Position Paper Guide

UAQMUN

2027

Voices of a new era:
youth facing global challenges

What is a Position Paper?

An official position paper is a formal statement issued by a Member State, Delegation, or active participant on a specific issue. Official position papers should contextualize the issue at hand, summarize the current state of affairs, outline the Member State's current stance on the issue, and propose solutions within the framework of the United Nations or the specific United Nations agency responsible for addressing the issue.

Delegates are required to submit an official position paper concerning the issue(s) outlined in their respective committee's Background Guide. To do this, it is crucial that each delegate first familiarize themselves with the issue at hand by thoroughly reviewing their respective committee's Background Guide, as well as by associating both their delegation's current position and their corresponding system of government with viable solutions. Likewise, consulting a reliable bibliography is of utmost importance (delegates are invited to consult the bibliography referred to within the framework of the United Nations or endorsed by it).

Unlike resolution sheets, official position sheets should reflect each Member State's stance and impact on the issue under discussion. However, they should also attest to the individual qualities of the delegate, such as their ability to craft a comprehensive, rigorous, and well-researched statement that supports the delegate's Member State, regardless of its current stance on the issue. Official position papers must also affirm the delegate's presence within the committee; a well-written position paper, presented with the correct intonation and technicalities, guarantees the delegate's intervention and participation in their committee.

Guidelines

UAQMUN 2027 strongly encourages all delegates to adhere to the following standards for submitted Position Papers:

- Position papers should be no longer than two pages, excluding sources of information.
- Delegates should avoid using personal pronouns to refer to themselves or other Member States. Instead, delegates are required to use the following phrases:
    - The delegation of (followed by the name of the Member State, e.g., Ukraine).
    - The delegate of (followed by the name of the Member State, e.g., Ukraine).
    - This delegation.
    - The representative of (followed by the name of the Member State, e.g., Ukraine).
- Paragraphs should be justified.
- The vocabulary should be academic.
- Delegates are invited to refrain from repeating words, terms, or expressions throughout their statement, particularly if these stray into informality.
- The tone should be strictly formal.
- Delegates should refrain from using colloquialisms, taking into account the phrases mentioned above.
- All position papers submitted must adhere to the standard format:
    - Font: Arial
    - Size: 11
    - Margins should be 2.54 cm throughout the document.
    - Delegates should present their solutions at the end of the document.
- These solutions should preferably be short-term, medium-term, and long-term, as well as strictly feasible within the framework of the United Nations.
- Position papers are an overview of a Member State's position on the issue in question;

as such, delegates should err on the side of factual and objective information, as well as the policy of their Member State, refraining from expressing personal biases or prejudices.
- Delegates should briefly introduce the issue in question at the beginning of the document.
- Likewise, they should avoid dwelling on explaining the issue in detail to a committee that is already extensively informed on the subject.
- All position papers submitted must adhere to the format exemplified below.

Format and recommendations

UAQMUN 2027 urges all delegates to adhere to the following format for submitted Position Papers:

- Header, which must include:
    - Name of the delegate.
    - Name of the institution of origin.
    - Independent participants may omit this part.
    - Name of the Member State or Delegation.
    - Name of the Committee.
    - Subject.

- Brief introductory paragraph:

Delegates are required to introduce the topic to be discussed on their committee's agenda, keeping their remarks brief and frank. Likewise, the opening statement should clearly outline the Member State's position and its commitment to the issue at hand. Finally, each delegate must be able to accurately and concisely correlate the policy of their Member State, administration, or current political situation with the issue at hand.

- Position statement:

In this section, delegates should address the geopolitical context of the topic in a thorough manner. It is extremely important to incorporate verified data, relevant statistics, and timely information that highlights the issue at hand. Delegates should provide an overview of the efforts, steps, or measures that their Member State has taken previously to address the issue. At the end of this section, the position of the delegate's Member State on the issue in question should be clear; current efforts, policies, and proposals aimed at improving the situation should be comprehensive and unambiguous.

- Proposed solutions:

As the name suggests, delegates must propose an action plan regarding the issue at hand. This action plan must be strictly feasible within the framework of the United Nations. While creativity and originality are encouraged, delegates must consider the feasibility and viability of their recommended course of action. Delegates should evaluate the possible outcomes/repercussions of their proposed course of action. Similarly, it is recommended that potential short-, medium-, and long-term alternatives be considered during the session.

- Closing:

Delegates should be able to summarize the most significant points made in their statement. Additionally, the closing statement should emphasize the importance of the delegate's Member State within the proposed solutions; the participation of the delegate's Member State within the possible courses of action should be thoroughly detailed at the end of the document, preferably reinforced with factual statistics and concrete figures. The closing statement should be able to engage the committee, demonstrating the delegate's thorough knowledge of the issue.

Academic references

References must be from reliable, trustworthy, verifiable, and, above all, academic sources. All content that is not your own must be cited to avoid plagiarism. References must be presented in APA 7 format at the end of the document.

Use of Artificial Intelligence

The use of Artificial Intelligence is strongly discouraged. The UAQMUN 2027 Secretariat urges delegates to thoroughly research the topic to ensure a fruitful and rigorous debate. Any Position Paper exceeding a 30% AI-generated content threshold will be subject to immediate disqualification, and the delegates involved will automatically receive a warning.

Example

On the following page, you will find a position sheet with the correct format illustrating the guidelines established above.



Delegate: Ana Fernanda del Castillo y Echegaray
Institution: Prepa Anáhuac
Delegation: Republic of Serbia
Committee: UNICEF
Topic: Promoting sustainable and safe mobility to guarantee children's rights in a healthy urban environment

Greetings, esteemed delegates and honorable panel:

Around the world, millions of minors face constant challenges that threaten the fulfillment of their rights, preventing them from achieving their full development and a good quality of life. This highlights that inclusive, safe, and sustainable urban infrastructure and settlements are vital to preventing violations of children's rights (United Nations, 2025). In Serbia, despite persistent political problems, the government seeks to protect and improve methods of defending minors, and the main barriers faced globally (cultural, educational, economic, armed conflict, health, etc.) are recognized. That is why the Republic of Serbia has worked in recent years with the United Nations to implement various national child protection systems (Humanium, 2019).

Conflicts in Asia, Africa, the Middle East, and Latin America have resulted in more than 266,000 serious violations against children, and this figure has gradually increased over the years, according to the report entitled 25 Years of Armed Conflict and Children (UNICEF, 2022). According to the report, some children may suffer more than one serious violation, and conditions of vulnerability make minors more susceptible to suffering them.
Vulnerability encompasses different areas; in countries with difficult economic circumstances, 1 in 4 children suffers from malnutrition (around 165 million children under the age of 5), and around 33% of the population does not have access to medicines (Manos Unidas, 2019). Restricted access to medicine also affects children who do not have access to safe drinking water, which is around 450 million (UNICEF, 2021).

In addition, the same economic circumstances, coupled with health emergencies or armed conflicts, hinder children's education, with the result that 57% of children from developing countries currently have difficulty reading and understanding simple texts (World Bank, 2022).

Faced with these problems, the international community has been forced to take action, and as a result, various global initiatives have been created, such as Safe Water for All, a program that will ensure that all children have access to climate-resilient water services (UNICEF, 2021). In terms of protection efforts during armed conflicts, UNHCR and UNICEF launched the “blue dots,” which are support centers for displaced families and minors.

The Republic of Serbia has also taken measures to protect the rights, comprehensive development, and quality of life of minors. Some of these systems include: the Law on Family Relations (2005), the Law on Protection of Persons with Disabilities against Discrimination (2006), and the Law on Juvenile Offenders and the Criminal Law on the Protection of Young Persons (“Youth Law”) in 2006. In addition, the Council for the Rights of the Child was established, which has developed national action plans, and three offices for the defense of rights were founded, as well as a free child helpline.

Furthermore, Serbia has worked together with the United Nations to reform the system and ensure the integrity of minors in conflict with the law, as well as to alleviate the impact of political conflicts by establishing “Blue Points” to support families and unprotected minors who are forced to move (UNHCR, 2016).

The action plan suggested by the Serbian delegation is as follows: to encourage Member States to evaluate their education systems using the RAPID Framework (World Bank, 2022) and, based on the results, to support the international community in intervening and restoring basic learning in the long term.

Likewise, the Serbian delegation recommends that all countries with high migration flows request support from the United Nations for the installation of Blue Points at their borders. Serbia also calls for consideration to be given to establishing educational support in these same centers. Similarly, it encourages the international community to support and partner with UNOPS to achieve a long-term increase in sustainable infrastructure services (UNOPS, 2024). Finally, the Serbian delegation calls on the international community to cooperate on the “Safe Water for All” program to ensure affordable drinking water services in the medium and long term, prevent water shortages, and reduce waterborne diseases such as cholera.

The Serbian delegation calls on the international community to cooperate in reducing the number of violations of children's rights, protecting their integrity, and improving the conditions of those in vulnerable situations. Serbia also invites discussion on methods of protecting children during political conflicts, improving care and response services, promoting national monitoring teams and their support for the government, and especially international cooperation to significantly reduce gaps in education, affordable drinking water, medical services, and nutrition.

References

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