

IP Photojournalism
Style Guide - SOMUN 2025



Head of Photojournalism
Harshini Panchalingala

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1. Letter from Executive Board

Dear Photojournalists,

It is my honor to welcome you to the Photojournalism division of the International Press at SOMUN 2025. As members of this team, you are entrusted with the responsibility of documenting the conference through your lens. Your work will serve not only as a record of proceedings but also as a narrative that reflects the diplomacy, dialogue, and dedication of every participant.

The role of a photojournalist demands more than technical skill. It requires attentiveness to detail, creativity in framing moments, and discipline in meeting deadlines with professionalism. You are expected to maintain the highest standards of courtesy within committees, ensuring your presence never disrupts the flow of debate while still capturing its essence.

Your photographs will define how this conference is remembered. I am confident that through your dedication and vision, the Photojournalism team will add depth and distinction to the International Press at this MUN.

Please feel free to reach out for any enquiries and do not hesitate to ask for help or guidance.

Sincerely,
Harshini Panchalingala
Head of Photojournalism
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2. Code of Conduct & Guidelines

Photojournalists are expected to:

- **Maintain professionalism and courtesy at all times:** Treat delegates, chairs, and staff with respect
- **Follow conference rules:** Adhere to the official guidelines and instructions provided by the secretariat and press team.
- **Uphold originality:** Only submit photographs you have personally taken during this conference. Plagiarism or reuse of others' work is strictly prohibited.
- **Respect personal boundaries:** Do not engage delegates in unscheduled interviews or conversations during sessions. Your role is to observe and document, not to participate in debate.
- **Be punctual and responsible:** Attend all press briefings and arrive early to scheduled sessions. Meet every submission deadline; late entries may be disqualified.
- **Minimize distractions:** When covering committee sessions, disable camera flashes, avoid unnecessary movements or noise, and do not interrupt proceedings.
- **Assist and collaborate:** Help fellow press members if needed, share information when appropriate, and contribute positively to the IP team.

3. Submissions

All photojournalists are required to submit photographs on a daily basis according to the following guidelines. Timely submissions are essential for evaluation, and failure to meet deadlines may result in consequences.

Each day, you must submit 4 photographs for each category listed below:

- 1. Delegate Portraits** – Individual or candid shots of delegates.
- 2. Executive Board Portraits** – Formal or candid photographs of the EB members.
- 3. Committee Sessions** – Wide or medium shots capturing debate and interactions.
- 4. Narrative/Story** – A photo that captures a significant moment or tells a visual story of the day.

This amounts to 16 photographs per day.

Each day should focus on certain styles of shots and angles. To guide your approach, a few suggested themes have been mentioned below. These themes are suggestions, not strict rules as your main priority is fulfilling the above criteria of submissions.

Day 1

Long Shots / Medium Shots

Eye-Level Shots

Candid Reaction Shots

Day 2

Close-Ups

Rule of Thirds

Depth of Field (basic focus with blurred background)

Day 3

Low Angle / High Angle

Black & White Portraits

Over-the-Shoulder Shots

4. Format and camera guidelines

All photographs are required to be submitted in jpg/jpeg format. These submissions must be uploaded in Google Drive and named according to the submission criteria they fall in.

For convenient and proper organization, make a folder in Google Drive titled in the format given: **[Name_SOMUN2025_photojournalism]**

In the folder, create 3 subfolders, one for each day and submit accordingly

[Day_1]

[Day_2]

[Day_3]

Editing of the photographs is permitted as long as the natural essence of the photo remains the same. When submitting edited photographs, make sure to attach the unedited version along with it.

Mentioned below are the cameras/devices that are preferred/recommended for use:

- **DSLRs [Nikon, Canon, Panasonic, Sony, Fujifilm]**
- **iPhones 12-16, iPhone SE**
- **Samsung S20-24**

5. Marking scheme

Marking shall be done on the basis of below mentioned criteria:

1. Composition & Framing
2. Lighting & Colour Balance
3. Technical Accuracy
4. Creativity & Originality
5. Professionalism & Discipline