

Overview

Model Diplomacy is a free classroom simulation of either the U.S. National Security Council (NSC) 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 from past and present. It has four cases that involve East Asia and the Pacific.

Materials

[The Model Diplomacy website](#)

Instructional Plan

Model Diplomacy cases that involve East Asia and the Pacific include:

- **Cyber Clash With China**
Cyberspace is a new domain of conflict that has few accepted standards of behavior. In recent years, China has exerted authority over areas of the South China Sea also claimed by other Asian countries, leading to tension with the United States. A few days ago, following several incidents in both cyberspace and the South China Sea itself, the Nasdaq stock market was hacked, which significantly harmed the U.S. economy. U.S. intelligence agencies believe some in the Chinese government knew about the attack, for which a Chinese hacker collective claimed credit. National Security Council members need to advise the president on the merits of a cyber response, economic sanctions, or military measures.
- **Dispute in the East China Sea**
Tensions are escalating rapidly in the East China Sea, where Japan and China have competing sovereignty claims over the Senkaku/Diaoyu Islands. Both nations have asserted overlapping Air Defense Identification Zones over the islands. Moreover, Beijing and Tokyo do not agree on their maritime boundary, and thus their navies operate in close proximity in the East China Sea. Japanese Maritime Self-Defense Force surveillance planes and Chinese People's Liberation Air Force fighter jets have repeatedly come in dangerously close contact off the coast of China. Both Tokyo and Beijing refuse to give ground, claiming their militaries are operating legitimately in accordance with international law.

Model Diplomacy Simulations: East Asia and the Pacific

- **Korean War in 1950**
It is late summer 1950, and the United States is at war on the Korean Peninsula. Just a few months earlier, the Soviet-backed Democratic People's Republic of Korea (North Korea) invaded the U.S.-supported Republic of Korea (South Korea), making significant territorial gains and pushing U.S.-led UN forces to the southern tip of the peninsula. Plans are in place for a landing near the border with North Korea, which, if successful, will swiftly liberate South Korea. President Harry Truman is now faced with a fundamental question: should U.S. forces simply restore the status prior to the war, pushing North Korea's military back beyond its own border, or should the United States push on and try to unify the peninsula under a single, democratic government?
- **North Korean Nuclear Threat**
Following a North Korean satellite launch and other developments, the director of national intelligence has informed the president that North Korea is now capable of firing a nuclear-armed missile against the United States. The president has called an NSC meeting to discuss how to respond to North Korea's enhanced capabilities.