

M.CT.M MUN 2026



IPC



BACKGROUND GUIDE

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Letter from the Executive Board

Dear reporters,

We are proud to welcome you to the International Press Corps at the second edition of M.CT.M MUN. It is an honour and a privilege to serve as your Executive Board, and we are immensely grateful to oversee this committee.

For your clarity and understanding, this document serves as a procedural guide and provides recommendations to aid in your preparation for this committee, as well as your work during the event. Though it includes key points such as background information on news agencies and the formats of article submissions, it acts only as an introduction to your role as a reporter. It does not serve as a substitute for your own research. We urge you to conduct thorough, tailored research on your respective allotments, and familiarise yourselves with the specific rules and procedures, as this is instrumental in your overall performance. Please arrive well-versed in the agendas of other committees, ready to cover stories, and prepared to navigate fast-paced discussions through speeches and debates in the IPC.

As the International Press Corps revolves around journalism, you will be expected to cover the noteworthy developments unfolding in other committees with integrity, originality and strategy. While representing nations in international affairs is one challenge, the ability to report on them with precision, sophistication and nuance is an entirely different one. Your communication skills are the cornerstone of your performance in this committee, and we expect verbal and written communication that is relevant, respectful, and consistent with your news agency. However, it would be ideal to write in a way that conveys your personal voice, as we expect unique submissions that are entirely your own work.

In committee, we aim to keep the discussion factual, objective and sharp, creating a journalistic environment that is both enjoyable and informative for all participants. We strongly recommend that you come prepared for the event to ensure a smooth flow of committee, and assure you that we will be available at all times during committee for clarification and guidance if you need it. Finally, the Executive Board looks forward to providing you with a valuable experience at M.CT.M MUN.

Wishing you the best of luck,

Jhanvi Vishnuvardan (Chairperson)

Ahimsa Santhosh (Vice Chairperson)

Zahaan Parakh (Moderator)

Introduction

The International Press Corps (IPC) serves as the bridge between the deliberations within Model United Nations committees and the world beyond them. Comprising reporters, the IPC holds the responsibility of documenting, analysing, and presenting the proceedings of the conference with accuracy and impartiality. Through their work, members of the press provide delegates and observers with a comprehensive understanding of the debates, decisions, and developments taking place throughout the conference.



The reporters are responsible for transforming committee proceedings into informative articles, conducting press conferences, and questioning delegates to understand the reasoning and implications behind their actions and resolutions. They must remain well-informed, objective, and diligent in their research, ensuring that their reporting reflects the events of the conference without bias.

Together, the members of the IPC uphold the principles of responsible journalism by ensuring that information is not only communicated, but communicated truthfully. Their work allows the conference to extend beyond the committee rooms, giving everyone an opportunity to witness, understand, and engage with the events shaping the Model United Nations.

General Rules

- All articles must be written on Google Docs and submitted via email.
- All articles must be titled in the following format:
NewsAgency.LastNameOfReporter.CommitteeCovered.Day — for example,
TheGuardian.Vishnuvardan.UNODC.Day1
- Adhere to either British or American English in typing articles, and make the appropriate change in settings before writing.
- Avoid using AI for any purposes other than grammar checks. The Executive Board reserves the right to penalise any reporters for the use of AI or for plagiarism.
- Abbreviations, when introduced, must be expanded.
- Maintain formality and professionalism in both articles and press conferences.
- Avoid the use of unparliamentary or offensive language in articles, even if it is used by delegates.
- Adhere to all deadlines, and avoid editing articles after submission, as these edits will not be assessed.

Article Format

- All articles must be written in Times New Roman, font size 11, single-spaced, and on Google Docs.
- The style must be “Normal Text” for all content, “Title” for the title and “Normal Text” for the bylines.
- Ensure that the title is bold and use italics for the byline.
- The title must be centre-aligned. The rest of the article must have justified alignment.
- The byline must outline the article’s objective and introduce the reporter in one line (this will be useful if an ambiguous title is used). An example has been provided for your reference:

The Cost of Silence

Jhanvi Vishnuvardan, reporting from the United Nations Human Rights Council (UNHRC), examines the implications of China’s treatment of the Uyghur population and the international community’s response to allegations of human rights violations



News Organisations and Agencies

1. **CNN International** — Generally adopts a global, mainstream news style, with an emphasis on breaking developments, international politics, conflicts, and human interest reporting. Articles tend to prioritise accessible language and immediate developments, while providing context where necessary. As one of the earliest major 24-hour international news networks, CNN has played a significant role in shaping the modern format of continuous global news coverage.
2. **BBC News** — Known for a relatively formal and measured reporting style, with significant emphasis on factual presentation and international coverage. Articles often provide background and multiple perspectives, with a restrained editorial voice. With roots in the BBC's long-standing public broadcasting tradition, BBC News has developed a particularly strong international presence and reputation for global reporting.
3. **Fox News** — Has a distinctly US-focused perspective and is generally more openly opinionated in its political coverage than many international news agencies. Reporters representing Fox News should pay close attention to its strong emphasis on US political interests, while still ensuring that factual claims are independently verified. Launched in 1996, Fox News became a major force in American cable news and has developed a particularly strong identity within US political and conservative media.
4. **Gulf News** — Places considerable emphasis on the Gulf region and the wider Middle East, while maintaining substantial international coverage. Reporting often gives greater regional context to events affecting the Middle East and its political and economic interests. Founded in Dubai in 1978, Gulf News has grown into one of the major English-language newspapers serving the UAE and the wider Gulf region.
5. **Al Jazeera English** — Places strong emphasis on international affairs, conflict, humanitarian issues, and stories from regions that may receive less attention in Western media. Its coverage often gives significant attention to civilian perspectives and the Global South. Launched in 2006 as the English-language arm of the Al Jazeera network, it was created with the aim of bringing a greater number of perspectives from the Global South to an international audience.
6. **South China Morning Post** — Has a strong focus on China, Hong Kong, and East Asia, alongside international reporting. Coverage frequently places global developments within a Chinese and regional context, making geographical perspective particularly important when reproducing its style. Founded in Hong Kong in 1903, the South China Morning Post has a long history as an English-language publication covering China, Hong Kong, and the wider region.
7. **TASS** — As a Russian state-owned news agency, its reporting reflects the official Russian perspective on many political and international developments. Reporters should pay particular attention to the terminology and framing used when reporting on Russia, its government, and international conflicts. TASS traces its origins to the early twentieth century and has historically served as a major source of official news and information from the Russian state.
8. **The Moscow Times** — Provides reporting on Russia and Russian affairs from an independent perspective. Its coverage can place greater emphasis on political developments, civil society, and issues surrounding the Russian government, making its framing notably different from state media. Founded in Moscow in 1992, The Moscow Times became notable for providing English-language reporting on Russia, particularly for an international audience.

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9. **Anadolu Agency** — As Türkiye's state-run news agency, its coverage frequently reflects Turkish governmental and foreign-policy perspectives. Reporting places particular emphasis on Türkiye, the Middle East, and issues relevant to Turkish regional interests. Founded in 1920 during the Turkish War of Independence, Anadolu Agency has developed alongside the modern Turkish state and remains an important source of official and international reporting from Türkiye.
10. **The Washington Post** — Uses a detailed and often analytical reporting style, with significant coverage of US politics, foreign policy, national security, and international affairs. Reporters should distinguish between straight news reporting, analysis, and opinion pieces. Founded in 1877, The Washington Post has a long-standing role in American political journalism and became particularly prominent through major investigative reporting, including its coverage of Watergate.
11. **The Guardian** — Often combines international reporting with strong coverage of political, social, environmental, and humanitarian issues. Its writing tends to be more openly editorial in certain sections, so reporters should be aware of the distinction between reporting, analysis, and opinion. Originally founded as the Manchester Guardian in 1821, the publication has a long association with liberal journalism and has since developed into a major international news organisation.
12. **The Hindu** — Maintains a strong focus on India and South Asia while covering international affairs. Its reporting generally uses a formal and analytical tone, with particular attention to India's political, diplomatic, and regional interests. Founded in 1878, The Hindu is one of India's oldest continuously published newspapers and has played a significant role in the country's political and public discourse.
13. **The Indian Express** — Known for detailed political and investigative reporting, with substantial coverage of Indian domestic politics and foreign policy. Articles often provide considerable context and may examine the actions and policies of governments critically. Established in 1932, The Indian Express has developed a reputation for political reporting and investigative journalism, particularly within the Indian media landscape.
14. **The Economist** — Uses a highly analytical and concise style, often focusing on the wider political and economic implications of events rather than simply reporting what happened. Reporters should pay attention to its tendency to connect individual developments to broader global trends. Founded in London in 1843, The Economist began with a strong focus on economic and free-trade issues and has since expanded into influential analysis of global politics, economics, and international affairs.
15. **France 24** — Provides international reporting from a French and European perspective, with significant coverage of Europe, Africa, the Middle East, and international diplomacy. Its reporting generally maintains a professional broadcast-news tone while giving particular attention to French and European interests. Launched in 2006, France 24 was established as France's international news channel and was intended to strengthen France's presence and perspective within global broadcasting.
16. **Deutsche Welle** — Provides international reporting with a distinctly European and German perspective. Coverage frequently focuses on European politics, international security, human rights, migration, and Germany's role in global affairs. Founded in 1953, Deutsche Welle is Germany's international broadcaster and was established to provide German perspectives and information to audiences outside Germany.
17. **Reuters** — Known primarily for concise, fact-focused reporting and relatively restrained language. Articles generally prioritise verified information, statements from relevant actors, and developments over



strong editorial commentary, making its style particularly useful as a contrast to more opinion-driven outlets. Founded in London in 1851, Reuters developed from a news agency focused on rapidly transmitting information and has since become one of the world's major providers of international news.

18. **Politico** — Places a strong emphasis on political institutions, policymakers, elections, lobbying, and behind-the-scenes developments. Its reporting often assumes an audience interested in the political process itself, particularly within the United States and Europe. Founded in 2007, Politico was created with a particular focus on political journalism and has since expanded its coverage from US politics to European and international political affairs.
19. **Xinhua** — As China's state news agency, its reporting frequently reflects official Chinese positions and terminology. Reporters should pay close attention to how international events are framed from the perspective of Chinese foreign policy and national interests. Founded in 1931, Xinhua has developed into China's principal state news agency and plays a central role in communicating China's official narratives to domestic and international audiences.
20. **NHK World-Japan** — Generally uses a formal, measured broadcasting style, with a strong focus on Japan and East Asia alongside international affairs. Coverage often places regional developments within a Japanese diplomatic, economic, or security context. NHK World-Japan is the international service of Japan's public broadcaster NHK, providing Japanese and international news to audiences outside Japan.

While writing for the IPC, reporters should not attempt to reproduce the opinions of an agency by compromising factual accuracy. Instead, research the event independently, verify the information through credible sources, and then consider how the assigned agency would choose to frame, prioritise, and present those facts to its audience.

Formats and Types of Submissions

Opinion Editorials (Op-Eds)

Opinion Editorials (or Op-Eds) are 600–800 word articles typically present on the editorial page of newspapers, written by experienced professionals in the respective field. They are argumentative articles that allow reporters to draw connections, use literary techniques, and any other methods to improve the quality and substance of the content. It is essentially an argument or interpretation backed with facts, reasoning, and logic. It is often on a sub-topic of a committee's agenda that reflects a range of opinions, perspectives, and viewpoints of participating delegates and stakeholders.

Opinion Polls

Short articles approximately 200–300 words in length that aim to cover and outline the overall sentiment of a committee on a certain issue, and any consensus reached. Attempt framing questions under relevant sub-topics of an agenda and circulating it within the committee, or sharply observing stances of delegates from the committee. Cover the general stance or opinion (or differing opinions) of the committee and its participants with reasoning for the same. The submission may also focus on varying views or intricacies in perspective. All opinion polls must be submitted along with a graphical representation, such as a pie chart or a bar graph.

Character Sketches

An in-depth coverage fleshing out the characteristics and traits of an institution, entity, prominent delegate, political movement or proposal relevant to a certain agenda or sub-topic. Being a 200–300 word article, it must be



highly pertinent to the agenda and deepen understanding of the personality of the subject while viewing the same with an unbiased lens.

Beat

An observational report covering significant developments within a committee, presented in a logical or preferably chronological sequence. It should capture the progression of debate, reflect the arguments made by delegates, and prioritise relevant quotations and developments while capturing the essence of the committee. Personal opinions should be minimised, with emphasis placed on accurately documenting what occurred in committee. Beats must be approximately 300–400 words.

Interview Articles

Reporters may identify pertinent issues in committee with scope for investigation and probe further, focusing on gathering information from one or a small group of delegates on the selected issue. Being a careful blend between curation and questioning, reporters must accumulate multiple viewpoints and show an understanding of stances in their writing, covering the same in a 600–800 word article. Avoid confusing interview articles with press conferences.

Press Conferences

This is an opportunity for reporters to exhibit their knowledge and research by questioning delegates in allocated committees, and to observe answers. Reporters may investigate the stances, activities and opinions of delegates, and scrutinise them in parallel to their foreign policy, past actions, and individual stakes.

Research Recommendations

Reporters are encouraged to approach their research with the mindset of a journalist. Rather than focusing solely on proposed solutions, consider how the issue has developed, who is shaping the narrative, and how the story is being presented to the public. Research should cover the historical context of the topic as well as recent developments, with particular attention given to the roles of governments, international organisations, media outlets, civil society, and affected communities.

As members of the IPC, reporters should be prepared to examine the issue from multiple perspectives. Compare reporting from different countries and media organisations, and consider how differences in political interests, editorial choices, and access to information can influence the way an event is reported. Questions surrounding press freedom, censorship, misinformation, propaganda, and journalistic ethics should also be considered where relevant.

Reporters should prioritise reliable and varied sources, including official documents, statements, reputable news organisations, investigative reporting, academic research, and first-hand accounts. At the same time, research should not simply accept information at face value: consider who produced a source, what purpose it serves, what evidence supports its claims, and whose perspective may be absent. Ultimately, aim to understand not only what is happening, but how the information surrounding it is produced, reported, and received by the public. Strong preparation will allow you to question narratives, identify gaps in existing coverage, and contribute meaningfully to the journalistic discussion within the committee.