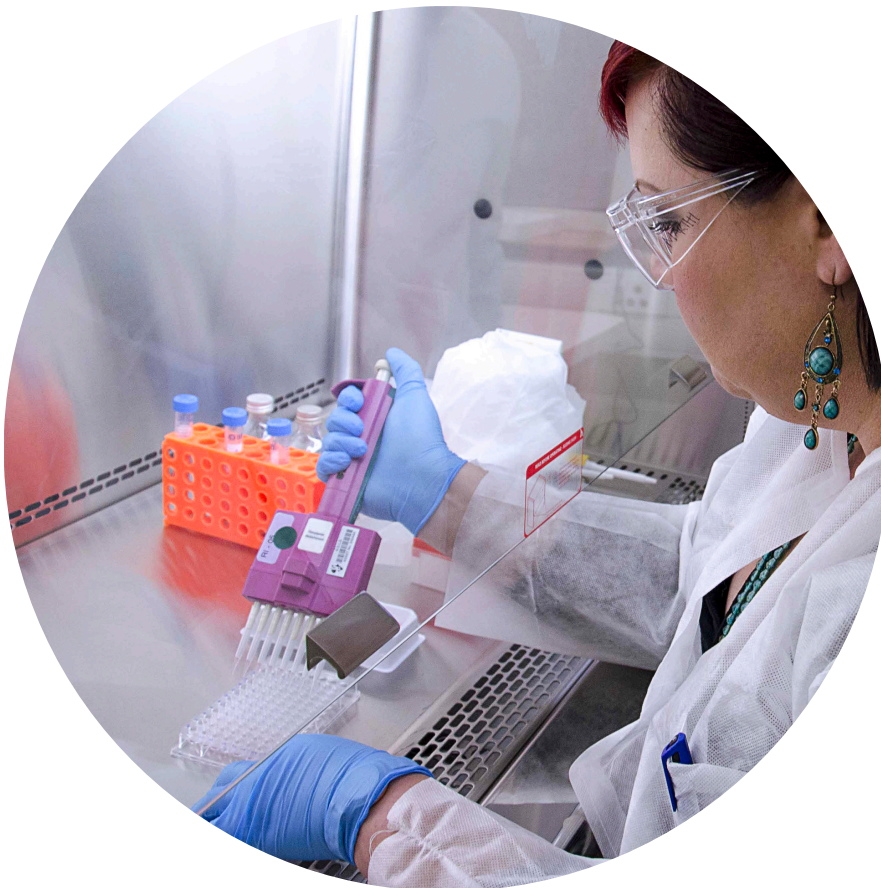




National Museum
of American Diplomacy

INTERNATIONAL HIV/AIDS CRISIS

Global Health and Development



The **National Museum of American Diplomacy (NMAD)** offers educators immersive programs that explore the goals and practice of diplomacy, teach diplomatic skills, build global competence, and illustrate how the critical work of American diplomats impacts people's everyday lives. Lesson plans emphasize 21st century skills: creativity and innovation; critical thinking and problem solving; and communication and collaboration. These skills are keys to success for the next generation of global citizens.

The **Diplomacy Simulation Program** is the museum's premier educational tool. In a collaborative learning environment, students step into the shoes of real-life diplomats. The diplomacy simulations are designed for 15-30 participants, plus a teacher/moderator. Students receive a scenario related to a global issue, which could be real-world or hypothetical, current or historic. Within each simulation, there are five to six stakeholder groups (e.g., foreign ministries, NGOs, and international organizations), each with different perspectives and priorities. Students role-play these stakeholders in small teams of three to five. Under set time constraints, the groups are challenged to negotiate a peaceful solution to the crisis in the scenario. Students use the information provided in the simulation packet to develop their group's policy positions and defend or modify their choices in real time.

The simulations have no right or wrong actions or solutions because the process, rather than the end result, is the goal. The learning experience develops organically as the students engage in the simulation. Once the simulation has been completed, students are encouraged to express how their views on diplomacy have evolved as a result of the simulation, and to contemplate how they can apply diplomatic skills to their everyday lives.

To access the complete Diplomacy Simulation Program, including training and subject matter expert videos, please visit diplomacy.state.gov



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Diplomacy Simulations are developed and presented by NMAD as an integral component of the museum's education offerings. This document and all associated materials are intended exclusively for educational use.

Background and Scenario

- 1 **Issue Background**
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HIV/AIDS is a global disease for which there is no cure. The disease has killed over 39 million people worldwide, including over 659,000 Americans. HIV (the virus that causes AIDS) is transmitted between people via infected **bodily fluids**. Certain people are at higher risk for contracting and transmitting the virus, including homosexuals, uncircumcised men, sex partners who don't use condoms, sex workers, **people who inject drugs**, and children born to HIV-positive women. Certain treatments – called **anti-retroviral treatments (ARTs)** – are very effective both in helping people living with HIV/AIDS to prolong their lives in relative health, as well as in significantly reducing their risk of transmitting HIV to an uninfected partner.

APPROXIMATELY

38M

people worldwide
living with **HIV/AIDS**
at the end of 2019.*

The Joint United Nations Programme on HIV and AIDS (UNAIDS) is an international **advocacy** organization. UNAIDS does not run any medical programs or provide community services in individual countries. Rather, it focuses on policy issues and laws. UNAIDS encourages countries to create their own programs and embrace aid organizations that offer universal access to HIV prevention, treatment, and care programs without discrimination. It also gathers scientific evidence to help governments develop fact-based policies.

Since 2003, the U.S. has invested over \$65 billion in **foreign aid** to fight HIV/AIDS around the world.

Are you willing to jump in and confront the situation? We believe you bring the necessary skills to the table: the ability to hear others' viewpoints; the ability to analyze your own and others' positions and goals; a spirit of cooperation; and a belief that everyone can be a part of a solution.

As representatives of one of the stakeholders engaged in the process, you will need to:

- Prioritize your diplomatic goals according to your group's policy position.
- Identify with whom you will need to negotiate and who might be your allies/opponents.

You will need to learn what the other participants believe and what they want out of the negotiation. Can you help bridge gaps between the participants? Remember, not all groups will agree with your priorities or goals. The objective is to find a solution that advances your group's goals and priorities. To do this you will need to compromise and develop consensus to meet the other stakeholders halfway.

You will need to negotiate with other groups and look for ideas you share. Recognize where you can and cannot change your own and others' positions; identify areas of agreement; and finally agree on a strategy.

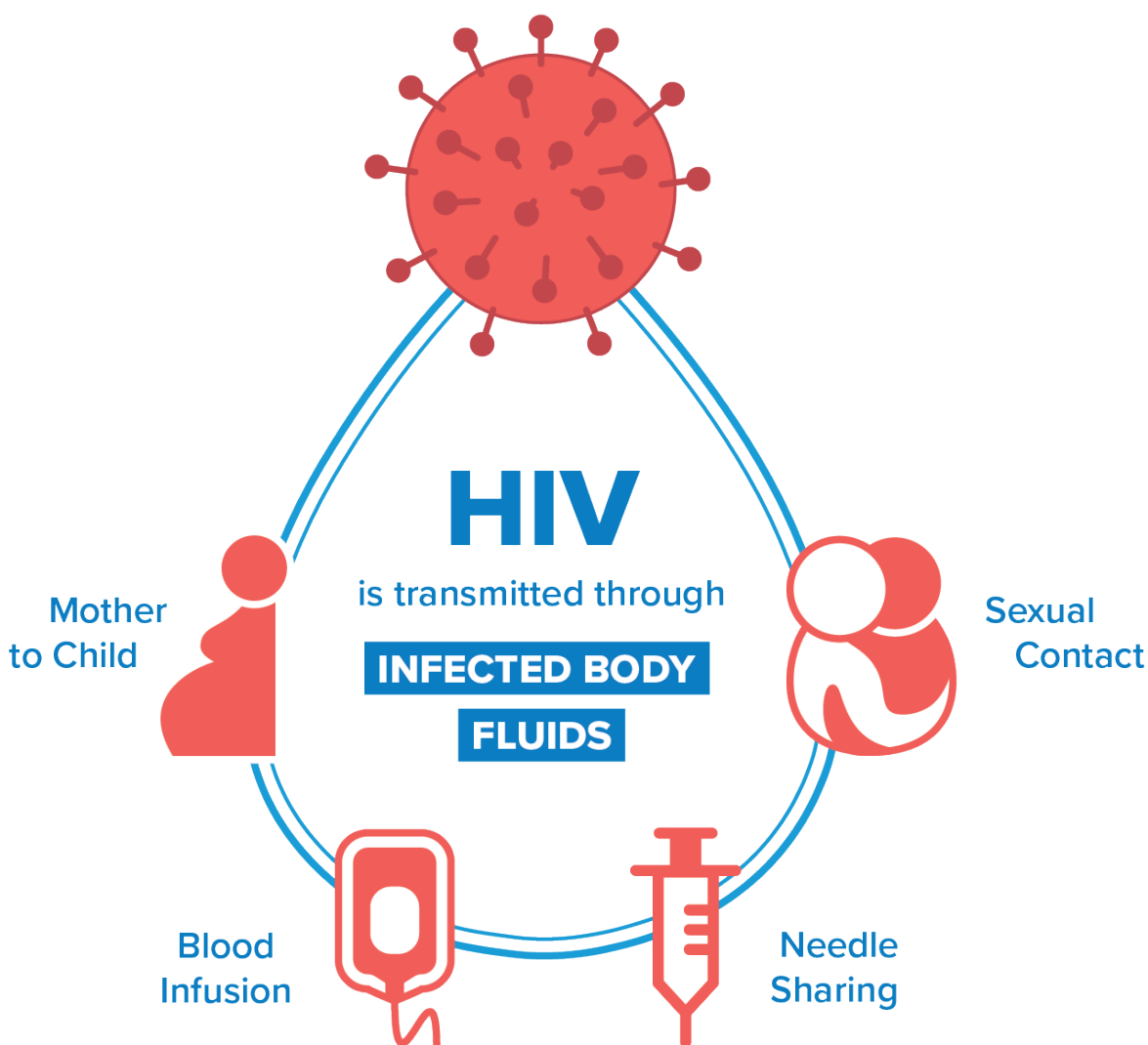
At the beginning of the first round of discussions and in the order listed above, each group will have three minutes to outline its concerns and objectives. Some ideas for your group's opening position are provided in your Stakeholder Profile; feel free to incorporate or withhold this information as you wish.

After all groups have given an opening statement you will be given 15 minutes to reach out to other

* Taken from UNAIDS, *Global HIV & AIDS statistics — 2020 fact sheet*, <https://www.unaids.org/en/resources/fact-sheet/> accessed on Jan 28, 2021.

participants and negotiate your positions informally. Your goal in this session should be to build alliances and offer strategies to find consensus with as many other groups as possible.

When you return to the formal meeting, the Chair will recognize delegates to hear their proposals. During this time you should look for support. Do not spend time endlessly debating; the goal is to find a workable solution to the crisis at hand. Listen to what others say and if you need to adjust your proposal, do so. The Chair will give you 15-20 minutes to come up with a resolution – or not.



Lateen and Daymar are neighboring countries sharing a border. Culturally, they are very similar. Lateen is a much poorer nation. Most people in Lateen are **subsistence farmers**. This means they can produce enough food to feed their families but not enough to sell to others. Lateen has copper deposits that are potentially quite valuable, but the country does not have and is too poor to develop a mining industry. The Government of Lateen receives foreign aid from wealthier countries, including the United States. Lateen has good relations with the United States.

Daymar is a major grain producer. Daymar and the U.S. have been trading partners for a long time, and U.S.-Daymar relations are also very good. Daymar sells the harvested grain to the United States and buys American factory equipment to keep building up its economy. Over the past decade, Daymar has been trying to increase domestic manufacturing by encouraging young people to move from farms into cities to take factory jobs. However, as a result, there are no longer enough local agricultural workers to keep the farms going. For several years, Daymar has been giving work permits to seasonal **migrant laborers** from Lateen (mostly men) to come into Daymar for the summer and autumn months to plant and harvest crops. The Lateen migrant workers send money home to help their families (**remittances**). Without this money, everyday life would be even more difficult for the families in this poor country. When the harvest is over, the Lateen workers return to Lateen.

The Joint United Nations Programme on HIV and AIDS (UNAIDS) has for years advocated more comprehensive programs in Lateen. UNAIDS experts analyzed the infection data provided by Daymar health officials, but were unable to determine why more cases are being reported in Daymar now.

Prevent HIV/AIDS Now (PHAN) is a non-governmental organization (NGO) similar to the International Committee of the Red Cross. PHAN runs HIV/AIDS education, prevention, and treatment clinics around the world. It provides these services directly to local communities. In the United States, PHAN lobbies members of Congress and the State Department for funding. A number of well-known American celebrities take part in PHAN fundraising events, and the group can generate a lot of media attention.

The United States Government gives some funding to UNAIDS for advocacy and some to PHAN to run programs in individual countries. Every year, the State Department must ask Congress for this funding. Last year, the United States contributed \$250 million to PHAN specifically to support about 75 percent of its programs in Lateen. But every year, including this year, money for foreign aid is always competing with domestic spending priorities, such as U.S. national defense, education, and healthcare.

HIV/AIDS is a significant problem in Lateen. Approximately 10 percent of the adult population is living with HIV/AIDS. Although social attitudes tend to be fairly conservative, most people know at least one friend or relative who has HIV or AIDS and this makes them more sympathetic to a broader range of sufferers. For the past five years, PHAN has run robust but limited programs in Lateen, particularly focusing on preventing mother-to-child transmission, antiretroviral treatments and clean needle exchanges. During that time, the percentage of Lateen people with HIV/AIDS has not increased, but it has not decreased, either. Health experts believe Lateen is not making as much progress as it could because the government and the general population do not support all possible preventive measures, such as condoms and voluntary medical male circumcision. Lateen men believe both practices undermine their masculinity. UNAIDS and the State Department have for years encouraged Lateen to adopt more comprehensive HIV/AIDS programs.

In contrast, Daymar has a low HIV/AIDS prevalence rate – about 1.5 percent of the adult population. Until recently, Daymar did not see the need for any HIV/AIDS prevention and treatment programs. However, the number of new cases reported each month has recently started to rise – from 20 new cases six months ago to 50 new cases last month. Daymar believes local cases of HIV/AIDS are increasing because seasonal migrant workers from Lateen are bringing the disease into Daymar.

Sex education is not offered in Daymar schools, except to stress **abstinence** before marriage and **monogamy** after marriage. The local population is not well-informed about how HIV/AIDS is transmitted, and there are a lot of misconceptions. Like their Lateen neighbors, most Daymar men are culturally opposed to using condoms. Daymar religious and political leaders reinforce the public perception that homosexuals, people who inject drugs, sex workers, and people who have sex outside marriage are all sinners who deserve to get HIV/AIDS as punishment. They argue that it is appropriate to discriminate against these people because they are **social deviants**. Daymar society only supports providing treatment to “innocent victims” of the disease (i.e., monogamous, married pregnant women and their children).

PHAN has never dealt with the Government of Daymar before and PHAN’s regional program coordinator got a chilly reception when she met with religious and political leaders in Daymar to discuss working together. She offered to start an HIV/AIDS prevention and treatment program in Daymar, but only if PHAN can treat all infected people without discrimination. The Daymar leaders repeated the commonly-held belief that some people “deserved” to get HIV/AIDS as a punishment and insisted it only wants programs aimed at the “innocent victims.”

Even though it means sacrificing its annual crops, the Government of Daymar has decided to close its border to all Lateen migrant workers. This would be a devastating blow to Lateen’s economy. It would also limit Daymar’s ability to trade with the United States and slow Daymar’s economic development. Daymar is willing to start working with PHAN, but only in support of “innocent victims.”

UNAIDS has called this multilateral meeting to discuss the situation.

Today's simulation involves a hypothetical scenario but deals with the real world problems of global health. You will role play a member of a delegation at an international meeting trying to negotiate a solution. The delegations are:



Prevent HIV/AIDS Now (PHAN)

Prevent HIV/AIDS Now (PHAN) is a non-governmental organization (NGO) similar to the International Committee of the Red Cross. PHAN runs HIV/AIDS education, prevention, and treatment clinics around the world, including in Lateen. PHAN does not have any programs in Daymar. The United States and other countries donate money to PHAN.



Foreign Ministry of Lateen

Lateen is a poor country with very little industry and international trade. Most people are subsistence farmers. For decades, Lateen migrant workers (mostly men) have been immigrating legally to neighboring countries for the summer and fall harvest, where they earn enough to send money home to their families. After the harvest, the migrants return to Lateen. About 10 percent of Lateen's adults are infected with HIV/AIDS. For the past five years, PHAN has run robust education, prevention, and treatment programs in local Lateen communities.



Joint United Nations Programme on HIV and AIDS (UNAIDS)

The Joint United Nations Programme on HIV and AIDS (UNAIDS) brings together governments, private businesses and non-governmental organizations to promote universal access to HIV prevention, treatment, care and support. UNAIDS also encourages countries to protect the human rights of vulnerable communities, and to eliminate social and legal discrimination that prevents some groups from accessing proper care. It gathers and analyzes scientific data to help governments make fact-based decisions. The United States is a major donor.



U.S. Department of State (DOS)

Worldwide, HIV/AIDS has killed over 39 million people, including over 659,000 Americans, and there is no cure. The U.S. State Department is responsible for implementing HIV/AIDS policy overseas. Since 2003, the U.S. has invested over \$65 billion in foreign aid to fight HIV/AIDS around the world. The U.S. Government, through the State Department, gives some of that money to advocacy organizations like UNAIDS and to service providers like PHAN.



Foreign Ministry of Daymar

Daymar is a middle-income level country. It exports high-quality, vitamin rich grains and imports machinery. The United States is a major trading partner. Most young people work in cities and factories, so Daymar relies heavily on the seasonal migrant workers from Lateen to sow and reap the yearly harvest. About 1.5 percent of the adult population is infected with HIV/AIDS.

Located at the U.S. Department of State in Washington, D.C., the National Museum of American Diplomacy is a public-private partnership between the State Department and the Diplomacy Center Foundation. NMAD's education program connects high school and college students with the world of American diplomacy, increasing their understanding of the skills, practices, and language of diplomats. Through simulations, online resources, and the museum's annual Educator's Workshop, NMAD inspires involvement in foreign affairs and citizen diplomacy.





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