



## **Optional Position Paper General Guidelines**

*Due emailed to [ksant7@unh.newhaven.edu](mailto:ksant7@unh.newhaven.edu) by March 20, 2019*

### **Formatting Guidelines:**

- Times New Roman 12 pt. font
- Justified text
- 1 page maximum

### **Outline:**

#### **- Paragraph One – Issue and Position**

Utilize this paragraph to clearly outline the main problems associated with your topic. The point of the paragraph is to provide a basic foundation for the current situation associated with your topic. After generally describing the issue, briefly state your country's policy or beliefs regarding the issue. This can often be as short as stating that your country supports a certain action followed by a justification as to why. This section should not exceed five to six sentences.

#### **- Paragraph Two – Detailed Background Information**

This paragraph is an opportunity for you to show the depth of your knowledge about the past and current decisions and resolutions dealing with your topic. Be sure to discuss:

- Historical origin of the problem, particularly why the problem arose
- How does the issue relate to the international community and why is it of international concern
- Previous actions taken to try and solve the problem (if any)
- Successes and failures of past actions and why they succeeded or failed, or if there is minimal action that's been taken elaborate on why that may be
- Problems that continue to exist or ones that have not yet been addressed

Devoting two to three sentences per item on this list should allow you to have sufficiently discussed the topic and to set the foundations for the final paragraph of your position paper.

#### **- Paragraph Three – Proposed Solutions Regarding the Issue**

This paragraph is the one that will set your paper apart from the others. After identifying the problems in paragraph two, utilize this paragraph to give your solutions to these problems. The quality of your solutions could be a great determinant in the overall evaluation of your position paper. Be sure to discuss:

- Specific proposals regarding how to solve specific issues
- How each individual proposal will be implemented, including the feasibility
- Global impact of solving the problem or implementing these solutions

This section of your paper should be just long enough to get your points across, usually 2-3 sentence per solution with 2-3 solutions. We also encourage you to place a heading at the top



of your paper which should include your country, issue, and committee. Feel free to place a picture of your country's flag in the header if you so desire.