



International Press JOURNALISM

Letter from the EXECUTIVE BOARD

Dear Reporters,

With immense pride, we welcome you to the simulation of International Press at G.D Goenka Sitapur Model United Nations. You carry the responsibility of documenting, decoding, and delivering the spirit of all the sessions across each committee.

We expect unwavering participation, discipline, and dedication. The International Press is not a passive observer's role, it demands initiative, creativity, and the ability to adapt to rapidly evolving discussions. Whether you're writing a sharp op-ed, a committee feature, or conducting interviews, your contribution is essential in shaping the legacy of this conference. (In short, you get to be the gossip provider).

We plan to curate:

A newsletter to present all the happenings in the conference as presented by you, thus you will have to work in a synchronised way as well.

As the executive board of IP Journalism, it will be my solemn duty to guide you and moderate insightful discussions throughout the committee sessions. This background guide is not the sole reference that will work, but it's a good start. With this simulation, we will help you discover the power of your voice and your pen.

With excitement and high expectations,

Aashi Mishra
Editor-in-Chief

INTRODUCTION

Journalism within the United Nations framework has always played a critical role in shaping narratives, fostering accountability, and ensuring that deliberations reach a global audience. Journalists engage with the UN by reporting on its activities through the UN's Department of Global Communications (News and Media Division) and by covering meetings, negotiations, and events across various UN bodies. Beyond coverage, the UN actively supports journalism: it provides fellowships for young reporters from developing countries, offers institutional access to press briefings, and facilitates training initiatives. UNESCO, in particular, has championed the promotion and protection of press freedom and the safety of journalists worldwide, most notably through the UN Plan of Action on the Safety of Journalists and the Issue of Impunity

Within the Model United Nations ecosystem, International Press Journalism (IPJ) mirrors this crucial role. Journalists serve as the voice of civil society, observers, and global media, ensuring that committee discussions are not confined to closed chambers but reach a broader audience in creative, analytical, and impactful ways. Unlike delegates, journalists are not tied to the position of a state but instead engage through diverse reporting styles, ranging from factual reportage and critical analysis to caricatures and creative commentary. This creates a dynamic bridge between debate and perception, allowing the MUN to reflect not only the politics of diplomacy but also the power of the press in shaping global discourse.

One of the most important tasks that journalists in the International Press perform is formal reporting. They are primarily required to cover the event and describe it to others in the best thought-out and concise way possible, and for this purpose, they are supposed to take notes and submit articles that contain the major discussions in their respective councils..

INTRODUCTION

While at the conference, you are required to keenly observe the goings-on, and take note of worthy instances, prepare reports, conduct research, formulate opinions, conduct interviews and polls, and preside a press conference for the Delegates.

There are three things which come as a part and parcel of any International Press Team at a Model UN Conference simulation.

1. Research: Comprehensive research forms the basic framework of the art of reporting.. Kindly go through the background guides of your respective committees to have a better understanding of the agenda. Knowledge of current debates pertaining to the agenda is also encouraged.
2. Unity: The International Press team will consist of a number of reporters, who need to be working in synchronization with each other..
3. Code of Conduct: Reporters are expected to maintain diplomatic courtesy at all times towards fellow members of the team, delegates, executive board and the Secretariat. Even while critically looking at council proceedings; it is imperative that respect be extended to the delegates.

Pre - Conference APPLICATION

Journalists gain access to the United Nations through a mandatory accreditation process with the UN Media Accreditation and Liaison Unit (MALU), which involves applying for either a temporary or long-term pass with a letter from their media organization, supporting documents on reach and impact, and potentially an interview. This accreditation, granted after a review process, allows journalists to enter UN headquarters and designated areas to report on events and meetings, though access is governed by specific media access guidelines.

Thus to simulate the international press, you will be writing a cover letter (200 words) and attach a writing sample (300-350 words) on any committee. The cover letter shall include:

1. Your introduction
2. Your target audience
3. The kind of news you wish to cover
4. Word limit: 200 words
5. You can be creative and add on more

Guidelines for sample piece:

1. It should be related to any committee's agenda in the conference.
2. You could choose any writing style or simply present your comments and views on the agenda.
3. It would be appreciated if you write a creative piece.
4. Word Limit: 300-350 words.

SUBMISSION

Deadlines: Truth has a deadline, you're on it. Following deadlines is an important aspect of the press. You will be regularly updated on the deadlines by the Executive Board and the inability to meet them will have a negative effect on your entire conference experience and final evaluation criterion for awards. Articles must be submitted by mail

Format: Your articles will be named in the following manner: The name of your article and then your name is separated by a hyphen followed by the name of the news agency you are in. i.e: North Korean Forced Labourers in Poland - Deshara Perera (The Guardian) In interviews, you shall write the designation of the person and council and then your name for submission. However, your article will have the headline of the most important quote according to you. i.e: File submission name - "Interview with Iran (UNHRC) - Deshara Perera"

ARTICLES

Considering you have understood and adjusted to the lens of a journalist, what exactly are we going to do in the conference? (except gathering and spilling all the tea) . You will be writing articles. The articles shall consist of a neutral point of view and the type of article will be assigned to you with a proper deadline. Here are a few articles and their examples to make it easier to understand;

I. COLOUR ARTICLE

These deviate from the formal journalistic tone and allow you to delve into creative aspects of expression with poetry, diary entries, sarcasm, poetic devices, humor or any written form of creative writing you want to use. While expressions can be symbolic, one must remember not to deviate from the committee. Here's an example:

Flags and Souls:

A Refugee in His Own Home Scars on the body fade. But the ones carved into the soul? They linger. As the United Nations deliberates on rendering the Middle East a nuclear weapon-free zone, I wonder what protection can policies offer when homes are already ashes and peace is a memory? There has been war in my motherland. The coffee shops are closed, the bookstores burnt, and the laughter replaced by Melancholic silence. The sky no longer holds birds, only smoke. And yet, the world talks of security. The media spins headlines. Delegates point fingers. But who speaks for those who still live in the ruins? For those whose homeland is a graveyard of love and memory? "The immigrants have been safely evacuated," they say. But those born of this soil were left behind—to grieve, to die. Justice isn't just trials and treaties. It's being able to sleep without fear. To hear music instead of sirens. To raise a child in peace. If this Assembly truly seeks a future without nuclear weapons, then it must first understand: disarmament means nothing without dignity.

-A refugee in his own home

ARTICLES

2. COMMITTEE REPORT

The committee report presents what happened in the committee. You write the hearsay as it is, with no opinions. A reader should be teleported to the committee while reading the report. It's just like narrating your daily routine to a friend. A Committee Report is a factual and objective account of what transpired in a specific committee during a session. It is the journalistic equivalent of a courtroom transcript with quotes from delegates, meant to inform, not persuade.

UNHRC Divided Over Legitimacy of Counter-Insurgency Measures in Conflict Zones The United Nations Human Rights Council (UNHRC) convened on July 19th to deliberate the legitimacy of counter-insurgency measures in occupied territories. Delegates appeared divided on whether such actions constitute a breach of international humanitarian law. The delegate of France emphasized the importance of protecting state sovereignty, claiming that "counter-insurgency is often the only viable response in asymmetric warfare." In contrast, the representative of Palestine condemned the use of military force in civilian zones, referring to it as "state-sanctioned suppression disguised as security." Tensions rose during the moderated caucus on 'Compliance with the Geneva Conventions,' where the delegates of Israel and Iran engaged in a heated exchange over precedent violations. Meanwhile, China and Russia called for a more nuanced understanding of insurgency, stating that international law must adapt to modern conflict dynamics. By the end of the session, a tentative bloc had formed around a draft resolution spearheaded by South Africa, India, and Brazil, aiming to create a universal framework to assess the legality of military operations in disputed territories. As the committee heads into Day 2, delegates are expected to refine their blocs and begin the drafting of a comprehensive working paper

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ARTICLES

3. OP-ED ARTICLE

This article highlights the beliefs evoked by truths or detailed events. There are two approaches to composing this article

- a) Starting on an optimistic note; accentuating shortcomings/problems/downfalls; giving recommendations.
- b) Pursuing a favorable or negative tone throughout; mentioning ideas.
- c) You can present an analysis or speculation with respect to the proceedings of the committee and craft a reasoning based narrative.

Usually written by a subject-matter expert, a person with a unique perspective on an issue, or a regular columnist employed by the paper.

UNODC FACES POLITICAL GRIDLOCK AMID RISING NARCO-TERROR THREAT

-Aashi Mishra

The UN Office on Drugs and Crime convened to confront this chilling fusion of threats, yet the session devolved into a blame game, exposing a dangerous disconnect between political posturing and the urgent need for global cooperation. What violence couldn't conquer, narcotics quietly have. The several decades long 'war on drugs' and the more recent 'war on terror' have found common ground in countering the threat of narco-terrorism at a session of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, thus combining two threats that have traditionally been treated separately. The agenda seems to have fragmented the committee as the delegates went on to scrutinise each other throughout their speeches. The delegate of Mexico, in a striking address, chose to blame Middle Eastern and African countries for "facilitating drugs and covering up tracks"—a statement that sparked immediate backlash. The United Arab Emirates, retaliated with a catalogue of violations allegedly committed by other states, citing the 1961, 1971, and 1988 UN drug conventions. Perhaps the most disturbing admission came from the People's Republic of China, whose delegate openly justified the forced injection of anti-narcotics under the pretext of "public welfare". This breakdown of diplomacy isn't just disappointing, it's dangerous, because at its core, the UNODC exists not to host geopolitical grudges, but to uphold a mandate of international

ARTICLES

4. BEAT ARTICLE

A Beat Article is a close-up on a committee, but instead of just outlining what happened, it captures the vibe, rhythm, and people shaping the conversation. You're embedded in the space, catching the unspoken, the shift in alliances, the delegate who shook the room with one line, or the speech that subtly flipped the bloc. Sharp, focused, and based on 1–2 key moments or patterns from the session. Includes quotes and body language observations. Observes tone, delegate performance, committee mood, shifting alliances, or even the emotional tension in the room. Can follow one or two delegates like a mini-profile. Subtle use of flair, metaphors, or literary devices is allowed, but don't overdo it.

POLITICIANS CLING TO 1975, WHO DEFENDS THE VOICES OF 2025?

-Aashi Mishra

In a session meant to address the urgent issue of regulating digital platforms, Parliament instead found itself trapped in a cycle of historical reflection and partisan bickering. -Aashi Mishra, The All India Political Party Meet was convened to deliberate on regulating digital platforms. However, it derailed into a retrospective obsession with the 1975 Emergency, imposed by the Indian National Congress, based on a speech given by Congress representative Sonia Gandhi. It is disgraceful to witness elected representatives deplete valuable parliamentary hours on debates that offer no solution to today's pressing imperative issues. While senior leaders like Mallikarjun Kharge fumbled over the criteria for imposing an emergency, Congress Member of Parliament Manish Tiwari provoked further controversy by declaring, "The Indian Constitution is vague." Further, the session even questioned the credibility of former Prime Minister Indira Gandhi. Amidst the chaos, the core agenda, 'protecting artists from cyberbullying and ensuring freedom of expression in the digital age', was quietly buried. Even Sonia Gandhi refrained from addressing key questions about legislative efforts to safeguard speech. The question remains: Is freedom of speech a privilege reserved only for politicians indulging in nuanced debates, and when will Indian politics side line personal grudges to work for collective good?

ARTICLES

4. INTERVIEW

Now, if you are wondering, when do you get to be a feisty journalist and prey on a delegate, this is the opportunity. An interview is more than a Q&A. It's a dialogue that reveals motives, strategies, insecurities and ambitions. An Interview is a structured dialogue that extracts ideas, intent, and character. An interview is an opportunity of a personal interaction with a person, and you write a conclusion on it.

- It is advised to choose your interviewee wisely, research on their policies and actions. Preferably, an active delegate for a meaningful result. Once you've thoroughly researched your topic, prepare a list of questions to ask.
- We advise you to record the interview (evidence), and then prepare the transcript with relevant substance (people tend to speak a lot).

AN INTERVIEW WITH DELEGATE OF SAUDI ARABIA

A senior representative of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia gave an exclusive interview, offering reflections on the state's reforms, the silenced voices of women's rights activists, and the path forward for women in the Kingdom. Reporter: While you boasted skyrocketing numbers regarding women participation, data suggests over 1,000 Saudi women flee the Kingdom annually, yet not one clear measure exists to protect them. Why hasn't Saudi Arabia taken concrete steps to halt this exodus caused by male guardianship laws, and why does the State still treat fleeing women as criminals rather than victims? Delegate of Saudi Arabia: Saudi Arabia has implemented significant reforms in recent years—women can now travel, work, and access services without male permission. The claim of a mass 'exodus' oversimplifies individual cases and ignores the state's progress. Those who leave unlawfully are subject to due process, not because they are women, but because all citizens are bound by legal frameworks. The Kingdom remains committed to empowering women while preserving cultural and legal integrity. They are the ones fleeing country by violating laws.

Conclusion For decades, female autonomy was curbed by deeply rooted guardianship laws, limited access to public life, and institutionalized gender discrimination.

STRUCTURE

1. HEADLINE- The headline is the text indicating the nature of the article below it. Your headline should be captivating and specific to the article you are composing.
2. BY LINE- Authorship and news agency.
3. SKETCH OR PHOTOGRAPH (OPTIONAL)- Suitable caption should be included.
4. LEAD- Opening section of the article. The Lead should be less than 25 words, interesting, and convey the most important information. The ideal lead will set the tone for what follows. Do not try to cram unnecessary information, digress, or become repetitive. Conciseness and simplicity are key.
5. BODY- This is the main section of the article, containing the whole story and will elaborate the important information stated in the lead. End it with an appropriate closing remark & try to instigate a reaction or question from your Reader.

REPORTER'S BULLETIN

In order to enhance the dynamism of the International Press and to ensure that its work does not remain confined to the written medium alone (Yes, you will have to speak up), a new segment shall be introduced in the course of committee proceedings: the Reporter's Bulletin. This segment will allow reporters to step beyond their notepads and present, in true newsroom fashion, the headlines and stories of the day.

At intervals decided by the Chair, reporters shall be invited to take the floor and deliver short news updates. These bulletins are to be delivered either in the form of crisp headlines or in the style of live reporting, depending on the creativity and editorial line of the media house represented. Each presentation shall be brief, no longer than one to two minutes, yet it must capture the mood of the committee, the alliances that emerge, the controversies that erupt, and the rhetoric that dominates debate.

Accordingly, reporters may choose to present with an objective, factual tone or, should their media house permit, with satire, bias, or dramatization. The segment is to be taken seriously, but never without imagination.

The task is not to recount every intervention, but to select the moments that matter: a bold remark, a sudden alliance, a clash of positions. These are then reframed as headlines, updates, or even breaking news. The language should be concise, the phrasing sharp, and the rhythm natural to oral delivery. At times, neutrality may be demanded; at others, sensationalism or satire may be the essence—reporters must lean into their editorial style without losing sight of accuracy.

Above all, the bulletin must carry the energy of the newsroom. It should feel alive, urgent, and compelling, so that delegates and audience alike sense the pulse of the debate through the words of the press

Press CONFERENCE

Press Conference lends you the platform to inquire questions. Quality is more essential than quantity. In most cases, prepare to answer back or ask additional questions if the reaction of a specific delegate doesn't convince you. The Executive Board will moderate the press conference and you will be taking the lead. While we expect the press to be ruthless, delegates are expected to maintain decorum while defending their positions under pressure.

- Frame questions based on previous speeches, blocs, resolutions, and committee dynamics.
- Catch inconsistencies, expose hypocrisy, and dig deeper into delegate motivations.
- Push with cross questions.
- Refer to their speeches and decisions. Frame questions regarding solutions proposed, foreign policies, clarification on stance.

Concluding TIPS

PLAGIARISM AND PROFESSIONALISM: As IPC delegates, you are to never indulge in plagiarism. Articles that are submitted have to be original. If any acts of plagiarism are found, the journalist will be suspended immediately. Note that your eligibility for awards will be disrupted in the case plagiarism is detected during the marking process. To be professional means to adhere to all basic ethics and never let your personal feelings towards any Delegate/Country/Delegation/Person affect your reports. You are to remain unbiased and represent the interest of your assigned media outlet.

RESEARCH - Proper research regarding the topic you report on can create a powerful article and will ensure the reader you have adequate knowledge on the issue discussed. Anything you choose to write on should always be factually coherent. Read the background guides of all committees to have hands-on knowledge and familiarise with the terms of committee and agenda.

QUESTIONS: Avoid asking yes-or-no questions, as these probably won't produce very interesting quotations. Leave your questions open-ended and give your subject the chance to explain himself in his own words.

ARGUMENT, ANALYSIS AND NARRATIVE: You will be graded depending on how well you can analyse your research and present an argument, especially in long-form articles. The ability to creatively convey a story is essential to becoming a good journalist. Journalistic articles are frequently referred to as creative nonfiction. Make it intriguing.

GRAMMAR AND VOCABULARY: As a reporter covering politically charged issues, you must use mature language appropriate for the situation. Keep a thesaurus nearby, but refrain from using bombastic and extravagant language that makes it difficult for the everyday reader to understand your writings.

CONCLUSION

You are expected to enter each committee not just as a spectator, but as someone who understands the agenda, recognizes the stakes, and keeps pace with the dynamics of the room. You must know your media house—its ideology, tone, and voice—and learn how to write like you're part of it. Your reporting should reflect depth, not just drama. This requires preparation, adaptability, and the willingness to learn on the go.

Deadlines are sacred. So is accuracy. Your work must be clean, clear, and credible. There is no space here for carelessness or half-measures. Whether you're covering committee proceedings, crafting beat stories, conducting interviews, moderating the press conference, or designing the final newspaper—you are expected to show consistency, professionalism, and creativity.

This press team is a collective of voices that will shape the narrative of this conference. And if you commit—truly commit—your work will outlast the closing ceremony. Delegates will remember what was said, but they'll feel what was written.

We chose you because we believed in your potential. Now it's time to deliver on it.

I can't wait to see how your voice carries across pages.