

Senate Foreign Relations Panel

During the presentations of Futures, you will serve as the Senate Foreign Relations Panel. Your job during this preparatory session is to prepare questions to ask each of the Futures groups during the Hearing on the Futures. Your questions should not be attacks on the Futures but clarifying questions. Your goal is to make sure each Future has been explained clearly and that all students at the forum understand the distinctions among the four Futures.

When each Future presentation and Q&A is finished, it should be clear:

- what problem this Future is most concerned with,
- what values underlie this Future,
- what, from the perspective of this Future, our policy should be concerning the global issues considered in Session I.

Preparation

Review each of the four Futures thoroughly. Then work as a group to frame questions that you will address to the Futures groups following each of their presentations. Attention should be given to how each Future addresses the global issues considered in Breakout Session I.

Organization of the Futures Presentation Session

You will call each Future group in turn, giving each group a total of 13 minutes. This should be three minutes for presentation and ten minutes to respond to clarifying questions. Remind all students in the room that, as each Future is being presented, they should use the “What I think about the Futures” section of their “Reflections Log” to make note of one thing that they find appealing about the Future and one thing that concerns them.

Presentation of a Future (3 minutes): Each Future will be presented by two presenters serving as advocates introducing their assigned Future. The two presenters of the Future will be addressing the following questions:

1. What is the problem this Future is most concerned with? How will your Future address this?
2. What values underlie this Future?

Clarifying questions from the Senate Panel (10 minutes): Following this initial introduction to a Future, the Senate panel will address clarifying questions to the full Future group. For responses to your questions you should look first to students who did not present the introductory remarks. These students have prepared for the presentation session by considering the following questions:

1. What recommendations would your Future make for policy concerning the global issue you worked with in Breakout I?
2. Are there lessons from history to support the policy recommendations you are making? How do those lessons support your policy recommendations?

If time remains after all four Futures have been presented (total of 13 minutes per Future), you can address questions to any of the Futures groups, comparing the responses of one Future to those of another. Here too, remember that these should be clarifying questions designed to help differentiate among the Futures.