far not the only country moving away from multilateralism in trade. Another prominent example is the UK, which decided to leave the EU in order to take back control and be able to make its own decision regarding issues such as trade economy and migration. All of this comes at a time where trade and therefore countries and companies are more connected than ever before. Through advanced technology it has become very easy to outsource production as products could be delivered fast and communication between production points could be upheld easily. Therefore, many agree that a return to protectionism could rather harm the economies. The vast majority of companies outsource their supply chain and operate in several countries or even in many cases on various continents. Trade only on regional level is by now often more expensive and not feasible as many companies produce products for target groups way beyond their region.

As the G20 consists of the 20 largest economies in the world it is a significant platform to discuss issues surrounding economic issues and global trade. Especially the small size of the groups allows for quick action and fast decision making. However, in the recent years the G20 has also been heavily criticized for not being inclusive and disregarding democratic principles as its decision-making process follows very much a "top down approach." Since only the world's largest economies meet in the G20 many smaller countries are excluded from decisions which also directly affect them. Additionally, this leads to some parts of the world being largely underrepresented, such as Africa who has only one member state in the G20, while others like North America and Europe are overrepresented⁹. However especially now that major players on the world trade scene are turning their back on multilateralism the importance for bodies such as the G20 to enable its members to lead a dialogue with each other on the issues concerning all of them.

With the tendency of countries to turn more to protectionism again as well as the tendency of trade to become more international and more intertwined, one could argue that the role IOs play in global trade is more important than ever, as they are the bodies which maintain the connection between the countries. However almost ironically those 2 reasons also pose major challenges to IOs. With trade becoming increasingly international, it is especially challenging

⁸<https://www.ipe.com/investment/briefing-investment/world-trade-is-protectionism-on-the-rise/www.ipe.com/investment/briefing-investment/world-trade-is-protectionism-on-the-rise/10017403.fullarticle>

⁹ <https://saiia.org.za/research/the-g20s-africa-problem/>

for IOs focusing on ensuring equal opportunities for all countries to keep an overview and to help smaller and poorer countries in their development, so that they don't get left behind in a fast pace world of development. Additionally, through the turn to protectionism many countries actively look for loopholes in regulations in order to put their countries in a more beneficial position than others. This often comes at the expense of IOs as their flaws are exposed and many end up in deadlock as is the case with the WTO, which is currently blocked by the USA.

Infrastructure

Infrastructure has always been a point of huge concern within the G20. There seems to be a general agreement that infrastructure is a huge factor in facilitating international trade, and that it is an area that requires significant investment. However, there is disagreement on how to facilitate development and investment¹⁰. The question arises whether investment in infrastructure should come from within the nations themselves, which brings the issue that many nations cannot afford the large investments required.

Possible approaches can take on different forms, that all have different pros and cons. One possibility is through Foreign Direct Investments (FDI)¹¹. Infrastructure is often connected to FDI, which occurs when a country or company invests into projects in another country. FDI only seems viable if investing nations are assured that they will have some sort of return on investment. Equity could also be a possibility; however, shareholders are not likely to invest in a project that will not necessarily bring any short-term profits. Shareholders of such a scale are also hard to come by without an appropriate investment vessel like a mutual fund.

Debt therefore seems to be the main way to acquire funds to invest in infrastructure¹². The World Bank Organization has multiple projects dedicated entirely to investing in the infrastructure in developing nations, however, many developing nations are sceptical about the large set of requirements that come with WBO loans. In average, a country has to fulfil 67 requirements which can include pushes towards privatization and liberalization of markets as well as the installation of extensive administration¹³. Debt from other nations becomes even more complicated, as these are nearly impossible to regulate internationally, and may bring

¹⁰ Oecdonthellevel, ~. (2018, September 13). How to make infrastructure investment work for all. Retrieved from <https://oecdonthellevel.com/2018/09/10/how-to-make-infrastructure-investment-work-for-all/>

¹¹ Ismail, N. W., & Mahyideen, J. M. (2015). The Impact of Infrastructure on Trade and Economic Growth in Selected Economies in Asia. SSRN Electronic Journal. doi:10.2139/ssrn.2709294

¹² Ismail, N. W., & Mahyideen, J. M. (2015). The Impact of Infrastructure on Trade and Economic Growth in Selected Economies in Asia. SSRN Electronic Journal. doi:10.2139/ssrn.2709294

¹³ Oecdonthellevel, ~. (2018, September 13). How to make infrastructure investment work for all. Retrieved from <https://oecdonthellevel.com/2018/09/10/how-to-make-infrastructure-investment-work-for-all/>

with them unfair requirements. The Chinese-led One Belt One Road initiative is a good example of this and will be explained further in the final section.

Better infrastructure is also correlated with a better environment for trade. The ease of doing business ranking by the WBG takes infrastructure a part of the ranking. Improved infrastructure is also related to increased economic growth domestically, however, better infrastructure should be understood as a catalyst for growth, rather than a result of growth¹⁴. Infrastructure can be anything from roads, online banking platforms, and telecommunications. Electricity and energy supply are also of growing concern in developing nations. India, for example, has been taking huge leaps in electrifying the entire nation, with the aim of bringing electricity to every village in the country, which allows for industrialization and increased production¹⁵. The Asian Development Bank (ADB) even identifies that the future rests in digital platforms, as well as “soft infrastructure” which is defined as the “rules of the game” set by institutions mentioned previously¹⁶.

Finally, trends show that further emphasis should be placed on infrastructure quality rather than quantity¹⁷. Higher quantity of infrastructure can help in terms of domestic economic growth. Quality, however, enhances economic output and efficiency, leading to becoming more competitive on the global platform. Emphasis on sustainability should also be a defining aspect when focusing on infrastructure, since there is an ever-growing link between trade and the environment.

Trade and Environment

International trade works on the basis of comparative advantage: Countries export what they are capable of producing at lower costs than others. Focusing on the benefits of trade leaves out the implications of negative externalities caused by increased trade. Not only are more and more goods being transported via air, rail, ship and land, but more land is being felled and used to increase production capacity.

¹⁴ Ismail, N. W., & Mahyideen, J. M. (2015). The Impact of Infrastructure on Trade and Economic Growth in Selected Economies in Asia. SSRN Electronic Journal. doi:10.2139/ssrn.2709294

¹⁵ D'Cunha, S. D. (2018, May 07). Modi Announces '100% Village Electrification', But 31 Million Indian Homes Are Still In The Dark. Retrieved from <https://www.forbes.com/sites/suparnadutt/2018/05/07/modi-announces-100-village-electrification-but-31-million-homes-are-still-in-the-dark/#65eaa74863ba>

¹⁶ Ismail, N. W., & Mahyideen, J. M. (2015). The Impact of Infrastructure on Trade and Economic Growth in Selected Economies in Asia. SSRN Electronic Journal. doi:10.2139/ssrn.2709294

¹⁷ Oecdonthellevel, ~. (2018, September 13). How to make infrastructure investment work for all. Retrieved from <https://oecdonthellevel.com/2018/09/10/how-to-make-infrastructure-investment-work-for-all/>

General empirical evidence providing a direct relationship between increased global trade and land degradation and pollution is hard to come across, since many different factors contribute to the issue. It is also important to distinguish between land degradation, and pollution. According to the WHO, land degradation implies the spoiling of otherwise fertile land that negatively affects the livelihood of others and the ecosystems. Pollution, as defined by the encyclopaedia Britannica, is the addition of any substance or any form of energy to the environment at a rate faster than it can be dispersed, diluted, decomposed, recycled, or stored in some harmless form. Land degradation therefore might be of more concern to developing nations, focusing on agricultural growth before making the manufacturing shift. Pollution could be more related to developed nations, who have already experienced growth. The lines between the two are not clearly defined, and there could therefore be some overlap. The general trend shows that countries display an increase in CO₂ emissions as they change from low-to middle-level incomes, and then fall as they move to higher levels of income.

The increased dependency on fossil fuels for trade has resulted in ever growing concerns in the sustainability of trade¹⁸. With the possibility of new trade routes amounting in the Arctic, and countries running the risk of flooding, new forms of regulation are needed to ensure the sustainable growth of the world market.

Additionally, through the focus on the production on cheap products and through all the packaging required for shipping and transporting of goods into various countries the human waste production has increased exponentially over the past century. Experts assume that around 2,5 billion metric tons of solid waste are produced annually¹⁹. This is especially problematic as the waste management in many countries is in dire need of improvement. Nowadays the majority of that waste (approximately 8 tons each year) ends up in the oceans, where it severely harms the wildlife.

Regulation

The GATT also allows for the restriction of trade in order to conserve the environment. This falls under the GATT Article XX, which states that nations are allowed to apply restrictions on trade with the intent to “conserve exhaustible natural resources” or to protect “human, animal or plant life or health”²⁰. This restriction is placed in light of the product itself, and the threats it may pose. The production process does not fall under the scope of Article XX, which has also

¹⁸ Droege, S., Asselt, H. V., Das, K., & Mehling, M. A. (2016). The Trade System and Climate Action: Ways Forward Under the Paris Agreement. SSRN Electronic Journal. doi:10.2139/ssrn.2864400

¹⁹ Harris, J. M. (2001). A Survey of sustainable development: Social and economic dimensions. Washington, D.C.: Island Press.

²⁰ https://www.wto.org/english/tratop_e/envir_e/envt_rules_exceptions_e.htm

raised some criticism since the production process of certain products may cause more harm to the environment as a whole than the product itself.

The WTO makes a distinction on what they call “green protectionism”, namely trade barriers aimed to protect domestic producers under the guise of environmental regulation. They are therefore sceptical of Article XX and therefore try to avoid it. Instead, they focus on the specificity rule, that policy solutions should be targeted directly at the root of the problem, and that environmental policy should remain on the national level. Using trade measures to promote or enforce regional environmental policy goals may have unintended spill over effects on trade, and therefore should only be used as a last resort. However, their lack of a stance on environmental issues has gained them a lot of criticism. By placing responsibility on the national level, many nations who face high amounts of competitive pressure to reduce regulation, or even lack the institutional capabilities, have nothing to work with.

Other forms of regulation are also inherent in the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) and in the European Union (EU). Both use different forms of regulation, but the commonality is that they establish separate entities to oversee and regulate, and even create policy to tackle issues of environmental responsibility.

Carbon Leakage:

This leads to another crucial point on trade and climate change: Carbon leakage. Globalization has made it easier for firms to delocalize, but this has also given rise to increased pollution levels in developing nations. Harsh environmental regulation in one country may lead to the firm moving production to countries with less regulation. In that sense, less regulation promotes excessive pollution.

Under the UNFCCC, nations agree on their individual responsibility on regulation, but the principle of “Common but Differentiated Responsibilities” (CBDR) raises confusion among each member’s duties. Under this, developing nations are expected to not be able to contribute as much as developed nations, and should not be hampered in their progress towards economic development²¹. As a result, other nations with larger market power are able to use this power to enforce the treaties through trade agreements. This is against one of the fundamental agreements of the UNFCC Article 3.5, and the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, which

²¹ Stone, C. D. (2004). Common but Differentiated Responsibilities in International Law. *The American Journal of International Law*, 98(2). 276-301. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

both condemn the use of unilateral agreements by one country with large market power to force the hands of less developed nations²².

This formulation echoes the language of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade. The idea behind this principle of the Convention is that unilateral actions by a country with a large market power are effectively an exercise of extra-territorial jurisdiction, which tends to contradict state sovereignty²³. The doctrine of extra-territorial regulation is beyond the scope of the debate, but as a rule of thumb, unilateral actions are frowned upon in the trade circles, as well as in international law in general. The global trading system thus finds itself in a conundrum where it can either tolerate departures from its legal principles, thereby helping enforce a climate agreement, or it can crack down on unilateral actions and deviate from its goal of fuelling sustainable development and environmental protection.

Resource Rich Countries

Some economies, including many of the G20 members, are reliant on the export (and import) of fossil fuels. Climate transparency found that 82% of all energy in G20 countries comes from the burning of fossil fuels. They also spend around \$147 billion on subsidizing the industry, with the worst offenders being Russia, Saudi Arabia, and Turkey²⁴. The reliance of these nations on the fossil fuel industry is referred to as the Dutch disease.

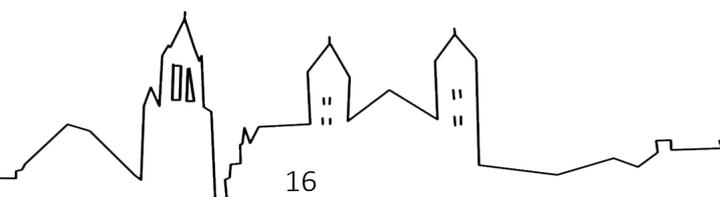
The Dutch disease is defined as windfall gains in natural resources, that have a crowding-out effect on other sectors. A larger natural resource sector will have positive externalities on feeding other sectors (e.g. manufacturing sector), while exporting more natural resources will appreciate the currency, making domestic exports comparatively more expensive in the global market. National oil industries, such as those in the Middle East, BP in the UK, Royal Dutch Shell in the Netherlands, Gazprom in Russia, and Total in France, have raised widespread concern on how to make the transition to renewable energy without taking entire corporations out of business.

These industries and firms need to be guaranteed a secure environment to continue operating, otherwise a transition to a green future may be impossible. Securing these firms requires new

²² Droege, S., Asselt, H., van, Das, K., & Mehling, M. (2016). The Trade System and Climate Action: Ways Forward Under the Paris Agreement. Climate Strategies

²³ Droege, S., Asselt, H., van, Das, K., & Mehling, M. (2016). The Trade System and Climate Action: Ways Forward Under the Paris Agreement. Climate Strategies.

²⁴ Watts, J. (2018, November 14). G20 nations still led by fossil fuel industry, climate report finds. Retrieved from <https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2018/nov/14/g20-nations-still-led-by-fossil-fuel-industry-climate-report-finds>



institutional frameworks, both nationally and internationally. Others argue that the transition to a sustainable development path for countries relying on natural resources requires rents that are continuously invested, rather than consumed, thus feeding to further research and development into renewable energy and making profitable investments in the sector.

The Case for Renewable Energy

G20 members account for 85% of the global economy, 75% of world trade and two-thirds of the global population. The energy mix in G20 economies varies strongly but most countries rely on a high share of fossil fuels in total energy supply. G20 economies account for 81% of global renewable power capacity, 82% of global energy-related CO₂ emissions and 77% of global energy consumption²⁵. This makes the case that the G20 should be at the forefront of innovation in renewable energy, both in light of the economic prospects of the industry, as well as the positive externalities associated.

The transition can happen on a domestic, institutional platform, or even on the firm level. Many large Multinational Enterprises (MNEs) are already making the move towards 100% renewable energy consumption²⁶. With added institutional and global political incentive, this switch may happen sooner and at lower cost than expected. Much of this is attributed to increasing a firm's Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR), where implementing such corporate policies can be used as a marketing strategy to make the firm seem more environmentally friendly²⁷.

Market research shows that current renewable energy technology in a few markets (mainly the United States and other Asian economies) has begun to decrease substantially, but further progress is limited by protectionist policies aimed at protecting domestic energy suppliers²⁸. Possible ways of moving forward could be by promoting further trade liberalization. As discussed in the section on trade, open trade allows for more foreign competition, driving prices down and quality up. The same can therefore be expected for renewable energy and related technologies. The WTO may even use this to rise as the platform designated to liberalizing the industry. In 2013 the WTO ruled against local measures to secure jobs in the

²⁵ <https://www.iea.org/topics/engagementworldwide/subtopics/co-operationwithkeyinternationalfora/g20/>

²⁶ <https://www.nrel.gov/docs/fy17osti/68149.pdf>

²⁷ Hamideh, Maria. "A Survey of Effects of International Trade on Growth." *International Trade from Economic and Policy Perspective*, 2012, doi:10.5772/50097.

²⁸ Jha, Veena. "Removing Trade Barriers on Selected Renewable Energy Products in the Context of Energy Sector Reforms." Oct. 2013, doi:10.7215/gp_bp_20131210.

renewable energy sector of Ontario in a dispute between Japan and Canada, proving its determination in promoting the industry²⁹.

Agriculture and Food Security

The G20 has met multiple times to discuss food security, and the international agricultural sector on multiple occasions. Food security is built upon four dimensions: availability, stability, access, utilization (von Braun, 2014). Food price volatility is at a level unseen since the 1970s, with the 2007-2008 food crisis the most recent example of an institutional failure at regulating food prices. Food security is most closely related to securing the price volatility of food products, especially in developing markets. The former president of the World Bank, Robert Zoellick, said “the answer to food price volatility is not to prosecute of block markets, but to use them better”.

The G20 has made multiple attempts at addressing the issue at different leaders and minister summits. However, opinions differ on whether they were successful, or whether the G20 is even the right body to address these issues.

Clapp & Murphy (2013) see the G20 discussing food security in 2010 as the opportunity for the body to prove themselves as a global body capable of tackling such issues³⁰. They were given the opportunity to work on the structural problems in commodity markets that were contributing to the extremely volatile prices. They argue, however, that they missed the opportunity to improve food security, and proved the opposite (that they are indeed not the appropriate body to tackle the issue).

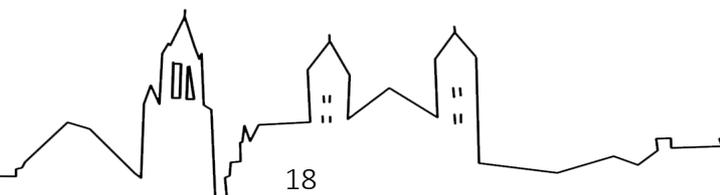
Clapp & Murphy (2013) recognize three faults of the G20 when addressing food security³¹:

- The G20 has failed to tackle the structural economic dimensions of food insecurity and is therefore not the most appropriate governance body for developing food security policy.
- Other forums, such as the UN Committee on World Food Security, have the mandate to coordinate global food security policy and should be supported to fulfil that mandate. The G20 should therefore focus on promoting the activities of such forums and institutions.

²⁹ Jha, Veena. “Removing Trade Barriers on Selected Renewable Energy Products in the Context of Energy Sector Reforms.” Oct. 2013, doi:10.7215/gp_bp_20131210.

³⁰ Clapp, J., & Murphy, S. (2013). The G20 and food security: a mismatch in global governance? *Global Policy*, 4(2), 129-138.

³¹ Clapp, J., & Murphy, S. (2013). The G20 and food security: a mismatch in global governance? *Global Policy*, 4(2), 129-138.



- The G20 should limit its role in the food security arena to supporting organizations that are specifically focused on food security, particularly where it is asked to undertake regulatory reforms in the areas of agricultural trade, biofuels and financial speculation

Till (2011), however, disagrees with this view, and believes that the agriculture meeting in Paris in 2011 was a much-needed success. G20 agriculture ministers first met in Paris on June 22-23, 2011, in response to the global food crisis of 2008-2009, which continued to bring increased volatility in 2011³². Just a few months before, the media had rung in the New Year by highlighting reports of United Nations data showing a dramatic spike in food prices. There they responded with the Action Plan on Food Price Volatility and Agriculture. The meeting's communiqué largely bypassed the controversy surrounding agricultural futures trading, and instead embraced market-based solutions in dealing with food price volatility, amongst its many action items (Till, 2011).

Perhaps the faults in previous meetings had nothing to do with the fact that they were being within the G20, rather that the wrong representatives were called to the table. The Paris meeting of 2011 was conducted by agricultural ministers, and other such meetings were conducted in Mexico City, Istanbul, Hangzhou, and Berlin. A key point to notice, is that the eight of the 12 G20 summits for which no agriculture ministerial meetings were held made an average of 2.6 commitments³³. With the three commitments assessed from these eight summits, compliance was 73%. In sharp contrast, the four summits with an agriculture ministerial meeting made an average of 23 commitments.

Current Political Issues

There are also numerous current issues which should be discussed by the G20. One of them is Brexit. The UK's decision to leave the European Union has raised many questions about global trade and could cause major disruptions. The uncertainty surrounding Brexit has already had effects on the UK's economy and predictions show that after Brexit is finalized the UK will be hit even harder as the UK government acknowledged³⁴. Furthermore, due to many uncertainties over the UK's status post Brexit, many companies started to move out of the UK and outsource their production to other countries. Prominent examples of this are Honda,

³² Till, H. (2011). A review of the G20 meeting on agriculture: addressing price volatility in the food markets. EDHEC-Risk Institute. Principal Premia Capital Management, LLC.

³³ Warren, B. (2018, July 13). Overview. Retrieved from <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/analysis/180713-how-agmins-influence-leaders.html>

³⁴ <https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-politics-46366162>

Dyson and Ford, but the list of companies affected is significantly longer³⁵. Brexit has also prompted companies to invest into contingency plans should a hard Brexit occur. All of this could cause the UK's economy to decline significantly and as trade is connecting the UK to other economies other countries would be hit to.

Another current issue is China and the One Belt One Road Initiative (OBOR), which is the most ambitious infrastructure project in human history and aims at connecting China to other countries in its region and to simplify trade between them³⁶. However, the initiative has faced criticism as many people fear that countries participating will not be able to repay China for their infrastructure investments which would result in debt and expanded Chinese power over them³⁷. Another issue regarding China is the escalating trade war with the USA which could disrupt the current trading system Trump has repeatedly stated that the US is treated unfairly by China and started imposing tariffs which could hurt China in order to fight this. As China quickly countered the trade war kept escalating, which according to the WTO could result in a global trade crisis³⁸. China however is not the only country Trump is currently attacking with tariffs. He recently announced that he plans to impose tariffs worth 11 billion dollar on the EU as well³⁹. As this could also cause major disruption to the trade system it is important to address the tariff issue in regard to Trump.

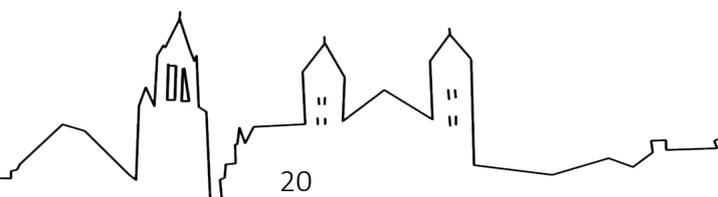
³⁵ <https://www.independent.co.uk/news/business/news/brexit-companies-leaving-uk-list-job-cuts-eu-no-deal-customs-union-a8792296.html>

³⁶ <https://www.mckinsey.com/featured-insights/china/chinas-one-belt-one-road-will-it-reshape-global-trade>

³⁷ <https://www.theguardian.com/cities/ng-interactive/2018/jul/30/what-china-belt-road-initiative-silk-road-explainer>

³⁸ <https://www.bbc.com/news/business-45899310>

³⁹ <https://www.wsj.com/articles/u-s-to-impose-tariffs-on-11-billion-of-eu-goods-11554770493?mod=searchresults&page=1&pos=5>



Consensus Building Approach

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the Consensus Building Approach?

Consensus Building Approach aims to take group decisions by informed consensus, or by an overwhelming majority if consensus is not possible, rather than a simple majority. This means that delegates need to rely on techniques from integrative negotiation and mediation, such as active listening, brainstorming and the use of a neutral facilitator, to reach better outcomes. There are no Rules of Procedure, no voting, and no losers. It follows an intuitive structure to allow for an extremely streamlined debate, entirely in the hands of the delegates. The Chairs have an extremely minimal role and are only present as neutral third parties to facilitate and mediate.

Why would I want to do a CBA committee?

CBA committees force delegates to really try and negotiate with other delegates, especially since everyone needs to be satisfied with the final outcome. Having delegates with different academic backgrounds allows each one to dig deeper into their area of expertise and use this to their advantage while negotiating. Furthermore, delegates have full control of the debate, and only rely on the Chair as a form of mediator. It can be best described as an extended Unmoderated-Caucus, only with working guidelines set in place. It is also a more realistic approach to the procedures used in the actual committees that will be simulated: It was used in preparation of the Kyoto climate change negotiations; the UNODC, G20, and NATO all use similar ROP during their debates.

What is the main difference between CBA regular MUN ROP?

Firstly, the main distinction between the CBA ROP and that of an MUN, is quite simple: There are no ROP in CBA committees. Instead, delegates agree on a set of guidelines of conduct proposed to them by the Chairs, to which delegates will be asked to add anything they wish, and to which they are expected to adhere to. Don't let this scare you, since CBA is extremely intuitive once it gets started. Despite lacking ROP, CBA does follow a certain structure in order to allow for discussions in an organized manner. Delegates begin by agreeing on the ground rules, followed by a round of opening statements, then setting the agenda, exploring interests, brainstorming, negotiating, and finally coming to a conclusion. This will all be explained in further detail in your study guides.

What does the debate in a CBA committee look like in practice?

The debate in a CBA committee is a lot more informal and intuitive than in a normal committee. You are allowed to refer to yourself in the first person and you don't have any speakers time or moderated caucuses where you need to talk on just one subject. You are free to talk about any subject you want, and you can speak directly to each other instead of being called out by the chairs. The most important thing in order for this to work is that you are respectful with each other, grant each other sufficient speaking time and truly listen to what is said so that the conversation can start flowing.

If we are striving for consensus, does that mean I am not allowed to verbally bash my opponent?

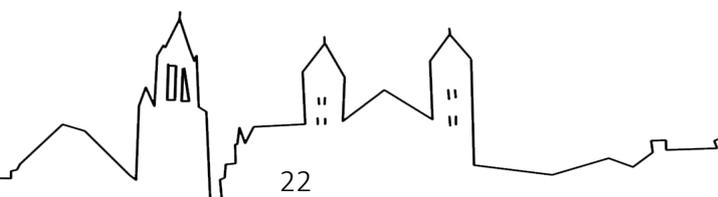
We know that elaborate and witty speeches are very much part of MUN, and the CBA definitely does not take that opportunity away from. However, delegates should remember that we are striving for informed consensus, so whatever you say to an opposing delegate might be used as leverage against you while negotiating. Remember, when negotiating it is always best to be honest, respectful, and diplomatic to the other parties. This therefore also means that filibustering or stalling might be a useful tactic at times but might result in the committee reaching no consensus in the end.

What is the role of the chairs in a CBA committee?

As you might have concluded by now the role of a chair in a CBA committee differs greatly from the role of a chair in an "ordinary" MUN committee. In CBA the chairs are not as much traditional chairs and moderators of the debate as they are mediators. This means that the chairs will take on a more advisory role in the debate and will concentrate more on the contents discussed in the committee. The entire discussion will be protocolled by the chairs and those notes will be the basis for the final output of the committee and give you as a delegate more structure on what is on the agenda and which points were already addressed.

What will the final output of the CBA committee look like?

The goal is not to come to a binding document, such as a resolution or a treaty. The G20 is just an advisory body that makes a recommendation to the formal decision-making body, and therefore will agree on a joint communique.



How is the final output in a CBA committee written?

As mentioned earlier there are no RoPs in a CBA committee, however you as committee can always decide to take time off from the formal debate and to enter a writing phase which can be similar to a traditional unmoderated caucus. You can also build groups and divide subtopics of an issue of the agenda among each as this has proven to be more time efficient. And to name a big plus of the CBA committee: You can always hand in the proposals for clauses etc. but the chairs are in charge of formatting the whole communique and adding proposed changes, so that you won't have to deal with formalities and can fully focus on the debate.

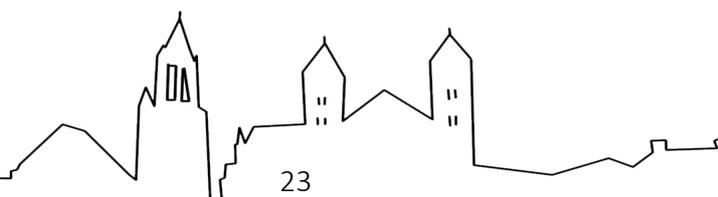
How is a CBA output adopted?

There is no voting in CBA and everything that is written into the CBA is adopted immediately as long as no one opposes. The beauty of consensus is that you don't have to endure a long voting procedure at the end of the last session, but it will be important for you to stay alert, voice concerns about clauses you disagree with and try to find consensus on every clause in the communique. Also, you will not be able to vote on individual clauses instead you will have to basically talk it out, through giving specific reasons on why you disagree on certain clauses. This will make the debate more interesting and more challenging than in a "traditional" MUN committee.

What is the best way to prepare for a CBA committee?

The best way to approach this would be to meticulously read the CBA section of your Study Guides once you receive them. The Study Guides will also go into detail on the topics themselves, however, it is still extremely important to research your countries interest on the matter. Notice the word "interests" and not "position". Positions are the negotiating parties' differing opinions on the issues at the tables, the concrete demands they make in a negotiation. Interests are the underlying objectives that the negotiating parties hope to achieve through negotiation. To discover the interests behind positions, parties should ask the other party: "What is important to you? Why?". Solutions to interests can also be explored from multiple different angles, while positions are very one-sided and absolute.

Also, since you don't have one concrete topic but a broader one, it will be impossible for you to research every single aspect of it. Instead try to find the things your country absolutely disagrees with and find out what is the reason for that. Also, research which subtopics of the general topic are most important to your country and what the debate should focus on in order to reflect your countries interests.



I have no negotiation background; does it still make sense for me to participate?

Of course! The point of CBA is to use basic negotiation tactics, but if your forte is more in debating and speaking, then you can still use those to your advantage. Since everyone needs to agree on the final document, it is best if delegates can reach “win-win” scenarios in any way that they can.

Introduction to CBA

What is the Consensus Building Approach (CBA)?

The consensus building approach (CBA) is an approach to group decision-making, developed by (amongst others) Lawrence Susskind.

As suggested by its name, the Consensus Building Approach aims to take group decisions by informed consensus, or by an overwhelming majority if consensus is not possible, rather than a simple majority. In addition, the CBA relies on techniques from integrative negotiation and mediation, such as active listening, brainstorming and the use of a neutral facilitator, to reach better outcomes.

One of the key insights of the CBA is that the traditional rules of procedure of many organizations are an obstacle the conclusion of value maximizing agreements, because they are too complex and hinder active listening and brainstorming. Therefore, the CBA has developed its own procedure and techniques.

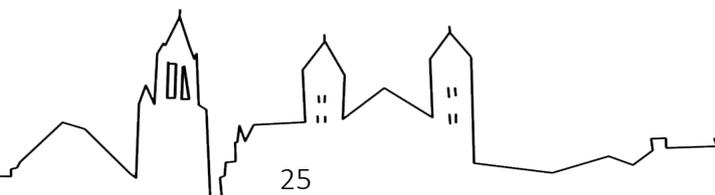
The key ideas of the CBA are that the participants are in charge of the outcome and the process of the negotiation, and that the neutral facilitator takes an active role to guide them during this process. Strikingly absent in this approach are official votes on proposals as well as pre-determined and overly formal rules for voicing one's opinion.

How does the CBA differ from traditional Model United Nations?

Traditional rules of procedure in a Model United Nations are relatively complex. The rules contain provisions on who is allowed to speak, which motions, and points can be introduced, which motion takes precedence over another, how resolutions can be submitted and amended, how voting is conducted, etc.

The Consensus Building Approach criticizes these rules of procedure and advocates “breaking” them. The main points of critique are:

1. Most rules of procedure follow the “majority rule”, which can leave an unhappy minority;
2. The decision reached according to the rules of procedure is not necessarily the best decision, as the rules often contain obstacles to an effective debate;
3. Debate and discussion are not always stimulated, as voting is the most important step under the rules of procedure, which undermines legitimacy;



4. The rules are often complex and not intuitive. Those who are “experts” in the rules of procedure can use them to manipulate the outcome of the debate.

The CBA takes a different approach. It does not believe in the “tyranny of the majority”, and deals with unhappy minorities in a better way, through dialogue and consensus. This is especially important in international relations, where implementation of the agreement is very difficult without each party’s consent. Therefore, reaching consensus is often necessary. Consensus is not the same as unanimity. In the CBA, you strive for unanimity. But if this is impossible to reach, the goal is to reach an “overwhelming agreement” that everyone, or almost everyone, can live with. In addition, what is also important that it is an informed consensus: the deliberations should ensure that people understand what they are agreeing to.

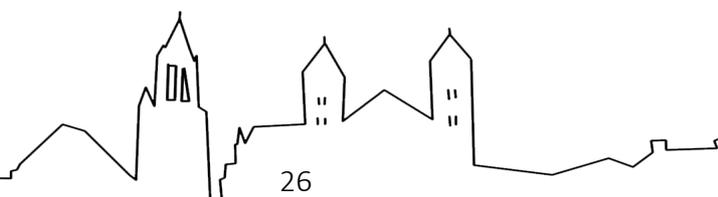
In addition, the CBA also criticizes the fact that the “best agreement” does not always win under the traditional rules of procedure. Under the CBA parties are stimulated to step into a “problem solving mode” and engage in brainstorming to come to more value creating agreements (a “win-win”). Typically for the CBA is its more informal and intuitive nature: it can be compared to a “permanent un-moderated caucus”, but with an active role for the facilitator in guiding the process.

It might seem that the CBA would take a lot of time, going through the different phases and looking for consensus. However, the following principle should be kept in mind: “go slow to go fast”. The CBA requires a substantial investment in the beginning of the process, with sufficient attention to setting up the process, getting the right parties at the table and setting ground rules for communication. But this saves a lot of time in the end, because you try to “get it right” the first time, and because the communication is better. In addition, it might seem that a simple majority vote is a faster and more efficient way to solve a dispute than aiming for consensus. However, this often produces an unhappy minority, who uses other instruments to stall the process, such as litigation, complaints, media attacks, etc. The CBA overcomes these problems by appropriately addressing the minority’s concern during the CBA process.

Basic principles of integrative negotiation

The method of integrative negotiation recommends that parties focus on interests, not positions. Positions are the negotiating parties’ differing opinions on the issues at the tables, the concrete demands they make in a negotiation. Interests are the underlying objectives that the negotiating parties hope to achieve through negotiation. To discover the interests behind positions, parties should ask the other party: “what is important to you? Why?”

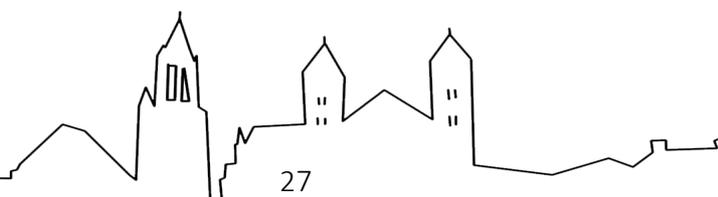
The benefit of focusing on interests rather than positions is that there is only one way to meet a position, while interests can be met by a wide range of options, which facilitates value

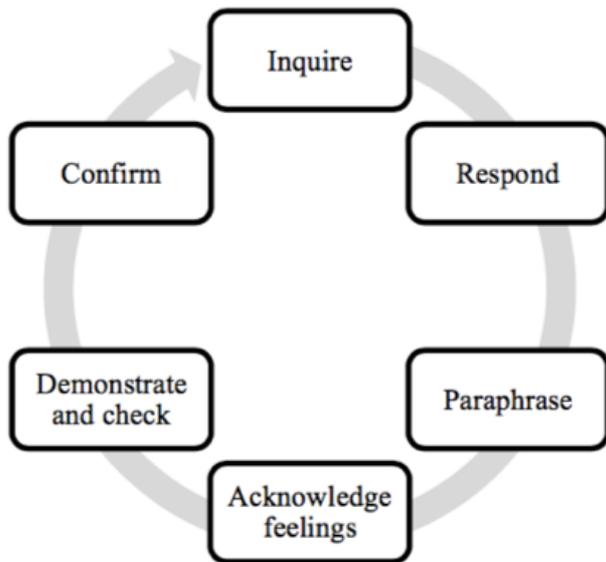


creating solutions. Therefore, to create value, you first need to exchange information about each other's interests, ideally in a reciprocal manner. Next, parties can brainstorm about options for value creation that enlarge the pie for both parties. Two rules are important when brainstorming: 1) there is no ownership of ideas; and 2) there is no evaluation of ideas at the moment of the brainstorm.

In the integrative method of negotiation, the relationship between parties is also essential. It should never be forgotten that negotiators are still people, with their own emotions and identities. The standard advice in this regard is to "separate the people from the problem". This implies that you should never make substantive concessions purely to retain a good relationship, but that you should only give in to substantive arguments. It also means that you should frame your proposals in a way that lead to a debate on the substantive issue, and do not actually attack the other party on a personal level.

Arguably the most important aspect of the method of integrative negotiation is its attention for good communication. A useful tool to engage in active listening is the empathy loop, which is summarized in the scheme below. With this method, you start by asking questions to the other party ("inquire"), preferably open questions that allow the other party to tell their story. You allow the other party to respond, and you try to listen to them while shutting down the "internal voices" in your head that are already constructing counter-arguments. It is also important in this step that you do not interrupt the other party and show that you are listening through open body language and feedback signals (such as saying "uhuh" and nodding). In the next step, you try to paraphrase what you have just heard, stating in your own words and in a neutral and non-judgmental way how you understood your counterparty. A useful sentence for this step is: "So if I understand you correctly, what you're saying is ...". Afterwards, you try to acknowledge the other person's feelings, for example by saying "I can see why that's important to you" or "I can imagine that this makes you feel ...". Then, you check whether your understanding of the other party is correct and give him or her the opportunity to react, correct or complete your understanding. Finally, if the other party confirms that your understanding is correct and complete, you can either introduce a new issue and repeat the empathy loop or move on to your perspective.





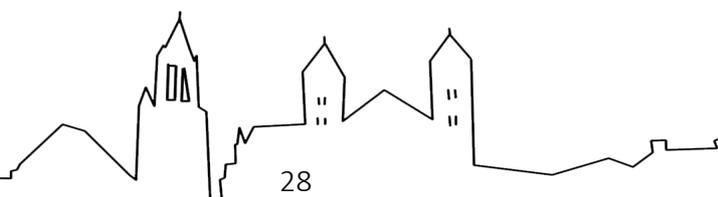
Empathy Loop (Mnookin, Peppet & Tulumello, 2008)

A final concept is the concept of “Best Alternative to a Negotiated Agreement” (“BATNA”, sometimes also called your “no-deal option”). This can be defined as the course of action that you will take if you are unable to reach an agreement with your counterparty. The relative strength of your BATNA, as compared to the other party’s BATNA, is what determines your negotiation power: if you have good alternatives out-side of the present negotiation, the other party will have to come up with something that is at least as good, otherwise you should walk away. Determining your BATNA is an important part of your preparation. You should also always try to improve your BATNA before the negotiation starts, for example by making it more concrete or doing some background research. In addition, you should also ask yourself what the other party’s BATNA is and whether you should disclose and discuss your BATNA.

You can also translate your BATNA into a “reservation value”: the lowest amount you are willing to accept in the negotiation, your “walk-away amount”. Calculating your reservation value should also be part of your preparation, as well as calculating the other party’s reservation value. The space between your reservation value and the other party’s is what we call the “Zone of Possible Agreement” (“ZOPA”).

What is the role of the facilitator in the CBA?

The facilitator takes a very important role in the CBA, but it is important to note that the group as a whole is responsible, both for the content and for the process. Thus, the creative power rests with the group. In essence, the facilitator is an example of facilitative leadership: the facilitator does not present himself as the hero who brings the perfect solution to the table,



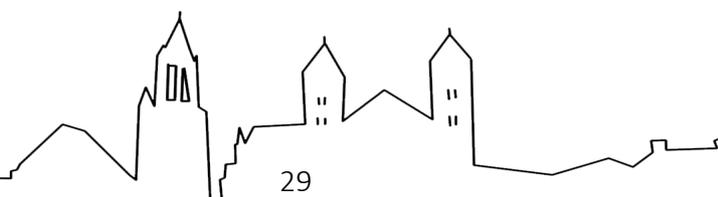
nor as the “guardian of the process”, but rather as a neutral professional that helps the group take responsibility for solving the problem at hand.

While the facilitator manages the process, the ground rules are established by the group. The facilitator is simply there to help the parties reach an agreement. In particular, he or she is a skilled technician in facilitating group discussion, and sometimes also brings experience on the substance of the issue to the table.

In principle, the facilitator has the following tasks:

- Assessing whether the CBA is feasible and appropriate;
- Establishing ground rules for communication with the parties and reminding parties about them;
- Preparing the agenda for the meetings;
- Managing group deliberations and paraphrasing parties’ statements during the meetings;
- Training parties in negotiation and consensus building skills;
- Taking notes during the meetings;
- Bringing structure to the negotiations;
- Helping parties with thinking creatively, brainstorming, and generating packages of proposals;
- Restructuring proposals into packages, checking whether packages are supported by other members of the committee and finding out what the objections are;
- Coordinating the subcommittees;
- Drafting meeting summaries after each meeting;
- Maintaining a “single text” that contains the key points of all the agreements reached and the reasoning behind these agreements;
- Communicating with the world outside the committee.

It is clear that this role differs from the role of “chair” in a traditional Model United Nations context. A facilitator takes a more active role in managing the discussion, for example by paraphrasing and by stimulating brainstorming. In addition, the facilitator also takes a more prominent role in taking notes and in drafting the final document, even though parties are free to also work on drafting parts of the agreement. Finally, in some way, the role of the facilitator is also less important than in a traditional MUN. The facilitator is not the “guardian of the process” that strictly enforces compliance with the rules of procedure. Instead, the role of the facilitator is to help the parties during the process. Should the parties not agree with the facilitator, he or she should take a step back and let the parties take over, as his or her role is purely advisory.



What is the role of the country delegates in the CBA?

The role of the country delegates in the CBA is actually quite similar to the one in a traditional MUN. Delegates represent the interests of their country as a member of the diplomatic corps. The style of representing your country is quite different, however. There is no need for formal speeches or for referring to yourself as “the delegate from ...”; you can just use “I”. Another difference is that you will be asked to sign the final agreement in personal capacity, which means that you will be asked to defend in good faith the agreement to the country you represent and that you will adhere to its spirit. In addition, delegates should keep in mind that in the CBA committee, the countries have agreed to the CBA, because they believe it is in their best interests. Therefore, they are expected to participate in a constructive manner.

Guidelines of Procedure CBA

On the following pages, we detail the guidelines that govern how the G20 CBA Committee will be governed. As you can see, there are no “formal” Rules of Procedure (except those that relate to the organizational structure of the conference, as described in the EuroMUN 2018 Rules of Procedure). Rather, what is said here are guidelines, which can be further developed and deviated from within the CBA Committee by the parties, with the help of the Facilitator.

Before the conference Before the start of the conference, you have received this document, with an introduction to the CBA and the present Guidelines of Procedure for the CBA Committee. These are part of the Assessment Report, which contains a detailed analysis of the topic by the team of facilitators. This document contains a conflict assessment, a draft work plan, a proposed agenda, and some proposed ground rules. It also contains a list of the relevant stakeholders that will participate in the debate (see p.8), and in what way they will participate. This document is pretty similar to the “Study Guide” in a traditional MUN.

Parties will be asked to submit “Statement of Interests” in response to the issues raised in the Assessment Report and any related issues that you would like to bring up in the course of negotiations. In these statements, parties indicate what is important to them with regards to the topic at hand. This is similar to the “position papers” in a traditional MUN, with the exception that parties should try to focus on interests, and not positions (which is a key point of integrative negotiation – see above).

Structure of the committee session

In these Guidelines of Procedure, the team of facilitators have already proposed some ground rules, a working method, and the different roles and responsibilities. The rest of the session is structured as follows.

Opening statement of the facilitators and establishing ground rules

Second, the Committee is officially opened, and the CBA starts. The facilitators make a statement on their proposals for how the CBA Committee will be conducted.

More specifically, they propose to organize the committee as detailed in this document and as in the Assessment Report. In addition, they propose the following ground rules for communication:

- We agree to disagree without being disagreeable (“respect”): delegates are encouraged to state so if they disagree. However, they should do so in a respectful

way, without attacking the motives or the characters of another delegate, but rather for substantive reasons.

- If you don't agree, explain why you don't agree everyone should be ready to back the reasons why they do not agree with a proposal by substantive arguments. • Only one person can speak at the same time and no one will interrupt another person.
- No grandstanding: delegates are discouraged from making overly long and repetitive statements, which hinder other delegates from participating fully.
- The facilitators manage the communication process between delegates; they are responsible for monitoring these ground rules.
- There is no final agreement until agreement is reached on everything.
- All delegates can only speak to the media about their own views, and not about the views of others. They certainly cannot attribute quotes to other people.
- Group decisions are made through "consensus": this means that all participants can "live with" the package; they might oppose certain aspects, but not enough to warrant opposition to the whole package.
 - Additional ground rules can be added by consensus. In this stage, delegates are encouraged and expected to give their comments and to add ground rules of communication for themselves. The final goal of this step is to agree on ground rules for communication that will govern the further discussions.

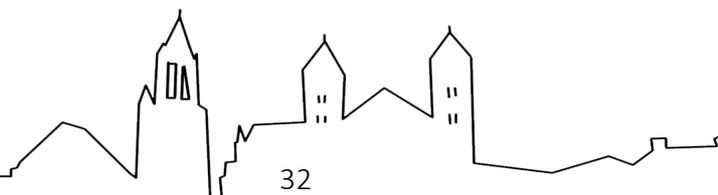
The facilitators will gather the final ground rules and will come up with a document that they will make accessible to all delegates through electronic means (such as Google Doc), so that everyone knows the ground rules.

Round of opening statement of the delegates

After a brief substantive introduction of the topic by the facilitators, the delegates will receive the chance to make an opening statement, where they are expected to state their interests ("what is important to you?"). To ensure that everyone can be heard, a time limit of 2 minutes is imposed. Delegates are encouraged to speak freely, but with respect and in a non-confrontational manner. Statements about "non-negotiables" are discouraged.

Agenda-setting

Next, based on the opening statements, the facilitators propose a draft agenda that divides the topic into different subtopics. This draft agenda is then discussed with the delegates and they decide on a final agenda for the discussion, which can be revised periodically by consensus, if necessary. This part is extremely crucial to the debate and can be debated upon extensively. Since there is only a limited amount of time available to the delegates, the order in which subtopics are put in might result in a few subtopics not being discussed at all.



Exploring interests

After this, the facilitators will open the floor to questions and comments by the delegates, following the agenda decided in the previous phase. The goal of this step is to map all of the interests of the participants. Delegates are encouraged to state the reasons behind a certain opinion and not to conceal their motives.

The facilitator guides the discussion and paraphrases the statements made. Delegates are allowed to reply to each other (and even to paraphrase each other), but the facilitator manages the discussion.

Brainstorming about options for value creation and objective criteria

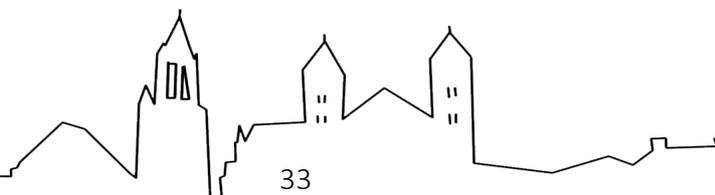
when all of the interests are on the table, we will engage in a brainstorm session with all participants. The goal in this phase is to gather as much options for the problem and to find objective criteria that can serve to decide which option to pursue.

The brainstorm exercise will be conducted as follows:

1. The delegates will first be asked to think about several options for themselves. They will work on this individually, in silence, within the committee.
2. Afterwards, delegates will be given time to freely discuss this with other delegates outside committee, to give them time to get their creative power working.
2. Next, delegates are asked to send their ideas to the facilitators, who will bundle all of the ideas.
3. Finally, we have a group brainstorm session in committee, where we add to the ideas suggested by the delegates. Two rules should be followed during the brainstorm exercise: 1) no evaluation; 2) no ownership. The facilitator will encourage the brainstorming by asking: what else can we do? Delegates should not criticize ideas, but they can add to an existing idea to form new ideas.
4. The facilitators will keep track of the ideas that result from the brainstorm exercise and will share them with the delegates via electronic means. These ideas are not immediately evaluated, as this is postponed to the next phase.

Negotiation phase – looking for consensus

After the different options for value creation and the possible objective criteria are on the table, the facilitators will open the negotiations between delegates. The facilitators manage the discussions. Facilitators and the delegates can make use of the following techniques (which can also be used in the other phases, but are especially relevant here):



- Paraphrasing: facilitators will paraphrase the parties, but parties are also encouraged to paraphrase each other;
- Breaks: the facilitators can propose to take a break if this is necessary, for example so that some groups can work on a proposal, or to calm down emotions;
- Caucus: the facilitators can meet up with delegates individually or in small sub- groups, for example in order to break an impasse; Note-taking: the team of facilitators is primarily responsible for taking notes of the discussions. They regularly produce meeting summaries, which note key points of agreement and disagreement, without attributing statements to delegates. Feedback on the notes by the delegates is encouraged.
- “Working groups” and “subcommittees”: the facilitators and the delegates can decide to split up the committee into subcommittees or working groups. For example, this can be useful when concrete proposals on certain topics need to be drafted, as it will probably be inefficient to discuss this with the full committee. It does remain essential, however, for the subcommittees to report back to the full committee.
- “One-text procedure”: the facilitators bundle the notes and proposals from delegates and working groups and incorporate them in a single text that is shared with all participants. Participants comment on the single text, while the facilitators keep revising the document.
- Visualization and communication platforms: the facilitators are responsible for ensuring that everyone has access to the notes, the single text, the results of the brainstorm exercises, and the different proposals. For this Google Docs will be used. In addition, the facilitators can make available an online document where delegates can freely add ideas.
- Drafting packages of proposals: the facilitators are responsible for managing the discussions on the different proposals. To this end, they periodically restructure the proposals to form packages, and check whether these packages are acceptable to delegates, or what needs to be changed to make them acceptable.

Straw polls: to check whether a package is acceptable to delegates, the facilitators can ask for a “straw poll”, i.e. an informal and non-binding vote, where delegates do a show of hands. This allows the facilitators and the delegates to quickly check whether a package enjoys support from the group. Optionally, the facilitators can ask the delegates to indicate their level of support according to the following categories:

1. Wholeheartedly agree
2. Good idea
3. Supportive
4. Reservations – would like to talk
5. Serious concerns – must talk

6. Cannot be part of the decision – must block it

If all of the participants fall between a and c, consensus will be assumed. If someone falls between d and f, that person must explain why he or she does not agree and must offer a constructive alternative option.

- Reaching agreement: the facilitator keeps asking: “Who can’t live with this package?” In addition, those who oppose the proposal are asked: “What should we improve so that you would agree to the proposal, while still making it acceptable to the other parties?”
- Joint fact-finding and/or expert advisors: delegates can agree to joint fact-finding, by jointly deciding which facts are needed and what method of fact-finding will be used. In addition, the parties can decide to jointly appoint an expert advisor, who will shed their light on certain questions relating to the topic. The idea is that this ensures that everyone has access to expert information. The delegates jointly discuss the results of the report of the expert advisor and have the opportunity to ask questions to the expert.

Conclusion of the agreement

Of course, the goal of the negotiations is to reach an agreement, ideally with consensus, but with overwhelming agreement if consensus is not possible. The goal is to come to an agreement that everyone, or almost everyone, can live with.

If an agreement is reached, it will be written down and finalized. Next, the delegates are asked to personally sign the document to indicate that they support the agreement and are willing to defend it in public. It is important to note that the delegates are signing as an individual and that this does not legally bind the country they represent (the delegates have no authority for this). It merely implies that the delegate believes that this is a good agreement for its country.

