

# ANIMAL TESTING

To what extent should animal testing be used to develop vaccines and drugs in the case of new pandemics?



## AN INTERESTING ICEBREAKER

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The icebreakers for Animal testing were fun. The delegates had to compete in who built the tallest tower from thin wooden sticks and marshmallows. They were divided into four teams. All the team members made great connections, got along well and all showed significant effort to win. The winning team was the team of countries: United Kingdom, France, Mexico, South Korea, and South Africa. The students of all the schools think the activity was fun, a wonderful way of making connections without it being uncomfortable.

## THE UNFOLDING OF THE SESSIONS

The first session for Animal Cruelty for this 2025 Orbital Model United Nations started with the opening speeches of the delegates of each country. All of the countries agreed on one thing: animals should not be exploited in any way that makes them suffer. They should be appreciated and valued as living and breathing beings not just as objects. A lot of countries mentioned the 3Rs principle and the support it gets. To summarize, the 3Rs principle is replacement, reduction and refinement. Some countries advocate for a new society in which animals will be treated fairly, while others advocate for animals not to be used unless there are some cases of emergencies where it is a necessity. New methods are also mentioned, such as in vitro testing, computer modelling and organ-on-a-chip. These should be funded and promoted as soon as possible so the animal suffering can be quickly reduced. Animal testing should only be performed in emergency cases, meaning if there is a global pandemic where humans are endangered, animals should and can be used. But their use needs to be under proper safety and sanitary control. However almost all countries stand by the decision: no use of animals for cosmetic testing.



*the delegates were seated with plaques informing others of the country they represent*

## THE SECOND SESSION

In the second session, the countries who had a speech recognized that animals who are used in labs should be bred only for lab use and nothing else, as they do not have the same rights as house animals such as cats and dogs. This does not mean that they do not have the right to live, they are simply only used for research.



There has also been a project created called project Bled. The countries of Russia, Norway, India, South Africa and Mexico formed an alliance and decided that they will work together to minimize the animal suffering. The countries who are not part of the project will be sanctioned.

