

Section I: Purpose of The Imperial Republic Senate

1. Introduction

1. Scope of the Procedures and rules will be applicable for all Senators and or Guests, unless the Supreme Chancellor (or chair of the senate) says otherwise.

2. Rule Changes

The Supreme Chancellor reserves the right to make changes to the rules at any time. Should a Change occur, it will be communicated to the Representatives in a timely manner.

3. Senators will be elected by their planet's citizens or appointed by the Supreme Chancellor. There will be two senators per planet.

A. Member worlds participate in the Imperial Republic Senate to tackle real-world problems and work together through diplomatic dialogue to achieve meaningful solutions to problems facing the galaxy today.

B. Member worlds will also gain a better understanding of different difficulties faced by other Member worlds and how their cultures and viewpoints help strengthen Imperial Republic.

Section II: Officers and Administration

A. The **Supreme Chancellor** is responsible for:

1. Selecting the time and place for the Senate to meet;
2. Determining what committees are need and assigning Senators to them as need, as well as the topics of discussion for each committee;
3. Randomly selecting (by a drawing) the Member worlds that will be seated first in each committee, with all other Member worlds being seated alphabetically after the first Member world;
4. Appointing the presidency of each committee;
5. Interpreting the rules of senate and making decisions that will keep the events in line with the purposes of the senate;
6. Rules regarding situations that may arise for which no specific written direction is given.

B. When possible, the **Supreme Chancellor** may be consulted on questions of procedure or other issues as the need arises. The decision of the **Supreme Chancellor** is final on any and all issues pertaining to the Senate Unless over ruled by Supreme Ruler if present or by 2/3 vote of the Senate. However, The Throne or the Supreme Ruler may overturn the senate's decision, killing the proposal permanently which cannot then be overturned.

C. The *Vice Chancellor* is the next highest-ranking officer, who is responsible for:

1. Over seeing the Senate in the absence of the Supreme Chancellor;
2. Assisting the Supreme Chancellor as directed;
3. Assuming the chair as needed or requested by any Committee Officers;
4. Making appropriate decisions on the proceedings in the Supreme Chancellor's absence.

D. *Presiding Officers*, consisting of a *Chair* and a *Vice Chair* and a *Secretary* unless there are fewer than three members in the committee then there will only be a *Chair*, they will be assigned to each committee and will be responsible for:

1. Conducting debate in each committee as chairs;
 2. Responding to questions by delegates, with the Chair holding the final say on all issues under the advice of the *Vice Chair*;
 3. Ensuring order and compliance with the rules of procedure throughout the committee session;
 4. Commenting as needed in any part of the proceedings to help the committee session flow smoothly;
 5. Encouraging participation by all delegates;
 6. Disciplining delegates who are disruptive, unruly, or refuse to participate properly;
 7. Directing discussion to achieve meaningful solutions through delegate initiatives;
 8. Considering validity and appropriateness of working papers and draft resolutions for consideration by the entire committee
- E. The Chair will begin as the presiding official of the committee, and they may assign other members of those presiding to act as chair at any time.

G. *Delegate Decorum*: All delegates are expected to monitor their own behavior at all times throughout the conference.

1. Speaking only when called upon by the chair;
2. Standing and speaking clearly when addressing the entire committee;
3. Keeping all remarks germane to the topic of discussion in the committee;
4. Remaining seated throughout committee sessions, except during a suspension of a meeting and scheduled breaks;

Section III: Flow of Debate

A. *Setting the Agenda*: Topics for each committee will be listed in random order. It is intended that the topics will be considered in the order listed on the agenda. This list will serve as the agenda for the committee session unless there is a successful motion to alter the agenda (see Section VI-D9). Debate over the proposed agenda entails formal debate, moderated debate, or unmoderated caucus, as determined by the delegates.

B. *Opening Statements*: All delegates will give prepared statements at the opening of each committee topic. The speech will focus on the Member world's position on the topic.

1. Opening statements will only be given once for each topic and will not have to be repeated when debate is stopped and later resumed on the same topic.
2. The first set of opening statements will serve as a roll call for the committee.

C. *Formal Debate*: Once Opening Statements are completed, or after any other form of debate ends, the committee automatically moves to Formal Debate in the absence of another motion. Formal Debate will proceed as follows:

1. The presiding officer will recognize the Senator in order for them to address the committee.
2. Delegates come to the front of the Assembly in order to give their speeches.
4. Once a speaker has finished, they will be open to questions by members of the committee. The chair will call for delegates who wish to ask a question of the speaker. Those delegates with questions will signal their intent with the red button on their platform, and the chair will announce the delegates who will ask questions and determine when to end the questioning.

5. In the event that there are more delegates who wish to ask questions, the chair will select which delegates will speak. The decision of the chair is not subject to appeal.
6. If for any reason the chair feels that questions would be insufficient, the chair will, upon agreement with the speaker, call on additional delegates to ask questions. Either the chair or speaker may end the extended questioning at any time after the third question.
- 7.
8. Each delegate called on for the questioning session may ask one question and, if the chair deems the request appropriate, one follow-up question. A request for clarification of a statement by the speaker does not constitute a follow-up question. A request by the speaker to clarify a delegate's question does not constitute an answer.
9. Delegates may not yield their questioning privileges to another delegate, but they may use a question sent by note from another delegate.
10. The speaker must hear questions from whichever delegates are selected but may choose not to respond to the question.

D. *Suspension of the rules for open forum*: This allows the delegates to discuss the topic without adhering to formal protocols.

1. The purpose of a suspension is to work in small groups outside the normal rules of speaking to achieve consensus on an issue or certain aspects of an issue. This is where delegates craft the final language for their Working Papers and Draft Resolutions.

2. Requires a second and a majority vote

Section IV: Voting Procedures

- A. Once voting procedures have begun, only a Point of Order or Point of Inquiry on the voting procedure (see Section VI-D1 and D2), Adopt by Consensus (VI-D8), or a Division of the Question (VI-D11) will be considered in order until voting is completed.
- B. Each member state has one vote.
- C. The Supreme Chancellor is only allowed to vote in case of a tie or to cast a veto. The veto can only be over ridden with a 2/3 majority of the Senate vote.

Section V: Statements of Procedure

5.1 No Senator will be allowed to speak unless the Supreme Chancellor or chairmen calls upon them to speak. After the Supreme Chancellor or chairmen have recognized the Senator they may then address the senate.

5.2 All matters must first be presented as motions in order for the Supreme Chancellor or chairmen to recognizes them.

3.3 All motions must be seconded by another senator in order for any more action to precede on the issue unless stated otherwise.

- A. All statements and procedures are listed in order of precedence, meaning that the committee will not stop work on one procedure for a motion of lower precedence.

- B. The Procedural Short Form contains a simplified list of all Statements of Procedure.

C. Delegates should refer to the Short Form for the need for a second on a motion or the amount of debate allowed on each procedure.

D. The Statements of Procedure are as follows:

1. **Point of Order:** This regards anything that keeps a delegate from participating fully in the proceedings, including hearing a speaker, behavior of other delegates, rule violations, etc. *This is the only procedure that may be used to interrupt a speaker.*
2. **Point of Inquiry:** Delegates use a Point of Inquiry to gain clarification *from the chair* regarding rules or anything related to the proceedings. Delegates should send notes to the chair as often as possible for this clarification, and bring up a Point of Inquiry only when waiting for a reply from a note would be impractical.
3. **Point of Clarification:** If unclear or incorrect information has been presented to a committee, a delegate uses this rule to clarify the statement by putting it into its proper context or by giving the correct information to clarify an incorrect statement.
4. **Right of Reply:** If a delegate feels his personal or national honor has been compromised, he/she may request a right to briefly correct the offense. The chair decides if this motion is in order. There can be no replies to a Right of Reply.
5. **Declaration of War:** The Imperial Senate has the power to declare war. Requires a second, debate and 2/3 majority vote to pass. To do so, they must call a full senate meeting with the Minister of Defense present. They must explain to the Minister of Defense what is to be accomplished, their purpose, and so forth. The Minister must obey this declaration made by the senate. The Minister of Defense is to then to issue orders to the Division Leaders and continue to report to the Supreme Ruler. The Supreme Ruler may either agree or declare the declaration "void". The declaration made by the senate will take effect immediately after the vote. It will be in effect until/unless denied by the Supreme Ruler. The High Council, if active, also reserves the rights and power to overturn any such decision made by the Senate by a 2/3 vote.
6. **Adjourn the Meeting:** When all business has been completed, or when the scheduled time for the simulation is over, delegates may move to adjourn the meeting. The chair will rule this motion out of order if it is made at inappropriate times.
7. **Table the Issue:** This is used to change topics without approving a final resolution. The issue may be taken up again later (see *Remove from the Table*). A two-thirds majority is required for passage.
8. **Adopt by Consensus:** A committee can bypass regular voting procedures and adopt a measure by full consensus. If any member objects to the consensus, the motion fails.
9. **Close Debate:** When work on a Draft Resolution has essentially

ended, a delegate may move to close debate, which brings the issue to a vote. If there is no draft resolution, the committee would move to the next topic without taking any action (but the topic could not be revisited). The chair may rule this motion out of order if no vote is possible.

10. **Suspension of the Rules:** This motion is made to allow for an unstructured period of delegate work and interaction on written proposals and to gather support. The motion must include a specific purpose. The chair may rule this motion out of order at any time at his or her discretion.

11. **Appeal the Decision of the Chair:** If a delegate feels that the chair has made an improper decision, he/she may appeal that decision. The delegate must be specific about which decision is under appeal, the reason for the appeal, and the rule allowing a delegate to appeal that particular decision. *Delegates may not appeal when the chair declares an action out of order.*

12. **Set the Agenda:** The committee may choose to change the order of the agenda set before the committee session. Delegates must propose a new agenda as part of the motion.

13. **Division of the Question:** Delegates can divide a resolution into sections to be voted on separately, allowing parts of the resolution to pass while other parts are defeated.

14. **Amend the Resolution:** If the principal authors of a draft resolution do not accept a friendly amendment, the amendment may be added by a majority vote of the committee. It is debated in the same way as any topic or resolution.

15. **Remove from the Table:** If a topic has been tabled, it can be reconsidered once the present topic has been tabled, or if the committee has just passed a resolution and is about to move to the next topic on the agenda. This motion requires a two-thirds majority vote.

16. **Consider a Resolution:** Working papers that have already been considered and still have the required number of signatures can be brought forward for debate. The debate should be limited, except for the introduction of amendments to the resolution.

RULES OF PROCEDURE: Short Form

Rule	2 nd ?	Debate	Vote	Description
Point of Order	No	No	-----	To point out misuse of rules or an obstruction to full participation (<i>The delegate may interrupt a speaker</i>)
Point of Inquiry	No	No	-----	To ask a question of the chair regarding the rules or proceedings

Point of Clarification	No	No	-----	To give essential information, or to correct or clarify anyone's statement
Right of Reply	No	No	-----	To correct a compromise of personal or national honor
Declaration of War	Yes	Yes	2/3 Maj.	To vote on where or not to go to war
Adjourn the Meeting	Yes	No	Maj.	Permanently ends a committee session
Table the Issue	Yes	Yes	2/3 Maj.	Sets aside a topic, working paper, or resolution without a final vote
Adopt by Consensus	No	No	All	Bypasses regular voting procedures if the full committee agrees to a measure
Close Debate	Yes	2 con	Maj.	Ends all forms of debate on an issue and starts voting procedures
Suspension of the Rules	Yes	2 pro 2 con	Maj.	Suspends formal procedures of the meetings for a set amount of time
Appeal the Decision of the Chair	Yes	Yes	2/3 Maj.	For decisions subject to appeal, a delegate challenges the chair's ruling
Set the Agenda	Yes	Yes	Maj.	Changes the order of discussion for the topics assigned to the committee
Division of the Question	Yes	Yes	Maj.	Divides the resolution into sections to be voted on separately
Amend the Resolution	Yes	Yes	Maj.	Modifies an existing resolution approved for debate
Remove from the Table	Yes	2 pro 2 con	2/3 Maj.	Brings a tabled issue back to the floor for discussion
Consider a Resolution	No	2 pro 2 con	Maj.	Brings a Draft Resolution to the floor for consideration, amendments, and an eventual vote

-----CURRENT CHARTER IN PROGRESS -----

Section 3-The Imperial Republic Senate **Legislative Bodies of the Imperial Republic**

Article 3.0-Legislative Authority

(What can they make laws about.)

They can make changes to the Civil Rights section of the Charter. They can also make suggestion to the Military and other sections.

Article 3.1.a-Imperial Republic High Council

The High Council shall be the second-governing body of the Imperial Republic. **Membership on the High Council shall be by direct appointment or by virtue of position.** All members will be **appointed** by the Throne **in one of these ways.** **Membership on the High Council shall remain in effect until removed by the Supreme Ruler, expelled by a majority of the Council, or resignation.** **High Councilors with positions in other bodies such as the Royal Family, the Throne, the High Council or the Joint Chiefs will be known and addressed by their other title.** **High Councilors that are appointed by method of direct appointment shall be assigned**

portfolios, with each portfolio being concerned over different aspects of the Imperial Republic. The Supreme Ruler will be the chairman of the High Council. All other councilors with positions in other bodies not listed above will be addressed as "Councilor". In the Supreme Ruler's absence, the Supreme Chancellor will serve as Acting Chairman. The High Council will have legislative, some executive and some judicial powers, as determined by the Supreme Ruler. The High Council will have two statuses, active or inactive. Its powers will only be used or available when it is deemed active by the Supreme Ruler. The High Council's powers exceeds the Senate, includes all powers of the Senate, in addition to others as determined by the Supreme Ruler on an individual and/or collective basis, or by Supreme Council (rewrite). The High Council is deemed as active by decree of the Supreme Ruler or automatically in the event that the Senate is deactivated, closed, or suspended. All High Councilors, like the Senate, must fully support 100% the New Order without reservation. Should this Charter ever need to be rewritten as declared by the Supreme Ruler or the Royal Imperial Throne, the High Council will immediately become active. All Permanent Members of this High Council will have the powers of ambassadors with authority to negotiate on behalf of the Imperial Republic in its best interests. The High Council, by majority vote, shall have the powers to: declare war, mobilize the Armed Forces, sign a treaty, pass a law, amend the charter*, or as otherwise commanded by the Supreme Ruler. The Supreme Ruler may of course overturn any decision rendered by the High Council.

Article 3.1.b-Permanent Members

Permanent members of the the High Council shall include the positions of Supreme Chancellor, The Minister of Defense, the Director of the Imperial Republic Intelligence Service, The Director of the Imperial Republic Security Bureau, the Grand Minister of COMPNOR, High Councilors by direct appointment, and all members of the Throne.

Article 3.1.c-Temporary Members

The Throne may assign division leaders, Moffs, and other department and unit leaders as temporary members of the High Council should the need arise.

Article 3.2 - The Senate

The Imperial Republic Senate shall be the third-governing body of the Imperial Republic. They will have no authority over those of the Royal Family, or Special Royal Status members. The senate will be bound entirely to the Imperial Republic Charter, and will also be bound by an external document entitled "Senate Policy", which shall be created by the Throne and provided to the Senate on a yearly basis. The Senate shall be composed of Senators who must be 21 or older, and will be elected by their planet's citizens or appointed by the Supreme Chancellor. All Senators are allowed to serve up to three terms and all terms shall be for two years. There shall be two Senators from each inhabited member planet (<-change number of Senators?; Do we want it per nation of people. Like If Alderaan got destroyed would the refugees still be entitled to Senators even if they don't have a planet?) or in the case of a member world being destroyed they shall still have representation as long as they first have 5 thousand of its citizens and second elected an official to represent them and third applied for and received their official status as refugees from the Ministry of State, and the terms shall be staggered between the different years, so that there will always be a Senator serving the second year of their term and one serving the first year of their term. The Senator serving the longest consecutively from each planet shall be the Senior Senator from that Planet, and the other Senator shall be the Junior Senator from that Planet. I agree provisions should be made for those nations that are

forced to relocate, though that will force us to define what a nation is and who is entitled to it, because then we'll have many more people claiming their right to have senators and it could get messy. We need a cleaner solution to this.

Article 3.3-Laws

(How to pass a law) We will need to add stuff here :)

Article 3.5-Declaration of War - revise to include Supreme Chancellor & include High Council's right to declare war, move to different section

The Imperial Republic Senate has the power to declare war by the approval of 2/3 of the votes. To do so, they must call a full senate meeting with the Minister of Defense present. They must explain to the Minister of Defense what is to be accomplished, their purpose, and so forth. The Minister must obey this declaration made by the senate. The Minister of Defense is then to issue orders to the Division Leaders and continue to report to the Throne. The Supreme Ruler may either agree or declare the declaration "void". The declaration made by the senate will take effect immediately after the vote. It will be in effect until/ unless denied by the Supreme Ruler. The High Council, if active, also reserves the rights and powers to overturn any such decision made by the Senate by a 2/3 vote. Members of the Throne (Supreme Ruler, Executor, and Grand Vizier) individually have the power to declare war. The Minister of Defense can also declare war on certain circumstances (see Article 5.1).

We need to add the whole section 4. - OVMIND

Section 7 - Ministry of State

Article 7.0 -The Supreme Chancellor

The Supreme Chancellor will be appointed by the Supreme Ruler only. The Supreme Chancellor will be the Acting President and Chairman of the Imperial Republic Senate. It will be the responsibility of the Supreme Chancellor to monitor the Senate and make sure all members support the New Order. The Supreme Chancellor is the Most-High-Moff over all Moffs or system governors, and the Ambassador-in-Chief of the Imperial Republic. The Supreme Chancellor shall have the power to declare a state of war, and must make an official announcement to the Minister of Defense. The Supreme Chancellor will head the Ministry of State. The Supreme Chancellor shall have no direct power over the military except in situations as directed and approved by either the Minister of Defense or the Supreme Ruler. The Supreme Chancellor may designate military targets in the event of war. The Supreme Chancellor will have the powers to expel any member from the Senate for opposing the New Order, and may choose to appoint a new senator or opt to allow the people from the district in which the senator represents to elect a new representative. The Supreme Chancellor shall hold an Executive Veto over the senate, and in times of emergency may issue an Executive Order, which may become a Supreme Command if approved by the Supreme Ruler. The Supreme Chancellor is an agent of the Throne. The Senate may override an executive veto by the Supreme Chancellor with a 2/3 revote. However, The Throne or the Supreme Ruler may overturn the senate's decision, killing the proposal permanently which cannot then be overturned.

Article 7.1 - The Ministry of State

The Ministry of State shall be responsible for effectively managing the Foreign and Regional

Affairs of the Imperial Republic, as well as the Imperial Republic Senate. The Ministry of State will take the lead on communications with Foreign Governments, and will be responsible for setting up and coordinating trade agreements, defense pacts, Funds for the mutual benefit of the Imperial Republic, and for other policy that affects multiple Sovereign Nations.

Article 7.2 - Imperial Republic Foreign Policy

The Ministry of State will be responsible for developing the Foreign Policy Positions of the Imperial Republic and will dictate all protocols that will be followed when dealing with foreign governments, except in regard to the throne, who can dictate their own protocols to use.

Article 7.3 - Ambassadors

The Ministry of State, in accordance with the Royal Imperial Throne, shall appoint ambassadors to foreign governments, as the Throne's personal representative to the specific government. The Ambassadors will be accredited to specific nations, and shall be titled as His Majesty's Ambassador Extraordinaire and Minister Plenipotentiary to the Nation of so-and-so. Members of the High Council of the Imperial Republic, as previously stated, shall act as ambassadors of the Imperial Republic at any time when the situation warrants, or as assigned by the High Council, the Supreme Chancellor, or the Throne, and shall have full authority to negotiate on behalf of the Imperial Republic.

Article 7.4 - State Events

The Ministry of State shall be responsible for hosting state events on behalf of the Imperial Republic. Various events will be planned according to the desires of the Supreme Chancellor, the Royal Imperial Throne, or the High Council. The purpose of these events will be to promote and encourage diplomacy and positive relations between the Imperial Republic, its members, and other sovereign states and organizations of interest to the Imperial Republic. The Ministry of State shall have the duties to carefully plan these events and to cooperate with both the Imperial Republic Security Bureau, the Imperial Republic Intelligence Service, and in some cases, the Ministry of Defense to ensure the security of the event setting and of those who attend.

Article 7.5 - Intelligence Oversight

The Minister of State, namely the Supreme Chancellor, shall receive reports from the Imperial Republic Intelligence Service. These reports will be distributed to appropriate ambassadors who have a legitimate need-to-know of the information they receive pertaining to their specific assignment. The Director of Intelligence shall report to the Supreme Chancellor as his immediate supervisor, though he will be accountable first and foremost to the Royal Imperial Throne. Though the Intelligence Service shall fall as a subdivision of the Ministry of State, only the Supreme Chancellor shall have supervisory authority over the Intelligence Service, in order for it to be able to function effectively. The Senate Intelligence Oversight Committee will oversee funding for IRIS projects and general policy, and will from time to time receive limited reports from Intelligence containing pertinent information that will allow the committee to assist the Intelligence Service and fulfill their responsibilities. The committee shall have no direct involvement in Intelligence operations though shall have the ability to affect policy concerning such.

Article 7.6 - Moff/Ambassador's Authority

Sector Moffs may be appointed by the Supreme Chancellor or the Throne as an ambassador

representing the Imperial Republic to nations or other organizations within or near the area in which the Moff has oversight. Ambassadors shall be able to negotiate treaties or anything upon which the ambassador has been authorized to offer, on behalf of the Imperial Republic, all of which must be within the guidelines given to the ambassador by the Supreme Chancellor, the Senate, the High Council, or the Royal Imperial Throne, and in accordance with the laws and policies of the Imperial Republic currently in place.

Article 7.7 - Class Membership of Sectors or Systems

All member sectors and systems of the Imperial Republic shall be subject to this Charter, and will be defined forthwith in this section.

Article. 7.7.a - Class A Membership

Local sectors or systems who hold class-a membership in the Imperial Republic are governed directly by the New Order system of government, as defined in this charter, subject to the Throne, the Royal Family, the High Council, the Senate, the Sector Moff and local governors, and the military in the case of Martial Law. Class A members are protected solely by the Ministry of Defense and policed by the Imperial Republic Security Bureau. Most sectors, systems, and planets will belong to this class of membership.

Article 7.7.b - Class B Membership

Local sectors or systems who hold class-b membership in the Imperial Republic are governed by their own local system of government and are subject to the Throne and Royal Family of the Imperial Republic only. These systems are responsible primarily for their own protection and for policing their own systems. The Ministry of Defense and Imperial Republic Security Bureau maintain reserves in these systems but are only active when called upon during an emergency by the Throne, the Royal Family, or the local government. Only sectors or systems with a highly sophisticated system of government already in place upon application or annexation for admission into the Imperial Republic will be eligible for this class type membership. Other than the Charter itself, in addition to Supreme Commands and Executive Orders, Class B members shall be governed according to their already established system of government.

Article 7.8 - Admission into the Imperial Republic

Local sectors, systems, or planets who wish to apply for membership in the Imperial Republic must submit their request to the Ministry of State directly or another authorized representative of the Imperial Republic for consideration. The submitting party must clearly have the authority of that government to make such a request, or have the backing of at least half of the population of that planet, system or sector. Representatives will be immediately dispatched by the Ministry of State to resolve any conflicts and to evaluate whether or not the request should be accepted. These recommendations will be submitted to the Ministry of State for planets and small systems, and to the High Council or the Senate for large systems and sectors. The Royal Family, the Supreme Chancellor, or the Throne may approve applications immediately to expedite the process, surpassing the authority of the Ministry of State, Senate, or High Council.

Article 7.9 - Withdrawal from the Imperial Republic

Local sectors or systems who wish to withdraw from the Imperial Republic which hold

class b membership may submit their notice of intent to withdraw from the Charter to the Senate and High Council. The High Council and/or Senate has three months to neogiate the matter with the class b member, afterwhich if the issue is not resolved the withdrawal will be final. Should the Senate, High Council, or the Throne approve the withdrawal it shall become effective immediatey upon that approval. Class A members must show the support of seventy-five percent of their popluation in the withdrawal from the Charter and the New Order, submitting the notification of intent to withdraw to the High Council and the Throne, upon which High Council and/or Throne approval will then be required for the withdrawal.