

GatorMUN XX

POSITION PAPER GUIDE



Writing for General Assembly

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POSITION PAPER WRITING GUIDE FOR ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE

Esteemed Delegates,

I welcome you to GatorMUN XX with the fullest assurance that your time during our annual conference will be both intellectually rewarding and extraordinarily entertaining. While the majority of your experience will occur while you are representing your country in January, it is necessary that you fully prepare yourself before you arrive at the University of Florida. Preparing yourself will entail reading the background guide provided by the Director of your committee, adequately researching your country's stance on the issues addressed within, understanding GatorMUN's Rules of Procedure, and writing a position paper that will be turned in to your Director at the beginning of the first committee session. The position paper is a key element of every Model United Nations conference and I encourage you to familiarize yourself with the proper way to write a position paper which will be explained below.

A well written position paper is well-researched, concise, and reflects the country's stance on a given topic. A position paper for GatorMUN should begin with a brief background of the country they are representing and their topic. In the second part of the position paper, delegates should stress the relevance of the issue to their country, domestic initiatives concerning the topic, and international initiatives that the delegate's country supported. The third part of the position paper should include the delegate's proposed solutions to the issue faced by the committee. These proposed solutions should be innovative while remaining on policy. This allows delegates to arrive at their committee prepared to address such issues in reference to their own countries. It is typical that, for a two topic committee, position papers dedicate one page per topic.

Position papers are mandatory for General Assembly Committees and are due at the beginning of the first committee session. Delegates must submit their paper electronically, or bring a printed copy of their position papers to the first committee session. There will be a position paper award for each committee. All position papers must be single spaced and Times New Roman twelve point font, and a minimum of one page and a maximum of two pages. In addition to the one to two pages of content, a bibliography in MLA or Chicago format is required. It is up to the delegates discretion whether to use footnotes or in text citations, as long as a works cited page is included. A sample of the body of a position paper has been included below. More resources are available upon request.

We thank you for choosing the best MUN conference that Florida has to offer and encourage you to email the Secretariat at gatormun@gmail.com if you have any questions regarding research, submission, or committee topics.

Sincerely,
The GatorMUN Secretariat
GatorMUN XX

Committee: General Assembly 2nd Main Committee: Economic and Financial (ECOFIN)

Topic: Climate Change

Country: The State of Qatar

In recent years, a trend of industrialization in developing countries has seen the rise of climate change largely attributed to human causes and its subsequent greenhouse effects, or the warming of the Earth's surface and lower atmosphere caused by water vapor, carbon dioxide, and other trace gasses in the atmosphere. This increase in climate change has also increased the total carbon footprint of the world, or total amount of greenhouse gasses that are emitted into the atmosphere each year by people and industries. Within climate change, countries must also address the more particular issues of reducing industrial pollution and greenhouse gas emission, investing in renewable energy sources, and determining whether or not developed nations should take the lead in mitigation efforts. As "ensuring environmental sustainability" is one of the UN's eight Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) set in 2000 to ideally be somewhat achieved by 2015, nations have a pressing need to commit global efforts to mitigating both the causes and effects of climate change.

The State of Qatar has based much of its energy and environmental policy on its vast petroleum and natural gas reserves. Annually, Qatar's consumption of 189,700 bbl of refined petroleum products per day and consumption of 19.53 billion cubic meters of natural gas per day have yielded an annual amount of 64.46 metric tons of carbon dioxide emissions. While Qatar's thriving energy sector may be worrying to the global community, Qatar notes that it has ratified the Kyoto Protocol, with the treaty having entered force on April 11, 2005. In 2012, Qatar hosted the 18th session of the UN Climate Change Conference, which successfully adopted the second commitment period of the Kyoto Protocol, a move that participating parties have been working towards for seven years. As per the conditions of the Kyoto Protocol, Qatar remains committed to global efforts to mitigate climate change, particularly efforts that place more obligation in the hands of wealthy, developed, and capable nations, such as those with binding targets, and urges developed nations that have not yet signed the Kyoto Protocol to do so and make steadfast efforts towards a global commitment.

The State of Qatar proposes a multi-step solution to mitigating climate change on both a domestic and international level. First, highly developed nations must ratify and commit to obligations under the Kyoto Protocol, and in doing so, alleviate the economic strain on less developed nations in spearheading mitigation efforts. Second, nations must increase and standardize cap and

trade efforts amongst industrial polluters so as to fall within Kyoto global carbon emissions goals and must prioritize these efforts over carbon taxes. Finally, the State of Qatar, along with other signatories of the Kyoto Protocol, shall generate up to 20% of its energy from renewable solar sources by 2024 in partnership with energy corporations like Chevron and local energy firms like GreenGulf in order to establish a permanent energy infrastructure that avoids increasing global emissions. Funding for pollution mitigation efforts will first come from highly developed nations, such as the United States and Canada. Other funding may come from World Bank loans and partnerships with corporations to less developed nations such as Qatar.