

## Model United Nations – Position Paper Guidelines

A **position paper** outlines your country's stance on the topics being discussed in committee. It should reflect **official policy**, not personal opinion, and be written in a **formal, diplomatic tone**.

### 1. General Format

- **Length:** 1–2 pages (unless your conference specifies otherwise)
- **Font:** Times New Roman / Arial / Calibri 12 pt
- **Spacing:** 1.15 or double-spaced
- **Margins:** 2.5 cm (1 inch)
- **Language:** Third person, formal and diplomatic
- **File name:** *Committee\_Country.pdf* (e.g. *UNHRC\_Mexico.pdf*)

### 2. Header (Required)

At the top of the document, include:

- **Committee name**
- **Country represented**
- **Delegate's name(s)**
- **School / Institution**
- **Topic(s)**
- **Countries flag**

### 3. Structure of the Position Paper

#### I. Background of the Topic

- Briefly explain the issue and why it matters globally.
- Include key facts, recent developments, and international impact.
- Mention relevant **UN resolutions, treaties, or international agreements**.
- ◆ *Focus on the issue, not yet on your country.*

#### II. Country Position

- Clearly state your country's stance on the issue.
- Explain **how and why** the issue affects your country.
- Reference:
  - National policies
  - Past actions
  - Voting history
  - Official statements
- Be consistent with your country's real-world foreign policy.
- ◆ *This is the heart of your position paper.*

#### III. Proposed Solutions

- Present **realistic and diplomatic solutions** your country supports.

- Align proposals with:
  - Your country's interests
  - Committee mandate
  - International cooperation
- Avoid vague solutions like “*raise awareness*” without explaining **how**.
- ◆ Use formal phrases such as:  
“The delegation of \_\_\_ supports...”  
“\_\_\_ strongly encourages international cooperation to...”

#### 4. Writing Style Tips

- ✓ Formal and objective
- ✓ No first person (*I, we*)
- ✓ No slang or emotional language
- ✓ Use country name instead of “my country”
- ✓ Cite sources in APA format

#### 5. What to Avoid ❌

- Personal opinions
- Unrealistic or extreme solutions
- Ignoring your country's real policies
- Copy-pasting from other position papers
- Overly long historical background

## Position Paper Example UNIMUN Conference

**Committee:** United Nations General Assembly  
Third Committee (SOCHUM)

**Country:** Mexico

**Delegate:** [Student Name]

**Institution:** [School Name]

**Topic:** Protection of the Rights of Migrants and Refugees



### I. Background of the Topic

International migration has become one of the most significant global challenges of the 21st century. According to the United Nations, millions of individuals are currently displaced due to armed conflict, economic instability, environmental degradation, and human rights violations. Migrants and refugees often face severe risks, including discrimination, exploitation, lack of access to basic services, and violations of their fundamental rights.

The international community has taken steps to address this issue through frameworks such as the **1951 Refugee Convention**, the **Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration**, and the **Global Compact on Refugees**. However, the implementation of these agreements remains uneven, and many countries continue to struggle with balancing border security, humanitarian responsibilities, and social integration.

Given the increasing scale and complexity of migration flows, coordinated international action is essential to ensure the protection of migrants' human rights while supporting host countries and addressing the root causes of forced displacement.

### II. Country Position

The United Mexican States recognizes migration as a multidimensional phenomenon that requires a comprehensive, humane, and rights-based approach. As both a country of origin, transit, return, and destination, Mexico is directly affected by regional migration dynamics, particularly in relation to Central America and North America.

Mexico's national legislation and public policies emphasize the protection of migrants' human rights regardless of their migratory status. Through its **Migration Law**, Mexico guarantees access to basic services such as healthcare, education, and justice for migrants and refugees. Additionally, Mexico has actively participated in international forums addressing migration and has expressed strong support for multilateral cooperation on this issue.

Nevertheless, Mexico acknowledges the challenges posed by irregular migration, including pressure on public services, security concerns, and the vulnerability of migrants to organized crime. For this reason, Mexico supports shared responsibility among countries of origin,

transit, and destination, as well as increased international assistance to strengthen institutional capacities.

### III. Proposed Solutions

The delegation of Mexico believes that effective solutions must combine human rights protection, international cooperation, and sustainable development. In this regard, Mexico proposes the following measures:

1. **Strengthening regional cooperation** through information-sharing mechanisms and joint programs that protect migrants along transit routes, particularly in regions with high levels of irregular migration.
2. **Enhancing access to legal migration pathways**, including temporary work programs and humanitarian visas, in order to reduce irregular migration and prevent exploitation by criminal networks.
3. **Supporting development initiatives in countries of origin** that address the root causes of forced migration, such as poverty, violence, and lack of economic opportunities.
4. **Encouraging international funding and technical assistance** for transit and host countries to improve shelters, asylum systems, and migrant protection services.

Mexico reaffirms its commitment to working constructively with Member States, United Nations agencies, and civil society to promote safe, orderly, and regular migration, while ensuring the dignity and rights of all migrants and refugees.

### References (APA Format)

United Nations. (1951). *Convention relating to the status of refugees*. United Nations Treaty Series.

United Nations. (2018a). *Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration*. United Nations.

United Nations. (2018b). *Global Compact on Refugees*. United Nations.

United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs. (2023). *International migration 2023 highlights*. United Nations.

Secretaría de Gobernación. (2011). *Ley de Migración* [Migration Law]. Government of Mexico.