



**RIVER VALLEY**  
**MODEL UNITED NATIONS 2019**  
POSITION PAPER GUIDELINES



## WHAT IS A POSITION PAPER?

A Position Paper should reflect the position of your country with regards to the topic debated in committee. It helps to organise your research and sets the direction for your speeches in council. The Position Paper should also address the topic at hand and summarise your country's approach towards the topic.

This is a recommended framework which you can use to organise your Position Paper.

1. Introduction of the topic: This is a short **summary** of the issue/topic that offers a broad overview of the problem at hand. These are the following questions which you may consider when crafting your introduction:
  - What are some problems/contentions highlighted by the issue?
  - What are the challenges that prevents the issue from being addressed?
  - What makes it necessary to address the issue?
  
2. Country's Position: This is what your country advocates for regarding the assigned topic. Relevant evidence and examples should be used to substantiate your point. These are the following questions which you may consider when crafting your country's stance:
  - What does my country support with regards to the issue?
  - How is my country involved in the issue?
  - What are the reasons for my country's stance/belief regarding the issue?
  - How prevalent is the problem in my country?
  - What are some policies/actions that my country have implemented to address the issue?



3. Solutions: This is where you introduce solutions that your country would implement or support to address the issue, and should be the **bulk of your Position Paper**. Solutions proposed should be sufficiently **elaborated** and **analysed**. These are the following questions which you may consider when crafting your solutions:

- What can my country offer to resolve the issue?
- What can the international community do collectively to resolve the issue?
- Can the policies/actions taken by my country previously be expanded to other nations to address the problem?
- Are my solutions feasible and effective?
- What organisations can my country can work with to implement my proposed solutions?



## ADMINISTRATIVE REQUIREMENTS

Delegates are required to write one Position Paper **per topic**. Academic integrity must be strictly adhered to, and any forms of plagiarism (from online sources or the study guide) would be penalised.

All Position Papers are due on **10th of March, 2359 hrs**. All delegates are expected to submit their Position Papers **punctually**. If any deadline extension is required, delegates must request for it by emailing all of their respective committee directors, with a **valid reason**, at least **one week** before the Position Papers are due. Extensions will be approved upon a case by case basis. All late submissions would be penalised.

Delegates must email their Position Papers in **one word document** to their respective committee directors via the respective committee emails. The subject of the email and the name of the word document should be in this format:

**Committee\_Country\_PositionPapers** (for example, COSTAR\_Iraq\_PositionPapers).



## FORMAT OF POSITION PAPER

Delegates should indicate their **committee, country** and **topic** at the start of the Position Paper.

For example:

Committee: Commission on the Status of Women

Country: United States of America

Topic: Women's Reproductive Autonomy

The Position Papers should be written in **Arial**, font size **12**, and **justified**. Line spacing must be set to **1.5**. All delegates are required to cite their sources in **Chicago Manual of Style 17th Edition**, using the **notes-bibliography style**.

For each Position Paper, there is a word limit of **600 words** (excluding citations). All delegates are to strictly abide by the word limit.