



# Rules For Position Paper

Writing a position paper might appear to be a daunting task, especially for new delegates (you), but with time and enough research, you will find that writing a position paper will be easy and useful.

Position papers are usually one to one-and-a-half pages in length. Your position paper should include a brief introduction followed by a comprehensive breakdown of your country's position on the topics that are being discussed by the committee. A good position paper will not only provide facts but also will suggest proposals for resolutions.

Many conferences will ask for specific details in a position paper, so be sure to include all the required information. Most conferences will provide delegates a background guide to the issue. Usually, the background guide will contain questions to consider.

## *A good position paper will include:*

- ❖ A brief introduction to your country and its history concerning the topic and committee.
- ❖ How the issue affects your country.
- ❖ Your country's policies with respect to the issue and your country's justification for these policies.
- ❖ Quotes from your country's leaders about the issue.
- ❖ Statistics to back up your country's position on the issue.
- ❖ Actions taken by your government with regard to the issue.
- ❖ Conventions and resolutions that your country has signed or ratified.
- ❖ UN actions that your country supported or opposed.
- ❖ What your country believes should be done to address the issue.
- ❖ What your country would like to accomplish in the committee's resolution.
- ❖ How the positions of other countries affect your country's position.



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## Position Paper Tips:

### ❖ *Keep it simple*

To communicate effectively and firmly avoid flowery wording and use uncomplicated language and sentence structure.

### ❖ *Make it official*

Try to use the seal of your country or create an "official" letterhead for your position paper. The more realistic it looks, the more appealing to others to read it.

### ❖ *Get organized*

Give each separate idea or proposal its own paragraph. Make sure each paragraph starts with a topic sentence.

### ❖ *Cite the sources*

Use footnotes or end-notes to show where you found your facts and statistics. If you are unfamiliar with bibliographic form, ask your teacher about Citing and Referencing the Harvard style.

### ❖ *Include all team members name* as a footnote

### ❖ *Proofread and reread*

Leave time to edit your position paper. Ask your team member if the organization of the paper makes sense and double-check spelling and grammar.

### ❖ *Speech! Speech!*

Do you plan to make an opening statement at your conference? A good position paper makes a great introductory speech. During debate, a good position paper will also help you to stick to your country's policies.

## PLAGIARISM

Plagiarism will not be tolerated at any point by ECLYMUN.

Not even the best source exempts delegates from materializing their own ideas and suggestions, and then phrase them in their own words.

## See more at:

<http://eclymun.ec-lyon.fr/documents.html>