

Position Paper Guidance  
BRAMUN 2023



## WHAT IS A POSITION PAPER?

The position paper serves to further clarify a delegate's position on a specific topic, as well as to establish an outline for an eventual resolution.

## HOW TO FORMAT IT?

Header: Informs your committee, topic, country, school, and name on the top left hand corner of the page.

The position paper is divided into three paragraphs, as follows:

1. History and background on the topic: This section should not be a re-statement of the study guide. Instead, it should elaborate on the issue from the perspective of your country.
2. History of your country's position on the topic: The section should explain your nation's specific history with the topic and assess the various solutions that your country has explored.
3. Proposed solutions to the topic: The final portion of your paper should discuss the various solutions that your nation would like the UN to consider.

Position papers should be no more than two typed, single-spaced pages in Times New Roman size 12. One position paper is required per topic. Plagiarism found in position papers will NOT be tolerated.

## TIPS FOR WRITING POSITION PAPERS

1. Don't begin writing until you're almost done researching.
2. Before you begin writing, outline your facts and ideas so that the paper flows logically.
3. Make sure to edit position papers for grammatical mistakes before submitting them!
4. Remember that your proposed solutions should reflect your country's position. The solutions you propose should also be as original as possible, though you should also acknowledge and suggest measures that strengthen solutions that have already been implemented in other initiatives.

5. Show the breadth of your research and your mastery of the facts. Include references to specific dates, people, documents and events.
6. Strive to strike a balance between concise and thorough. Include specifics in your plans, but make your descriptions short and easily understood.

## SAMPLE POSITION PAPER

Committee: Historical Security Council (HSC)

Topic: Resolving the Falklands War

Country: Libya

School: Pan American School of Bahia

Name: Michelle Gusmão, Bruna Cincurá

Since the nineteenth century, the sovereignty dispute between the United Kingdom and Argentina regarding the Falkland Islands has been a debated topic worldwide. As of 1982, the Falklands archipelago laid under the rule of the UK. However, Argentina's dictatorship hoped to repair its aid at a time of economic crisis by reclaiming the sovereignty of the region. Considering Argentina government's claims that the possession of the island was transferred to Argentina after its independence, the nation held several accusations of Great Britain illegally claiming the Falkland Islands. The Falkland War was sparked after Argentina seized the land and Britain addressed a task force to retake it. These actions increased vigorously in midst of the war, flourishing a deep rooted rivalry between Argentina and the United Kingdom. The conflict then became a significant concern to regional and international powers, especially after the death of 358 British civilians and of 643 Argentine individuals. The United Kingdom's Parliament has had thoughts of handing over the sovereignty of the Falkland Islands, yet, repudiated this possibility as the Falklanders exhibited a compelling aversion as to the Argentine ruling of the region. In 2016, The UN Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf (UNCLCS), supported Argentina by ratifying the country's 2009 report adding to the limit of its territory by 200 to 350 more miles from its coast.

Libya has chosen to act and advocate in favor of Argentina. The nation has commenced a mutual relationship with Argentina as of 1982. Through Libya, concealed by Muammar Gaddafi, Argentina was provided 20 launchers and 60 SA-7 missiles, along with machine guns, mortars shells, and mines in order to attack the Falkland Islands. In addition, Libya has also been Argentina's major adherent regarding the channeling of Iraqi-owned Exocet missiles and the supplying of the spare parts of aircraft and ammunition. As of June 1982, Libya has appointed nine Boeing 707 aircraft to Buenos Aires overloaded with weapons and armament to be worn against the United Kingdom. Muammar Gaddafi granted a 10 million US dollars recognition to Argentina's President, Leopoldo Galtieri, in order to pay for these weapons. Galtieri requested Gaddafi to buy more Exocet missiles from France, however, France repudiated and the Argentinian efforts abdicated before the buying of the Exocets. Furthermore, Libya has voted in favor of the General Assembly's 42/19 resolution regarding the question of the Falkland Island

as of November 1987. As the delegate of Libya for the UNSC stated: Libya urges to find means to solve definitely and in a fair manner this sovereignty dispute, inviting nations to consider the distance between the Falkland Island and Argentina compared to the distance between the Falkland Island and the United Kingdom. Libya stands firmly and is putting its best effort to solve this territorial dispute.

As a nation built upon the pillar of commerce, Libya sees the best of opportunities to solve this issue and strengthen the economic ties of all parties that partake in this matter. The Delegates of Libya strongly encourage the annexation of the Falkland Islands to the Argentine nation through a legal negotiation where the United Kingdom would demonstrate full cooperation. As Argentina and the Falkland Islands are found to be exponentially closer to each other than Great Britain is to the Falkland Islands, it is evident that Argentina would be the best fit to aid the Falklands and establish closer links for support. The negotiation would have grounds based on the means of commerce and transactions that would act as "compensation and reimbursement" to the United Kingdom as a symbol of peace. After the ethical removal of British troops from the Falkland Islands and the rightful handover of the total sovereignty, an economical partnership would be set where Argentina will provide courtesy including, but not limited to: a reduction of 25% in the price of fuel oils exported by Argentina to the United Kingdom and the decrease of 3% in custom duties for all British products for a period of 3 years.

## POSITION PAPER RUBRIC

COUNTRY:  
COMMITTEE:  
TOPIC:

*Highlight the descriptions (from the 4 sections) which apply to the quality of the submitted document.*

	Language and structure	Paragraph 1	Paragraph 2	Paragraph 3
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Language is unclear and ideas are inappropriately expressed.</li> <li>- Contains vocabulary mistakes and grammatical fallacies.</li> <li>- Misleading structure with an unclear purpose for each paragraph.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The first paragraph clearly paraphrases the study guide.</li> <li>- Superficial information is provided.</li> <li>- The paragraph is very long and focuses too much on details.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Does not evaluate that delegation's position on the matter.</li> <li>- Simply describes past actions, followed by no analysis whatsoever.</li> <li>- Pivots on irrelevant events.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Provides a very superficial and generic way of tackling the issue.</li> <li>- Proposed solutions are paraphrased from the study guide.</li> <li>- Proposals are inconsistent with the country's opinion.</li> </ul>
	THIS LEVEL	THIS LEVEL	THIS LEVEL	THIS LEVEL
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Language choice is mostly appropriate and the flow of the essay is</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Ideas are summarized and told from a neutral perspective.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Contains an introductory sentence summarizing the</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- No clear aim is presented with proposed solutions.</li> </ul>

	<p>consistent.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Grammar and vocabulary are <b>adequate</b> with very few to no mistakes.</li> <li>- Content is <b>distinctively split into 3 parts</b>, abiding by <u>the BRAMUN</u> structure.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Little evidence</b> is provided and the content is <b>limited</b> to the guide's information.</li> </ul>	<p>delegation's position.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Presents <b>past actions</b> from 1+ countries but does <b>not</b> evaluate their effectiveness in <b>depth</b>.</li> <li>- Uses <b>very little evidence</b>.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The delegate includes <b>too many (or too few) details</b> to conceptualize their ideas.</li> <li>- The paragraph mentions the delegates' objectives <b>at least once</b>.</li> <li>- All proposals <b>abide</b> by that country's beliefs.</li> </ul>
	THIS LEVEL	THIS LEVEL	THIS LEVEL	THIS LEVEL
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The essay flourishes with <b>advanced</b> vocabulary and <b>sophisticated and varied</b> sentence structures.</li> <li>- Very few to <b>no grammatical mistakes</b>.</li> <li>- The structure is <b>clear</b>.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Ideas are <b>carefully researched</b> and supported with evidence.</li> <li>- Ideas are <b>properly summarized</b>.</li> <li>- History told from the delegation's perspective</li> <li>- position is <b>implied</b>.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Past actions from one or more countries are presented and <b>carefully evaluated</b>.</li> <li>- The position, although briefly mentioned, is backed by <b>1 or more arguments</b>.</li> <li>- Uses quotes and statistics.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Ideas are <b>clearly expressed</b> and are backed by some details.</li> <li>- All proposals <b>abide</b> by that delegation's beliefs.</li> <li>- It is <b>properly concluded</b>.</li> </ul>

- You *may* highlight rows 2 or 4 if the document presents the qualities described in more than one level.

#### Part 1: (1st paragraph)

- An introductory paragraph that focuses on the issue from the perspective of that country.
  - Therefore implicitly elaborates on the character/country's perspective.
- Should not paraphrase the study guide.
- Should be short - the Chairs know what the topic entails.
- [optional] Should contain statistics to strengthen ideas and show deep understanding and advanced research skills.

#### Part 2 (2nd paragraph):

- Should contain one or more sentences clearly highlighting your country's position.
- Should focus on the character/country's role in the conflict, and previous attempts to solve it (i.e. why didn't it work then, and why won't it work now?)
- If its contribution was less significant, one should mention previous actions by the international community (and other countries unilaterally) and evaluate them (analyses should be deep and strongly supported)

- Use quotes to legitimize arguments (although you may disagree with what is being said)

### Part 3: (3rd Paragraph)

- Should offer an overview of the solutions and compromises your country hopes to achieve in committee sessions.
- One should also look back to the previously-attempted solutions and reflect on how they could fix it.
- Introduce your aims to the conference in an organized manner.
- Don't saturate your writing with details of your plan.
- Appropriate concluding sentence(s)