

**2014 Washington and Lee University
Model United Nations Conference
(WLUMUN)
March 14-15th, 2014**

**Position Paper Guidelines for
WLUMUN Delegates**

WLUMUN 2014 Committees and Sub-Topics:

United Nations Security Conference (UNSC)
modelunwlunsc@gmail.com

- Topic A: The Iran Nuclear Deal
- Topic B: Pacific Islands Dispute

United Nations Special Political and Decolonization Committee (SPECPOL)
modelunwluspecpol@gmail.com

- Topic A: The Israeli and Palestinian Conflict
- Topic B: An Independent Kurdistan

United Nations Social, Humanitarian and Cultural Committee (SOCHUM)
modelunwlusochum@gmail.com

- Topic A: Sexual Violence
- Topic B: The Right to Development

United Nations Intergovernmental Committee: The Arctic Council
modelunwluspecialtopic@gmail.com

- Topic A: Fly-Over and Defense Rights
- Topic B: Protection of the Arctic Waters

WLUMUN 2014 Position Paper Guidelines

The Committee Chairs and executive officers of Washington and Lee University Model United Nations have been working diligently on preparations for our conference, set for March 14th-15th, 2014. In order to not only prepare you for the conference ahead, but also to streamline our logistical process, we ask that you follow some simple formatting and general position paper guidelines.

Position papers are considered optional, but best delegate points weigh heavily upon the submission and quality of position papers. Though we do not require position papers, we STRONGLY encourage delegates to write position papers, and encourage teachers and sponsors to require their students to write these position papers. **Position papers are due on the evening of Thursday March 13th, 2014.**

Included in this guide is our policy on formatting, plagiarism, submitting your position paper, and where you can find a multitude of resources our officers have put together to help you prepare for WLUMUN 2014. We hope you will find this helpful and informative.

Formatting

We require the following formatting for position papers, please pay attention to these guidelines as they greatly improve our committee chair's ability to return reviewed position papers in a timely manner.

- Position paper must be written in a **Microsoft Word document**
- The document must have **1-inch margins**
- Font must be **Times New Roman** (TNR is preferred, but Cambria or Garamond are also acceptable), **size 12 pt.**
 - **Double-spaced**
 - **Indented paragraphs**
- In the upper left corner, please have the following to identify your paper:

Committee:

Topic:

Country:

School/University:

Delegate Name:

- Position Papers should be **1-1.5 pages PER committee topic**

Citation and Plagiarism

Be sure to **include a bibliography** page, citing sources. If using quotes, please **cite your sources** in either MLA format or using footnotes.

NOTE: The Washington and Lee University community holds each member to the highest degree of honor and integrity. In light of this, we ask that our delegates respect the W&L honor system and abstain from plagiarism of any kind. If you are unsure as to whether something you are writing is plagiarized, it's always best to cite your sources, or consult with a teacher.

Submitting Your Position Paper

Once you've proofread, edited and finalized your position paper, **please save it as the following** (with the appropriate name, country and school):

LastnameCOUNTRYSchoolPositionPaper

Please submit your paper to the appropriate **committee e-mail address, located on the cover page of this document**—Please make sure that you send your position paper to the correct e-mail address.

Helpful Resources

The WLUMUN Home Government and Officers have put together a collection of resources that we hope will prove very useful while researching your committee position, writing your position papers and preparing for the conference. These resources are located at the bottom of the same webpage as the committee background guides. You can follow this link to go directly to the background guide and resource page for W&L Model UN:

<http://modelunwlw.weebly.com/preparation.html>

Here, you will find links that provide information on a multitude of subjects that we believe will help you prepare for your Model UN conferences. Some examples of the information included are:

- Researching your committee topics/country and position
 - Finding informational resources
- Writing your position paper tips and sample position papers
- Committee resources
 - Committee etiquette

- Debate techniques
- Parliamentary procedure
- And more!

We hope that this will provide you with a good basis for writing your position papers, and help to prepare you for a great conference. By putting effort into your research, writing and preparation for the conference, you help shape WLUMUN and make it so much more fun. We're very excited to see everyone's hard work pay off in what we hope will be the best Model UN conference, yet.

Thanks so much, and we'll see you in March at WLUMUN 2014!

Sincerely,

Washington and Lee University Model UN
Executive Officers

Sample Position Paper¹

Committee: World Health Organisation

Topic: Eradication of Polio

Country: The Democratic Republic of the Congo

School/University: Oxford University

Delegate Name: Margaret Chan

The Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), as a nation still dealing with the detrimental affects of the Poliovirus (PV), believes that the eradication of polio is not only an essential step towards reaching the Millennium goals established in 2000, but also an attainable goal in and of itself. Globally, there are only two regions in which PV is still considered endemic: the Central African and Central Asian regions. The DRC strongly holds the belief that with concrete, realistic pledges of aid by all member states and the cooperation of affected-nations' governments with WHO and other UN initiated programmes, the disease can be eliminated within this generation.

With the WHO as a leading partner in the Global Polio Eradication Initiative (GPEI), the DRC believes it is essential that all member states of the WHO keep their promises made at the GPEI's establishment in 1988. Specifically, the DRC laments the increasing funding gap for the programme, and calls upon all nations, especially the developed nations, to increase their monetary support of the programme. The DRC also believes that an obstacle to the goal of eradication is the lack of developed infrastructure. Therefore, the DRC also pleads to developing nations to continue and augment their development aid to affected nations so as to eliminate this hindrance. The DRC feels this is an essential aspect to any resolution passed by the committee.

The DRC would also like to offer itself as a model for a successful implementation of an eradication programme. No longer endemic within the DRC's borders, PV has decreased due to the use of National Immunisation Days (NIDs) – an effort that has begun in other African nations, such as Nigeria – and a social mobilisation programme. The promotion of these two elements is also necessary within a resolution. The major obstacle to the success of these programmes in the DRC was the Second Congo War (1998-2003), during which 5 of the 11 DRC districts were occupied by invading forces and much infrastructure was lost. Due to this, the DRC feels that any resolution passed must contain some sort of reprimand for a nation who prevents the continuation of any eradication programme.

¹ Chan, Margaret. *OxIMUN 2011 Position Paper Guide*. Oxford University Model United Nations. 2011. Retrieved from: << <http://www.oximun.org/downloads/PositionPaperGuide.pdf>>>.