

→ SEND POSITION PAPERS TO: Newhavendais@gmail.com ←

WHAT IS A POSITION PAPER?

The position paper is designed to introduce a specific Member State or Observer State's stance on the topic being discussed by the committee. In this paper, you will represent your country's ideas and positions while looking deeper into the issue. The paper is written from the perspective of the country talking about itself. Position papers include four main sections: the abstract, the problem-importance paragraph, the frameworks paragraph, and lastly the solutions section.

For ChargerMUN, your position paper should be no more than one (1) page!

As opposed to a working paper, position papers are written **before** the conference. They allow delegates to get an idea of the positions of other countries. Position papers are the most research-heavy aspect of the conference. Your work on your position paper will help you to better understand your topic and be better prepared for the conference.

Position papers have a simple format. There should be no photos, especially of your country's flag, on your position paper. Following the descriptions of the position paper sections, you will find an example of a completed position paper.

Your position paper should be an original piece of writing created specifically for ChargerMUN. Plagiarism is not tolerated. Please refrain from taking others' work, copying sections verbatim from the background guide, or otherwise using work that is not your own.

THE ABSTRACT:

The abstract is the most simple section of the paper. Its role is to simply introduce the committee and the topics that are being discussed. The final sentence of this section should reaffirm your country's commitment to discussing and working to solve the issues being brought forth. This section should be 2-3 sentences at a maximum.

After the abstract, make sure to write the full name of your committee's topic. It should be bold and centered, with a roman numeral "I." before it is written. The problem-importance paragraph will follow below.

THE PROBLEM-IMPORTANCE SECTION:

The problem-importance paragraph is the first major paragraph within the position paper. This section should include the 4 following elements: your country's position, the context of the issue with a relevant statistic, a relevant quote from a high-ranking official, and restate your country's position and address 1 aspect from the Background Guide's Further Research section.

The historical context is a couple sentences that quickly give context to the topic. Note how long the topic has been an issue, how the problem stands today, and any other key details that give a background to the issue. Be sure to have a statistic that helps the reader understand the severity of the problem. Your statistics should come from reputable sources, such as the United Nations, and should note the source within your paper. Next, the quote from a high-ranking official (President, Secretary, Ambassador, etc.) should be relevant to the topic and highlight your country's position on the topic. Finally, your paragraph should end with a call for further work on gaps within your topic. Looking at your background guide, you can find key gaps in the "Further Research Section!"

THE FRAMEWORKS PARAGRAPH:

The frameworks paragraph is where your research on the issue will come in handy! This paragraph can be broken down into two sections: international frameworks, and then regional and domestic frameworks.

Frameworks are things like UN resolutions, conferences, declarations, global treaties or agreements, regional programs or agreements, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and domestic policies/programs. Frameworks review previous efforts to address the problem and detail potential ways to address the problem moving forward.

-International frameworks are usually from the UN and do not pertain to a specific area of the world.

-Regional frameworks are directed towards/created by countries in a specific area. A quick search of your Member State's "region" or "voting bloc" is useful here! Examples are the European Union and ASEAN.

-Domestic Frameworks only exist in your country and were most likely enacted by your country's government.

Your frameworks paragraph is typically the longest paragraph of the paper. In chronological order, first name and describe what your international frameworks have done to address the problem. You should have at least 3 international frameworks. Each framework should connect to the next; whether that be directly through frameworks building off of one another or through themes, you should be able to showcase how they are related! After going through your international regional frameworks, please describe what your Member State has done to address the issue. This is where your domestic frameworks will come in. The final sentence of your frameworks section should be a statement of your country's position on the topic.

THE SOLUTIONS SECTION:

This is the last paragraph of your paper! The solution section starts off with identifying a gap that needs to be addressed within the topic. This gap should be one of the ones noted in the problem importance paragraph. When identifying the gap, note a previous framework that has attempted to address the issue. Next, propose a solution that helps to address the gap. When introducing the proposed solution, be as specific as possible! It is recommended that you give a name to your solution, and propose potential implementors and funders. Finally, explicitly explain how the solution addresses the topic.

Your solution section should include two (2) solutions! The solutions you propose should be original in nature and applicable to the real world. The most successful solutions are those that could be used someday! Make sure that your solutions are still reflective of the needs and perspectives of the country you are representing.

FORMAT:

For ChargerMUN, the following rules should be followed when formatting your position paper:

- Your position paper should not exceed one (1) page in length
- Each paragraph should be justified so that both the left and right sides of your paragraphs are straight
- The paper should be in Arial font, size 10
- The first line of the page should be **The Delegation from the [Member State/Observer State]**
 - The first line should be in bold and centered on the page
- The second line of the page should be ***Position Paper for the [Full Committee Name]***
 - The second line should be in bold, italicized, and centered on the page
- There should be no pictures included in your position paper
- There should be no mention of your name or school in the position paper.

On the following page, you will find a properly formatted position paper example that you can refer to as you work on your own. We hope that you have a wonderful time researching your country's position and topic, and enjoy writing the position paper itself!

Delegation from the Republic of Fiji
Position Paper for the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

The topics before the United Nations (UN) High Commissioner for Refugees include: Protecting Refugees from Human Traffickers and Preventing the Increase of Internally Displaced Persons. Fiji supports the ongoing efforts of the international community to protect refugees from crimes such as human trafficking, sexual exploitation, and other abuse, and to reduce the number of internally displaced persons.

I. Protecting Refugees from Human Traffickers

Fiji acknowledges the ongoing issue of human trafficking and is committed to addressing these problems both domestically and internationally. This issue is especially prevalent among refugees, whom the UN estimates comprises more than 50% of all trafficked persons. Fiji IOM Officer Pär Liljert, spoke on the success of recent efforts to combat human trafficking in the Pacific Region, saying, “Fijian communities [have worked] for nearly 25 years to support victims of forced sex and exploitation ... [and] to have a positive impact on preventing human trafficking in Fiji.” Fiji remains committed to eliminating human trafficking and reducing the preconditions that make refugees more vulnerable.

Fiji has been an active advocate of anti-human trafficking efforts in the UN, voting for resolutions such as the General Assembly (GA) resolution 63/194 (2009), *Improving the coordination of efforts against trafficking in persons*, which encouraged Member States to provide trafficking-related statistics and to address the root factors and conditions that encourage trafficking. This was motivated by 2002 Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights report *Recommended Principles and Guidelines on Human Rights and Human Trafficking*, which stressed the importance of addressing human trafficking and suggested possible solutions to combat it globally. Internationally, Fiji co-authored GA resolution 77/194 (2020) and Human Rights Council (HRC) resolution 44/4 (2022) to implement global action against human trafficking worldwide by imposing preventative measures for at-risk persons and urging the criminalization of human trafficking in Member States. Regionally, Fiji is working with the Organization of African, Caribbean, and Pacific States (OACPS) to implement lasting solutions such as establishing a strategic partnership with the IOM in 2022 to create better frameworks and policies to address migration and migrants' rights, discrimination, and human trafficking. In 2020, Fiji implemented a domestic task force to investigate and prosecute human trafficking rings based on the recommendations provided in Resolutions 63/194 and 44/4. These projects have been implemented under Fiji's 2021-2026 Anti-trafficking National Action Plan to increase the effectiveness of anti-trafficking efforts. Fiji remains committed to establishing solutions to prevent human trafficking among vulnerable populations.

While previous efforts such as the *Palermo Protocol* (2000) have established the criminality of human trafficking, there exists no universally agreed upon penal guidelines that are in accordance with the *Geneva Conventions* (1949). To bridge this gap, Fiji suggests amending the *Palermo Protocol* or creating a new international framework to recommend punishment schedules and specs for human traffickers, and guidelines for Member States to establish domestic policies to restrict and punish human traffickers. This amendment could be debated and passed by the General Assembly to further discourage human trafficking. Building on existing efforts, such as the *Palermo Protocol*, and recent reports on human trafficking, such as the UN Women report *Addressing the Gender Dimensions of Trafficking in Persons in the Context of Climate Change, Displacement and Disaster Risk Reduction* (2022), Fiji suggests creating an annual conference dedicated to discussing preconditions that heightened vulnerability to human trafficking and brainstorm appropriate solutions. This conference could be held in conjunction with UN bodies such as UN Women, and the Human Rights Council (HRC) to track global trends across human trafficking victims and discuss solutions. These efforts could be funded by a network of NGOs, such as the Laudes Foundation. Ongoing communication will help synchronize and improve the effectiveness of all anti-trafficking efforts worldwide.