

Position Paper Guide

Spending time researching and preparing for ISRMUN will result in a well-rounded delegate who is ready to contribute unique ideas to the committee, present relevant facts and statistics, and defend their ideas against others. Position papers enable delegates to compile research and brainstorm possible solutions to the topic.

Prior to the simulation, all delegates are required to submit a copy of their position paper on the ISRMUN website. The position papers may be uploaded as a PDF or Word documents. It is required for each delegate to add citations to the end of their paper in MLA or APA format.

Position papers are expected to be divided into four, equally important parts, which we will describe in the subsections below. There are no guidelines for how long each section should be, but the position paper overall should be no longer than 2 pages.

Format of a Position Paper

I. Topic Background

This section of the position paper should contain an overview of the assigned topic. It should also highlight how the topic has impacted the world as a whole. Delegates are recommended to refer to authorities on the subject and use reliable statistics, facts, figures, etc. to emphasize their point.

II. Country Policy

In this section, delegates are required to research about the connection the assigned topic has to their country. Delegates should write about their country's policy on addressing the topic and include facts and/or statistics which demonstrates how effectiveness of the policy.

III. Proposed Solutions

This part of the position paper requires delegates to think of creative solutions to the problem at hand. ISRMUN requires all delegates to have a minimum of three solutions for their assigned topic. Please keep in mind that the solutions should be realistic and a natural extension of their country's policy.

IV. Works Cited

It is important for delegates to cite their sources in order to give credit the original authors. This can be done in either MLA or APA format.

Example Position Paper

Committee: The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)

Country: Canada

Topic: Ensuring the rights of journalists in conflict zones

School: San Roberto International School, Campus San Agustín

Delegate: Natalia Montero

The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) aims to promote peace and justice around the world through education, science and culture. The American Press Institute describes a journalist as an individual involved in "gathering, assessing, creating, and presenting news and information." Governments and armed organizations are increasingly targeting journalists in an effort to prevent the spread of information. According to Reporters Without Borders, 101 journalists died in 2015 and 74 were killed in 2016. The most dangerous countries for journalists to work in are Afghanistan, Iraq, Mexico and Syria.

In its annual World Press Freedom Index, Reporters Without Borders ranked Canada as the 18th safest country in the world for journalists to work. Press freedom is guaranteed in the nation's constitution; however, this is not actually the case. There has been increasing concern about new laws passed in the country. For instance, in 2016, a court in the province of Quebec passed laws that allowed police to wiretap and data mine the phones and laptops of six journalists. Moreover, several journalists have been ordered by various courts across the nation to reveal the sources of their stories related to corruption, organized crime and terrorism, which is a clear breach of long established confidentially agreements between journalists and their sources. In light of this, Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, a firm supporter of independent journalism, has pledged to promote press freedom across the country.

In order to address this serious issues, the delegation of Canada suggests the following solutions: First, offer specialized training for journalists who operate in conflict zones. The Rory Peck Trust and Reporters Instructed in Saving Colleagues (RISC) are just two organizations that teach journalists important skills related to first aid, evasive driving, etc. Second, educate military forces about the rights of journalists operating in conflict zones. All journalists are protected under the Geneva Convention and UN Security Council Resolution 2222. Knowledge of their rights and freedoms would greatly decrease illegal detentions and harmful acts committed against them. Finally, all crimes committed against journalists must be investigated. This is the responsibility of every nation according to Resolution 2222. Therefore, Canada suggests the creation of a specialized body that would track, monitor and encourage the investigation of crimes committed against journalists. This would hold nations and specific armed groups responsible for the crimes committed against journalists in their territories.

Works Cited

"2016 Round-Up: 74 journalists killed worldwide." Reporters Without Borders. Reporters Without Borders, 19 Dec. 2016. Web. 08 Feb. 2017. <<https://rsf.org/en/news/2016-round-74-journalists-killed-worldwide>>.

"Introducing UNESCO." United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO). United Nations, 2017. Web. 08 Feb. 2017. <<http://www.unesco.org/new/en/united-nations-educational-scientific-and-cultural-organization/about-us/who-we-are/introducing-unesco/?scrlybrkr=68d8e856>>.

"UN Adopts Resolution on Protection of Journalists in Conflicts." DART Center for Journalism & Trauma. DART Center for Journalism & Trauma, 2 Jun. 2015. Web. 30 Jun. 2017. <<https://dartcenter.org/blog/un-adopts-resolution-on-protection-journalists-in-conflicts>>.

How to Submit Your Position Paper

All delegates are required to upload a digital version of their position paper by Monday, November 16th, 2020. The papers can be uploaded as either PDF or Word documents. Delegates that do not upload their position paper by the due date will be ineligible for awards.

Please note that delegates should still print one copy of their position paper to use during ISRMUN. Laptops, tablets, etc. are not permitted during the simulation.

I. Naming Your File

The position paper files should be titled as: COMMITTEE_COUNTRY. For example, a delegate from UNICEF would name their document as: UNICEF_GHANA.

II. Where to Upload the File

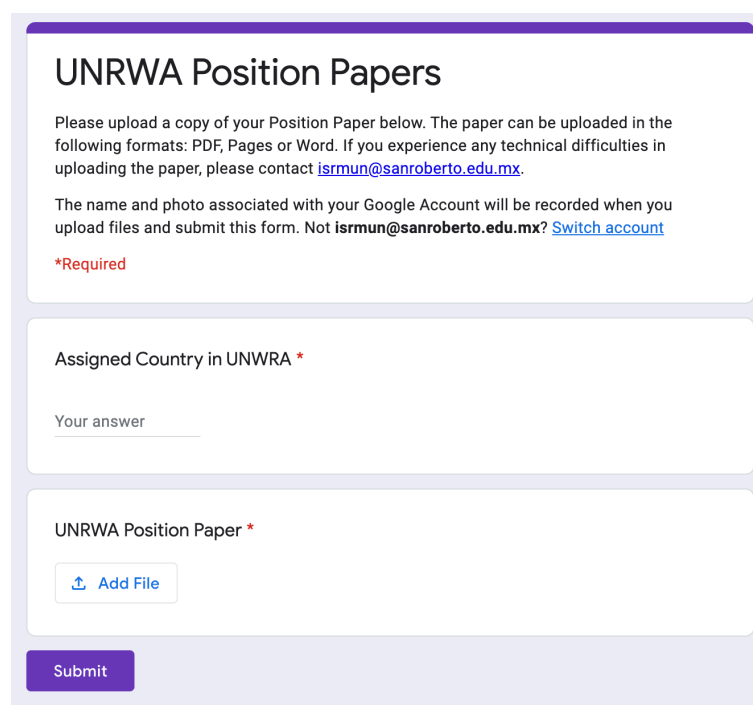
Each committee page on the ISRMUN webpage has a link where delegates can upload their position papers.

Position Papers:

All delegates debating in UNTOC are required to research and write a position paper about their assigned topic. All position papers should include a list of sources used written in MLA or APA format. It is mandatory for all delegates to submit a digital copy of their position paper here. Delegations that do not submit position papers by Monday, November 16th at 4:00 pm CST will be ineligible for awards.

III. Submitting the File

Clicking on the link will take delegates to a Google Form. This is where they will submit their position paper. If they experience any technical problems, they should contact ismun@sanroberto.edu.mx.



The screenshot shows a Google Form titled "UNRWA Position Papers". The form contains the following text and fields:

- Title:** UNRWA Position Papers
- Instructions:** Please upload a copy of your Position Paper below. The paper can be uploaded in the following formats: PDF, Pages or Word. If you experience any technical difficulties in uploading the paper, please contact ismun@sanroberto.edu.mx.
- Disclaimer:** The name and photo associated with your Google Account will be recorded when you upload files and submit this form. Not ismun@sanroberto.edu.mx? [Switch account](#)
- Required Field:** *Required
- Field 1:** Assigned Country in UNWRA *
Your answer
- Field 2:** UNRWA Position Paper *
Add File
- Submit Button:** Submit