

Letter from the Head of Journalism

Dear Reporters of the International Press,

It gives me immense joy to welcome each one of you to the Sadhana Infinity International School's Model United Nations. As the Head of Journalism, I am both proud and honored to see such a dynamic and promising team step into the world of MUN reporting—a world that is as powerful as diplomacy itself.

The International Press (IP) is the voice behind the scenes. While the delegates debate, deliberate, and draft resolutions, it is the International Press that ensures their words do not remain confined to committee walls. As reporters, you are the storytellers of this conference—you capture the essence of every committee, the energy of every delegate, and the heartbeat of the event itself. From hard-hitting interviews and sharp political critiques to witty gossip columns and captivating photos, your role is crucial in adding life and vibrancy to the MUN.

Journalism at MUN is not just about reporting; it is about perspective, ethics, creativity, and impact. Through your words and lenses, you hold the power to inform, influence, and inspire. Whether you're covering the intense crises of the UNHRC or the vibrant discussions of WHO, remember that your voice matters.

I urge you all to take this opportunity to grow, explore, and express. Collaborate with your fellow journalists, push boundaries, and most importantly—have fun doing it. This weekend is not just about deadlines; it's about passion, purpose, and the pursuit of truth.

Once again, welcome to SIIS MUN 2026. I cannot wait to see the brilliance you bring to these pages.

Warm regards,
Bhavya Mahipal
Head of Journalism
SIISMUN

What is International Press?

The International Press (IP) in a Model United Nations (MUN) conference serves as the journalistic backbone of the event. While delegates represent countries and debate global issues in their respective committees, the International Press ensures that these discussions are recorded, analyzed, and presented to a wider audience within the MUN ecosystem. The IP is a simulation of real-world journalism, reflecting the essential role media plays in global diplomacy, accountability, and public discourse.

The primary role of the International Press is to observe, document, and report on the proceedings of each committee. Reporters are assigned to specific committees and are expected to attend sessions, take notes, and interview delegates. They produce a range of journalistic content—from news articles, editorials, and interviews to creative pieces like comic strips, satirical columns, and photo stories. This content is compiled into newsletters, daily bulletins, or newspapers which are circulated among all MUN participants.

Much like in the real world, the International Press upholds the principles of truth, neutrality, and transparency. Reporters must remain unbiased while reporting, ensuring that they provide accurate and fair coverage of the debates. Through their writing, they not only inform but also hold delegates accountable by highlighting strong arguments, exposing weaknesses, and even calling out diplomatic inconsistencies.

Beyond reporting, the IP also adds vibrancy and engagement to the conference. With segments like MUN diaries, social media updates, behind-the-scenes moments, and creative pieces such as poetry or mock interviews, the International Press captures the spirit and emotion of the event. It creates a platform where every delegate, chairperson, and organizer feels seen and heard.

Functioning under the leadership of the Head of Journalism or Editor-in-Chief, the International Press team typically includes reporters and photojournalists. Each member plays a distinct and vital role in bringing the MUN to life through the lens of journalism.

Working in the IP is also an excellent opportunity for students to develop and refine essential skills such as writing, critical thinking, public speaking, interviewing, time management, and teamwork. It encourages participants to think analytically, stay curious, and present information in a creative yet responsible way.

Moreover, the presence of the International Press at an MUN reflects the real-world dynamics between media and diplomacy. In global politics, journalists are often the bridge between what happens behind closed doors and what reaches the public. Similarly, in MUN, the IP acts as that

bridge—shedding light on complex debates, amplifying important messages, and shaping the narrative of the event.

In conclusion, the International Press is more than just a documentation team. It is a vital force in the Model UN, ensuring that words spoken in committee rooms resonate beyond them. It is a celebration of journalism, creativity, and the power of the written word. For many participants, being part of the IP is not just a role—it is a responsibility and a memorable journey into the world of media and diplomacy.

Types of Submissions

Creative Piece

A creative piece is a fictional or artistic work inspired by the MUN atmosphere, delegates, or experiences — but it's not limited to factual accuracy. This category allows full freedom of imagination, enabling writers to explore emotions, exaggerate scenarios, or even craft satire. Common forms include poetry, letters, parody articles, monologues, short stories, or diary entries. For example, a delegate might write a fictional letter from a country to the Chair, or a humorous poem about lobbying chaos. Creative pieces are expressive, emotional, or reflective, and they may dramatize or mock elements of the MUN in fun or thought-provoking ways. The goal here is not to report, but to resonate — whether it's through laughter, nostalgia, or artistic connection. It allows the IP team to showcase literary talent and personality, and offers readers a break from the usual format of committee coverage.

Word Limit – Up to 500 words

Opinionated Editorial (OpEd)

An opinionated editorial is a type of article where the writer expresses a strong personal viewpoint on a specific issue, often backed by reasoning, analysis, or evidence. Unlike neutral news reporting, editorials aim to persuade, critique, or support a particular stance. In a Model United Nations setting, editorial pieces may evaluate a delegate's argument, comment on a country's position, or critique the committee's progress. While opinionated, such editorials must remain respectful, well-structured, and grounded in logic. They reflect the voice of the press and

encourage readers to think critically about the ongoing discussions and their broader implications. It should comprise of 40% facts and 60% opinion.

Word Limit - 500 to 600 words

Beat

A beat article is a focused report that covers a specific committee or area consistently throughout a Model United Nations (MUN) conference. Reporters assigned to a “beat” closely follow the proceedings, track delegate performances, and highlight key debates, speeches, and resolutions. Unlike general news stories, beat articles provide in-depth, ongoing coverage of a particular topic or forum, offering readers a clearer understanding of its developments over time. In MUN journalism, beat articles help capture the essence and progression of committee discussions, allowing the audience to stay updated on important decisions, alliances, and turning points within that specific committee.

Word Limit - 300 to 400 words

Interview

The interview conducted by Journalist IP delegates is an interactive component of the Model United Nations conference that allows the International Press to gather delegates' views, opinions, and updates on committee proceedings. Through these interviews, journalists seek to understand each delegation's stance on the agenda, proposed solutions, diplomatic approach, and reactions to ongoing debates. Delegates are expected to participate willingly and respond confidently while remaining in character as representatives of their assigned country. All responses should accurately reflect the official foreign policy, national interests, and position of the assigned delegation rather than personal opinions. Delegates should communicate clearly, maintain diplomatic etiquette, and provide thoughtful, well-reasoned answers to questions posed by the International Press. Interviews may take place at various stages of the conference and may be used for articles, newsletters, press briefings, or other forms of conference media. Active participation in interviews enriches the conference experience by promoting transparency, enhancing public diplomacy, and showcasing delegates' understanding of the agenda and international affairs.

There should be 3-4 questions with 1-2 follow-up questions each which you have to get approved of by the Head of Journalism.

Press Conference

A press conference in a Model United Nations (MUN) is a formal session where delegates are questioned by members of the International Press (IP). It allows reporters to directly engage with delegates, seeking clarification, challenging viewpoints, or gathering quotes for their articles. Delegates must respond diplomatically and confidently, showcasing their understanding of their country's stance and committee proceedings. Press conferences are usually structured, with time allotted for each question and answer. This interaction not only enhances transparency and accountability but also adds a dynamic element to MUN journalism, enabling the press to capture direct insights and reactions from key participants. There will be 2-3 questions with 2-3 Follow-ups for each question. These questions can be asked to the same or different delegates. Questions are to be approved.

Submission Deadlines

All reporters are expected to strictly adhere to the deadlines allotted to them. The types of submissions and deadlines for each day will be notified at the beginning of the first session for the day. The reporters are expected to submit the mandated submissions. Further information will be notified during the briefing on Day 1.

Rules and Regulations

- Reporters are required to adhere to British English.
- Formatting Guidelines: Title/Headline - Times New Roman (Font must be catchy and should be able to captivate the attention of the reader) Size - 15 points, Bold, Centre alignment
- By-line - 13 points, Italics, left alignment (By-line is essentially a single sentence or 2 sentences at most that summarize the body of the article). The by-line must include the reporter's name, committee and the summary. For example: Shinji, reporting from World Health Organization (WHO) interviews the delegate of India regarding COVID - 19 pandemic.

- Body - 11 points, Alignment – Justified, must be written in paragraphs unless informed otherwise. The format of the body in case of a creative piece should be that of the type of the feature.
- By-lines are mandatory for all types of submissions.
- The subject of the mail and the file name should be in the format:
{Name}_{Type of Submission}_{Committee}_{Day}
For example: Shinji_Beat_UNHRC_Day1
- Cite your sources and references without fail.
- Refrain from referring to a delegate by his/her/their name. Address them by the profile/country they are representing.
For example: The Delegate of India highlighted the mass influx of refugees into the country post the Rohingya Crisis
- Stick to the timeline of your committee. If your committee is based on an event in history, adhere to the time period of that event.
- Avoid using contractions in sentences. For example; use ‘do not’ instead of ‘don’t’, ‘cannot’ instead of ‘can’t’.
- Relevant pictures must be attached to each of the assigned articles. The source/credit for the picture must be given to the appropriate source/photojournalist using the textbox feature in word.
- Refrain using terms such as ‘moderated caucus’, ‘unmoderated caucus’, etc. Instead use words such as ‘formal debate’, ‘informal debate’ or simply ‘deliberations’, ‘discussions’.

Marking Scheme

The reporters will be marked on the following set of general criteria:

- A. Grammar and vocabulary
- B. Structuring and formatting (syntax)
- C. Press conference
- D. Content (substance and creativity)
- E. Orderliness (punctuality and sticking to word limits)
- F. Research and diplomacy
- G. Demeanor (being present in committee during all times, dressing as per code, behavior, etc)
- H. Readability and relevance of content submitted

All the best!!