

# BRAMUN

Brazil Model United Nations



## Position Paper Guide



## WHAT IS A POSITION PAPER?

A position paper is a roughly page-long document that 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, delegation, school, and name in the top left-hand corner of the page. Optionally, a flag representative of your delegation can be inserted in the top right corner of the document.

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

1. History and background on the topic: This section should not simply be a paraphrasing 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. The use of AI in writing position papers is also strictly prohibited.

Remember to include a list of works cited at the end of your position paper. These references can be listed in any widely accepted format that includes an author/publisher's name as well as the release date of the source, accompanied by a link if an online source is used.



## 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.

## POSITION PAPER CHECKLIST

### PART 1: (1ST PARAGRAPH)

- An introductory paragraph that focuses on the issue from the perspective of that country.
  - Therefore, it 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's/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 taken by the international community (and other countries unilaterally) and evaluate them (analyses should be deep and strongly supported).
- Uses 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.
- Should potentially look back to the previously-attempted solutions and reflect on how they could be improved upon.
- Introduces your aims to the conference in an organized manner.
- Writing isn't saturated with details of your plan.
- Contains appropriate concluding sentence(s).

## SAMPLE POSITION PAPER

**Committee:** Historical Security Council (HSC)

**Topic:** Resolving the Falklands War

**Delegation:** Libya

**School:** Pan American School of Bahia

**Delegates:** 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 lay 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 the Argentine 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 assigned a task force to retake it. Fighting ramped up vigorously in the midst of the war, fostering 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 to the Argentine rule of the region.

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, mortar shells, and mines, in order to attack the Falkland Islands. In addition, Libya has also been Argentina's major ally 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 dollar 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 it, 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 Islands 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 Islands and Argentina compared to the distance between the Falkland Islands and the United Kingdom. Libya stands firmly and is putting its best effort into solving 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 delegation of Libya strongly encourages 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 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.

### **Works Cited**

[Insert sources here]