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# IPC STUDY GUIDE

AGENDA- **MEDIA IN  
CONFLICT ZONES**



ADITYA BIRLA  
MODEL UNITED NATIONS

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# Letter from the EB

Dear Delegates,

I am delighted to personally invite you to ABMUN 2024! I'm Anandi Patel - your Head of Press for this year. I'm presently enrolled in the A levels and am in the 12th grade. To tell you more about myself -I enjoy studying psychology and economics. Outside of MUNning, I also like to travel, play the piano and play golf. Regarding the press, I have been involved in the International Press Corp since my tenth grade year, and I have always loved participating in news conferences and making fun of delegations! I have transformed personally and discovered a lot about myself and the abilities I possess, during my time in the IPC.

What I enjoy about the IPC is that it gives one the flexibility to express yourself verbally and through words, on your foreign policy. Being extremely well-researched is of course, the finest advice I can offer; but in a press crisis, anything may happen; so confidence is of utmost importance. Make your talks engaging by using drama, but don't forget to get right to the point—long speeches are just dramatized & entertaining but useless! Secondly, adhere to your foreign policy. You can be as controversial as you like, but always remember to support your allies and respect national policy. Keep in mind that, as a member of the press, you speak for your nation's media, hence can only implement affirmative action through communiqués. Finally, avoid writing dull articles! Nobody desires to peruse an article that appears to have been lifted off the internet. I'm excited to see what each of you has to offer! Please do not hesitate to contact me with any queries you may have. I will be pleased to assist you. All the best!

Regards,  
Anandi Patel.



# Letter from the EB

Hello future journalists and professional rumour mill managers (this was Chat GPT's idea, not mine). Welcome to the International Press Corps at ABMUN 2024! I'm Dev Shah, your Co Head of Press, and let's just say, we're about to make headlines!

First, a bit about me: I'm an ambitious 12th grader who loves binging TV shows, partying like there's no tomorrow (this doesn't make me unambitious; I promise), I play badminton and hit the gym regularly (trying to stay fit enough to run from deadlines). My MUN journey started back in the 8th grade when I was the Head of Press for Junior MUN. In the 10th grade, I took home the Best Delegate award (Press Committee), and repeated that feat in the 11th grade. So, if you need any IPC survival tips, I'm your guy!

Now, let's talk about what we're here for. As reporters, we're the voice for the voiceless and the eyes that see through the fog of misinformation. Think of us as the Sherlock Holmes of the news world, minus the stalker hat (unless you really want to wear one, no judgment here). In today's world, we're bombarded with information from all sides, and not all of it is trustworthy. Our mission in the IPC is to protect the truth and fight the spread of skewed information. It's a tough job, but someone's gotta do it! Remember, as press delegates, your job isn't just to write daily press releases but also to ask questions—lots of them! Question fellow delegates, argue till your point is made, establish dominance and ensure to shake the room up. If you're ever confused during the committee or miss something, just ask the chairs to fill you in. We're here to help. The key to being a great journalist is curiosity and a nose for the truth, so keep those creative juices flowing. Research is vital to our committee, stay informed and stay ready to battle all the crises that come your way.

And above all, have fun! MUN is as much about learning and growing as it is about enjoying the process. So let's make this a MUN to remember! Looking forward to seeing yall soon, all the best!

Best Regards,  
Dev Shah.

# Letter from the EB



Dear Delegates,

Welcome to the International Press Corps at ABMUN 2024! As your Editor of Press, I'm thrilled to embark on this journey with you (surely, I can't cut short on the written dramatics and clichés as the Editor), I can't wait to see the incredible write-ups you guys will send and am looking forward to producing together some unforgettable ABMUN newsletters.

Here's what you need to know about me: I'm a grade 12 IB student, somehow scrambling through my final year in this program with the much-needed help of caffeine and an even greater love for literature to pull me through. My hobbies include horse riding and reading, with my favorite book being "The Secret History" by Donna Tartt. It's a masterpiece that delves into the complexities of human nature (read: the perfect Pinterest academia mood-boards) —much like the thrilling world of MUN, where every session is a new chapter waiting to be written. If there's one thing you should know, it's that I will always be open to discussions about my literary loves.

In all honesty, I am quite new to the MUN community hence do feel just as nervous as a lot of you out there. On that note, I'd like to remind you that you shouldn't be afraid to speak your mind in this space. As daunting as it may seem, MUN thrives on heated and passionate discussions so don't rob your peers or yourself of that experience! In simple words, your job is to be as nosy as you can – ask all your questions, drill fellow delegates until you have your answers and research as though your life depends on it.

Coming to my job as your Editor, I'm looking for something beyond just skilful writing – at this point, that's not hard to come across in a community such as this –, I'm looking for a flair in your writing that makes even the most MUNDane MUN stories captivating. Reporting goes beyond simply retelling the events of the day, it's a craft that makes these events memorable to everyone. When sending your pieces, don't let them be a simple, chronological 'report'; make it fun, inject it with your personal and your voice. And of course, do not forget to send in your work on time if you don't want to be chased :)

To conclude, which I must do sooner rather than later else the letter will read 5 pages at the very least, feel free to get in touch with me for absolutely anything you need. I'm always down to help make ABMUN 2024 an unforgettable and comfortable experience for everyone.

Warm Regards,  
Sneha Chakrabarti

# Introduction



## HISTORY

The Press Corps this year will be made up of various components, each of which will play a pivotal role in helping us judge the Press delegates. For those who are new to the IPC, it will have a committee just like any other UN committee. The twist lies in the fact that this will be a crisis committee, where Press delegates gather to dissect the profound influence of the media in conflict zones. Our agenda is anchored in understanding how media coverage shapes public perception and policy amidst conflict, while also scrutinising the ethical imperatives guiding reporting from war-torn regions.

The committee will delve into critical issues concerning the protection of journalists operating in volatile environments. The aim is to explore the challenges they face and the measures necessary to safeguard their vital role in delivering accurate and unbiased information. Additionally, confront the pervasive issues of media bias and propaganda, examining their implications for shaping narratives and influencing international opinion during crises. In the contemporary landscape, the impact of social media in modern conflicts cannot be overstated. As delegates of the press corps, analysing the media's dual role as a powerful tool for disseminating information and a potential vector for misinformation and propaganda will be one of the key criterias .

Furthermore, the scourge of fake news poses a significant threat to global perceptions and policy-making. Our discussion will seek to understand its dissemination mechanisms and explore strategies to mitigate its harmful effects on public discourse and international relations. As delegates of this esteemed assembly, your insights and contributions are integral to unravelling these complex issues and charting a course towards a more informed and responsible media landscape in conflict zones.



# Introduction



## IMPORTANT THINGS TO REMEMBER

- **Plagiarism:** Originality in articles is of utmost importance, plagiarism of any kind will not be tolerated under any circumstances at AB MUN 2024. Press delegates are free to use outside sources of information but will be required to cite these sources and mention where they quote others' thoughts, work or ideas. Our secretariat will be inspecting all work submitted for the newsletter with scrutiny, and if any delegate is caught plagiarising he/she will not be considered for an award.
- **Research:** Research plays a pivotal role in enhancing the quality of your article. Research must be done not only on the background, writing style and stance of your news agency but also on your assigned committees' topic and background. Press delegates must be as well researched as the other delegates in order to ensure a quality Opinion piece. Also, for the purpose of the press crisis it is recommended to be well-read on current affairs and have a general understanding of international politics.
- **General Tips:** Choose one specific topic discussed or incident that occurred to write about instead of just touching upon every minor detail. This will ensure that your article stands out. Take as many interviews as possible, even if you haven't been told to do one- interviews make the newsletter fun and interesting to read. Make it a point to ensure that the questions asked are unique and amusing, instead of the basic, monotonous questions. Titles given to articles are of utmost importance, so make sure that the titles are amusing and eye- catching, so as to grab the attention of the reader. Carry a laptop, pen drive or storage stick, pens, paper, colour pencils, a phone with a camera and access to mobile data. Photographers should arrange for their own camera equipment, SD cards and memory sticks. All delegates must be dressed in formal attire throughout the conference. It is important to write in a politically correct manner- ensure that no religion, nationality, race, gender, etc. is offended in your articles. Articles need to be submitted with font-size: 12 in Times New Roman. The full name and designated news agency of the writer has to be included at the end of all articles. When leaving and entering committees ensure that you do so in a quiet manner. Ensure that you are not disrupting the committee at any given point in time, and it is preferable if mobile phones are kept on silent. Press members may be requested to leave the committee (in cases of voting or when feedback sessions are being conducted), so we request you to be respectful of this and cooperate with them.



# Introduction

## Tips for the Press Crisis:

1. Pay close attention to committee proceedings.
1. Research the agenda as well as the countries involved well.
1. Prepare your questions in advance to ensure that they are coherent and concise.
1. Be confident and raise thought-provoking questions that stimulate the quality of debate.
1. Avoid being extremely aggressive.

## Submissions:

You are expected to submit your articles, photographs, illustrations and other relevant material by a certain deadline given to you.

If you fail to submit your work, it will not be published.

Your work will be edited and reviewed to make a noteworthy newsletter.  
Constructive criticism on pieces will be given.





## Press Crisis

The Press Crisis is an integral component of the Press Corps. It is an informal debate that touches upon various current affairs. It is vital for a press delegate to be well-versed about their country, newspaper, and its stance. As the crisis progresses, the committee indulges in robust debates, where various problems and solutions will be discussed. Do not be overwhelmed by the array of topics that will be covered; just be confident while speaking. The crisis tends to talk about controversial topics, which tends to cause frequent interruptions by other delegates. In case you miss out on something said by another delegate, you can always (politely) ask them to repeat. We urge you to keep raising your hand, and bringing up different points. It's completely okay to fumble a little; you can always make it up by introducing different communiqués, touching upon original and unique points, and by constantly questioning moves made by other delegates. A small piece of advice would be to be aware of your bias at all times, and keep in mind the biases of others just in case!

## Press Conferences:

Press conferences are often introduced by the directors or reporters to relieve boredom from the ongoing debate. In a press conference, the reporters of a committee will be required to ask the delegates, usually the most prominent delegates with respect to the agenda being discussed in the committee, a series of questions. The purpose may be to question them on aspects such as their stance on the topic or to test their research by challenging the validity of the facts presented by the delegate in the committee. As a press reporter, you may also criticise any working papers or resolutions presented by the delegates. In order to effectively question the delegates, vigilance is key.

## Quizzes, Polls, Crosswords, etc

At ABMUN, a press release is more than just a compilation of various, length articles and written pieces. As a reporter, it's your job to go beyond the basic requirement and think outside the box. Quizzes, polls and crosswords make the newsletter exciting and fun to read. In the past, we've seen some ingenious creations such as BuzzFeed quizzes that tell you who is most like in the committee, heartfelt poems and extremely witty and relatable committee related memes. Put your creativity to the test. Activities like crosswords and quizzes engage the readers so be sure to make something that catches their eye.

# Types of Articles



## 1. Formal Articles

These are extremely informative and to the point. They usually follow the flow of first mentioning the lead, the important facts, and ending with the background or least important information. The source of the information is extremely important and direct quotes are essential. The different types of formal articles delegates may write are investigative journalism (this aims to uncover the truth about a particular person, subject or event- an expose based on an accurate presentation of facts) and op-eds (stands for “opposite the editorial page”, where the writer states their opinion about the topic, often with the intention of persuading the reader to think in one direction or another).

## 1. Procedural Articles

These discuss ‘what’s going on in committee.’ This could include a part of the delegate GSL, a specific moderated caucus, a particular speech given by a delegate, or even aspects of the Press Crisis. An ideal Procedural Article should include the topic/issue addressed, the important members involved, the repercussions, the opinions of other delegates, and many quotations. After stating the above, the journalist is expected to provide his/her opinion on the situation, after analysis.

## 1. Coloured Articles

These are usually informal or semiformal in nature, they could be something as frivolous as celebrity gossip, and comics to quizzes and satirical presentations of delegates or their demeanour. Please note that articles that personally offend someone will not be published in the newsletter at the discretion of the secretariat. Coloured articles may also be accompanied by memes (using photographs taken at AB MUN) and satirical illustrations.

Please note: Samples of the aforementioned articles will be provided to all delegates closer to the conference. Moreover, the Secretariat will play an active role in helping ideate, and refine all written pieces.

# News Agencies



## The New York Times

The New York Times is a morning daily newspaper published in New York City, has long been the newspaper of record in the United States and one of the world's great newspapers. Its strength is in its editorial excellence; it has never been the largest newspaper in terms of circulation.

**The  
New York  
Times**

## Fox News

Fox News Channel, is an American cable television news and political commentary channel. It is owned by Fox News Media which itself is owned by the Fox Corporation. It is a 24-hour all-encompassing news service that caters to a conservative audience. However, Fox News has been accused of biased reporting and strongly supports the Republican Party.



# News Agencies



## **The Guardian**

The Guardian is an influential newspaper based in London and is considered one of the United Kingdom's leading newspapers. Along with its sister papers, The Observer and The Guardian Weekly, The Guardian is part of the Guardian Media Group. The Guardian reports on a diverse array of topics ranging from literary reviews, to multicultural insights, and political commentary.



## **BBC News**

BBC News is an operational business division of the British Broadcasting Corporation responsible for the gathering and broadcasting of news and current affairs in the UK and around the world. With a special section covering the 'War in Ukraine'- the BBC provides unbiased reporting on almost every major issue in the contemporary world. Also renowned for their insightful documentaries and hourly broadcasts on current affairs, the BBC stands as the largest broadcaster in the world.



# News Agencies



## Al Jazeera

Al Jazeera is a Qatari pay television news channel owned by the Al Jazeera Media Network, headquartered in Doha, Qatar. It is the first English-language news channel to be headquartered in the Middle East. The first independent news channel in the Arab world, Al Jazeera is now one of the largest and most influential international news networks in the world. Its journalists however, have been in the crossfire, and at times paid a heavy price for seeking to bring the truth to its audiences.



## Republic TV

Republic TV is an Indian right-wing conservative English-language news channel launched in May 2017. It was co-founded by Arnab Goswami and Rajeev Chandrasekhar, before the latter relinquished his stake in May 2019, leaving Goswami as the majority stakeholder.

Republic TV is famous for its investigative and often explosive style of reporting. Although its factual accuracy is questionable, the agency is backed by a number of passionate followers.



# News Agencies



## The Hindu

The Hindu, is an English language newspaper published in Chennai, Madras since 1878 as a weekly newspaper and on its website. Soon after in 1889, it became the popular newspaper we recognize today. The Hindu is principally regarded as one of India's most influential dailies.



# THE HINDU

## Daily Sabah

The Daily Sabah is a Turkish pro-government daily newspaper, published in Turkey. It's available in English, Arabic, and owned by the Turkuvaz Media Group. Daily Sabah is a nationwide publication. Daily Sabah presents its readers with accurate facts while remaining committed to democracy, the rule of law, human rights and liberty according to Turkish press ethics.





# News Agencies



## Associated Press of Pakistan

Associated Press of Pakistan is the government-operated national news agency of Pakistan. Headquartered in Islamabad, APP has nine bureaus and seven stations. It has Foreign Correspondents in Washington, London, New Delhi and Beijing, besides a Stringer at the United Nations.



## Le Figaro

Le Figaro is a French daily morning newspaper founded in 1826. The oldest national newspaper in France, Le Figaro is one of three French newspapers of record, along with Le Monde and Libération.



# News Agencies



## **Balkan Insight**

The English-language website from the Balkan Investigative Reporting Network is the place to find independent news, analysis and investigations from Southern and Eastern Europe. The BIRN collaborates with other international media so their work is regularly republished by outlets such as The Economist, the BBC or the Guardian



## **Deutsche Welle**

Germany's multilingual broadcaster is the starting point for news from Germany in English, with high quality reporting, analysis and features. It is a state-owned international broadcaster funded by the German federal tax budget. The service is available in 32 languages. DW has six focus topics: freedom and human rights, democracy and good governance, free trade and social justice, technology and innovation, health education, nutrition and environmental protection, and German and European culture.



# News Agencies



## UN News

In line with its tag line- global perspective, human stories, the UN News is an agency solely affiliated to the United Nations and is thus an unconventional news agency, in that it has no official ties to any country and represents the views of the UN as a governing body. UN News publishes news features and analyses on a variety of social, political, economic, development and cultural issues, involving the UN and its work. As a representative of the UN however, it can only present the issue and cannot reflect any opinion or view on the same.



## The Kyiv Independent

Only launched in November 2021 (albeit by experienced journalists who were fired from their former newsroom amid attempts to undermine its independence), the Kyiv Independent has already become a go-to source for reporting on the Russian war in Ukraine. The conflict is the main story the outlet currently covers, with news updates, analysis and a podcast.

**THE KYIV INDEPENDENT**

# News Agencies



## Channel News Asia

CNA is a Singapore multinational news channel owned by the country's national public broadcaster Mediacorp. An English-language news network Positioned to “Understand Asia”, it reports on global developments with Asian perspectives. CNA has correspondents in major Asian cities and key Western ones, including New York, Washington D.C., London and Brussels.



## The Xinhua News Agency

Xinhua is a ministry-level institution subordinate to the Chinese central government and is the highest-ranking state media organ in the country alongside the People's Daily. Headed by a member of the Central Committee of China's Communist Party, Xinhua is a channel for the distribution of information related to the ruling Chinese Communist Party.





## The Chosun Ilbo

CN The Chosun Ilbo is a daily English-language newspaper based in Seoul, South Korea. Chosun Media Group owns The Chosun Ilbo. The Chosun Ilbo has historically taken a hardlined stance against North Korea.



## Ha'aretz

Ha 'aretz is an Israeli independent daily newspaper with a broadly liberal outlook both on domestic issues and on international affairs. The paper is perhaps best known for its Op-ed page, where its senior columnists - among them some of Israel's leading commentators and analysts - reflect on current events.





## **The Moscow Times**

The Moscow Times is an independent English-language and Russian-language online newspaper. All editorial decisions are made independently by their team of editors and reporters, a practice that has been in place since The Moscow Times was founded in 1992.



## **Bakhtar News Agency (BNA)**

Bakhtar News Agency, based in Kabul, is the official state news agency of the Afghan government. It is published in the languages Dari, English and Pashto thus making it more accessible and a major source of news for all media in Afghanistan.





# News Agencies



## The Saudi Gazette

Founded in 1978, the Saudi Gazette is one of the leading English-language daily newspapers based in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, published by OKAZ. The Saudi Gazette publishes news and opinions concerning national, Arab, and international issues.

Saudi Gazette

## Reuters

Reuters is one of the largest news agencies in the world. It is headquartered in London, but is a part of the Thomson Reuters Corporation. Reuters has a robust fact checking system that ensures its reputation as a “reliable source of information”. The agency prides itself on its “Trust Principles” that supposedly serve as the perfect antidote to fake news.



REUTERS

## Dawn

The Dawn is Pakistan’s oldest, leading and most widely read English- language newspaper. The Dawn Media Group covers three areas: print media (organised as a separate division called Dawn Group of Newspapers), broadcast media, and internet media.

DAWN

## **The Electronic Intifada**

The Electronic Intifada is an online Chicago-based publication covering the Israeli–Palestinian conflict. It describes itself as not-for-profit, independent, and providing a Palestinian perspective. The Electronic Intifada has won awards and earned widespread recognition for publishing original, high-quality news and analysis. As a publication, The Electronic Intifada generally does not take positions on specific issues, but it does provide a forum where commonly excluded perspectives and challenging viewpoints are presented.



## **The Asahi Shimbun**

Founded in 1879, The Asahi Shimbun, also known as Asahi News, is one of Japan's oldest and largest national daily newspapers. The Asahi Shimbun, headquartered in Osaka, Japan is widely regarded for its journalism especially their opinion pieces regarding politics.

# The Asahi Shimbun

# Terms to Remember for Crisis



**Motion to Enter Formal Debate:** This is the first motion of the conference and is made to move into formal debate and open the primary speakers list. All delegates wishing to be added to the speakers list should raise their placards at the request of the chairs.

**Motion to Suspend Formal Debate:** This motion suspends a crisis committee session for the day. It will be revoked by a “motion to resume formal debate” before beginning the next crisis committee session.

**Motion to End Formal Debate:** This motion is called for at the end of the last session, thus formally ending the conference.

**Unmoderated Caucus:** This means temporarily suspending formal debate for a specified amount of time. Use it to create resolutions, talk to other delegates, or anything else you may need to do. Once this motion is seconded by another delegate, it is not debatable, and needs a simple majority to pass.

**Moderated Caucus:** This motion brings the body into a moderated debate on the issue on the floor for a specified amount of time. The chair will recognize speakers for a specified amount of time, who cannot yield to anyone but the Chair at the end of their speech. This motion may not be made once debate has been closed.

**Working Papers:** This is a document where delegates formulate and propose solutions relevant to the crisis at hand and in accordance with their news agencies' stance. It serves as a formal proposal that asks the assembly to express an opinion, affirm a policy, or take a specific action. Working papers are not limited to just written documents. Delegates can also submit other forms of content such as reports, graphs, and images to support their proposals. In the IPC, a working paper acts as a draft resolution and needs to have an appropriate number of signatories.

**Point of Order:** This point may be raised when you feel that a delegate or the Chair is not abiding by correct parliamentary procedure. A point of order is allowed to interrupt the speaker.

**Point of Personal Privilege:** This point is used to indicate personal discomforts or impediments to debate. It may be raised during the debate if, for example, you cannot hear the speaker or feel uncomfortably hot or cold.

# Terms to Remember for Crisis



**Point of Inquiry:** This point may be raised after a speaker yields to questions. It is used to ask a question of the speaker relating to the speech just given. It may also be used to ask the chair a question regarding parliamentary procedure during a normal session.

**Point of Parliamentary Inquiry:** Used to ask any questions about procedure that you may have.

**Communiqués:** Communiqué means an official announcement about a very important piece of news. A delegate may send a communiqué (via chat) to other members of the committee, or the external world vis-a-vis the dias (via email).

Example:

From: Russia

To: Iran

Greetings to the Iranian Delegation, We must insist you speak to our economics group to discuss the way this pipeline will be paid for. We were hoping to sell our oil to you through this pipeline. Maybe we could have the pipeline reach to countries who aren't as rich in oil as we are. We could sell our oil to them. The idea of transporting water to Iran is a wonderful prospect, but how exactly would we transport the water to you?

# Position Paper Guidelines



Dear Delegates, since the crisis of the IPC is undeclared you will be required to fill out a template in place of writing a formal position paper. This template will help you understand your political position better and give you direction while choosing the diction, and tone of your articles.

The template is as follows:

NAME OF NEWS AGENCY-

Country of Origin	
Political Stance and what it means (Left, Right, Centre)	
Types of Articles Written	
Owned by (Name)	
Major Controversies	
Degree of Freedom	
Voice of articles written	
Influence of the government (0.5 with evidence)	

A helpful website you may utilise in researching the bias of your news agency is <https://mediabiasfactcheck.com/>.

The deadline for submission is September 8th, 2023 at 11:59 pm.

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## Contact

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