

HOW TO WRITE A POSITION PAPER

This preparation document is a file which clearly presents the strategy of a UN-like group, on questions approached by their assembly. It allows delegates to present the position of their party, at their chair's request. Furthermore, this file serves as a guide to help the delegate maintain a guiding principle in his or her activities.

Here are certain rules that will allow you to write the paper:

1. Your paper must be between one and two pages long.
2. Always identify your paper properly. In the top left corner, write the name of the country you are representing. It is unnecessary to write your own name as the position paper is one of your party and not your own.
3. You should also write the name of your assembly and the issue being approached and underline both.
4. The first paragraph of your preparation document is fairly classic. The body of your paragraph on the issue must have the following elements:
 - a) A general sentence on your country's position.
 - b) A development on this position. (You may quote an international treaty, agreements that your country has previously supported or any other useful official document).
 - c) References to past experiences of your country or of the UN.
 - d) A conclusion which mentions once again the position of your country on the issue.
5. Remember that you must, under no circumstance, use the first person in your paper. You should use expressions such as "Japan" or "our country" instead, since the preparation document is considered as a declaration from your country and not of your own opinion.

A POSITION PAPER EXAMPLE

Committee : Economic and social council

Issue : Globalisation and development

Author : Germany

During the past two decades, the global driver of growth has been globalisation. With the development of the Internet as a means of communication and the progressive disappearance of physical obstacles towards international trade, exchange barriers have progressively decreased. Protective tariffs are becoming extinct and free-trade agreements are increasing in popularity.

Germany is aware of the fact that globalisation creates advantageous situations for trade expansion, as well as developing tools for economic production. For example, last year, Romania received an increase of 199% in foreign direct investment (FDI). The FDI rate went from 234 millions euros in 2005 to 699 millions in 2006. However, we notice that this globalisation increase does not automatically induce equality.

Globalisation and development may contribute to the improvement of the general human situation: nevertheless, our party recognises that, without the appropriate regulations, social development possibilities are limited to an elite of a few individuals, companies or nations. If it is not regulated and led towards a common good, globalisation cannot effectively serve the global community. Essential to face the complexity of globalisation, good governance must act with solidarity and responsibility.

Germany estimates that considering people's' participation in globalisation, we must promote moral values, democratic principles and political culture, with institutions that protect both individual civil rights and the common good. Additionally, facing the influx of information from all sides, governments must act in harmony in order to allow accessibility for all. Access to digital education will, without a doubt, bring on a bigger political awareness from citizens and will allow a greater transparency, and therefore a lower level of corruption.

Our country estimates that the international economic community has the means and the duty to support the fundamental values of human rights, work norms and preservation of the environment. As the president of the German Federal Republic declares, our country has a attachment that is "sincere to multilateralism, as an effective instrument, aiming to identify adequate responses to the challenges faced by globalisation."

Germany has supported the majority of conventions and multilateral treaties identified as fundamental by the United Nations in the context of the Millennium Summit in 2001. We have always promoted innovative and efficient means of installing a cooperation between regional organisations. We are therefore looking to contribute to the reorientation of the world in order for it to benefit fully from the global community.