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# Position Paper Guide

Union & Peace XII

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# Position Paper Guide

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# Position Paper Guide

## What is a Position Paper?

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A position paper is the formal statement of a delegation's position regarding a specific issue, as well as the description and proper explanation of the delegation's proposed solutions. They are what shows to the chairs that you as a delegate have spent time researching and preparing for the debate, and are ready to bring meaningful arguments and solutions to the committee.

Each delegate must have a position paper for their topic. Position Papers must be **turned in** to [unionandpeace@jfk.edu.mx](mailto:unionandpeace@jfk.edu.mx) by **Tuesday, October, 13th, at 11:59 pm**. Failure to submit a position paper will result in **ineligibility for awards**.

Position papers will be checked for plagiarism. If significant plagiarism is found, the delegate will be ineligible for awards.



## Rules

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For a position statement to be a successful tool, it must comply with a set of rules or

parameters, which are the following:

- Position Papers must have a maximum extension of 2 pages, excluding sources.
- Your position paper must be a simple glimpse to your knowledge on the issue and your country's position towards it. Your research must be much broader. Be your nation's voice.
- In your writing, take into account only your nation's official positions and the necessary facts to back it up. Refrain from adding your personal approach to the Issue.
- Be official and correct.
- Use only vocabulary considered formal.
- Never use personal pronouns (I, me, you, they). Instead, address your nation and delegation as such. (My country, my delegation, the Kingdom of Spain thinks... )

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- Be concise.
- Abstain from including irrelevant facts, accusations, sophisticated language or long historical descriptions.
- Do not describe the issue background, it is assumed that all delegates have done proper research and have read the relevant background papers.
- Be clear.
- Emphasize your proposed solutions and how your nation wishes them to work.
- Be clear on what the issue means to your country.
- Use a standard formatting for the document. (Arial, Times, Sans font families, and standard font sizes 10-13 as well as single spacing)
- Structure.



## Writing the Position Paper

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A position paper is to be structured as an essay, consisting of a special heading and 4 main parts, which must be clearly divided.

- 1) A heading, which must include:
  - a) Delegate's Name
  - b) School name
  - c) Delegation
  - d) Committee name
  - e) Conference name
  - f) Topic
- 2) Brief opening:
  - a) This section is meant to work as an introduction.
  - b) The historic relevance of the issue to your nation must be briefly addressed.

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## 3) Positioning.

- a) This section must clearly describe your country's position towards the issue. (How is the issue important to your country?)
- b) Include statistics and examples, backed by trustworthy sources.
- c) *If you are in a special committee and represent a person instead of a country, discuss the position of such person, or the region this person represents, in regards to the topic.*

## 4) Proposed solutions.

- a) In this section, the solutions suggested by your delegation must be thoroughly described. It is recommended that you include elements such as:
  - i) Your country's possible compromises to the solution.
  - ii) Your delegation's requests from the other individual delegations as well as from the committee and the UN as a whole.
  - iii) A proposed plan of action.



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5. Closing statement.
  - a. This section consists of a conclusion to the ideas and solutions presented in the document.
6. **Motion to open an Extraordinary Session of Questions:** This motion is in order during Speaker's List and when the committee presents Working Papers and Resolution Drafts. In Speaker's List, an Extraordinary Session of Questions is in order when the pre-established number of questions have already been used. When presenting Working Papers and Resolution Drafts, a delegate must make this motion to ask unlimited questions to the sponsors.



## Tips & Submissions

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- 1) First, read your background paper to get a good grasp of the topic, the historical background of the dilemma, and the focus of the debate. Then, conduct further independent research to fully understand the concepts at hand, so that you will be able to present more robust arguments in committee. Do NOT research only immediate solutions to the topic.
- 2) Look at the resources on the background papers for guidance. These have trustworthy sources to start your investigation, and you can use them as an idea of where to get relevant information.
- 3) Do not do it the day of the deadline. The best position papers are written with time and anticipation, allowing you to get a better grasp of the topic and your country's position
- 4) Peer review. Ask your advisors, friends, and fellow delegates to check your papers, so that you can respond to feedback and present the best written piece possible.

## Submission

- For position paper submissions, we ask that each school's advisor send a single email to [unionandpeace@jfk.edu.mx](mailto:unionandpeace@jfk.edu.mx) containing all of their delegates position papers, by **Tuesday, October, 13th, at 11:59 pm**. Word and Google doc formats are both acceptable.



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## Example

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### *(Heading)*

Delegate: Benito Tagle

School: John F. Kennedy

Country: Republic of Korea

Sixth Committee: Legal

North American Invitational Model United Nations

Topic A: Cyber Espionage



### *(Brief Opening)*

Today, cyberspace is a new horizon with endless possibilities, offering unprecedented economic and social benefits, however, on account of its open, anonymous and borderless nature, cyber threats are emerging as a serious challenge to international security. With the development of data storage technologies, cyber espionage has evolved into an issue that is affecting millions of people around the globe. The Republic of Korea has continuously suffered from cyber attacks, since that against the presidential ministry and the foreign ministry in 2011. This attack intended to disrupt the presidential ministry and to bring to the air a piece of information from the US Air Force in South Korea. Another attack occurred in 2014, but this time pinpointing multiple servers at KHNP plants (Korea Hydro & Nuclear Plants). The United States of America and the Republic of Korea blamed the People's Democratic Republic of Korea, for both attacks, but this country denies all responsibility for this offense.

### *(Position)*

The Republic of Korea is in complete agreement that cyber espionage should come to an utter stop in order to maintain international safety. Since this delegation has faced many concerns regarding cyber espionage, South Korea has many programs or solutions regarding cyber espionage. One of the action plans that the Republic of Korea has recently put into effect for the 2018 Winter Olympics, is continuously monitoring any website, or data storage software. This delegation is aware that this strategy has not worked thoroughly, as we can see from the attack towards the official winter Olympic webpage, on the 11 of February 2018. South Korea also created the post of Presidential Secretary for Cyber Security Affairs to maintain order regarding cyber laws. The Korean government also worked to strengthen bilateral and trilateral cooperation with key countries and is actively participating in regional and international fora on cyber issues, such as ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) and the UN Information Security GGE. (UNODA, 2017, p. 3)



## *(Proposed Solutions)*

Furthermore, the Republic of Korea has proposed various solutions for this issue. One of them is to create an international task force that will cease cyber espionage by illegal groups. This task force will be composed by members from all around the world. Any progress made will be discussed in seminars all around the globe, like those organized by this delegation: “Asia-Pacific Regional Seminar on International Law and State Behavior in Cyberspace.” The Republic of Korea believes that it is important to agree on a set of international norms applied to cyberspace to maintain a well-organized system that will help regulate any issue concerning cybersecurity. This will help stop or reduce cyber espionage. South Korea proposes the establishment of the “International Cyber Security Comprehensive Countermeasures.” The measures include, but are not limited to, establishing organizations exclusively in charge of cybersecurity affairs under each ministry and local government, fostering experts in the field of cybersecurity, and other measures, resulting in the full discontinuation of cyber espionage.

## *(Closing Statement)*

The Republic of Korea is open to any solutions, to successfully cease cyber espionage, and protect the security of its server traffic, as well as other systems worldwide.



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## Sources:

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