NMUN Simplified Position Paper Guide

Guidelines
- ❖ <u>Length:</u> exactly two full pages (no more no less)
- ❖ <u>Margins:</u> 1 inch (normal margins)
- ❖ <u>Font:</u> Arial, 10pt
- ❖ <u>Paragraph Alignment:</u> justify the alignment so there is a straight edge (rather than aligning left like usual)
    - o No indentations for any paragraphs
- ❖ <u>Heading:</u>
    - o First Line: in bold and centered; **Delegation from [Member State/Observer Name]**
    - o Second Line: italicized, bold and centered; ***Position Paper for the [Committee]***
    - o Topic Headings: Roman Numeral, bold, and centered
- ❖ <u>For Spacing:</u> single spaced; do not include a "space after the paragraph" between only the first two lines of the heading; do include it otherwise
- ❖ <u>Format:</u>
    - o After the second line include a short introductory paragraph that introduces the topics in your committee and your Member States commitment to the topics (Only 2-3 sentences long)
    - o Both topics have the same format after the topic heading:
        - ▪ <u>First Paragraph:</u> Establish the Importance of the Topic
            - • Briefly set the stage for the topic. What is the "problem"? What is the current state of the topic globally, regionally, and/or nationally?
                - o Consider including statistics, listing the relevance of the topic to average people, and SDG's (especially those listed in the background guide)
        - ▪ <u>Second Paragraph:</u> International/Regional/National Framework
            - • How has the international community addressed the topic? What are the key international/regional/national documents, conferences, conventions, resolutions, treaties, etc.? What steps has your Member State taken?
            - • Through this paragraph try to work down from the international to regional then national
        - ▪ <u>Third Paragraph:</u> Propose Solutions and Recommendations
            - • Explain your Member States proposed solutions
                - o Some can be more general to encourage an overall direction in action
                - o Many are specific solutions on the who, what, where, when, and why to make something that could feasibly be put into action
                    - ▪ You don't have to be this specific but look to give specific details that help others understand your ideas
                - o You can look at what your Member State or region has done successfully, or even another Member State, to spark ideas

General Tips

❖ Use topic sentences at the beginning of each paragraph to provide essential context and direction to the reader

❖ When using an acronym, use its full name in your first mention, and then put the acronym in parentheses; afterwards use only the acronym (e.g., Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs))

❖ Use third person writing (Use "we" or "our government" instead of "I")

❖ For sources: do not use parenthetical citations, rather reference the documents or agreements in your writing

❖ When citing UN resolutions, list the UN entity that produces it, the resolution number, and the year
  - EX: A/RES/70/1 "General Assembly resolution 70/1 (2015)"
  - If the document is not a resolution, than it is a report
    - EX: E/2015/7 "ECOSOC report 2015/7"

❖ In general, use the term "Member State" (the M and S are always capitalized) rather than "country" or "nation"

❖ When citing international or regional precedents, italicize the titles and provide the year
  - *"Universal Declaration of Human Rights (1948)"*

❖ Ensure position papers are always in your own words!

❖ Use all of the two pages of space

❖ Don't only use the information in the background guide, do your own research and expand on what is given

❖ Do not include any references to Valdosta State University

❖ Example of two VSU award winning Position Papers from the NYC 24 conference linked on Blazeview under "NMUN Conference", "Position Papers":
  - "UNDP_Denmark"
  - "GA1_Denmark"