

# How to write a ~~Position Paper~~

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Shadow Creek School Model United  
Nations

# Why it matters:

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- Position papers are often worth 20-40 points. In committee, these points can often factor into your ultimate award.
- You can win a Research Award for your efforts.
- If you don't turn in a paper, you are docked points and most likely, you will not win an award.
- Position Papers are supposed to help you organize your research and prepare for committee.
- Try your best and put a good effort in to writing a paper, and you shall reap the benefits!

# Position Paper

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## Outline:

Committee: General Assembly (example)

Topic: Position Paper Writing

Country: (Your Full Country Name)

Background:

ashdfjlkasdfakshfklsahdfjkaslfhasflasdjhfklsfhkafhkaahsdklhaskjfhasklfhklhdfklhasklfhask  
ldhflkashfhasdlkfhaksl dhflkashfklashfkasklfhklashfjlasdfasdfasdhfkashfhasdhfkasjhsdhf  
klashfbawlkfyvbakehlakweuiyraklshfncaklsdhralbkwkeyulbhdfbklavfhalvwueybaklj

Past UN Action:

shadfjlanshdfkansdkhfjalnhdfjaksl dhfkusfelfhasjdkflhasdmcsdjfahnlfhajsmcjd fhm lashdfa  
sbj fashdfansdlfjhsblfjasnml d fmcjvhasnmlcndfkbvajsfhvblasudflcanmsjhcfnlasjdbfvlas

Country Policy and Solutions:

ashdjklfhsdfhashfjksahfahsklfhaslkhfkashdfklahskdfhajsdf lashj fashkdj faldh fjal d

Position Papers are usually 1-2 pages in length.

# Background

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## Information:

- Discuss the topic in general.
- Include:
  - History of the issue and the problems
- Pick only the most important points to include in your position paper
- This section should be concise. Even if your background is shorter than half a page, it's ok because it is better to have a shorter yet more informative background section than it would be to have a longer but repetitive background.
- it is completely from an objective standpoint, no exceptions.
- Unbiased, general viewpoint of the international community.
- Even if you are directly involved with the topic at hand, you still have to write the section as an outsider and not as a representative of that country. For example, if your topic is "The dispute between UK and Argentina over ownership of the Falkland Islands" and your country is Argentina, you would still write the entire background from an objective stance.

# Past UN Action:

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- Length: 1/2 -3/4 page
- In this section, you will include:
- UN resolutions
- Relevant Any committees or other documentation
- Relevant NGOs (non governmental organizations) and actions taken.
- Objective viewpoint.

# Country Policy

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## and Solutions

- This section is the biggest and the most important part of your paper and your performance in committee. This is the section of your paper where the country you are representing actually matters, and
- **Point of View:** the standpoint of your country. The research and information should always work in your favor.
- **Policy:** country's opinion and stance on the topic and any actions taken.
- **Research** the way in which your country is affected by the issue or what effect your country has had on the issue and also resolutions and committees that your country has drafted.
- **Research** any groups that your country is part of that specifically address this topic or your committee.

# Country Policy and Solutions

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## ○ Solutions

- 1. previous solutions that your country has proposed that need to be implemented and how those ideas will be implemented.
- 2. To make this part of the third section reflect some thinking on your part, you should combine these already established viewpoints with a few novel ideas for solutions that have not yet been explicitly considered by your country in the actual UN. Think outside the box, but do not come up with any solutions that even God could not accomplish or that violate any UN law such as any human right. For example, though it is quite ingenious, you may not propose placing a microchip that looks like a mole on the back of every woman in the world that can be used to monitor any sex trafficking that is going on. Not happening.

# Country Policy

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## and Solutions

- The last thing you should keep in mind is staying on track. When researching and writing possible solutions, make sure you stay on topic and do not go onto tangents so that you end up giving solutions that barely relate back to the original topic.
- Also, make sure you do not include things that a delegate from your country would not propose in the real world.
- Your personal opinions should never be reflected in this section unless they coincide with those of your country. For example, if your topic, again, is the dispute over possession of the Falkland Islands and you are either the United Kingdom or Argentina, or even their greatest allies, you would never suggest compromise as a solution.



# Research Sites

a complete

[list can be found on uhsmun.net](http://uhsmun.net)

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## **General Information**

- [www.un.org](http://www.un.org) - Official Web site of the United Nations
- [ww.un.int](http://ww.un.int)
- CIA World Factbook
- <https://www.cia.gov/cia/publications/factbook/index.html>.
- Federation of American Scientists
- [fas.org](http://fas.org)
- NATO
- [www.nato.int](http://www.nato.int)
- Global Policy
- [www.globalpolicy.com](http://www.globalpolicy.com)
- Yahoo Embassies
- [dir.yahoo.com/government/international\\_organizations/](http://dir.yahoo.com/government/international_organizations/)
- The John Hopkins University United Nations Collection

# ABSOLUTES:

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- NO FILLER
- NO First Person
- NO Slang
- NO Contractions
- NO Plagiarism
- NO PROCRASTINATION