



## Position paper

A Position Paper is a research paper relative to a topic, meant to provide the delegates with a source of reference before and during the conference. Writing a position paper will help you organize your ideas and enhance your knowledge on the topic as well your country's position.

Before writing a position paper, delegates must research their country to better understand their topic and their stance. The following elements should be thoroughly researched: geography, political structure and demographics, economy, military and defense, social, role in the UN. For more info refer to the Country Profile Worksheet.

The position paper should include the following elements:

- A basic introduction to the topic, the section should include:
  - A brief and general history and background to the topic
  - Why is this issue a problem?
  - Why do we, as the international community need to solve it? Use references to the UN Charter, as appropriate for the topic.
  - What are the effects of this problem on the world at large and on your country?
- Your country's policies with respect to the issue with evidence:
  - Past statements on the topic
  - Quotes from your country's leaders, and/or important figures
  - Statistics to back up your country's position on the issue;
  - Action taken by your government in regard to the issue;
  - Conventions, treaties and/or resolutions that your country has signed or ratified;
  - Aspects your country would like tackle to solve the issue
  - Your country's proposed solutions
  - Key stances on the issue
- Past Action taken by the UN, NGOs and/or governments to solve the issue
  - Resolutions from different councils and committees
  - Reports from UN organisations, subsidiary bodies, specialised agencies, or regional bodies
  - Reports for UN personnel, speeches from UN representatives
  - Evaluation of past action
  - What are some of the issues that have not been tackled?

The information on the topic should contain factual evidence as well as statistics.

- Suggest solutions for this problem according to your country's position. Make these suggestions as comprehensive as possible. Integrate all aspects of the problem and all sectors of government that might contribute to the solution.

A position paper should not exceed two pages in length, and may be written either in prose form or with bullet points for each unique idea/issue in the topic area.