



FAO Model Conference: *The Zero Hunger challenge: eliminating hunger, food insecurity and malnutrition for all.*

Background

The FAO Model Conference is the first academic-level simulation of the [Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations \(FAO\)](#) organs and committees. It will be held at FAO headquarters in Rome from 21 to 25 September 2015, within the framework of the [Milan 2015 EXPO](#).

The conference is organized by [MUN Academy](#), a no-profit organization that delivers high-quality practical education to younger generations on the United Nations, its principles and functioning while attaching great importance and attention to local and regional values. To accomplish its mission, it offers professional civic training, career guidance and cultural exchanges to the youth at the national and international level.

The main purpose of the conference is to promote the FAO mission and knowledge of its functioning, and to give university students a chance to practice diplomacy by impersonating the role of a diplomat and discuss issues on the global agenda for food and agriculture. This will require a set of skills which include the ability to speak confidently in public, developing negotiation skills thus forming alliances and sticking to the assigned country's position on a particular issue, being able to draft a working paper and in a later stage full resolutions.

The main outcome of the simulation will be contained in the resolution that each committee will pass on the topics discussed throughout the week. This document is the outcome of strenuous research on the issues under discussion and of challenging negotiations in the conference sessions.

We would also welcome the sharing of resolutions with the respective committees to challenge them on taking innovative solutions towards some of the most urgent issues on the international agenda for food and agriculture.

2015 Conference theme and committees

The FAO Model Conference general theme will be: *The Zero Hunger challenge: eliminating hunger, food insecurity and malnutrition for all*. Thus, it will focus on the challenges and possible solutions to feed nine billion people and the whole planet by 2050.

The FAO Model Conference will deal with the major issues of food production and food consumption, and students will have the chance to do so in the context of international relations and through the application of diplomatic tools. Selected students will be exposed to a confrontation on the threats and opportunities to sustainability offered by the international arena and will negotiate possible solutions to the proposed topics which include the exploitation of natural resources and the environmental challenges posed by actors operating in multinational contexts.

Participants will be split into six different committees, where 800 students will represent delegations of countries different from their own, and will be called to debate issues on the agendas of the different FAO organs and committees. The conference debates will also be covered by young journalists, who will share online news on the debates and final resolutions.



The following committees will be simulated:

- [FAO Council](#)
- [FAO Committee on Agriculture \(COAG\)](#)
- [FAO Committee on World Food Security \(CFS\)](#)
- [FAO Committee on Constitutional and Legal Matters \(CCLM\)](#)
- [FAO Committee on Fisheries \(COFI\)](#)
- [FAO Committee on Forestry \(COFO\)](#)
- **MUN Academy Gazette**

Opening ceremony

Keynote speakers for the opening ceremony (invited) include:

- **Dr. José Graziano da Silva** (pending invitation)
Director-General of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
- **Ms. Federica Mogherini**
High Representative of the European Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy
- **Ms. Gerda Verburg**
Chairperson of the Committee on World Food Security (CFS)
- **H.E. Neil D. Briscoe**
Representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to FAO
- **Mr. Nicola Zingaretti**
President of the Region Lazio
- **Dr. Ignazio Marino**
Mayor of Rome
- **Mr. Mirko Montuori**
President of MUN Academy
- **Mr. Riccardo Mazzucchelli**
Director-General of the FAO Model Conference

Key partners

- Academia (around 100 universities globally)
- MUN Societies (around 100 globally)
- Connect4Climate
- Milan 2015 EXPO
- European Commission
- National and local institutions

Rome, 27 January 2015