

GLOBAL GOALS CONFERENCE 2023



BACKGROUND GUIDE

Good Health & Wellbeing - Goal #3

What is a position paper?

A position paper is a brief overview of a country's stance on the topics being discussed by a particular committee. Although there are several formats, the most simple one includes the following:

- A. Statement of the problem
- B. Past Actions (or lack of action)
- C. Proposed solutions

Formatting

Position papers should:

- Include the name of the delegate and his/her country, and the committee
- Be in a standard font (Times New Roman) with a 12 point font size, 1.15-1.5 spacing, and 1-inch document margins - It should not include illustrations, diagrams, national symbols, watermarks, or page borders
- Your position paper should not exceed a page (if it must, try not to extend past a page too far)
- Include citations and a bibliography, in APA format, giving credit to the sources used in research

Due Dates and Submission

Please submit your position paper to your committee director by midnight, **Wednesday, October 18th, 2023** or earlier if you would like to get some feedback from your chairs or director. Send your position paper to mskinner@shawnigan.ca.

LETTER TO DELEGATES

Dear Delegates, Welcome to the Good Health and Well-Being Committee!

My name is Maya Skinner, I will be your Director for the Good Health and Well-Being Committee for this year's Global Goals Conference, 2023. This is my 4th year here at Shawnigan as I am in grade 11, and before I came here I had no idea of what Model UN was, let alone the 17 Global Goals we are currently trying to resolve. When I first joined Model United Nations at Shawnigan, I was extremely nervous and wasn't sure if I should proceed with it until I participated in my first Model UN Conference. Now, Model UN is the biggest passion of mine. I understand that a Model UN Conference may be way out of your comfort zone as you may not be familiar with it, but I hope you take this opportunity and use it to your fullest potential. I'm extremely passionate and eager to work with delegates to draft and produce long and short term solutions.

I would argue that this is the most important Global Goal, as the topics we will be focusing on in this committee session - **preventing and treating substance abuse, achieving universal healthcare coverage, and fighting communicable diseases**, are topics that are and will continue to affect future generations if not acted on. As our economy continues to grow, our living standards are becoming harder to abide by. It is important we work efficiently and productively to analyze the current solutions and propose our own solutions.

My objectives for these upcoming committee sessions are to help beginner delegates feel comfortable and welcomed in the space of a Model UN conference. I want to help delegates comprehend how a committee session system works and prepare delegates for future conferences! Additionally, I would aim to encourage the experienced delegates participating within this committee to create, lead, stimulating and rousing debates, whilst trying to maintain a fair, civilized discussions in a diplomatic order to move things forward.

I will be working alongside Grant Nuzzo, your Co-Director, and Aiden Jones, your Chair. We want to give you the best MUN experience possible.

Sincerely,

Maya Skinner

Director of Good Health and Well-Being // Global Goals 2023

Delegates, my name is Grant Nuzzo, a grade 12 student here and I will be your Co-Director for the Good Health and Wellbeing Committee. This is also my 4th year at Shawnigan, and a key part in my Shawnigan career was my involvement in MUN conferences and Global Goals. I've been fortunate enough to experience Global Goals conferences like this one and attending MUN conferences at different schools around the area. I encourage everyone to embrace this experience, as it can lead to a new hobby that you may have never thought you enjoyed. Though it may seem scary and a bit overwhelming, I can reassure you that if you get yourself involved in conversation and connecting with others it will become natural.

Sincerely,

Grant Nuzzo

We are all really looking forward to getting to know all of you! See you at the conference.

3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING



TOPIC OVERVIEW

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), are targeted to contribute to our planet earth's problems such as Zero Hunger and Clean Water & Sanitation to help ensure that citizens all over are at satisfied living conditions. The committee you will be participating in is just 1 out of the 17 Global Goals, goal number 3: **Good Health And Well-Being**.

TARGETS

3.5 - PREVENT AND TREAT SUBSTANCE ABUSE

Treating substance abuse has been an ongoing issue as it is more prominent to our society, especially with individuals under the legal age being in possession of substances. Injection sites have been introduced to users of substances to help stop the overdose epidemic, and to help prevent the spread of infections, and diseases. Since 2021, drug overdose rates have increased 14% worldwide.

3.8 - ACHIEVE UNIVERSAL HEALTH COVERAGE

“Achieve universal health coverage, including financial risk protection, access to quality essential health-care services and access to safe, effective, quality and affordable essential medicines and vaccines for all.” <https://www.globalgoals.org/goals/3-good-health-and-well-being/>

3.3 - FIGHT COMMUNICABLE DISEASES

“By 2030, end the epidemics of AIDS, tuberculosis, malaria and neglected tropical diseases and combat hepatitis, water-borne diseases and other communicable diseases.”
<https://www.globalgoals.org/goals/3-good-health-and-well-being/>

3.5 - PREVENT AND TREAT SUBSTANCE ABUSE

CURRENT SITUATION

The addiction and usage of drugs and substances has increasingly become a “trend” worldwide and prevalent in upper and lower class countries alike. Addiction to alcohol, cigarettes, and drugs have now been announced a major world public health problem. The legalisation and decriminalisation of some substances, like marijuana, in different nations and governments, is a crucial subject. Opponents (other countries and states) present concerns about potential increases in overall substance use and misuse, particularly among young people, while proponents believe that these measures can result in greater control and decreased criminality. It's still difficult to strike a balance between decriminalisation, regulation, and prevention measures. Public health campaigns, addiction treatment programmes, safe injection sites, and law enforcement attempts to combat drug trafficking, and policy changes like tighter control of prescription medications were among the measures used to address substance abuse.

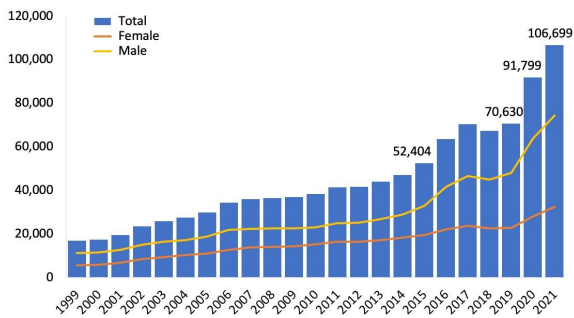
That being said, the COVID-19 pandemic has made it extremely difficult to access treatment and support services for those who are battling with substance misuse as these resources have been restricted by lockdowns and limitations of COVID-19. a significant impact and made drug abuse a more widespread problem worldwide. Due to the social and economic effects of the pandemic, it has made a growth of substance usage as a coping strategy. The pandemic has caused numerous job losses, financial instability, and economic uncertainty.

Another issue to address is drug trafficking as this involves the smuggling of prohibited substances over international borders and their illicit manufacturing, distribution, sale, and transportation. This illegal trade is carried out by criminal networks and organisations to provide users around the world with narcotics like heroin, cocaine, methamphetamine, marijuana, and synthetic drugs. Massive profits are made from the trade, which fuels organized crime, violence, public health concerns, and regional economic instability. Increased substance use and relapse among those seeking consolation or an escape from financial troubles can be directly attributed to economic stress.

The UNODC - (United Nations Office of Drugs and Crime) supports and encourages to abide by international drug control agreements such the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs, the Convention on Psychotropic Substances, and the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances. These agreements give member governments a framework for coordinating their efforts to combat drug misuse and illicit drug trafficking especially within the actions of young people.

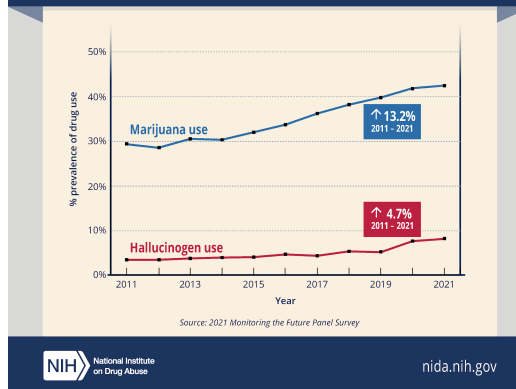
Teenagers who use drugs may experience long-lasting effects as a result of the drugs' interference with this vital stage of development. Drugs have the potential to cause addiction and long-term cognitive problems because they can impair judgement and distort reality. Abuse of drugs or alcohol during this time can harm social interactions, academic performance, and future possibilities. Additionally, teenage addiction frequently continues into adulthood, making early detection, education, and prevention crucial in reducing the consequences of drug use on young lives. To inform youth about the risks of drugs, offer help to those who are struggling, and foster a caring atmosphere that steers them away from substance misuse, communities, educators, healthcare providers, and families must collaborate.

Figure 1. National Drug-Involved Overdose Deaths*, Number Among All Ages, by Gender, 1999-2021



*Includes deaths with underlying causes of unintentional drug poisoning (X40-X44), suicide drug poisoning (X60-X64), homicide drug poisoning (X85), or drug poisoning of undetermined intent (Y10-Y14), as coded in the International Classification of Diseases, 10th Revision. Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics. Multiple Cause of Death 1999-2021 on CDC WONDER Online Database, released 1/2023.

Historic Highs in Past-Year Marijuana and Hallucinogen Use Among Young Adults (Ages 19-30) in 2021



Source: 2021 Monitoring the Future Panel Survey

NIH National Institute on Drug Abuse

nida.nih.gov

POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS

- Increase access to evidence-based addiction treatment and rehabilitation programmes to aid in drug addiction recovery and to lower drug demand.
- Develop and promote comprehensive drug education programs in schools and communities to raise awareness of the dangers of drug use and addiction.
- Invest in technology and resources to enhance border security via drug trafficking.
- More Local Available Resource Utilization ex// Safe Injection Sites.
- Accessible Education and Raising Awareness of Substance Abuse.
- To help countries affected by drug trafficking improve their ability to combat drug production, trafficking, and use, provide them with financial and technical support.

GUIDING QUESTIONS

The purpose is to provide leading questions for delegates to consider when writing position papers and preparing for debates.

1. What is the current situation regarding substance usage in your country? - is it a problem?
2. What is your country's standpoint (how they view) the issue of substance abuse?
3. What past actions did your country take to address substance abuse/usage?
4. How can the international community assist your country to improve?
5. How can your country contribute to the global community and offer to help prevent substance abuse?
6. How may your country further its efforts addressing these dilemmas in the future?

3.8 - ACHIEVE UNIVERSAL HEALTH COVERAGE

CURRENT SITUATION

The goal of universal health coverage (UHC) is to guarantee that everyone has access to the medical care they require without facing financial hardship. It includes protection against financial risk as well as access to necessary medical treatments, medications, and immunizations.

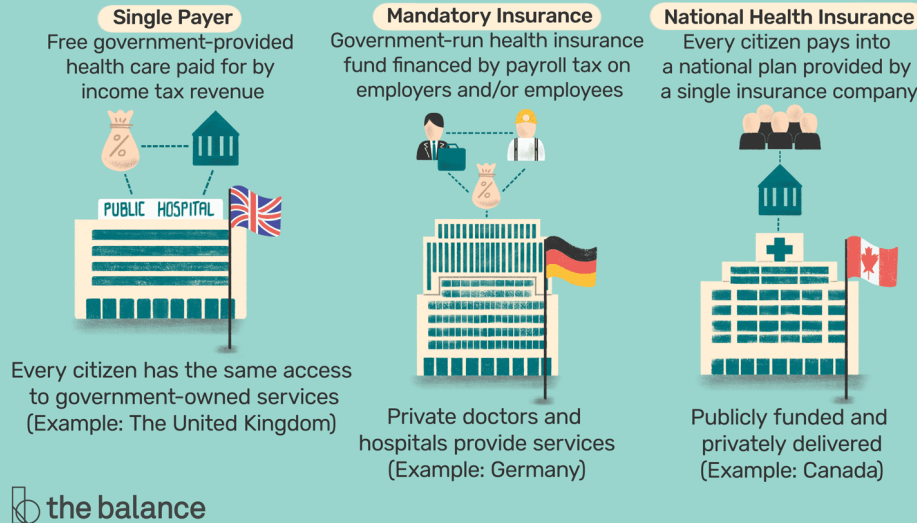
Various nations and regions have made different amounts of progress towards establishing universal health care, and new initiatives and efforts are still being made in this direction. However, depending on the nation, policies, and recent events, the precise and current position in relation to UHC can change substantially. A fundamental challenge is striking a balance between the requirement for full healthcare coverage, increasing medical progress expenses, and a growing elderly population. Attention must be given to the issue of sustainable financial sources and resource distribution. Furthermore, establishing fair access is still difficult because of ongoing inequality in wealth, location, and healthcare infrastructure.

Another crucial issue is how to properly integrate mental health services into universal healthcare, as mental health problems are on the rise in the world and demand a determined effort to reduce stigma, improve access, and integrate mental health treatments. A comprehensive approach is needed to address these issues, including changes to regulations, technological advancements, workforce expansion, and a fundamental change in public perceptions of healthcare as a fundamental human right. As we know, it can be difficult to reach political agreement and support for universal healthcare measures. The implementation of necessary legislation and reforms for universal healthcare might be hampered by political ideologies, divergent agendas, and short-term electoral considerations. Additionally, there are a lot of areas where there are not enough doctors, nurses, and experts. By addressing worker shortages through education, training, retention tactics, and possibly by using technology to supplement human resources.

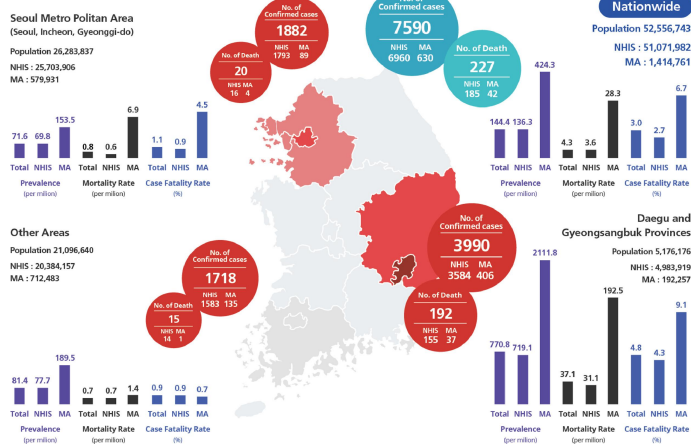
There have also been ongoing worries about potential compromises in healthcare quality as a result of rising demand and constrained resources. Additionally, moving from purchased healthcare systems to an established system has proven difficult and is frequently met with doubt and dislike. Different degrees of healthcare access and results are influenced by socioeconomic inequality, educational attainment, and cultural variations. Achieving truly universal coverage requires addressing these social determinants of health and minimising inequities. Progress towards universal health care might be hampered by opposition from vested interests, such as private healthcare providers or insurance corporations. It is a delicate endeavour to strike a balance between the interests of the various stakeholders and the greater good.

These historical obstacles serve as a reminder of the need for creative solutions, teamwork, and informed public conversation in order to remove obstacles and advance the development of an equitable, effective healthcare system. To overcome these challenges, governments, healthcare providers, civil society, and international organisations must work together in a comprehensive and integrated manner.

How Universal Health Care Works



As of May, 15, 2020 Republic of Korea



POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS

- Use a progressive taxation scheme - give low-income people subsidies so they can pay for healthcare services.
- Improve healthcare access by using telemedicine and technology, especially in remote or underdeveloped areas. Costs can be cut, and healthcare delivery can be improved using virtual healthcare. - International Financing Mechanisms.
- Increase the availability of current public healthcare programmes like Medicare to all locals, regardless of age.

GUIDING QUESTIONS

The purpose is to provide leading questions for delegates to consider when writing position papers and preparing for debates.

1. What is the Health Coverage standpoint of your Country?
2. Does your Country have free Healthcare?
3. What past actions did your country take to address the issues of Healthcare Insurance?
4. How can the international community assist your country to improve?
5. How may your country further its efforts addressing the dilemmas in the future?
6. How can your country contribute to the global community? What does your Country have to offer?

Target 3.3 - FIGHT COMMUNICABLE DISEASES

CURRENT SITUATION

We will be discussing this topic, **fighting communicable diseases** in regard to achieving Universal Health Coverage.

. Communicable diseases are disorders brought on by microorganisms like bacteria, viruses, parasites, or fungus that can be transmitted from person to person directly or indirectly. They are sometimes referred to as infectious or transmissible diseases. Global public health initiatives have placed a lot of emphasis on the prevention and treatment of communicable diseases. The ability for society to completely wipe out or successfully manage these diseases is still limited by a number of variables.

First and foremost, newly emerging and reemerging infectious illnesses pose a serious problem. It can be challenging to foresee and successfully react to new diseases as well as recognised ones that can evolve or mutate. Furthermore, zoonotic illnesses that are conveyed by animals present a serious risk since they can easily infect humans and spread quickly throughout communities.

Several incredibly successful tactics have been used by society to combat communicable diseases. Immunization campaigns have made a significant dent in the prevalence and effects of illnesses including polio, measles, and smallpox. Numerous lives have been saved through vaccinations, which have also stopped the spread of deadly diseases. Strong public health campaigns and educational programmes have been crucial in reducing transmission by raising knowledge of diseases, encouraging preventative measures, and influencing public behaviour. A fundamental barrier against a wide range of communicable diseases has also been provided by improved sanitation and hygiene practices. Strong antivirals, antibiotics, and other treatments have been produced as a result of improvements in medical research and drug development. These interventions have changed the course of therapy, saving lives and lessening the severity of infectious diseases.



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