

Resolutions processing

How to start Introductory and Operative Clauses

General

Resolutions are the basis for debate. Therefore it is advisable for any delegate to write a draft resolution prior to the conference. After you have done enough research on the issue and on the policies of your country it is time to formulate the arguments. You should begin with the formulation of suggestions of your country or organisation for solving the problem. Once you have decided what action should be taken or what attitude should be adopted, you can then begin with the writing process.

Resolutions are composed of a specific pattern, and they need to be clearly structured. The resolution must be clearly divided into three sections, the resolution head, the preamble (Introductory clauses) and the operative clauses. A resolution consists of only one long sentence, divided into separate sub-clauses. These sub-clauses are separated from each other by semicolons, commas and paragraphs. Every sub-clause begins with a proper formal expression that needs to be either italicised in the preamble or underlined in the operative section (see Resolution Introductory Phrases below). Every page and every line of the resolution must be numbered and every page must also have the resolution head stating the committee, the issue and the submitter.

Standard format is as follows:

Single spaced throughout resolution, with double spacing between clauses,
Introductory clauses end with commas and operative clauses end with semicolons,
Each operative clause must be indented,
The final operative clause ends with a period,
Please do not number lines in the margin of the resolution.

Format

Resolution Head

The resolution head contains the forum, the question and the submitter. The resolution must start mentioning the forum e.g. "The Third Committee of the GA,...".

Introductory clauses

The introductory clauses contain the background to the problem. Therefore, describe the recent history of the situation and the issue as it currently exists. Give reference to past European Union actions, when available and give reference previous European Parliament resolutions passed on the topic, when available.

There is a number of expressions for the preambulatory clauses, namely the following:

| | |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------|
| Affirming | Further recalling |
| Alarmed by | Guided by |
| Approving | Having adopted |
| Aware of | Having considered |
| Believing | Having considered further |
| Bearing in mind | Having devoted attention |
| Confident | Having examined |
| Contemplating | Having heard |
| Convinced | Having received |
| Declaring | Having studied |
| Deeply concerned | Noting further |
| Deeply conscious | Noting with approval |
| Deeply convinced | Noting with deep concern |
| Deeply disturbed | Noting with regret |
| Deeply regretting | Noting with satisfaction |
| Desiring | Observing |
| Emphasizing | Reaffirming |
| Expecting | Realizing |
| Expressing its appreciation | Recalling |
| Expressing its satisfaction | Recognizing |
| Fulfilling | Referring |
| Fully alarmed | Seeking |
| Fully aware | Taking into account |
| Fully believing | Taking into consideration |
| Further deploring | Taking note |
| | Welcoming |

Operative section

In the operative clauses, name actions which will solve the problem, do not just make a statement. Take into account the points of view of other nations whenever possible, as they otherwise may not have a chance to reach consensus. Refer issues which need further discussion to appropriate, existing bodies, but do not create new Committees/Commissions/Working Groups/etc. without considering funding for these groups, or if other, similar bodies already exist. Always consider previous EP resolutions on the topic – do not duplicate what other resolutions have done without referencing the appropriate sources.

The following examples of (the most used) preambulatory and operative clauses may help you to formulate a strong and powerful resolution. The words listed here are just suggestions. They shall not be taken as advice and thus the only correct forms to be used in resolutions.

| | |
|----------------------------|-------------------|
| Accepts | Proclaims |
| Affirms | Reaffirms |
| Approves | Recalls |
| Authorizes | Recommends |
| Calls | Regrets |
| Calls upon | Reminds |
| Condemns | Requests |
| Confirms | Solemnly affirms |
| Congratulates | Strongly condemns |
| Considers | Supports |
| Declares accordingly | Takes note of |
| Deplores | Transmits |
| Designates | Trusts |
| Draws the attention | Urges |
| Emphasizes | |
| Encourages | |
| Endorses | |
| Expresses its appreciation | |
| Expresses its hope | |
| Further invites | |
| Further proclaims | |
| Further recommends | |
| Further reminds | |
| Further resolves | |
| Have resolved | |
| Notes | |