# Position Papers & Resolutions



# **Position Paper - Format**

### Heading:

- Committee
- Topic
- Country
- Delegates

### Purpose:

- State your country's position in regards to the issue being discussed.
- "Introduction" to resolution
- Persuade (basis of speech)

### Paragraph 1: Introduction to issue

 outline of main problems (according to the country you're representing) associated with issue

### Paragraph 2: Country's perspective

- give and explain your country's policy regarding the issue
- past and current information on the issue to support your position

### Paragraph 3: Solutions

 list your solutions (according to your country's position) to the problems you presented above

# **Position Paper - Tips**

- Keep it short: a position paper does not need to be any longer than two pages!
- Your focus needs to be on the **present**, use background information only to support your claims (this is particularly related to your second paragraph)
- On your second paragraph, include:
  - <u>why</u> the problem arose according to your country
  - why is it of *international concern*
  - <u>Previous actions</u> taken to try and solve the problem (if any) → successes and failures
  - Problems that continue to exist
- On you last paragraph, make sure to **be specific** (<u>how</u> will each proposal be implemented) and have a well-rounded solution to the issues at hand & include what will be the impact of what is being proposed

### The Hamburger Method of Organization

Contents - The country's background on the topic including: Think about the importance of ordering things logically (e.g., the hamburger shouldn't be on the top of the bun!).

Top Bun (Introduction) - A brief introduction to the country and its history regarding the topic and/or UN body.

Lettuce: The country's actions on a national level, including political and/or foreign policy and/or UN body

Tomato: The country's actions on the international level, including resolutions, conventions and declarations that the country supports

Condiments (ketchup, mustard, pickles, etc.): Counterargument and Rebuttal, the debater's SPIKE! (Yes, But!)

Burger - Quotes taken from speeches made by heads of the government and/or government representatives.

Burger 2 (optional) - Statistics regarding the issue

Bottom Bun (Conclusion): The country's recommendation for a resolution for the topic.

Information
Organizer

SECTION	INFORMATION	SOURCE
Intro		
Brief introduction to your country		
Its history concerning the topic and/ or UN body		
Issue		
How the issue affects your country		
Your country's policies with respect to the issue and your country's justification for these policies		
Quotes from your country's leaders about the issue		
Statistics to back up your country's position on the issue		
Actions taken by your government with regard to the issue		
Conventions and resolutions that your country has signed or ratified		
UN actions that your country supported or opposed		
Resolutions		
What your country believes should be done to address the issue		
What your country would like to accomplish in the committee's resolution		
Counterarguments and rebuttal! (Yes, BUT!!!!)		
How the positions of other countries affect your country's position		

## **Position Paper - Examples**

Committee: Human Rights Topic: Human Rights in the Gaza Strip Country: Argentina Delegates: Elen Souza and Maria Anzola



Given the religious differences and history of animosity between Israelis and Palestinians, many human rights violation have occurred in the Gaza Strip against both Middle Eastern nationalities. Though one side might claim that it's only the other side that is attacking or maybe that the violence is just retaliation, there is substantial evidence blaming both Israel and Palestine for the attacks. At different moments within the last few decades, both Israel and Palestine for the attacks. At disrupted the peace and tried to illustrate their power and mightiness through the use of force. Unfortunately, while Palestine has perturbed the Israeli administration and the Israel defense through violence, Israel is responsible for attacking with ammunition, beatings and mass. On top of that, Israel has enforced a blockage of the Gaza Stip. All of these are direct infringements of the human rights, particularly Article 3: "Everyone has the right to life, liberty and security of person". Therefore, given the mounting number of victims, including fatal ones, it's vital for the Human Rights Committee discuss this topic in order to find a feasible solution.

Though Argentina has better relations with Israel historically, its relations with Palestine are improving, and it realizes that both countries have violated human rights. Thus, the ultimate goal of Argentina is to achieve peace and save lives. Regardless of the strong Argentina-Israel times, Argentina recognized the independent Palestine state in 2010, which Israel obviously didn't appreciate. Furthermore, in 2012, Cristina Kirchner, the president of Argentina back then, stated that Argentina was determined to reinvigorate the peace process between Israel-Palestine. In addition, Argentina has sent "humanitarian aid to the Gaza Strip which consists of food aid, medicines, tents and water treatment tablets" in 2009, which indicates Argentina's willingness to alleviate the suffering and violations of human rights.

Thus, Argentina believes that the UN should consider addressing this issue through many facets, including negotiations, humanitarian aid and buffer zone. Firstly, regardless of all disagreements and quarrels, Israel and Palestine must continue dialoguing in order to agree upon a truce, like the one in 2008. Though only the two nations can decide upon a complete ceasefire and respecting the human rights of the citizens, such talks should be mediated and encouraged by a third party, like Argentina. Secondly, other aspects important to reinstitute are the borders and buffer zones as Israel has occupied many areas that it shouldn't have. An UN-sponsored ceasefire and reestablishment of borders should have a deadline. Thirdly, humanitarian aid sent to the Gaza Strip should be continued, as well as UN personnel in order to assure the protection of all people, regardless of birthplace. Committee: Historical Security Council Topic: Iran Hostage Crisis Country: United Kingdom Delegates: Julie Antão and Rebeca Serson

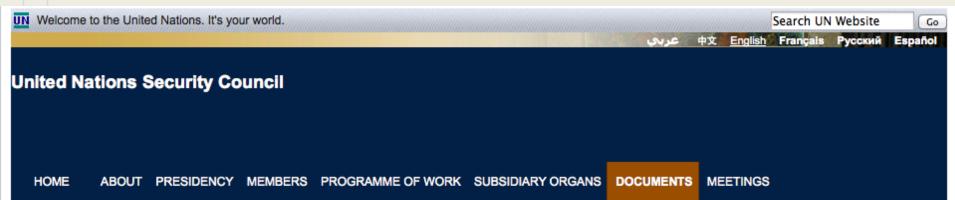
The United States is currently facing a grave situation in relation to Iran. There are 52 American hostages being held captive at the embassy in Tehran and the Iranian government demands \$32 billion to be paid in exchange for the release of the hostages. President Carter had given up on diplomatic means, performing operation Eagle Claw in April 1980, but this was a failure, and therefore, Ronald Reagan (the new president) has decided to return to diplomacy.

The United Kingdom recognizes that they have helped in the overthrow of the Prime Minister Mohammad Mosaddegh, together with the government of the United States in the coup d'etat of 1953, which led to the instilment of Reza Pahlavi, the Shah of Iran, to rule as an absolute monarch. The Shah lived a life of excess, and the people starved and lived in constant fear. In 1979, the people of Iran overthrew the Shah – the Iranian Revolution - and caused the return of the previously exiled Ayatollah Khomeini to rule the country. Reza Shah Pahlavi was granted asylum in the US, since he was dying of cancer, and the people of Iran were outraged: on the 4<sup>th</sup> November 1979 they stormed the US embassy in Iran, took 90 people hostage, and demanded that the Shah be returned to Iran to face a trial in return for the hostages.

The United Kingdom believes it is crucial to get the hostages to safety, either by removing them from Iran or reaching a peace agreement between the USA and the Iranian government. This delegation thinks a peace treaty would be the best way to do this, and would suggest the Iranian government to deliver the hostages back to the USA as soon as possible, without paying anything for exchange, since the UK considers this unreasonable. If consent is not reached, the UK suggests military action from the USA and is prepared to help with supplies if it is needed.

### Resolution

### http://www.un.org/en/sc/documents/resolutions/



- About SC Documents
- Resolutions
- Presidential Statements
- Press Statements
- Notes by the President
- Exchange of Letters

### **Security Council Resolutions**

United Nations resolutions are formal expressions of the opinion or will of United Nations organs. They generally consist of two clearly defined sections: a preamble and an operative part. The preamble generally presents the considerations on the basis of which action is taken, an opinion expressed or a directive given. The operative part states the opinion of the organ or the action to be taken.

# **Resolution - Purpose**

- a formal text adopted by a United Nations (UN) body
- can be issued by any UN body, though in practice most resolutions are issued by the General Assembly and the Security Council
- includes recommendations that UN member states are expected to follow
- binding resolutions can only be issued by the Security Council
  - decisions taken under Chapter VII (involving "threats to the peace, breaches of the peace, or acts of aggression")
    - e.g.: economic sanctions

\*



**Resolution 1989 (2011)** 

Adopted by the Security Council at its 6557th meeting, on 17 June 2011

## **Resolution - MUN**

#### basis of debate

\*

- unmoderated caucus: merge resolutions and find co-submitters
- moderated caucus: speeches against or in favor, amendments, voting





# **Resolution - Components**

#### Heading (MUN):

**COMMITTEE:** American Caucus

QUESTION OF: Deciding upon the Internationalization of the Amazon Rainforest

S/RES/2177 (2014)

18 September 2014

and the second

MAIN SUBMITTERS: Brazil

**CO-SUBMITTERS**: Mexico, Chile, USA\*

"The (committee),"

- Preambulatory clauses
- Operative clauses



Distr.: General

#### Resolution 2177 (2014)

Adopted by the Security Council at its 7268th meeting, on 18 September 2014

The Security Council,

*Recalling* its resolution 2176 (2014) adopted on 15 September 2014 concerning the situation in Liberia and its press statement of 9 July 2014,

many and an orally

	United Nations	A/RES/68/65
)))	General Assembly	Distr.: General 11 December 2013

Sixty-eighth session Agenda item 102

#### Resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 5 December 2013

[on the report of the First Committee (A/68/414)]

#### 68/65. The risk of nuclear proliferation in the Middle East

The General Assembly,

Bearing in mind its relevant resolutions,

Taking note of the relevant resolutions adopted by the General Conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency, the latest of which is resolution GC(57)/RES/15, adopted on 20 September 2013,

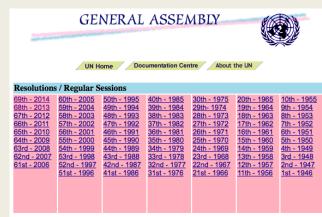
### Tīps

### **Reference official UN documents**

- http://www.un.org/en/documents/
  - UN Charter: <u>http://www.un.org/en/documents/charter/</u>
  - The Universal Declaration of Human Rights: <u>http://www.un.org/en/documents/udhr/</u>

#### adopted resolutions

<u>http://www.un.org/documents/resga.htm</u>



#### <u>http://www.un.org/en/sc/documents/resolutions/</u>

Welcome to the United Nations. It's y	our world.									ch UN We	
inited Nations Security C	ouncil						عربي	¢χ <u>₽</u>	iglish 🖗 Fra	nçala Pyc	охий Еврил
HOME ABOUT PRESIDENCY	MEMBERS PRO	GRAMME	OF WORK	SUBSI	DIARY OR	BANS C	OCUMENT	8 MEET	INGS		
About SC Documents Resolutions Presidential Statements Press Statements Notes by the President	United Natio consist of tw consideratio states the o	ons resolutions clearly ons on the	tions are f defined se basis of w	ormal exp ctions: a hich actio	ressions o preamble on is taken	of the opi and an o , an opin	nion or will perative pa	t. The pre	eamble ge	nerally pre	
<ul> <li>Exchange of Letters</li> <li>Reports submitted by /</li> </ul>			Resolut	ions add	opted by	the Sec	urity Cou	ncil sinc	e 1946		
transmitted by the Secretary- General	2010s	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014					
<ul> <li>Reports of the Security Council Missions</li> </ul>	2000s	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Annual Reports	1990s	<u>1990</u>	<u>1991</u>	<u>1992</u>	1993	<u>1994</u>	1995	<u>1996</u>	1997	<u>1998</u>	1999
<ul> <li>Round-ups</li> <li>Highlights of Security Council</li> </ul>	1980s	1980	<u>1981</u>	1982	1983	<u>1984</u>	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989
Practice Documents Search	1970s	<u>1970</u>	<u>1971</u>	<u>1972</u>	<u>1973</u>	<u>1974</u>	<u>1975</u>	<u>1976</u>	<u>1977</u>	<u>1978</u>	<u>1979</u>
UN Documents	1960s	1960	<u>1961</u>	1962	1963	<u>1964</u>	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969
Subscriptions:											

### Preambulatory:

- Written points of information
- Arguments in favor of your country's perspective
- Reasons for your proposed solution
- Ends with a comma

### <u>E.g.:</u>

My country wants to get rid of slavery:

- Deeply disturbed by the cruel and degrading manner in which slaves are treated,
- Noting that slavery violates the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,

#### Sample Preambulatory Phrases

Affirming Alarmed by Approving Aware of Bearing in mind Believing Confident Contemplating Convinced Declaring Deeply concerned Deeply conscious Deeply convinced Deeply disturbed Deeply regretting Desiring Emphasizing

Expecting Expressing its appreciation Expressing its satisfaction Fulfilling Fully alarmed Fully aware Fully believing Further deploring Further recalling Guided by Having adopted Having considered Having considered further Having devoted attention Having examined Having heard Having received

Having studied Keeping in mind Noting with regret Noting with deep concern Noting with satisfaction Noting further Noting with approval Observing Reaffirming Realizing Recalling Recognizing Referring Seeking Taking into account Taking into consideration Taking note Viewing with appreciation Welcoming

### **Operative:**

- Country's proposed solution to the problem
- Specific measures other countries and organizations should take to resolve the issue
- Operative clauses may have subclauses (a, b, c...) and subsubclauses (i, ii, iii...)
- Ends with a semicolon, final one with a period:
  - "Decides to remain actively seized of the matter."

### <u>E.g.:</u>

My country wants to get rid of slavery:

- <u>Encourages</u> all countries to ban slavery;
- <u>Expresses</u> its appreciation for the countries that have taken measures to stop slave trade;
- <u>Calls upon</u> all countries to ensure all slave traders are sent to prison.

#### Sample Operative Phrases

Accepts Affirms Approves Authorizes Calls Calls upon Condemns Confirms Congratulates Congratulates Considers Declares accordingly Deplores Designates Draws the attention Emphasizes

Encourages Endorses Expresses its appreciation Expresses its hope Further invites Deplores Designates Draws the attention Emphasizes Encourages Endorses Expresses its appreciation Expresses its hope Further invites Further proclaims Further reminds

Further recommends Further requests Further resolves Has resolved Notes Proclaims Reaffirms Recommends Regrets Reminds Requests Solemnly affirms Strongly condemns Supports Takes note of Transmits Trusts

\*only Security Council: Condemns, Demands

## **Resolution - Example #1**

COMMITTEE: Security Council QUESTION OF: Crimean Crisis MAIN SUBMITTER: Russian Federation CO-SUBMITTERS:

The Security Council,

Recognizing the right of self-determination of people,

Acknowledging the importance of the respect for international law,

Seeking Crimean people's territorial integrity and sovereignty,

Stressing the legitimacy of the rights and interests of all ethnic groups in Crimea,

Noting with regret the United States' financial manipulation of the new Ukraine government,

Noting with deep concern the persecution of ethnic Russians in Crimea,

Noting with satisfaction that the Crimean parliament member Vladmir Konstatinov stated on March 13, 2014 "Russia and Gazprom, should take care of the oil and gas production" in the region,

Recognizing that Ukraine and Russia have historical ties of mutual cooperation,

- Declares the legality of Crimea's annexation to the Russian Federation considering the following documents or statements regarding international law:
  - a. Article 1 of the United Nations Charter,
  - b. Article 2 of the United Nations Charter,
  - c. A 2010 advisory opinion of the United Nations International Court of Justice asserting the legality of Kosovo's declaration of independence despite the lack of a proper referendum or approval from Serbia which included the following statement: "General international law contains no prohibition on declarations of independence",
  - d. Written Statement of the United States of America on April 17, 2009 which included the following statement: "Declarations of independence may, and often do, violate domestic legislation. However, this does not make them violations of international law",
  - The United Kingdom's public willingness to recognize a separatist region to obtain independence if the results of the referendum justify it;

- <u>Requests</u> that all United Nations member-states recognize the unconditional and inalicnable right to self-determination by the Crimean people by officially acknowledging the results of the legitimate Crimean referendum and the region's subsequent legal accession to the Russian federation;
- <u>Condemns</u> the following countries for placing arbitrary trade and economic sanctions upon Russian and Crimean individuals, leading to the interruption of global economic trade and ecoperation:
  - a. United States of America,
  - b. United Kingdom,
  - c. Canada,
  - d. France;
- <u>Calls upon</u> all economic sanctions, imposed on Russian financial institutions and civilians to be immediately and permanently lifted since they entail a coercive and aggressive action, contrary to any form of diplomatic dialogue, including but not limited to Executive Order 13660 by American President Obama;
- Emphasizes the importance of legitimate and speedy democratic elections to occur in the Ukraine which should be closely monitored by Amnesty International members along with UN officials for incidences of anti-Semitism, Neo-Nazism and Russophobia by:
  - a. Immediate establishment of multiple political parties ,
  - b. Monitoring of voting posts throughout the nation,
  - c. Counting of ballots,
  - d. Ensuring the secure representation of all Ukrainian citizens;
  - Safeguarding the smooth implementation of the new democratic and legitimate government;
- 6. Demands formal apology from Ukraine for:
  - a. destroying 2 pro-Russian military bases in close proximity to the Russian border on May 15, 2014
  - b. attempting to revoke the official status of the Russian language in Ukraine
  - c. the continuous threats against the Black Sea Fleet whose establishments dates back to the 18<sup>th</sup> century
- Urges that the Ukraine educational system be remodeled within a span of 5 years by UNESCO to account for tolerance and appreciation of ethnic minorities, in order to:
  - a. Reduce the perpetuation of Neo-Nazism, Russophobia, and anti-Semitism,
  - b. Halt the persecution of ethnic minorities such as but not limited to:

- i. Ethnic Russians
- ii. Jews
- iii. Armenians
- iv. Byelorussians
- v. Muslims
- vi. Poles
- 8. Declares that if Ukraine complies with the aforementioned terms, Russia will:
  - Reduce once more the price of natural gas supplied to Ukraine from \$485 per 1000 cubic meters to \$269 per 1000 cubic meters,
  - Establish Tatar, Russian and Ukrainian as official languages of Crimea, as promised by President Putin, in order to recognize the ethnic minorities still inhabiting Crimean territory,
  - c. Resume Trade Treaty with Ukraine,
  - d. Agree to rejoin the G8 summit;
- 9. Decides to remain actively seized of the matter.



COMMITTEE: Historical Security Council QUESTION OF: NATO Invasion of Afghanistan MAIN SUBMITTERS: Afghanistan CO-SUBMITTERS:

#### The Historical Security Council,

Reminding that in December 17, 1984 the UN General Assembly passed resolution
 A/RES/39/159 which states "that all States take no actions aimed at military intervention and
 occupation, forcible change in or undermining of the socio-political system of States,
 destabilization and overthrow of the their Governments and, in particular, initiate no military
 action to that end under any pretext whatsoever and cease forthwith any such action already in
 progress.",

7 Emphasizing that according to the UN Charter, it is strictly forbidden the use of force by any 8 country to topple foreign governments,

9 Pointing out that Article 52 of the UN Charter restricts agencies such as and including NATO, to

10 activities that follow the purposes and principles of the United Nations which results in the 11 impossibility of NATO's actions to contradict the authority of the UN Charter,

12 Alarmed by the fact that the United States of America and the United Kingdom launched 13 unwarned airstrikes on many locations in Afghanistan, including the city of Kabul, the national 14 airport, Kandahar, and the city of Jalalabad, starting on October 7, 2001 and still ongoing, killing 15 up to 20,000 civilian Afghans until now,

16 Convinced that the airstrikes can be classified as terrorism according to The Convention to Suppress Terrorist Bombings, signed and ratified by the UK and signed by the US on January 12, 1998 as expressed in Article 24 describing the characteristics of a terrorist bomber: "...unlawfully and intentionally delivers, places, discharges or detonates a bomb, explosive, lethal or incendiary device in, into or against a place of public use, a state or government facility, a public transportation system or an infrastructure facility with the intent to cause death or serious bodily injury or the destruction of such a place resulting in major economic loss.",

23 Deeply disturbed by George W. Bush's and his allies' ironic decision to utilize destructive war 24 actions against Afghanistan in order to combat alleged terrorism.

25 Taking into account that the United States provided funds to the Northern Alliance, supporting 26 an offensive against the Taliban which goes completely against The International Convention for 27 the Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism (February 25, 2000), according to Article 2 which 28 makes it an offence to directly or indirectly provide funds to be used to carry out: "...any other 29 act intended to cause death or serious bodily injury to a civilian, or to any other person not taking 30 an active part in the hostilities in a situation of armed conflict, when the purpose of such act, by 31 its nature or context, is to intimidate a population, or to compel a Government or an international 32 organization to do or to abstain from doing any act.",

Fully aware that on October 1, 1985 Israel bombed the headquarters of the PLO in Tunisia and defended its action arguing that the bombing was justified by Tunisia having knowingly harbored terrorists who had targeted Israel, but The Security Council rejected this claim as expressed in Resolution 573, "[condemned] vigorously the act of armed aggression perpetrated by Israel against Tunisian territory in flagrant violation of the Charter of the United Nations, international law and norms of conduct."

Taking into consideration the many wide spread suspicions that incriminate the United States of 39 40 self-committing the attacks occurred on September 11, 2011, which include the fact that the United States' aerospace is entirely protected by the North American Aerospace Defense 41 Command (NORAD), which should have sent jets to shoot down the hijacked airplanes, the fact 42 that it has been proven by scientists and architects that a plane's fuel cannot produce enough heat 43 to melt the steel frame of both buildings that collapsed, the impact holes on the Pentagon after 44 the plane crash were much smaller than a commercial American Airlines plane, the plane was 45 not shot down and the section hit was vacant, passports and identification of the alleged terrorists 46 surprisingly survived the explosions and were found after the attacks, and the fact that cell phone 47 calls made by passengers and flight crew of the supposed hijacked airplanes could not have been 48 realized since scientists guarantee that cell phones could not have received reception at 32,000 49 50 feet of altitude.

51 Declaring that Osama Bin Laden officially denied any responsibility or involvement with the 52 September 11 attacks,

53 Deeply convinced that Osama Bin Laden and Afghanistan were targeted due to George Bush's 54 enormous business interest in the Middle East, providing reason for an invasion.

- <u>Condemns</u> the United States of America and NATO for violating the Charter of the United Nations by deliberately invading Afghanistan's territory and orchestrating airstrikes on multiple locations within the same territory, resulting in the death of more than 20,000 unarmed civilians;
- Urges the United States and NATO to withdraw its troops from Afghan territory and cease all the airstrikes directed to Afghanistan under the conditions that:
  - a. The withdrawal process shall be completed in 15 days,
  - If this timeframe is broken, economic sanctions and military actions shall be applied on NATO and American troops in Afghan territory;

- <u>Requests</u> the United States to immediately stop providing funds and support to the Northern Alliance as the group threatens the integrity and legitimate rule of the Taliban in Afghanistan;
- 4. <u>Calls upon</u> the signing and ratifying of the Muhammad Treaty which establishes as follows:
  - a. The payment of 500 million dollars by the United States of America in reparations to the Afghan government in order to finance the reconstruction of the infrastructures damaged by the airstrikes and eternally marked by innocent Afghan blood
    - This set amount should be paid annually by the United States and may include other forms of payment such as:
      - 1. Armaments,
      - 2. Nuclear technology to be used as an energy alternative,
      - 3. Jets,
    - ii. Economic and/or diplomatic sanctions will be applied to the United States if annual payments are not fulfilled,
  - b. Calls for a formal letter from President George W. Bush addressed to the Taliban, Osama Bin Laden and the Afghan people apologizing for his disrespectful and barbaric actions towards Afghanistan,
  - c. The construction of a monument in Kabul, Afghanistan by the United States and its allies honoring all of the civilians and Afghan soldiers killed during the invasion,
  - d. The creation of the Islamic Nations Organization (INO), a military alliance in which:
    - i. Any Middle Eastern country is welcome to join,
    - ii. Is recognized by the United Nations under the same standards as NATO,
    - iii. Any member nation involved in a conflict will receive military or economic aid by the other nations,
    - iv. Afghanistan and Iraq are to be named permanent chairs of the Organization and determine and control all aspects of it, including but not limited to:
      - 1. Acceptance of member nations,
      - 2. Organization's social, political and military interests around Middle East,
      - Construction and maintenance of Headquarters in Kabul and Baghdad;
- <u>Welcomes</u> the aid of all nations, especially but not limited to the Middle East such as Iraq, Pakistan and Saudi Arabia to aid Afghanistan if any other attack is executed by

NATO or the United States in order to preserve the safety and integrity of Middle Eastern nations;

6. Decides to remain actively seized of the matter.

## SALMUN

### Each delegation:

- 1 resolution on main topic
- 2 position papers
  - regional caucus delegates: 1 position paper
  - special committee delegates: 2 position papers
- 2 posts per week per delegate
  - 1 reply
  - 0 1 with new information

## Questions?

http://salmun2014.weebly.com