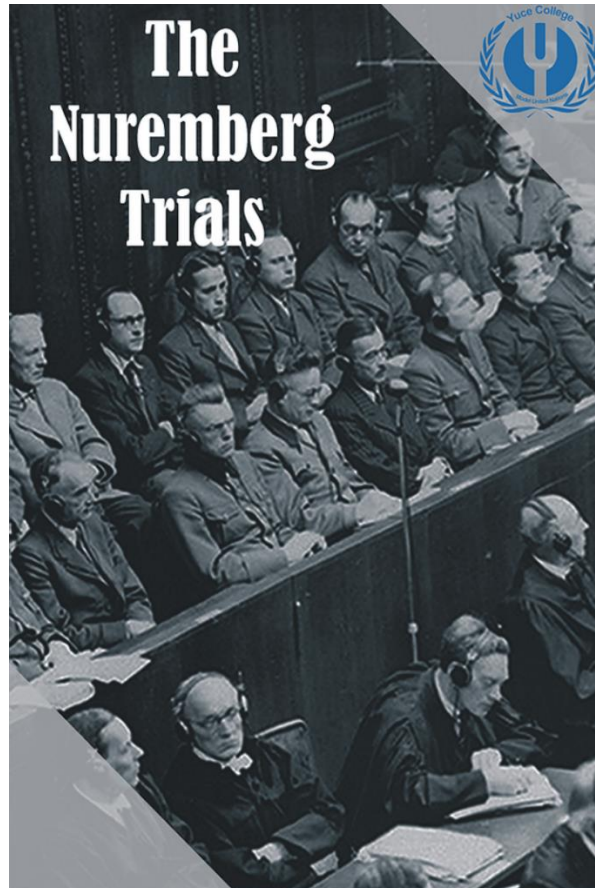


YCMUN '19

Nuremberg Trials

Study Guide



Letter From The Secretary General

Principled Attendants and Associate Advisors,

I would like to begin by welcoming you all to the fifth annual session of YCMUN. After attending many conferences and developing a new perspective upon global issues, it is my sheer honor to represent Yüce College as the Secretary-General of YCMUN'19. We are proud to host fellow participants in the capital city of Turkey, Ankara.

I cannot stress enough, the hard work put in by the members of both the academic and organization team. Throughout the process of making this conference happen, I have gotten to know many people that I can proudly call family. Personally, I see Model United Nations conferences as not only to improve academic success but also as way to gather under one roof with others to create sincerity. The MUN conferences that I have attended have truly shown me how a person that you have met for the first time in your life can become someone that is sincere by the end of the conference. Developing new friendships and gaining people that are sincere to you is a factor that I would be honored to reflect upon participants.

We believe the conference my team and I have taken upon ourselves to organize, is bound to host newcomers to the MUN community. I also personally believe that this conference can be a well-taken opportunity to develop your MUN career while you also have the greatest four days of your life. Even if you are a first-timer or a highly experienced participant, I guarantee that you feel at home throughout the duration of YCMUN'19. I am pleased to invite you all to our conference to become members of our family!

Sincere Regards,

Ulaş Güler

Secretary General

Letter From Under Secretary General

Dear Delegates,

It is my honor to welcome you all to the fifth annual session of YCMUN. As the USG, also the Secretary General, I have taken this committee in my hands because it has been one that excites me from the very beginning. There will be additional rules of procedure and events are tough to follow, that is why this committee is an advanced one. Delegates will represent one prosecutor from allied powers. To furthermore explain the committee please read the following.

During the trial there have been specifically one judge from each allied power yet for the committee to have more participants and a more fluent debate, I have added an even number of judges for each country. As this trial is in a crisis committee format, you delegates will be receiving many crises from the crisis team including news and taken actions. As the debate flows the story line might not always be based on real events. The crises or updates will include many live action representations of the decisions made.

I encourage all the delegates to argue strongly and detailly for each criminal. If there is no debate and the delegates just make the decision quickly, there will be no fun in the committee. For the committee to not lose interest please give specific motions for each Nazi criminal so that you can get deep into the topic. I am aware that the given information is too general yet delegates should be responsible for bringing up evidence in the committee. An example for an evidence could be the usage of civilians in the Holocaust. During the first day, list of topics that are suggested to be discussed will be handed out to delegates on sheets of paper.

For more information regarding the committee please contact me:

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Phone Number: [+90 530 923 21 06](tel:+905309232106)

Sincerely,

Ulaş Güler

Background Information:

Before all of the following events, from November 8 to November 9, 1923, Adolf Hitler and his followers staged the Beer Hall Putsch in Munich, a failed takeover of the government in Bavaria, a state in southern Germany. Since 1921, Hitler had led the Nazi Party, a fledgling political group that promoted German pride and anti-Semitism and was unhappy with the terms of the Treaty of Versailles, the peace settlement that ended World War I (1914-18) and required many concessions and reparations from Germany. In the aftermath of the failed “putsch,” or coup, Hitler was convicted of treason and sentenced to five years in prison. He spent less than a year behind bars, during which time he dictated “Mein Kampf,” his political autobiography. The putsch and Hitler’s subsequent trial turned him into a national figure. After prison, he worked to rebuild the Nazi Party and gain power with legal political methods.

It is 1945 and World War II is over. Hitler has passed away and Germany is not as crucial nor as dangerous as before. Hitler’s top lieutenants, Heinrich Himmler and Joseph Goebbels are also dead. Yet, dozens of high-level Nazis are still alive and are in prison. What do the allied powers do with them? They take them to court in their own backyard. The United Nations have yet to be assembled in that date yet this was the first international trial. The Nuremberg Trials were a series of international prosecutions that decided the fates of Nazi war criminals. This trial was hosted in the German city of Nuremberg. Unlike other cities, Nuremberg was relatively undamaged from the war. The city has also been the site of several infamous Nazi rallies. The point of prosecuting Nazi leaders in the given city was meant for a symbolic closure to the Third Reich. The trials were administered by the four principal nations of the allied powers. These being, The United States of America, Great Britain, The Soviet Union, and France. Each of these countries had their own laws and legal system and had to settle on a common framework of justice. They could not judge each defendant for different ways so in August of 1945, the judges from the allied countries all sat down and hammered out the London Charter of the International Military Tribunal. Obeying the London Charter, the allies agreed that the defendants would stand trial and be allowed to have their own defense attorneys. Instead of one judge there would be a Tribunal for judges one from each ally. The London Charter also defined the three major charges each criminal would face. The crimes were as follows:

- **Crimes Against Peace, which meant the planning of a war or such.**
- **War Crimes, which meant killing hostages or prisoners of war known as POWs.**
- **Crimes Against Humanity, which meant killing or putting innocent civilians in danger.**

The trials lasted in Nuremberg for four years from 1945-1949, but the highest profile cases were brought to court between 1945-1946. This period was known as the Trial of The Major War Criminals. There was a Nazi organization called the Gestapo who were known as the

political police. Among the twenty-two Nazi leaders on trial at Nuremberg the ones to be prosecuted in The Trial of the Major War Criminals are as follows:

- **Hermann Goering**, founder of Gestapo.
- **Fuhrer Rudolf Hess**, deputy.
- **Joachim von Ribbentrop**, foreign minister.
- **Albert Speer**, German architect.

Hermann Goering:

Trained for an army career, Göring received his commission in 1912 and served with distinction during World War I, joining the embryonic air force. In 1918 he became commander of the celebrated squadron in which the great German aviator Manfred, Freiherr (baron) von Richthofen, had served. Göring so deeply resented the treatment given army officers by the civilian population during the troubled period after Germany's capitulation that he left the country.

Göring had met Adolf Hitler in 1921 and joined the Nazi Party late in 1922. As a former officer, he was given command of Hitler's Storm Troopers (the SA, Sturmabteilung). Göring took part in the abortive Beer Hall Putsch of November 1923, in which Hitler tried to seize power prematurely.

In 1927 his contacts in German industry proved useful, and he was taken into the party leadership. He occupied 1 of the 12 Reichstag seats that the Nazi Party won in the 1928 election. Thereafter Göring became the acknowledged party leader in the lower house, and, when the Nazis won 230 seats in the election of July 1932, he was elected president of the Reichstag. Between January 30 and March 23, when an election was held to give Hitler's dictatorial powers was passed, Göring was tirelessly active. He used his new position as minister of the interior in Prussia, Germany's largest and most influential state, to Nazify the Prussian police and establish the Gestapo, or secret political police. He also established concentration camps for the "corrective treatment" of difficult opponents. The Reichstag fire of February 27, 1933, which the Nazis most probably instigated, made it possible for Göring to accuse the Communist Party of intending a coup. The wholesale arrest of Communist and even some Social Democrat deputies succeeded.

Fuhrer Rudolf Hess:

An early member of the Nazi Party, Rudolf Hess participated in the abortive Beer Hall Putsch in Munich (1923), transcribed and edited Adolf Hitler's dictation while both were in prison, and served as Hitler's private secretary in the 1920s and as deputy party leader and minister without portfolio from 1933. Rudolf Hess is most famous for undertaking a secret solo flight from Bavaria to Scotland in May 1941 to deliver proposals for peace between Germany and

Great Britain. Regarding Hess's mission as unauthorized and doubting his sanity, the British government held Hess as a prisoner of war through the end of World War II.

Joachim von Ribbentrop:

Ribbentrop met Adolf Hitler in 1932 and joined the National Socialist Party the same year, becoming the führer's chief adviser on foreign affairs after the Nazi accession to power (Jan. 30, 1933). After his appointment in 1934 as *Reich* commissioner for disarmament at Geneva, he negotiated in June 1935 the Anglo-German Naval Agreement, which authorized German naval rearmament. In 1936 Ribbentrop became ambassador to Great Britain; by 1938, when he left his post, he had become a thorough Anglophobe. His advice to Hitler, that Britain could not aid Poland effectively, proved correct in the short run.

In the meantime, Ribbentrop had also negotiated the Anti-Comintern Pact with Japan (1936) and, after his appointment as minister of foreign affairs in February 1938, he signed the "Pact of Steel" with Italy (May 22, 1939), linking Europe's two most aggressive fascist dictatorships in an alliance in case of war. Ribbentrop's greatest diplomatic coup, however, was the German-Soviet Nonaggression Pact of Aug. 23, 1939, which cleared the way for Hitler's attack on Poland on Sept. 1, 1939, thus beginning World War II.

Albert Speer:

In 1942 Speer became minister of armaments and munitions, a title enlarged the following year to minister of armaments and war production, when he was charged not only with armaments production, transportation, and placement but also with final authority over raw materials and industrial production. With this authority, Speer expanded a system of conscript and slave labor, supplied primarily from concentration camps, that maintained production of war material for Nazi Germany.

Furthermore, two additional Nazis have been indicted but labor chief, Robert Ley, killed himself before the trials. The other being the weapons manufacturer, Gustav Krupp Von Bohlen Und Halbach, was declared mentally unfit; he was senile.

Starting in November 1945, the tribunal heard testimony and reviewed evidence for 216 court sessions. The horrors and crimes of the Nazis were put on display for all the world to see. Nothing could undo the devastation of the war; nothing could bring back the millions of lives lost in the Holocaust and the millions more lost in battle; but the Nuremberg Trials were an important step towards rebuilding an international system of justice. They established important legal precedents for future international trials.

For the trials to conclude, delegates must come up with a resolution based on the trial for each criminal. This resolution will be called “The Verdict”. The verdict is the decision made by the delegates for each criminal. The criminals will not be among the delegates yet their defendants will be. The delegates will have four criminals to judge. The verdicts can include, death sentences, acquits, life in prison. At the end of the debate for the criminal, there should be a motion raised in order to vote upon the prosecution of the criminal. **(To be sure about what they are actually guilty of please make sure to do further research on the criminals)**

The decision-making process is as follows:

- 1) The delegates must determine the crime the criminal has committed.**
- 2) Specifying the type of vote, the delegates must raise a motion to vote upon the verdict.**
- 3) After each delegate votes upon the decision, the verdict that has gotten the most votes will pass and proceed.**

The London and Military Tribunal Charter



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IMT 1945.pdf