

Letter from the IP Head

Greetings!

I'd like to extend a very warm welcome to all the members of the esteemed International Press.

I am delighted to welcome you all to this edition of the prestigious KIITMUN'21!

International Press forms an integral part of any Model UN conference. As journalists of the International Press, you have the responsibility of maintaining the accountability of the respective committees you have been allocated. You have the power of using your platform to represent the various committees; you act as the eyes and the voice of the public and have an important role bestowed upon you. As journalists, you have a unique voice and freedom of creative expression that has the power of influencing people.

This background guide serves as a reference document for all the literary pieces you will compose over the course of three days of the conference. This guide also mentions the rules and code of conduct that are expected from all the members of the International Press. This guide will help clear all your doubts regarding your role as a journalist and the tasks that you will engage in.

The end goal of this background guide and conference is to create a newsletter that spans over three days and provides a holistic overview of the conference and the committees.

At any point in time, I will always be here to help advise you and clear any queries you might have regarding your role and tasks. You can reach out to me with any doubts you may have at the below-mentioned details.

I look forward to working and collaborating with all of you towards making this a fruitful conference!

Regards

Harsidak Kaur Chawla
IP Head

Rules and Regulations

1. Code of conduct-

The journalists are required to maintain decorum and follow the code of conduct that has been established. Kindly be mindful of your communication with other IP members, delegates, and the Executive board. This includes following the code of conduct established by each executive board member in the various committees you will be allotted and operate in.

2. Punctuality and grammar

Punctuality is of the utmost importance for the participants. The journalists are required to adhere to the deadlines that have been set over the course of the 3 days during the conference.

As journalists, you are also urged to check that the written pieces are grammatically appropriate for submission.

3. Plagiarism policy

The International Press at KIIT MUN follows a very strict policy against plagiarism. No amount of plagiarised content will be accepted in the written pieces submitted by the journalists.

Plagiarised content includes content equal to or more than 2 lines that have been taken from sources available on the internet without giving due credit.

The journalists are supposed to ensure the content submitted by them is original and failure to ensure this can lead to disqualification of the journalists.

4. Submission guidelines:

All the articles have to be submitted in the format-

XYZ(Name of the author)_Committee_Day 1/2/3_Type of article

The written pieces have to be shared on an allotted Email Id which will be shared later on with the journalists.

5. Technical guidelines regarding all articles:

Font style- Times New Roman

Font Size- 12 for the entire article; 14 for the headings

Each article should have an appropriate title that encapsulates the essence of your written piece.

A Byline should be added to all the articles. The format of the byline should be as follows,

“XYZ opines on the situation of Rohingya refugees in Myanmar“

“XYZ reports from the UNHRC“

Types of written pieces

1. Opinionated Editorial

Opinionated Editorials are a great way for journalists to express their opinion about the agenda of a committee. The fundamentals of Opinionated Editorials are extensive research and impactful writing regarding the agenda of the committee that the journalists have been assigned.

Main features of an Op-Ed-

- Deep research into the agenda from the perspectives of both, the opposing and supporting side
- Examining and presenting the opinion of both opposing sides
- The journalist can either present an overall opinion on the entire agenda or focus on a facet of the agenda
- The most unique feature of Opinionated Editorials is extensive research in the agenda. The Op-Ed should be well research and supplemented with facts that support one's opinion
- Along with backhand research regarding the agenda, your opinion must also be supplemented with instances from the verbatim and the committee proceedings

> The word limit for Op-Ed's is 400-600 words

2. Beat article

A Beat article allows the journalist to 'recognize a beat' from the committee, per se. This involves the journalist focusing on a specific sub-topic of the agenda from the committee and its proceedings. The journalist can either write the beat article surrounding the course of debate in the committee among the delegates or the agenda of the committee itself. A Beat article should not contain any personal opinion of the author. One of the unique features of a Beat article is the incorporation of direct quotes from the verbatim and delegate speeches, this allows to make the article more grounded in the everyday committee proceedings.

These are the following questions one should keep in mind to structure your beat article-

Introduction of the beat- This includes briefly stating the topic of the best article. This also includes elaboration on the sub-topic of the agenda surrounding which the beat has to be written.

Explanation of the beat- This is the main content of the beat article. This is where the journalist can include various aspects like differing opinions of the delegate regarding the beat topic, direct quotations from the committee, well-researched facts backing the statements made by delegates, etc.

The opposition of the beat- This is part of the main content where the journalist can provide differing views of the delegates regarding the topic of the beat article. These help in providing an unbiased view of the committee proceedings.

>The word limit for a Beat article is 150-250 words

3. Feature article - 400-700 words

Feature articles are unique compared to the other written pieces one encounters as a journalist. Feature pieces give the journalists creative freedom to intertwine their creative interests and the agenda of their committees.

These can be metaphorical, satirical pieces that are a break from the somewhat rigid structure of various other written pieces that journalists will write.

Feature articles can be of various types ranging from poems to diary entries to story-telling articles. However, the journalists must be careful that their feature pieces do not stray away from the agenda of their committees. Feature articles should be based on and around the central theme of the agenda that has been allocated to the journalists.

>The word limit for Feature articles is 400-700 words

4. Crisis tasks

Crisis tasks are additional written pieces that the journalist would have to write over the course of the conference. These can be a mix of Opinionated Editorials, Reports, and Beat articles. These pieces will be surrounded by current social-political news and would require the journalists to research and collaborate on these literary pieces during the specified time.

Here, adherence to the deadline for the tasks is of extreme importance.

>The word limit for the crisis tasks will be specified at a later time.

5. Press conference

Press Conferences are a great opportunity for the journalists to ask direct questions to the official delegations representing various Nations at the conference. The journalists can either ask these questions to the committee, in general, or to specific delegates in the committee.

Main features of Press Conferences-

- Well researched questions that provide the delegate with a challenge and opportunity to answer relevant questions/concerns
- These require the journalists to be active in the committee and keep a note of the verbatim and the proceedings of the committee
- It is important to ask open-ended questions as they increase the scope of the discussion in the committee

Regards

Harsidak Kaur Chawla

IP Head