

ISHMUN CHAIR RR GUIDE

Dear chairs,
In this guide, you will find a structured explanation on how to write a Research Report. In the following months, we will also provide you with a guide to chairing, where you will find more information on the logistics of the ISHMUN 2023 event.

We ask you to please understand that, as chair, you take on a position of great responsibility. You will be key for leading successful debates and offering support to delegates, while maintaining high academic standard and ensuring an enjoyable atmosphere.

Email ridhi.maganahalli@edu.ishilverum.nl for any questions.

We can't wait to see you soon! All the best.

Sincerely,
The ISHMUN 2023 team

GENERAL GUIDELINES ON RESEARCH REPORTS:

Deadline for Research Reports:

5th May, 2023

Send to aadya.makvana@edu.ishilverum.nl (we will give it formal formatting for you)

Each pair of chairs is expected to write one research report for every topic on the agenda for their committee or commission. However, regardless of which chair writes the report for which topic, both chairs must have a detailed understanding of all their topics, and must be able to assist delegates in the process of resolution writing, as well as debating, and be able to make a final decision on issues of relevance.

- 1000 - 1500 words
- Arial font
- Text size 12
- Subheadings allowed
- Relevant images, infographics and graphs allowed

Want to know anything else about the conference in general?
Visit www.ishmun.nl

COMMITTEE TOPICS

GENERAL ASSEMBLY 3 (GA3)

1. Establishing measures to diminish ethnic tensions in China.
2. Discussing the issue of Russian gas and reliance on goods and services from countries that have committed crimes against humanity.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY 4 (GA4)

1. Reducing inequalities in sustainable development between former colonies and colonists.
2. Developing measures to prevent discrimination against indigenous communities and aid in their survival.

SECURITY COUNCIL (SC)

1. The Syrian conflict.
2. The Afghanistan conflict.

THE ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE (EVC)

1. Creating measures to slow down resource consumption in the fast-fashion industry.
2. Promoting short and long-term measures against earthquakes.

HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL (HRC)

1. Addressing the violations of child labour with regard to fast-fashion.
2. Establishing measures to ensure protection for refugee minors.

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL (ECOSOC)

1. Promoting measures against inherent hiring biases based on race, sex, religion, etc.
2. The question of guidelines for sustainable new builds and architecture.

WRITING THE RESEARCH REPORT

Introduction

In the introduction of your research report make sure that you clarify anything that is unclear on the topic. The key components of the topic should be made clear to the delegates. If the topic is relatively broad, make sure that you decide which focus the debate will take so that the delegates know how to structure their research.

Definition of Key Terms

In this section, include every term or word which might not be clear. Do not hesitate to define words the meaning of which may appear obvious to you, as first-timers will be present at the conference. Define both words that you use in the report, but also anything that might come up during the debate. When you look up a definition try to rephrase it in a clear way rather than just copying it from a dictionary. The definitions are not limited to a single sentence, rather a brief explanation is encouraged. Always remember to reference every definition that you get inspiration from.

Background Information

This is your chance to provide the background to the topic, and should stand for the bulk of the research report. With this section, you will be providing delegates with all the information they will need to know to understand why the issue has arisen, how it has developed through the years, and why the issue is important to be debated. Provided this information, delegates should have the necessary overview on the topic to be able to develop potential solutions to the issue. If the topic is a specific event, such as a war, feel free to use a timeline to structure the key events. Other than that, the use of titles and subtitles is encouraged to structure and organise the information.

Stakeholders

Following the contextualisation of the topic you just provided, identify and define all identities and actors that have been involved or have any interest in any given decisions on the matter. Include: different UN organisations, other Intergovernmental organisations, NGOs and anything of that sort. When identifying a stakeholder, make sure to not only mention it, but also define their interest(s), motivation and ability to shape the matter at hand. Outline what actions each stakeholder has already taken and make sure to differentiate what is in their power and competences and at what level they will act, whether it is national, local or international. Mentioning countries which are also involved in the issue is extremely important.

Relevant UN Treaties, Resolutions and Reports

When including any of these, just include when they were written and a link to the full document.

Previous Attempts to Solve the Issue

Once the issue has been fully defined and explored, you will need to analyse previous measures that have been taken to tackle it. These don't necessarily have to be United Nations measures, but can include other stakeholders. When mentioning an attempt, make sure to describe who was responsible for it, what it consisted of, who it involved and where it took place. Most importantly, make sure to try to identify why exactly it failed and what can be done better next time to give the delegates a line of thought to come up with their own solutions.

Possible Solutions

Given everything that you contextualised in the previous sections, you should provide some ideas on possible ways to tackle the issues. This shouldn't be a very long section, but just highlight some general areas that the delegates should focus on when developing their own solutions.

Bibliography

Every single source that you have used to write this report should be mentioned at the end of this report. Furthermore, include other sources which might be useful for the delegates to read.