



International Press Corps

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LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

Greetings delegates!

It is with distinct pleasure that I welcome you all to the sixth as well as the first online edition of WELMUN and we also hope that each one of you is keeping well in these are indeed trying times.

At the outset, we, as your executive board, would like to acknowledge the significance of the role as journalists that you will all have during the conference. Journalism not only requires good articulation skills but also the presence of mind and critical thinking. As a journalist you'll be tasked with recording the happenings of the committee and analysing them to uncover the latent issues behind every statement made in the committee. The key is to look at the issues through various perspectives and cumulate them to present your work.

It is only after each one of you realize this onus individually that will we be successful as committee. As a committee, we will have the collective objective to capture every aspect of the discussions happening in the other committees and produce a newsletter keeping in mind ethics of journalism.

This guide will touch upon the expectations that we have as an executive board and we suggest every delegate to think rationally and also be prepared with sufficient amount of research about the agendas beforehand.

We assure you that this skill of journalism transcends beyond its field and it will certainly be a highly learning experience for all the attending delegates. Keeping in mind the current situation that all the procedures have been changed slightly due to the Covid-19 outbreak we will be providing you with technical and committee related assistance throughout the conference. So, if there is any other assistance required by you in the cases of regular MUN procedures or technological assistance, we would remain considerate and help you without any biased judgment.

Harsh Vikram Singh
(Chairperson)

Kartik Tripathi
(Director)

Gurkeerat Dhadli
(Rapporteur)

GUIDE FOR REPORTERS

POSITION PAPERS

The members of the International Press Corps would be representing either a national or an international news agency. As a part of your preparation for this role, you would be tasked with producing a position paper. Your position paper should comprise of the following three sections:

1. The history of your assigned news agency;
2. Its relative bias, especially in regards to major current events; and
3. The manner in which you, as a representative of your agency, will approach the topics of your allotted committees.

You are expected to address these in distinct sections. Your position paper will be read and assessed, and a failure in timely submission of your position paper may lead to your disqualification from any committee awards.

ROLE AT WELMUN 2020

Your role at WELMUN 20 would consist of the following:

1. Formal Reporting

- All the members of the IPC will be given their respective news agencies and their allotted committees well in advance of the conference. As a representative of a news agency, one of your main tasks would be to report the events and discussions taking place in your appointed committee. The International Press Corps, as a whole, would bring out newsletter(s) which would be a collation of your writings. Therefore, a large part of your writings should contain critical details on committee activities, debates, etc.
- You may also present your own stance or opinion on the agenda being discussed in the form of Editorials or Op-Eds. These are meant to provide the reader with in-depth analysis on the topic. Writing such articles requires intensive research, which includes examining the different perspectives on the issue.
- Basically, the difference between the two is that the reports and news articles are mostly fact based while editorials and op-eds are meant to be opinionated. The delegates are encouraged to substantiate their written material with visual substance like graphs, self-drawn caricatures, and illustrations etc. that are related to the respective agendas.

2. Press Conferences

- During the course of the virtual conference, you would be given a short period of time to officially question the delegates within the committee. The members of the IPC EB would be virtually present for all such conferences. You are expected to use this time judiciously and ask good questions. This would require you to be well informed about the agenda and attentive during the proceedings of the committee.

3. Interviews

- Interviews provide the reporter an opportunity of a personal interaction with the delegates. Interviews are taken during break time or some other time slot, so that they do not interfere with or disrupt committee proceedings. These interviews may be utilized to bring into light those aspects, which may not have been highlighted otherwise during the course of the MUN. However, the questions asked during the interview must be related to pertinent issues only. The delegates can maintain their correspondence with each other via email.

4. Video Presentation

At the end of the first day, all of the delegates will be required to make a video report in the style of broadcast journalism. Your respective videos should contain the status quo of the committee you will be observing, all the major controversial topics discussed in your committees and the stand of different countries or individual delegates. Creative notions would be highly appreciated. Your video report will be marked on your level of clarity of the proceedings of your committee.

4. Others

- Apart from the styles already mentioned above, reporters are free to try and experiment with different genres of writing. Your submissions may include poems, fictional writing, etc. that are related to the respective agendas. Reporters can be creative and come up with their own ideas.

RULES AND ELEMENTS OF STYLE FOR REPORTERS

1. **Originality:** The originality of your article is of utmost importance to us. Plagiarism, under any circumstances, will not be encouraged. The reporters are requested to cite their respective sources they wish to include in their articles.
2. **Punctuation:** The reporters are expected to punctuate their articles appropriately. Colons, full stops, slashes, commas, marks, and dashes must be correctly placed.
3. **Capitalisation:** All abbreviations such as UNHRC and ICJ along with all other proper nouns must be capitalised.
4. **Format of Reports/ Articles:** Your article must be structured with a recognisable introduction, body and conclusion. It must also include a title and a by-line(in italics). Try giving witty titles and by-lines to your articles.

Articles must be submitted in the following manner:

YourFullName_CommitteeName_Day.docx

5. References: Avoid referring to delegates by their names. You can use 'Delegate of' followed by the delegate's portfolio. Moreover, the standard UN country and organisation names should be used when referring to any organisation or nation.
6. No Contractions: Avoid using contractions like can't, don't and shouldn't; expand them. Use 'do not' in place of 'don't'. This appears to be more formal.

Judging Criterion

You will be broadly assessed on the following criteria:

1. On your position paper
2. On your participation during the conference, which includes writing reports, op-eds, press conferences, etc.
3. On how you, through your pieces of writing, represent the political position of your respective news agency
4. On how you counter the articles published by your rival agencies
5. On your punctuality; submitting your work on deadlines
6. On your video presentation (report).

Conclusion

Your preparation for the conference must include distinctly understanding the political position, ideology and the writing style of your respective news agencies. You should be aware of the agendas and the stance of different countries or other portfolios in the committees. You may use the background guides of your respective assigned committees which would be available on the conference website. We advise you to visit the websites of your own news agencies and research about the agendas and the stance of your agency in it. Also, when you present your data the facts and your personal opinion should be clearly distinguishable to all. Practise note making of

speeches and if possible, watch some press conferences in order to get an idea of how they are actually conducted.