

SJBHSMUN 2015



St. Joseph's Boys' High School
Museum Road, Bangalore.

Position Papers

A Country's position paper, as the name suggests dictates that country's position or, rather, the country's take on that particular agenda or matter.

It is, in all essentiality, an essay. It involves following proper format and has its own requirements to make it effective. It needs to be written with care and needs to be effectively functional at the same time.

What exactly is a country's position?

A country's position is, as mentioned above is that particular country's stand or take on the matter.

This take depends on one main thing. **It's Foreign Policy**

As we proceed further in this document we will better understand the connection and importance of country's foreign policy in position paper making.

How do you get about it?

Although writing position papers is considered a tedious task, it is a really important part of your MUN experience and plays a very crucial role in your performance as a MUNner. It determines the course which a committee might follow. It also gives you, the delegate a fair idea as to what exactly your country's position is, thereby giving you a good idea regarding your country's policy towards the same.

This also helps the chair assess the kind of debate he or she can expect
It might also give the International Press a few questions to ask

In SJBHSMUN, your position paper is your ticket to place. In other words, if you don't have a position paper, you cannot win an award.

Delegate, fair warning. Don't try to get someone else to do your Position Paper.

Guide for Position Paper Writing

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Research

The only precursor to every position paper is proper research. Proper research gives you

- 1) A proper idea regarding the agenda
- 2) Your country's policy on matters such as these, if not the very matter being discussed.
- 3) Enough matter to put into your position paper.
- 4) Possible solutions to the agenda at hand.

What your Position Paper Should Have.

The Introduction.

Start with a couple of topic sentences to catch the reader's attention. This topic sentence, if chosen properly and if it is relevant, adds weight to the position paper.

The key here is keeping it **concise**.

A brief history of the topic and its connection (if any) with your country and its history.

Your country's policy with respect to the issue.

The Body.

- Clearly, this should be the main part of your country's position paper.
- Resolutions or anything of similar nature ratified by your country that would strengthen your argument.
- Here, you can dwell upon the topic in detail, elaborate well. All with relevance to the topic at hand.
- Try to incorporate quotes from you country's leaders about the issue.
- An important aspect would include solutions. Try and introduce solutions. Keep the solutions brief, though. You can explain your solution later in committee.

- How the position of another country affects your country and maybe even, your policy.

The Conclusion

- This should be the closing part of your argument,
- Try to reinforce some main points from your position paper.
- This helps re iterate the main points in your position paper.

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Page | 2

Points to Keep in Mind.

It's YOUR country's position paper. NOT the whole Worlds.

One major and extremely common error that delegates make is deviation. They deviate from their country to the entire world at large. So, keep it restricted to your country. Should you find the need to refer to any other country (be it an event or how that country affects your policy) please do so if absolutely necessary. Please don't refer to countries or events if there is established proof recorded by an agency recognized at the UN.

Check. Re Check.

Ensure that you have no grammatical or spelling errors. Ensure that your position paper follows the guidelines. These are given later in this document.

Make it presentable.

Ensure that the position paper is formatted nicely and it does look pleasing to the eye. If you are so inclined to copy from Wikipedia, please take trouble to remove the hyperlinks. Always write in the third person.

Consider.

Please keep in mind that your chair not only goes through your position paper but many, many others. So, ensure that you make your position paper different. It helps.

The chair will know as much as you do, if not more about this agenda. Please don't try reiterating facts that are common knowledge. Instead, put in information with close relevance to the agenda and your country.

- Not to exceed two sides of an A4 sized sheet.
- Please submit your position papers to your respective committee E-Mail communication ID.
- Please ensure proper formatting.
- **DO NOT MENTION THE SCHOOL YOU ARE FROM. TO THE EB UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES IN YOUR PP OR ANYWHERE ELSE DURING THE CONFERENCE.** If you decide to disclose information, you will be instantly suspended from the conference.
- To be sent in Microsoft Word (MS Word 2003 or above) or PDF format.
- Please ensure that necessary details are mentioned at the head of the Position Paper

Sample upon Request.

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