

VMUN 24'

IPC



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Letter from the Executive Board

Dear Reporters,

Welcome to VMUN '24. The Secretariat thanks you for joining the International Press Corps.

Your role is indispensable: delivering impartial and precise reports that both inform and influence. Your work will offer a comprehensive overview of the conference and its resolutions, educating both peers and delegates alike. We anticipate thorough preparation, keen insight, and utmost professionalism. Given the complexities of global issues, it is essential to analyse and critique committee discussions and resolutions with a discerning eye.

At the International Press Committee (IPC), we grant you the opportunity to highlight narratives that resonate with your audience, thereby upholding the critical value of news as a tool to empower the uninformed. Reporting on international affairs with meticulous care and sophistication is one of the most delicate duties that every reporter must prioritise.

This conference will be rigorous and demanding, but it will also be an exciting and enriching experience. Approach each assignment with enthusiasm and curiosity, and collaborate with your peers to produce outstanding journalism. Hard work and efficiency are paramount—time is a precious resource. Please familiarise yourself with the background guides for your assigned committees, as they will provide crucial context for the issues you will be covering. Remember, thoughtfully prepared reports reflect the quality of your work.

“In the end, the love you take is equal to the love you make”- The Beatles

If you have questions or need guidance, don't hesitate to contact us.

Livin' on a prayer,

Jwala

Chairperson of IPC

Nidhana Thamaraiselvan

Vice chairperson of IPC

For any issues such as misspelt names, wishing to be reallocated, etc, feel free to contact us privately, or at

vmun.ipc@vaelsinternationalschool.com

Role of the International Press Corps (IPC):

As members of the IPC, your primary responsibilities include:

1. **News Reporting:** Covering the proceedings of various committees and councils, summarising key debates, decisions, and resolutions with accuracy and clarity.
2. **Editorial and Opinion Pieces:** Providing insightful analysis and opinion pieces on significant issues and developments within VMUN committees, offering perspectives on diplomatic strategies, policy implications, and global impacts.
3. **Features:** Gain deeper insights into the committee's perspectives, motivations, and contributions to discussions and resolutions.
4. **Press Conferences:** Hosting and participating in press conferences to engage with delegates, gather statements on critical issues, and facilitate discussions on emerging topics.
5. **Media Coverage:** Utilising various media formats (articles, videos, social media updates) to disseminate information and engage with the wider VMUN community, ensuring comprehensive coverage of VMUN 2024's activities and outcomes.

To excel in your role as IPC delegates, consider the following tips:

- **Research:** Familiarise yourself with the rules and procedures of the IPC, as well as the specific committees and topics you will cover.
- **Critical Thinking:** Develop analytical skills to evaluate the implications of policies and decisions proposed during VMUN sessions.
- **Multimedia Skills:** Utilise multimedia tools effectively to enhance your reporting, including writing, and photography

Report Standards:

A few key instructions to keep in mind for formal reportage –

1. The distinction between a report and Op-ed must be maintained at all costs.
2. Please do not offer any opinion on committee discussions in your formal news article or report.

3. Attention must be paid to ensure that the foreign policy or image of the country in which your particular news agency is situated or originates from is not betrayed by any portion of your text.
4. As mentioned earlier, please go over your respective editorial policies and research on the alleged biases that may influence your reporting style. If quoting or paraphrasing a certain delegate or group, due credit and consent is required.
5. Any error, including spelling and grammatical fallacies will not be accepted. If quoting delegates, please do so word-for-word, and to ensure that you spell the name of their country or organisation correctly.
6. The introductory paragraph should grab the reader's attention, and answer as much of the "who, what, where, when, why" as possible.

Rules for an IPC Reporter:

- Inform the conference about the progress of their respective committees by submitting transparent and reliable reports.
- Reporters must ensure that all facts and arguments in their reports are supported by solid evidence, including sources credited.
- Please do not bother or harass delegates or chairpersons regarding any information or committee proceedings.
- Be on top of your assignments by submitting them before the deadline. Late submissions will be reprimanded.

Deadlines:

Day 0:

Serial No,	Type	Word count	Deadline
1	Position paper	700	8:00pm
2	Opinion Editorial	500-800	8:00pm

Day 1:

Serial No.	Type	Word count	Deadline
1	Tweets	<280 characters	3:00pm
2	Feature article	unlimited	4:00pm
3	Field report	90 seconds	anytime
4	Inter-agency debate	---	anytime

Day 2:

Serial no.	Type	Word count	Deadline
1	Press conference	---	anytime
2	Memetic warfare	4 memes (2x2)	11:00am
3	Article X	600-800	12:00am
4	Final report	700	1:00pm

SUBMISSIONS-

DAY ZERO: THE FRENZY BEGINS

Opinion-Editorial: (500-800 words)

The Op-Ed consists of opinions on the agenda. It does not need to have any details regarding the proceedings of the committee, it is purely based on the research you have done prior to the conference on the committee and agenda at hand. Write an editorial that not only states your opinion but also predicts potential controversies.

Position paper: (700 words)

Usually prepared by delegates to illustrate their country's stance on the agenda, the position paper also extends to the reporters. It allows the reporter to research thoroughly on their agency's stance, taking into account the biases and prevalent style. This contains the agency's direct attitude towards the agenda while adhering to its creative formatting -- headers, logos, etc. Don't forget to establish your agency's specialties (e.g. investigative journalism, breaking news, opinion pieces).

DAY ONE: THE HIGHWAY TO HELL

Tweets: (<280 characters)

Compose witty, controversial tweets to stir up social media. There should be three types of Tweets: 1) Your Agency 2) You (As a reporter) 3) A delegate from your committee. Feel free to utilise design software to visually enhance the submission. We suggest this - [Tweet Generator](#)

Feature: (unlimited)

This is a creativity piece. The reporter is allowed to write/create any form of media pertaining to the agenda. The sky's the limit here, and creativity and quality is the highlight. For example, you can write poetry, speeches, acting scripts, stand up comedy, memes, graphic art and anything else you can think of.

Field report: (90 seconds)

You will be asked to detail committee events within a specified time. Essentially, this is a spoken version of a beat (summary article), with the only difference being analysis of the committee and questions posed to you by the chairs. It may happen anytime on the first day of the event, completely impromptu.

DAY TWO- FROM HEADLINES TO HISTORY

Inter-agency debate:

Engage in heated (hopefully) inter-agency debates on topics somewhat related to the agenda. This will go in the standard debate format, with proposition and opposition speakers, except you will be representing your news agency, and will be debating on not just the topics, but your remarks on them. The rest of the details will be conveyed at a later time.

Here's a pdf regarding the format for your reference-

[WSDC Format](#)

Based on the committees, this would be the ideal structure-

UNODC- 2 vs 2

UNHRC- 2 vs 2

UNGA- ?

UNSC- ?

ECOSOC- 2 vs 2

IBC- 1 vs 1

Press conference: (5 minutes)

Your spotlight and time to shine as a reporter is your press conference. Instead of receiving a question limit, you receive a time limit. During that time you have free rein of your main questions, follow-up questions or even narrative context unless specified by the chair. Avoid asking delegates Yes/No questions, or generic questions that they've already answered in committee. You have free rein to quote them on anything they've

said in committee or even research-based questions.

Memetic warfare: (4 memes; 2 each day)

Explore the impact of memes and viral content on global affairs. Create responsible yet engaging content for younger audiences to understand the committee proceedings. Here, the memes will essentially cover a specific topic or event that occurs in your committee. It is a short, concise report that highlights a specific moment or turning point in committee. While short, it should still be informative and contain information pertaining to the committee. The reporters are required to submit 4 memes, two on each day.

Article X: (600-800 words)

Maybe all will be clear on the day of the conference...

Final Beat Report: (700 words)

A beat-based article is essentially a specialised article wherein the journalist presents in-depth coverage of a particular issue, situation, institution, or likewise, and which also involves amassing more knowledge than a traditional news report. Deliver your clear and comprehensive wrap-up of the entire conference.

The final report is a recapitulation of the entire conference that reviews the committee proceedings. Reporters must highlight the key aspects of the events, as well as the main arguments and discussions within the committee and the solutions provided towards the end of the conference. This stance adopted must adhere to the news agency allocated.

General remarks:

Note-taking

Though this is not a part of your submissions, it is strongly advised that you take notes during the committee in order to have an idea of what is going on when you write your articles. Making note of quotes, controversial statements or arguments made by the delegates will enhance the quality of your writing so bear in mind.

Diplomacy

Reporters are expected to remain courteous to all delegates, Executive Board members and other crew working on the day. Interrupting committee proceedings is inexcusable and if you want to request a copy of their speeches, wait until an unmoderated caucus, break, or the end of the day.

Do not coerce delegates into compliance as it will tarnish your name as a reporter. Do not use improper language like slurs, slang or hate speech in your work. If a delegate uses these in committee, rephrasing is essential. Failure to do so can result in disqualification

Deadlines and Plagiarism

Distinct deadlines for each day have been allotted to every assignment as well as a specified time of day. An inability to adhere to the deadlines will result in that particular assignment being ungraded.

Without a doubt, plagiarism will not be condoned by the chairs. Link and Cite your sources as a hyperlink at the very end of your articles. Perform extensive research and precise quotations and citations on the content of the tasks given. Use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) programs such as ChatGPT or Grammarly is a part of the zero tolerance policy and reporters will be promptly disqualified.

Reporters must ensure that all facts and arguments in their reports are supported by solid evidence, including sources credited.

Elements of Style:

With that being said, here are a few things that the Executive Board requires in your submissions:

Submission medium:

Any submissions made will be to the respective Google Classroom (to be shared soon) and should be a PDF file. The name of your document must adhere to the following syntax:

NAME_IPC_COMMITTEE_TYPE

Example: NIDHANA_IPC_UNSC_ARTICLEX

Font:

Times New Roman with a font size of 12 is expected from the reporters regarding all written work. The design and layout is left to the discretion of the writer based on the news agency that they are representing.

Size - Title (Bold, 15, Centred), By-line (Bold, Italicized, 14, Centred), Content (12, Left Aligned)

Contractions:

As these are formal documents, avoid using contractions and instead use the expanded form of the phrase.

Example: “would not” instead of wouldn’t

Abbreviations and numerals

1. Abbreviations

To avoid repetition, reporters can use abbreviations, but they must specify the full form at least once before using the abbreviation.

Example: United Nations General Assembly (UNGA)

2. Numerals

Numbers until and inclusive of ten must be written in words but numbers greater than ten can be in numbers.

Example: seven, three, 34

3. System

The International Number System is to be used with appropriate commas between the digits. Abstain from the Indian system of lakhs and crores.

Example: 8,000,000 or 125,000

4. Symbols

Use the appropriate symbols required for any percentages or decimals you choose to include in your assignments as statistics. Standard numbers will be accepted unless official documentation is expressed in Roman numerals.

Example 1: 74% or 3.6

Example 2: Article 3 in Chapter XI of the UN Charter

Member states

Refrain from referring to countries with their informal name and instead use the official name given to them. If you are unaware of their official names, please refer to this PDF from a trusted UN source.

[Official names of the countries](#)

Example: “Democratic People’s Republic of Korea” instead of “North Korea”

Dates

Please follow the day-month-year format as is the International Standard.

Example: 07-07-2024

Research standards:

As reporters, it is up to us to uphold the integrity of information sharing so it is integral not to divulge false or biased information. Also, keep in mind the freeze dates of your committees (if it does have one, only a few do) and accordingly research. Anything obtained beyond the freeze date will be deemed inadmissible as it has not happened yet in the committee’s timeline.

The Executive Board will not proof read or double check articles prior to submission.

Closing Remarks:

At the IPC committee, your role as a reporter is not just informative but transformative. We hope you channel your creativity as the voice of the people, shaping narratives, and holding the global community accountable.

We look forward to reading your insightful articles and watching you navigate the complex world of international diplomacy and media. May your reporting be a beacon of insightful storytelling and a catalyst for positive change.

As we conclude, let's remember that 'We've Only Just Begun' our journey towards a world where understanding and cooperation prevail.

Wishing you an impactful and memorable experience in this journey at VMUN 24.