

**GalCon 2026**



**US Senate  
Special Rules of Procedure**



## Official Document

Outlined below are the rules of procedure for the US Senate committee in GalCon 2026. This year the US Senate committee is introduced to Galcon, which differs from other committees in that it does not include neither submission papers nor UN resolutions. It is based on a censure debate in the US Senate where the goal of the committee is to discuss actions and vote on whether to condemn Senator Joseph McCarthy for his actions leading the Senate Homeland Security Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations and his investigations of Communists citizens of the United States of America. You will find some general definitions, a flow chart describing the flow of debate, the main rules of procedure, and lastly, some miscellaneous rules.

### General definitions

**Committee:** A forum composed of representatives of countries, organizations, and other entities where they discuss certain topics and issues and adopt solutions through clauses and resolutions. The United Nations is composed of many such committees, each focusing on a specific field. Examples of UN Committees include the UN Security Council, UN Women, ECOSOC, etc.

**Chair:** the administrator of a committee who organizes the debate.

**Debate Session:** A period of time in which the committee debates the topics at hand.

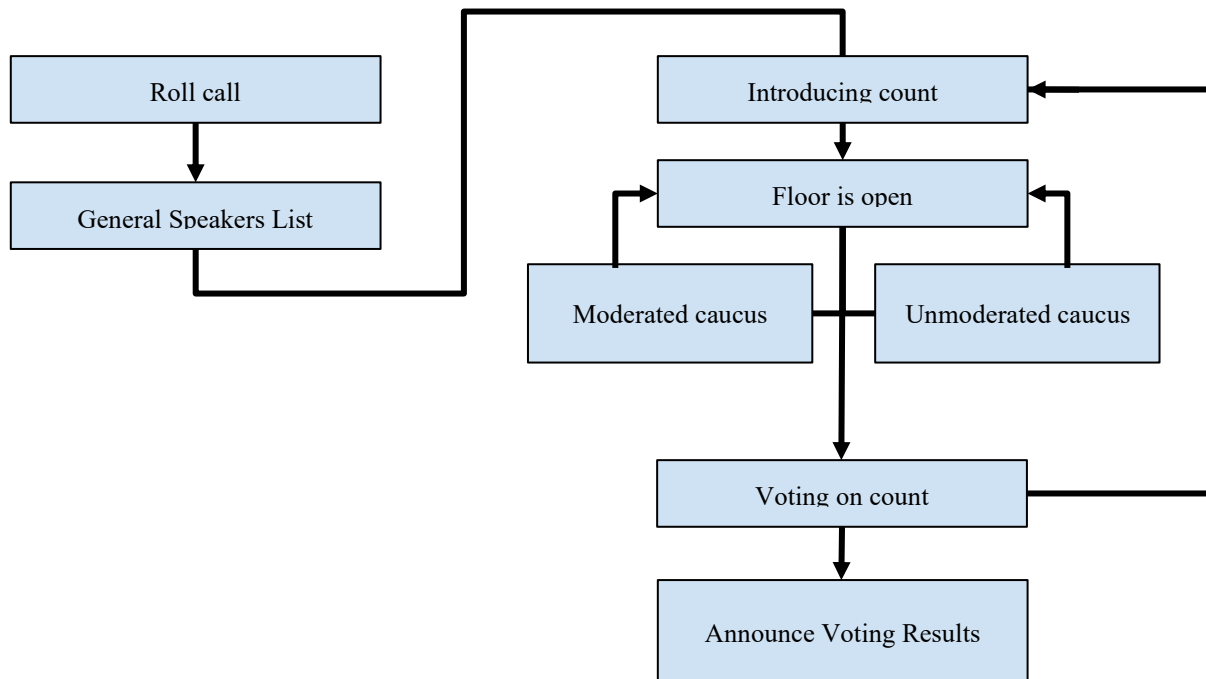
**Speaker:** A delegate that has the right to speak. This right is limited by time and allows the speaker to speak without being disrupted. It is the chair that provides the right to speak for the delegates.

**Delegate:** A representative of a country, an organization, or any other entity in a certain committee, in this committee delegates are representing senators which are elected or appointed members of the Senate. Therefore, committees are made up of chairs and delegates: People who organize the debate and people who debate.

**Procedural Voting:** It refers to voting on motions or amendments. Procedural Voting only allows votes in favor or votes against, and everyone who is present in the committee needs to vote (there can be no abstentions).

**Substantial Voting:** It happens when voting on clauses or draft resolutions. Generally, in Substantial Voting, delegates can abstain from voting (with the exception mentioned below).

**Count:** These are the main charges and accusations brought against a particular individual who is subject to a legal trial. In our simulation, the committee will debate 5 counts against which, if proven relevant or true, will be used as the basis to charge Senator Joseph McCarthy and censure him.



## Rules of Procedure

### 1. Starting the Session

Chairs are in charge of starting and restarting committee sessions. Chairs should, as much as possible, stick to the schedule provided by the conference or session organizers.

#### 1.1. Roll Call

When sessions begin, chairs should proceed to do a roll call. This action entails the chairs going over the list of senators represented in the committee. Delegates should in turn answer present or present and voting. Doing so would allow delegates to participate in the debate. Should the delegate declare “present and voting”, this would restrict the delegate to only vote in favor or against when voting on counts.

### 2. Formal Debate: General Speakers List

General Speakers List is a formal mode of debate that allows delegates to deliver speeches and contribute to the discussion. It is to be initiated after roll call. Chairs are to set up speakers lists and delegates are allowed to deliver their speech according to their turn. Yielding is required and points of information are allowed.

#### 2.1. Setting up speakers list

To begin the general speakers list, chairs must set up the speakers list. Chairs should declare “are there any delegates who wish to be added to the General



Speakers List?”, delegates who wish to do so should raise their placard. The chair, then, adds the delegates who raised their placard to the speakers list. When all the delegates who raised their placards have been added, the chair then moves on to 2.2. Chair’s discretion can allow for the General Speakers List to be reopened, allowing for another round of speakers.

## **2.2. General Speakers List Speech**

Delegates in the General Speakers List are given the floor to deliver their speech according to their position in the speakers list. Each delegate must approach the podium and deliver a 60 second speech.

## **2.3. Points of Information**

Upon completing their speech, the senator is to be asked by the chair whether they are open to any points of information. The senator may decline or accept. Upon accepting points of information, the chair is to ask the committee whether there are any points of information. Any senator with a point of information should raise their placard. Each point of information should not take more than 20 seconds to be made, and the answer by the speaker should not take more than 40 seconds. The senator making the point is allowed to motion for a follow-up only once. Motions to follow up are to be allowed by chair discretion with a maximum duration of 20 seconds. 1-3 Points of Information can be entertained following the Chairs’ Discretion.

## **2.4. Yielding the floor**

The speaker in a general speakers list may yield the floor only to the chair after Points of Information.

## **3. Setting Debate order**

After completing the General Speakers List, the committee should then set the order of debate on the counts. The Senators need to decide what is the order of which the counts will be debated. The chairs will ask the committee to vote on which count to debate first, before initiating another vote for the 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 5th place in the order of debate. Once an order has been voted for, the committee then moves on to debating the counts in the determined order.

## **4. Introducing count**

After the General Speakers List, chairs shall declare a count to be debated and specify the total duration of the debate, subsequent counts will be introduced in the same manner.

## **5. Procedural Voting**

Following the introduction of a count, chairs are to allow the committee to vote on the flow of the debate. This is done through motions and procedural steps described in the following articles.



**5.1. The Floor is Open**

The chairs are to allow senators to raise their motions by declaring “the floor is open for motions.”

**5.2. Raising a motion**

Senators may raise motions upon the chairs declaring that “The floor is open for motions.” Senators should raise their placards and state their motion upon being chosen by the chair.

**5.3. Seconds for a motion**

After a motion has been raised, the chairs need to check for any seconds for the motion. Seconds indicate support for the motion. The chair needs to declare, “are there any seconds to this motion?” A Senator can second the motion by raising their placards. If there are no seconds, the motion automatically fails. If there is at least one, the procedure continues to 3.4.

Note: some motions do not require seconds, check out the Motions document on the website.

**5.4. Objections for a motion**

After a motion has been raised and seconded, the chairs need to check for any objections to the motion. Objections indicate opposition to the motion. The chair needs to declare, “are there any objections to this motion?”. A Senator can object to the motion by raising their placards. If there are no objections, the motion automatically passes. If there is at least one objection, the motion is to be voted on.

**5.5. Raising other motions**

After 3.4, chairs then proceed to repeat the procedure (from 3.1 to 3.4) until there is a maximum of 4 motions raised by the delegates.

**5.6. Preparing list of motions to be voted upon**

All motions that have been raised, received seconds, and received objections are to be arranged in a voting list. The order of voting upon the motion is compiled from the most to the least disruptive. Check out the order of disruptiveness of the motions in the Motions document, available on the website.

**5.7. Voting on the motion**

The chairs begin the voting procedure on the motions in question. Senators may vote in favour or against the motion, abstentions are not allowed. Motions that fail are discarded. The first motion that receives a majority is to be applied, while the remaining motions are to be discarded.



## 6. **Informal Debate: Moderated Caucus and Unmoderated Caucus**

There are two types of informal modes of debate: Moderated Caucus and Unmoderated Caucus. Moderated Caucus [“Mod” for short] allows for quick-paced debate of a subtopic. Unmoderated Caucus [“Unmod” for short] allows delegates to lobby with minimal chair debate supervision.

### 6.1. **Moderated Caucus**

Moderated Caucus is an informal type of debate. It allows senators to debate a subtopic using more dynamic and fast-paced speeches. The general time, the individual speaker's time, and the topic of discussion are declared upon introducing the motion.

#### 6.1.1. **Choosing Speakers**

Chairs are to choose speakers in a moderated caucus in the following fashion: The chairs should declare “Are there any senators who wish to speak?”, upon which all senators wishing to do so should raise their placards. The chair would then select a speaker. Upon completion of the speech, the chair should repeat this process until the time of the moderated caucus elapses or until there are no other delegates wishing to make a speech.

#### 6.1.2. **Moderated Caucus Speech**

Senators speaking in a moderated caucus should stick to the individual speaker’s time. There are no points of information after the speaker finishes their speech. The delegates may not approach the podium while presenting their speech.

#### 6.1.3. **Yielding the time**

For this committee the speaker on a moderated caucus may yield the rest of their time to another senator.

### 6.2. **Unmoderated Caucus**

An informal mode of debate that allows senators to hold discussions with other senators directly, without moderation by the chairs. Also known as lobbying time, it allows senators to create blocs, to collect support and to work on their speeches. An unmoderated caucus is introduced by a motion that sets out its total time.

### 6.3. **Extending Unmoderated Caucus**

Chairs may allow for the committee to extend unmoderated caucus. At the end of the unmoderated caucus, after all senators have been seated, a delegate may raise a motion to extend the previous unmoderated caucus, specifying the time



extension (it needs to be less than the time of the previous unmoderated caucus). The chairs are to ask for any seconds, upon which they can approve or deny the motion, depending on the chairs' discretion.

## **7. Voting stage**

The general purpose of this committee is to debate the charges brought against Senator McCarthy and to compile a resolution determining whether each charge is upheld or dismissed and consequently whether or not he is censured. Therefore, the committee's ROP will allow the committee to vote upon each charge. This will be done in the manner described in the following articles.

### **7.1. Moving to vote on a count**

Using their discretion and being advised by the conference secretariat and schedule, chairs are to allow the committee to raise a "motion to vote on count X." This is to be done after the duration set to debate a certain count has elapsed. The debate on the considered count ends and the committee moves to debating another count after the motion has been raised and passes the committee vote.

### **7.2. Voting on a count**

After a "motion to vote on count X." passes the voting process starts. Senators will be called upon individually to cast their vote. By default, senators can vote in favour, against or abstain, depending on relevant motions and on declarations made during roll call. The count passes with a simple majority. After all votes are collected the result of the voting would not be declared until all counts have been voted on towards the end of the last session.

### **7.3. Voting on all counts**

Following 7.2. chairs then proceed to repeat the procedure (from 4 to 6.2.) until the committee has debated and voted on all the counts brought against the senator.

## **8. Motion to announce voting results**

During the last session of the conference, once debate and vote on all counts has been completed, the chairs are to announce to the committee the outcome of voting on each count. If a count passes it would be added by the chairs to the censure resolution. In order to declare McCarthy formally censured by the Senate a minimum of three out of five counts must pass. In order to announce the vote, the committee needs to pass a "Motion to announce voting results". This motion can only be entertained by chair's discretion and can only be passed towards the end of the last session.



**9. Motion to Close Debate**

After the voting results have been announced, the committee needs to pass a motion to close debate in order to formally close the debate on the topic and end the final session of the conference.

**10. US Senate committee rules**

The US Senate committee has additional unique rules and motions.

**10.1. Motion to summon the defendant to the stand**

Senators may raise a motion to call McCarthy to the stand. Upon passage a representative of McCarthy shall be placed on the stand for a period of five minutes, during which senators may direct questions and engage in debate with him. This motion may be entertained only once per session and requires a simple majority to pass.

**10.2. Motion for a Filibuster**

A senator may motion for a Filibuster, which grants a senator whose motion for filibuster has passed to be placed on the stand for a duration that can not exceed four minutes. The time could be used for a speech, answering points of information or debating other senators, which can be achieved through yielding the time. This motion requires two thirds majority to pass and can only be entertained with Chairs' discretion.

**11. Miscellaneous rules for conferences**

**11.1.** There will be no fact checking. Delegates cannot request the chairs to confirm the validity of claims made by delegates within their speeches.

**11.2.** Right of Reply is not in order.

**11.3.** Chairs' Discretion can allow for ice breaking activities, punishments, and any other activities, after consultation with the Secretariat.

**11.4.** Electronic devices are **not** in order throughout all MUN sessions except during breaks and unmoderated caucusing.

**11.5.** Delegates are encouraged to raise their Placard only after the chair ends their request with the word "Now!" If their Placard was raised at an inappropriate time (too early or too late) the chair is permitted to disregard their response.