



# THESSISMUN

THESSALONIKI INTERNATIONAL STUDENT  
MODEL UNITED NATIONS

## *Guide for Position Paper Writing*



UNIVERSITY OF MACEDONIA  
THESSALONIKI, GREECE

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## *Position Paper Submission Guidelines*

A **Position Paper** is a brief summarize of a country's policy and interests concerning the topics on the Agenda. It should contain a clear statement of the country's position on the topic and clear reasoning, also suggesting an action plan concerning the issues under consideration. It not a speech neither a statement, so there is no need for a salutation in the beginning.

The Position Paper should be a product of the delegate's own research and should be concise and substantial. After having researched on the topic and formed a precise idea about the external policy of the delegating state you are now called to make a small abstract on the situation linked to the topic, the position of your country, actions taken in a multilateral level and proposed actions for future consideration.

In the **first part** of your Position Paper you should briefly address the issues on the Agenda, the relevancy and the scope of the problem. You should mention the major players, the current developments concerning the issues under discussion, the action UN has taken in this respect, whether by specialized agencies, regional bodies or non-governmental organizations, the most significant resolutions that have been passed, international treaties and provisions for future action.

In the **second part** you should specify the official position of the country you represent in respect to the issues under consideration. It should include brief statements about where your country stands on the issue in question, past statements on the topic by representatives of your government, especially if these mention the significance of the issues on the Agenda to your country, specific suggestions that your country will support in providing a solution for the issues in question. You should also make reference to the role UN has assumed to confront this issue. You do not need to go into detail about your negotiating positions.

**Remember that you have to represent the position of your assigned country.** Therefore you should not speak in the first person ("I"), but with the voice of the country you represent .You represent your people, the wholesome of your state so it is strictly forbidden to write in the first person. You may offer your own ideas on the solution of the problem, but bear in mind that the ideas that you present the committee with, should not contradict with the policies of the country you represent.

**ThessISMUN** requests that each delegate submits a position paper within the deadline set by your chairpersons respectively for each committee and council. These papers should not exceed in length **one page for each topic on the Agenda** of the committee or the council.



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## ***Position Paper Format***

*Committee:*

*Country:*

*Topic Area A:*

*Topic Area B:*

## ***Sample Position Paper***

**Delegation: Luxembourg**

**Represented by Florida International University**

### **Position Paper for the International Organization for Migration**

The issues before the International Organization for Migration are the following: Social Development and Migration Assistance in Afghanistan and Addressing Trafficking in Human Beings.

#### ***I. Social Development and Migration Assistance in Afghanistan***

Luxembourg recognizes the widening gap between the rich and the poorest countries and emphasizes that the developed world, and particularly the European Union, should increasingly assist developing countries in achieving sustainable development, and take account of the suffering of peoples around the world. Luxembourg stresses the importance of international assistance and social development in currently fragile Afghanistan not only as a response to humanitarian need, but also for the purposes of international security and conflict resolution. Recognizing the importance of international solidarity and cooperation for progress, Luxembourg reaffirms its commitment expressed in the *Bonn Agreement*, to assist in bringing about “national reconciliation, lasting peace, stability and respect for human rights in Afghanistan.”



Luxembourg recognizes its responsibilities as one of the richest countries of the world. Our development aid exceeds the target rate of 0.7% of GDP set by the United Nations and will reach 1% of GDP by the year 2005. In addition, Luxembourg is, along with other EU members, one of the top donor's to the UNAMA program, established by Security Council Resolution 1401 as part of the *Afghanistan Transitional Administration (ATA)*, which serves to coordinate international assistance efforts in support of the transition to peace. Luxembourg also supports and contributes to the *Afghanistan Interim Authority Fund (ATA)*, set up to meet the most pressing needs of re-establishing the civil service. Luxembourg stress the importance of linking essential humanitarian assistance and crisis responses with sustained development, as emphasized by the *Transitional Assistance Programme for the Afghan People (ITAP)* in the *National Development Framework (NDF)* strategy, and encourages all countries to support large number of initiatives that address the ongoing humanitarian crisis with a combination of emergency and recovery programming, including the *Afghanistan Transition Initiative (ATI)*, the *Return of Qualified Afghans (RQA)* program, and the *Assisted Voluntary Returns (AVR)* program. Recognizing the importance of education and professional skills, Luxembourg is one of the top three contributors to *UNDP Rapid Deployment Facility in Afghanistan*, which serves as a flexible mechanism through which international experts as well as Afghan nationals can serve as UN Volunteers. In conclusion, Luxembourg urges the international community to strengthen and implement their commitment to assist with the rehabilitation recovery and reconstruction of Afghanistan, in order to prevent extended and commits itself to work closely with all allies in order to find a solution based on the principles of respect and on the notion of human rights protection.

## ***II. Addressing Trafficking in Human Beings (THB)***

In accordance with the Declaration of Human Rights, Luxembourg remains committed to the protection of human rights in the global community. Luxembourg feels that the government of any nation should act as an instrument of the people, and it should protect the fundamental rights of people regardless of their gender or nationality. Human rights' violations, particularly the trafficking of human beings, have become a global phenomenon that can occur in any nation at any given time. Due to the transient nature of the trafficking of human beings, all nations are susceptible to its effects within their borders. A problem of this magnitude can only be combated through mutual cooperation among nation-states. Transnational organized crime groups victimize migrants through the practice of trafficking human beings for the purpose of exploitation. The exploitation of migrants has become a highly profitable activity for transnational



organized crime groups across the globe that exposes unsuspecting migrants to forced labor, involuntary servitude, and sexual exploitation. Luxembourg fully supports the objective of the *Global Programme against Trafficking in Human Beings*, started in March 1999, to assist member states in their fight against the illegal practice of trafficking of human beings. Luxembourg recognizes the importance of all international endeavors that have sought to eliminate the trafficking of human beings. Luxembourg has signed the *Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children* as well as the *Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Air and Sea, Supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime*. The UN Millennium General Assembly adopted these protocols that were drafted as a result of the *International Convention against Transnational Organized Crime* on November 15th, 2000. Luxembourg has immersed itself in the struggle against the trafficking of human beings. As a destination for smuggling activities, Luxembourg has vested interest in eliminating the trafficking of human beings. In recent years, the trafficking of women for the purposes of sexual exploitation has increasingly become a problem in Luxembourg. As a result, Luxembourg's domestic law has been adjusted in accordance with international law to deal more efficiently with this problem. Under the new legislation, any individuals arrested for the trafficking of human beings are subject to 5 years of imprisonment under the penal code. Luxembourg urges other nations to adopt similar domestic laws that would punish the leaders of these transnational organized crime groups that specialize in trafficking. It is only through the enforcement of laws against the trafficking of human beings that the number of human rights' violations against migrants will begin to subside. Luxembourg feels that through mutual cooperation among nation-states this crime can be reduced significantly, if not eliminated, from the global community.