

# THE INTERNATIONAL PRESS CORPS

THE ROLE OF PRESS IN REVOLUTIONS



**STUDY GUIDE**  
**JB MUN 2024**

# Table of Contents

1. Letters from the EB	1-4
2. The Importance of Media	05
3. Topic Area Summary:	6-9
i) Role of Press in a Revolution	
ii) Role of Press in a Crisis	
iii) Safety of Journalists	
4. Case Study- The french Revolution	10
5. Media Bias	12
6. Left & Right News Agencies	12
7. Press Procedure	1-4
8. Types of Articles	15-19
i) Procedurals	
ii) Opinion Editorials or Op-Eds	
iii) Coloured Articles	
9. Points For Further Research	20
10. Position Paper	20
11. Bibliography	21-22

## Letter from the Director

Dear Delegates,

It fills me with utmost pride to be your Head of Press for the academic year 2024–25 & Chair for the International Press Corps! The IPC is something I hold very close to my heart; the reason why I cherish the IPC so much is because it lets you express yourself in so many different ways. It could be through debate, writing, photography, or even illustration—whatever medium you're comfortable with.

I still remember my first MUN experience in the IPC. I was the delegate of the New York Times, I was so confused all the time that, by the end of it, I got sick (literally). Even though my experience was one I want to forget, I'll always remember it for the sole reason that, in some way, I became more confident than I was when I first entered the IPC. After that, I have always pushed myself forward to do better and better, so that by the end of it, I'll have the best version of myself. Yes, it did feel overwhelming at first, and I was uncomfortable, but discomfort breeds innovation.

Outside MUN, my interests lie in watching movies (especially a good old rom-com) and spending some time with my friends and catching up with them whenever I find time during the tenth grade. In my free time I enjoy listening to music, so if you have any recommendations, don't hesitate to send them my way! I love swimming and I find myself to love it even more when I'm doing it with friends simply to relax.

Something I look forward to in every MUN I go to is the manner in which people say their speeches. Yes, your speech needs to contain facts but don't shy away from making them entertaining. Start with a song or incorporate a few puns here and there. Also always answer questions, whether it's from a delegate or the EB, because always being game for questions means that you're confident in yourself and your points & that's somewhat rare in a MUN.

If I had to give advice to delegates, new or old, it would be that: genuinely, no one cares as much as you think they do. People are so nervous about focusing on what they might've said during the committee that they won't even notice you if you make a mistake. Even after having so many experiences in the IPC or other committees, I still feel a tingling sense of nervousness and excitement while I go up to give my first speech. I know how it feels to not know the answer to a question or how it feels when you have completely embarrassed yourself through your speeches. However, it doesn't matter because, by the end of that same week, you will be laughing about it. Don't give so much heed to your mistakes, but instead focus on improving them immediately in your next speech. Stay active throughout the committee, even though you may not get recognized once or twice.

At the end of it all, I promise that you will not regret your decision to take part in the IPC or MUN, in that matter. Just like me and my other friends, you will make memories that you will take with you once you leave the committee. With determination and the right support, it's possible to turn a negative experience into something profoundly rewarding. If anything is unclear, I'm available for any questions you may have! I look forward to seeing you all at JBMUN this year.

Wishing you all the very best,  
Your Head of Press,  
Raima Daftary

## Letter From the Director

Dear Delegates,

It's with great pleasure and honour that I, welcome you to this year's session of JBMUN. After years of MUNning, debating, doing rigorous research and battling nerves, I still can't help but feel excited at the thought of being your chair. I have absolute faith that the International Press Corps this year will not only stun me with its enthusiastic first-timers and bright minds, but also with sharp wit, humour and an unforgettable experience! My journey in the field of debate and model United Nations has been an extreme roller coaster with its joyous climbs and merciless drops, it has been a journey filled with milestones, breakdowns and new friendships.

I realise that now, after over ten conferences, I have overcome the tingles and nausea I felt during my first MUN - the shaking of my hand, the blurry vision, the whispered speech. I know for a fact that a few of you - especially first-timers, are feeling exactly the same way, and I hope that you know that no one is judging you for that. The anxiety only means you care and want to do your best, and I believe in each of you - I know you can do it. If you feel scared or nervous since it's your first time, just remember that it's our first time as well - our first time as chairs.

My favourite thing about Model UN is Crises and Communiques! As a constant crises delegate and murder-mystery-enthusiast, I absolutely adore a good ol' extremist arc in committee. While violence is definitely not the answer to real world problems, a little bit of radical extremism never hurt anyone in a MUN - not really anyways. If you wish to impress me with your comms, make them as detailed and realistically unrealistic as you possibly can! If it seems a tad bit too much, it's probably just enough. Maintain decorum while you have fun with it :)

Although my previous paragraphs make it sound like my entire life is MUN, I do have an extensive list of ever-growing hobbies other than MUNning. My parents, who met when they were journalists, have passed down their passion for writing and reading to me. While I'm secretly trying to get into rom-coms (recommendations needed!), my forever comfort genre will always be thrilling murder mysteries and sci-fi. Movies and binge-watching old T.V. shows are another one of hobbies, bonus points if it's from the 90's and something I've watched one too many times. Besides bed-rotting while watching Big Bang Theory, I love sketching and drawing - not so much when it comes to school assignments or still life, more so when it's a bunch of portraits I drew during a 3 a.m. burst of creativity and energy.

I feel like that's more than enough about me, especially considering I don't know much about most of you. Before I end this letter, I'd like to leave you all with one last piece of advice - no sentence can be effective if it contains facts alone, it must also contain emotion, image, logic and promise. Keep this in mind - especially when it comes to giving speeches, delegates. I'm looking forward to your productive conversations and innovative solutions to the contemporary issues at hand. Make sure to think on your feet and battle any and every crisis we throw at you. If you have any questions, always feel free to shoot me a message!

Signing off,  
Raaynaa Tripathi,  
Editor of Press

## **Letter From the Assistant Director:**

Dear Delegates,

It is with great excitement and honour that I, your Assistant Director of the International Press Corps, welcome you to this year's session of JBMUN! The thrill of being part of such a vibrant and dynamic group never fades, and I can't wait to see the creativity and enthusiasm you all bring to the table.

My journey in the world of Model United Nations has been nothing short of exhilarating. From my first conference, where I was filled with a mix of nerves and anticipation, to now, where I embrace every crisis with enthusiasm, it's been a remarkable ride. I understand that many of you may be feeling the same jitters I once did, especially if this is your first MUN. Remember, those butterflies are a sign of your passion, and I believe in each and every one of you!

One of my favorite aspects of MUN is the thrill of crises. There's nothing quite like the fast-paced excitement of a crisis committee, where quick thinking and creativity can lead to unexpected twists and turns. I encourage you to embrace this chaotic energy! Let your ideas flow freely and don't shy away from the unexpected; the more imaginative, the better!

I have a particular appreciation for well-crafted communiqués and passionate speeches. The way you articulate your thoughts and emotions can truly elevate the debate and engage your fellow delegates. So, strive to make your communications both impactful and memorable!

Outside of MUN, I have a few passions that keep me grounded. I love playing sports, whether it's a friendly game on the field or cheering for my favorite teams. Music is another big part of my life; there's nothing like a great playlist to lift my spirits. And when I need to unwind, you can usually find me binge-watching my favorite shows. I'm always on the lookout for recommendations, especially if it's something exciting or filled with unexpected twists!

Before I wrap up, I'd like to share a bit of advice: in the world of debate, it's not just about the facts; it's about the stories you tell and the emotions you evoke. Your speeches should resonate, so remember to infuse them with passion and imagery.

I look forward to witnessing the incredible conversations and solutions you all will bring to the pressing issues we face. Don't hesitate to reach out if you have questions or just want to chat—I'm here to help!

Wishing you all an unforgettable experience at JBMUN!

Warm regards,  
Aryaveer Jain

Assistant Director of the International Press Corps

## Letter From the Assistant Director

Dear Delegates,

I am ever grateful for this opportunity and honoured to serve as your Assistant Director for the International Press Corps alongside your talented Head and Editor of Press!

"Press" exerted a magnetic pull on me from my first MUN experience. I found my passion for journalism and the press when I attended my very first MUN conference at JB. Banging our hands against desks. Forging deep bonds with fellow schoolmates and diplomatically finding solutions with them. Engaging in strenuous bouts of writing, occasionally folding to the need for extended submission deadlines. Indulging myself in interviews with my seniors, discovering insights about their experiences with the press. Eagerly anticipating the release of allocations. Delving into deep research about the history, bias, media censorship of my allocated news agency. Feeling that adrenaline rush when I stood to give a particularly dramatic speech. These are all the moments I would have remained oblivious to had my 13-year-old self not chosen to enlist in the IPC for JB MockMun.

I cannot wait to share these very experiences with you this year during the duration of our conference. The excitement and thrill of being involved in the planning and execution of a conference for all our talented delegates never fades, and I look forward to seeing the passion and innovation you all bring to the conference.

One piece of advice I have taken away from the numerous MUN conferences I have attended over the years is that you have to be your own biggest cheerleader and have faith in yourself. Don't overthink about every minor mistake in a speech or a question you were unable to answer satisfactorily, trust me nobody even notices as much as you make it out to be in your head. Don't give up, push through and follow it up with an impactful speech or quick-witted question.

I hold a deep appreciation for questions asked after speeches or when a point someone mentioned in their speech is brought up or addressed in your speech as it shows how much attention each delegate pays during each others speeches and how present they truly are in committee.

Outside of MUNs, my interests revolve around sports, particularly tennis, and staying active. I also love getting lost in a good book and attending my ballet classes to balance strength with grace. But my most favourite thing to do is spend time with my friends— it's amazing how spending just half an hour with them can fix me and all my life's problems! I enjoy listening to music during long drives or "gedi's", where the world feels like it slows down.

I cannot wait to meet each and everyone of you and witness the compelling solutions and meaningful discussions that take place. If you have any questions or doubts at all feel free to reach out to me and I wish you all have a memorable experience at JBMUN this year!

Wishing you all the very best,  
Assistant Director of the International Press Corps,  
Tia Lakra

# **THE IMPORTANCE OF MEDIA**

The importance and the impact of the media, written or electronic cannot be side-lined in the world of today. In the modern world of rapid communication and quick information, media plays a very vital role. A human is a social being and Media being a tool for communication, is a fundamental part of today's society that requires almost instantaneous gratification. Media is intended to inform the public about all relevant information concerning events in the country and the world. It educates the people about their basic rights and how to use them. Media also serves as a link between the government and the people, having such a great influence that it can make or break the government. The information offered to us and withheld from us by the different types of media not only affects our daily lives but also subconsciously moulds our personal opinion regarding any given situation. The media is a very powerful and influential tool used to express public grievances or by shrewd politicians to move opinion in their favour.

The word "journalism" is often complicated and misinterpreted by many. In the 21st century, where technology is at its peak, we can access news from many different platforms hence even bloggers and activists are considered as journalists by countless people. Journalists cannot be solely looked upon as writers, editors, or news anchors. Journalists are expected to be the watchdogs of society and inform the public. It requires great civic duty and a boundless sense of devotion to the truth.

A journalist's first and primary obligation is to the truth because when citizens have access to reliable information that they can trust, they can make better decisions and better govern themselves. For example, they should be able to rely on journalists for truthful and unbiased information about candidates so that they can decide whom to vote for. The same concept applies to every situation including all world affairs.

A journalist serves as an independent monitor of power and offers a voice to the voiceless. People in power often try to get away with their bad deeds, if a journalist were not there to expose them those powerful people would get away with almost anything. On the other hand, most of the people in this world do not have a powerful status but their perspectives and stories are equally important. Finally, journalists provide a public forum for criticism, a factor that is essential for a democratic society to have. Journalism provides many avenues for citizens to speak up, from printing newsletters to even commenting on online articles.

# **THE ROLE OF THE PRESS IN A REVOLUTION**

The press is the fourth pillar of democracy, as it is a moderator between the government and the governed. Additionally, it guarantees that every viewpoint, no matter how controversial, has an opportunity to be heard and understood. It is the job of reporters to uncover the truth, and it is crucial to do so as, in today's world, lies are more common than the truth. To help provide aid and to help people form valid opinions so that they can question their leaders and not blindly follow them is the job and duty of the press and media. Not only this but they let governments and leaders of political organisations know of their shortcomings as well. It works both ways. The press is vital in any healthy and stable democracy.

## **Types of Journalism**

Journalism encompasses numerous mediums, including print, broadcasting, and online. Print journalism is composed of newspapers, periodicals, and journals that provide comprehensive evaluations and investigative reporting. Broadcast journalism propagates news by radio and television, reaching a large audience within seconds. The internet helps online journalism by providing contemporaneous updates and multifaceted data. All these forms of media help in a revolution, some more than others. However each one, in their own way plays a lot contributing factor, all in all which adds up to a lot.

## **What is a Revolution?**

A revolution by definition is a fundamental change in a political organisation. It is a revolt or rebellion which is a forcible overthrow of a government of sorts in favour of a new one. It transforms a society's class, state, ethnic or religious fabric.

The ruling class' hegemonic attitudes are the impetus behind the efforts to construct a revolutionary organisation. No upper echelons can control the populace through force alone. There must be a hegemonic arm that constantly bombards the public with propaganda that restores normal class injustice and robbery. Obviously, the level of oppression varies per civilization, depending on the wealth and confidence of the elites. The degree of "hard power" subjugation is dictated by the general magnitude of the class conflict.

In an era of instantaneous communication and accelerated broadband connections, you can no longer rely on a print periodical to promptly answer problems that occur during the battle. Revolutionaries on the frontier will continue their duties as "correspondents" for the revolutionary party's "central organ," generating reports and pictures. The website's frequency of updates will reflect both the organisation's strength on the ground and its geographical presence.

The ability of protesters to publish their own media content immediately to a potentially global audience is emerging as a powerful weapon to combat more traditional applications of power and control such as state violence and censorship. As the International Press Corps, we must accept the press as both important in the fight for freedom and a tool of oppression throughout its history. It has not been simply one or the other: it has been both. In a revolution the press is of various kinds, so that it can reach a larger audience, they ranged from cartoons pasted on walls for the illiterate to journals of great elegance. Most revolutionary leaders had their own publications.



The pen is mightier than the sword, is a metaphor that suggests that communication of any sorts is much more impactful than real-time physical violence. The power that writing holds has more of a long lasting than that of a sword. The press in a revolution can be used as a tool in the right hands and be used as a weapon of silence in the wrong ones. On several occasions they have been used as both.

As the International Press it is our duty to decide whether or not the press should be used for the betterment of the world or simply as another front to propagate oppression. There is several proof of the power of the press to shape false images that are accepted as reality, once the press is in the control of an unscrupulous coterie. And in all nations we can measure the role of the press in revolution by the extent to which it has assisted or retarded this trend.



## **THE ROLE OF PRESS IN A CRISIS**

During times of crisis, the press plays an important and complex role in managing and resolving the situation. Its influence goes well beyond just reporting events; it includes informing the public, holding those in authority responsible, amplifying marginalised voices, countering disinformation, and offering emotional support.

The press is vital for conveying timely and accurate information. People rely greatly on the media to deliver important updates during a crisis, whether it is a natural disaster, a political upheaval, or a public health emergency. This information helps people comprehend the scale of the situation, what measures to take, and what to expect in the next days. For example, during the COVID-19 pandemic, news channels provided critical information regarding health guidelines, vaccination availability, and changes in government policies. The precision and speed with which the press disseminates such information can have a considerable impact on public behaviour and adherence to safety measures.

The press not only informs the people, but it also holds those in power accountable. Crisis scenarios frequently bring to light issues of governance and management that require investigation. Investigative journalism can expose flaws in emergency response, corruption, and mismanagement. By doing so, the media guarantees that authorities and organisations are held accountable for their actions, which is critical for preserving public trust and properly managing resources and reactions. For example, media coverage of delays or inefficiency in relief operations can spur essential reforms and improvements.

Another important role of the press during crises is to provide a platform for different views, particularly those of marginalised or disadvantaged communities. Crises frequently disproportionately affect these populations, and media attention can help to bring their experiences and needs to light. By spotlighting the issues that these communities experience, the press promotes empathy and encourages more equitable support. This inclusive approach also helps to battle misinformation and stigma, resulting in a more thorough and sympathetic knowledge of the situation.

Misinformation and rumours can spread quickly during a crisis, escalating panic and uncertainty. The press has an important role in combating falsehoods by delivering factual and reliable information.

In such circumstances, the integrity of journalistic processes is critical, since truthful reporting aids in the dispelling of myths and providing clarification. The media's commitment to truth and verification helps to avoid the spread of damaging misinformation and ensures that public responses are based on facts.

Ultimately, the press plays a complex and critical role during emergencies. The media is critical in navigating and minimising the effects of crises because it informs the people, holds power accountable, amplifies various viewpoints, counters misinformation, and provides emotional support. The effectiveness of this position is dependent on the press's commitment to honesty, integrity, and inclusion, which ensures that it serves society's critical demands during difficult times.

## **SAFETY OF JOURNALISTS**

The definition of safety of journalists would be the ability of those who work in the media, primarily journalists, to collect, filter and gather, process, and release information without anxiety, fear, physical abuse or physical harm or ethical coercion.

Expressing their views is a fundamental right journalists hold and they should feel absolutely comfortable exercising it. However when they do so, they may face aggression and intimidation. Such dangers and threats to press and media sources continue to steadily rise. Around the world, journalists face daily harassment, intimidation, and attacks simply for carrying out their duties. The setting up of a sound place of work is essential for independent journalism to live on. Imagine that your father went to the office one day and came back with a terrorising injury or worse- never made it back home. Journalists should be able to work and simply do their jobs dutifully without being exposed to violence

### **Why are journalists getting harmed?**

The main piece of the problem is figuring out how to focus a story. In order to allow them to form their own opinions, you should present accurate data. This is particularly valid for contentious political issues like war. In order for a journalist to report nothing but the truth, it is their duty to spread the truth, and the “truth” is subjective, so it changes from person to person. Journalists are made of the strongest character and feel that it is their duty to the people to report to society about worldly ongoings as conscientiously as they can. While doing so journalists jeopardise their own lives in the attempt to cover dangerous stories like those in a war set-up where they may need to interview terrorists or cover other risky stories. Sometimes that means talking to unpleasant people or getting in harm’s way. Journalists are at risk of being captured, detained, or murdered as punishment for criticising a political regime or religious ideology.

Each country is solely responsible for investigating and prosecuting those who harm or kill journalists. These crimes are actually very rarely uncovered or investigated thoroughly due to the lack of resources of some countries, and hence only 10% of the murderers of journalists are ever prosecuted. The key take-away from this is that a journalist will fulfil their duty, which is reporting, to the best of their ability. The information they find and carry becomes an issue for certain individuals. This information is sensitive to certain people, and it can cause various problems for them. It is the journalist's instinct to spread what they know, and so that is what they will do, but if their company won’t silence them, someone will. And this shouldn’t be the case, certainly in a world where lying is credited more than saying the truth.

# *Case Study: The Role of the Press in the French Revolution*

The French Revolution (1789–1799) wasn't just a political upheaval—it was a seismic shift in society that forever altered the course of history. At the heart of this change was the role of the press, which became a powerful tool for spreading revolutionary ideas, rallying the people, and challenging the traditional power structures of the monarchy and aristocracy. During this tumultuous time, the press played a pivotal role in stirring up revolutionary fervour, serving as both an instrument of enlightenment and a catalyst for agitation. This case study examines how the press influenced public opinion, shaped political discourse, and even contributed to the surge of violence during the Revolution.

## **Shaping Public Opinion:**

Before the Revolution, the French press was tightly controlled by the monarchy, with severe restrictions on what could be published. However, as Enlightenment thinkers like Rousseau, Voltaire, and Montesquieu began spreading their ideas about liberty, equality, and the rights of man, demand for printed materials surged. Their works reached a growing, literate population, hungry for political change.

As the Revolution gained momentum, the press became a central force in shaping public opinion. Pamphlets, newspapers, and journals began circulating widely, with many writers throwing their support behind revolutionary ideals. The press became a battleground for political factions trying to influence the populace. Radical publications like Jean-Paul Marat's *L'Ami du Peuple* and Jacques Hébert's *Le Père Duchesne* became symbols of the revolution, using inflammatory language to call for the overthrow of the monarchy and often inciting violence. These publications brought political issues out into the open, engaging citizens in public debate and making politics accessible to the masses.

## **The Press as a Political Actor:**

During the Revolution, the press wasn't just reporting the news—it was actively shaping it. Journalists and pamphleteers were no longer mere observers; they became central players in the revolutionary drama. Key figures like Marat and Camille Desmoulins used their platforms not only to inform but also to mobilise the public toward direct action, including mass protests, trials, and even executions. Marat's *L'Ami du Peuple* became notorious for its fiery rhetoric, calling for the violent overthrow of the monarchy. His calls for action resonated with the discontented populace, and his newspaper became a rallying point for revolutionary forces. Through his writing, Marat stoked the fires of fear and suspicion, calling for the execution of counter-revolutionaries, which in turn contributed to the violent atmosphere of the time. Similarly, Desmoulins' *Le Vieux Cordelier* supported the radical phase of the Revolution, though he later criticised the Reign of Terror. This shift highlights how quickly political allegiances could change in the chaotic landscape of the Revolution.

The press wasn't just encouraging action—it was justifying it. During the Reign of Terror, many publications defended the extreme measures taken by revolutionary leaders, framing them as necessary to preserve the revolution itself. This legitimisation of violence through media created a climate of paranoia, where mass executions became a normalised response to perceived threats.

## **Spreading Revolutionary Ideas**

The press was not confined to Paris alone; its reach extended into the provinces and even beyond France's borders. Newspapers, pamphlets, and political cartoons spread revolutionary ideas far and wide, making them accessible even to those with limited literacy. Public readings in coffee houses and taverns allowed the broader populace to engage with the ideas circulating in print, bringing political discourse into everyday life. One of the most effective ways revolutionary ideas spread was through political cartoons and satire. These visual commentaries made powerful statements about the monarchy's perceived corruption and decadence, reinforcing the growing contempt for the king and queen. The use of humour and caricature allowed these messages to resonate even more strongly with the public, undermining the monarchy's authority in a way that words alone could not.

## **Censorship and Control**

Despite the early proliferation of revolutionary media, it wasn't long before the leaders of the Revolution realised the immense power the press wielded—and the threat it posed. The battle for control over the narrative became fierce as different factions rose and fell. The Jacobins, who gained dominance during the Reign of Terror, were particularly adept at using the press to control public perception while silencing opposition.

Under Robespierre's leadership, the revolutionary government moved to censor and control the press, clamping down on dissenting voices. Opposition newspapers were suppressed, and journalists critical of the regime were arrested and executed. Ironically, the very press that had helped spur the Revolution was now being curbed to maintain political stability. In this way, the press became both a powerful tool for inciting change and a victim of the Revolution's excesses.

As the Revolution progressed and Robespierre's fall signalled the end of the Reign of Terror, the press began to shift in tone. Publications became more moderate, as revolutionary leaders sought to restore order after years of chaos. Nonetheless, the impact of the revolutionary press endured, its influence extending far beyond the boundaries of 18th-century France, shaping the role of media in political revolutions to come.

To conclude, the press played a role larger than just a purveyor of information during the French Revolution—was a dynamic force that helped drive the revolution forward. By shaping public opinion, influencing political action, and justifying revolutionary violence, the press became an indispensable part of the revolutionary machinery. Journalists and pamphleteers wielded their pens like swords, directing the course of events and, at times, determining the fates of individuals and movements alike.

## Media Bias

Media bias refers to perceived or actual bias and unfairness in the way news and information are presented. This bias can take many forms, such as selective reporting, emphasizing certain facts over others, and framing the news. Media bias often stems from a variety of factors, including political affiliation, economic pressures, and cultural perspectives. For example, news stations may have owners or sponsors with particular political leanings, which can affect the content and tone of the news. This is evident in how conservative and liberal media in the United States often cover the same story with vastly different angles and interpretations.

Researching about your news agency's media bias is extremely vital and also the most important part of the IPC. Not only will it help you in committee and choosing your blocks but also the tone and content of your articles.

Websites to help you find your media biases are:

<https://mediabiasfactcheck.com/>

<https://www.allsides.com/media-bias/media-bias-chart>

## Left & Right News Agencies

The left–right political spectrum is a system of classifying political positions, ideologies and parties, with emphasis placed upon issues of social equality and social hierarchy. In addition to positions on the left and on the right, there are centrist and moderate positions, which are not strongly aligned with either end of the spectrum.

**Left Bias-** These media sources are moderately to strongly biased toward liberal causes through story selection or political affiliation. It emphasizes economic nationalization, progressivism, more privileges for minorities, etc.

**Right Bias-** These media sources are moderately to strongly biased toward conservative causes through story selection or political affiliation. It emphasizes support for religion, traditional moral order, defence of national interests, etc.

**Centre Bias-** A 'Centre' political leaning is one that is willing to compromise to either side, resulting in a 'Centre-right' and 'Centre-left' position depending on the degree of compromise they engage in with each side. It includes least biased agencies that use very few loaded and crowd steering words. The information published is usually factual and sourced. Such agencies are the most credible among the media.

# **PRESS PROCEDURE**

**Press Conference:** It is when a spokesperson of the Press enters the committee and begins to question delegates. The Directors of these committees are not allowed to directly criticize working papers, but you can. Be prepared to ask questions that can make the committee think, as well as change the course of debate and stir things up. You can only do this if you have (a) sufficient knowledge of the issue being discussed, and (b) been observant during committee sessions to understand what the delegates have been talking about. The point of a Press Conference is not to attack a particular delegate, but to help arrive at the resolution quicker or make debate more productive. Press Conferences must observe the dictates of diplomatic courtesy and must relate to matters of substance within the council only.

**Press Crisis:** It is an informal debate, which may be related to the topic of discussion in the committees. During the crisis, it is imperative that the Press Delegates are well researched about their country and its bias & on their stance on the topic at hand, basic facts about their nation, etc.

**Agenda:** The topic that is to be discussed in committee.

**Bloc:** A group of allied nations/ nations having the same stance on a particular topic.

**Chairs:** The individuals who preside over committee and facilitate debate. They call on speakers, time speeches, and maintain the rules of procedure.

**Challenge:** It is essentially a semiformal argument between delegates with conflicting opinions and is extremely entertaining to watch. A delegate who wishes to 'challenge' another delegate must state the reason for the challenge and receive the approval of the Chair.

**Chit:** A note passed by a delegate to the Dais or to other delegates, regarding committee- related matters.

**Crisis:** An unforeseen situation or problem (example: extremist attack on a government building) that committee must work quickly to solve. Despite their excitement, crises require skilled delegates who can think on their feet.

**Dais:** The table or podium at which the Chairs, Moderators or Directors sit. It is the seat of facilitation of committee.

**Decorum:** Parliamentary/ formal behaviour. (discipline)

**Delegates:** Representatives of various countries' governments in the UN. Delegation: The team of delegates sent by a particular organization.

**Foreign Policy:** The strategies chosen by countries pertaining to their relations with other countries, to safeguard their own interests. (e.g.: India's foreign policy does not allow it to work with Pakistan, who is considered an 'enemy' State) Delegates are expected to adhere to their foreign policies at all times.

**Lobbying:** This is when delegates meet and discuss their policies with each other, form blocs and informally express their views.

**Logistics:** The team responsible for the smooth running of a MUN conference and the comfort of delegates and press members.

**Placard:** The piece of cardstock with a delegate's country name on it, to be raised when one wishes to be recognized by the Chair.

**Presidential Statement:** It is a speech or statement made by a delegate on behalf of the Head of State of the country that he/she is representing. The statement or speech must include the exact words of the Head of State.

**Right to Reply:** A delegate's right to reply to when their personal/ national integrity has been put to question. This may not interrupt any speaker, and if the right to reply is authenticated by the Chair, the offending delegate will be made to apologise in any way deemed fit by the offended delegate.

**Secretariat:** The body of people responsible for the administration and leadership of a MUN conference. They organize the entire conference.

**Secretary-General:** The highest in command of a Model UN conference, and the leader of the Secretariat. They oversee the entire conference.

**Signatories:** All those delegates to wish to discuss a document in committee, irrespective of whether or not they agree with it.

**Table:** To scrap or declare a document null and void.

**Yield:** This is what a delegate chooses to do with their left-over time after their speech is over. They may yield their time to comments, questions, another delegate or to the Dais. Time cannot be yielded in moderated caucuses.



# Plagiarism

Plagiarism is the act of using someone else's work or ideas without proper attribution, presenting them as one's own. As writer Jonathan Bailey stated, "Plagiarism is more than an academic issue; it's a sign of dishonesty and disrespect."

In Model United Nations, plagiarism is particularly harmful. It discredits the individual, damaging their reputation and credibility. MUN conferences are designed to simulate real-world diplomacy and foster critical thinking, research skills, and original debate among participants. When someone plagiarises, they undermine the educational purpose of these simulations. Instead of engaging in genuine research and analysis, plagiarists take shortcuts, which detracts from their learning experience. Moreover, plagiarism disrespects the original creators of the content, denying them the recognition they deserve.

JBMUN '24 will have strict rules against plagiarism. Any delegate who plagiarises - whether it may be in the form of a position paper, a communique, an article or any form of paperwork; will no longer be considered for an award.

## Types Of Articles

News articles in the IPC cover various points depending on the type of article that is being written. Articles are written about different committees or about a particular problem in the committee. But a few key points that should be covered in all articles are:

- What issue is being covered?
- How or why did the issue start?
- Who are the main people involved and why are they involved?
- Your opinion, based on your news agency's media bias.

## Procedural

A procedural article is a type of writing that provides a detailed, step-by-step explanation of how committee proceeded or what happened in the duration of the entire committee. These articles are formal and completely based on facts about what happened in committee. An example would be as followed

## *PROCEDURAL on Ms. Penny Burt's talk*

Hindustan Times (Tia Lakra)

Ms. Penny Burt, an Adjunct Fellow Expert for Indo Pacific Trade and Commerce at Gateway House had an intuitive session with us on 11th April 2023. Being the Australian representative to the W20 (an official G20 engagement group), she shared deep insights on the working of the Women 20 and Business 20 engagement groups, and spoke about financial inclusion of women. She solved all the queries we raised about G20 enthusiastically. Ms. Burt welcomed us quite warmly and immediately introduced herself and dove right into the session. Starting off she informed us the G20 consists of 20 countries but actually the campaign has become quite larger. Using the example of Singapore, it has a relatively small economy however attends the G20 meeting as a permanent guest. She questioned us, asking about what kind of effect the increasing popularity and influential impact of the G20 has on the UN. A lot of us answered correctly stating that the intended focus of each group differed. She compared the United Nations and the G20 conferences pointing out the key differences between them as follows- The G20 is more economy based- born when there was great concern about the future global economy. The UN on the other hand is engaged in maintaining international peace and security.

The G20 works by discussing issues not resolving them. The 20 largest economies come together to discuss problems. They have no formal veto power, no funding and no secretariat all of which the UN does have. When G20 countries can't agree there's a chairman who takes the responsibility of how to resolve the conflict. There can still be an outcome without it being an agreed outcome. However, in the UN each committee either passes or fails the agenda being discussed. SANCTIONS- Sanctions are extremely tough issues and the UN has the power to pass sanctions or resolutions with veto power in the Security Council. Contradictory to the G20, which has no power to pass sanctions but can discuss how they're applied while it is not actually a G20 responsibility.

Ms. Burt started off by saying that the B20 was established in 2010 and that it is the most prominent G20 group, as it lays the process of bringing in views of business and trade. Representatives ask very specific questions on economic activity, as it has a very broad agenda, it deliberates and discusses issues and every year at the summit, comes up with a list of recommendations. They then go to G20 heads of government and leaders and show them this list of recommendations. The purpose of the B20 is to discuss and recommend but also communicate between business communities of the 20 and more. They have a series of task forces and action councils that are tasked with coming up with specific recommendations for the G20. During India's presidency India will decide on a chairman for B20, a B20 secretariat (CII) B20 consists of seven task forces. Task forces meet monthly, discuss and develop recommendations. B20 summit always happens before G20 summit so that recommendations get to go forward.

Ms. Burt then moved on to another engagement group which is a non government group established under G20. The Women 20 focuses on economic empowerment of women. Women actually remain systematically less represented in the economy than men and have lower income. At the 2014 G20, the W20 was presented as they wanted to reduce the gender employment gap by 25% by 2025. WE HAVE NOT ACHIEVED THAT! Under the Turkish presidency 2015, the first W20 meeting was in order, where they addressed the '25 by 25' and the economic gender gap, discussed, and recommended ways to reduce this gap.

W20 decides on sets of themes or issues and then has task forces, and the discussions recommendations. Each G20 country has delegates in W20. The W20 summit ends in a declaration. During Indonesia's presidency the topics were as follows: non discrimination, equality, rural women and women-run businesses.

During India's presidency, the representatives will focus on women's entrepreneurship and digital inclusion of women! Ms. Burttt concluded- unfortunately women have far less access or skill to the digital world. so it is imperative to solve this problem. Ms. Burttt also added that not all engagement groups were created equal, so some groups like W20 get far less resources and less time with the government, less than organisations like b20 and less attention unfortunately. She also gave us the following statistics: B20- 39 countries: 706 members that's quite powerful W20- 20 countries, 50 members

## Opinion Editorial

Op-Ed's are informal articles where a person can write about their opinions according to their bias and stance. This article can be funny but it still needs to include facts. To write a good Op-Ed you are supposed to know your allocations stance properly and you need to be well researched on the topic you are writing on. For example:

### *America's Very Own Circus aka the US Senate*

The New York Times (Raima Daftary).

If you look up a synonym for the US Senate on Google, you'll definitely get the word 'circus'. At this very moment, the debt ceiling in the USA is coming crashing down. However, the senators would rather focus on playing the blame game. From calling each other backstabbing snakes to being traitors, the US Senate truly has it all. The senators are all playing monopoly with the government however no one seems to be winning.

The stench of hypocrisy is truly overwhelming, as all of them are 'saying' that they should do something, but no one actually has the courage to take a step. The economy is crashing, and yet all they care about is insulting each other.

If the economy crashing is not enough, the US is still actively participating in the Russia-Ukraine war. The delegation of Ron Wyden wants to suspend helping the war and suspend the discussion of the debt ceiling as well, so what does he want to discuss?

The US Senate would rather focus on calling each other ice-cream-stealing children rather than focusing on real-life issues that have already impacted their country majorly.

Affecting so many jobs wasn't already enough for them, so they decided to capture a journalist from the New York Times and hold them at gunpoint when they were the ones who uncovered the 'truth'.

As we have learned from the past, the US Senate keeps on shocking us with never-before-seen problems, when they should be the ones solving them. But this time they really crossed all the lines, by capturing a journalist from the New York Times.

One would believe that the Democratic Party probably did this, seeing as though they published information against them, but unsurprisingly they surprised us. It was actually a Republican who captured the journalist. The incompetence of the US Senate is really hitting the ceiling, which is why, just like the London Bridge, the debt ceiling is falling down, down, down.

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If one could take away anything from this session of the US Senate, it would only be that the US economy and US are both in shambles. From capturing journalists to being in cahoots with big corporations, the US Senate would rather do anything that actually addresses the crisis at hand. They are gambling away the future of the Americans and that's probably the only thing they've done well.

## Coloured Articles

These are typically funny and you don't have to follow any bias. They are written to lighten up or to joke about what took place in committee. These articles can be short stories, poems (the short story and poem doesn't have to be funny, it could be serious or sad) or it could be comparing delegates of a committee to people from shows, musicals, places or characters. For example:



### *The DISEC Committee as Rappers*

The Daily Sabah (Raima Daftary)

#### **Kanye West- The delegate of Eritrea**

Like the rapper himself, the delegate of Eritrea is not scared to speak his mind even if it means insulting his fellow delegates or fellow colleagues in his Kanye's case. Kanye is no stranger to controversies and so neither is the delegate of Eritrea.

#### **Eminem- The Delegate of the Prosperity Party**

Unlike the rapper himself, this delegate only screams. He tries to get his point across but he talks just as fast as Eminem. Yet, he's clear in his stance and is influencing this committee like how Eminem has influenced rap.

#### **Mc Stan- The Delegate of Algeria**

The delegate of Algeria got into a physical fight with the leader of ISIS like how rapper Mc Stan got into a physical fight with his audience member.

#### **Central Cee- The Delegate of Zimbabwe**

The delegate of Zimbabwe has a different approach to her speeches like Central Cee has to rap. Unlike her fellow delegates she speaks calmly and gets her points across perfectly.

#### **Drake- The Delegate of the TPLF**

This delegate is action-oriented and is not afraid to take a stand like the rapper. She adapts quickly to the crisis and has the best comebacks in her entire committee

A poem:

## WHEN WILL THERE BE PEACE?

*The Sun (Raima Daftary)*

Illegal manufacturing and trafficking of arms Fuels conflicts in various parts of Africa. civilians dying left, right, and centre; however, no cries of help were answered. How can we allow this? No one is raising their voice. It's a silent genocide

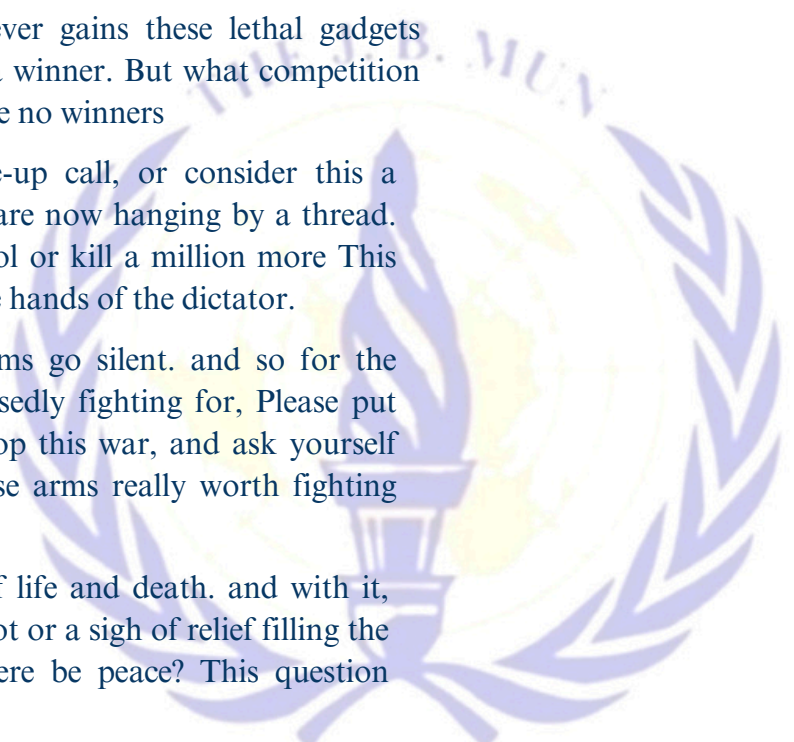
Across borders, bulk orders distributing military-grade weapons like they're quarters A silent network of rebel groups fuels this illicit trade. They gain weapons or act as catalysts in this two-way trade.

made in shady underground factories then sold to the highest bidder. Whoever gains these lethal gadgets considers themselves a winner. But what competition is this? There should be no winners

Consider this a wake-up call, or consider this a threat. Human rights are now hanging by a thread. Improve border control or kill a million more This decision now lies in the hands of the dictator.

Conflicts die when arms go silent. and so for the people they are supposedly fighting for, Please put down the guns and stop this war, and ask yourself this question. Are these arms really worth fighting for?

This decision is one of life and death. and with it, there will either be a riot or a sigh of relief filling the air. But when will there be peace? This question only seems to echo on



# Points for further research

- Does the press in some way start a revolution?
- Has the Press ever stopped a revolution?
- Can the press have a negative impact on a revolution?
- Has the press has been used to elevate the cause or to suppress it?
- How is the safety of journalists threatened during a revolution?
- How can the safety of journalists be guaranteed in a revolution?
- What supplies can be provided for the safety of safety?
- What aspects of a journalist's safety are compromised?
- How does the press work with the government in crisis?
- How can the press be a part of the solution?

## *Position Paper Guidelines*

This year to ensure that each press member is well informed, you will be required to write a position paper.

On the top right side of your paper you are required to write- your name, school, allocation and country.

Font- size **12 Times New Roman**

Here are a few pointers to keep in mind while writing your position paper:

- Explain your News Agency or newspaper's political alignment and bias along with any important information about it. **(100 words)**
- Has Your News Agency ever been part of a revolution and if they have, how has your news agency been involved? **(100 words)**
- Solutions for safety of journalists and how your news agency can help journalists in areas of crisis **(100 words)**

Please include a bibliography at the end of your position paper, with the links to the sites you used for your research.

Your Positions Papers are due on the **20th of October 11:59**  
er, **2024 11:59pm latest.**

Position papers must be submitted before midnight on the deadline day or the delegate will not be eligible for an award.

Email your completed position papers to [jbpetit.ipc@gmail.com](mailto:jbpetit.ipc@gmail.com)

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