POSITION PAPERS

Each delegate in the Security Council and the General Assembly committees should write a Position Paper that prepares the representative to negotiate effectively at the conference as well as provide a public delegate that can be accessed by other delegates. The following criteria are essential for your submission of this information:

A. The deadline for Position Papers is 12:00 AM midnight, Wednesday, April 6, 2016.

B. The text page length is a maximum of two single-spaced pages (this does not include endnote citations and a bibliography which can exceed this maximum).

C. Your paper should have one margins, use 12 point font, and be submitted as a Word document.

D. For citations, please use the Turabian style; more information about this format can be found on the WMU Libraries Citing Guides at: http://libguides.wmich.edu/c.php?g=40163&p=255570

Your submission should be a short paper which provides information about your country's position on the topics under discussion in your committee. The deadline guarantees that the conference staff will have time to read your paper and your work will be posted online on the conference website which will allow other delegates to analyze your position. Position Papers can and should be turned in after the deadline, but they will not be placed in consideration for a Research Prize.

Your Position Paper is your country's official dossier of exactly what your government believes to be the problems and should offer solutions for the topics assigned to your committee. You should concentrate your efforts on the two to four major topics that have been assigned to your committee in your respective Background Guide.

The purpose of Position Papers is to help you prepare for the conference by conducting research on the country you have been assigned and its response to the committee topics. These papers serve as an excellent template for drafting Working Papers during your session negotiations. It should give a general idea of what your government wants with respect to the issues addressed in your committee. Most importantly, the conference staff will use your Position Paper to get a first impression of how well you have prepared to participate in the talks. The Chair and Moderator will read every Position Paper before the beginning of the conference and you can score quick points by writing an excellent Position Paper.

In terms of content, an effective Position Paper has two primary features. First, these papers are written in formal language. Use the entire name of your country the first time you refer to it in your paper (i.e., the People’s Republic of China). After that point, you can use an informal version (i.e., China). You should also avoid using abbreviations in your submission. The second content issue is efficiency. Most Position Papers should devote approximately one-half to two-thirds of a page to each topic. Each topic should begin with a general history of the issue and then address what your country has done to deal with that problem. Most importantly, your Position Paper should state what your government wants the committee to do to address and hopefully solve the problem.