# Letter from the Executive Board

Greetings, Members of the International Press. Your conviction that the pen is mightier than the sword might be the reason for your presence here and we warmly welcome you aboard. Press and Journalism have been the driving force behind the development of any nation, big or small. Society can flourish only when unvoiced opinions are written and granted the recognition they deserve. Not only does the International Press act as a medium for unspoken words, but it also ensures that the general population is aware of what is happening around the world, or in this case, around the conference. It is our pleasure to welcome you to the world of articles and interviews, tact and diplomacy and hope that you perform to the best of your abilities. As Reporters, you will be held accountable to a high standard of decorum and decency and will be expected to be diplomatic as well as transparent in your work. Your role goes past committee chambers and official sessions. Look beyond these boundaries by participating insightful debates via delegate interviews. Your conversations can unveil perspectives that reshape discussions. Your astute observations in committee will not only enable you to depict the various perceptions of delegates but the creative freedom that you will be given shall only improve the quality of the newsletter. It is to be noted, however, that while competitive spirit is encouraged, you are all working together as a team to pen articles of the highest quality for a Model United Nations conference and must not lose sight of

that. Biased reporting of events from committees will not be entertained and reporters must ensure that their information is factually correct. Reporting is as rewarding as it is challenging and we wish you the best of luck for these 3 days.

Abhigna Gujjula

Head of International Press

Vatsala Sudeep

Editor-in-Chief

# About International Press

The International Press (IP) is essentially a collection of reporters from various agencies around the world present at a conference. By virtue, it is not a part of the United Nations (UN) in any way, shape or form but instead serves as a body that questions members present in the conference and also reports the proceedings of the conference. As delegates from all around the world gather to debate on geopolitically pressing issues, the IP records all the statements being made in both written and pictorial form. Essentially, the IP provides budding journalists with an opportunity to convert their observations into words while also maintaining factual accuracy and exercising creative freedom. A good article must be brief and informative while also showcasing your unique writing style. Reporters will be expected to be present in their committee at all times and make a thorough note of whatever is being said and done in the committee. You need to make sure that your research is on point and ensure no factual inaccuracies pop up.

# Types of Submissions:

## Opinionated Editorial:

An Opinionated Editorial (Op-Ed) is an article that is featured in newspapers usually opposite to the Editorial Column. As the name suggests, it portrays the opinion of the writer on a particular issue or conflict and is usually used to support his/her argument using facts as well. Usually, op-eds are written on the Agenda of the committee the reporter has been assigned to and research holds primary importance here. An Op-Ed is an article with which you can create an immense amount of impact and portray your creativity as well.

Word Limit: 500-700 words

## Beat:

A beat-based article is a special type of article wherein a single thread of information in the committee is followed and aptly reported. Beat-based articles, ideally, have to be devoid of opinion. They must simply report the facts as is while providing an in-depth analysis of it, based on fact and not opinion.

Word Limit: 200-300 words

## Creative Piece:

A creative piece is where the writer exercises their full liberty in terms of format. Though you will be given a word limit, the format in which it is written will be up to you: from a short story to a diary entry, from a poem to a haiku, you can truly explore any style of writing that you want. The central theme, however, must pertain to the Agenda at hand and the creative piece must **strictly** be completely original.

Word Limit: 300-900 words

## Interview:

An interview provides an opportunity for personal interaction with a delegate. It should be utilized to bring out those aspects and cover the parts of the country’s policies that might not otherwise be highlighted in the course of the conference. The questions must be precise and must be verified by the Executive Board of the International Press. Reporters are to ensure that the essence of the views put forth remain intact.

Word Limit: 300-500 words

## Opinion Poll:

This particular type of article allows you to express your opinion in any manner you want. Again, the content needs to be restricted to the agenda. The use of graphs, pie charts,

or any other statistical analysis is highly encouraged.

Word Limit: 250-350 words

## Consolidated Report:

## A consolidated report encompasses the proceedings of a committee on all days of the conference and provides a concise overview to the readers. It is sans the writer’s opinion and aims to show the events of the conference.

## Word Limit: 300-400 words

## Press Conference:

The Press Conference is another opportunity for the reporters to ask the delegates about any of their statements or actions in the committee. Reporters must establish a dialogue with the representatives and are required to adhere to diplomatic courtesy. Decorum and composure regardless of the delegate's behaviour must be maintained. Moreover, facts must be derived from credible sources; if challenged, the burden of proof rests on the reporter.

# Rules and Regulations

* + Reporters are required to adhere to British English.
  + Formatting Guidelines:

Font: Times New Roman

Size: Title – 16 points, Bold, Center Aligned

By-line - 15 points, Italic, Justified

Bylines are mandatory for all types of submissions.

Body - 14 points, Justified

* + The submission files have to be submitted in **.docx** format only.
  + The subject of the mail should be the same as the format of the submission file.
  + The submission files should be in the format: Name\_Type of Submission\_Committee\_Day

Example:Abhigna\_Interview\_UNHRC\_Day2

* + Abbreviations are to be used only once they have been introduced.

Example: In the United States of America (USA),a president can serve a maximum of two terms, each lasting four years.

* + Plagiarism and the use of AI is **not tolerated** and will be dealt with strictly. Your sources and references should be cited without fail.
  + Delegates should only be referred to by the profile/country they are representing, not by their names.
  + Adhere **strictly** to deadlines. Any work done should be submitted on time.
  + Numbers within a hundred should be expressed in words, anything beyond a hundred can be written in numeric format.

For Example: “60” should always be written as “sixty”, but “130” can be written as it is.

* + Follow the timeline of your committee, especially if it's based on a historical event.
  + Avoid contractions in sentences. For instance, use *'do not'* instead of *'don't'* and *'cannot'* instead of *'can't'*.
  + Proper punctuation, including semicolons, full stops, apostrophes, and hyphens/dashes should be utilized wherever they enhance clarity.
  + Attach relevant images to assigned articles, crediting the source/photojournalist using the text box feature in Word.

For Example: **Source: BBC**

* + Diplomatic courtesy in reporting should be maintained at all times, ensuring any negative language from representatives is subtly expressed to avoid offence.
  + Avoid mentioning actions like "The Board entertained a motion to break for lunch" in your articles.
  + Refrain from using terms such as 'moderated caucus' or 'unmoderated caucus'. Instead, employ phrases like 'formal debate' and 'informal debate' for clarity.

# Marking Scheme

The reporters will be evaluated based on a set of general criteria. In addition, individual committee heads may provide extra guidelines, which can be requested after the conference.

* + Grammar and vocabulary proficiency
  + Effective structure and formatting (syntax)
  + Participation in press conferences
  + Content quality (substance and creativity)
  + Adherence to punctuality and word limits
  + Demonstrated research and diplomatic skills
  + Maintaining demeanour (consistent committee presence, appropriate attire, behaviour, etc.)
  + Readability and content relevance
  + Brownie points