



**POSITION PAPER**  
**THE OFFICIAL GUIDE**

## 1. WHAT IS A POSITION PAPER?

Position Papers are documents that outline your country's stance, past actions and proposed solutions for a specific topic. You are required to submit one set of position papers per delegation (this includes double delegations for UNSC). Position Papers are marked by your chairs and used to discern the potential flow of debate during committee session. Chairs keep a close eye on delegates that have excellent position papers, so use them to your advantage to make a good impression!

There is an award for the best Position Paper. In some cases, position papers are used to break a tie for other awards such as Best Delegate and Outstanding Delegate, so make sure they are well written!

You are not eligible for any awards if one of the following occurs:

1. You do not submit a Position Paper
2. You submit a Position Paper after the Deadline
3. There is evidence of plagiarism in your Position Paper

## DEADLINE: 7TH AUGUST\*

\*in some cases where delegates got their allocations much later than usual, a deadline extension has been given.

## 2. FORMATTING RULES

- Font Size 12, Times New Roman
- Normal Margins
- Single Spacing
- Maximum of one page PER TOPIC, excluding bibliography
- Must include a header with Committee, Country and Topic

## 3. A NOTE ON BIBLIOGRAPHY

Please adhere to the following formatting rules for your position papers. Failure to do so, may annoy your chairs to the point where you will be disqualified from the 'Best Position Paper' award.

A bibliography is not mandatory but recommended (Do note that you will not be penalized for not including a bibliography, and you will not get extra credit for including one). If you do include a bibliography, please follow APA/MLA citation format. Go to [www.bibme.org](http://www.bibme.org) to automatically generate your citations to this format.

## 4. SAMPLE POSITION PAPER

Below is a sample Position Paper that won the "Best Position Paper" award at NTUMUN 2017. Any plagiarism will lead to disqualification from all awards. Please note that this is only one Position Paper- you will be required to submit one Position Paper PER TOPIC (i.e, two position papers of one side each)

**Committee:** Disarmament and International Security Committee

**Country:** Czech Republic

**Topic:** Safeguards and Prevention Against Utilisation of Biological Weaponry

Biological weapons pose a threat to Czech national security as they are cheap and easy to obtain, their effects are widely disseminated, and they are able to extract alarmingly high death tolls as exemplified by the biological warfare in WWII. The Czech Republic is cognizant of the threat that biological weaponry poses to the wellbeing of her citizens and remains steadfastly committed in their nonproliferation.

The Czech Republic has never possessed biological weapons or facilities for their production and does not provide support to non-state actors that attempt to develop or utilise such weapons. She supports the Biological Weapons Convention (BWC) at all levels and advocates for international cooperation to promulgate and augment it. Though her own laws may presently be considered ambiguous or outdated, The Czech Republic is determined to circumvent the resurgence of biological warfare around the world.

The Czech Republic has a laudable history in national regulatory efforts to crackdown on the utilisation of biological weaponry. The former Czechoslovakia signed the 1925 Geneva Protocol and 1972 Biological Weapons Convention (BWC), which the Czech Republic ratified post-independence in 1993. She was one of the first countries to incorporate BWC mechanisms into her national legislation: conforming to the spirit of Article IV of BWC, she criminalized the development, production and handling of biological weaponry through Act 19/1997 and Act 281/2002. They were reinforced by Act 361/2007 which provided an exhaustive list of hazardous biological agents and toxins and Act 186/2004, which consolidated customs laws regarding biohazards as envisaged by EU Council Regulation.

The Czech Republic also actively pursues research in the field of hazardous biological substances, establishing the National Research Institute for Nuclear, Chemical and Biological Protection (SÚJCHBO v.v.i.) in 2000. In conjunction with this institute, Czech Republic submitted the UNEP national biosafety framework in 2004. She also participated in the creation of European Network for Diagnostics of "Imported" Viral Diseases (ENIVD), a network of research laboratories that operates at both regional and international arenas.

The Czech Republic is highly concerned that existing laws and conventions across the world fail to reflect some of the recent legislative trends and contain obsolete provisions on administrative sanctioning- as exemplified by Czech Act 281/2002 and India's Prevention of Terrorism Ordinance (POTO). Therefore, she stresses the need for such legislation to be updated through a multilateral approach involving both legislative and scientific stakeholders.

With this in mind, regulation of the scientific community must be ameliorated to eliminate the internal threat of abusing R&D involving especially dangerous pathogens (EDP's). This can be achieved through stringent inspections and exhaustive security measures to promote responsible practices in labs- she recommends implementation of metrics similar to those created by Department of Defense in the United States of America

whose biosecurity engagement program has been especially effective at the destruction and dismantlement of WMD delivery systems and infrastructure since its inception in 1991. The Czech Republic is prepared to provide technological and financial assistance on a case by case basis to serve this purpose.

Secondly, to prepare for the possibility of biological warfare, health personnel must know how to identify early victims of biological weaponry and recognize patterns of disease, with any inconsistent findings or suspicion of a biological warfare attack reported to higher authorities immediately. This training must be compounded by stockpiling biomedical protections in all member nations like vaccines, serums etc. such as those present in the French Republic.

Lastly, Czech experience displays that multilateral efforts have been successful in regulating exports of hazardous biological materials- as exemplified by her active participation in the Australia Group and the Wassenaar Arrangement- and advocates such cooperation amongst the member states in the near future.