

# Introduction

O-MUN is an online debating platform that mimics face-to-face debate currently used around the world. Borrowing from the general debating procedures developed by The Hague International Model United Nations (THIMUN) program, students in diverse geographic locations can experience, in real time, the collaboration and debate experienced by tens of thousands of students every year. O-MUN's potential scope and reach makes it a unique educational activity for today's youth.

O-MUN is currently open to secondary/high school students, and for motivated 8<sup>th</sup> graders upon the recommendation of their advisor. Thanks to generous donations by OrgSync and Blackboard Collaborate, we are able to offer this educational program free of charge. Schools may also create dedicated online MUN portals for their club activities on O-MUN.

Check the O-MUN webpage for monthly debates and sign up for the one that interests YOU!



## Blackboard Collaborate

The Blackboard Collaborate room is the space where delegates meet to lobby and debate. Delegates are sent a personal login link to the room where there is supervised chat, a video/audio feed, and a large whiteboard for posting resolutions. Videos and websites can be pulled into the room to share with participants.

TitanPad (above) is used for real-time collaboration and resolution writing. This is also pulled directly into the Bb room for all participants to see. Resolution drafting can occur in real time on TitanPad/Bb or asynchronously if students cannot participate during regular lobbying and drafting sessions.

All room activity is recorded; video clips can be shared with others, and used to document participation; all chat is archived.

Running an O-MUN debate takes four student moderators, all of whom have been trained in the Blackboard Collaborate features. We encourage individuals wishing to act as a Student Officers/moderators to contact us!

## O-MUN

<http://onlinemun.org>

<https://www.facebook.com/onlinemun>

<http://twitter.com/#!/onlinemun>

## Delegate Recognition & Advancement Program

Everyone loves the thrill of debate, but at O-MUN we feel that this should not be done at the expense of newer, more hesitant participants. We believe leadership in MUN includes the development of skills that promote inclusiveness and assists others in finding voice to their country's problems.

O-MUN has developed a Delegate Recognition system that promotes and recognizes delegates for a variety of MUN activity, including debate, lobbying, substantive contributions to resolution writing, social media participation and contributions, and general promotion and team building within O-MUN. Based on accumulated point values, delegates earn the titles of Certified, Advanced, or Lead delegate, with top participants designated as Ambassador and honored on our O-MUN webpage.

### Online Model United Nations

Saturday, October 15

Debate: Middle East Water Policy

13:00 UTC/Pre-debate Lobbying at 12:00 UTC



Registration is open

Register now to request a country! Key players in this debate will go quickly!

All delegates and guests (advisors included) must register to receive a personal login.

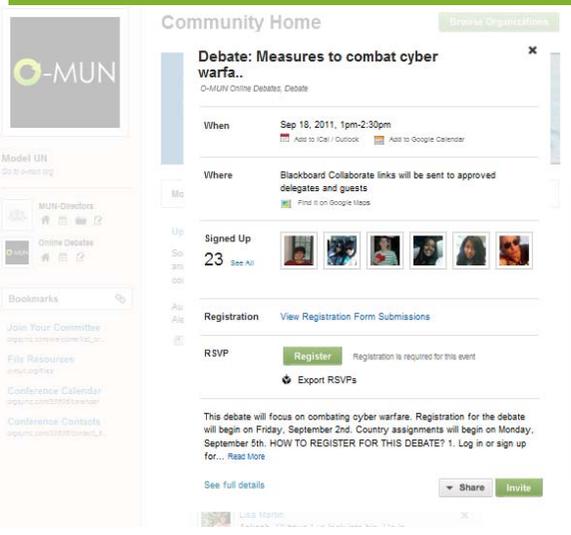
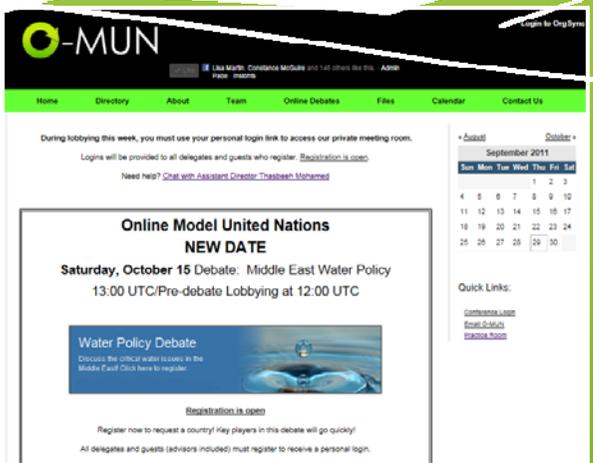
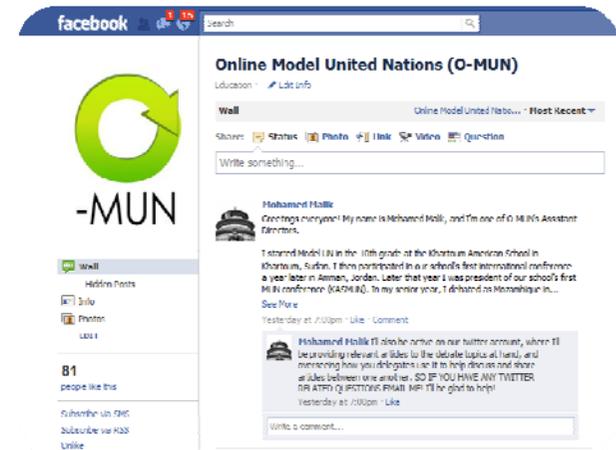
Delegate Profile: [Joy Nasr](#), St Joseph School, Beirut, Lebanon

O-MUN believes in recognizing our most active and productive members. Click [here](#) to find out more about our Delegate Advancement and Recognition Program and Joy's participation in Online MUN.

We'd love to feature YOU! Sign up, debate, participate! This space has your name on it!

# O-MUN and Social Media

**Facebook & Twitter:** Most high school students use both social media outlets. They are convenient methods to contact and send updates to individuals. They are increasingly being used to share research links and relevant content needed for delegate preparation. Delegates can tap into official UN feeds, Ambassador updates and NGO tweets from the field, and then share these with follow delegates in the lead up to debate. O-MUN attempts to model best research practices using these social media outlets.



## How O-MUN Works

### Become a member of O-MUN

Go to [www.onlinemun.org](http://www.onlinemun.org) and create an account. Please indicate your school/country. You must have an account in order to register for debates.

### Sign up for a debate

Click on the calendar or the Events listing for the debate you wish to participate in. You have the option of requesting the country you'd like. An Assistant Director will approve your registration, send you your country and unique log in link, and invite you to the Facebook group where delegates can then meet their chair and begin discussions and sharing research. You will be sent messages from O-MUN regarding lobbying/drafting sessions and reminders about the upcoming debate.

### Lobbying and Debate

It is expected that delegates will participate in both lobbying sessions and the debate itself. Students must have a computer with internet access, updated Java capabilities, and audio/speakers enabled. Video is not used by delegates during debate. Once in the Bb room, the procedures for debate will follow THIMUN rules and procedures. More information on these debating protocols can be found at [www.thimun.org](http://www.thimun.org), or on our website.

