



MCGSMUN 2025



Eye of The Hurricane

International Press Corps

Letter from the Chair

Dear Delegates,

Welcome to the International Press Corps at MCGSMUN 2025! My name is Harsh Jain, and I have the distinct pleasure of serving as your Chair. I am excited to work with all of you this April as we dive into the world of journalism and global issues!

As you all may know, the IPC offers a truly unique MUN experience, unlike any other committee. It's hard to imagine a MUN conference without the constant raising of placards or speeches off the podium, but I assure you, your experience with the IPC will be just as dynamic, albeit in a slightly different form. As members of the IPC, your primary role is to write and report on world issues, reflecting the journalistic nature of our committee. You will be tasked with writing articles after each session, using your writing to capture the essence of the debates, the stances of countries, and the overall global conversation.

In the past year, we have seen profound changes in the landscape of global reporting. The ongoing conflicts in Palestine and Ukraine have brought journalism into the spotlight in new and complex ways. Press coverage of these crises has been shaped not only by the challenges of gathering accurate information in conflict zones but also by the pressure of reporting in an environment where media freedoms are increasingly under threat. As a journalist, you will be tasked with navigating these complexities: balancing objectivity with empathy, truth with context, and facts with the ever-evolving political dynamics.

Another crucial shift we've seen in the past year is the role of social media in shaping news. Platforms that once served as an outlet for citizen journalism have now become a battleground for the control of narratives. While this has allowed for diverse voices to emerge, it has also introduced an era of disinformation and misinformation. As future journalists, it is essential that you develop a critical eye for what you read and share, and always prioritize the trustworthiness of your sources.

In the face of these challenges, the role of mainstream media has also come under scrutiny. With increasing scepticism about the information that circulates in mainstream outlets, the question of trust in the media is more pressing than ever. As members of the IPC, your responsibility is to adhere to the highest standards of journalistic integrity, offering reporting that is both truthful and

balanced. But at the same time, don't be afraid to ask the tough questions, challenge the status quo, and uncover the full story, no matter how uncomfortable it might be.

The beauty of the IPC lies in its freedom of expression. You are free to explore, critique, and praise as you see fit, ensuring that the voices and perspectives you report on are heard. I encourage you to embrace creativity in your writing, as you have the unique privilege of telling stories that the world needs to hear.

If you have any questions or concerns, do not hesitate to reach out to me at harsh.adv@outlook.com. I wish you all the best in your preparations, and I look forward to seeing your work come to life in April. Together, let's navigate the complexities of journalism and global reporting, and make this MUN experience unforgettable!

Sincerely,

Harsh Jain
Chairperson

Sargam Jain
Vice Chairperson

1. Abstract

The objective of this paper is to introduce the proceedings of MCGSMUN's International Press Committee (IPC) to individuals who applied to be journalists at our United Nations simulations. The readers will be informed of the journalism's sphere of action at an international event such as a United Nations conference, as well as the types of publications that will circulate at our event and the means accessible to generate them. They will also be exposed to the guidelines of the world's leading news outlets to understand how to convey information from many perspectives. As our Model United Nations aims to replicate a real UN meeting, the journalistic body should maintain a dignified posture while performing its reporting duties.

2. Purpose

Information is crucial to the democratic growth of society. The primary purpose of the media is to inform the audience about an occurrence to depict the scenario. Typically, the only method to mediate in conferences as important as the United Nations is through the news and reporting provided by the press. This journalistic organization does not belong to the United Nations: it is composed of journalists from all over the world from numerous press agencies who are present to cover the debates by gathering and sharing information. Therefore, the press is not subject to any other committee or their will and cannot be censored by any nation or the United Nations itself.

It is challenging for media outlets to report with complete objectivity. The reporter's beliefs, political stance, agency policies, or a country's attitude are always intertwined with their coverage of a scenario, which explains why there are so many varied interpretations of the same event. It is implausible to believe that the publications, opinions, and actions of journalists during such events have no effect on the broader public. This is why the IPC has many distinct vehicles: to convey as many diverse perspectives on a truth as feasible.

Recognizing this, MCGSMUN established its own International Press Committee (IPC), whose primary purpose is to provide real-world experience about the effects of the press at such significant global conferences. Those who choose to join this committee will be directly involved with

journalism and should adhere to the principle of providing the public with clear information, taking into account the simulations' historical context and attempting to fit the content into the approach that each editorial policy mandates. At the same time, the other delegates, participating in different committees, will be required to deal with the repercussions of their decisions being reported by the event media. Correspondingly, what is disclosed to a journalist cannot be kept secret unless previously agreed upon (what the international media refers to as "off the record"). The committees are accountable for what they communicate to the media, while the Press Committee is accountable for the authenticity of what is transmitted.

During the conference, IPC delegates will utilize several methods to make the experience as authentic as possible, including interviewing the other delegates, taking photographs, and utilizing social media. Each delegate will be allocated to one of the eight other committees to report on the debate and any additional facts that may influence the conference. When presenting these findings, they should select one or two editorial policies that better reflect the situation of the country they are discussing. The reports can be created using text, photography, or video, and the responsible journalist should discuss with the IPC board the optimal medium for delivering each piece of information. In addition to reporting the simulation, the journalist may be asked to assist the chairs in creating a false news story or "crisis" to contribute to the delegate's debate and keep the conversation on track.

As quickly as possible, these reports and "crisis" should be transmitted to the IPC editorial board, composed of its directors, for publication. As in a genuine newspaper, the news will undergo a brief editing process. Not only will its content be edited to correct grammatical and typographical issues, but also to determine if it adheres to the editorial policy intended. It is not the responsibility of the directors of IPC or the directors of the committee simulated to agree with the manner in which the news was written; rather, it is their responsibility to certify that the contents adhere to the values of the press the journalist chose to simulate.

In addition to the reports, closer to the breaks (tea/snacks), the delegates will be expected to have prepared a quick summary of the day's activities in committees to film as daily briefings.

3. Resources

3.1. Reports

News reports are the primary work instrument of any journalist. They are the most frequent format for conveying information and should provide the general audience with the most updated details. The IPC will work with reports whose primary audience should be the delegates of the committee the journalists are covering; however, this is not a requirement. To maintain a continual flow of information, these reports will be published as soon as they have been written and edited by the editorial board. The editors of IPC should add a header on each piece of news they receive, so readers will know in which newspaper the news will be published based on the editorial decisions made when writing the report. In order to accomplish this, each journalist must prepare their news based on a single editorial policy, which may vary over the course of the sessions and must be indicated in the report provided to the editorial board.

3.2. Press Release

Press releases are pieces distributed by institutions or organizations to supply the media with information. In MCGSMUN, the information provided to journalists by committee chairs will be considered press releases. As stated previously, chairmen typically manufacture "crisis" to participate in the discussion. The journalists should accept this "crisis" as a press release and rewrite its content to fit a press vehicle with a journalistic purpose. The report, which will be based on the publication, must be approved not only by the IPC's editorial board but also by the committee chairs, who are responsible for its publication.

3.3. Photographs

While photojournalism will not be the primary genre for MCGSMUN press coverage, it is highly unlikely that such events will not be covered using photographs. Journalists who are not professionals may use their own equipment (smartphones, tablets, iPods, compact cameras, DSLR cameras, disposable cameras) to track the simulations. Internet-connected devices will have the ability to share content via Instagram and Twitter. It is essential to understand what to photograph.

There should not be more than one or two photographs of the entire room per day, barring extraordinary circumstances. A picture could be taken of an excellent delegate, a delegate who hears news concerning their country, or a particularly heated debate. On social media websites such as Twitter and Instagram, we typically focus on lighter topics, such as something amusing a delegate did or someone who is not paying close attention to the conversations. Simplify things; you should not use any filters or frames, but you should always provide a caption with the photograph. If the photograph depicts an extremely significant fact, it should be referred to the editorial board for inclusion in a report. Alternatively, if the image is merely an update to a previously printed news story or merely covers common data, it should be distributed exclusively on Twitter.

3.4. Interviews

Interviews are one method of investigation among many others. We strongly urge the IPC media to conduct numerous interviews with the delegates before submitting their stories. However, these interviews should not interfere with simulation dialogues and discussions. Journalists are invited participants in these dialogues and should refrain from interrupting. Thus, interviews must be conducted outside of the conference rooms, at the conclusion or beginning of a session, or even in the hallways. A delegate may occasionally ask journalists to conduct an interview. This is a typical practice in all spheres of politics and is a means of establishing vital ties with delegates. However, journalists should be cognizant of the purpose of the material they receive. There may be press conferences to which all IPC journalists are invited. At a press conference, a journalist must not only pay attention to who is speaking but also gather historical information to ask delegates intelligent, sophisticated questions. Depending on the editorial philosophy the journalist has decided to represent, their questions may lead to one or another conclusion. Therefore, before conducting an interview, the journalist must select which publication they will write for.

Remember that many United Nations sessions are closed to the public and even journalists. IPC delegates seeking information might wait for the session to begin or for someone to leave. If another delegate gives you a declaration in the halls or if you are merely talking facts with a colleague, you may use this information to create a report while respecting the source's anonymity wishes.

3.6. Daily Briefings

At political conferences lasting more than a day, it is customary for the press to provide daily updates on the status of the negotiations. In light of this, IPC journalists should be prepared to deliver information about the day's most significant events until the time of our coffee break. These briefings will be videotaped as "stand-ups" in which each journalist explains to the general public the most significant events of the previous day's and night's sessions. Realizing that each journalist will be responsible for covering one committee, they should produce a brief text on the simulations they will be covering and be ready to shoot beginning two hours before the coffee break.

4. Guideline

It is a field of "production and circulation of senses" (Benetti 2008, 107). When producing news, journalism affects reality since it reproduces a past event using one of many available points of view. Thus, it is not impartial or just a mirror of reality, since it takes part in changing the way an event is told to people. Telling a history using certain kinds of words or focusing on certain details instead of others is a choice that demonstrates reality comprehension. With that said, we will analyze how news is made, its characteristics, and particularities.

4.1. News Values

News values are criteria used by journalists to list what should be reported and what should not. They operate a selection and construction of what is selected (Bourdieu apud Traquina 2002, 186). In other words, they demonstrate and interfere in a given event. They are fundamental to understanding news production and the choices editors and other journalists face when deciding which piece of information is news while another is not. They are the basis from which the journalist will select the occurrences, which should be transformed into the news. On the other hand, construction news values operate "backstage," suggesting "what should be stressed, what should be omitted, what should be a priority in this construction" (Traquina 2002, 186-187). The news' values, according to Traquina (2002) are:

- Prominence: meaning that occurrences featuring well-known individuals or institutions are more newsworthy than occurrences with someone else;
- Proximity: considering that a news vehicle is geographic-based, the occurrences closer to their readers will be news, while if the same fact occurs in another country, it may not;
- Impact: the number of people whose lives will be influenced must be taken into consideration;
- Novelty: the journalistic world is interested in what is rare or what happens for the first time;
- Timeliness: as with proximity, the more recent events are more newsworthy. Sometimes, a recent discovery of something that happened a long time ago is considered news too;
- Notability: the quality of being visible is a value that guides journalists. What can be best pictured for the public is notable and is a news value;
- The Bizarre: more than rare, the unusual, unorthodox, or unexpected attracts attention;
- Conflict: controversy and open clashes are newsworthy, inviting attention on their own, almost regardless of what the conflict is over; and
- Death: according to Traquina (2002), death is a key-news value since it breaks the normality. And, a priori, where there is rupture, there is news.

4.2. News Lead

In journalism, the term "lead" refers to the first paragraph of a story. It is written with the understanding that not every reader will be able to read the complete report, so it should highlight the most essential facts. Typically, it is composed by answering simple questions such as "what?" "Who?", "where?", "how?", and "why?" Occasionally, not every component is crucial to the content and should be left for the text to explain. In subsequent paragraphs, it is possible to provide additional context, such as background information on a subject or the potential ramifications of a decision. When writing the lead, you must assume that a reader with limited knowledge of the

topic will be able to understand what occurred after reading the first paragraph of your work. If they do so, they may find the rest of the report interesting and continue reading.

4.3. Structure

When discussing written news, several newspapers employ writers' guides to maintain consistency. At MCGSMUN, we will not require you to fit your content into preconceived boxes, but we do hope to provide a simple structure upon which you might base your writing if you are not accustomed to doing so. As previously discussed, the most significant component of a news story is typically delivered towards the beginning of the text, but should also be highlighted in the title. The title is a crucial element that should be distinct from the text, which means that it should not be the first line. Misleading titles interrupt the flow of information and are frequently employed to distort the news. When vital information is omitted from the title, the reader experiences confusion and doubt. You should also keep in mind that a title is a potent tool for presenting the viewpoint of a news source. There are no news stories without a title and a lead, and only after that should you address the specifics. At the MCGSMUN, we anticipate concise yet substantive reports. In longer reports, such as those published in magazines, it is permissible to make parallels, provide historical context, and discuss similar circumstances. However, the writing you generate for our model should be more than half a page and should still include brief context.

Here's the merged version with the original editorial policies updated to reflect any relevant changes as of 2025:

4.4. Editorial Policies

To participate in the MCGSMUN International Press Committee, you will be required to publish your articles with one or more of the world's largest communications firms. Each of these publications has its own editorial norms and interests and will be more or less inclined to cover certain United Nations committee-related topics. We have chosen various periodicals, stations, and agencies that you might simulate. The greater your knowledge of these vehicles, the easier it will be to choose which report will best suit their needs. Here, we describe briefly how the content you will

provide should be edited, depending on the official rules offered by these companies as well as the typical reader or viewer profile.

The New York Times

The New York Times (NYT), also referred to as the "Gray Lady," is a daily newspaper based in New York City with a global readership. As of 2022, it reported 740,000 paid print subscribers and 8.6 million paid digital subscribers. It is widely recognized for its podcasts, such as *The Daily*, and boasts a long history, having won 132 Pulitzer Prizes—the most of any newspaper. Published by *The New York Times Company*, the paper remains one of the most influential news outlets in the U.S. and globally.

The NYT is committed to journalistic integrity, aiming to offer fact-based news and comprehensive analysis. It typically prioritizes investigative reporting and in-depth coverage of international relations, politics, business, and global crises.

The Washington Post

The Washington Post (WaPo) is a major American daily newspaper headquartered in Washington, D.C., with significant influence over U.S. politics and policy. It has won 65 Pulitzer Prizes as of 2020, with notable historical contributions such as breaking the Watergate scandal in 1972. Following its 2013 acquisition by Jeff Bezos, the paper has expanded its global reach, continuing to emphasize investigative journalism and political analysis.

Its coverage often focuses on political news, government affairs, and issues pertaining to the Washington metropolitan area. However, with its increased online presence, it has broadened its focus to cover global affairs, particularly those impacting American interests.

The Wall Street Journal

The Wall Street Journal (WSJ) is a business-focused international newspaper based in New York, with global editions in Chinese and Japanese. As of 2019, the WSJ had a circulation of

approximately 2.8 million worldwide. It is known for its authoritative financial news and has won 38 Pulitzer Prizes.

The WSJ's editorial stance is typically conservative, especially in its business and opinion pages. While the paper is globally respected for financial and economic reporting, its editorial pages are politically conservative, advocating for free-market principles.

The Hindu

The Hindu, one of India's leading English-language daily newspapers, remains influential in national discourse. Founded in 1878, it has been known for its robust editorial stance on social issues and policy debates. While originally a liberal paper, it is now perceived as left-leaning in India's political landscape.

As of 2025, the Hindu continues to emphasize balanced political coverage while remaining a significant voice in India's journalistic community.

The Indian Express

The Indian Express is renowned for its investigative journalism and critical stance on issues of national significance. Founded in 1932, the paper is highly regarded for its in-depth political reporting and its challenging of established norms in Indian politics.

In 2025, the Indian Express continues to maintain a largely unbiased editorial stance, especially regarding foreign policy. Its focus remains on critical, thought-provoking journalism that often challenges the status quo.

Reuters

Reuters, founded in 1851 and owned by Thomson Reuters, remains one of the largest and most influential news agencies globally. Known for its impartial, fact-based reporting, Reuters is a trusted source for real-time news in over 200 countries.

With 33 million monthly readers, Reuters maintains a reputation for neutrality and is regarded as one of the most reliable global news agencies. Its commitment to unbiased journalism remains unchanged, even in a rapidly evolving media landscape.

BBC

The British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC), established in 1922, continues to be one of the world's largest and most trusted news broadcasters. It remains publicly funded and maintains its political impartiality, with a primary mission to inform, educate, and entertain.

As of 2025, the BBC still provides comprehensive news coverage in over 40 languages, emphasizing a global perspective. The BBC's reputation for impartiality has remained intact despite criticism from various political groups.

The Guardian

The Guardian, founded in 1821, has long been recognized for its commitment to liberal values and journalistic freedom. Its editorial stance remains progressive, often advocating for social justice issues, including gender equality, environmentalism, and human rights.

The Guardian's wide readership, particularly among individuals aged 25 to 44, continues to rely on its investigative journalism and international news coverage. Its editorial position remains one of center-left, with a strong emphasis on progressive issues.

Al Jazeera

Al Jazeera, founded in 1996 by the Qatari royal family, has expanded its influence globally. Known for its comprehensive coverage of the Arab world and its critical stance toward Western political power, the network is one of the most prominent Arab media outlets.

While it has faced criticism for its perceived political bias toward Qatari interests, Al Jazeera remains a key player in Middle Eastern and global journalism. It emphasizes presenting multiple viewpoints, reflecting the diverse political and cultural landscape of the Arab world.

Haaretz

Haaretz, established in 1918, is Israel's oldest and most respected newspaper. Known for its left-wing editorial stance, Haaretz remains a key voice in Israeli politics, often challenging the government's policies and taking a liberal stance on social issues.

As of 2025, Haaretz remains influential both within Israel and internationally, particularly for its critical stance on Israeli government actions and its in-depth reporting on both domestic and international affairs.

Wafa

Wafa, the Palestinian News Agency, remains aligned with Palestinian political interests and provides daily news coverage of Palestinian territories and broader Middle Eastern events. As of 2025, Wafa continues to be a major outlet for Palestinian news, particularly with regard to issues concerning Israel and Palestinian rights.

While the agency remains closely associated with the Palestinian National Authority and Fatah, its reports often reflect the political and social realities in Palestine.

ABC (Australian Broadcasting Corporation)

The Australian Broadcasting Corporation (ABC) remains Australia's national broadcaster, funded by the government but politically independent. Its comprehensive news coverage spans domestic and international events, with an emphasis on impartial reporting.

As of 2025, ABC continues to be one of the most respected news outlets in Australia, focusing on public service broadcasting and adhering to its charter of unbiased news reporting.

Breitbart

Breitbart News, founded in 2007 by Andrew Breitbart, remains one of the most prominent right-wing websites in the U.S. Known for its inflammatory rhetoric and support for conservative causes, Breitbart continues to have significant influence on the far-right.

Despite ongoing controversies regarding misinformation and its promotion of extremist viewpoints, Breitbart remains a rallying point for supporters of right-wing populism and continues to advocate for policies aligned with Donald Trump's conservative agenda.

The Spectator

The Spectator, founded in 1828, remains the world's oldest weekly current affairs magazine. Known for its conservative editorial stance, the magazine focuses on politics, culture, and social issues, with a strong emphasis on traditional conservative values.

As of 2025, *The Spectator* continues to be influential within British political discourse, providing conservative commentary and analysis on the state of global and domestic affairs.

The Times of India

The Times of India (TOI) remains one of India's leading newspapers and the largest-selling English-language daily globally. Founded in 1838, TOI has continued to provide comprehensive coverage of national and international news.

As of 2025, TOI continues to be a prominent voice in Indian media, often influencing public opinion and maintaining a broad readership base. It remains committed to impartial reporting and up-to-date coverage of political and cultural developments.

CNN

CNN, founded in 1980, is a global leader in 24-hour news broadcasting. It provides continuous coverage of major events and is one of the most widely distributed news networks globally.

CNN's editorial stance is generally left-leaning, with a focus on international relations, social issues, and U.S. domestic politics. Despite criticism of its political bias, CNN continues to hold a significant place in global news.

Sputnik International

Sputnik, founded in 2014, remains Russia's state-run news agency, often aligning with the Kremlin's policies and offering a pro-Russian perspective on global events. It continues to provide extensive coverage of Russian politics and foreign affairs.

Sputnik's editorial direction remains aligned with Russia's national interests, reflecting the government's official stance on political issues both domestically and abroad.

XINHUA

Xinhua, China's state news agency, continues to provide coverage that reflects the Chinese government's official positions on international and domestic issues. Established in 1997, Xinhua plays a significant role in shaping China's global image.

In 2025, Xinhua will remain a key voice in global news, offering state-sponsored perspectives and reporting on Chinese politics, economic policies, and foreign relations.

The Huffington Post

The Huffington Post, founded in 2005, remains one of the largest liberal news and opinion outlets in the U.S. Known for its focus on social justice, politics, and minority rights, it continues to provide a platform for liberal viewpoints.

In 2025, the Huffington Post maintains its strong online presence and continues to cover a range of topics, from politics to entertainment, with an emphasis on progressive issues.

El Clarín

El Clarín, Argentina's largest newspaper, has long been a dominant force in Argentine media. Known for its right-wing stance on social and political issues, the paper continues to have a significant impact on the country's media landscape.

As of 2025, El Clarín remains influential in shaping Argentine public opinion and continues to advocate for conservative policies in national and international politics.

The International Press Corps is a committee that can profoundly shift one's perspective, and reporting on such events with sophistication and caution is one of the most vital yet delicate duties of the International Press. As the only body capable of comprehensively monitoring global activities, IPC delegates must be vigilant in noting the developments and setbacks encountered while striving to find solutions to the world's most pressing issues. This responsibility allows them the freedom to either support or critique the actions of any agenda under discussion.

In today's increasingly murky world, where truth is often obscured by disinformation and rising authoritarianism, the role of the International Press has never been more crucial. It is essential that we, as delegates, uphold the integrity of honest, fact-based reporting, ensuring that the light of truth prevails against the encroaching darkness of populism and fascism. Only through unwavering commitment to truth can we truly hope to guide the global discourse toward peace, justice, and accountability. I look forward to contributing to this noble pursuit, striving toward consensus and fostering an informed world.
