

THE MUN FACTORY

INTERNATIONAL PRESS (IP) COMMITTEE

DELEGATE GUIDE

AGENDA:

Comprehensive Coverage and Ethical Reporting of Model United Nations Proceedings

2026

1 THE MUN FACTORY

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1.1.1.2 2026

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1.3 1. About the International Press (IP) Committee

1.3.1 Introduction

The International Press (IP) Committee at a Model United Nations (MUN) conference serves as the media arm, responsible for documenting, analyzing, and disseminating information about the conference proceedings. Comprising both journalists and photographers, the IP committee plays a crucial role in capturing the essence of the debates, delegate interactions, and overall atmosphere of the MUN. It acts as the voice and eyes of the conference, providing a platform for delegates to engage with the wider narrative of the event [1].

1.3.2 Mandate

The IP committee's mandate includes:

- Providing comprehensive and independent coverage of all committee proceedings and significant events.
- Upholding journalistic integrity, accuracy, and professionalism in all forms of reporting.
- Documenting key moments and interactions through impactful photography.
- Facilitating understanding, dialogue, and awareness among delegates and the wider audience through integrated and balanced reports.

- Producing various forms of media, including articles, interviews, and visual content, to reflect the dynamics of the conference.

1.3.3 Membership

The IP committee typically consists of two primary roles:

- **Journalists:** Responsible for written reports, articles, and interviews, focusing on factual reporting, analysis, and sometimes opinion pieces.
- **Photographers:** Tasked with capturing visually compelling and journalistically meaningful moments throughout the conference.

An Editor-in-Chief usually leads the committee, overseeing the work of both journalists and photographers and ensuring the quality and consistency of all published content [3].

1.3.4 Powers and Limitations

The IP committee has unique access to all committees and events, allowing its members to gather information directly from the source. This access grants them significant influence in shaping the narrative of the conference. However, this power comes with the responsibility of ethical reporting and adherence to strict guidelines to maintain impartiality and respect for the delegates and the MUN process. The IP committee does not participate in the substantive debates or decision-making processes of other committees but rather observes and reports on them.

1.4 2. Understanding the Agenda

1.4.1 Definitions

- **Model United Nations (MUN):** An academic simulation of the United Nations where students play the role of delegates from different countries and attempt to solve real-world issues using the policies and perspectives of their assigned country.
- **Journalistic Integrity:** Adherence to a professional and ethical code that includes accuracy, fairness, objectivity, and accountability in reporting.
- **Factual Reporting:** Presenting information based on verifiable facts and evidence, without personal bias or opinion.
- **Opinionated Editorial:** An article that expresses the writer's personal viewpoint or interpretation of events, often with the aim of persuading the reader.
- **Moderated Caucus:** A formal debate procedure in MUN where delegates speak on specific sub-topics of the agenda for a set time, with a moderator controlling the flow.
- **Unmoderated Caucus:** An informal debate procedure where delegates can move freely, engage in discussions, and form blocs to draft resolutions, without strict adherence to speaking times or formal procedures.
- **Press Release:** An official statement issued to journalists providing information on a particular matter.

1.4.2 Scope of the Agenda

This agenda focuses on the critical role of the International Press (IP) Committee in providing comprehensive, independent, and ethical coverage of Model United Nations proceedings. It aims

to ensure that both journalists and photographers understand their responsibilities, adhere to professional standards, and effectively contribute to the overall MUN experience by accurately documenting the debates, resolutions, and delegate interactions. The deliberation will cover best practices for reporting, ethical considerations, and technical guidelines for media production within the MUN framework.

1.4.3 Why the Issue Matters Today

- **Transparency and Accountability:** The IP committee ensures transparency by reporting on the proceedings of various committees, holding delegates accountable for their statements and actions [2].
- **Enhancing the MUN Experience:** High-quality reporting and photography elevate the MUN experience for all participants, providing a realistic simulation of international diplomacy and media coverage.
- **Skill Development:** Participation in the IP committee offers invaluable experience in journalism, photography, critical analysis, and ethical reporting for students interested in media and communications.
- **Shaping Narratives:** The way events are reported can significantly influence perceptions and understanding. The IP committee has the power to shape the narrative of the conference, making ethical considerations paramount.
- **Documenting History:** The reports and photographs produced by the IP committee serve as a historical record of the conference, capturing key decisions, memorable moments, and the evolution of debates.

1.5 3. Historical Background of Press in Model United Nations

The inclusion of a press corps in Model United Nations conferences mirrors the vital role of media in real-world international diplomacy. Historically, the press has been instrumental in informing the public, shaping public opinion, and holding international bodies accountable. In MUN, the press corps evolved to add a layer of realism and dynamic interaction, allowing delegates to experience the scrutiny and influence of media coverage firsthand.

Early MUN conferences primarily focused on committee debates. However, as the simulations grew in complexity and sought to emulate real-world scenarios more closely, the need for a dedicated media presence became apparent. The International Press committee emerged to fill this gap, providing a platform for participants to engage with the conference from a journalistic perspective. This addition not only enriched the delegate experience but also offered a unique educational opportunity for those interested in media and international relations.

Over the years, the role of the MUN press corps has expanded from simple reporting to include various forms of media, such as online news platforms, social media updates, and multimedia content. This evolution reflects the broader changes in the global media landscape, emphasizing the importance of diverse and engaging reporting methods.

1.6 4. Roles and Responsibilities of Journalists

Journalists in the IP committee are responsible for the written content that informs delegates and the wider audience about the conference. Their duties require a keen eye for detail, strong writing skills, and a commitment to journalistic ethics [1].

1.6.1 Key Responsibilities:

- **Reporting on Committee Proceedings:** Attending committee sessions, taking detailed notes, and understanding the nuances of debates, resolutions, and directives.
- **Writing Articles:** Producing various types of articles, including factual reports, news summaries, analytical pieces, and opinionated editorials, based on the proceedings.
- **Conducting Interviews:** Engaging with delegates, chairs, and other MUN officials to gather quotes, insights, and diverse perspectives on the issues being discussed.
- **Fact-Checking and Accuracy:** Ensuring that all reported information, quotes, and statistics are accurate and verified from reliable sources.
- **Meeting Deadlines:** Submitting articles and reports within specified timeframes to ensure timely dissemination of information.
- **Maintaining Objectivity:** Striving to present a balanced view of events, avoiding personal biases, and representing different viewpoints fairly, especially in factual reporting.
- **Ethical Conduct:** Adhering to principles of integrity, respecting privacy, and avoiding sensationalism or misrepresentation.

1.6.2 Types of Articles:

- **Beat-Based Article:** A specialized, factual article focusing on a specific subject or development within a committee. It requires in-depth research and may include direct quotes and statistical data. Personal opinions are generally excluded [1].
- **Opinionated Editorial:** An article that presents the writer's personal opinion or interpretation of an issue. While reflecting individual viewpoints, it should still be well-researched and contribute to informed debate [1].
- **News Report:** A straightforward account of events, summarizing key developments, speeches, and outcomes from committee sessions.

1.7 5. Roles and Responsibilities of Photographers

Photographers in the IP committee are tasked with capturing the visual narrative of the MUN conference. Their work adds a dynamic and engaging dimension to the media coverage, bringing the debates and interactions to life [2].

1.7.1 Key Responsibilities:

- **Documenting Key Moments:** Capturing significant events, such as opening ceremonies, speeches, voting procedures, and the signing of resolutions.
- **Capturing Delegate Interactions:** Photographing delegates engaged in debate, negotiation, and informal discussions, highlighting their expressions and body language.

- **Visual Storytelling:** Creating a visual record that conveys the atmosphere, intensity, and human element of the conference.
- **Technical Proficiency:** Ensuring high-quality images through proper lighting, composition, and camera settings.
- **Ethical Photography:** Respecting the privacy of individuals, avoiding intrusive photography, and ensuring that images accurately represent the events without manipulation.
- **Submission Requirements:** Submitting a specified number of photographs within deadlines, often with captions and metadata [1].

1.7.2 What to Photograph:

- **Committee Sessions:** Wide shots of the committee room, close-ups of delegates speaking, note-passing, and group interactions.
 - **Executive Board:** Photographs of the Chair and other Executive Board members overseeing the proceedings.
 - **Informal Sessions:** Delegates during unmoderated caucuses, bloc formations, and informal discussions.
 - **Keynote Speakers and Special Events:** Capturing moments from opening/closing ceremonies, guest speakers, and social events.
 - **Diverse Representation:** Ensuring that a variety of delegates, committees, and activities are represented in the photographic coverage.
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1.8 6. Ethical Guidelines and Reporting Standards

Ethical conduct is paramount for all members of the International Press committee. Adhering to these guidelines ensures the credibility of the IP and the integrity of the MUN conference [1] [2].

1.8.1 Core Principles:

- **Accuracy and Fact-Checking:** All information, whether written or visual, must be accurate and thoroughly verified. Corrections should be issued promptly if errors occur.
- **Objectivity and Impartiality:** Reports should present a balanced view, reflecting diverse perspectives without personal bias. This is especially crucial for factual reporting.
- **Integrity and Transparency:** Be transparent about sources and potential conflicts of interest. Avoid plagiarism and ensure all content is original.
- **Respect for Privacy:** Exercise discretion when photographing or reporting on delegates, especially during informal moments. Obtain consent when necessary for interviews or close-up shots.
- **Avoid Sensationalism:** Focus on substantive issues and avoid exaggerating events or creating unnecessary drama for the sake of attention.
- **Fair Representation:** Ensure that all delegates and committees are represented fairly and without prejudice in reports and photographs.
- **Confidentiality:** Respect any requests for off-the-record discussions or confidential information.

1.8.2 Reporting Standards:

- **Clear Attribution:** Clearly attribute all quotes, data, and significant information to their sources.

- **Contextualization:** Provide sufficient background and context to help readers understand the significance of events and discussions.
 - **Professional Language:** Use formal and respectful language in all written reports. Avoid slang, jargon, or informal expressions unless specifically intended for a particular style of article (e.g., satire).
 - **Image Integrity:** Photographs should not be manipulated or altered in a way that misrepresents the reality of the event.
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1.9 7. Types of Reporting

The IP committee engages in various forms of reporting to provide comprehensive coverage of the MUN conference. The choice of reporting style depends on the nature of the information and the intended impact [1].

1.9.1 Written Reporting:

- **News Articles/Summaries:** These are objective reports that provide a concise overview of events, debates, and outcomes in various committees. They focus on the facts, key speakers, and decisions made.
- **Feature Articles:** More in-depth pieces that explore specific topics, delegate profiles, or underlying themes of the conference. They can be more analytical and offer a broader perspective.
- **Opinion Pieces/Editorials:** These articles allow journalists to express their informed opinions on issues, policies, or the overall direction of debates. They are clearly marked as opinion and aim to stimulate thought and discussion.
- **Interviews:** Transcripts or summaries of conversations with delegates, chairs, or other officials, providing direct insights and quotes.
- **Press Releases:** Formal announcements issued by the IP committee or on behalf of specific committees to convey important information or outcomes.

1.9.2 Visual Reporting:

- **Photojournalism:** Capturing candid and posed photographs that tell a story, document events, and highlight key moments and emotions during the conference.
 - **Multimedia Content:** In some advanced MUNs, IP committees may produce short video clips, audio recordings of speeches, or interactive online content to enhance their reporting.
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1.10 8. What to Report and What Not to Report

Understanding the boundaries of reporting is crucial for maintaining the integrity of the MUN simulation and respecting delegate privacy [1].

1.10.1 What to Report:

- **Formal Debate (General Speakers' List - GSL):** All speeches and discussions during the GSL are open for reporting and can be quoted directly in articles.

- **Moderated Caucus:** Discussions and statements made during Moderated Caucuses can be reported. These often provide insights into specific sub-topics and delegate positions.
- **Crisis Updates:** Any crisis scenarios introduced in committees are fair game for reporting, as they are part of the official proceedings.
- **Resolutions and Directives:** The content of working papers, draft resolutions, and adopted resolutions should be reported accurately.
- **Public Statements:** Any official statements or press conferences held by committees or individual delegates.
- **Delegate Actions:** Observable actions and interactions that are part of the formal debate or clearly intended for public view.

1.10.2 What Not to Report (Strictly Prohibited):

- **Unmoderated Caucus:** Discussions, negotiations, or informal interactions during Unmoderated Caucuses are strictly off-the-record. These are private discussions meant for delegates to strategize freely, and reporting on them is a breach of trust and can disrupt the simulation [1].
- **Personal Information:** Any personal details about delegates that are not publicly shared or relevant to the conference proceedings.
- **Gossip or Speculation:** Reporting on rumors, unverified information, or personal opinions not expressed in a formal capacity.
- **Disruptive Behavior:** Journalists and photographers must not interfere with committee proceedings, debates, or delegate interactions. Their role is to observe and report, not to participate or influence.
- **Off-the-Record Conversations:** Any information explicitly designated as off-the-record should not be reported.

1.11 9. Technical Guidelines for Photographers

Photographers play a crucial role in visually documenting the MUN conference. Adhering to technical guidelines ensures high-quality and consistent visual content.

1.11.1 Equipment and Settings:

- **Camera:** Use a digital single-lens reflex (DSLR) or mirrorless camera for optimal image quality and control.
- **Lenses:** A versatile zoom lens (e.g., 24-70mm or 70-200mm) is recommended for capturing both wide shots and close-ups. A prime lens (e.g., 50mm f/1.8) can be useful for low-light conditions.
- **Lighting:** Utilize available natural light as much as possible. Avoid using on-camera flash unless absolutely necessary, as it can be disruptive and produce harsh lighting. Be mindful of shadows and reflections.
- **Settings:**
 - **ISO:** Keep ISO as low as possible to minimize noise, adjusting based on lighting conditions.
 - **Aperture:** Use a wider aperture (lower f-number) for portraits and shallow depth of field, and a narrower aperture (higher f-number) for group shots and sharp focus throughout the scene.

- **Shutter Speed:** Ensure a fast enough shutter speed to prevent motion blur, especially for candid shots.
- **Batteries and Memory Cards:** Always carry spare batteries and sufficient memory cards to avoid interruptions.

1.11.2 Composition and Framing:

- **Rule of Thirds:** Position key subjects along the intersecting lines or at the intersections of a tic-tac-toe grid for more dynamic compositions.
- **Leading Lines:** Use natural lines in the environment to draw the viewer's eye towards the subject.
- **Framing:** Use elements within the scene (e.g., doorways, windows, other delegates) to frame your subjects.
- **Angles:** Experiment with different angles (low, high, eye-level) to add variety and interest to your shots.
- **Candid vs. Posed:** While candid shots often capture genuine moments, don't hesitate to take well-composed posed shots, especially for group photos or specific delegate portraits.

1.11.3 Submission and Editing:

- **File Format:** Submit images in high-resolution JPEG format. RAW files may be requested for specific purposes.
- **Basic Editing:** Perform basic edits such as cropping, exposure adjustment, white balance correction, and minor color grading. Avoid excessive manipulation that alters the reality of the image.
- **Captioning:** Provide accurate and concise captions for all submitted photographs, identifying individuals, committees, and the context of the event.
- **Quantity:** Photographers are often required to submit a minimum number of photographs per day or per conference, for example, 100 photos over two days [1]. Ensure a diverse selection of subjects and moments.

1.12 10. Questions a Resolution Should Address

For the International Press (IP) Committee to effectively fulfill its role, a resolution or set of guidelines should address the following key questions:

- **Clarification of Reporting Boundaries:** How can the distinction between reportable and non-reportable content (especially during informal sessions) be made clearer to all delegates and IP members?
- **Access and Privileges:** What level of access should IP members have to committee sessions, delegate caucuses, and private discussions, while respecting the integrity of the simulation?
- **Ethical Enforcement:** What mechanisms should be in place to address breaches of journalistic ethics or reporting guidelines by IP members?
- **Training and Preparation:** How can IP members be better trained and prepared for their roles, including workshops on journalistic ethics, photography techniques, and MUN procedures?
- **Technological Integration:** How can technology (e.g., social media platforms, online news portals, multimedia tools) be effectively and responsibly integrated into IP reporting?

- **Feedback Mechanisms:** How can delegates and committee chairs provide feedback on IP coverage to ensure accuracy, fairness, and constructive engagement?
 - **Protection of IP Members:** What measures can be taken to ensure the safety and unimpeded work of IP members during the conference?
 - **Recognition and Impact:** How can the contributions of the IP committee be better recognized, and how can their work be utilized to enhance the overall impact and reach of the MUN conference?
 - **Diversity in Reporting:** How can the IP committee ensure diverse representation in its reporting, covering a wide range of committees, delegates, and perspectives?
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1.13 11. Delegate Research Guide

Delegates of the International Press Committee are encouraged to conduct thorough research on the following areas to prepare for their roles:

- **Journalism Ethics:** Familiarize yourself with fundamental principles of journalism, including accuracy, objectivity, fairness, and accountability.
 - **Photojournalism Best Practices:** Research techniques for capturing compelling and ethical photographs in dynamic environments.
 - **MUN Procedures:** Understand the various stages of debate (GSL, Moderated Caucus, Unmoderated Caucus) and the rules of procedure in MUN committees.
 - **Current Events and Global Issues:** Stay informed about the topics being debated in other MUN committees to provide relevant and insightful coverage.
 - **Media Law and Freedom of Press:** Understand the legal and ethical frameworks surrounding media operations and freedom of expression.
 - **Interview Techniques:** Learn how to conduct effective interviews to elicit informative and engaging responses from delegates and officials.
 - **Writing Styles:** Practice different writing styles, including news reporting, feature writing, and opinion pieces, to adapt to various reporting needs.
 - **Photography Software:** Gain basic proficiency in photo editing software for post-processing and optimization of images.
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1.14 12. Glossary, Official Resources & Bibliography

1.14.1 Glossary

- **BCCI:** Board of Control for Cricket in India
- **GSL:** General Speakers' List
- **IP:** International Press
- **MUN:** Model United Nations
- **RTM:** Right to Match

1.14.2 Official Resources

- **The MUN Factory:** <https://www.themunfactory.com/> (Hypothetical, for context)

- **Model United Nations Official Resources:** (General MUN resources can be found on various MUN conference websites and educational platforms)

1.14.3 Bibliography

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