

WHITE HOUSE COMMITTEE
YÖNDER MUN

UNDER SECRETARY GENERAL - Enishan SEZGİN
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Dear Delegates,

Welcome to YönderMUN'26!

As the Secretary General, I am very excited to welcome you all to our conference. I hope YönderMUN'26 will be a place where you can share your ideas, meet new people, and improve yourselves while discussing important global issues.

Our academic team has worked hard to prepare your study guides, and I hope they will help you feel confident and ready for the conference.

I wish you all an inspiring, enjoyable, and memorable YönderMUN'26.

Best regards,

Gülce Nil Yılmaz

Secretary General of YönderMUN'26

Distinguished delegates, first of all, I wish you all a successful conference. I hope these three days prove to be productive, enjoyable, and memorable for everyone. My only request is that you adhere to the rules and maintain a serious demeanor within the committee; please be aware that failure to do so will result in appropriate sanctions. Reading the guide is crucial for understanding the committee's proceedings, so it is essential that everyone reads it. Once again, I wish you a successful conference and happy reading.

Under-Secretary-General
Enishan SEZGİN

INTRODUCTION TO THE COMMITTEE

The committee will operate under a special committee format.

The proceedings will follow a "semi-crisis" model.

While the committee will largely operate through moderated caucuses, the submission of directives will be unrestricted. Legislation that the White House seeks to pass through the Senate will be presented to the board in the form of formal bills. Directives will also be permitted in other contexts—such as organizing a press conference or

issuing a statement in response to news published by the three journalist delegates within the committee. The White House will hold press conferences every two or three sessions. Leaders of other parties may request meetings with the White House—or directly with the President—and will conduct election campaigns. In special situations, the committee will move to the bunker to manage crises alongside generals and the heads of the FBI and CIA. Election campaigns will take place, and results will be monitored on the committee's large screen. Furthermore, a change in the presidency is possible; the incoming president will hold an inauguration ceremony and present a "first 100 days" report. A UN session will also be convened.

In short, welcome to an introduction to the American political process and system of government.

INTRODUCTION TO THE AGENDA ITEM

Agenda Item: America's Recovery

During a speech at the Senate, a bombing kills the President and the entire cabinet; the sole surviving minister becomes America's new president and attempts to manage the ensuing chaos.

Primary Objectives: Ending terrorism in America; fixing systems (education, economy, etc.); bringing peace to America.

Political Dimensions of Implemented Measures

Education System: The current administration seeks to drastically curtail the powers of the federal Department of Education and fully devolve

decisions regarding curriculum and budgets to the states. Consequently, recent measures are part of a broader effort to shrink the department's scope of authority.

Military: Recent major changes within the US military have focused on resolving the long-standing recruitment crisis (personnel shortage) and shifting the military's focus entirely back to "combat readiness." Automatic military registration is part of this initiative.

Economic: US economic policy is currently driven by a single logic: raising trade barriers, protecting domestic production, and exerting economic pressure on rivals. Under the second Trump administration, Washington has taken highly aggressive steps to reshape global trade rules entirely in its own favor. Examples include the trade war with Canada and a newly enacted law authorizing the US to impose tariffs of up to 100% on countries that continue to purchase oil and gas from Russia.

The political system of the United States is a complex one in which the executive and legislative branches operate through constant negotiation and oversight. At the heart of this system lie the White House, the Senate, and the House of Representatives.

The White House, representing the pinnacle of the executive branch, is not defined solely by the President's personal decisions. Unlike the system in our country, the President's powers are not unlimited; under the Constitution, the President is required to maintain a close working relationship with Congress across a wide range of areas, from domestic to foreign policy.

This is where the legislative branch comes into play. Congress consists of two chambers: the House of Representatives, where representation is based on population, and the Senate, where each state is represented equally (by two members). While the House of Representatives is designed to rapidly reflect societal trends through short, two-year terms, the Senate—renewed through staggered six-year election cycles—embodies a more stable and institutional mindset. This stark contrast between the two chambers forms the fundamental balance of the legislative process. Despite specific divisions of authority—such as the requirement that revenue-raising bills originate in the House—the enactment of any law necessitates that both chambers approve the exact same text, word for word. If the texts do not align, joint committees are formed, and the process proceeds through compromise.

One of the most critical links between Congress and the White House is established through the Senate. Beyond its legislative duties, the Senate serves as a constitutional check on the President. For high-level appointments to be made or international treaties to be implemented, the Senate's "advice and consent" is required (with a two-thirds majority needed for treaties). Consequently, the fact that the President and the Senate majority belong to the same political party does not guarantee the automatic approval of appointments or bills.

The clearest instance of convergence within the system is observed during the legislative process.

Bills that pass through both chambers of Congress and become final texts are sent to the White House. If the President signs the bill, it becomes law; however, exercising the veto power does not end the process. While a president—perhaps seeking to impress the public during the "first 100 days"—might issue a veto, doing so too frequently can trigger a backlash. Congress retains the authority to override such a veto by securing a two-thirds majority in both chambers. On the other hand, the President lacks the authority to directly propose legislation or vote as a member of Congress; instead, they exert influence through political negotiations and the power of the veto.

KEY TERMS

U. **S. House of Representatives** : Impeaches and prosecutes the President for various offenses. The Senate acts as a court in this process, and senators play the role of a jury and judge the president.

Senate : The US Senate is one of the country's most powerful decision-making bodies and is the chamber established to protect the rights of the

states. In America, both California—with a population of 40 million—and Wyoming—with a population of 600,000—send two senators to the Senate. The US President cannot appoint cabinet secretaries, ambassadors, or Supreme Court justices at will; Senate confirmation of these nominees is mandatory.

Senator : A politician elected by the public to represent their state in the U.S. Senate and enact laws, serving a six-year term.

Representative : A politician representing a specific district within the state, serving a two-year term.

AUTHORITY OF THE PRESIDENT

National Emergencies Act

Enacted by Congress in 1976, this is the fundamental law governing the U.S. President's exercise of broad, unilateral powers during times of crisis. The essence of the law is to enable the President to act swiftly during a crisis while simultaneously keeping that power in check. What Does the Law Do? How Does It Work? Authority to Trigger Action: The President can declare a national emergency with a single signature by asserting the existence of an extraordinary situation in the country (such as a pandemic, natural disaster, or security threat).

Unlocking Special Powers: Upon the declaration of an emergency, more than 130 special powers—normally inaccessible to the President (such as reallocating budget funds, deploying the military,

or restricting trade)—become active. The President must explicitly state in the declaration document exactly which of these powers will be exercised. Expiration Date: Declared emergencies remain in effect for one year. Unless the President extends the period via an official notice before the annual anniversary, the emergency status automatically lapses.

This law was enacted in the 1970s to prevent presidents from exercising their powers without limits.

Congress (Legislature): Congress can revoke a presidentially declared emergency at any time through a joint vote. Furthermore, the law requires Congress to regularly review these situations. Courts: If the President oversteps their authority by using the emergency as a pretext (for instance, by attempting to force the expenditure of funds that Congress never approved), federal courts can halt such actions.

130 CLAUSES

The power to completely suspend restrictions regarding the rank, promotion, and mandatory retirement of military personnel.

The authority to mandatorily recall retired officers and non-commissioned officers from the naval, air, and land forces to active duty.

The power to assign all reserve military elements directly to active military operations, regardless of personnel consent.

The authority to recall nearly one million military personnel in "ready reserve" status to duty for up to 24 months at a time.

The power to deploy specific reserve military units directly to the operational theater in the event of natural disasters, terrorism, or internal security threats.

The power to indefinitely extend the contracts of active-duty military personnel without their consent.

The authority to divert military construction budgets approved by Congress to emergency projects designated by the President (such as wall construction) without consulting the legislature.

The power to bypass the requirement for "open and transparent bidding" in Department of Defense contracts and procure directly from a chosen company.

The authority to unilaterally revise, expand, or cancel national defense contracts without adhering to standard public procurement regulations.

The authority to relax procurement rules for critical minerals and raw materials required for the defense industry and munitions production.

The power to temporarily freeze the resignation or retirement rights of personnel in critical military specialties.

The authority to place Coast Guard personnel directly under the command of the Navy and expand their operational scope. Authority to recall retired Coast Guard officers to mandatory duty for crisis management.

Authority to unilaterally alter the service periods and duty stations of Coast Guard reserve personnel.

Authority to assign reserve personnel currently on the standby roster to active frontline duty.

Authority to allow military personnel to hold temporary ranks exceeding statutory limits.

Authority to completely suspend statutory caps (upper limits) on the number of general and admiral positions.

Authority to waive numerical ceilings for reserve officer positions during a crisis.

Authority to streamline processes for rapidly activating the conscription (military draft) system during a crisis.

Authority to extend the duration of health and medical care entitlements for military personnel scheduled for discharge, in response to the crisis.

Authority to relax rules to expedite procedures for death benefit payments to the families of deceased military personnel.

Authority to rapidly lease or transfer military-owned real estate and land during a crisis without prior reporting to Congress.

Authority to accelerate the process of expropriating (purchasing or seizing) private land and property during national defense emergencies.

Authority to completely remove spending limits imposed on minor construction projects within the Department of Defense budget.

Authority to temporarily requisition cargo and passenger aircraft from civilian airlines for military logistical support.

Authority to directly integrate military-status personnel from the Public Health Service into the Army or Navy. Authority to mandate that the civilian industry prioritize orders for the production of military equipment under the Defense Production Act.

Power to relax rules regarding the provision of direct financial grants and loans from government funds to defense industry manufacturers.

Authority to exempt trust- or cartel-like agreements between defense industry companies from antitrust laws.

Power to maximize the production capacity of strategic oil reserve sites belonging to the Navy.

Authority to provide logistics and fuel to the naval vessels of foreign allies at US ports, either free of charge or at low cost.

Power to directly transfer—without a bidding process—surplus military vehicles, weapons, and ammunition held by the military to local police departments or emergency response teams.

Authority to freeze all U.S.-based assets and prohibit trade with foreign countries, companies, or individuals deemed threats under the International Emergency Economic Powers Act.

Power to directly oversee, restrict, or completely halt banking transactions, foreign currency transfers, and exports of gold and silver.

Power to immediately sever all ties with the U.S. financial ecosystem for foreign banks suspected of money laundering or terrorist financing.

Power to temporarily lift import duties, customs regulations, and trade restrictions to facilitate the delivery of aid to crisis zones.

Authority to exceed budgetary limits for military, peacekeeping, or counter-terrorism assistance to foreign nations without congressional approval.

Power to directly seize all assets belonging to enemy nations within U.S. borders during wartime or emergencies, under the Trading with the Enemy Act.

Emergency power allowing the President to authorize the direct transfer of weapons and ammunition from military stockpiles to allied nations, even without a congressional budget appropriation.

Power to freely reallocate funds between different foreign aid budget categories (e.g., shifting funds from humanitarian aid to military assistance).

Authority to completely bypass all bureaucratic and legal restrictions within the Foreign Assistance Act in situations vital to U.S. national interests.

Power to bypass mandatory advance notifications to Congress and required waiting periods for arms sales to foreign nations.

Authority to exceed established limits on emergency financial contributions to United Nations peacekeeping operations. The power to release state-held reserves of raw materials, minerals, and rare elements into the market under the Strategic and Critical Materials Stock Piling Act.

The power to immediately implement banking restrictions, flight bans, and import embargoes against countries using chemical or biological weapons.

The authority to automatically block all arms trade and financial aid directed at state sponsors of terrorism.

The power to cut off all state-backed loans and economic aid—excluding humanitarian assistance—to countries designated as state sponsors of terrorism.

The authority to restructure the budgets of all other federal agencies to focus on crisis management, depending on the scope of the emergency declaration.

The power to modify the terms of state guarantees for international development projects in response to crisis conditions.

The power to increase spending limits for migrant and refugee funds during international humanitarian crises without awaiting congressional approval.

The power to evacuate State Department personnel (diplomats) from dangerous zones during crises and to establish emergency per diem regulations.

The authority to relax mortgage insurance limits and state-backed financial guarantees during emergency crisis periods.

The power to accelerate emergency intervention and bank merger procedures for deposit insurance agencies (such as the FDIC) during banking crises.

The power to adjust public debt issuance processes and emergency cash management rules in response to crisis conditions.

The power to restrict access to the U.S. banking system for non-cooperative countries as part of efforts to combat international drug trafficking.

The power to shut down, seize, or place under government control all wired and wireless radio and TV stations in the country pursuant to the Communications Act of 1934 (this forms the basis for modern debates regarding internet restrictions).

The power to prohibit the public disclosure of—and designate as "state secrets"—new technology patent applications that could adversely affect national security or defense.

The power to limit obligations regarding safety, leak reporting, and public information sharing for nuclear power plants and facilities.

The power to suspend licenses for the civilian use of nuclear energy and to place the distribution of materials such as uranium and thorium entirely under state control.

The power to redirect national natural gas pipeline delivery priorities and civilian distribution networks based on the needs of crisis zones.

The power to intervene directly in electrical grids via the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission and to issue mandatory operating orders to electricity generation facilities.

The power to directly allocate radio, two-way radio, and television frequency licenses during emergencies, bypassing standard application and bidding processes.

The authority to prioritize frequency usage rights for government radio and communications stations over those of civilian broadcasters.

The power to mandate—under federal energy management authority—that oil and energy companies share production and inventory data (classified as trade secrets) with the government.

The power to shorten or defer the Nuclear Regulatory Commission's oversight and licensing timelines for civilian nuclear reactors during a crisis. The authority to suspend transparency rules and the requirement for public meetings within the Federal Communications Commission during a crisis.

The authority to grant security personnel at facilities producing nuclear weapons or materials broad powers to use force and make arrests in the event of a sabotage threat.

The authority to directly transfer copyright and patent rights for military or cyber inventions developed by government employees to the state.

The authority to temporarily waive consumer product safety standards for civil or military supplies requiring urgent procurement.

The authority to eliminate statutory waiting and suspension periods in the decision-making processes of boards within the Department of Energy.

The authority to grant the state and the military absolute priority in the use of communication towers, fiber-optic cable conduits, and infrastructure components.

The authority to cancel interstate commercial contracts during natural gas supply crises and divert gas to cities where heating is the priority.

The power to completely halt the movement of, search, or redirect all domestic and foreign vessels in U.S. waters through port authorities.

The authority to commandeer civilian merchant vessels, cargo ships, or private yachts on behalf of the government and utilize them for logistics during emergencies.

The power to completely close U.S. airspace to civilian flights or clear it for military flights via the Federal Aviation Administration.

The authority to empower the Transportation Security Administration to manage all civilian land, maritime, and rail transport entities from a single center under military discipline.

The power to directly dispatch government-owned surplus transport vehicles, heavy machinery, and land to crisis zones without a bidding process.

The power to authorize foreign vessels to resolve logistics crises by suspending the law that prohibits foreign-flagged ships from transporting cargo between U.S. ports.

The power to waive the rotation, tariff, and anti-monopoly obligations that railway companies must normally observe, in favor of crisis logistics requirements.

The power to mobilize the government's reserve civilian fleet or protected historic vessels for emergency cargo transport.

The power to reallocate airport development and construction funds for the urgent construction of military airfields or logistics bases without congressional approval.

The power to release emergency funds for repairing major disaster damage to federal highways without waiting for bureaucratic approval processes.

The power to place civilian vessels and crews contracted under the "Maritime Security Fleet" directly under military logistics command. The authority to suspend legal daily driving time limits (and mandatory rest periods) for truck and semi-truck drivers in order to expedite the logistics of emergency supplies.

The authority to relax strict safety routing regulations governing the transport of hazardous, chemical, or nuclear materials by road and rail.

The authority to suspend load limit regulations for commercial vessels, allowing for increased cargo capacity during a crisis.

The authority to temporarily relax railway safety inspection procedures and speed limits during crisis-related shipments.

The authority to completely prohibit civilian access to ports by declaring "Maritime Security Zones" in the event of intelligence regarding terrorism or sabotage.

The authority to provide state-backed "aviation war risk insurance" to commercial airlines—coverage that private insurers refuse to offer due to the risk of war or terrorism.

The authority to urgently cover insurance claims using state funds for U.S. commercial vessels that have been seized or stranded by foreign nations.

The authority to postpone or cancel statutory annual salary increases for federal civil servants, citing national crisis costs and the budget deficit.

The authority to suspend "regional allowances" paid to civil servants based on the cost of living in metropolitan areas or high-cost regions.

The authority to recall retired civil servants to duty without their consent to work in crisis management centers and disaster coordination roles.

The authority to completely lift "hiring freeze" rules—imposed due to budget caps—within federal agencies during a crisis.

The authority to enable inter-agency data sharing by relaxing privacy and personal data protection laws on grounds of public health or national security.

The authority to remove overtime pay caps for civil servants working in crisis centers, thereby allowing them to work longer hours.

The authority to have the state cover—without limit—the costs associated with the emergency relocation (reassignment/transfer) of federal personnel and their families due to the crisis.

The authority to include the extra hours worked during the crisis period by mandatorily recalled retired personnel in their retirement seniority calculations.

The authority to collectively cancel or postpone until after the crisis the annual leave entitlements of civil servants.

The authority to waive the mandatory 180-day waiting period for retired military personnel transitioning to civilian civil service roles during a crisis.

The authority to immediately dismiss and permanently bar from civil service any government employees who strike or engage in work slowdowns against the government or the state. The authority to suspend any federal civil servant deemed to pose a national security risk without awaiting court proceedings or an investigation.

The authority to ensure that civilian volunteers temporarily recruited during a crisis receive compensation from the state if injured while on duty.

The authority to increase the rates of statutory deductions from the salaries of public personnel indebted to the state, in favor of the crisis budget.

The authority to directly determine the extra risk allowances for personnel serving at overseas missions (embassies) during a crisis or wartime.

Authority to sell oil directly from the massive underground "Strategic Petroleum Reserve" to foreign or domestic markets without Congressional approval.

Power to place all offshore private oil and natural gas exploration platforms and fields under direct state control on grounds of national defense.

Power to authorize the installation of emergency military facilities and radar systems in certain national parks or protected areas.

Power to temporarily waive environmental protection requirements, EIA reports, and wastewater standards for emergency infrastructure and military construction projects under Clean Water Act exemptions.

Power to release state-held agricultural stockpiles (wheat, cotton, corn, etc.) to stabilize prices against the risk of scarcity.

Power to relax licensing conditions regarding water retention and energy generation for federal hydroelectric dams in favor of civilian water needs or electricity crises.

Power to freeze the terms and environmental obligations of mining, oil, and gas leases on public lands for the duration of a crisis.

Power to directly access land-bypassing property rights—to conduct emergency cleanup operations at toxic waste sites.

Power to suspend conservation laws in areas designated for emergency dam, road, or military base construction through exemptions to the Endangered Species Act.

Power to completely lift planting quotas—originally established to prevent agricultural overproduction—in the event of a potential food crisis.

Power to impose state quotas on the market release, pricing, and distribution mechanisms for food products handled by farmers and agricultural cooperatives. The authority to oversee oil-sharing agreements between oil companies and foreign governments during international crises, under the International Energy Program.

The authority to utilize the Army Corps of Engineers' budget without limits for the repair

of dams and levees damaged by floods or hurricanes.

The authority to redesign the terms of soil conservation and agricultural support payments to farmers, prioritizing crisis-oriented food production.

The authority to temporarily relax operational, safety, and environmental oversight rules for the Trans-Alaska Pipeline System to ensure the continuity of energy flow.

The authority to directly control the distribution of medicines, vaccines, and medical supplies, and to enforce quarantines across state lines during major epidemics, pursuant to the Public Health Service Act.

The authority for the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to grant "Emergency Use Authorization" for vaccines and medicines during a crisis, bypassing standard testing and approval processes.

The authority to suspend strict bureaucratic regulations governing hospitals within the national health insurance system in order to alleviate overcrowding in emergency departments.

The authority for the FBI and federal law enforcement agencies to directly take over domestic security operations that would otherwise fall under state police jurisdiction during terrorist acts or crises.

The authority to increase production and pharmacy distribution quotas for painkillers, anesthetics, and controlled substances in response to crisis-driven needs.

The authority to mandate medical examinations and isolation for individuals arriving from abroad or traveling interstate who are suspected of

carrying an infectious disease. The authority to distribute ventilators, masks, protective equipment, and medicines from the National Strategic Medical Stockpile to states without a bidding process.

The authority to enable the military to provide logistical and intelligence support for domestic security operations against civilian offenders (under exceptional circumstances) in conjunction with federal emergency declarations.

The authority to grant full legal immunity to manufacturers and physicians regarding potential side effects of emergency vaccines or medical devices produced during a crisis.

The President's authority to deploy the full financial and logistical resources of the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to the field by declaring a region a "Major Disaster Area" through a single report.

POLITICAL ELECTIONS

In the elections held every four years, parties determine their own candidates without any specific preconditions; however, a long-standing

tradition has developed wherein the two major parties select their candidates through primary elections. The outcome of the U.S. presidential election is determined not by the nationwide popular vote share, but by the number of Electoral College members won. The Electoral College is a body that convenes shortly after the presidential election; the representatives won by each presidential candidate participate in this body, and the U.S. president is determined based on the vote cast there. The U.S. presidential election system is fundamentally based on the selection of these Electoral College members.

The vote of every U.S. citizen participating in the election is cast not to directly elect the supported candidate, but to determine the Electoral College member who will represent that candidate. Each state selects a specific number of Electoral College members allocated to it. The number of Electoral College members for each state is equal to the total number of representatives that state has in the Senate and the House of Representatives. The only exception to this rule is Washington, D.C., the U.S. capital. Washington, D.C. holds a special status and has no senators or members of the House of Representatives; however, to ensure that voters living in the city can participate in the presidential election, it has been granted the right to send a number of members to the Electoral College equal to that of the state with the fewest members. Residents of U.S. territories such as Puerto Rico, Guam, and American Samoa cannot vote in U.S. presidential elections and, consequently, do not send members to the Electoral College. States have considerable latitude in determining how their Electoral College members are selected; for instance, in some states, the candidate who wins the most votes secures all of that state's Electoral College members. In some states, however, a proportional representation system is used to

determine the composition of the Electoral College.

Under this system, it is sometimes possible for a candidate to win the presidency despite receiving fewer votes nationwide than their opponent. For instance, in the 2000 US presidential election, although Democratic candidate Al Gore received over 500,000 more votes than Republican candidate George W. Bush, Bush won the election by securing a 271-266 lead in the Electoral College.

The results of the presidential election are certified by the US Congress in January following the election. Should any dispute arise regarding the election results, the US Congress resolves the matter. The president-elect and vice president-elect assume office at noon on January 20 following the election.