CIACA Model United Nations

Press Corps Procedures



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Introduction

Press Corps is responsible for providing media coverage of the entire conference. Members of the Press Corps committee will act as journalists representing various news agencies, tasked with reporting on the debates, interviewing delegates, producing articles, news reports, and opinion pieces. Their work ensures that the conference proceedings are documented and that key developments and diverse perspectives are communicated to the broader MUN community.

Key Roles

Editors

Editors oversee the journalists' work, ensuring that all content produced meets the Press Corps' standards of quality and accuracy. They organize press conferences where delegates can present their stances and respond to journalists' questions. Editors review and approve the articles submitted by journalists, providing feedback and guiding them in refining their work. They also manage the publication process, ensuring that all approved content is shared on the conference's official platforms, such as social media or digital publications.

Journalists

Journalists are the core participants within the Press Corps. Their primary responsibility is to gather information from various committees by observing debates, attending sessions, and conducting interviews with delegates and chairs. They will then use this information to create articles, reports, and visual content that reflect the ongoing discussions and decisions within the conference.

Delegates

Delegates (from other committees) play an essential role as the main sources of information, consent and insight for the Press Corps. They participate in interviews, share their positions on various topics, and provide quotes and statements that journalists use in their articles. During press conferences, delegates may give speeches or respond to questions from journalists, helping to clarify their committee's decisions and perspectives. Their interaction with the Press Corps ensures that the work of the other committees is accurately reported and understood by the wider conference audience.

Chairs

Chairs (of other committees) are responsible for managing the proceedings within their respective committees, but they also interact with the Press Corps by facilitating journalists' access to debates and ensuring that delegates are available for interviews and press conferences. Chairs may coordinate with the Press Corps to arrange for delegates to participate in press conferences or to provide official statements on behalf of their committees. Chairs may also

reach out to the Editors to send in a journalist to cover an interesting event occurring in their committee.

Committee Flow

Roll Call

Similar to GA committees, the Press Corps committee also begins with a roll call. The Editors (Chair) strikes the gavel and calls upon each journalist's news organization in alphabetical order. When called, journalists are required to raise their placards and say "present."

Opening Speech

Opening speeches are one-minute and thirty seconds long statements that all journalists are required to deliver. These speeches are given during the first committee session, following the roll call. The opening speech should present what the journalist's news publication believes is important, their stance on the committee topic, and which topics in different committees the journalist would be interested in specializing in and why.

Unmoderated Caucus

The Press Corps does not function like a typical GA committee; therefore, for nearly the entire duration of the conference (excluding press conferences), it will operate under a constant unmoderated caucus. During this time, journalists will have complete control and freedom to visit other committees, observe debates, conduct interviews, and create written and graphic content based on their findings.

Press Conferences

Press conferences will be held in the Press Corps committee room and organized by the Editors, though journalists can also request them. During a press conference, delegates from the same committee will be invited to give speeches on their views and positions regarding their committee's topic and ongoing debate or a funny issue. Journalists should use this opportunity to clarify details, gain deeper insights, and gather quotes and information for their articles. After the delegate's speech, journalists will be allowed to ask questions for additional information and clarification. Lots of content can be farmed from press conferences.

Committee Guidelines

Research and Preparation

Effective journalism within the Press Corps begins with thorough research and preparation. Journalists should start by gaining a comprehensive understanding of the committee topics and the issues being debated. To do this, Journalists should start by studying specific agendas and background documents related to each committee to grasp the scope and context of the discussions. Moreover, journalists need to research the positions and policies of the countries and delegates involved. This will strongly aid in formulating informed, thoughtful questions and framing articles accurately and factually.

Information Gathering

Information gathering is a fundamental part of the journalistic process. Journalists will attend and observe committee sessions to collect and source first hand primary information about the debates and discussions within the committees. As a part of this information gathering, Journalists will conduct interviews with delegates and attend press conferences to provide additional insights and direct quotes that will further enhance the quality of their articles. Journalists should take detailed notes and record quotes accurately to ensure that their reporting reflects the true substance of the discussions and statements made during the conference.

Interviews:

- Journalists can interview both delegates and chairs.
- All interviews will have a ten minute time limit and must be conducted outside the committee room in optimal locations of the journalists' choosing, or any one of the Editors' pre-suggested interview locations.
- Journalists must request permission from the committee chair before pulling a delegate out for an interview, and return the delegate at the assigned time.
- Journalists are recommended to have the interview photographed for visual content during posts, however they <u>must</u> have the delegate's prior consent.

Press Conferences:

- Journalists must arrive on time for all press conferences, which will be hosted in the press corps committee room..
- There will be a minimum of three and maximum of five delegates from the same committee to be questioned during a press conference to represent different viewpoints and perspectives.
- Press conferences are hosted by the Editors, however journalists may also make a request for a press conference to be held to the Editors.

Article Creation

Once the information is gathered, journalists should concentrate on crafting clear, concise, and informative articles. These articles must accurately convey the findings and insights from their research and interviews while reflecting the perspectives and stances of their respective news platforms. In addition to writing, journalists are also responsible for designing an engaging front cover or 'thumbnail' for their articles. Moreover, they should ensure they obtain permission before including any images of delegates or chairs.

Writing Articles:

- All articles will have a minimum word count of 200
- All articles must end with the caption: 'Reported by ____'
- Articles should follow the standard writing format: Introduction, main point, conclusion.
- Articles do not always have to be serious, journalists are also allowed to create funny and engaging articles to entertain the audience, however they must all entertain a certain level of formality.
- Articles *can* and are *encouraged* to include multiple pictures and videos after the front cover.
- Articles should cover a specific individual/issue/topic within the committee and should be fun and engaging

Designing

- All designs should include the respective news outlet's logo on the cover.
- Designs should be visually appealing for viewers, typically including a picture of the delegate or scenario being presented.

- All designs must be in a square format so it can be fully viewed on the instagram platform without having to be clicked directly.
- In addition to the thumbnail, journalists can also opt to submit additional xtra pictures and videos to include in the instagram post. Note that these pictures must also include the organization's logo in it

For relevant and brilliant examples of articles, journalists may refer to the THAIMUN press corps account, @thaimunpress on instagram, the CIACAMUN press corps account: @ciacamunpress, or the CIAMUN 25 press corps: ciamun25press.

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