

## Position Paper Guide

*“Each issue should be addressed briefly in a concise political statement that represents the relevant opinions of your country or assigned NGO. Recommendations of action that your committee can take must be included.”*



## FORMAT

Overall use of template and guidelines in creating the position paper.

- Use the template.
- Include:
  - An **introduction of your topics**, stated exactly as written in the Background Guide.
  - A discussion of your Member State's **position on Topic One**.
    - Relevant **statistics or quotes**
    - **Precedents**: international and domestic
    - A well-detailed **innovative idea**
  - A discussion of your Member State's **position on Topic Two**.
    - Relevant **statistics or quotes**
    - **Precedents**: international and domestic
    - A well-detailed **innovative idea**
- The position paper takes up exactly **two pages**, single spaced, with **one-inch margins**.
- The text of your body paragraphs should remain **justified** and be written in **10 pt. Arial font**.
- Whenever using an **acronym**, give its full name in your first mention, and then immediately afterwards include the acronym in parentheses. For all subsequent references, simply use the acronym.
- Use the **third person**, instead of the first person, throughout your position paper. For example, rather than saying, “We believe that it is important to address this topic,” say, “Germany believes that it is important to address this topic.”
- Use the term “**Member States**” instead of “countries” or “nations” (exceptions include phrases commonly used in IR literature, such as “developing countries”)
- When **citing UN resolutions** in your position paper, list the UN entity that produced the resolution, the resolution number, and the year that it is from, rather than simply giving the document code. For example, cite A/RES/70/1 as “General Assembly resolution 70/1 (2015)” or E/RES/2008/8 as “Economic and Social Council resolution 2008/8.” If your document does not include “RES” in the code, verify what type of document it is (i.e. Reports)
- When mentioning important international or regional precedents, such as major conventions, declarations, and treaties, please **italicize the titles** of these documents and provide the year of adoption – *Universal Declaration of Human Rights* (1948)
- Save the document as **Committee\_Country**
- Do NOT use any form of citations.

## **COMPOSITION**

Use of correct syntax/grammar and mechanics, organization, and overall flow.

- Use a topic and concluding sentences to summarize your paragraphs.
- Write succinctly. Avoid repetitive or otherwise unnecessary words.
- Your position paper is not just a list of facts, but a judgment of facts. Describe what efforts have been ineffective/effective statistically, what is good/bad about the philosophical approach the international community/regional communities have taken, what your Member State would do moving forward.
- Check your grammar.

## **RESEARCH**

Cites precedents; demonstrates persuasively that the author understands the country policy; pushes the envelope appropriately.

- Follow the directions for each sentence in the template.
- Include key statistics, precedents, actions.
- Demonstrate deep understanding of country policies, interests, allies/adversaries, and priorities.
- Include insightful innovative ideas and solutions to your assigned global issue.