



International Press Corps

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Committee Handbook

Table Of Contents

S.No	Particulars	Page
1.	Executive Board's Message	2
2.	Role at WELMUN 22	3
3.	Sample Article	8
4.	Rules and Elements of Style	10
5.	How will you be Assessed?	16
6.	International Principles of Professional Ethics in Journalism	19
7.	Committee Agendas	26
8.	Final Thoughts	27

Letter From The Executive Board

Greetings Delegates!

It is with the utmost pleasure, that we, as members of the Executive Board, extend our welcome to all of you to the International Press Corps, at the eighth stimulation of the Welham Boys' School Model United Nations Conference. As members of the International Press Corps, you will be a part of a stimulation paralleled by none other. All of you have an important role at the conference- reporting on the proceedings and events of each committee. The International Press Of Model United Nations stresses sculpting the basic aspect of being a full-blown journalist who showcases the traits of an impartial and unbiased reporter. It is very important for you to understand the power of the ink, which can be presided over by any fervid mind, in a matter of mere minutes. Therefore, it is extremely important to understand the inevitable role of the media in conferences that have the potential to affect the lives of people, counting in billions. We are sure that you are very well aware that International Press is among the most authoritative and prominent principles in the modern world. The vision here is to create a journal that reflects the power of the press. We are here to resonate with the anthem of the press, which is free and independent and has no foundation of bias. We have always believed in the maxim "the pen is mightier than the sword", and for us, it shows the true nature of the role of the international press. In spite of the critical need for journalism experience, we sincerely hope that all of you will do well. However, if there is any kind of guidance needed, we would be delighted to help you out without any sort of biased judgement.

Wishing you the best of luck!

Role At Welmun

Your role at WELMUN22 will include the following:

1. Formal Reporting :

● All the members of the International Press Corps will be given their news organizations and their assigned committees sufficiently beforehand. As a spokesperson of a news organization, reporting the events taking part in your committee will be among your key roles. The International Press Corps will bring out newsletters which will be an anthology of your articles. Hence, a sizable portion of your articles should contain critical details on committee activities. The delegates may refer to the link below or other similar resources in order to get themselves even more familiarized with the traits and characteristics of an ideal news article

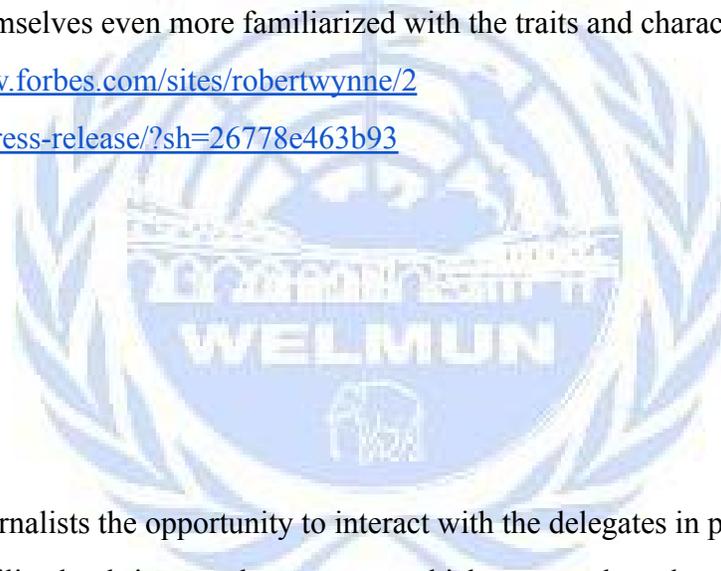
<https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/readersblog/giteshsharma/how-to-write-an-article-for-media-newspaper-and-magazine-5914/>

● You can also put forward your personal views on the agenda through Opinion Editorials. We expect you to be well versed with the agenda, so that the articles put forward show your research and also provide the readers an in-depth analysis of the topic. The delegates may refer to the link below or other similar resources in order to get themselves even more familiarised with the traits and characteristics of an ideal opinion articles

<https://www.lse.ac.uk/News/Opinion-Articles/Writing-opinion-articles>

2. Press Conferences

- You will be allowed to question the delegates in the committee with the prior permission of your Executive Board during the course of the conference. Keep in mind, the opportunity to conduct a press conference will be subjected to time constraints. You are expected to make judicious use of this time and ask good questions. In order to accomplish this you are required to be well researched and attentive during the proceedings of the committee. The delegates may refer to the link below or other similar resources in order to get themselves even more familiarized with the traits and characteristics of an ideal press conference - <https://www.forbes.com/sites/robertwynne/2016/06/13/how-to-write-a-press-release/?sh=26778e463b93>



3. Interviews

- Interviews provide the journalists the opportunity to interact with the delegates in person. It is an important tool that can be utilized to bring out those aspects which may not have been highlighted during the conference. Reporters may interview the delegates during breaks or lobbying sessions to make sure that committee proceedings are not disturbed. The delegate will submit their pieces to the Chairperson through e-mail or a pen drive. The delegates may refer to the link below or other similar resources in order to get themselves even more familiarized with the traits and characteristics of an ideal interview

<https://muckrack.com/blog/2021/10/07/how-to-conduct-a-good-interview>

4. Humour Column

- This column is meant to add humour to the press issues and amuse the delegates. Comments must be

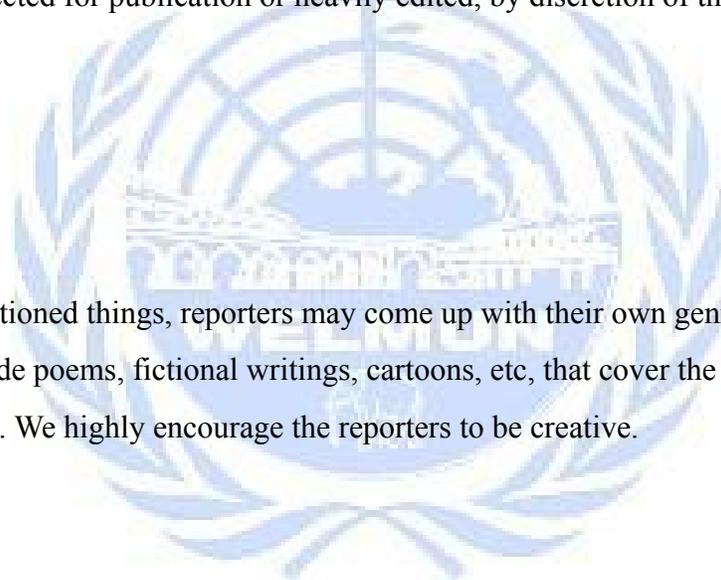
woven into articles, with consistent and real humour. Offensive, vulgar or lewd humour will not be accepted.

5. 'In The Air' Column

- 'In The Air' column will be referred to as Unmoderated. Yes, every delegate requires a juicy bit of gossip; this column must not offend anyone. If the column is found to be condescending or offensive by the Secretariat, it will be rejected for publication or heavily edited, by discretion of the Chair.

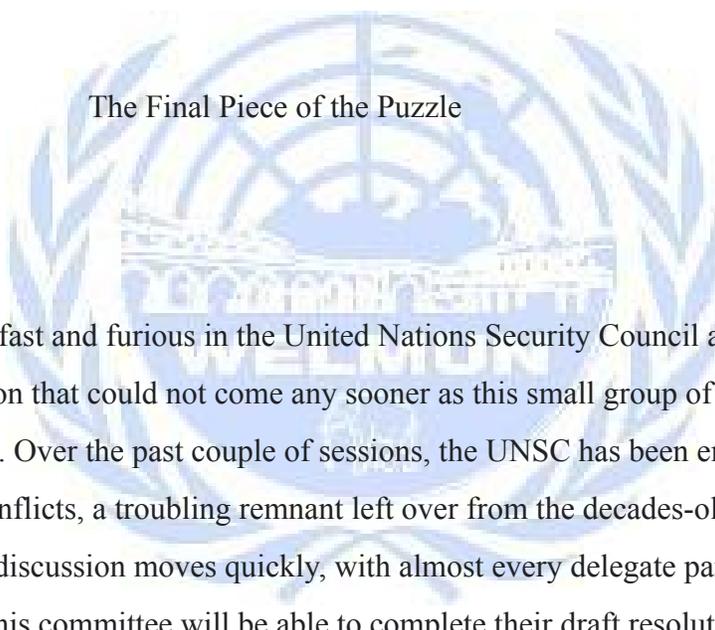
6. Other Media Styles

- Apart from the above-mentioned things, reporters may come up with their own genres of writing. Your submissions may include poems, fictional writings, cartoons, etc, that cover the agenda being discussed in your committee. We highly encourage the reporters to be creative.



Sample Article

The following sample article is also provided for your reference while preparing for the conference.



The Final Piece of the Puzzle

DIE ZEIT—Ideas are flying fast and furious in the United Nations Security Council as it enters into its third session, a stream of innovation that could not come any sooner as this small group of delegates works to come to a conclusion to their first topic. Over the past couple of sessions, the UNSC has been embroiled in a discussion of the Armenian- Azerbaijan conflicts, a troubling remnant left over from the decades-old collapse of the Soviet Union. Though the UNSC’s discussion moves quickly, with almost every delegate participating when they can, it remains to be seen whether this committee will be able to complete their draft resolution paper in time to come to a successful conclusion. Fortunately, a successful conclusion seems more and more likely as these experienced delegates make their opinions and ideas known. During a moderated caucus regarding the possibility of providing Armenia and Azerbaijan, the centrepieces of the current discussion, with positive incentives so that they call off the current conflict, Kuwait pointed out that providing such incentives is often “dicey,” due to the difficulty of satisfying both countries involved. The committee searched for another possible solution by discussing how best to calm long-held fears about peacekeepers. This caucus saw Russia proposing a time limit on how long peacekeepers stay in Azerbaijan, thus reassuring the country’s citizens that the peacekeepers would not be a permanent presence, and the delegate of the United Kingdom suggested the inclusion of peacekeepers as a facet of

a treaty between the nations involved. However, neither solution appeared to make a solid impact on the state of the discussion, leading to the Dais approving a second ten-minute unmoderated caucus for this session. The Dais expressed a desire for the committee to come to their final verdict during this time, and the delegates quickly dissolved into intense discussion. Their intensity and dedication bodes well for the future of this committee. As their allotted time draws to a close, the UNSC's delegates find themselves on the cusp of a collaborative and impassioned solution to the issue of the Armenian-Azerbaijan conflict. Hopefully, this spirit of partnership and precision will continue to fuel a unique and united approach to their discussions as they near the end of the conference.

Rules and Elements of Style

Addressing Plagiarism

The originality of your articles is its most important factor. While you are allowed to research and take inspiration from various sources, plagiarism is not encouraged under any circumstances. It can also result in debarment from committee awards. We also request the reporters to cite the sources for the facts and information they include in their writings.

1. Punctuation:

We expect the reporters to punctuate their articles correctly. Colons, full stops, commas, marks, dashes, etc must be placed correctly.

2. Capitalisation:

All abbreviations such as UNHRC or UNSC along with other proper nouns need to be capitalised.

3. Format of Articles and Reports

Your news reports, articles and opinion pieces must contain the following

1. An introduction
2. The main body
3. Conclusion

An integral, yet often forgotten part of an article is the by-line. It is simply a line inserted right below the title, indicating who has written the article and what it conveys. We also encourage you to give catchy titles to your writing. Your articles must be submitted in the following manner:

YourFullName_CommitteeName_Day.docx

5. References:

We request you to avoid referring to delegates by their names or pronouns. You may instead use 'Delegate of', followed by their portfolio. Apart from that, you should use the standard UN country and organization names when referring to any nation or organization.

6. Contractions:

We also advise you to avoid using contractions such as “can’t” or “don’t”. Instead, use the expanded forms, as they appear to be more formal.

7. Abbreviations:

No spaces should be used separating letters of an organisation, country, etc. Some examples of correct abbreviations include USA, UK, USSR, ECOSOC

8. Apostrophes:

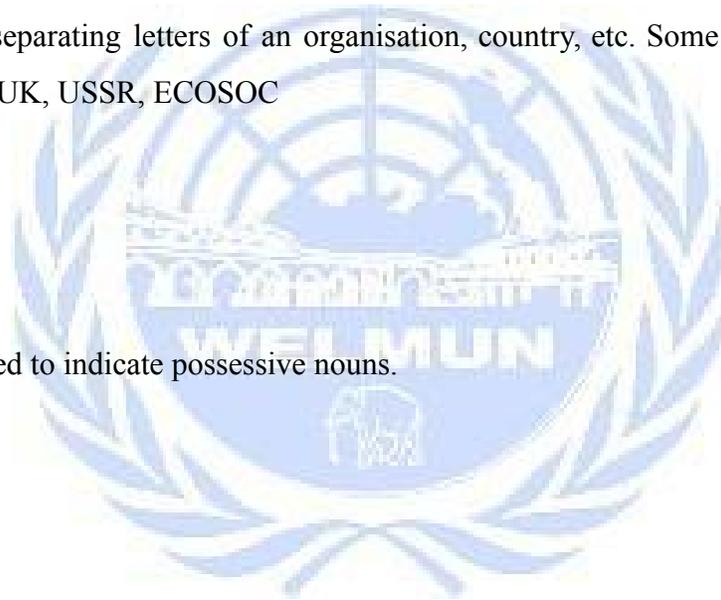
Apostrophes will only be used to indicate possessive nouns.

9. Currency:

Refrain from using the ‘Rs’ sign. Rather use INR for indicating sums in Indian Rupees. Also, symbols for currencies such as the ‘\$’ sign should be used. Nations "Member States" should be initially capitalised.

10. Numerals:

Any numeral less than or equal to 20 must be spelled. Numerals over twenty are to be represented with digits. International Number System will be followed. Fractions and decimal numbers should be reported



as decimal numerals or percentages, such as 0.5 or 50% (rather than “one half” or “1/2”). Roman numerals are used only when referring to a source, which was originally, designated using Roman numerals, such as Chapter V of the UN Charter (articles of the UN Charter are written as “Article 5”). Ordinal numerals are spelled out within the text of an article, such as the First Committee of the General Assembly. In article headings or titles, the Publisher may choose to use ordinal abbreviations, such as 1st Committee. Percent symbols should be used to report percentages, for example 64.4%.

11. Quotation marks:

Standard British English Grammar rules apply.

12. Spacing:

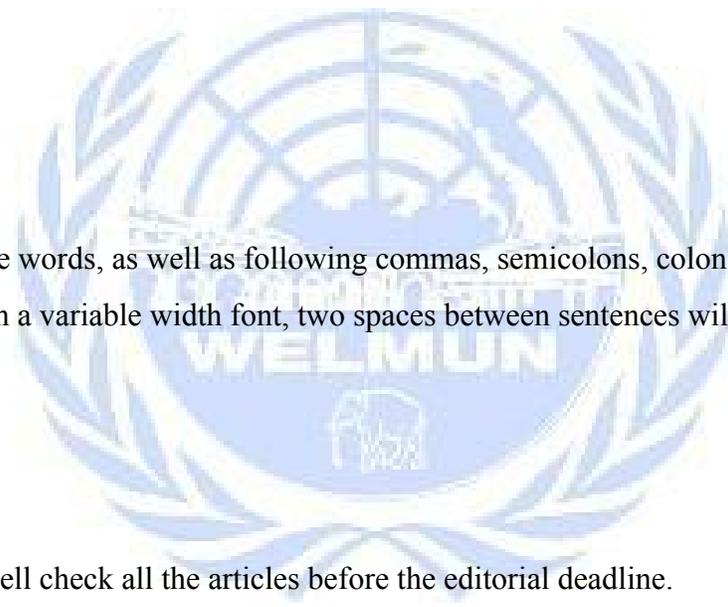
One space is used to separate words, as well as following commas, semicolons, colons and periods. Since the newsletter is published in a variable width font, two spaces between sentences will not be necessary.

13. Spelling:

Reporters must be sure to spell check all the articles before the editorial deadline.

14. Quotations

Delegates are expected to use correct punctuation marks such as quotation marks, ellipsis, etc.



HOW WILL YOU BE ASSESSED?

You will predominantly be assessed on the following criteria:

1. Your Position Paper

The members of the International Press corps will either be representing an international or a national news organization. You will be charged with producing a position paper as a part of your preparation for this role. Your position paper should include the following three categories:

1. The history of your allotted news organization.
2. Its comparative bias, principally with respect to major current events.
3. The way in which you approach the topics of your assigned committees as a spokesperson of your news organization.

We expect you to address these in distinct sections.

2. Participation during the conference.

The most important part of this conference's Press Corps will be your much expected participation. This includes writing your reports and news articles, your Opinion Editorials, press conferences, interviews, etc. We urge you to really work well on your media styles and make sure that they meet our expectations.

3. Representation

An important factor of the IPC will be its diverse representation, regarding both geography and bias. The Press Corps will be composed of news agencies from different regions, with different histories, and with different biases. You will be assessed on how you represent the political stand of your news organization through your news articles and opinion editorial.

4. Counter

Since the International Press Corps will have such diversity, one news organization may not share similar views with the other news organization, or may even hold radically different views and perspectives. The journalists, therefore, should also expect rivalries between news organizations. You will also be assessed on how you counter and respond to the articles published by your rival organizations.

5. Punctuality

Submitting your news articles, interviews, opinion editorials, etc to the Executive Board on time is very important. Your position papers will be read and judged, and if you fail in punctual submissions, it may result in revocation from committee awards. Please keep in mind that late will only be entertained if you have a valid reason and inform the Executive Board well in advance.

INTERNATIONAL PRINCIPLES OF PROFESSIONAL ETHICS IN JOURNALISM

International and regional organizations of professional journalists, representing altogether 400,000 working journalists in all parts of the world, have held since 1978 consultative meetings under the auspices of UNESCO.

The second consultative meeting (Mexico City, 1980) expressed its support for the UNESCO Declaration on Fundamental Principles concerning the Contribution of the Mass Media to strengthening Peace and International Understanding, to the Promotion of Human Rights and to Countering Racialism, Apartheid, and Incitement to War. Moreover, the meeting adopted the “Mexico Declaration” with a set of principles which represent common grounds of existing national and regional codes of journalistic ethics as well as relevant provisions contained in various international instruments of a legal nature.

The fourth consultative meeting (Prague and Paris, 1983) noted the lasting value of the UNESCO Declaration in which it is stated inter alia that “the exercise of freedom of opinion, expression and information, recognized as an integral part of human rights and fundamental freedoms, is a vital factor in the strengthening of peace and international understanding.” Furthermore, the meeting recognized the important role which information and communication play in the contemporary world, both in national and international spheres, with a growing social responsibility being placed upon the mass media and journalists. On this basis the following principles of professional ethics in journalism were prepared as an international common ground and as a source of inspiration for national and regional codes of ethics. This set of principles is intended to be promoted autonomously by each professional organization through ways and means most adequate to its members.

Principle I: People's right to true information

People and individuals have the right to acquire an objective picture of reality by means of accurate and comprehensive information as well as to express themselves freely through the various media of culture and communication.

Principle II: The journalist's dedication to objective reality

The foremost task of the journalist is to serve the people's right to true and authentic information through an honest dedication to objective reality whereby facts are reported conscientiously in their proper context, pointing out their essential connections and without causing distortions, with due deployment of the creative capacity of the journalist, so that the public is provided with adequate material to facilitate the formation of an accurate and comprehensive picture of the world in which the origin, nature and essence of events, processes and state of affairs are understood as objectively as possible.

Principle III: The journalist's social responsibility

Information in journalism is understood as a social good and not as a commodity, which means that the journalist shares responsibility for the information transmitted and is thus accountable not only to those controlling the media but ultimately to the public at large, including various social interests. The journalist's social responsibility requires that he or she will act under all circumstances in conformity with a personal ethical consciousness.

Principle IV: The journalist's professional integrity

The social role of the journalist demands that the profession maintain high standards of integrity, including the journalist's right to refrain from working against his or her conviction or from disclosing sources of information as well as the right to participate in the decision-making of the medium in which he or she is employed. The integrity of the profession does not permit the journalist to accept any form of bribe or the promotion of any private interest contrary to the general welfare. Likewise, it belongs to professional ethics to respect intellectual property and, in particular, to refrain from plagiarism.

Principle V: Public access and participation

The nature of the profession demands that the journalist promote access by the public to information and participation of the public in the media, including the right of correction or rectification and the right of reply.

Principle VI: Respect for privacy and human dignity

An integral part of the professional standards of the journalists is respect for the right of the individual to privacy and human dignity, in conformity with provisions of international and national law concerning protection of the rights and the reputation of others, prohibiting libel, calumny, slander and defamation.

Principle VII: Respect for public interest

The professional standards of the journalist prescribe due respect for the community, its democratic institutions and public morals.

Principle VIII: Respect for universal values and diversity of cultures

A true journalist stands for the universal values of humanism, above all peace, democracy, human rights, social progress and national liberation, while respecting the distinctive character, value and dignity of each culture, as well as the right of each people freely to choose and develop its political, social, economic and cultural systems.

Principle IX: Elimination of war and other great evils confronting humanity

The ethical commitment to the universal values of humanism calls for the journalist to abstain from any justification for, or incitement to, wars of aggression and the arms race, especially in nuclear weapons, and all other forms of violence, hatred or discrimination, especially racialism and apartheid, oppression by tyrannic regimes, colonialism and neocolonialism, as well as other great evils which afflict humanity, such as poverty, malnutrition and diseases.

Principle X: Promotion of a new world information and communication order

The journalist operates in the contemporary world within the framework of a movement towards new international relations in general and a new information order in particular. The new order, understood as an integral part of the New International Economic Order, is aimed at the decolonisation and democratization of information and communication, both nationally and internationally, on the basis of peaceful coexistence among peoples and with full respect for their cultural identity.

COMMITTEE AGENDAS

All the delegates are requested to go through the agendas for their respective committees.

Committee Agenda(s)
United Nations Security Council Examining the Russo - Ukrainian Conflict
United Nations UNGA-1: Disarmament and International Security Committee- Tackling the emerging threat of biological warfare and bioterrorism with special emphasis on compliance with the BWC
United Nations Human Rights Council- Discussing the humanitarian crisis in Afghanistan

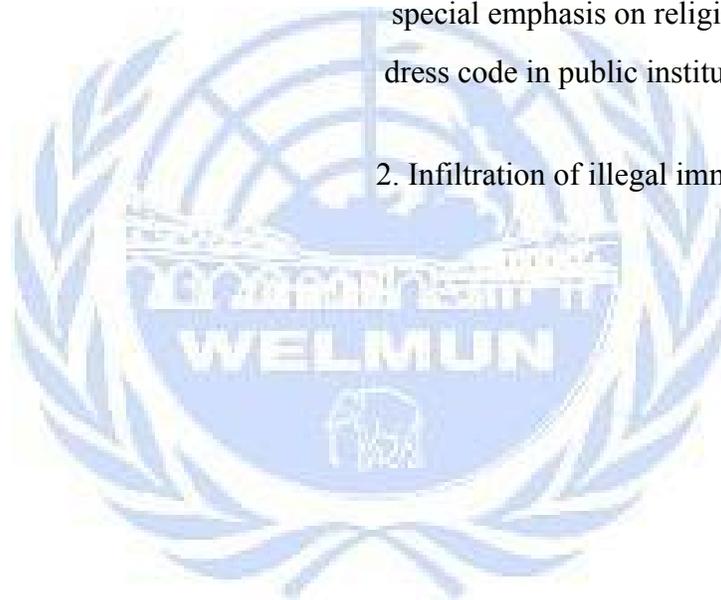
United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime - 1. Addressing the situation of narcoterrorism with special emphasis on The Golden Triangle

2. Legalization of Marijuana for recreational purposes

World Trade Organization- The Impact of RISING Oil Prices

All India Political parties Meet - 1. Discussion of the Uniform Civil Code (UCC) with special emphasis on religious dress code in public institutions.

2. Infiltration of illegal immigrants in India



Final Thoughts

The Welham Boys' School Model United Nations Conference provides every reporter with a chance to channel their creativity and knowledge, and experience professional journalism stimulation. Your preparation for this conference must include your understanding of the political stand and ideology of your respective news organizations. You need to be thoroughly aware of the stance of your news organization with regard to the topic in hand. You must also have deep knowledge of the agendas to be discussed in the committee allotted to you. You may even need to go through the background guides of your respective committees in order to achieve this. Read about the agenda and the various perspectives on it. Access the quality of research required and see how the content is balanced. The unique experience that the International Press holds ranging from frantically running through committee rooms to getting an opportunity to express your most profound thoughts- is truly one that can not be found anywhere else.

