

# Tricks of the Trade: Nuances, Tactics and Strategies for Model UN

- **Start caucusing early**
  - Introduce yourself to others when you arrive at the conference site, and especially in the time before the meeting is called to order
- **When giving a formal speech, make good use of the time**
  - Time for speeches may be short, and you need to be prepared
  - Base your speech on the current circumstances
  - Pre-written speeches versus speaking extemporaneously
  - A note about speaking styles: *don't read your speech!*
- **Caucusing is where all the work gets done, and it should be done early and often**
  - Behind the scenes versus "formal" caucusing
  - After hours caucusing and personal contacts
- **A view of formal caucusing - concentric circles**
  - Stick with the leaders (center of the caucus)
  - Be active
- **What is your role?**
  - Some possible roles: leader, facilitator, whip, wordsmith, consensus builder, typist, follower
- **The only cardinal sin at the UN - never act alone**
  - Strength in diplomacy often comes through numbers
- **Don't write a resolution that just states the problem, *work toward a solution to the problem first***
  - If the answers are simple, why hasn't someone solved it yet?
- **Whenever possible, don't condemn**
  - If you are trying to solve a problem, condemning one party rarely helps
- **Compromise, compromise, compromise**
  - What does your nation *really* need to see in a solution, and what are you willing to compromise?
- **Credit others whenever possible**
  - Nothing makes friends faster than proving that you were listening, and giving credit to others for their ideas

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## Conclusions

- **Remember:** When at the conference you are a diplomat, and the Distinguished Representative of your country - think and act the part and others will treat you that way
- **Always keep in mind:** A diplomat's job (among others) is to "make friends and influence people"
- **Final advice:** Suffer fools gladly