

Position Paper Guidelines

What is a position paper?

A position paper is a one-page, single-spaced paper intended to allow a Member-State to lay out its position on the topic discussed in their committee. Although position papers are short, it should clearly state the scope of the issue, the country's stake in the issue, and possible solutions a country hopes to achieve. As opposed to working papers and resolutions, position papers are written *before* the conference begins, on April 10. Additionally, position papers are intended to solely focus on one country's stance rather than a cohesive solution where multiple countries are working together—which is what should be done during the writing of working papers and resolutions over the course of the weekend.

Suggested approach and structure:

As you begin to write your position paper, it is recommended you divide up your writing into three paragraphs:

1. The first paragraph should explain the scope of the issue. Who is affected? What countries have a stake? Why is this committee addressing this issue?
2. The second paragraph should look more specifically at your country's own policies and role in the issue. What has your country done in the past to help or exacerbate the issue? What has been the impact on your country? What other countries or entities does your country support, historically or looking into the future? In other words: why does your country care?
3. The final paragraph should focus on solutions and tangible actions you hope to take over the course of the weekend. This can be as specific or broad as you want, but keep in mind no other delegates will have access to your position paper so you can be as specific about policy goals as you would like.

These are simply recommendations to help guide you in your writing process, but if a different approach is more helpful to you or appropriate to your writing, please take liberty in writing in the way that makes the most sense to you!

Formatting:

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Your position papers should be one-page, single-spaced in 12-point font, Times New Roman. The margins should be 1” on all sides.

It is also recommended you expand your research beyond the background guide to have as nuanced a policy as possible. If you do conduct your own research, ensure to cite all your sources. You can do so through footnotes or a bibliography at the end of your position paper which will *not* count in the page-count.

Your position paper must be entirely original writing, as McKennaMUN X has a zero-tolerance policy for plagiarism. This includes directly copying language from the background guide unless you cite your source. Violation of this policy may result in the disqualification of you and your delegation from this conference.

Deadline:

Your position papers are due on April 10th at 3:00pm PST. Please turn them in through this [form](#).

Sincerely,

Zubin Khera

USG of General Assembly

McKenna MUN XI

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