



AI Negotiation Challenge 2026 Global Simulation

Instructions to Applicants

How to Apply for the AI Negotiation Challenge Global Simulation as a Team

Here are step-by-step instructions to apply and register to the 2026 Global Simulation:

Step 1: Form a Team

The Global Simulation reenacts a multilateral conference as a space for delegation exchange, negotiation and reflection. Participation requires applying as a pre-formed team.

- Each team should be composed of **a minimum of three and a maximum of five members** who are either professionals in the fields of negotiation, mediation, or policy-making, or graduate students specializing in a related domain.
- Teams must designate a **Team Coordinator** to submit the application form, lead communications with the organisers and oversee preparation.
- Individual applications will not be accepted. The organisers are unable to assemble teams.

Step 2: Submit an Application

Once your team is formed, the **Team Coordinator** should complete the [official application form](#) thoroughly, including the names and emails of all team members, ensuring that all required fields are filled out clearly and accurately.

- Acceptance is on a rolling basis until the event is full.
- Information from the application will be used to give participants access to the platform and allocate roles in the simulation.
- Please note that membership of the team can be altered after the registration if necessary by the Team Coordinator in writing to the FATC Community Manager.

Step 3: Register for the AI Negotiation Challenge Platform

Once accepted, the Team Coordinator will receive instructions to **register the team on the AI Negotiation Challenge** platform. This only needs to be done **once per team**.

- The **registration fee is USD 40 per team** (non-refundable, payable by credit card at the registration), which covers:
 - Access to the Briefing Sessions and Material
 - Full access to recorded tutorials on the AI Negotiation Challenge platform
 - Participation in the online Global Simulation on 25 – 26 April 2026
- The registration fee of USD 40 for the team must be paid in full at the time of enrollment by the designated Team Coordinator. This fee covers the participation of the entire team, and a payment receipt will be issued to the enrolling coordinator.
- Each team member will receive a coupon providing individual access to the platform, based on the information submitted by the Team Coordinator in the application form.

Step 4: Start Crafting Your AI Assistant

Registered teams will gain access to recorded tutorials to help:

- Build and customise their own GPT-based AI assistant
- Practice negotiation planning and analysis using AI tools
- Refine their strategies in preparation for the simulation

Step 5: Receive Your Mandate

On **April 18**, each team will be:

- Assigned to represent a **State or Civil Society Organisation** in the fictive international negotiation on security and cooperation in the Arctic.
- Invited to attend the Thematic Briefing session on 25 April, and the first round of the simulation on 26 April.

Please note: Teams will be assigned to represent a party whose values or mission may differ from their own perspectives. This deliberate assignment is intended to foster the ability to develop flexible, AI-supported negotiation strategies across a wide range of viewpoints. It also emphasizes that the simulation is entirely fictitious—teams participate as part of a role-playing exercise and do not represent their own real-world institutions.

Step 6: Engage in the Simulation – 25 – 26 April 2026

All registered teams will participate in the AI Negotiation Challenge online Global Simulation. The exercise will simulate an international negotiation conference, allowing teams to apply their AI-assisted tools and methods in a dynamic, role-based environment.

The two-day Global Simulation moves from structured preparation to high-intensity competitive negotiation, progressively testing strategic reasoning, coalition leadership, and responsible AI integration.

Preliminary Agenda

Day 1 – Saturday, 25 April 2026 | Strategic Foundations

- Three-hour expert briefings on Arctic security and cooperation.
- Historical and comparative insights (Arctic Council, OSCE, CSCE Helsinki process).
- Orientation to simulation roles, procedures, and evaluation criteria.

Day 2 – Sunday, 26 April 2026 | Competitive Simulation

Round 1 – Position Development (90 minutes)

- Teams draft a position paper and briefing note, demonstrating disciplined AI use.
- New disruptive information is introduced at the start of the round.
- Submissions are evaluated by the jury.
- 30-minute jury deliberation; selected teams advance.

Round 2 – Coalition Building (2h30)

- The conference presidency outlines key parameters for a potential agreement.
- Teams conduct intensive consultations to form coalitions.
- AI supports language development and strategic refinement.
- Coalition-building remains primarily human-to-human, online and on-site.
- Revised positions and coalition structures are submitted.
- Jury members observe and assess negotiations.
- 30-minute jury deliberation; five finalist coalitions advance.

Round 3 – Final Declaration Drafting (1h00)

- Finalists meet with the conference presidency to negotiate a joint declaration.
- Teams draft a shared text on Arctic security and cooperation.
- This final stage is intentionally human-driven, emphasizing leadership, judgment, trust, and disciplined negotiation under pressure.

Certification of Participants

All participants who complete the full two-day Global Simulation receive an official Certificate of Participation to the AI Negotiation Challenge Global Simulation, issued by Frontline Associates.

The certification recognizes:

- Active engagement in a high-level multilateral negotiation simulation.
- Demonstrated capacity to integrate AI safely, effectively, and responsibly into diplomatic strategy.
- Participation in structured coalition-building and final drafting processes under real-time constraints.
- Commitment to principled, human-led negotiation and ethical decision-making.

Teams advancing to the second round receive a formal recognition for demonstrated strength in strategic reasoning, coalition formation, and responsible AI integration.

Teams reaching the third round are awarded a Certificate of Excellence in Multilateral Negotiation with AI, acknowledging advanced performance in leadership, judgment, and collaborative drafting under pressure.

From among the finalists, the Jury confers the **2026 AI Negotiation Challenge Global Award** on the team that exhibits the highest level of strategic coherence, effective coalition management, principled AI use, and overall negotiation excellence.

Contact

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