

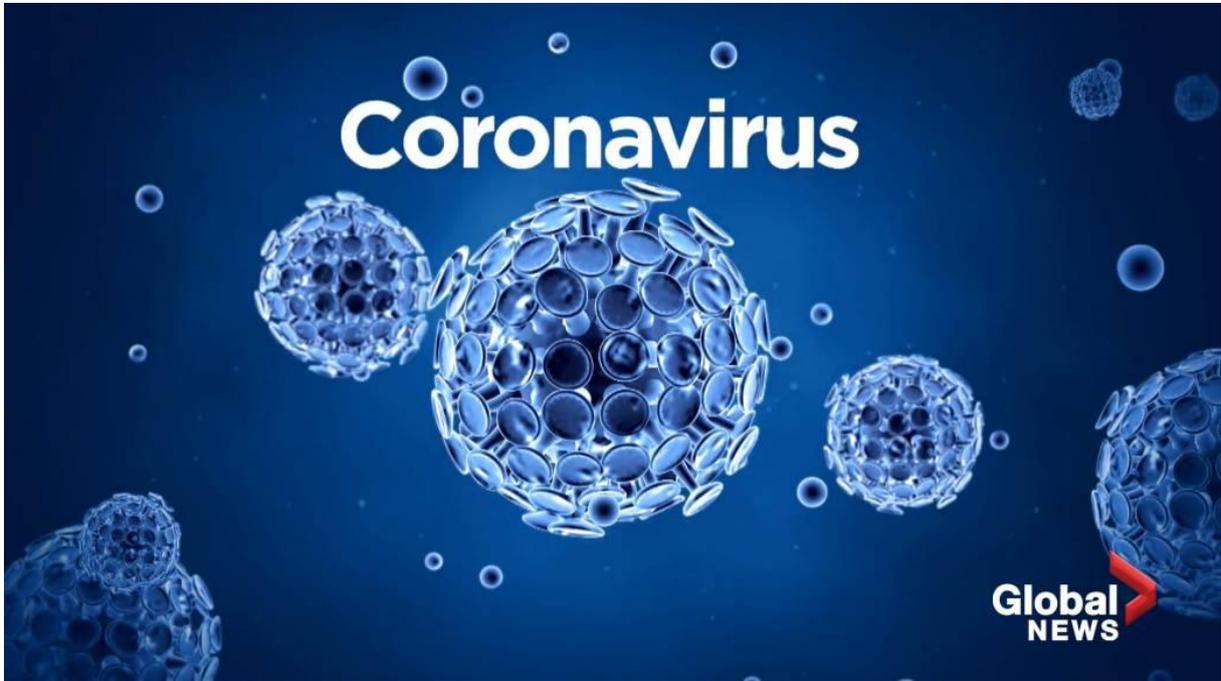
# FIMUN 2020 Study Guide

## Crisis Committee

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## FIMUN 2020 CHAIR REPORT

**Committee:** Crisis Committee

**Topic:** Coronavirus, Open Agenda

**Directors:** Erdem Gök & Yağmur Aksoy & Zehra Özgen

### ***Dear Delegates,***

Welcome to the Final Model United Nations 2020! It is with great honor that Yağmur, Zehra and myself together serve the Crisis Committee of this year's FIMUN as committee directors.

FIMUN is a highly productive conference that never stops developing. In three years of FIMUN, I cannot describe how much I learned. You feel that you are not the same person as you were after FIMUN.

We cannot wait to see you all in our committee. We wish we will have such an effective, productive and enjoyable conference. Last but not least, if you need any help, please do not hesitate to contact us via;

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### **Introduction to the Committee:**

Since this is a crisis committee, the procedure will be slightly different from other GA committees. We have the main topic to debate and create solutions about, but what differs crisis committees from other GA committees?

The answer is, of course, crisis scenarios. We will start the procedure normally and go on until the first crisis scenario comes. After that, the drain of the committee will be based on these scenarios and the actions of the delegates at that moment. Delegates' sudden decisions (of course still following his/her country's policy), could affect the whole committee.

Another thing about crisis committees is that the delegates are not accepted to write huge resolution papers which separates them from GA committees. Instead of a resolution paper, everything the delegate decides to do, every action countries take will be written as "directives".

Everything you need to know about the procedure will be told in the committee. However, if you want to make a research about this, especially about the directives, you can use this link:

<https://bestdelegate.com/how-to-write-a-crisis-directive/>

## **Introduction to the Topic:**

Public health experts around the globe are scrambling to understand, track, and contain a new virus that appeared in Wuhan, China, at the beginning of December 2019. The World Health Organization (WHO) named the disease caused by the virus COVID-19, which references the type of virus and the year it emerged.

WHO has declared a global health emergency over the virus that has killed more than 3,000 people worldwide following an outbreak in the central Chinese city of Wuhan.

More than 85,000 cases of infection have been reported globally, most of them in mainland China.



The majority of the illnesses are still in China, but the rate of new cases there has slowed. The majority of new cases are appearing in other countries outside of China, and there are large outbreaks of the disease in South Korea, Italy, Iran, and Japan.

## **Definition of Key Terms:**

### **Virus**

Any of a large group of submicroscopic infectious agents that are usually regarded as nonliving extremely complex molecules, that typically contain a protein coat surrounding an RNA or DNA core of genetic material but no semipermeable membrane, that are capable of growth and multiplication only in living cells, and that cause various important diseases in humans, animals, and plants.

## **WHO**

WHO began when our Constitution came into force on 7 April 1948 – a date we now celebrate every year as World Health Day. We are now more than 7000 people working in 150 country offices, in six regional offices and at our headquarters in Geneva, Switzerland.

Our primary role is to direct and coordinate international health within the United Nations system. Our main areas of work are health systems; health through the life-course; noncommunicable and communicable diseases; preparedness, surveillance and response; and corporate services.

## **SARS**

SARS is a respiratory illness that has recently been reported in Asia, North America, and Europe. SARS, an atypical pneumonia of unknown etiology, was recognized at the end of February 2003.

## **MERS**

Middle East respiratory syndrome coronavirus is a viral respiratory illness that was first reported in Saudi Arabia, in 2012. Symptoms are those of a severe, acute, respiratory illness, similar to pneumonia.

## **Pneumonia**

It is an infection in one or both lungs. It can be caused by bacteria, viruses or fungi.

## **Vaccine**

A preparation of killed microorganisms, living attenuated organisms or living fully virulent organisms that are administered to produce or artificially increase immunity to a particular disease

## **Ebola**

Ebola, also known as Ebola hemorrhagic fever or Ebola virus disease, is a rare and deadly illness caused by one of the strains of the Ebola virus. This viral agent is regarded as a prototype pathogen of viral hemorrhagic fever, with high fatality rates in humans and primates.

## **National Institute of Allergic and Infectious Diseases (NIAID)**

NIAID conducts and supports basic and applied research to better understand, treat, and ultimately prevent infectious, immunologic, and allergic diseases. For more than 60 years, NIAID research has led to new therapies, vaccines, diagnostic tests, and other technologies that have improved the health of millions of people around the world.

## What is Coronavirus?

According to the WHO, coronaviruses are a family of viruses that cause illnesses ranging from the common cold to more severe diseases such as severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS) and the Middle East respiratory syndrome (MERS).

These viruses were originally transmitted between animals and people. SARS, for instance, was transmitted from civet cats to humans while MERS moved to humans from a type of camel. Several known coronaviruses are circulating in animals that have not yet infected humans.

The name coronavirus comes from the Latin word corona, meaning crown or halo. Under an electron microscope, the image of the virus looks like a solar corona.

The novel coronavirus is a new strain that had not been previously identified in humans. Little is known about it, although human-to-human transmission has been confirmed.

## What are the Symptoms?

According to the WHO, signs of infection include fever, cough, shortness of breath and breathing difficulties.

In more severe cases, it can lead to pneumonia, multiple organ failure, and even death.

Current estimates of the incubation period -the amount of time between infection and the onset of symptoms - ranging from one to 14 days. Most infected people show symptoms within five to six days.

However, infected patients can also be asymptomatic, meaning they do not display any symptoms despite having the virus in their systems.

**CHINA**  
**Coronaviruses**  
Coronaviruses are a large family of viruses that cause not only the common cold but also more serious respiratory illnesses

A novel coronavirus (2019-nCoV) was identified

**2019-nCoV**

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**Symptoms**

- Unknown incubation period
- Fever
- Difficult breathing
- Impaired liver and kidney function
- Kidney failure
- Severe cough
- Pneumonia

**CHINA**  
**WUHAN**

**Middle East Respiratory Syndrome (MERS)**  
Identified in Saudi Arabia in 2012 - Spread to 27 countries. 2,494 confirmed cases | 858 deaths

**Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS)**  
Emerged in southern China in 2002 - Spread to 30 countries. 8,437 cases | 813 deaths

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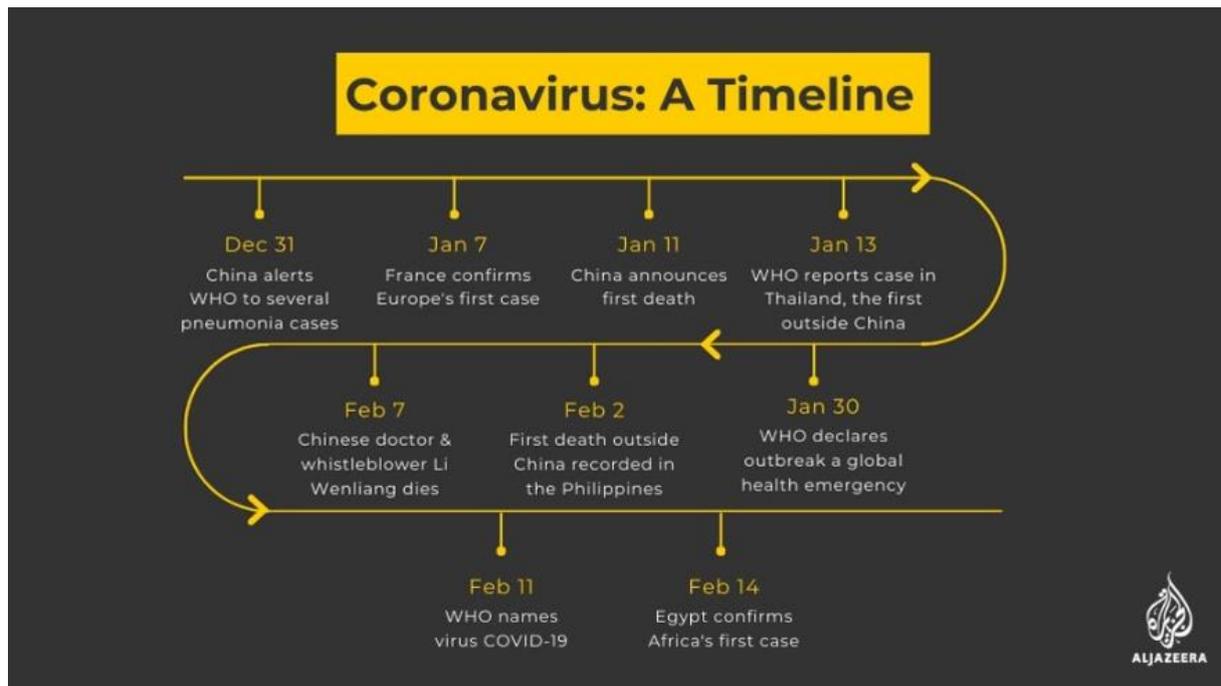
Source: Al Jazeera | Last updated: Jan 21, 2020

## **How Deadly Is It?**

With more than 2,900 recorded deaths, the number of fatalities from this new coronavirus has surpassed the toll of the 2002-2003 SARS outbreak, which also originated in China.

SARS killed about nine percent of those it infected nearly 800 people worldwide and more than 300 in China alone. MERS, which did not spread as widely, was more deadly, killing one-third of those it infected.

While the new coronavirus is more widespread in China than SARS in terms of case numbers, the mortality rate remains considerably lower at approximately two percent, according to the WHO.



## **What Is Being Done to Stop It From Spreading?**

Scientists around the globe are racing to develop a vaccine but have warned that one is unlikely to be available for mass distribution before 2021.

Meanwhile, Chinese authorities have effectively sealed off Wuhan and placed restrictions on travel to and from several other cities, affecting some 60 million people.

Many international airlines have canceled flights to China. Some countries have banned Chinese nationals from entering their territories and several more have evacuated their citizens from Wuhan.

## **Could Coronavirus Be Treated?**

There aren't any proven treatments for COVID-19, but there are dozens of studies underway to try and find some. One leading candidate is remdesivir, an antiviral medication originally developed to treat Ebola. There are clinical trials testing it in patients in China and the US.

“Research teams and pharmaceutical companies are also working to develop a vaccine that can protect people from infection. However, vaccine development takes a long time. Even if everything goes smoothly, it will be around a year to 18 months before one is available”, said Anthony Fauci, the director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases.

## **How is the virus affecting businesses that operate in China?**

Several airlines, including United Airlines, British Airways, and Air Canada, are canceling some or all flights to and from China. United Airlines said their decision to do so was due to a drop in demand for those flights.

Tech companies like Apple started limiting employee travel to China even before the US State Department and CDC warned people against traveling there. South Korea's LG banned travel to China completely, and both Facebook and Razer told employees who had recently returned from China to work from home.

Foxconn, the Taiwanese electronics company that has factories in China and makes products for tech companies like Apple, said the virus won't impact their production. But China officially extended the Lunar New Year holiday in an effort to curb the virus' spread, which could delay normal production schedules. In a recent earnings call, Apple says it's accounted for this uncertainty as it looks ahead to the next quarter.

**Cases & Deaths & Recoveries Confirmed:**

Country, Other	Total Cases	New Cases	Total Deaths	New Deaths	Active Cases	Total Recovered
China	79,828	+577	2,870	+35	34,844	42,114
S. Korea	3,736	+586	21	+4	3,685	30
Italy	1,694	+566	34	+5	1,577	83
Iran	978	+385	54	+11	749	175
Japan	252	+11	6	+1	214	32
France	130	+30	2		116	12
Germany	129	+50			113	16
Singapore	106	+4			32	74
Hong Kong	100	+5	2		62	36
Spain	79	+21			77	2
USA	73	+5	1		63	9
Bahrain	47	+6			47	
Kuwait	46	+1			46	
Thailand	42		1	+1	11	30
Taiwan	40	+1	1		27	12
U.K.	35	+12			27	8
Malaysia	29	+4			7	22
Australia	26	+1	1	+1	10	15
U.A.E.	21				16	5
Canada	20				16	4
Iraq	19	+6			19	
Norway	19	+4			19	
Switzerland	19				18	1

### **Further Reading:**

Dear Delegates,

I hope this study guide will help you understand the main topic, and give you an idea which will help you to attend the debate in the committee efficiently. Nevertheless, this study guide aims to create the main idea and give brief information about coronavirus.

In order to learn your country's policy, and have more information about the issue I, as one of your chair board members, sincerely request you to make great research after reading this study guide. Since we are a crisis committee, knowing your country's policy, and having great knowledge about the issue will help you a lot.

Having said that, we are all looking forward to seeing you in our committee!

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