

NBI# 09 REVISED BY MAKER

2024 FORM FOR NEW BUSINESS ITEMS

<u>Written Policy on MTA's Involvement in International Affairs</u>	04.20.2024 3:05 pm
NBI Name	Date and Time
Brett Berkman	Framingham

Delegate Making the Motion	Cell	Email	Association Represented or Retired
Sarah Guernsey			Framingham

Delegate Seconding the Motion	Cell	Email	Association Represented or Retired
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According to the MTA Standing/Special Rules:
 With the exception of items on the agenda, all substantive motions shall be submitted in writing to the Presiding Officer.

MOTION

MOVED:

The MTA will create a task force to create a union policy regarding why the MTA does not take positions on international conflict. This written policy will be an important step in keeping our focus on our core mission. Our core mission is to work collectively with all our members to defend their rights and responsibilities in our collective agreements.

SUBMITTER'S RATIONALE:

The MTA should refrain from commenting and taking sides in geopolitical conflicts that are divisive to its members. A written policy will guide the MTA's decision making around geopolitical conflicts in years to come. It will remind the MTA leadership, executive board, board of directors, and members at large that taking positions on international conflicts will risk alienating sides and could lead to creating a hostile learning and work environment. The policy will explain how when the MTA weighs in on contentious international conflicts, it undermines its standing as a professional union for all members. The task force will outline that since the executive board is not elected on their expertise in international policy, they do not have the qualifications to represent the membership in complex issues of international law and diplomacy. Furthermore, it would be very costly to train and educate all MTA members sufficiently in order to have them make statements on every international conflict. This increase in training and education cost would need to be budgeted by either increasing dues or taking money away from some of the other important MTA work.

DUES IMPACT: \$0

SUBMITTER'S COST & STAFF TIME ESTIMATE:

MTA COST & STAFF TIME ESTIMATE (For MTA use only):

MTA Cost Estimate:	\$0
MTA Staff Time Estimate:	30 hours