

CANIMUN 2017 POSITION PAPER INSTRUCTIONS

The purpose of a position paper is to outline a country's perspective on the assigned topics for each committee. Position papers are mandatory for all committees at CANIMUN and must be emailed to the respective committee Director by **11:59 pm on February 16, 2017**. Delegates who receive their country assignments after February 13, 2017 must submit their position papers by **11:59 pm on February 22, 2017**.

United Nations General Assembly First Committee: unga1@canimun.org

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees: unhcr@canimun.org

United Nations Environment Programme: unep@canimun.org

United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization: unesco@canimun.org

Commission on the Status of Women: csw@canimun.org

International Court of Justice: icj@canimun.org

United Nations Security Council: unsc@canimun.org

International Press Forum: ipf.fip@canimun.org

Late submissions will be disqualified from consideration for Position Paper awards. If you require additional time to complete your Position Paper, please contact the Director-General (dg@canimun.org) and your committee Director by February 14, 2017. When doing so, please mention your country and committee.

The process of writing position papers gives delegates an opportunity to research the foreign policy of their countries, particularly with respect to the issues being debated in their committees. As delegates must be familiar with both their country's foreign policy and the issues being debated when they arrive at the conference, the process of writing position papers is an important aspect of delegate preparation. The quality of position papers will be a significant determinant in the allocation of delegate awards.

Delegates must submit a position paper, **approximately one to two pages in length (single-spaced)** for each committee. Below are suggested questions for delegates to address in each position paper.

- What is your country's perspective on the issue?
- How big of a concern is this issue to your country?
- How does this issue affect the domestic and/or international interests of your country?
- What (if any) actions have been taken by your country with regard to this issue? (eg. Which treaties/agreements has it signed? What programs has it implemented domestically? What international efforts has it participated in?)
- Does your country plan to pursue any actions or further actions in the future with respect to this issue?
- What means of resolving the problem does your country propose?

Plagiarism will not be tolerated and will result in the Position Paper being disqualified from consideration for Position Paper awards.

Background guides can be found on each committee's webpage: www.canimun.org/committees

Special Requirements for the International Court of Justice

Position papers for the ICJ should be formatted as a shortened legal memo. This memo should not exceed two pages (1 page/topic), and should include the following for each topic:

1. Short Summary of Relevant Facts (this can be as short as one paragraph - focus on the relevant facts to your case)
2. Legal Issue (what legal question(s) must be answered)
3. Legal Analysis (application of the law to the facts)
4. Conclusion (what do you believe the outcome should be?)

Please ensure that the headings are clearly defined so that it is easy for us to read. Citations are not necessary, but if you would like to include them a bibliography may be added as a third page.

Please remember that you are representing yourself as a neutral justice and not as a judge from a specific State. As such, your legal analysis should look at both sides of the argument from a neutral perspective. Your conclusion is where you will state which arguments you think are the best and should be applied.

More information on memo writing, including the IRAC method of legal analysis, can be found here: <http://legalresearch.org/writing-analysis/legal-memorandum/>

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the Court's President and Vice-President at icj@canimun.org.

Special Requirements for the International Press Forum

Journalists of the International Press Forum should divide their position in two main sections:

- 1) History and Position of the News Source (max. 2 pages) - This section should include:
 - History of the News Source
 - Features of the News Source Style
 - Information about the News outlet's editorial policy
 - Additional information relevant to the new source (key journalists, political bias, etc)
- 2) Writing sample (1-2 pages) - Every journalist should submit an article example written according to their news source style. The article should be about one current issue in the international news.

IPF delegates are encouraged to research journalists of their news source, to understand the writing and reporting style.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the IPF staff at ipf.fip@canimun.org.

Position Paper Format

All Position Papers must follow the following format:

Delegation from Your Country	Represented by Your Name Your Delegation Name
<p><i>Position Paper for (Your Committee Name)</i></p> <p>(Insert a brief paragraph outlining the topics and the general position of the country in this committee)</p> <p><i>Topic 1: (Insert Topic Here)</i></p> <p>(Insert body text here)</p> <p><i>Topic 2: (Insert Topic Here)</i></p> <p>(Insert body text here)</p>	

Additional Requirements

- Position papers should be typed using 12 pt, Times New Roman font
- Position papers should be approximately one to two single-spaced typed pages
- Position papers should not include national flags or symbols