



Deccan Model United Nations 2024

International Press Corps (IPC)

Background Guide



Letter from the Secretary-General.....	3
Letter from the Head of Press.....	4
Overview:.....	5
Report and Article Submissions.....	6
1. Opinionated Editorials.....	6
2. Beat Articles.....	6
3. Committee Reports.....	7
6. Features.....	7
Press Conference.....	7
Point Allocation and Judging Criteria.....	8
Closing Remarks.....	9

Letter from the Secretary-General

Esteemed Delegates,

It is with great pleasure and enthusiasm that I extend our warmest welcome to all of you to Deccan International School Model United Nations 2024. As the Secretariat of this year's conference, I am honoured to be part of this momentous gathering of creative minds and future leaders.

Throughout the next couple of days, we will embark on a journey that promises to be enlightening, inspiring, and transformative. Together, we shall engage in constructive debates, seek innovative solutions, and foster meaningful connections - all to address some of the most pressing global challenges we face today. As delegates representing your respective nations, you play a pivotal role in shaping the outcome of this conference. Your perspectives, ideas, and diplomatic skills will be crucial in reaching resolutions that reflect the diverse interests and concerns of our global community. Embrace the spirit of collaboration and cooperation, for it is through unity and empathy that we can truly make a difference. I encourage you to approach each committee session with an open mind, a willingness to listen, and a readiness to contribute actively. Engage in respectful dialogue, respecting the diversity of opinions and backgrounds present in this forum. Remember that the goal is not merely to advocate for your nation's interests, but also to find common ground that serves the greater good of humanity.

I am confident that every one of you has the potential to create a lasting impact through your participation in this conference. Embrace this opportunity to grow as global citizens and emerge as leaders in your communities.

Regards,
Poorvi Sanath, Secretary-General
Secretariat DMUN

Letter from the Head of Press

Greetings to the Journalists!

On behalf of the Deccan Model United Nations team, I welcome you to the International Press Corps Committee of DMUN 2024! For this MUN, Ambhrini Jayasimha Mallur from 12 ISC will be serving as the Head of Press. Unlike other crisis and non-crisis committees that come into mind under a typical MUN scenario, the International Press Corps (IPC) is unique in its functions and requirements.

The press has a vital role in informing, educating and connecting society. Accurate, unbiased and thorough reporting is required now more than ever in this increasingly unreliable world. IPC is a platform for journalists representing various news agencies and tasked with capturing and reporting on the MUN proceedings. You will have substantial responsibilities within this committee and I urge all of you to take up this herculean task with gusto. The IPC is a celebration as well as a critical evaluation of your creativity, journalism and multi-tasking abilities.

As a representative of your allotted news agency, your role is to note the developments in your assigned MUN Committee and journalistically critique its proceedings and resolutions. Over the two days, you will be required to submit a series of articles that follow specific requirements, and more excitingly, prepare for and conduct a press conference!

This guide provides a list of news agencies, requirements for submission of the various types of articles, basic writing rubrics and judging criteria. Please note that this *document only acts as a brief introduction*, and you must research and be thorough with your news agency and writing technique beyond what is provided here. It is your duty to be well-informed of your agency's biases and writing styles, as you must follow these predispositions while writing your own articles. A thorough knowledge of your assigned committee agendas and the relevant country stances is of utmost importance.

I wish you all the best of luck as you navigate through the myriad of speeches and discourses of your assigned committee and develop a unique analysis of DMUN international affairs. Please feel free to contact me if you are faced with any setbacks. The DMUN Secretariat looks forward to seeing you at the conference!

Best regards,
Ambhrini Jayasimha Mallur
International Head of Press

email: ambhrinijayasimhamallur002752@deccan.edu.in

Overview:

General rules:

- **Comprehensive research** is a bedrock of journalism. Ensure that research about your news agency, the committee agenda, and the reporting guidelines are thorough.
- To be **eligible for awards**, you must
 - Submit 1 Beat-based Article (on day 1)
 - Submit 1 Op-ed (Opinionated Editorial) (on day 1)
 - Submit 1 Feature (on day 2)
 - Conduct 1 Press Conference (on day 2)
 - Submit 1 Committee Report (on day 2)
- Submissions for all reports must adhere to the **deadlines**. You will be given a time slot to submit your work, those submitted before or after the specified time will **not** be taken into consideration
- **Internet usage will not be allowed** throughout the conference, **except** during the 15-minute durations corresponding to the submission deadlines (during which you will mail your articles). Deadlines for submission are provided further along this document and will be recapitulated at the beginning of the conference.
- Ensure that you are present in the **allotted IPC room (library)** 10 minutes before the submission deadline time slots
- You are allowed, but not forced to conduct **interviews** during unmoderated caucuses in your allotted committee.

The International Press Corps (IPC) for DMUN 2024 includes **10 news agencies** -

1. BBC
2. CNN
3. The Guardian
4. The New York Times
5. Aljazeera
6. Reuters
7. The Hindu
8. The Indian Express
9. Tass
10. Xinhua News Agency

You will be assigned to either DISEC, HCC or UNSC, and you will follow **only** your assigned committee throughout the conference -

1. Disarmament and International Security Committee (DISEC)
Agenda - Prevention of hegemony in space with special reference to satellite and ASAT weapons
2. Historical Crisis Committee (HCC)
Agenda - Israel-Arab War: 1967
3. United Nations Security Council (UNSC)
Agenda - Combatting the displacement of Indigenous peoples

Report and Article Submissions

Each submission must adhere to the following specifications -

- Submissions must be made through your Deccan Email IDs to ambhrinijayasimhamallur002752@deccan.edu.in
- You are allowed to use pictures, a caption should be provided
- Font: Times New Roman
- Text Size: 11
- Title and Byline are required
- All submissions must be mailed as a **pdf document**.
- Your pdf must be named in the following manner -
'NewsAgency_ArticleType_Committee'
(for example, BBC_CommitteeReport_UNSC)

1. Opinionated Editorials

These editorials are essentially opinion pieces in which the reporter shares their personal perspective and opinion on a subject that is discussed during the MUN conference.

Generally speaking, an opinion piece requires a more thorough, all-encompassing approach than a standard news article. An opinion piece's main objective is to research or discuss a subject that the media would likely ignore.

You are most welcome to look into the issue's historical background, contrast it with another significant historical event, or research the possible effects of a specific decision that was taken or suggested in the committee.

An in-depth look into op-eds -

<https://www.liveabout.com/oped-what-is-it-and-how-to-write-it-1360714>

An example -

<https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2015/oct/30/indonesia-fires-disaster-21st-century-world-media>

- **Word count: 600 - 1000 words**
- **Submission deadlines: Day 1 (time will be given at the beginning of Day 1)**

2. Beat Articles

A beat-based essay aims to focus on a certain incident, a particular claim, or a point of controversy that occurred during the conference. The entire essay should be composed by highlighting or expanding on this single instance. It should deal with the events that came before (what started the conversation) and the events that followed - the justifications, rebuttals, and resolution. The titles should mimic news headlines, with a focus on effectively capturing the "beat." A sense of urgency throughout the beat-based essay must be captured.

Tips -

<https://d4n12i.wordpress.com/2008/09/23/good-examples-of-beat-reporting/>

An example of a beat-by-beat article -

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/ukraine-ap-russia-united-nations-security-council-iaea-b2529211.html>

- **Word count: 300 - 500 words**
- **Submission deadline: Day 1 (time will be given at the beginning of Day 1)**

3. Committee Reports

A Committee Report is an overview of the proceedings of the committee or the topics discussed within the committee. Reports are straightforward, impartial, and formal. Journalists must be sure to report the event completely and provide an unbiased explanation of the committee's actions. You can include the direction of the discussions, key quotes from the delegates and so on. Ensure that a non-committee member can still read the report and comprehend what is happening.

- 4. **Word count: 1000 to 1500 words**
- 5. **Submission deadline: Day 2 (time will be given at the beginning of Day 2)**

6. Features

Go crazy. This part of the submission criteria doesn't even have to be a written work. The main judging criterion for features is creativity, and individual interpretations of the context at hand. As long as your feature indirectly/directly stays in line with the agenda of the committee or even a particular issue discussed within the conference, your feature will be taken into consideration. Atypical submission formatting such as poems, rap songs, posters, letters etc is allowed. As long as basic etiquette and decency are followed, there are no restrictions. You are encouraged to work on this at home after the Day 1 conference, as you will have to submit it as soon as the Day 2 conference begins.

- **Submission deadline: Day 2 - from 8:00 am to 8:15 am**

Press Conference

IPC delegates will be allowed to conduct a press conference on Day 2 of DMUN, for a maximum of 5 minutes each (to be conducted within their assigned committee). Questions must be well-researched, relevant and crisp. If you choose to state statistics, the sources shall also be required. All questions and lines of inquiries will be vetted by the Head of Press beforehand. The Executive Board reserves the right to suspend your press conference at any given time. You must ensure that your questions are respectful and diplomatic. Points will be docked if decorum is disrupted.

The timings for the conference will be shared at the beginning of Day 2.

Point Allocation and Judging Criteria

Delegates of IPC will be graded based on their submissions, decorum and press conference. The delegate with the highest points will be awarded the **Best News Agency** award. The two runner-ups will be recognised as **Special Mention 1 and 2** respectively. Furthermore, delegates will have the opportunity to win the **Best Feature**, which will be solely based on their 'feature' submissions and decorum.

Point Allocation

Opinionated Editorials	15 points
Beat Articles	10 points
Committee Reports	20 points
Features	10 points
Press Conference	10 points
Overall Decorum and Involvement in the Conferences	15 points
Total	80 points

Judging Criteria

Op-eds -

- Adherence to the news agency biases and styles
- Presence of an **opinion**, word count, formatting etc (adherence to the type of article and submission requirements)
- Content
- Structure
- Grammar and syntax
- Creativity in the topic chosen

Beat based Articles -

- Adherence to the news agency biases and styles
- Presence of a **beat**, word count, formatting etc (adherence to the type of article and submission requirements)
- Content
- Structure
- Grammar and syntax

Committee Reports -

- Adherence to the news agency biases and styles
- Whether it is based on the overall summary and proceedings of the conference, word count, formatting etc (adherence to the type of article and submission requirements)
- Content
- Structure
- Grammar and syntax

Features -

- Creativity and originality
- Relevance to the conference/discussions/context
- Presentation

Press Conferences -

- Questions posed to the delegates - framing and relevancy
- Order and aim of inquiry - why are you questioning this particular delegate and what are you hoping to achieve?
- Decorum and decency in the method of questioning

Closing Remarks

Things to keep in mind while writing -

- An in-depth look into report writing (highly urged to review before the conference) - <https://www.theguardian.com/books/2008/sep/25/writing.journalism.news>
- <https://writingcenter.uagc.edu/journalistic-writing>
- <https://blogs.stlawu.edu/eqbart15/2016/09/06/elements-in-journalistic-writing/>

Remember to -

- Take notes of the proceedings whenever you can
- Use quotes verbatim in your articles
- Interview delegates during unmods if possible, to get more information/insight into their country's stance - be polite and respectful while doing so
- Research thoroughly before the committee begins
- Pay attention to the time
- Finish features at home
- Prepare questions for the press conference beforehand and mail them to the specified Deccan Gmail to get approval/feedback

Remember to use your Deccan School Email IDs to send your submissions to ambhrinijayasimhamallur002752@deccan.edu.in

Submissions given before or after the allotted submission timings without a valid reason will not be evaluated.