



International Press Corps

Background Guide





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Letter From the Executive Board

“Freedom of the press is not just important to democracy, it is democracy.”

— Walter Cronkite

Dear Delegates,

It is with utmost pleasure that we welcome you to the International Press Corps at the 11th edition of the Welham Boys’ Model United Nations Conference. We’re excited to have each of you as journalists, ready to take on a role that’s not only crucial to the conference but also incredibly meaningful beyond it.

As part of the IPC, you’ll be doing more than just observing events, you’ll be telling the story of the conference. You’ll capture the heart of debates, the rise and fall of arguments, the moments of agreement, and the inevitable disagreements too. Through your words, you’ll document the spirit of diplomacy, and the world of negotiation and compromise that defines Model United Nations.

Today, journalism stands at a crucial crossroads. With the ongoing tensions in Pahalgam and the shifting political landscape in the United States, the spotlight on the media has only grown sharper. As part of the IPC, you’ll get a glimpse into what real journalists face every day, the challenge of staying objective, the need to tell stories with both truth and compassion, and the constant pressure to report with honesty even when the stakes are high.

On top of that, the rise of social media has changed the way news spreads, and not always for the better. It’s become easier than ever to blur the line between fact and opinion. In a world full of misinformation, being careful, being thoughtful, and being responsible are not just good habits, they are absolutely essential. In the International Press Corps, we expect you to develop a sharp eye and a steady hand as you navigate these challenges.

We know that being a journalist isn’t just about reporting facts, it’s about understanding the bigger picture, asking the right questions, and never being afraid to dig a little deeper. Here, standard meet exploration. Freedom to explore different styles of reporting has been granted.

Welcome to WELMUN 2025 — we hope your words will make an impact.

The Executive Board

International Press Corps
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Athriv Ahuja (Editor-in-Chief)	Chiraag Bhargava (Senior Editor)	Arnav Aditya (Senior Editor)
Minarth Jalan (Creative Editor)	Harshil Bhatia (Creative Editor)	Jai Gagaliya (Rapporteur)
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Working Of The Committee

Your role at WELMUN 25 will include the following:

1. Formal Reporting

- All the members of the International Press Corps will be given their news organisations and their assigned committees sufficiently beforehand. As a spokesperson of a news organisation, 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 familiarised with the traits and characteristics of an ideal news article.
- 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

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.

3. Interviews

- Interviews provide the journalists the opportunity to interact with the delegates in person. It is an important tool that can be utilised 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 email.

4. Humour Section

- 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.



Resources

3.1. Reports

News reports are the fundamental tool of any journalist. As the primary format for conveying information, they aim to provide readers with timely and accurate updates.

At IPC, your reports will mainly be targeted at the delegates of the committees you are covering, although this is not a strict requirement. To ensure a continuous flow of information throughout the conference, reports will be published as soon as they have been written and reviewed by the editorial board.

Each report must carry a header indicating the publication it belongs to, as decided editorially. Therefore, it is important for every journalist to align their reporting with a chosen editorial policy, which can evolve over the course of the conference. Any such changes must be clearly indicated when submitting reports to the editorial board.

3.2. Press Releases

Press releases are official statements distributed by institutions or organizations to supply the media with information.

At WELMUN 2025, any information provided by committee chairs, especially fabricated “crises” intended to stimulate debate will be considered press releases.

Journalists must rewrite these announcements in a journalistic style, ensuring the content is appropriate for publication. These articles must be approved both by the IPC editorial board and by the chairs of the committee responsible for the release before publication.

3.3. Opinionated Articles

Opinion articles allow journalists to step slightly away from objective reporting and express thoughtful analysis or commentary on the issues discussed during committee sessions.

Writers may evaluate the performance of delegates, comment on the effectiveness of debate strategies, or share broader reflections on the topics under discussion. However, opinions must be well-reasoned, respectful, and supported by evidence or observations from the sessions.

It is crucial that opinion pieces are clearly labeled as such and distinguish fact from personal interpretation, maintaining the IPC’s commitment to journalistic integrity.



3.4. Interviews

Interviews are one of the key methods journalists use to gather firsthand information. We strongly encourage IPC journalists to conduct multiple interviews with delegates to add depth and perspective to their stories. However, interviews must not disrupt ongoing committee sessions. Instead, they should be conducted during breaks, at the beginning or end of sessions, or in the hallways.

Delegates may also approach journalists seeking interviews, which mirrors real-world political and media practices. While such opportunities are valuable, journalists must remain aware of potential biases and carefully consider how they use the information gathered.

Occasionally, press conferences will be organized where multiple journalists can question speakers together. In such settings, journalists are expected to ask informed, thoughtful questions, based on prior research and their chosen editorial stance.

Please remember that some committee sessions may be closed to the press. In those cases, journalists should respect confidentiality while finding appropriate opportunities, such as informal conversations to gather information for their reporting, always honoring any request for anonymity.

3.5. Beat Articles

Beat articles focus specifically on the agenda of the committee a journalist is assigned to. Instead of general reporting, journalists writing beat articles are expected to track the progression of debate and discussion around the official agenda topics highlighting key arguments, proposed solutions, emerging blocs, and significant shifts in negotiation.

The goal of a beat article is to give readers a deeper understanding of how the committee is addressing its main issues, how delegate positions evolve, and what major developments are taking place. Consistency is key: journalists should follow the agenda closely throughout the conference and produce articles that capture not only what happens during formal debate, but also the underlying trends and dynamics shaping the discussions.

3.6. Daily Briefings

At multi-day conferences, it is common for the press to provide daily summaries of important developments. In keeping with this tradition, IPC journalists will deliver briefings on the major events of each day by the time of our coffee break. These updates will be recorded as “stand-ups,” with each journalist summarizing the key moments and progress from the committees they are covering.

Each journalist must prepare a short, clear script two hours before the coffee break and be ready to film their briefing. These stand-ups are a great opportunity to practice speaking concisely and clearly for a general audience, bringing the stories of the conference to life.

NOTE:- Sample Articles are provided at the end of the Background Guide.



How To Go About Research

The fundamental principle of journalism lies in the inherent responsibility of journalists to disseminate news and provide the public with thoroughly researched information that is factually accurate and presented with utmost good faith. However, a comprehensive article necessitates more than these components. It should not only exhibit skillful writing but also encompass all facets of the narrative and reveal any impropriety encountered by the journalist in their pursuit of truth. To execute this objective with the highest degree of diligence, a journalist must possess a comprehensive understanding of the news organization to which they are affiliated.

News Agency

Within the International Press Corps (IPC), a news agency represents the designated area of focus for each journalist. Essentially, it forms a significant aspect of a journalist's professional identity during the conference. Comprehensive research regarding one's assigned news agency is essential, encompassing its historical background, establishment, current operational status, and any notable achievements or accolades.

Agency Bias

Each journalist is assigned a specific news agency, which will define their area of reporting throughout the duration of the conference. When considering the political spectrum—a range of political viewpoints from left to right—it's important to understand how this influences news agencies. For instance, agencies leaning towards the left often advocate for progressive concepts such as government intervention in healthcare or proactive measures on climate change. Conversely, right-leaning agencies typically support more traditional perspectives, including limited governmental oversight and free-market economic policies. Fox News serves as a well-known illustration of a right-leaning agency. Journalists are expected to adopt the prevailing bias of their assigned news agency in their reporting and during committee sessions. This bias is shaped by various factors, including ownership structures, political affiliations, and the country in which the news agency is based. Delegates are required to demonstrate their understanding of their news agency's bias within the committee through submitted articles and the arguments they present during crisis discussions. Notably, openly acknowledging bias contradicts journalistic ethics; therefore, no news agency ever admits to being prejudiced—a nuance that distinguishes news agencies from many other roles.

Given that biases can evolve over time, it is crucial for journalists to conduct thorough research to ensure their understanding of the agency's bias aligns with the committee's established cut-off date.



Background Guides

Delegates are expected to thoroughly familiarize themselves with both the general background guide of IPC and the specific background guide relevant to their assigned committee. These guides serve as the foundational framework for the committee's agenda and represent the starting point for the research that journalists are required to undertake. It is recommended that all journalists consult relevant websites to gain deeper insights into the agenda and to gather information for speeches or articles. Furthermore, it is strongly advised that every point presented is meticulously verified and fact-checked.





Editorial Policies

At WELMUN 25, if you're part of the International Press Corps (IPC), you'll have the exciting opportunity to publish your articles under the names of some of the world's top media outlets. Each publication has its own unique voice, priorities, and audience, so it's important to adapt your writing style to match the outlet you're representing. Whether you're assigned a publication or get to choose one, think of it as stepping into the shoes of a real journalist at that organization capturing their tone, following their standards, and staying true to their editorial philosophy.

Below, you'll find a quick overview of what each major publication expects from its journalists:-

The New York Times (NYT)

Known as the "Gray Lady," The New York Times is a globally respected newspaper headquartered in New York City. It is widely recognized for its commitment to investigative journalism, comprehensive coverage of international affairs, and a reputation for maintaining the highest standards of fact-based reporting. With a large digital and print readership, NYT emphasizes analytical depth, nuanced storytelling, and a balanced tone in its reporting.

The Wall Street Journal (WSJ)

The Wall Street Journal is a globally recognized newspaper with a strong focus on economics, business, finance, and international markets. While based in New York, the WSJ maintains a broad international perspective, providing insightful analysis of how political events and policy changes impact global financial systems and business communities.

Al Jazeera

Al Jazeera is a Doha-based global media network renowned for its strong presence in conflict reporting, global south perspectives, and in-depth analysis of underreported stories. The outlet places significant emphasis on giving voice to marginalized communities and offering perspectives that challenge dominant Western narratives.



CNN

Based in Atlanta, Cable News Network (CNN) is one of the world's largest and most recognizable news organizations, particularly known for its 24-hour breaking news coverage. CNN blends hard news reporting with feature stories and often seeks to deliver immediate, accessible news to a global audience.

Euronews

Euronews is a pan-European news channel based in Lyon, France, offering a unique multi-language perspective on European and world affairs. It is known for its balanced and multi-angled approach to storytelling, aiming to present news that respects a variety of viewpoints without sensationalism.

The Moscow Times

The Moscow Times is an English-language newspaper based in Moscow, traditionally offering independent coverage of Russian affairs and global news relevant to Russia's role in the world. Despite operating in a sensitive media environment, the publication is known for its analytical tone and for providing insight into Russian politics, business, and civil society.

France 24

France 24 is an international news network headquartered in Paris, broadcasting in French, English, Arabic, and Spanish.

It is known for offering French and European perspectives on global events, with a strong focus on international politics, conflict zones, and human rights.

South China Morning Post (SCMP)

The South China Morning Post is an English-language newspaper based in Hong Kong, known for its coverage of China, Asia, and international affairs.

SCMP has built a reputation for providing in-depth reporting on regional politics, economics, and society, often offering a perspective that bridges East and West.



Xinhua News Agency

Xinhua News Agency is the official state-run press agency of the People's Republic of China, and one of the largest news organizations in the world.

Xinhua provides news coverage that often reflects the official positions and policies of the Chinese government, with a focus on stability, development, and China's role in global affairs.

The Sun

The Sun is a UK-based tabloid newspaper known for its sensationalist headlines, bold writing style, and focus on entertainment, human interest stories, and political scandals. While highly popular among a wide audience, it often adopts a provocative tone and favors eye-catching news angles.

The Hindu

The Hindu is one of India's oldest and most respected English-language newspapers, known for its in-depth, balanced, and scholarly reporting. It focuses heavily on national and international politics, economics, law, and social issues, offering a calm and intellectual tone.

The Times of India

The Times of India (TOI) is India's largest English-language daily, offering a mix of hard news, entertainment, lifestyle, and opinion pieces. It aims to be accessible to a wide audience, blending serious journalism with lighter human-interest stories.

The Indian Express

The Indian Express is widely regarded for its investigative journalism, in-depth analysis, and strong political reporting. It is particularly respected for exposing corruption and holding authorities accountable.

BBC

The British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) is the UK's national broadcaster, known worldwide for its impartial, accurate, and comprehensive news coverage.

It aims to present balanced reporting, giving equal weight to diverse views.



Haaretz

Haaretz is an Israeli newspaper known for its liberal, left-leaning stance, and analytical coverage of Middle Eastern and international affairs. It provides critical, intellectual, and often bold perspectives on social, political, and diplomatic issues.

The Guardian

The Guardian is a British newspaper known for its progressive editorial line and commitment to independent journalism. It covers a wide range of issues including politics, environment, social justice, and global affairs.

Associated Press (AP)

The Associated Press (AP) is an American not-for-profit news agency with a reputation for fast, factual, and objective reporting. It is one of the most trusted sources for breaking news and wire service journalism.

The Economic Times

The Economic Times (ET) is India's leading financial newspaper, specializing in business, finance, economics, and policy analysis. It targets professionals, policymakers, and business leaders.

The Daily Mail

The Daily Mail is a UK-based newspaper known for its sensationalist style, strong opinion pieces, and wide appeal among a general audience. It covers a mix of news, celebrity gossip, scandals, and political commentary.

Reuters

Reuters is a globally renowned news agency known for its fast, accurate, and unbiased reporting on world events. Renowned for its clear and straightforward style, Reuters delivers breaking news and comprehensive analysis with a focus on clarity and reliability.

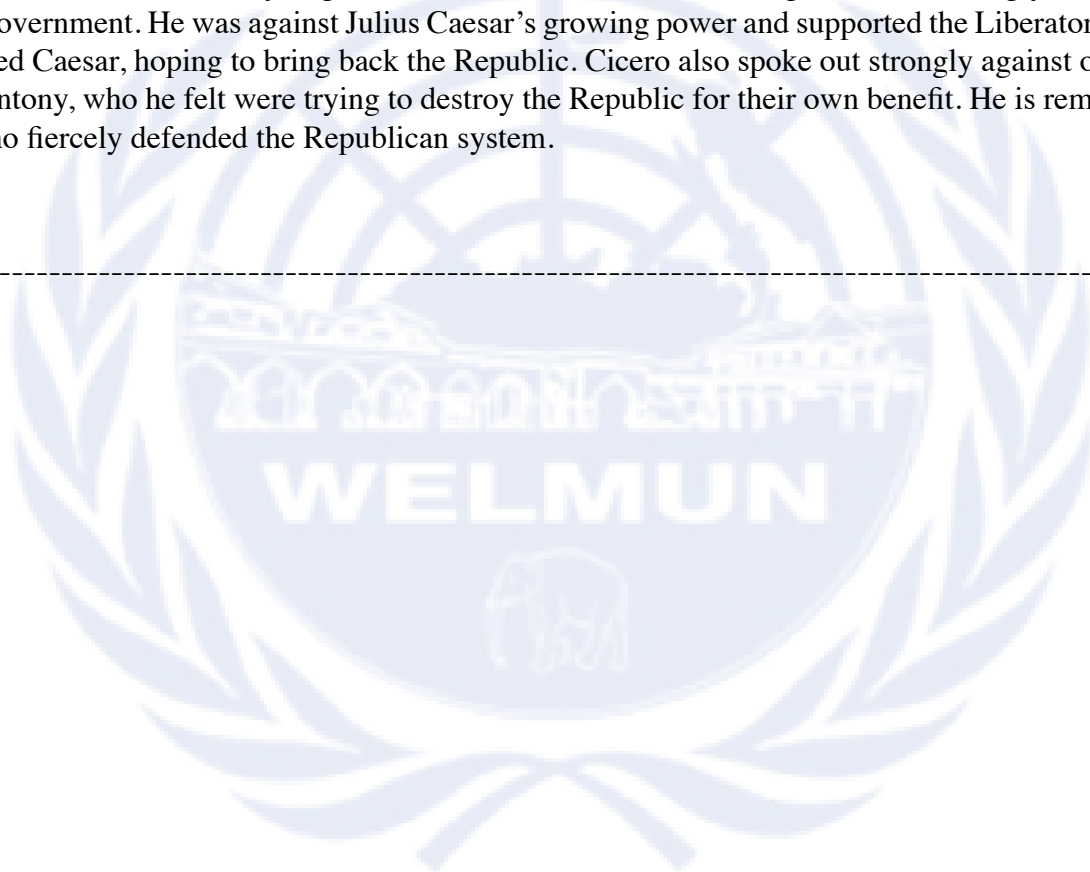


Gaius Sallustius Crispus (Sallust)

Gaius Sallustius Crispus, or Sallust, was a Roman historian, not a journalist. His histories, such as those on Catiline and Jugurtha, provided critical analyses of past events and the Republic's decline due to corruption and ambition. While he served Caesar, his stance is best described as a critical commentator on the forces eroding the Republic.

Marcus Tallius Cicero

Marcus Tullius Cicero was a very important leader in the late Roman Republic who strongly believed in its traditional government. He was against Julius Caesar's growing power and supported the Liberatores, the people who killed Caesar, hoping to bring back the Republic. Cicero also spoke out strongly against opportunists like Mark Antony, who he felt were trying to destroy the Republic for their own benefit. He is remembered as someone who fiercely defended the Republican system.





Important Submission

The following table displays the formatting guidelines to be followed by the journalists when submitting their articles. Please note that any negligence in following these guidelines will be looked disapprovingly upon by the Executive Board.

Font: EB Garamond			Colour: Default (Black)	
Text Type	Size	Alignment	Type	Example
Title	16	Centre	Bold	Title
Quotes	12	Centre	Italics	<i>“Journalism is not a profession or trade. It is a crusade for truth”</i>
Name of the Person Quoted	12	Centre	None	~ Name
Main Body	12	Left- Aligned	None	Here is an example stanza for the main body, displaying the format.
Byline	12	Centre	Italics	<i>Byline</i>

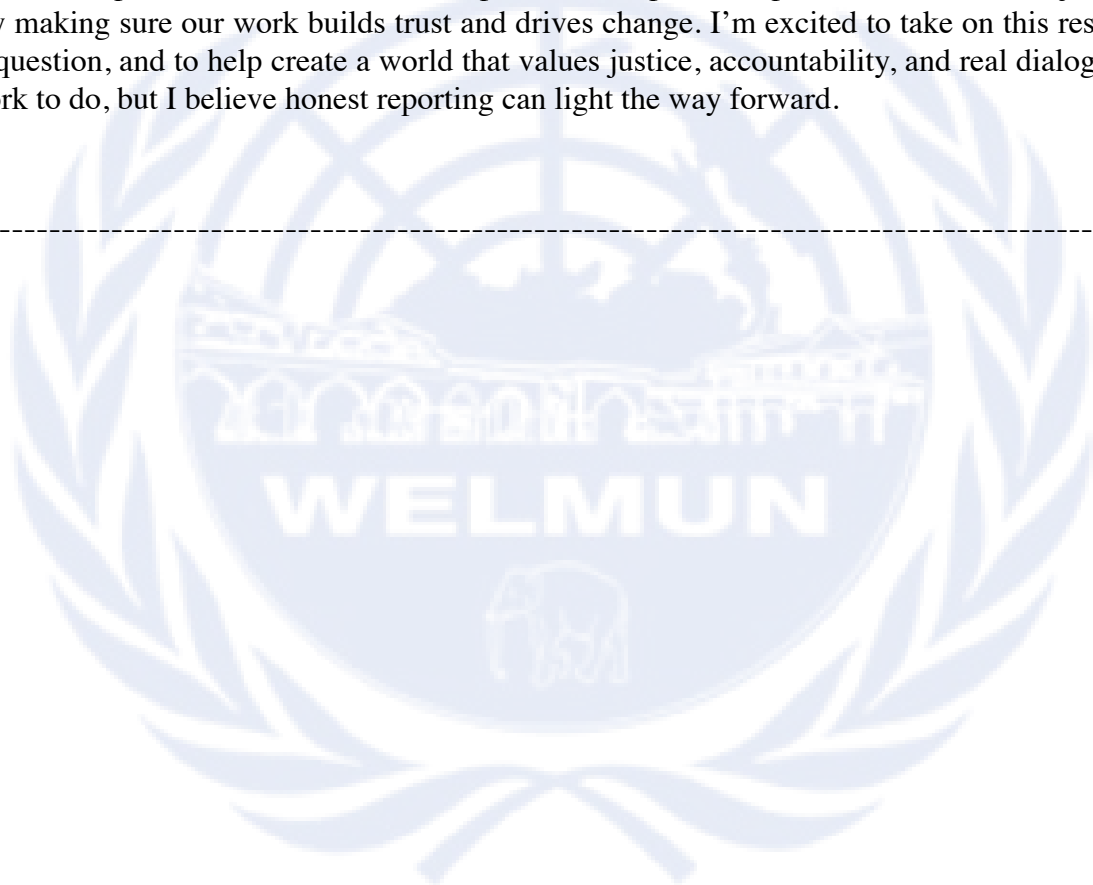
1. The articles that are supposed to be submitted should must be named in the following format:-
 - AgencyName_CommitteeName_ArticleTypeFor example:- BBC_UNSC_BeatArticle
2. Please keep in mind that the submission date for the Position Paper is 20th July 2025.
3. The Byline of every article must state the Delegate’s name, News agency and a transitory introduction to the motive of the article.



Final Thoughts

Being part of the International Press Corps is more than just reporting the news, it's about seeing the world through a wider lens and sharing those stories with honesty and care. As delegates, we carry a big responsibility: to keep a close eye on what's happening globally, to understand both the victories and the setbacks, and to share them in a way that encourages real solutions. It's not always easy, but it's essential.

Today, when it's harder than ever to tell fact from fiction and when authoritarian voices grow louder, the role of a free and truthful press becomes even more important. It's up to us to protect the truth & not just by stating facts, but by making sure our work builds trust and drives change. I'm excited to take on this responsibility, to learn, to question, and to help create a world that values justice, accountability, and real dialogue. There's so much work to do, but I believe honest reporting can light the way forward.





Annexure

Sample Of Position Paper

The Power of a Written Word.

XYZ of The Jerusalem Post highlights the corporation's agenda

*"The pen shapes the oncoming path,
and will continue to do so."*

In a generation that evolved through conflict and destruction, The Jerusalem Post was founded as a source of reliable news and review in the Middle East. Founded in 1932, the press rapidly became one of Israel's most important English-language newspapers, providing global viewpoints on regional and international events. Its job was quite clear- to provide news and commentary that gave people a deeper understanding of the complexities of life in Israel, the Middle East, and the world.

Throughout its history, The Jerusalem Post has continued to face numerous challenges. Travelling back to the time when it was not accused of being biased towards certain political groups or even the Israel-Palestine coverage conflict, the agency has often found itself as the centre of attention in debates over journalistic unity and justice. Yet, through all these trials, it stays committed to its depth values: providing fair, accurate and sovereign reporting with no problems caused to others.

As our world continues to evolve, the Jerusalem Post continues to adapt to the changes posed by the globe. It still pursues to stand its ground as a paper to the centre right committed to truth, balance, and the weight of responsibility. Though this duty of being Israel's English press has never been a simple one. At every corner of the lane, The Jerusalem Post has always been surrounded by perceptions and crossfires not only online of arms but also of politics.

The Jerusalem Post continues to get accused of bias here and there, but these haven't affected the press but rather, it wears these accusations as a mark of pride, meaning crucial work is being looked upon. In a region full of hidden truths, the press chooses to speak in a voice filled with complexity. This is, in particular, the heaviness of the boulder of duty the Jerusalem Post is asked to hold in the Middle East and has yet to undergo numerous transformations.

The Jerusalem Post no longer only serves as a press for Israelis or scattered Jewish communities and has evolved into a global newspaper with increased responsibilities towards educating and forming mind-boggling headlines. For instance, take the COVID-19 pandemic, when Israel was leading the world on a vaccine rollout, misinformation spread faster than the virus itself. The office had worked hours and hours to provide



real-time and accurate stories from the hospitals and healthcare communities. This not only helped in informing the globe but also connecting people together and made them aware of the reality.

Media is supposed to shape public opinion and mould public perception. The Jerusalem Post does not handle this lightly. It continues to tell realities others won't, publish perspectives others fear, and ask questions others avoid, not because it is simple but because it's crucial.





Sample Of Beat Article

Ceasefire Fragile as Aid Trickles into Gaza

XYZ of BBC News analyses the committee's agenda at hand

Our agency for a sustained respite in the Gaza conflict remains fragile as a recently brokered ceasefire faces significant challenges on the ground. While the guns have largely fallen silent for the past [Number] hours, the crucial delivery of humanitarian aid to the devastated enclave is proving to be a slow and arduous process, fueling anxieties among the war-weary population.

International pressure had mounted intensely in recent days, culminating in the agreement between Israel and Hamas to temporarily halt hostilities. The primary objective of this pause was to allow desperately needed food, medical supplies, and fuel to reach the hundreds of thousands of Gazans facing dire conditions after weeks of relentless bombardment.

However, reports from the ground indicate that the flow of aid has been far from smooth. Logistical hurdles, security concerns, and disagreements over inspection protocols are contributing to significant delays. Only a limited number of trucks have so far managed to enter Gaza, a trickle compared to the overwhelming needs of the population.

“The situation is still critical,” says [Name and Title of Aid Worker/Spokesperson for Aid Organization]. “While we welcome the lull in fighting, the real test is whether we can consistently and safely deliver the aid that people desperately need. Every hour of delay puts more lives at risk.”

Meanwhile, the underlying tensions that ignited the conflict remain palpable. Both sides accuse the other of violating the spirit, if not the letter, of the ceasefire agreement. Sporadic incidents and continued military movements near the border raise fears that the fragile truce could easily unravel.

The international community is closely monitoring the situation, urging both Israel and Hamas to adhere to the terms of the ceasefire and prioritize the delivery of humanitarian assistance. Diplomatic efforts are underway to extend the duration of the pause and pave the way for a more lasting resolution to the long-standing conflict.

For the exhausted civilians in Gaza, the current lull offers a brief moment of respite. But without a substantial and sustained influx of aid, and a genuine commitment from all parties to de-escalate tensions, the hope for a better future remains elusive. The world watches anxiously to see if this fragile window of opportunity can be transformed into a meaningful step towards peace.



Sample Of Opinion Editorial

The Precarious Pause in Gaza: A Test of Humanity and Diplomacy

XYZ of The New York Times highlights the agenda at hand

The fragile ceasefire that has descended upon Gaza offers a sliver of hope in the wake of unimaginable devastation. After weeks of relentless conflict, the temporary cessation of hostilities is a welcome, indeed necessary, reprieve for the hundreds of thousands of Gazans enduring a humanitarian catastrophe. However, the true test of this pause lies not just in the silence of the guns, but in the urgent and unimpeded delivery of life-saving aid.

The international community, after weeks of often muted calls for de-escalation, finally exerted the necessary pressure to bring about this lull. Yet, the initial reports of aid trickling into the ravaged enclave paint a concerning picture. Logistical bottlenecks, bureaucratic hurdles, and persistent security concerns threaten to undermine the very purpose of this ceasefire – to alleviate the immense suffering of Gaza’s civilian population.

It is unconscionable that while the world breathes a collective sigh of relief at the halt in fighting, the very supplies needed to sustain life are being held up. Food, medicine, and fuel are not bargaining chips; they are fundamental necessities for a population teetering on the brink. The responsibility to ensure the swift and unimpeded flow of aid rests squarely on all parties involved.

Beyond the immediate humanitarian crisis, this pause serves as a critical juncture for diplomacy. The underlying issues that fueled this latest eruption of violence remain unresolved. A return to the status quo ante is not a viable option. The international community must seize this opportunity to push for a more sustainable and lasting resolution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. This requires a genuine commitment from all stakeholders to address the root causes of the conflict, including the ongoing occupation, the blockade of Gaza, and the legitimate security concerns of both sides.

The skepticism surrounding this ceasefire is understandable, given the history of broken truces and renewed violence in this long and tragic conflict. Yet, to succumb to cynicism would be a profound disservice to the innocent lives hanging in the balance. This moment demands vigilance, sustained international pressure, and a renewed commitment to finding a just and equitable solution.

The world is watching to see if this precarious pause can be transformed into a meaningful step towards a future where both Israelis and Palestinians can live in security and dignity. Failure to ensure the delivery of aid and to capitalize on this diplomatic window would not only condemn the people of Gaza to further suffering but would also represent a profound failure of our collective humanity. The time for decisive action and genuine commitment to peace is now.