



POSITION PAPER GUIDE

SAINT PAUL MODEL UNITED NATIONS



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Introduction

A position paper is a formal document that delegates are required to draft, outlining their delegation's position on the topic of debate. It reflects their country's perspective, policies, and beliefs regarding the issue. This paper serves as both a guide for debate and proof of research, demonstrating how crucial this tool is for a delegate. The following document outlines all the requirements for writing your paper, as well as the structure delegates are expected to follow.

Heading

At the top left of your page, write your delegation's information in the following order:

- Country: _____
- Committee: _____
- Topic: _____

Remember to ensure that all information is complete (full answers) and to use your country's official name.

Example:

China (Incorrect)

People's Republic of China (Correct)

First Paragraph (Introduction)

The first paragraph is mainly used to describe the issue, to give a background view of the topic. This paragraph illustrates the reason why the debate is taking place, why this topic is a problem, and why the committee must work together to solve the issue.



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Here are some guide questions that may help you draft your introduction:

- What is the main conflict?
- What are its causes?
- Why is this topic being debated?

Second Paragraph (Country's Position)

This paragraph is where you describe your country's official position regarding the subject at hand. You should state your delegation's beliefs, policies, viewpoints, etc.

It is arguably the most important part of your position paper since it will help you understand your country's perspective, as well as its role inside your committee. It can also be used as a guide during opening statements to show the rest of the committee your delegation's stance.

Remember that you must write from your delegation's perspective. You are representing a country, not yourself, so DO NOT include personal opinions.

The following questions may help guide your writing:

- What are you in favor of/against?
- How has your country been affected?
- What actions has your government taken regarding the issue?
- What are your nation's interests and priorities?

Third Paragraph (Solutions)

In your final paragraph, you must provide a conclusion by proposing possible solutions. Think about the issues you described in the first paragraph. How should these be handled?



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When coming up with ideas, keep the following points in mind:

- Your solutions must make sense. Propose realistic and achievable goals.
- All solutions should align with your country's perspective, policies, and interests.
- The purpose of MUN is to reach solutions peacefully through dialogue. Therefore, proposals involving military aggression or violence are not permitted.

At the end of your paper, you must attach at least 3 references using APA formatting. Provide credible, trustworthy sources. Citing Wikipedia is not allowed.

Formatting

Font: Times New Roman, justified

Font size: 12pt

Spacing: Double-spaced

Length: Minimum of one full page (excluding references), maximum of two pages

The purpose of a position paper is for a delegate to perform their own research. DO NOT use ChatGPT or other AI platforms to write your paper. This can not only disfavor you in a debate but also prevent you from getting awards.

Submission

When you finish writing your position paper, send it to your chairs by their respective emails, which can be found on the website.



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Sample position paper (without references)

Country: State of Palestine

Committee: Disarmament and International Security Committee

Topic: Addressing the arms control crisis and Disarmament in the Israeli-Palestinian region: Enhancing border security and Regional Stability

For decades, the territorial dispute between Israel and Palestine has persisted as a disastrous conflict. Tens of thousands of people have been killed, millions of families have been displaced, and the entirety of the population of Gaza has suffered from a shortage of basic resources. Streets where people used to walk through, where children would play, are now full of unburied bodies and the debris of what were once family homes. Despite the UN's efforts to improve this situation, these issues are still ongoing, and they must come to an end. The human rights of these citizens have been violated, people's lives are at risk, and it is finally time for this conflict to be addressed correctly. We believe that this issue must be made a priority, therefore urging the other delegations to address the conflict with more urgency.

The disastrous consequences of the ongoing conflict with the State of Israel have severely affected our nation. Around 35,000 Palestinians have been killed, 14,500 of them being children. Over 80,000 of our people have been injured to the point that hospitals have been filled to capacity. More than two thirds of our 2.3 million population have been forced to flee their beloved homes, due to the multitude of air strikes and ground assaults from Israel. Over 208,000 jobs have been lost, 40% of Gaza's housing units have been damaged or destroyed, and hundreds of thousands of Palestinians are currently living in poverty. Israel has violated international rules of war and it must not be overlooked. The human rights of our citizens have been disregarded and violated, and we will see to it that those responsible are held accountable. Additionally, we are determined to restore our rightful ownership of the land that was unjustly taken from us.

We must find a solution that puts an end to our citizens' suffering, as well as one that guarantees the safety of each nation. For this, the delegation of Palestine proposes a two-state solution. Gaza and the majority of the West Bank should be given to Palestine, excluding a designated area dedicated to Israeli settlements in the West Bank. We believe that a piece of land should also be given to our nation in exchange for this territory. We propose the region of Jerusalem should be established as an international city, considering the amount of religious and historical claims on the territory. The removal of the blockade on Gaza, as well as the return of prisoners and hostages from both nations, are essential to ensuring the safety of our citizens, one of the most important aspects. In addition, immediate humanitarian aid should be provided to citizens from both nations, which is why we encourage other nations to lend a helping hand if they can. The withdrawal of the Israeli military from Palestinian territory is of great importance as well. Finally, our delegation believes armed confrontations, or the use of any military weaponry should be banned, to ensure no other combats arise. Additionally, we suggest sending peacekeepers to ensure no nations overlook or violate the terms of the ceasefire.



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Sample position paper (without references)

Delegation: Oracle Red Bull Racing

Committee: Fédération Internationale de l'Automobile

Topic: Unfairness in motors in F1

If you are not representing a country, write "Delegation" instead.

"To achieve anything in this game, you must be prepared to dabble in the boundary of disaster" Striling Moss, british formula one driver. Big adjustments in regulations and the motor have inevitably led to corruption in engine development and breach of rules. Some of the radical alterations that have resulted in chaos amongst the grid include the 2014 engine change from a V8 to a hybrid power unit. This hybrid system relied on the internal combustion engine for most of the power, leaving electrical parts to contribute a small amount of the overall output. The modification from a regular combustion motor to this new power unit led to controversies such as penalties related to component limits, use of loopholes, and the infamous Mercedes advantage. Oracle Red Bull Racing along with other teams struggled to adapt to this sudden change, yet we managed to close the performance gap with Mercedes in 2018 by strategic adjustments, including switching to a Honda engine. Anotherh. has yradical alteration is the new 2026 changes, with the engine strength now split 50/50, along with other changes in the driver unit. This year's season has yet to start, still it has been a cause of major complaints from the teams and their drivers.

Oracle Red Bull Racing believes that the elimination of the heat-recovery unit (MGU-H) and the boost of the electrical output of the kinetic energy recovery (MGU-K) creates an excessive electrical dependence, this makes for a great safety hazard and diminishes some of the competitive and racing elements that define the sport. With the MGU-K increase of power from 120kW to 350kW, most energy is to be recovered mainly under braking. The team is worried about what could happen if drivers use full electrical boost at the start of a straight and run out of energy before the end. We believe it can result in accidents such as Mark Weber's car launching into the air after hitting Heikki Kovalainen's car in Valencia 2010, a crash caused by the same thing we fear; a speed differential on a straight far too volatile. The most viable strategy to avoid this would be the "lift and coast" that means that drivers lift off the throttle before breaking. Red Bull is of the opinion that this strategy slows down the car unnecessarily on straights, limiting the pure speed battles that make racing in Formula One exciting. For us to have a better understanding of this new power unit, our team has worked along Ford with their Hexagon Technology for better efficiency and strategy, yet it's fundamental that the FIA adjust their rules to permit safer energy recovery options and limit mid-straight power loss though deployment rules, all of this without giving any team an unfair advantage.



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Sample position paper (without references)

To address our concerns, our delegation proposed solutions such as permitting additional energy recovery under coasting and other heat sources, allowing extra recovery without changing total energy limits. Regarding mid-straight power loss, we would introduce rules to prevent the cars from using all the battery energy, like maintaining a small reserve at all times or regulating how much electrical power can be used at different points on a straight, or to implement real time monitoring alerts for low battery levels. Our team hopes that through respectful dialogue among the other teams we can come up with solutions for all of our worries of this year's new regulations and power unit.

Sofia Murillo, 2025