

Writing Sample

One of the following documents has to be included in your application to the MIA programme:

- **First priority:** An **academic paper** from your previous coursework (minimum of 3.000 words) or a completed **bachelor's thesis** written in German, English or French. The writing sample should be broadly related to the field of international affairs.
- **Second priority:** If you haven't written a paper or a thesis in the field of international affairs during your undergraduate studies, you may submit an **essay** of a maximum of 4.000 – 5.000 words in English including bibliographical references and statutory declaration on a given topic (see below). The essay will be assessed according to the following criteria: analytical skills, written articulation, structuring and visual presentation.

Essay: Choose and discuss one of the following topics

You are entirely free to defend or refute the thesis you choose. But yes, do support your position by solid sources (which you will list at the end of the paper), and yes, we would like to see you develop your own arguments, so do not rely exclusively on what other people think and write about the subject matter.

The minimum length of your paper is 4.000, the maximum length is 5.000 words. There are no specific layout requirements, just produce a decent-looking document of the appropriate length.

Global Energy Governance

1. Fracking in order to obtain shale gas and the like should be allowed by all governments in Europe.
2. Fuel prices for road vehicles and aircraft should be raised by 50% in order to discourage excessive travel.

Water

3. Water is a valuable commodity, but it is NOT a human right.
4. The government of India should charge farmers for the usage of water, irrespective of these farmers' income.

Human Rights and Humanitarian Intervention

5. The EU should put less emphasis on respect for human rights in its relations with the People's Republic of China – e.g., by abolishing conditionality of trade – in order to foster European economic interests.

Governance today and tomorrow

6. A world state may be morally appealing, but it is utterly undesirable.

Amendment to Writing Sample

Please amend the following “declaration of authorship” to your writing sample and sign it, thank you:

Declaration of authorship

“I hereby declare

- that I have written this writing sample (thesis, seminar paper, term paper or other) without any help from others and without the use of documents and aids other than those stated in the references,
- that I have mentioned all the sources used and that I have cited them correctly according to established academic citation rules,
- that the topic or parts of it are not already the object of any work or examination of another course unless this explicitly stated,
- that I am aware that my work can be electronically checked for plagiarism and that I hereby grant the University of St.Gallen copyright as far as this is required for this administrative action.”

Date and Signature

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