



**FOOD
AND AGRICULTURE
ORGANIZATION**
Conflict and Food Insecurity

**GLOBAL CLASSROOMS DC
SPRING 2024 MODEL UN CONFERENCE**

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INTRODUCTION TO THE COMMITTEE: Food and Agriculture Committee



The **Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)** is a UN specialized agency established in 1945 to eliminate world hunger. Specialized agencies are independent international organizations established through international agreements. They operate autonomously from the UN but maintain a formal relationship with it through agreements known as relationship agreements. FAO's mission includes not only ensuring *everyone has enough to eat*, but also that *they are receiving adequate nutrition*. The FAO's mandate is centered around eliminating world hunger and guaranteeing food security for all — as this goal is theoretically attainable. The world produces more than enough food to feed everyone and meet their dietary needs. However, the problem lies in obstacles to food distribution and access.

The FAO also investigates ways to improve agricultural productivity in a sustainable manner, recognizing the dependencies of food distribution and agricultural productivity on factors such as natural disasters, conflict, climate change, and political crises. Alongside building agricultural resilience, the FAO also focuses on developing other mechanisms to address these intersections, aiming to mitigate the impact of such challenges on food security. The FAO has 195 members consisting of 194 countries and one multilateral organization, the European Union. Any country or regional economic group that fulfills the requirements outlined in the FAO Constitution is eligible to join as a member.¹ The FAO is headquartered in Rome, Italy.

STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM:

The Right to Adequate Food is recognized in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the International Covenant on Economic, Social, Cultural Rights.² The World Food Summit defines **Food Security** as “when all people, at all times, have physical and economic access to sufficient, safe and nutritious food that meet their dietary needs and preferences for an active and healthy life”.³ **Food insecurity** is the opposite of food security. It occurs when individuals or communities lack consistent access to enough safe and nutritious food to meet their dietary needs and preferences for an active and healthy life.

It has long term consequences on health and global stability. Food insecurity causes malnourishment and hunger. Malnourishment reduces the body's ability to fight off disease, and can lead to permanent developmental damage or death to infants. There are generally two categorizations of food insecurity: Chronic and Acute Food Insecurity. **Chronic Food Insecurity** refers to a sustained condition where households consistently experience limited access to sufficient, safe, and nutritious food to meet their dietary needs.⁴ On the other hand, **Acute Food Insecurity** occurs when an individual's inability to access sufficient food directly jeopardizes their survival or means of supporting themselves.⁵

Access to food can be influenced by a multitude of factors, with **conflict** standing out as a significant one that presents numerous hurdles to food access. Note that *armed conflict*⁶ typically leads to acute food insecurity for the

¹ “Membership of FAO.” FAO, <https://www.fao.org/legal-services/membership-of-fao/en/>.

² “Right to Adequate Food.” OHCHR, <https://www.ohchr.org/sites/default/files/Documents/Publications/FactSheet34en.pdf>.

³ “Chapter 2. Food Security: Concepts and Measurement.” FAO, <https://www.fao.org/3/v4671e/v4671e06.htm>.

⁴ “Chronic and Acute Food Insecurity.” OpenLearn, <https://www.open.edu/openlearncreate/mod/oucontent/view.php?id=321§ion=1.4>.

⁵ Simmons, “Harvesting Peace.” Wilson Center, 2013, <https://www.wilsoncenter.org/sites/default/files/media/documents/publication/HarvestingPeace.pdf>.

⁶ Note in this case, conflict is used interchangeably with armed conflict.

population disproportionately impacted by the armed attacks, as people face immediate danger to their lives or livelihoods due to inadequate access to food.⁷ Conflict and instability makes distribution dangerous, and keeps food out of reach to the most vulnerable populations. It also reduces agricultural productivity which in turn shrinks the available food supply.

(i) While food insecurity is typically not the sole cause for conflict, it can be a driving force. It may serve as a catalyst bringing pre-existing unrest and grievances to a boiling point where it transforms into an armed conflict, i.e. the lack of access to food perpetuates conflict between opposing parties. Additionally, (ii) armed conflict can also cause food insecurity. Armed conflict generally results in widespread displacement of populations, destruction of infrastructure, disruption of agricultural activities, and trade routes, all of which directly contribute to food

IPC PHASE 1a	IPC PHASE 1b
Usually adequate and stable food access.	
IPC PHASE 2	
Moderately/Borderline Food Secure Borderline adequate food access.	
IPC PHASE 3	
Acute Food and Livelihood Crisis Highly stressed and critical lack of food access. Above normal malnutrition, and resorting to coping strategies such as eating less food and selling assets for income.	
IPC PHASE 4	
Humanitarian Emergency Severe lack of food access leading to frequent deaths, increasingly high rates of malnutrition, with extreme loss of income and assets.	
IPC PHASE 5	
Famine/Humanitarian Catastrophe Prolonged widespread starvation and death, with the highest level of malnutrition. Complete lack of food access and extreme social upheaval.	
» FAMINE IS DECLARED «	
All of the above criteria are fulfilled, as well as:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At least 20% of households experiencing an extreme lack of food. • At least 30% of children are acutely malnourished. • Two people for every 10,000 dying each day as a result of starvation and/or malnutrition. • Only declared after a review process and all pre-determined conditions are being met. 	

insecurity. The destruction of infrastructure and disruption of normal economic⁸ activities can lead to a prolonged inability to access or produce food, exacerbating existing food insecurity and often leading to famine-like conditions. As outlined by Zambilci and Sova from the Washington-DC based think tank, Center for Strategic and International Studies, “war drives hunger and hunger drives war.”⁹ As members of the Food and Agriculture Organization, it is important to find **adequate** and **customized solutions** that address the challenges faced by communities suffering from food insecurity and armed conflict. The world needs innovative approaches that combine short-term food aid with long-term efforts to rebuild infrastructure and promote food security.

Furthermore — if available and applicable, the following guide will attempt to operationalize the ongoing *acute* food crises (as exemplified by relevant case studies) using the Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) system. The IPC is a multi stakeholder initiative to improve analyses on food security around the world.¹⁰ Note that chronic food insecurity is categorized under different IPC metrics.

Member states are encouraged to integrate IPC evaluations into any resolutions they propose to address ongoing crises of conflict and food insecurity.

CURRENT SITUATION:

⁷ “Chronic and Acute Food Insecurity.” OpenLearn, <https://www.open.edu/openlearncreate/mod/oucontent/view.php?id=321§ion=1.4>.

⁸ “The difference between a hunger crisis and famine.” Food Grains Bank, 2022, <https://foodgrainsbank.ca/news/ipc-phases/>.

⁹ Zambilci & Sova, “Dangerously Hungry: The Link between Food Insecurity and Conflict.” CSIS, 2023. <https://www.csis.org/analysis/dangerously-hungry-link-between-food-insecurity-and-conflict>.

¹⁰ “IPC Overview and Classification System.” IPC, <https://www.ipcinfo.org/ipcinfo-website/ipc-overview-and-classification-system/en/>.

Conflict-driven food insecurity or food insecurity-driven conflict is at a record high, with as many as 309 million people across 72 countries suffering from acute food insecurity due to conflict.¹¹ Most of these countries, and subsequently where most of the research is derived from, are located in the Middle East and Africa. Further, the COVID-19 pandemic, the invasion of Ukraine, and climate change have worsened the situation. The pandemic disrupted global supply chains and reduced productivity. Climate change has made food and water scarce through repeated droughts and desertification. It has particularly affected Africa’s Sahel and Horn of Africa regions by turning a relatively dry region even hotter and drier during a time where the region is experiencing massive population growth.¹² The combination of these factors, along with escalating conflict, has plunged many communities into food insecurity.

CASE STUDIES:

Hunger Crisis in Sudan: In April 2023, civil war erupted in Sudan (officially called the Republic of the Sudan)¹³ between rival armed factions. The Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF) and a non-state paramilitary group, Rapid Support Forces (RSF) entered into a conflict, leading to the exacerbation of a pre-existing humanitarian crisis resulting in widespread displacement and food insecurity.¹⁴ Significant disruption of supply chains along with other factors have led to massive food shortages. Some of these factors are investigated in this section.



Both the adversarial camps are restricting access to aid, leading aid organizations to encounter numerous bureaucratic challenges and restrictions on movement. The Sudanese government has announced in March 2024 that they would allow some cross border movement specifically through crossings controlled by the government. While UN agencies and rights groups welcomed this decision, they’ve also highlighted that “vast areas of Darfur, Kordofan, Khartoum, and Jazeera,” remain inaccessible.¹⁵ Furthermore, a lack of funding has inhibited the adequate distribution of aid. The United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) has appealed for USD 2.7 Billion and as of February 2024, 5% of that goal (USD 145.9M) has been met.¹⁶ In addition to restrictions in movement and a lack of funding, there have been pervasive attacks against aid workers, and looting of aid supplies. RSF forces have plundered warehouses containing aid supplies and also coordinated an attack against Doctors Without Borders leading the organization to evacuate the city, Wad Madani.¹⁷

As a result of the conflict and its impacts on food access, USA for United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) estimates that over half of Sudan’s population, which is around 25 million people, require humanitarian assistance and nearly 18 million people are enduring acute food insecurity. IPC estimates that around 12 million

¹¹ “WFP at a Glance.” WFP, 2024,

<https://www.wfp.org/stories/wfp-glance#:~:text=A%20global%20hunger%20crisis&text=Up%20to%20309%20million%20people.levels%20of%20acute%20food%20insecurity>

¹² *ibid.*

¹³ “Sudan one of the ‘worst humanitarian disasters in recent memory,’ UN Warns. Aljazeera, 2024.

<https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2024/3/20/sudan-is-one-of-the-worst-humanitarian-disasters-in-recent-memory-un#:~:text=More%20than%2018%20million%20Sudanese.be%20suffering%20from%20severe%20malnutrition..>

¹⁴ “Civil War in Sudan.” CFR 2023, <https://www.cfr.org/global-conflict-tracker/conflict/power-struggle-sudan>.

¹⁵ “Sudan: Urgent Action Needed on Hunger Crisis.” HRW, <https://www.hrw.org/news/2024/03/15/sudan-urgent-action-needed-hunger-crisis>.

¹⁶ “Sudan.” OCHA, <https://reports.unocha.org/en/country/sudan/>

¹⁷ “Sudan: Urgent Action Needed on Hunger Crisis.” HRW, <https://www.hrw.org/news/2024/03/15/sudan-urgent-action-needed-hunger-crisis>.

people are in phase 3, i.e. the crisis phase wherein people are enduring above acceptable levels of malnutrition and relying on strategies such as eating less to maximize food sources. Additionally, IPC approximates that a staggering 4.9 million people are in phase 4, which is characterized as a *humanitarian emergency*. People in phase 4 experience frequent loss of life and a catastrophic loss of income over food.¹⁸ Also, a US-based government funded group examining food insecurity, the Famine Early Warning Systems Network, stated that communities in Omdurman and El Geneina, which are in the Khartoum and West Darfur states — as mentioned, these regions have been flagged by rights groups as being left inaccessible by aid systems — are anticipated to reach IPC 5 (Humanitarian Catastrophe) phase soon.¹⁹ A UN Security Council Resolution 2274, has called on all parties to “ensure the removal of any obstructions to the delivery of aid and to enable full, rapid, safe, and unhindered humanitarian access, including cross-border and cross-line, and to comply with their obligations under international humanitarian law.”²⁰ However, more efforts are required within the UN system and among various stakeholders, both domestic and international, to mitigate the food crisis in Sudan and ensure that adequate food reaches all people in the country.

Impending Famine in Gaza: Gaza (part of the UN Observer State, the State of Palestine) is undergoing a



²¹devastating humanitarian crisis as a result of a recent exacerbation of the long-standing Israeli-Palestinian conflict — caused due to a Palestinian paramilitary group, Hamas’ armed attacks (including the taking in of hostages) on Israeli civilians on October 7, 2023 and the subsequent indiscriminate airstrikes launched by the Israeli military on civilian heavy areas in Gaza including on hospitals and residential areas. Given the imposition of a complete siege by Israel on Gaza, as well as the Egyptian government's fluctuating policies regarding the opening of the Rafah border, Gaza has been experiencing an acute humanitarian crisis. Note that this humanitarian crisis has consumed an already vulnerable population. Given the Israeli-Palestinian

conflict and Israel’s blockade on Gaza, the people in Gaza were already experiencing various crises including chronic food insecurity and water shortage.

Currently, food aid has been specifically blocked and limited to Gaza due to the presence of rioters blocking aid entrances and increased attacks on aid workers among other reasons. Most recently, the World Central Kitchen, a Spanish-based non-profit agency providing food aid, lost seven aid workers to an Israeli military airstrike. Following international pressure, it is reported that the Israeli military dismissed 2 senior officers following the attack.²² The World Central Kitchen has demanded an independent investigation into the matter.

In terms of levels of acute food insecurity, Oxfam outlines that “the entire population of Gaza is currently facing high levels of acute food insecurity - or IPC 3 (crisis) and above,” including half the population — 1.11 million people — in IPC 5 (catastrophe).”²³ The IPC has stated that famine in Northern Gaza is currently imminent, and if there is no immediate cessation of hostilities and humanitarian access remains restricted, the famine conditions will

¹⁸ “Sudan: IPC Acute Food Insecurity Analysis.” IPC, 2023,

<https://reliefweb.int/report/sudan/sudan-ipc-acute-food-insecurity-analysis-october-2023-february-2024-published-december-12-2023>.

¹⁹ Ibid.

²⁰ “Sudan: Urgent Action Needed on Hunger Crisis.” HRW, <https://www.hrw.org/news/2024/03/15/sudan-urgent-action-needed-hunger-crisis>.

²¹ Xinhua, “Humanitarian Crisis in Gaza Worsens.” China Daily, 2023, <https://global.chinadaily.com.cn/a/202310/14/WS6529cf9da31090682a5e87db.html>. (image)

²² “Israel-Hamas War.” NBC, 2024. <https://www.nbcnews.com/news/world/live-blog/israel-hamas-war-live-updates-rcna146529>.

²³ “Gaza hunger figures are the worst on record.” Oxfam, <https://www.oxfam.org/en/press-releases/gaza-hunger-figures-worst-record-says-oxfam#:~:text=According%20to%20the%20IPC%20classification,IPC%20Phase%205%2C%20Catastrophe>.

spread throughout the region.²⁴ Children have been one of the most affected groups in Gaza, as they make up nearly half of the population (47%). In fact, UNICEF has said that the “Gaza Strip is the most dangerous place to be a child.”²⁵ International action regarding the current crisis has been heavily criticized by rights groups as being inadequate. Multiple UN Security Council ceasefire resolutions have failed, and most recently a temporary ceasefire resolution for the month of Ramadan to allow more aid into the region, has passed.²⁶

Crisis in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC): The crisis in the DRC (Democratic Republic of the Congo), often characterized as one of the world’s major and most neglected humanitarian crises, has driven food insecurity for the population. The eastern part of the country is plagued by intrusions by various rebel groups. The M23 (March 23rd movement) group is the most prominent rebel group in the area. Recently in 2022, M23 launched an offensive exacerbating the conflict with the government and other rebel groups in the region.



The humanitarian consequences of the conflict have been severe. Road closures and ongoing fighting have blocked the entry of essential supplies.²⁸ Food insecurity in the region is further worsened as a result of extensive displacement, interruption of agricultural activities, and the breakdown of essential infrastructure.²⁹ The World Food Programme estimates that around 2.8 million children are “acutely malnourished” and around 5.4 million people are food insecure and require immediate life-saving assistance in the regions, Ituri, North Kivu, and South Kivu.³⁰ According to the latest estimates, around 20 percent of the population (21.8 million people) are in IPC Phase 3 (crisis) and 3 percent of the population (3.5 million) is in IPC Phase 4 (Emergency). The most vulnerable communities are those living within conflict zones (eastern part of the country), displaced people, and economically disadvantaged communities with low purchasing power.³¹ The international community has been criticized by organizations on the ground for their inability to effectively address the conflict. The UN peacekeeping mission will leave the country by the end of the year at the government’s request.³² The latest international action includes an arms embargo, travel restrictions, and asset freeze imposed by the UN Security Council (UNSC) on six armed rebel groups in the DRC.³³ Furthermore, various UN agencies are currently providing humanitarian aid and relief to food insecure populations in the region. For instance, the World Food Programme (WFP) is scaling up its aid to the region and providing targeted emergency assistance to the most affected areas in the country. The Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) is providing farmers in the region with

²⁴ Ibid.
²⁵ Schlein, “UN: Gaza is World’s Most Dangerous Place to be a Child.” VOA, 2023. <https://www.voanews.com/a/un-gaza-is-world-s-most-dangerous-place-for-children-7404592.html>.
²⁶ “Gaza: Security Council passes resolution demanding ‘an immediate ceasefire’ during Ramadan.” UN News, 2024, <https://news.un.org/en/story/2024/03/1147931>.
²⁷ Takambou, “Conflict in eastern DR Congo flares again.” DW, 2023. <https://www.dw.com/en/conflict-in-eastern-dr-congo-flares-again/a-67203737>.
²⁸ “The Congo War Explained (and why it’s escalating).” TLDR, 2024, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=a4lFc43Yx4I> (video).
²⁹ “Achieving long-term food security in DRC is all about building resilience.” Relief Web, 2022, <https://reliefweb.int/report/democratic-republic-congo/achieving-long-term-food-security-drc-all-about-building-resilience/>.
³⁰ “Democratic Republic of the Congo.” WFP, <https://www.wfp.org/emergencies/drc-emergency#:~:text=According%20to%20the%20latest%20Integrated.North%20Kivu%20and%20South%20Kivu..>
³¹ “Democratic Republic of Congo: IPC Acute Food Insecurity.” Relief Web, 2023. [https://reliefweb.int/report/democratic-republic-congo/democratic-republic-congo-ipc-acute-food-insecurity-snapshot-july-2023-june-2024#:~:text=Between%20July%20to%20December%202023,in%20Phase%203%20\(Crisis\)..](https://reliefweb.int/report/democratic-republic-congo/democratic-republic-congo-ipc-acute-food-insecurity-snapshot-july-2023-june-2024#:~:text=Between%20July%20to%20December%202023,in%20Phase%203%20(Crisis)..)
³² “The Congo War Explained (and why it’s escalating).” TLDR, 2024, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=a4lFc43Yx4I> (video).
³³ “UN Security Council sanctions rebels in DR Congo as violence escalates.” Aljazeera, 2024, <https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2024/2/21/un-security-council-sanctions-rebels-in-dr-congo-as-violence-escalates#:~:text=The%20United%20Nations%20Security%20Council,the%20country's%20restive%20northeastern%20region..>



emergency agricultural assistance. As international agencies continue to ramp up their assistance in the country, it is also pivotal that they receive sufficient funding to aid their efforts.

Other:

The aforementioned mentioned case studies are just a few among many examples of food insecurity and conflict. Beyond the examples mentioned above, there have been other instances where conflict and food insecurity have intertwined, impacting not only the affected population but also reverberating across other regions around the world. The *Russian invasion of Ukraine* in the year 2022 is one such example. The conflict has had a devastating impact on the Ukrainian population, creating acute levels of food insecurity, with many Ukrainians fleeing and depending on aid. It has also negatively impacted global supply chains. Russia and Ukraine are two of the world's largest grain producing countries in the world, and Russia is also the world's third largest fertilizer producer. In Ukraine, the invasion physically disrupted the distribution and production of food. Fields were left unharvested and turned into battlefields, farming equipment and critical infrastructure was destroyed, and the Ukrainian people have taken up arms reducing the available workforce. The Russian navy also imposed a naval blockade of Ukraine during the first year of the war; which prevented Ukraine from exporting most of its grain. In retaliation to the invasion, the United States and European Union placed economic sanctions on Russia, placing the country under a trade embargo. Russian farmers harvested plenty of grain during this time, but were now unable to export it.³⁴ Hence, along with perpetuating food insecurity within the affected population, this conflict disrupted supply chains worldwide, causing food insecurity in other regions as well.

Types of Relief & PREVIOUS UN ACTION:

Relief efforts come in two forms: short-term humanitarian aid and long-term development efforts. However, providing aid has its own hiccups due to the diverging priorities of the two types, and transitioning from short-term relief to long-term development is difficult. Short-term humanitarian aid prioritizes providing immediate relief to the most impacted communities. Humanitarian aid organizations often go to the poorest and most unstable regions to provide food. Long-term development-oriented organizations are interested in building up a country's food production and distribution capabilities while also making them more resilient to external shocks. Therefore, it is difficult to convince development organizations to work in highly unstable regions. Conversely, short-term aid is good at stemming the worst effects of hunger crises.

Furthermore, to specifically mitigate conflict, the UN has developed several mechanisms including peacekeeping missions, sanctions, UNSC resolutions, and general mediation efforts, to name a few. However, as seen above, there have been conflicting views among rights groups, including local organizations, regarding the effectiveness of these efforts.

In recent years, the FAO has placed great importance on creating new objective metrics to measure the effectiveness of certain relief programs. Consequently, the FAO intends to establish a system by which they and other humanitarian groups can begin creating records to compare the results of their efforts. Additionally, the FAO conducts extensive studies on the effects of certain relief programs and provides policy recommendations for countries and aid groups to implement preventative measures for hunger and conflict. On the direct action side, the FAO works with governments and NGOs to implement aid programs but also carries out many projects on their

³⁴ Berman, Ferragamo, & Baumgartner, "How Ukraine Overcame Russia's Grain Blockade,"

<https://www.cfr.org/article/how-ukraine-overcame-russias-grain-blockade#:~:text=Black%20Sea%20Deal%20Brought%20Ukraine's%20Grain%20Exports%20Close%20to%20Prewar%20Levels&text=Sources%3A%20UN%20Comtrade%3B%20UN%20Black.to%20get%20grain%20flowing%20again>.



own. Such programs include distributing cash and vouchers to farmers and fishers who can no longer buy food to help them get back on their feet, distributing drought-resistant crop-seed, and teaching sustainable farming techniques to vulnerable populations.³⁵ The World Food Programme, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), and United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF) are other UN agencies that provide essential relief efforts to communities affected by food insecurity and conflict.

QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER:

- Does your country face issues pertaining to conflict and food insecurity? If so, what strategies has the government put in place to deal with these challenges?
- What types of support has your country provided to other member states facing such challenges?
- In terms of domestic and international strategy, how does your delegation balance the need for short-term immediate life-saving support and long-term strategy to build resilience and conflict-mitigation measures? Which one does it prioritize?
- How can neglected crises be brought more international attention and coverage?

Key Terms:

Food Insecurity: is the opposite of *food security*. It occurs when individuals or communities lack consistent access to enough safe and nutritious food to meet their dietary needs and preferences for an active and healthy life.

Acute Food Insecurity: occurs when an individual's inability to access sufficient food directly jeopardizes their survival or means of supporting themselves.³⁶

Chronic Food Insecurity: Refers to a sustained condition where households consistently experience limited access to sufficient, safe, and nutritious food to meet their dietary needs.³⁷

Extra Resources:

- [**Dangerously Hungry: The Link Between Food Insecurity and Conflict**](#) (CSIS, Report)
- [**Conflict and Violence are the Primary Causes of Hunger and Famine**](#) (OHCHR, News)
- [**How Conflict Drives Hunger**](#) (WFP USA)
- [**Hunger and War**](#) (National Geographic, Article)

Global Classrooms DC Position Paper Overview and Requirements

What is a Position Paper?

A position paper is a short document that outlines a country’s opinion on an issue. The paper includes a short summary of what the issue or problem is, explains why the country is interested in the issue, and communicates the country’s stance on what should be done to address the issue. A position paper is written as if you were the actual representative of the country stating its position. Your personal opinions on the issue should not be included. A position paper is not a summary of your country’s GDP, government, economy, languages, etc. unless directly relevant to the issue. Only one position paper is written per country, per grade school committee; if there are 2 or 3 delegates representing the same country on a committee, they should write the paper together.

Why write a Position Paper?

Writing a position paper will help you organize why an issue matters to your country and what your country

³⁵ “2022: The State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World.” FAO, 2022. <https://www.fao.org/3/cc0639en/cc0639en.pdf>.

³⁶ Simmons, “Harvesting Peace.” Wilson Center, 2013, <https://www.wilsoncenter.org/sites/default/files/media/documents/publication/HarvestingPeace.pdf>.

³⁷ “Chronic and Acute Food Insecurity.” OpenLearn, <https://www.open.edu/openlearncreate/mod/oucontent/view.php?id=321§ion=1.4>.



wants done on the issue. The first thing you will likely do in committee is present an opening speech about your country's position. You should be able to pull portions of a well written position paper into an introductory speech on your country's perspective. Also, your delegation is not eligible to win best / outstanding delegation without the submission of a position paper. There are separate awards given for best position paper.

How to Write a Position Paper

- (1) Research the Issue. The questions you want to answer are:
 - How does this issue affect your country?
 - How does this issue affect your country's neighbors or allies?
 - Is this a global problem that impacts everyone?
 - What would your country like to see done on this issue?
 - Are there countries or groups of people who will be particularly sensitive to addressing this issue?
 - Are there any conventions or resolutions on the topics that your country has signed or ratified?
 - What are UN actions on the issue? Has your country supported or opposed these actions?
 - Keep in Mind: What a country says, and what it actually believes should be done may be different. Also, some countries may believe that no action should be taken on an issue. They may disagree with how others feel or may not want international involvement. It is okay if your position is that the international community should do nothing, but you will need to explain why.
- (2) Brainstorm Specific Actions. Come up with 3-4 specific things that can be done to reach the outcome your country desires. For example: "The United States believes we should send a peacekeeping mission to monitor human rights abuses in Syria and encourage talks between both sides." You will present these ideas in committee as possible solutions to the problem and attempt to pass a resolution which includes these actions.
- (3) Outline Your Paper. Make an outline of what points you want to cover in your paper and the order in which you would like to address them. Remember a good paper should briefly explain the problem, explain why your country cares about the issue, and inform others what your country should like to see done. If you know other countries favor a solution that you will disagree with, make sure to include why your country disagrees.
- (4) Write your Paper. Position papers should be no more than one page long and be written from the perspective of the country you are representing. Rather than being a report on the topic, a position paper should explain what your country wants to see done to address the issue. Start by giving a brief summary of the issue and how it impacts your country. Then explain the specific actions you would like to see taken. Close by summarizing your country's overall position. Proper grammar and spelling are a must.

Award Criteria and Eligibility

- Each Committee is giving out the following awards – Honorable Mention, Outstanding Position Paper, and Best Position Paper.
- The ideal position paper will have a clearly defined and summarized topic with your country's position clearly outlined. Points are also awarded for organization, style and correct grammar.
- GCDC Staff will be fact checking position papers, so be sure to include the most up to date information and a bibliography (if using in text citations, a Works Cited page MUST be included)
 - Proper source citation: if an idea or quote came from another source, you must provide a footnote / citation.
- Papers will be disqualified if the conference staff has discovered that students did not write their own papers or that content has been plagiarized.



- Make sure your position paper must have the required header below! Do not create any additional title pages - points will be deducted for improper format.
- Formatting Requirements: 500 words minimum, 1,500 words maximum. Times New Roman font, 12-point size
- **POSITION PAPERS MUST BE SENT IN AS A PDF ATTACHMENT TO gcdc@unanca.org by APRIL 22nd, 2024 AT 11:59 PM EST.**

REQUIRED POSITION PAPER HEADER

Committee:

Country:

Topic

School:

Delegate Name(s)

