

IPC Background Guide

Greetings Journalists!

It gives me immense pleasure to welcome you all to the International Press Corps of Harvest MUN 2025. We are sure that it is in your inherent knowledge, that journalism is one of the strongest and the most impactful tenets of the contemporary world. The establishment of public opinion as an authoritative critique and its aftermath has created a dimension that has changed the course of history as we know it. As a Journalist, we expect you to be aware, accurate, precise, fluent, expressive and most importantly, creative in whatever task you are asked to do. We aim at not only testing your writing skills but also bringing out your creativity and multi-tasking skills. We hope you will improve your existing skills while also enjoying yourselves at this MUN. Goodluck!

Chair, Pranav S Kaimal

Co-Chair, Sachit S

Types of Articles:

Beat article:

While the agenda forms the umbrella that shall reign over the committee on these two days, deliberation shall extend to every sphere of relevance. The delegates pursue all strands of contention related to the issue at hand, and seek to delve greater on this sub-topic. Beat based article is a type of article that revolves around a subject, known as the beat. It is a specialised piece which requires an in-depth research and offers more knowledge to the reader. The beat is to be taken from the proceedings and happenings of the committee and must be a topic important enough to attract readership. It will take the mantle as the core concern of the article, and the content should obsequiously conform to the central idea. To capture the beat, ensure that you're actively present in the Committee to be able to identify the form and shape of the discussion.

- A beat based article is a specialised, factual article, and can include direct quotes from delegates, and/or statistical data.
- It has no requirement of a personal opinion, and is only restricted to the happenings in the committee around the beat, and the facts attached to the same.
- The data used in a beat-based article should use the correct data, including the names of delegates and the facts stated.
- The inclusion of factual details and direct quotes of the delegates enhances the credibility of the article.
- Once the beat is identified in the committee, the reporter also has the liberty to shed light on a segment of the topic based on his/her research.

Opinionated Editorials:

(OPED) Opinion Editorials are articles wherein the Journalists are expected to express their own point of view. OpEds can be based on the Agenda of the committee discussion. Here, the Journalist talks not only about the discussion at hand, she/he also offers their own point of view. We expect the Journalists to be well-read with agendas of their specific committees, so that the article put forward show their research as well as their knowledge. Biases of given news agencies must be considered while writing OpEds. Journalists must not write something that is not in line with a particular news agency. Having an opinion is of utmost importance in an OpEd, and this has to show through the style of writing chosen. Some of the functions that op-eds perform include, but are not restricted to

- : 1. Debating a proposition and/or providing rebuttals
- 2. Providing background and/or historical perspective on a contemporary issue
- 3. Highlighting aspects/dimensions that are hitherto not covered by 'news pieces'
- 4. Provide suggestions and/or map out a plan of action
- 5. Explain an idea, concept in immense detail

6. Share expertise As mentioned above, one of the key features to an Opinion Editorial is research. One cannot form an opinion if they aren't well researched, and under-researched articles lack quality. Further, your articulation needs to be such that your point is put forward clearly.

Feature:

Features are articles where the Journalist gets to show their creativity to the maximum. Not essentially as important or relevant as an OpEd or a Report/Beat, features allow the journalist to unleash their creativity. These, however, need to be committee-centric; otherwise they do not really serve the purpose of being a part of a MUN newsletter. Points to remember while writing a feature:

- Make them as creative as possible
- Make sure they are committee-centric.

For Example, in a committee debating about the Syrian crisis, the journalist could write a feature from the point of view of the Syrian refugees, children, and etc.-the possibilities are endless.

- Features, while not heavy on research, need to reflect some knowledge of the agenda at hand. For example, if AIPPM is discussing the Triple Talaq, a feature based on the plight of Indian women does not make sense, unless it talks specifically about Muslim women facing atrocities because of the forms of Triple Talaq.

Report:

In an MUN conference, a report is a summary of events that have taken place in the committee. Here, however, one needs to remember that we do not expect you to write about the discussion on Rules of Procedures (RoPs)- by summary, we mean quality content that has been spoken about in the committee. Reports are formal, neutral and concise. Number of GSL's, MOD Caucuses are key points that should be noted down. They explain the happenings of a committee without personal bias, and Journalists have to ensure that they cover the event to its entirety. They need to ensure that someone who is not a part of the

committee can still read a report to understand what is going on. Incidents may be reported, but they cannot have an opinion this is the job of an Op-Ed article.

Press Conference:

A press conference is when a reporter or a member of the International Press comes to the committee and asks questions to delegates present. The purpose of the press conference is to test the knowledge of the delegates regarding their country either related to the agenda or committee or otherwise. During a Press Conference a journalist can ask any delegate of their choosing any question regarding their country.

Types of questions (suggested but not limited to):

- Related to a controversial or contradicting statement made by the delegate while in the committee session.
- Country's facts related (preferably based on current affairs)
- Country's stance: The questions can be: a) To a delegate b) To a region or specific portfolios c) To a political party d) To the whole committee

Instructions and Formatting will be given during the conference.