



IP

INTERNATIONAL PRESS
PHOTOJOURNALISM

LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

Welcome to the International Press Corps! As a photojournalist, you aren't simply taking pictures but capturing stories and debates in motion through your lens. As I understand, for many of you, this might be your first time in the International Press as a photojournalist. Essentially, photojournalism is all about showing others what's happening around you; how delegates debate, how teamwork takes shape, and how emotions influence discussions.

Your role is to capture the energy, excitement, and seriousness that make every MUN conference unique. Each photograph you take should capture emotion and play the part of storytelling quite literally through visuals instead of text: whether it's a delegate confidently raising a placard, two participants shaking hands after a debate, or the quiet concentration in the room during a crucial vote. You don't need expensive equipment or years of experience to do this well. What truly matters is your observation, timing, and creativity.

This guide will walk you through what's expected from you, how to take impactful photos, and how your work will be evaluated throughout the conference

Requirements for IP Photojournalists:

Maintain Professionalism: Dress appropriately, respect delegates' focus, and avoid obstructing committee proceedings.

Capture Variety: Cover a wide range of events-committee sessions, delegate interactions, and informal moments.

Ensure Relevance: Every photograph should relate to the narrative of the conference. Candid photos are encouraged but must convey emotion or significance.

Submit Regularly: Depending on submission guidelines which will be discussed during the conference, photojournalists would be expected to submit daily or session-wise reports of their best images.

Use Proper Equipment: A DSLR or high-resolution smartphone camera may be used. Ensure batteries are charged and memory storage is sufficient.

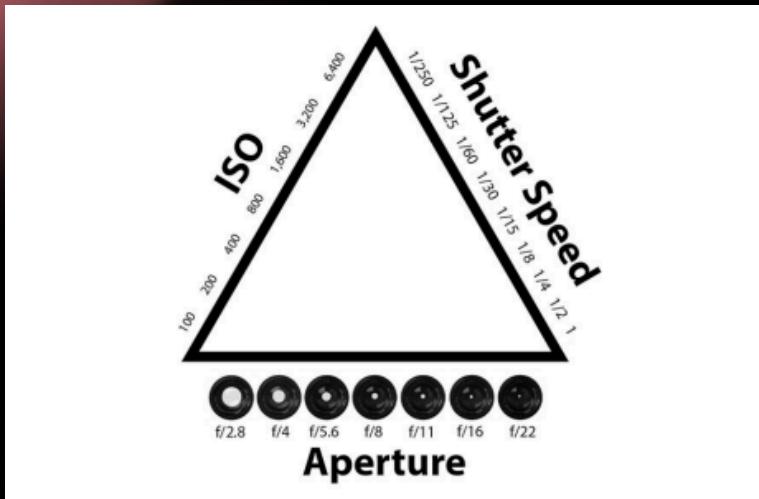
Adhere to Ethics: Avoid capturing photos that may embarrass, misrepresent, or invade privacy.

Note: Using a DSLR is not a requirement however it would be preferred. For those who require it, below is a guide on the factors to keep in mind while using a DSLR.

If you would be using your mobile phone to take pictures, please refer to the 8 composition guidelines given after.

Beginners Guide:

EXPOSURE TRIANGLE:



These three settings work together to create a balanced exposure, meaning your photo isn't too bright or too dark.

1. ISO – Controls how sensitive your camera sensor is to light.
 - a. increasing the ISO = brighter + grain
 - b. lowering the ISO = dimmer + less grain

2. Aperture – Controls how wide the lens opens to let light in.

a. Wide aperture (large lens opening):

- i. Lets in more light → brighter image
- ii. Creates blurry backgrounds (great for portraits)

b. Narrow aperture (small lens opening):

- i. Lets in less light → darker image
- ii. Keeps everything in focus (good for group shots or wide scenes)

3. Shutter Speed – Controls how long the camera's shutter stays open to capture light.

a. Fast shutter speed:

- i. Freezes motion (good for action shots like delegates raising placards)

b. Slow shutter speed:

- i. Allows more light in but can cause blurry pictures if the camera shakes

COMPOSITION RULES:

1. Rule of Thirds: Imagine dividing your frame into a 3x3 grid. Place your subject along one of the lines or where the lines intersect.
2. Leading Lines – Use lines in your environment like desks, rows of chairs, walls, or hallways to lead the viewer’s eye toward your main subject.
3. Framing – Use objects in your surroundings (like doorways, windows, or banners) to “frame” your subject.
4. Symmetry and Patterns – Look for repeating shapes, lines, or patterns, or take photos where both sides of the image mirror each other.
5. Background Awareness – Keep your background clean and simple. Avoid distractions like cluttered walls or people walking behind your subject.
6. Depth and Layers – Include elements in the foreground, middle, and background of your shot.

7. Perspective and Angles – Experiment with shooting from different angles crouch low, shoot from above, or tilt slightly.

8. Balance and Space – Distribute visual weight evenly.

Ideally, your pictures should utilise one or more of the composition rules in order to meet the requirements of an “acceptable” picture which may be used for coverage.

DEADLINES AND SUBMISSIONS:

You will be informed of your deadlines on the days of the conference before the committee session begins. Please report to the IP room on time for the briefing on both days.

MAIN MARKING RUBRICS:

1. Relevance
2. Creativity
3. Storytelling
4. Technical Skill (colour, lighting, exposure, etc.)
5. Timely Submission
6. Clarity (Focus- having the right foreground, background)
7. Demeanor (being present in committee during all times, behaviour, etc.)

Good luck photographers, we look forward to working with you!