



2026 CPR International Mediation Competition

WRITTEN STATEMENT INSTRUCTIONS

The parties are invited to submit a Written Statement to the Mediator in preparation for the mediation: “At least 10 business days before the first joint mediation meeting, unless otherwise agreed, each party will submit to the mediator a written statement summarizing the **background and present status of the dispute**, including **any settlement efforts** that have occurred, and such other **material and information** as the mediator requests or the party deems helpful to familiarize the mediator with the dispute. It is desirable for the submission to include an **analysis of the party’s real interests and needs** and of its **litigation risks**.”

For purposes of writing the Written Statement, you represent **PRIESTLY KOLLET CHARLTON UNION (“PKCHU”)** and, therefore, need to send via email your written statement in Word format to Knar Nahikian at knahikian@cpradr.org no later than 11:59 pm ET on **February 13, 2026**. Written statements should not contain any reference to Team Names or Team Members and should not exceed 3,000 words. (Judges may reduce the score of any Written Statements that exceed the word limit.)

WRITTEN STATEMENT EVALUATION

- **Summary of background and present status of the dispute** (How well does the Written Statement summarize the background and the present status of the dispute?)
- **Party’s real interests and litigation risks** (How well does the Written Statement analyze the party’s real interests, needs and litigation risks?)
- **Parties’ common interests** (How well does the Written Statement analyze the parties’ common interests?)
- **Overall quality of the Written Statement** (grammar, clarity, organization of ideas etc.)
- **Creativity of the Written Statement** (Assess the overall creativity of the Written Statement, i.e. the creativity of the ideas or options presented to solve the case)

WRITTEN STATEMENT SCORING RUBRIC

1. Poor - Needs Significant Improvement:

- **Summary:** Lacks key elements, facts, and grounds.
- **Interests & Risks:** Fails to identify or analyze core interests and litigation risks.
- **Common Interests:** Fails to identify any potential areas of common ground.
- **Overall Quality:** Disorganized, difficult to follow, and/or contains numerous grammatical errors. Poor/no understanding of the case and mediation principles.
- **Creativity:** Lacks creativity and offers no innovative solutions.

2. Satisfactory - Needs Improvement:

- **Summary:** Presents some key elements, facts, and grounds but lacks clarity.
- **Interests & Risks:** Identifies some interests and risks, but the analysis is incomplete.
- **Common Interests:** Identifies some potential areas of common ground, but the analysis is limited.
- **Overall Quality:** Contains some grammatical / factual errors or organizational issues. Demonstrates a basic understanding of the case but may lack a nuanced analysis.
- **Creativity:** Shows limited creativity in proposing solutions.

3. Good - Meets Expectations, but has errors or areas for improvement:

- **Summary:** Presents most necessary elements, facts, and grounds.
- **Interests & Risks:** Identifies and analyzes key interests and litigation risks but lacks in depth analysis.
- **Common Interests:** Identifies and analyzes potential areas of common ground.
- **Overall Quality:** Organized with minimal grammatical errors. Demonstrates a good understanding of the case and mediation principles.
- **Creativity:** Offers some creative solutions, but they may not be fully developed.

4. Very Good - Exceeds expectations in most areas, has minor areas for improvement:

- **Summary:** Presents all necessary elements, facts, grounds and the present status of the dispute.
- **Interests & Risks:** Demonstrates a deep understanding of the parties' interests and litigation risks.
- **Common Interests:** Effectively identifies and analyzes multiple areas of common ground.
- **Overall Quality:** Well-organized and easy to read with excellent grammar, and minor inconsistencies. Demonstrates a strong understanding of the case and mediation principles.
- **Creativity:** Offers creative and innovative solutions. May have minor areas for improvement in clarity and conciseness.

5. Excellent - Outstanding with no room for improvement (I would hire them!):

- **Summary:** Provides a compelling and insightful summary of the dispute with exceptional clarity, conciseness, and detailed legal analysis.
- **Interests & Risks:** Effectively analyzes the parties' underlying interests and needs beyond their stated positions. Provides accurate assessment of the potential litigation risks, costs, delays, BATNA and WATNA.
- **Common Interests:** Identifies and analyzes numerous areas of common ground with exceptional insight of shared goals and values that could facilitate a mutually beneficial resolution.
- **Overall Quality:** Exceptionally well-written and highly professional with no grammatical, stylistic, or formatting errors. Demonstrates a deep understanding of the case and a sophisticated understanding of mediation principles and strategies. Sets a high standard for other submissions.
- **Creativity:** Offers highly creative and innovative solutions that are both feasible and persuasive. Demonstrate a willingness to explore alternative approaches to resolving the dispute.