

FACULTY OF LAW, UNIVERSITY OF LJUBLJANA

## POSITION PAPER GUIDELINES













### MUNLAWS 2025

FACULTY OF LAW, UNIVERSITY OF LJUBLJANA

# POSITION PAPER GUIDELINES

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#### **POSITION PAPER GUIDELINES**

#### **Art. 1 General Considerations**

#### Art. 1.1 Purpose of the Position Paper

Position paper provides the Presidency with a first impression of the Delegate. The Presidency seeks original and critical thinking, a true understanding of the nature of your nation and both a function and applied knowledge of the topic.

#### Art. 1.2 Scope of the Position Paper

Ideal Position Paper should include the following considerations:

- **1. Introduction to the Country and the Topic** provides a concise overview of the country the Delegate represents (hereinafter: the Country), including relevant historical context.
- **2. Impact of the Issue on the Country** explains how the issue affects the Country specifically, citing concrete examples and evidence. Highlight the extent to which the situation has led to change and describe how it has influenced domestic dynamics.
- **3. National Policies and Justifications** presents the Country's existing policies regarding the issue. Explain the reasoning behind these policies, including political, economic, environmental, or social factors that contributed to their adoption.
- **4. Statements from National Leaders** include relevant quotations or paraphrased remarks from the Country's leaders that illustrate the stance and priorities regarding the issue.
- **5. Supporting Statistics** provides data that reinforces the Country's position.
- **6. Government Actions** detail the measures undertaken by the government in response to the issue. Discuss the benefits and drawbacks these measures have produced. Explain how the Country has attempted to maximize positive outcomes and minimize negative effects.
- **7. International Commitments** list and briefly describe the international conventions, treaties, and resolutions the Country has signed or ratified that relate to the issue.
- **8. Proposed Solutions** outline what the Country believes should be done at the international level to address the issue. Clarify the Country's particular interests and suggest changes to the current interpretation or handling of the situation.
- **9. Objectives in the Committee's Resolution** specify what the Country seeks to achieve in the committee's final resolution, including concrete policy goals, funding mechanisms, or commitments from the international community.
- **10. Influence of Other Countries' Positions** explain how the stances of allies, opponents, or regional partners affect the Country's own position and negotiation strategy.

Incompatibility with the considerations shall negatively affect the grading of the Paper.

#### Art. 1.3 Format of the Position Paper

Position papers must not exceed two pages per topic discussed in the Committee. They should be single-spaced, written in *Source Sans Pro* font, size 12. Position Papers start with a header stating the country being represented, the committee and the topic.

Footnotes must be used to identify the source of statements or propositions made in the body of the Position Paper. Footnotes should be placed at the bottom of the respective page. Sources should be cited according to APA 7 rules of citation. Legal documents (treaties, resolutions, declarations ...) should be cited in accordance with Bluebook citation format.

Should the Committee have two topics on the agenda, the Papers shall be merged into a single file.

Incompatibility with the format shall negatively affect the grading of the Paper.

#### **Art. 1.4 Additional Suggestions**

- Try to use the seal or a watermark of the Country on the Position Paper. The more realistic it looks, the more it will attract others to want to read it.
- Do not let the proposals become lost in a sea of information. For speechmaking, create a bulleted list of the proposals along with most important facts and statistics.

#### Art. 1.5 Usage of the Artificial Intelligence

It is forbidden to submit Papers, written by generative artificial intelligence. Such Papers shall be discarded and the Delegate will be graded as if they have not submitted a Paper.

Artificial Intelligence may be used for research or as a source, but must be properly cited. Failure to cite the use of artificial intelligence shall negatively affect grading of the Paper.

#### Art. 1.5. Plagiarism

Plagiarism is strictly prohibited. Plagiarized Papers shall be discarded and the Delegate will be graded as if they have not submitted a Paper. At the discretion of the Presidency, a plagiarizing Delegate may be expelled from the Committee. The Secretary-General or, with their authorization, another member of the Secretariat shall be the final arbiter in case of a dispute.

#### **Art. 2 Submission of Position Papers**

#### Art. 2.1. Format of Submission

Position papers must be submitted in Portable Document Format (PDF) format. The maximum upload capacity of the file is limited to 11MB. Positions papers must be titled in the following manner: Position paper - Name of the Committee - Name of the represented Country.

#### **Art. 2.1 Submission Procedure**

Position Papers shall be submitted into the database at the MUNLawS 2025 official website and to the following address: <a href="mailto:position\_papers@munlaws.com">position\_papers@munlaws.com</a>.

Paper is considered submitted when received into the database or in inbox from the previous paragraph. Failure to submit a Paper in a deadline as determined in Article 2.1 shall result in the discard of the Paper and the Delegate will be graded as if they have not submitted a Paper.

#### Art. 2.1 Deadline

The deadline for submission of the Paper is 24 November 2025, Central European Time (UTC+1).

#### SAMPLE POSITION PAPER

Committee: Security Council

Delegation: France



Topic: Situation in South Sudan

The Republic of France looks upon the situation in South Sudan with great concern and anguish. It has been almost a year since the situation in South Sudan, United Nations' youngest member, started to deteriorate intensively. Since then, we have seen mass attacks on civilians due to their ethnicity and political beliefs, destruction of private property, extensive internal displacements and other crimes that led South Sudan into a humanitarian disaster and state of lawlessness. The United Nations Security Council has put quite some effort into a positive resolution of the situation, however, it failed to achieve desired effects as none of the sides still seems to be willing to work exhaustively on the diplomatic level to achieve peace and stability needed.

Republic of France solidly supports all the initiatives aimed at putting an end to all hostilities in the region. Albeit the January Agreement on Cessation of Hostilities has been broken numerous times, diplomatic talks must continue. France filmy supports East Africa's Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) and the African Union and has expressed it's wide approval of talks in Addis Ababa in late August 2014. We call on the South Sudanese parties to comply with the 45-day deadline set at the IGAD Summit to form a new transitional government of national unity.<sup>1</sup>

As neither of the sides showed necessary will to end hostilities and people's suffrage, it is the duty of the international community, namely the United Nations to help the South Sudanese. The Council simply cannot be indifferent. Under the French presidency, the UN Mission in South Sudan has doubled in its size last December. Furthermore, French government fully supported the UN Security Council Resolution 2156, extending the mandate of the UN Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS) to 30 November 2014 and authorizing

UNMISS to use "all necessary means" to protect civilians.<sup>2</sup> At the same time the government of South Sudan must be aware of its primary responsibility to protect civilians and deal with crimes within its territory. On this meeting France will reaffirm its support for the UN Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS). The Mission mandate must not by any means be hindered or its personnel unsafe, France demands that no compromises are tolerated with regards to the Mission. Those who have or will threaten Mission's proper existence cannot escape unpunished. Only in such conditions, can UNMISS provide humanitarian assistance and protect civilians and human rights.<sup>3</sup>We also call for closer collaboration of UN bodies with non-governmental

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> French Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Development , South Sudan - Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) Summit in Addis Ababa (August 25, 2014), URL: http://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/south-sudan/france-and-south-sudan/political-relations- 7542/article/south-sudan-intergovernmental

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Global Centre for the responsibility to Protect, Resolution 2155 (South Sudan) S/RES/2155, URL: <a href="http://www.globalr2p.org/resources/631">http://www.globalr2p.org/resources/631</a>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> French Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Development, South Sudan – Signing of a ceasefire agreement (January 23, 2014), URL: http://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/south-sudan/france-and-south-sudan/political-relations-7542/article/south-sudan-signing-of-a-ceasefire

organizations (e.g. Human Rights Watch) that have insight view of the situation and are a valuable source of recognizing the voids and possible further actions of the United Nations.

With regards to the region of Abyei, France remains worried by the extensive military presence in the region and negative dynamic in Khartoum, coming from partisans on the strong line. The French Permanent Representative supported the renewal of United Nations Interim Security Force for Abyei (UNISFA) for four months, as recommended by the Secretary-General. We moreover stress that the situation in Abey cannot be fully solved until the internal conflicts in both states have been dealt with.<sup>4</sup>

The United Nations Mission in South Sudan reported in May 2014 that there are "reasonable grounds to believe that crimes against humanity have been committed during the conflict by both Government and opposition forces." French government should once again underline that the international law is clear on the need for justice for serious crimes. International treaties including the 1949 Geneva Conventions, which South Sudan has ratified, require parties to a conflict to ensure that people allegedly responsible for serious crimes are prosecuted. Most notably, the killing of more than 50 people in the UNMISS base in Bor and the massacre in Bentiu prove unacceptable ethnically driven brutality in South Sudan. International community must act decisively to gain trust with the people of South Sudan. It must be evident that those breaching the

international and humanitarian law will pay the price for their crimes.<sup>5</sup> Referral to International Criminal Court therefore must be considered, as French Permanent Representative already stated on several occasions.<sup>6</sup>

The Republic of France believes that a diplomatic solution is the only solution for the South Sudanese situation. The international community must be ceaseless in demanding full compliance with the Agreement on the end of hostilities, signed January 23, 2014. France is willing to offer any diplomatic help needed. The international community must rehabilitate the victims of atrocities with regard to the duty of South Sudanese government to provide for their citizens. Lastly, violators of human rights and international law must be put on fair trial and punished for their crimes, because it is the lack of treatment of former issues that fuel the conflicts of today.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Permanent Mission of France to the United Nations in New York, Sudan and South Sudan, URL: http://www.franceonu.org/france-at-the-united-nations/geographic-files/africa/sudan-and-south-sudan/article/sudan-and-south-sudan

<sup>5</sup> Human Rights Watch, South Sudan: Ethnic Killings Spiraling URL: <a href="http://www.hrw.org/news/2014/04/23/">http://www.hrw.org/news/2014/04/23/</a> south-sudan-ethnic-killings-spiraling

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Permanent Mission of France to the United Nations in New York, 2 May 2014 - Security Council - South Sudan - Statement by Mr. Gérard Araud, Permanent Representative of France to the United Nations , URL: <a href="http://www.franceonu.org/france-at-the-united-nations/press-room/statements-at-open-meetings/security-council/article/2-may-2014-security-council-south">http://www.franceonu.org/france-at-the-united-nations/press-room/statements-at-open-meetings/security-council-article/2-may-2014-security-council-south</a>