



Inspiring youth  
to  
create a better world

## OBSERVERS Holy See & Palestine



**MMUN is dedicated to providing the truest United Nations simulation possible.**

**With that in mind we are offering a new possibility; to represent The Holy See and Palestine in MMUN's committees. It's a chance for students and teachers to enlarge their understanding of the UN, by learning about Permanent Observers and non-member States.**



The work of these Observers is the same as the work of any member State, except they cannot vote on the Resolution. Their Delegates can actively vote on procedural matters and enjoy discovering how important it is to work side-by-side with other members to create the Resolution.



Although the Observer States are not permitted to vote on the Resolution, they are allowed a one-minute speech before the final vote.

This may be a call to action or simply a request for a moment of silence.

The special nature of these Observers allows them an important and distinct role at the MMUN. This is a chance for students to study and represent two of the most influential – and sometimes controversial – actors at the UN and in the world, whose Delegates are often able to steer Resolutions towards unexpected paths.

The Holy See was granted Permanent Observer status early on (1964 i.e. long before many States joined the UN)

Palestine conversely did not become a "Non-permanent Observer State" until 2012 with a GA vote of 138 in favor and 9 against

They have jurisdiction (at different levels) over some territories:

The Holy See has jurisdiction on an administrative land, i.e. the Vatican City State, and has religious (and moral) jurisdiction over significant territories where its worshippers reside

Palestine has jurisdiction over territories which is recognized by most of the member countries, and a presence at the OHCHR (Office of the High Commissioner on Human Rights)



### THE HOLY SEE

- Is active in almost every UN agenda topic
- Participates in all discussions
- Delivers speeches about all issues dealt with by UN organs
- Has experts all over the world
- Contributes to the maintenance of international peace and security at several levels (was an early supporter of the League of Nations, and then the UN)



### PALESTINE

- Is an active participant in other UN agencies and committees
- Has Embassies all over the world (and its Ambassadors are formally accredited to the respective host countries)
- Has an agency on Palestine refugees (UNRWA – unrwa.org) established in 1949
- One in three refugees in the world is Palestinian. There are about 7.2 million Palestinian refugees today