

Position Paper Overview

Writing a well-researched and substantive Position Paper is the best way to prepare for any Model United Nations conference. Through the position paper your delegation will express its ideas and policies by defining your nation-state's perspective on the issues at hand. Moreover, it is the means by which you bring all of your research together in a logical and succinct form.

OVERVIEW

After breaking it down, your Position Paper should flow smoothly. In the end it should come to **3 pages per topic**. What you should aim for however is quality not quantity.

Overall, your Position Paper should exhibit the following:

- Comprehensive understanding of the situation
- An organized and argumentative structure
- Original thinking that follows with the policy of the represented state
- An attitude of seriousness to the issues in question

The Position Paper, ultimately, is your opportunity to develop a deep understanding of the issues presented in the committee, and thus will go a long way in preparing you for direct interaction and debate with other delegates.

REQUIREMENTS

One position paper is due per delegation for each topic on the committee agenda, whether the country has been assigned to a single delegate or a pair of delegates. On each submission delegates should use only their committee, country, and topic for identification purposes. Personal and school names are not allowed for the purposes of blind grading.

There are four required sections in the position paper, delegates have to identify each section they are working on clearly, and any prompts or questions they are responding to, where relevant.

The four sections are:

- Past and Current International Action (20%) ~2/3 page
- Country's Position (20%) ~2/3 page
- Proposed Solutions (40%) ~1 1/4 page
- Questions to Consider (15%) ~1/2 page

In addition, the chair's discretion on overall quality will encompass 5% of the criteria.

FORMATTING AND SUBMISSION

FORMAT

Please submit a hard copy with 1 inch margins on all sides. Indicate in your header your committee, country, and topic, and please do not include your name or school name. Position papers should be Typed, 12 point Times New Roman Font, single-spaced at a 3 page maximum per topic; not including the bibliography. All citations should be done in the MLA format.

SUBMISSION

Position Papers are due at the start of Committee Session 1 to be considered for awards.

PLAGIARISM AND CITATIONS

All position papers will be extensively cross-referenced through various sources, both online and in-print. If there is any evidence of using the work of others without citations, the delegate(s) will not be eligible for an award. Any school that has multiple cases of plagiarism may be reconsidered for a School Delegation Award. It is the responsibility of the delegate and the advisor to ensure this does not happen.

Delegates must also remember to correctly cite sources, and papers without any cited sources will not be accepted. For more information on how to use in-text MLA citations, visit [Purdue OWL](#).