

Frequently Asked Questions about Position Papers Model Security Council 2020

What is a position paper?

A position paper is **brief statement** summarizing the most important views of the country that you will represent in the Security Council, specifically as the members States prepare for the 2021 NPT Review Conference. You should list and refer to the resolutions, conventions, protocols, and programs that are relevant to the policy of your assigned country. It should also include **proposals and solutions** to the problems that will be discussed in the Security Council.

The summary of the previous actions taken by your country are as important as the future actions that your country recommends must be taken by your committee.

These questions can be helpful to write your position paper:

1. Why is this problem/issue important? Who should care about this problem? Why is this problem/issue relevant for the United Nations? What are the repercussions of NOT addressing this problem?
2. What actions have been taken to address this issue? In addition to the Security Council, what United Nations' agencies or commissions have dealt with it? What protocols have been created to effectively address this issue? What specific conventions, conferences, meetings, have been held to address the issue and propose courses of action? What documents and commitments have resulted from these meetings (resolutions, treaties, conventions)? (Framed in terms of your country's support or rejection of these diverse efforts) Has your country signed/ratified those documents?
3. Can you identify a link (in terms of your country to the work that has been done)? Has your country contributed with any resources to address the issue (financial resources, human resources (missions)? Has your country sponsored or attended the conferences or signed treaties? Has your country taken notable steps domestically to address this issue?
4. What solutions can your country propose to solve the problem? (While there is some freedom to produce these ideas and that the proposals do not need to be directly linked to your country's position, they should be consistent with your country's interests and foreign policy. Focus can be on multilateral steps, or on regional organizations, or on pursuing domestic/national legislation that will address the problem. **It is advisable to limit the proposals to no more than three clear and concrete plans of action.**

What is the format of a position paper?

Position papers should have a specific format:



Length: No more than two pages



Font type: Arial, size 10 points



Margins: Must set at 1 inch or 2.54 cm. for the whole paper.

Justify the text for your paragraphs so the left and right margins both have straight edges.



Labels: Country (“delegation of”) and committee name must be clearly labeled on the first page.



The document (file) should be in PDF format (Word document converted to PDF)



You should **NOT** provide your name, academic institution's names or personal details.



You should **NOT** write the paper in the first person of the singular or second person of the plural (“I” or “we” statements should not be used in the paper). You should write the paper from the perspective of the country that you are representing. For example, you can write: “The Russian Federation believes that...”



You should **not** include national symbols (headers, flags, etc.). They are deemed inappropriate for the World Scout Jamboree Model UN position papers.

What is the content of a position paper?

Your position paper should address **the topics and issues addressed** in the **background guide**. You can organize your topics and sub-topics with

headings and subheadings.

You do not need to include footnotes or formal citations as you do in a regular academic paper. While these elements are not required, **you should use quotations marks** if you are referring to a direct quote or if you need to give credit or to acknowledge the source of a statement.

The paper should be written with a formal tone. It should be written as if you are giving voice to a foreign minister of your assigned country. **The content of your paper should be original.** After you do research you should write your own ideas (consistent with the country that you are representing). **You should not present others' works as if they were yours.**



Check the sample position paper.

When should I submit the position paper?

You should submit the position paper of your delegation by **AUGUST 27TH, 2020 11:50 P.M. (Eastern Time)**. **If you worked with a delegate partner, you should submit ONE position paper written collaboratively as a delegation.**

You should send the position paper to **osgoodcenterprograms@gmail.com**



