

UNITED NATIONS ENTITY FOR GENDER EQUALITY AND THE EMPOWERMENT OF WOMEN (UNWOMEN)

STUDY GUIDE
UC3MUN 2019



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Study guide of the topics

Women in Journalism: Threats and Challenges

Gender Perspective in Family Planning Policies

of the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the
Empowerment of Women

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WELCOME LETTER

Most esteemed participants,

To start with, it is our utmost pleasure to welcome you all to University Carlos III Model United Nations and to the UN Women committee. We are more than honoured to serve as the Chairs responsible for the UN Women committee in this edition of University Carlos III Model United Nations Conference.

UN Women or The United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women is a body of the United Nations to promote and ensure the equality of genders and empower the role of women in the various areas of life. In the 2019 Edition of UC3MUN, hopefully, we will have a fruitful simulation of this important entity.

We would like to wish you the best of luck during the committee, with the hope that we have succeeded in creating the best possible guidelines for you in the study guide. On the first day of the conference, you will have the duty to finish the work that we have started.

As a last remark, as the Committee Board, we would like to thank our Secretary General Alicia and her deputy Fernando for giving us the chance to serve as Chairs in the UN Women of UC3MUN 2019, and for all their amazing work in the past months.

See you at the conference!

Cengizhan Gergef

Diletta Muccilli



II. COMPETENCE, FUNCTIONS AND STRUCTURE OF THE COMMITTEE

The United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women is the main body of the United Nations system working to reduce gender inequality through the empowerment of women.

UN Women History

For many years, the United Nations faced serious challenges in its efforts to promote gender equality globally, including inadequate funding and no single recognized driver to direct UN activities on gender equality issues. In July 2010, the United Nations General Assembly created UN Women through Resolution 64/289, which merged four different bodies related to common issues faced by women (the Division for the Advancement of Women, the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women, the Office of the Special Adviser on Gender Issues and Advancement of Women, and the United Nations Development Fund for Women). The creation of UN Women came about as part of the UN reform agenda, bringing together resources and mandates for greater impact.

Competences, Function and Structure of the Committee

UN Women's action is related to nine different areas:



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- leadership and political participation;
- economic empowerment;
- ending violence against women;
- peace and security;
- humanitarian action;
- youth;
- governance and national planning;
- sustainable development agenda;
- HIV and AIDS.

The main competences of UN Women are mainly related to support intergovernmental bodies (such as the Commission on the Status of Women) while they formulate policies, global standards and new norms. Therefore, UN Women aims to help Member States in implementing these standards through the provision of suitable technical and financial support and the creation of effective partnerships within the civil society.

UN Women also assists other UN bodies in their efforts to improve gender equality across a broad spectrum of issues related to human rights and human



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development. Therefore, it works globally to make the vision of the Sustainable Development Goals a reality for women and girls and stands behind women's equal participation in all aspects of life, focusing on four strategic priorities:

- women lead, participate in and benefit equally from governance systems;
- women have income security, decent work and economic autonomy;
- all women and girls live a life free from all forms of violence;

women and girls contribute to and have greater influence in building sustainable peace and resilience, and benefit equally from the prevention of natural disasters and conflicts and humanitarian action.

Furthermore, the Committee coordinates the United Nations' work on gender equality by promoting accountability through regular monitoring of the system-wide progress.

Budget

The resources required to fund all regular activities are obtained from the Entity's budget approved by the General Assembly, while the budget for service operational processes and activities at other levels are funded by voluntary contributions and approved by the Executive Board of UN Women.



III. TOPIC A: *WOMEN IN JOURNALISM: THREATS AND CHALLENGES*

A. *Background/History*

According to the UN Secretary General António Guterres, “there has been an increase in violence, threats and harassment against women journalists. Women journalists are subjected to the same wide range of human rights violations as are directed against men journalists [...]. However, they also experience workplace and employment related discrimination and gender-based violence, including threats of violence, abuse and harassment. Both are symptomatic of the gender-based inequality, discrimination and violence experienced by women globally across many aspects of their lives” (United Nations General Assembly).

There are many differences in the treatment that journalists receive depending on their gender. The most glaring examples are the salary they earn (the so-called “pay gap” between men and women), employee benefits (e.g. holiday allowance, performance and festival bonus, pension schemes etc.) and the number of hours they work. Generally, women are up against family-unfriendly working practices, such as inflexible working hours, that penalize them for taking time out to raise children.

Journalism is for a fact still strongly dominated by stereotypes: women prevail on the lifestyle pages, but do not feature much in crime or sport and they are less



likely to appear on the front page. Digital media somehow gave women journalists the means to have their voices heard "from home" as freelancers. But if on one hand freelancers find their way to express themselves more freely, on the other hand surveys show that they are up against even more difficulties: They are particularly vulnerable to violence (because of lack of funding, unreliability of protection services etc.), they are excluded from training and provision of safety equipment, and they tend to be paid less.

A particular barrier to justice for women journalists who face threats and attacks is the failure of public authorities to take sex- and gender-based threats seriously, in particular when they occur online.

According to the Committee to Protect Journalists, at least 46 journalists were killed during 2017 (Committee to Protect Journalists, s.d.). Although the number fell from 2016, this year was exceptionally difficult for female journalists: In fact, 19% of them were women, which is more than double the annual average of 7% and the highest number since 2009 (Beiser, In absence of fresh military conflict, journalist killings decline again, s.d.). Also in 2017, 262 journalists were imprisoned for their work, and 8% were women, the CPJ found. For the second, successive year, Turkey emerged as the country with the highest number of reporters imprisoned, at 73 (Beiser, Record number of journalists jailed as Turkey, China, Egypt pay scant price for repression, s.d.).



But the data doesn't even tell the whole story. In fact, women journalists face many other particular risks; for example, they may be limited in the assignments they receive because of gender stereotypes, or may be threatened with gender-based violence while working in this male-dominated field.

Thus, it is up to this committee to build upon current efforts to protect female journalists and to address the inadequacies that still exist regarding gender equality in this work field, in order to come up with comprehensive and wide-ranging resolutions to the topic.

B. Main Measures Already Adopted

To address the related and significant problem of under-reporting of sex- and gender-based discrimination against women journalists, on 20 November 2017 the UN General Assembly Third Committee adopted by consensus the significant *Resolution on the the Safety of Journalists and the Issue of Impunity* (United Nations General Assembly). This UN document is specifically focused on tackling attacks that target or disproportionately affect women journalists and provides specific guidance to States on how they must take a gender-sensitive approach to the issue. The Resolution calls upon all States to take comprehensive action to end impunity for attacks on female journalists "as part of broader efforts to promote and protect the human rights of women, eliminate gender inequality and tackle gender-based stereotypes in society". It is also stated in the



document itself that this is essential if women are “to enter and remain in journalism on equal terms with men”. Until then, their greatest possible safety has to be ensured. To reach this goal, the UNGA Resolution further calls on States to introduce safe gender-sensitive investigative procedures, in order to encourage women journalists to report attacks against them, and to provide adequate support (including a psychosocial one) to victims and survivors.

Although not legally binding, the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development should be taken into account as well. Goal #5 (“Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls”) is here particularly relevant, since gender equality remains a persistent challenge for countries worldwide and the lack of such equality deprives women and girls of their basic rights and opportunities also in the work environment. Precisely, Target 5.5 is most relevant to our topic, since it is aimed to “ensure women’s full and effective participation and equal opportunities for leadership at all levels of decision-making in political, economic and public life” (United Nations, s.d.). The Target is monitored by the Global Indicator 5.5.2, approved at the 47th session of the UN Statistical Commission held in March 2016, which examines the “proportion of women in managerial positions”. In the majority of the 67 countries with data from 2009 to 2015, fewer than a third of senior- and middle-management positions were held by women (United Nations Economic and



Social Council). This proves that women are still underrepresented in managerial positions, and the journalism environment is one of the most affected by this phenomenon. For this reason, assuring women's rights and the empowerment of women in the journalism field undoubtedly requires more vigorous efforts to finally eliminate gender-based discrimination that often results from old social norms and the ignorance of people.

In regards to opportunities to raise awareness of gender equality among members of the media, the action of UN Women itself should be considered as essential. In fact, since this entity is deeply committed in advocating for more women to work in the media, it organizes special workshops and toolkits to practice gender-sensitive reporting. In this context, on 21 July 2017, UN Women Georgia held a special seminar to better inform the media of the role they should play in preventing sexual harassment in their own workplace (UN Women, s.d.). Twelve local reporters, including representatives of TV, radio, and online social media, were invited to attend the course, in order to be better informed about the essence of the problem, its related challenges and the situation in Georgia. The seminar tried to introduce a new approach to the topic, which is relatively new and taboo for the Georgian reality, and to take into account the existing connection between gender and human rights even in workplace sexual harassment. In this way, the debate turned out to be really educational and



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enriching for the participants, since each one of them was familiar with the situation of being harassed for her job.

The International Women's Media Foundation (IWMF) is also one of the biggest contributors in solving the issue. It has in fact created programs to help women in the media develop practical solutions to the obstacles they face in their careers and lives, and it constantly advocates for press freedom internationally. Among its many actions, the IWMF released a free mobile security app designed for journalists in September 2015, whose goal is to empower journalists to enhance their own security by reporting incidents of abuse, creating public and private emergency networks tailored to their needs, and setting up mobile-based check-in protocols (International Women's Media Foundation, s.d.). Furthermore, the IWMF has also created a specific fund for women journalists, the *Howard G. Buffett Fund for Women Journalists*, whose goal is supporting projects such as educational opportunities, investigative reporting and media development initiatives (International Women's Media Foundation, s.d.).

C. Actors Involved

Among the many actors that are trying to tackle the issue in the most effective way, we can enumerate:



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- the International Federation of Journalists, the largest global union federation of journalists' trade unions, which aims to protect and strengthen the rights and freedoms of journalists;
- the Committee to Protect Journalists, an American independent NGO that promotes press freedom and defends the rights of journalists;
- the International Women's Media Foundation, a nonprofit organization that works internationally to elevate the status of women in the media;
- the Journalism and Women Symposium, which supports the professional empowerment and personal growth of women in journalism;
- the Association for Women Journalists, a professional organization that supports women working in the journalism field, and girls who aspire to the field;
- Demos, a US think-tank that works on social, economic and political equity issues;
- the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe, whose mandate includes issues such as freedom of press and promotion of human rights.

D. Possible measures to be adopted

It is clear that the only way to effectively tackle the issue is if the different organizations and entities involved do not only focus on identifying the different types of form of sexual harassment to which women journalists are exposed while



at work, but also if they start to collaborate directly with the media in covering this kind of problems. In fact, as recommended by the International Federation of Journalists, “women and male reporters, as well as for sub-editors, news editors and program makers should play a greater role in eliminating stereotypes in the news”, as well as in “adopting positive measures to increase women's representation in leadership positions” (International Federation of Journalists).

E. Questions that should be addressed in the final resolution

1. What are the main prejudices that make it hard for women journalists to work in your country? How could the action of UN Women help them to work in proper conditions?
2. How can UN Women help labour unions active in fighting this issue in your country?
3. In which ways should UN Women deepen the protection of female journalists that work in conflict zones? How can the Committee help to avoid acts of violence against them to occur?
4. Which campaigns should be introduced by UN Women to raise awareness on sexual assaults against women journalists?
5. In which ways could UN Women tackle the issue of online abuse against women that work in the media?



6. Considering that discrimination towards women journalists is not just a violation of human rights, but also a significant barrier to peace and sustainable development, what short-term and long-term solutions should the Committee suggest in order for the United Nations to ensure the protection of these people in their working environments?
7. In which way can UN Women contribute to the cause of a more gender-equal environment in the workplace of women journalists?

F. Further Reading

G.

Beiser, E. (s.d.). *In absence of fresh military conflict, journalist killings decline again*. Drawn by Committee to Protect Journalists:
<https://cpj.org/reports/2017/12/journalists-killed-iraq-crossfire-murder-mexico.php>

Beiser, E. (s.d.). *Record number of journalists jailed as Turkey, China, Egypt pay scant price for repression*. Drawn by Committee to Protect Journalists:
<https://cpj.org/reports/2017/12/journalists-prison-jail-record-number-turkey-china-egypt.php>

Committee to Protect Journalists. (s.d.). *46 Journalists Killed*. Drawn by Committee to Protect Journalists:
https://cpj.org/data/killed/2017/?status=Killed&motiveConfirmed%5B%5D=Confirmed&type%5B%5D=Journalist&start_year=2017&end_year=2017&group_by=location



International Federation of Journalists. (s.d.). *Getting the balance right: gender equality in journalism*. Drawn by UNESCO:

<http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0018/001807/180707e.pdf>

International Women's Media Foundation. (s.d.). *"Reporta" - Using technology to help tackle increasing risks to journalists*. Drawn by International Women's Media

Foundation: <https://www.iwmf.org/2015/02/reporta-using-technology-to-help-tackle-increasing-risks-to-journalists/>

International Women's Media Foundation. (s.d.). *Fund for Women Journalists*. Drawn by International Women's Media Foundation:

<https://www.iwmf.org/programs/fund-for-women-journalists/>

UN Women. (s.d.). *Georgian journalists briefed on specifics of workplace sexual harassment*. Drawn by UN Women Georgia:

<http://georgia.unwomen.org/en/news/stories/2017/07/georgian-journalists-briefed-on-specifics-of-workplace-sexual-harassment>

United Nations Economic and Social Council . (s.d.). *Progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals*.

United Nations General Assembly. (s.d.). *The safety of journalists and the issue of impunity*.

United Nations General Assembly. (s.d.). *The safety of journalists and the issue of impunity - Report of the Secretary-General*.

United Nations. (s.d.). *Goal five: Achieve Gender Equality and Empower all Women and Girls*. Drawn by United Nations:

<https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/gender-equality/>

In addition to the cited material, we will like you also to focus on:

- European Journalism Observatory, *Where Are The Women Journalists In Europe's Media?*;



- International Media Women Foundation, Global Report on the State of Women in News Media;
- Jennifer R Henrichsen, Michelle Betz, Johanne M. Lisosky, Building digital safety for journalism. A survey of selected issues;
- UNESCO, Media and gender: a scholarly agenda for the global alliance on media and gender;
- UNESCO, UN Plan of Action on the Safety of Journalists and the Issue of Impunity;
- UN Women, A transformative stand-alone goal on achieving gender equality, women's rights and women's empowerment: Imperatives and key components;
- UN Women, Package of essentials for addressing violence against women;
- UN Women, Step It Up for Gender Equality Media Compact.



IV. TOPIC B: *GENDER PERSPECTIVE IN FAMILY PLANNING POLICIES*

A. Background/History

Family planning, or the practice of keeping the number and timing of children under control, is a method for preventing maternal deaths and morbidities globally. This is mostly done by the use of a contraceptive method such as an oral pill, implant, injectable, patch, vaginal ring, intrauterine device, condom, sterilization, or fertility tracking (Knorr, 2002).

Family planning programs are essential, other than the health benefits, due to the fact that they enable women and their families to manage the household, ensure education for all family members etc. The programs that can often be called as the most successful ones increase the equity among the members of the family and most importantly, couples. Even though there are numerous benefits as mentioned, recent data show that there are around 225 million women cannot meet with their need of family planning (Gender Health).

Contraceptives prevent the occurrences of accidental pregnancies, decrease the amount of abortions, and decrease the numbers of death and disability related to complications of pregnancy and childbirth. If all women in developing regions with an unmet need for contraceptives were able to use modern methods, additionally, 36 million abortions and 76,000 deaths would be prevented yearly (United Nations Population Fund, n.d.).



The access for these information is strictly vital for the final goal of gender equality. When women and couples are educated about the family planning programmes, when they plan their marriage, family and life together, women are definitely more likely to pursue their education. This enables women to have a stronger role in the household and the family. Moreover, due to the fact that the educated women bring salary and vision to families, this increases the economic well-being and life quality of every individual of the family. Finally, this increases the economic well-being of all and decreases poverty. Therefore one can easily point out the fact that Family Planning and raising awareness of it affect everyone in a good way, primarily taking everyone to total gender equality.

B. Main Measures Already Adopted

The United Nations has been working on increasing the awareness upon family planning and taking measures to implement such programs on developing countries.

International Conference on Population and Development

The United Nations commenced a conference in Cairo, Egypt between 1st and 5th of September, 1994. At the end of this conference, it is safe to claim that with the results of it the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) was founded. Within this conference, there were 20.000 representatives from various places such as



governments, NGOs and UN agencies (International Conference on Population and Development). At the end of the conference, different perceptions on human rights, population, sexual and reproductive health, gender equality and sustainable development merged into a global consensus that placed individual dignity and human rights, including the right to plan one's family, at the very core of development by adopting the ICPD Programme of Action with the approval of 179 member states (International Conference on Population and Development).

The ICPD Program of Action was important for its stress on reproductive health and rights, in addition women's empowerment and gender equality, as the core points of population and development programs (International Conference on Population and Development Programme of Action Twentieth Anniversary Edition, 2014).

Fourth World Conference on Women: Action for Equality, Development and Peace in Beijing

The conference was the fourth one of World Conferences on Women, convened by the United Nations itself. The Secretary General of the Conference was Gertrude Mongella of Tanzania (Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing 1995). The aim of the conference was to discuss and come up with solutions to act in the name of equality, equity, development and peace. In the



end of the conference, the “Beijing Declaration” was adopted by United Nations, whose 35th clause was: “35. Ensure women's equal access to economic resources, including land, credit, science and technology, vocational training, information, communication and markets, as a means to further the advancement and empowerment of women and girls, including through the enhancement of their capacities to enjoy the benefits of equal access to these resources, inter alia, by means of international cooperation” (United Nations, 1995). The main idea and outcome behind the conference itself can be understood from this clause. ECOSOC has been publishing reports on the conference to see the process and the latest one is “Beijing+15”. The reports show that Beijing was a crucial conference after which the international community started acting upon the matters in a manner that has never seen before.

United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)

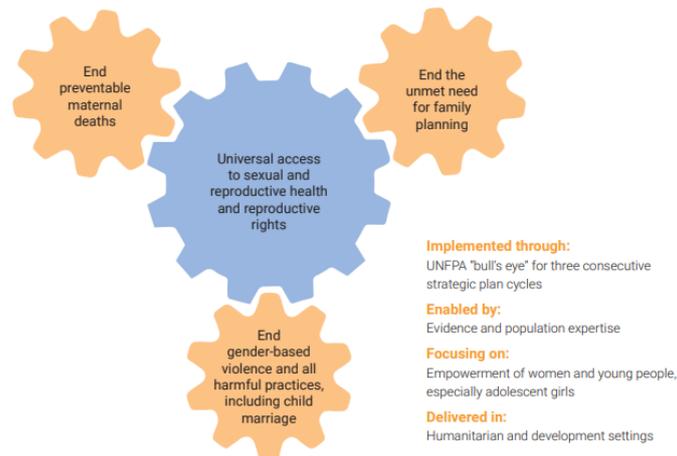
The United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) has been working on ensuring access to contraceptives in developing countries, together with partners and governments.

UNFPA Strategic Plan 2018–2021



The UN Population Fund has published its strategic plan in which the family planning has a big part (See Table 1).

Table 1 (UNFPA, 2018)



The first outcome that this plan focuses on is to “Every woman, adolescent and youth everywhere, especially those furthest behind, has utilized integrated sexual and reproductive health services and exercised reproductive rights, free of coercion, discrimination and violence”. Hence, it can be understood that UNFPA puts the Family Planning and related matters to its priority. In the plan itself, it is stressed that to ensure these ambitious goals, cooperation is key. From the perspective of UN Women, this cooperation must be ensured.

Family Planning 2020



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Family Planning 2020 (FP2020) is a global partnership that is trying to achieve the goal of an additional 120 million women and girls with contraceptive services in 69 of the poorest countries in the world by 2020 (Family Planning 2020).

Rights-based Family Planning approach of this partnership must be strongly underlined and examined. This approach consists of developing and implementing programs that aims to fulfil the rights of all individuals (Family Planning 2020). Even though almost all of the conventional family planning implementations that have already been done in the past consists on some main characteristics of the rights-based approach, it differs from others due to the fact that the equality among individuals and the awareness of rights are the primary goals to achieve in this approach.

C. Actors Involved

- UNFPA, the United Nations Population Fund;
- Family Planning 2020 Global Partnership (Family Planning 2020) that consists of:
 - o Its Secretariat;
 - o UN Foundation;
 - o The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, which is guided by the motivation that every person has equal rights and works to help everybody lead healthy, productive lives. In developing countries, it primarily works on



making people's health conditions better and helping them to lift themselves out of hunger and extreme poverty;

- The Department for International Development (DFID), which leads the UK's work to end extreme poverty by creating job opportunities, underlining the potential of girls and women and helping to save lives when humanitarian emergencies hit;
- USAID, which carries out U.S. foreign policy by promoting broad-scale human progress at the same time it expands stable, free societies, creates markets and trade partners for the United States, and fosters good will abroad. U.S. foreign assistance has always had the twofold purpose of furthering America's interests while improving lives in the developing world;

- Developing countries.

D. Possible measures to be adopted

When we look at family planning programs from the perspective of gender equality, it is uncanny to see that a successful program will most definitely ensure and enhance the equality among the members of the family. When one takes the number of women that are in families without any planning in the into consideration, this will undoubtedly create a larger, even global image in his/her mind.



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Therefore, considering that promoting and ensuring gender equality is the primary work area of UN Women, there are some measures that can be adopted under its umbrella.

In addition to the brilliant work of UNFPA and Family Planning 2020 Global Partnership to ensure that family planning programs and contraceptives will be provided to “commitment making countries”, UN Women may try to work upon more for the gender equality aspect of these attempts to help the countries and families in need. It is the duty and motivation of UN Women to ensure equality for every individual and family planning programs are a great way of doing so. It is the duty of the members of UN Women to come up with possible proposals and solutions to join the process of helping families in developing countries.

E. Questions that should be addressed in the final resolution

1. How exactly will family planning help women in developing countries to have more equality?
2. How can UN Women cooperate with UNFPA and Family Planning 2020 Global Partnership for a more equal family environment for everybody in the world?
3. What measures can be taken to ensure the implementation of family planning programs to the families in developing countries?
4. How can the women in developing countries that are subject to family planning programs be implemented to the work life?



5. What can UN Women do to help women in developing countries that are subject to family planning programs to make their orientation easier?
6. How can the Family Planning 2020 Global Partnership be enhanced?
7. How can UNFPA Strategic Plan 2018-2021 be successful? What can UN Women do to make this plan a success?

F. Further Reading

G.

Family Planning 2020. (s.d.). *About Us*. Drawn by Family Planning 2020:
<http://www.familyplanning2020.org/about-us#who-we-are>

Family Planning 2020. (s.d.). *Family Planning 2020*. Drawn by
<http://www.familyplanning2020.org/>

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<http://www.familyplanning2020.org/rightsinfp>

Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing 1995. (s.d.). Drawn by UN:
<https://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/beijing/sun10.htm>

Gender Health. (s.d.). *Family Planning | The Issues | CHANGE*. Drawn by Gender Health: http://www.genderhealth.org/the_issues/family_planning

International Conference on Population and Development. (s.d.). Drawn by UNFPA - United Nations Population Fund: <https://www.unfpa.org/icpd>

Knorr, M. (2002). *Promoting Gender Equality within Family Planning Programs: An Analysis of USAID Projects*. University of Pittsburgh.

United Nations. *International Conference on Population and Development Programme of Action Twentieth Anniversary Edition*. Drawn by UN:



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https://www.unfpa.org/sites/default/files/pub-pdf/programme_of_action_Web%20ENGLISH.pdf

UNFPA. *UNFPA Strategic Plan 2018-2021*. Drawn by

https://www.unfpa.org/sites/default/files/pub-pdf/18-044_UNFPA-SP2018-EN_2018-03-12-1244_0.pdf

United Nations. (1995). *Beijing Declaration*. Drawn by UN: <http://www.un-documents.net/beijingd.htm>

United Nations Population Fund. (s.d.). *Family Planning*. Drawn by United Nations Population Fund: <https://www.unfpa.org/family-planning>

In addition to the cited material, you may also want to check these websites:

- Family Planning 2020 at www.familyplanning2020.org;
- UNFPA Family Planning page at <https://www.unfpa.org/family-planning>;
- UN Family Planning page at <http://www.un.org/en/development/desa/population/theme/family-planning/index.shtml>;
- The Importance of Gender in Family Planning and Reproductive Health Data by MEASURE Evolution at https://www.measureevaluation.org/resources/publications/fs-17-205b/at_download/document;
- WHO Family Planning page at <https://www.who.int/news-room/fact-sheets/detail/family-planning-contraception>.

V. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION AND REMINDERS

Delegate's attire must be at all moments appropriate to the relevance of the event and the role represented. Therefore, compliance with the so-called Western Business Attire is mandatory:



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- female: full suit or blazer, with blouse or appropriate dress, and formal shoes. No jeans, leggings or sneakers are acceptable.
- male: full suit or blazer and formal trousers, shirt, tie or bow-tie, and formal shoes. Neither jeans nor sneakers will be accepted.

VI. POSITION PAPER

Regarding preparation for this Conference, that should be deeper than what is in this guide, you will have to prepare a Position Paper that you will need to send to the Chairs before the Conference starts.

Your position paper should include:

1. Summary of the topic;
2. What are the problems;
3. How does those problems affect your country;
4. How does those problems affect the world;
5. What is your country's stance on the matter;
6. What are your solutions.

Remember to start your position paper with the followings:

Committee:

**UC3MUN****Topic(s):****Country:****Name of Delegate:**

Your position paper should be written in Times New Roman, 12 pt. Justify the text of your paragraphs so that both sides have straight edges.

Please do not exceed two pages for both topics (that means one page per topic maximum); any position paper over two pages will have only the first two pages considered.

Only delegates who will have submitted their position paper on time will be considered eligible for awards.

Sample Position Paper:

Committee: European Council**Topic:** Addressing nationalism and anti-EU sentiment within EU member states**Country:** United Kingdom**Name of Delegate:** Diletta Muccilli



Rising Euroscepticism poses an existential threat to the European Union. Problems as the declining legitimacy of the European institutions, the outcome of the financial crisis, or the collapse of recognised political parties will continue to affect the direction of European politics for decades to come if the European Council does not take action now.

As a matter of fact, without an understanding of EU's broader structural and institutional problems, we cannot hope to comprehend what has happened in the United Kingdom with Brexit.

Historically, our country has been a leading critic of European integration, since it firmly believes that the creation of the European Union has obliged member states to transfer too much national sovereignty to supranational institutions. And by appealing to Article 50 of the Lisbon Treaty, we have decided to re-establish our nation as a truly independent one. The benefits United Kingdom has obtained until now concerning security, trade, consumer goods, and budget are tremendous, and it expects to get even more when the whole process finishes.

However, we want to make the point that the United Kingdom is leaving the EU but not Europe. We are leaving just a complex institutional relationship with lots of entanglements to return to traditional relations between individual states. And to protect these relations, the United Kingdom will like to encourage all of its



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neighbour states to trade off further integration: in return for greater powers for the EU in policy areas where supranational control would be most beneficial, the EU would devolve power to member states in other policy areas, in particular where there is domestic controversy.

The United Kingdom knows it is not the only country having so little faith in the European institutions. For this reason, this process of decentralisation should expand throughout the years, until each European state finally regains its national sovereignty and we, together, will finally be able to put an end to the present underestimation of national powers.



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