



IP

INTERNATIONAL PRESS

Official Study Guide



AGENDA

*Journalism
&
Photography*

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Letter from the EB

Esteemed delegates,

We welcome you to the International Press at JBCN Oshiwara MUN 2025. We hope this message finds you well and look forward to seeing you soon. We are honoured to have you as part of a committee that plays an essential, and often underestimated, role at every Model United Nations. While others may write resolutions, you will be writing and photographing the narrative of this conference.

This guide is intended to give all of you aspiring delegates details and an overview of the IP committee, along with the abilities you will need to succeed in your roles. Feel free to contact us, regardless of your level of expertise as a delegate or your desire to just talk. We are available to help and support you during this process. As your directors, we are here to guide you, challenge you, and support you throughout this journey. Our goal is to help you refine your voice, sharpen your perspective, and produce work that reflects insight and integrity. We look forward to working with each of you and watching the MUN unfold through your lenses and your words.

Tishtrya Karbhary
Head of Press

Maanya Tewary
Head of Photography

Introduction to the Committee

In an age overflowing with information, where truth and misinformation constantly compete for attention, you, the press delegates, play a vital role as champions of honesty and clarity. You have the unique ability to highlight the reality of this conference with accuracy, intelligence, and a spark of wit. The International Press committee is here to ensure that every voice is acknowledged, every key moment is recorded, and your impact on the larger conversation is recognized. It's your dedication that brings depth and meaning to this conference, by reporting discussions, tracking developments, and capturing outcomes.

As part of this committee, you'll step into the shoes of journalists and photographers, covering the actions and debates unfolding across various committees. Our goal is to support you as you grow your skills in observation, writing, visual storytelling, and ethical reporting. We expect you to carry forward the core values of journalism, integrity, impartiality, openness, and fairness while embracing the learning process.

Although the IP committee maintains a relaxed and engaging environment (with a few well-placed puns from your chairs), the task you've been given is a serious and important one. Your work has the power to shape how this conference is remembered. We're here to guide you through the journey, to celebrate your wins, and to navigate any challenges together. So, get ready to explore the world of press and bring your unique perspective to the stories that matter.

List of Key Terms

PHOTOGRAPHY

Perspective: The art of representing three-dimensional objects on a two-dimensional surface to give the right impression of their height, width, depth, and position with each other.

Contrast: Contrast is the range of brightness, from lightest to darkest, in an image.

Lighting: The way a light source, artificial or natural, illuminates the scene or subject that is photographed.

Focus: The sharpest area of the image.

Backlighting: The positioning of the light source behind the subject.

Composition: The arrangement of visual elements within a frame

Storytelling: Capturing moments that, when pieced together, reveal a larger story

Leading lines: A result of human-made or natural lines that lead the viewer's eyes through the photograph to the subject or the heart of the image.

Balance: An arrangement of elements within the frame to achieve equal visual weight across the image.

Emphasis: Drawing attention to a particular subject or element within an image.

JOURNALISM

Byline: A line at the head of an article giving the writer's name.

Transparency: The honesty and aspect of accountability of the media.

Accuracy: A journalist's responsibility is to see whether the facts of reporting are true.

Impartiality: The quality of a journalist to not be biased.

Correspondents: To collect, verify, and analyse information about newsworthy events to produce new stories that are fair and accurate.

Proximity: Describes news events that occur close to the location of the reporter.

Novelty: Events that are unusual, dramatic, or of human interest/appeal to the media.

Loaded words: Words that carry additional emotional weight or significance, whether positive or negative.

Inverted Pyramid: A style of writing where the most important information is presented first, followed by supporting details in descending order of importance.

Source: The individual or entity that provides information for a news story

Spin: A biased or misleading presentation of information, often used by public relations professionals or politicians

History Of Press

The International Press (IP) Committee, now a staple in most major MUN conferences, didn't always exist. In the early days of Model UN, committees only concentrated on nation-based diplomacy and resolution-making, closely imitating the General Assembly, Security Council, and ECOSOC, the three main UN bodies. However, as conferences became more realistic and larger in scope, organisers realised that three essential components of actual international affairs were absent: communication, critique, and coverage.

The idea of an MUN press emerged as a way to reflect the role of media in diplomacy. Delegates were no longer the only voices in the room, journalists began reporting on speeches, exposing contradictions, and highlighting power plays. Initially, the press committee worked behind the scenes, producing short bulletins or summary reports. Over time, it evolved into a platform for creativity, analysis, and investigation. IP delegates now take on roles like reporters, photojournalists, and editors representing fictional or real-world media houses, adding both tension and entertainment to the conference.

Today, the International Press contributes to the transparency and vibrancy of MUNs. Through articles, interviews, photographs, satire, and live updates, IP shapes public perception within the conference. It holds delegates accountable while giving them a chance to amplify their country's voice beyond formal sessions. As MUN culture continues to grow globally, the press committee has become a space where journalism, diplomacy, and storytelling intersect, empowering students not just to simulate diplomacy, but to document and question it.

Instructions For The Delegates

All delegates must adhere to the following:

Photographers

1. Photographers are not permitted to edit their photos or render them in any manner.
2. Photographers must ensure even coverage of all delegates and committees.
3. All photos must be submitted by the given deadline.
4. Bringing a professional camera is recommended.
5. Photographers must not hinder the ongoing discussions or proceedings of the other committee.
6. Photographers are permitted to use phones in cases they are not able to acquire cameras (cameras are preferred).
7. Ensure all photographic equipment (cameras, lenses, batteries, memory cards) is in working order before the start of each day. Carry extra batteries and memory cards if required.
8. Maintain a professional and respectful demeanour at all times.

Journalists

1. There is to be NO usage of any AI.
2. All reports must be submitted by the given deadline.
3. Font size for headline should be '16.'
4. Font size for dateline/ byline should be 14.
5. The font size for the report should be 12.
6. The font style should be Times New Roman/Sans Serif.
7. The word limit should not exceed 1200 words.
8. Journalists must not hinder the ongoing discussions or proceedings of the other committees.
9. Journalists must take permission from the chair of the respective committees incase they have to interview any other delegate.
10. Journalists must avoid plagiarism and must cite any direct quotations taken from the internet or any other form of media.
11. Understand the positions and policies of the countries represented.
12. Report facts accurately without inserting personal opinions or biases.
13. Ensure fair coverage of all viewpoints.
14. Conduct yourself professionally at all times.

Interviewing and Photography Process

Role of Photography

As photographers of the International Press, you are the eyes of the conference. While words capture ideas, your lens captures moments the expressions, gestures and atmosphere that bring debates to life. Delegates get to move around all other committees, you are not bound to any specific committee. Each photographer must submit their 20 best pictures based on the given theme by the deadline on each day.

Role of Press

As a reporter, you are expected to conduct one interview minimum, but before you interview a delegate of another committee, there is a certain protocol that you must follow.

Before conducting an interview, you must:

- Be familiar with the agenda of the delegates' committee, and gather background information on the topic. Make sure you understand the interviewee's stance on the agenda.
- Have an objective, define the purpose of the interview; it could be to gather a delegate's opinions on a resolution or get two opposing delegates' points of view.
- Prepare a list of around ten questions, keep in mind that they should be open-ended questions that allow the interviewee to elaborate freely. Make sure to pose questions that are not too direct but still elicit elaborated responses.
- Make sure to take note of the delegate's statements, word for word, to avoid misquoting the delegate. Note that recording the delegate is permitted if they have given you their consent.

Types of reports

Beat reports - Beat reporters gather information, conduct interviews (simulated within the conference), and produce articles that provide comprehensive coverage and analysis of their assigned beat. This approach helps delegates deepen their understanding of complex issues and contribute more effectively to discussions within their committees.

Op-ed reports - "Op-ed" stands for "opposite the editorial page," traditionally referring to articles written by guest contributors or regular columnists that express personal opinions or perspectives on current issues. In the context of a Model United Nations conference, op-ed reports simulate the writing of opinion pieces by delegates. These reports allow delegates to articulate their stance on specific topics, propose solutions to challenges, or critique existing policies or resolutions discussed within their committees.

Press conferences

It's mandatory for journalism delegates to conduct one press conference under our guidance. In the conference, delegates will be expected to write 5 or more questions, challenging delegates' previous statements to elicit responses from them. Press conferences offer an opportunity to hear directly from delegates of other nations. This can provide reporters with more diverse viewpoints on the topic under discussion. For any further doubts about press conferences, a ROP (rules of procedure) session will be conducted online.