

HMDC Presents... DISEC: Opening Speech Outline

HMDC Presents... Opening Speech Outline: DISEC: Drone Surveillance and Privacy

THIS IS A MODEL TO LEARN FROM, NOT TO COPY. We use this sample speech for the French Republic to hear how a one-minute opening speech sounds, and then we build our own speech for our own country with the fill-in-the-blank outline below. Our HMDC opening speech is 120 to 160 words, which takes about one minute to say, so every word has to earn its place.

THE FIVE PARTS OF THE SPEECH

1. **Hook:** One short sentence that makes the room look up, usually a surprising fact.
 2. **Our country's stake:** One or two sentences on why this topic matters to our people.
 3. **One key fact with source:** A single number, spoken with its source, that proves the problem is real.
 4. **Our two solutions:** Two ideas we want the committee to adopt, each in one sentence.
 5. **Call to allies:** One sentence inviting the countries that agree with us to work with us in caucus.
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THE SAMPLE SPEECH

Delegation: The French Republic. About 145 words, about one minute at a calm speaking pace.

Honourable Chair, distinguished delegates.

A spy drone smaller than your hand can watch you, and you may never hear it.

France believes that every person deserves privacy from cameras in the sky, and safety from terrorist drones. We do not have to choose between the two.

According to the UN expert on human rights and counter-terrorism, a spy drone weighing less than twenty grams flies almost silently, and more than one thousand police departments in the United States now use drones.

France asks this committee for two things. First, a clear rule that drone surveillance must be necessary, limited in time and place, and deleted when the job is done. Second, a promise that facial recognition from drones is never used for mass surveillance.

We invite our European partners, and every delegation that values both privacy and security, to join us in caucus.

Thank you.

Where the facts come from: the spy drone and police facts are from the HMDC report, Section 1A (UN Human Rights Council, March 1, 2023); the surveillance rule comes from Section 1B (OHCHR, September 16, 2022); the face-scanning promise comes from Section 2C (UN Human Rights Council, April 7, 2025); the interest in safety from terrorist drones comes from Section 2F; the allies come from Section 2I. We kept armed drones and autonomous weapons out of this speech, because they belong to Harvard's October session and our December chairs will focus on privacy, surveillance and intelligence.

OUR FILL-IN-THE-BLANK OUTLINE

We copy this outline onto a card, fill every blank from our own Country Report and our HMDC research report, and then read it aloud with a timer until it fits inside one minute.

1. **Hook:** "Honourable Chair, distinguished delegates. ____ (one surprising fact about drones, in one short sentence)."
 2. **Our country's stake:** "The delegation of ____ (country) believes that drone surveillance matters to our people because ____ (our cities, our protesters, our personal data, our borders, our airspace)."
 3. **One key fact with source:** "According to ____ (publication), ____ (one number that shows the size of the problem)."
 4. **Our two solutions:** "____ (country) asks this committee for two things. First, ____ (solution one, such as legal limits, registration, rules on face scanning, export controls or transparency). Second, ____ (solution two)."
 5. **Call to allies:** "We invite ____ (the countries or bloc that usually agree with us) to join us in caucus. Thank you."
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DELIVERY TIPS

1. **Saying the source out loud:** We say "according to" and the publication name slowly and clearly, because the chair cannot see our citations, only hear them. We say big numbers as words, such as "one thousand" or "twenty grams," so we do not stumble over digits.
2. **Pausing after the hook:** We stop for one full second after our first two sentences, so the room has time to feel them. A pause feels long to us, but to the listener it sounds confident.
3. **Looking at the camera, not the paper:** On Zoom, the camera is the chair's eyes, so we practise until we can look up for the hook and the call to allies. We keep the card just below the camera so our eyes only move a little.

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