Guidance for Writing a Position Paper

IMUN XI Summer Conference

*This guidance is written in order to aid delegates in writing position papers for each agenda prior to the conference.

1. What is a Position Paper?

A. A position paper is a 1 page ~ 2 page report written by each delegate about each country’s stance on each agenda. A position paper includes each delegation’s attitudes, interests, and opinions about the agenda along with the general information about each country. A position paper is the summarized report about what each delegate will announce to the conference throughout the debates. Writing a position paper will help delegates organize and make ideas more clear. IMUN requires all the delegates to write a position paper for each agenda.

B. A position paper is useful for delegates to refer to when they are making their opening speeches at the start of each debate. Delegate are recommended to include the information that they want to address during the opening speech in their position paper.

C. A fair position paper includes the following but not limited to;
   i. GDP, major economy, geographical features, environmental issues about each delegation
   ii. Introduction of each countries stance related to the agenda
   iii. Country’s opinion about the agenda
   iv. Possible solutions (resolutions) regarding the agenda

2. Preparing to Write a Position Paper

There are several steps delegates can take to write a high-quality position paper.

A. Research

i. Delegates should conduct thorough research prior to the conference in order to prepare for the conference. Writing a position paper could be a guide that delegates can use to conduct research.

ii. Delegates should gather information about each country, the agenda itself, and the country’s stance about the agendas. Here are several sources that you can use to conduct a thorough research.
   2. *US State Department Background Notes: http://www.state.gov/r/pa/ei/bgn/  

B. Summarize

i. After gathering various information about your delegations and the agenda, you should go on to summarizing the information and selecting the information you want to use for your
position paper. Only select important and crucial information that is coherent to the agenda and your stance on the agenda!

C. Drafting

i. After you gather information and select the information you would like to use for your position paper, you should start brainstorming for your position paper. Just like any other essay, a decent position paper includes an introduction, body and a conclusion.

ii. Introduction: The introduction should start with a greeting phrase, preferably “Honorable Chairs and fellow delegates, this is the delegate of __.” You can include the general information about your country, including GDP or geographical features in the introduction. The end of your introduction paragraph should have the thesis statement, clearly stating your position on the agenda.

iii. Body: This part of the position paper includes the most details and conveys the main ideas of the position paper. Your body paragraphs should include the various information about the agenda and your country.

iv. Conclusion: The conclusion is much like the introduction as it states clearly your position about the agenda. You should focus on finishing your position paper with a strong and impactful ending, restating your position in different words.

D. Begin writing

i. After brainstorming the information you want to put in the position paper, you should actually start writing! Use the IMUN official format for position papers given above to get you started.

3. IMUN Official Position Paper Format

A. All position paper should be written in Times New Roman, font size 11pt. There is no limit on the length of the paper, but it is recommended that each delegate writes 3/4 ~ 1 page.
Incheon Model United Nations 2019 Summer Conference

Agenda:

Committee: (Abbreviation of the committee name)

Country:

Honorable Chairs and fellow delegates, this is the delegate of (your country)