

Overview:

Model Diplomacy is a free classroom simulation of either the U.S. National Security Council or the UN Security Council that takes place both online and in the classroom in a blended learning environment. It presents hypothetical situations based on real issues of the past and present. It has several cases that include a currency and monetary policy angle.

Materials:

[The Model Diplomacy website](#)

Instructional Plan:

Model Diplomacy cases that include a trade and investment angle include:

- **Collapse in Venezuela**
This case is set in June 2018. After an economic collapse sparks popular protests, the president of Venezuela flees the country. Two members of the ruling party claim the presidency, but neither is able to stabilize the economy or establish full control. Meanwhile, protests continue, factions of the military abandon the government, violence escalates, and drug trafficking and paramilitary activity increase. The National Security Council (NSC) meets to weigh the situation, which both poses threats to the United States and offers the chance to improve relations with an influential regional power and major oil exporter. To recommend a course of action, NSC members must consider how to prioritize and pursue the U.S. interests at stake, including economic stabilization, regional security, a stable flow of oil, protection of human rights, and restoration of democratic governance and the rule of law.
- **Economic Crisis in Europe**
One of France's largest banks needs a bailout that its government likely cannot provide, roiling global markets. The National Security Council meets to recommend to the president how the United States should respond to this evolving European financial crisis, which threatens to infect U.S. banks. With Europe expected to enter an economic downturn, and the unity of the European Union and the eurozone challenged by the rise of extremist political parties in many countries, the crisis jeopardizes Europe's ability to act as a strong partner to the United States in confronting global challenges.