

## Editorial Board

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Dee does MUN

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### Co-Editor: Sherlene Choo



Sherlene is still fresh and new to IPC.

Sherlene's personality has always been outside of the MUN scene, mostly sawing some cello in an orchestra and smashing piano keys, or jamming some band music and enjoying caffeine and film. MUN is just one of her side quests. You can see her mostly performing in different concerts or shows, or snuggling in her bed with her pet dog Olaf.

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## **Introduction to the International Press Corporation**

Congratulations! You have joined the International Press Corps - acronymed by IPC. But what does that mean? It means for the next three days under TISPCMUNC, you will be a journalist to the other councils in the conference.

Sounds pretty simple right? Walk in and report what happens! As simple as it sounds, there will be a lot of things to get to know about before you begin your journalistic career. Do not worry, the editors, Dee and Sherlene, are here to guide you - do not be afraid to ask any questions.

Unlike normal MUN councils in a conference, IPC is basically an international group of press corporations. So instead of representing countries, you will be representing news agencies. Such as the BBC, RT News, and so on.

In TISPCMUNC, the IPC functions like a massive news agency. So the ~~delegates~~ journalists will refer to the editors for their task of the day. This includes which council to cover, whether to do a press conference or not, and etc.

## **Harvard MUN (HMUN) Rules of Procedure**

Even though the IPC will not be conducted in the HMUN ROP, it is still important to know its rundown. After all, even though you are a journalist, you are still a MUNer. This conference will be conducted in [MYADP's Standardised HMUN ROP](#). While the ROP will be briefed in fuller details during the conference day itself, here is a brief rundown in order to familiarise yourself with important key aspects of the format, in ascending order of the procedure;

1. Roll Call
  - a. Basically attendance
  - b. Delegates are either *present* or *present and voting*
2. Primary Speakers List
  - a. Speeches made to decide which topic to move into first
3. General Speakers List
  - a. Speeches made about chosen topic
  - b. Can cover any issue under said topic
4. Caucuses

- a. Moderated and Unmoderated
  - b. Mini discussions under subtopics
  - c. Moderated caucuses have set times for total and individual speaking time
  - d. Unmoderated caucuses are basically free-roaming discussions
5. Documents
- a. Draft Resolutions
    - i. The main goal
    - ii. Basically UN resolutions before publication or finalisation
  - b. Working papers
    - i. Brainstorm documents
  - c. Amendments
    - i. Any corrections someone wants to add into the Draft Resolution
    - ii. Delegates can strike, amend, or add to clauses within the draft resolution
6. Suspending vs Adjourning Debate
- a. Suspend = pause
  - b. Adjourn = stop

The HMUN procedures will be briefed to all journalists before sending them out to respective councils.

### **Dee's Journalistic Code of Conduct ©**

As a journalist, there are appropriate ways to publish or write. This includes ensuring that you write without bias, without lies, and other basics of being a good person in general. Of course, code of conduct can be very subjective to each individuals' moralities, so here are the specific principles that will be observed during the conference;

1. All that is written must be the **TRUTH**
2. Your work **will** be **ORIGINAL** and **BY YOUR OWN MAKING**
3. You will **not** **MANIPULATE** or **DISRUPT** a council session to **make** a newsworthy story

The principles will be elaborated further during the first conference session of TemplateMUN should there be a need for questions or clarifications.

### **Legalities**

As TISPCMUNC 2025 is a Malaysian conference, we will be abiding by the Malaysian legal standards of writing and publishing. This will be applied to any and all articles written and published under the IPC.

#### ***Communications and Media Act (1998)***

The [Communications and Media Act \(CMA\) 1998](#) is a Malaysian legislation that regulates the communications and multimedia industry. It aims to promote industry growth, ensure fair competition, protect consumer interests, and foster national unity. The Act establishes licensing requirements, content regulations, and consumer protection measures. It empowers the Malaysian Communications and Multimedia Commission (MCMC) as the regulatory body. Offences under the Act carry penalties such as fines and imprisonment. The Act's provisions cover a wide range of activities, including network services, broadcasting, and content dissemination. It is designed to create a comprehensive framework for the development and regulation of the industry.

#### ***Printing Presses and Publications Act (1984)***

The [Printing Presses and Publications Act \(PPPA\) 1984](#) regulates the printing, publishing, and distribution of newspapers and publications in Malaysia. It requires licences or permits for operation, registration of newspapers, and publications. The Act empowers the government to impose restrictions on content deemed prejudicial to public order or national interest. It also limits foreign ownership or control to a maximum of 30%. Offences under the Act carry penalties such as fines, imprisonment, or both. The Act provides a regulatory framework for media control and supervision in Malaysia.

## Agency Profile Guidelines

In TemplateMUN, the Agency Profile (AP) will play the role of your position paper. Essentially, these are documents where your understanding of your stance and role is written. So for example, if you are Al-Jazeera, you will essentially brief us a bit on **your background**, **notable stories** you have covered, and a gist on what **your political leaning** will be.

Your agency profile will be in accordance to the following format;

Font: Serif of your choice, 12pt

Alignment: Justified

Length: **ONE** page (excluding references)

File type: PDF

Naming Convention: [Your Agency]\_AP\_[Your Name]

Should you require references, kindly list them in **APA** in a separate page. There is no limit as to how many pages of references you may require, but do keep the actual document to only one page. You are allowed to use **bold**, underline, and *italics* whenever you see fit into your document.

Submission of the AP will be due on the **3rd of July, 2025, 11.59PM**. Unfortunately this is a strict deadline so the Google form will be closed by the minute. Failure to submit an AP will result in disqualification from awards.

### Plagiarism

This is Dee writing. Plagiarism isn't cool. It's lazy and it's so unoriginal. You're smarter than this. That being said, obviously we're not all geniuses and we often need inspiration. You are allowed to have a maximum plagiarism percentage of **10%**. Should you have more than that, kindly **attach a screenshot** of your plagiarism results in the **last page of your document**. For consistency's sake, we request **all journalists** to use [Prepostseo's Plagiarism Checker](#).

### Generative AI

Time has passed and AI has progressed - in 2023 this segment was dedicated to just ChatGPT but as we know it, there are many more in the market today. The same rules, however, apply. This is Dee speaking - you are allowed to use AI **only** for purposes of templates or grammar checking. Otherwise, fully ripping off an Agency Profile or any articles via AI will result in **disqualification** from any awards or even participation. Otherwise, feel free to use AI as your personal support therapist - ChatGPT's voice chat function is surprisingly pretty good.

Also I **still personally condemn** the use of AI so do try to avoid using it altogether anyway (still works great as a free therapist).

## Conference Affairs

### UN Councils

#### ***Disarmament and International Security Committee (DISEC)***

The Disarmament and International Security Committee, or abbreviated as DISEC, is also known as the First Committee of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) and is one of the six main committees established under the General Assembly. The First Committee deals with matters related to disarmament, global challenges and threats to peace that exert influence on the international community and seeks out solutions to address the challenges that harm the international security regime.

#### Topic A: Mitigating the Effects of Armed Violence in Civilians

The civilian population in conflict zones are protected by humanitarian laws such as the 1949 Geneva Conventions and their 1977 Additional Protocols. They ensure civilians' rights are protected and must not be attacked, and must be spared and protected from any armed violence. However, it is well known that civilians in current conflict areas has suffered in the consequence of armed violence, despite they do not participate in hostile actions. Parties in armed conflict zones consider control over the civilian population a key stake in a conflict, but leaving innocent civilians in consequence directly caught up in the violence. (International Committee of the Red Cross, 2012)

With the proliferation of small arms and wide-area explosive weapons since the end of the Cold War, armed conflicts have increasingly resulted in disproportionately high civilian casualties. The concept of "Protection of Civilians" emerged in the late 1990s within UN Peacekeeping, emphasising the prevention of civilian harm, facilitation of humanitarian assistance, and preservation of fundamental human rights. (Gilder, 2023)

#### Topic B: Addressing Mass Genocide in Conflict Zones

Genocide represents one of the biggest violations of international law, defined by the deliberate and systematic destruction, in whole or in part, of a national, ethnic, racial, or religious group. Genocide in conflict zones often occurs in situations where institutions have broken down and accountability is nearly impossible to enforce, making it a complex and urgent issue for the international community to address. Genocides can take the form of mass killings, forced displacement, legal discrimination, etc.

Conflict Zone is an area where active armed conflict is happening. Crimes Against Humanity Severe offenses committed as part of a widespread attack against civilians, which can

including but not limited to: murder, extermination, enslavement, torture, rape, displacement, deportation. The International Criminal Court (ICC) is a permanent international court established to prosecute individuals for acts such as genocide. It operates independently of the UN but relies on state cooperation.

### ***United Nations General Assembly (UNGA)***

Established in 1945, the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) is one of the bodies under the United Nations to produce and create policies, a discussion forum for 193 member states, and acts as a representative body. The GA is the only council under the United Nations that consists of all 193 member states, in which each delegation is entitled to one vote, either for, against, or, in substantive voting, abstain. It provides a space and area for countries, regardless of whether they are allies or geopolitical enemies, to diplomatically and formally discuss international and global issues, e.g poverty.

### **Topic A: Addressing Unethical Labour Practices in the Global Economy**

In the current time, despite increased efforts and spending from regulatory bodies, unethical labour practices remain deeply embedded in the global economy. Workers from developing countries are uniquely vulnerable to the issues which “foster” ways such as child labour, refusal to bargain and unsafe working conditions.

If these unethical practices remain unaddressed, this perpetuates the cycle of inequality and poverty. Exploited workers are denied fair wages and access to education and healthcare, without an income or job security, the socioeconomic mobility of the workers is severely compromised, which makes it even harder to increase their standard of living. While big global companies are earning a bigger profit margin, the safety and access to these workers’ basic human rights are compromised.

### **Topic B: Examining the Ethics of Genetically Modified Foods and Human Enhancement**

Genetically modified foods are foods with DNA or genetic material that have been tampered with and altered using genetic engineering methods to gain more “human-desired” characteristics. Such as sweeter and juicier fruits, or more appealing beef cuts. This process can also be linked to artificial selection, where farmers would choose and breed specific livestock or plants for their preferred characteristics.

The common usage of genetic modifications in foods would be to increase longevity and shelf-life to decrease waste and overall costs and expenses; increase yield for crops to prevent food insecurity and keep supply high; increase nutritional value to improve health of individuals

and households. However, it can also have negative consequences due to the desperate financial or economic intentions of firms and businesses to retain or increase profit margins.

### ***International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)***

The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) is an international organisation with a mission aimed at promoting the peaceful use of nuclear energy while preventing its misuse for military purposes. Established in 1957 as an autonomous agency within the United Nations system, the IAEA operates independently under its founding treaty but remains accountable to both the United Nations General Assembly and the Security Council. The agency emerged in response to growing international concerns surrounding the proliferation of nuclear weapons, particularly in a time of heightened tensions between the world's foremost nuclear powers, the United States and the Soviet Union.

#### **Topic A: Promoting the Usage of Nuclear Energy for Sustainable Development**

Nuclear power is uniquely capable of providing large-scale, low-carbon electricity, and it is presented as a critical opportunity to achieve sustainable development. Unlike fossil fuels, nuclear energy emits virtually no greenhouse gas, virtually, when operating. This makes it essential for achieving or meeting the requirements of the net-zero emissions target under the Paris Agreement. Furthermore, the ability it has to deliver 24/7 baseload power complements intermittent renewables such as solar and wind, ensuring grid stability and energy security. However, this particular form of energy faces more challenges than any other type of energy. High upfront costs, radioactive waste management, and public scepticism all contribute to the lower likelihood of implementation.

#### **Topic B: Upholding Public Communication and Engagement on Nuclear Issues**

It's crucial to uphold public communication and engagement on nuclear issues, as this will reduce the risk, cost, and uncertainty factors when parties are implementing policy and measures on emergencies. Although there are numerous initiatives and programs underway to educate and share knowledge about nuclear energy, there is still a cognitive gap between the public and the professionals. To ensure the communication plan is effective, IAEA has suggested a few criteria, including having a contact list of involved institutions and responsible people, a well-trained spokesperson, and a set of procedures or instructions for the coordination of internal and external.



### ***Social, Humanitarian and Cultural Committee (SOCHUM)***

SOCHUM, which stands for the Social, Humanitarian, and Cultural Committee, is the Third Committee of the United Nations General Assembly. It focuses on addressing a wide range of global issues related to social development, human rights, humanitarian affairs, and cultural preservation. SOCHUM aims to promote and protect human rights, ensure gender equality, combat discrimination, and address the needs of vulnerable populations.

#### **Topic A: Addressing the Balance Between Online Censorship and Protecting Freedom of Expression on Digital Platforms**

While media platforms are essential spaces for the public to share their opinions and public discourse, countries and companies face the challenge of enforcing content moderation especially in terms of spreading of misinformation, hate speech and other harmful materials. The fine line between overstepping to balance online censorship and freedom of expression is constantly being blurred and unclear due to the lack of debate and proper discussion to ensure transparency, accountability and fairness. The ultimate of this council is essentially to address and make clear of safeguarding each user's rights while ensuring a safe digital environment.

#### **Topic B: Addressing the Rights and Protection of Refugees in Protracted Crises**

A protracted crisis is defined as a prolonged and complex humanitarian emergency, where a significant amount of population faces acute vulnerability to death, diseases, and livelihood disruption over an extended period. Typically, these situations happen due to weak governance, recurring conflict, or natural disasters, leading to a state of persistent long-term crisis rather than a short-term emergency.

In regards to tackling such problem, SOCHUM's job is to find a solution for these long-term displacement situations where refugees remain without durable solutions for decades. This limits their rights to education, healthcare, employment, and even their legal status. Efforts from the international community must ensure their basic human rights, enhancing humanitarian aid as well as support the host countries for taking the refugees in.

### **Specialised Councils**

#### ***Crisis Council - The Prague Spring***

Starting Date: 4th February 1968

As the Czechoslovakian economy stagnates to become one of the slowest growing economies even in the Communist bloc, there is mounting pressure for political reform. The 60's marked an era of great social and political upheaval. After Stalin's passing in 1953, small-scale reforms have taken place in several Eastern European Nations as Hardline Communist leaders get

removed from power or pass away. This is most evident in Poland and Hungary, where the former oversaw the easing of political and economic control and the latter had a full scale revolution in 1956, which was crushed and replaced with a more moderate Communist leader. Despite these winds of change, Czechoslovakia has changed little, still retaining its Centrally Planned economy and retaining totalitarian means of control and repression. The shadow of Stalin and Czechoslovakia's first Stalinist President Klement Gottwald seems to have never disappeared.

## Writing like a Journalist

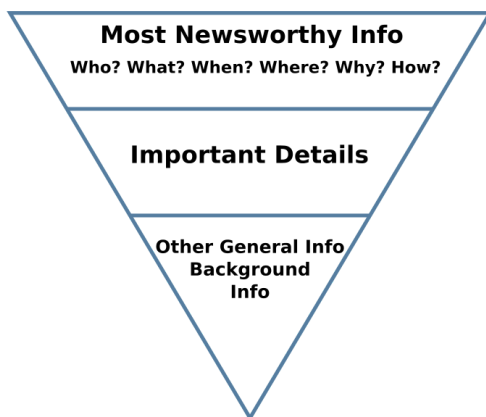
As a journalist, your main goal is to inform the public of what happens within the council chambers. You can easily do this in many ways but because you are a professional journalist of the IPC, you will be writing articles or creating news packets. In this section, we will be going over how to write articles like a journalist.

Journalistic articles are very different from research or academic articles. The essays that you make for school assignments? They are academic papers (and you should be proud of them). This is important to note because while academic papers give very good insight and knowledge, in journalism, it is all about timing and urgency. When something happens in the world, it becomes our second nature to expect news to come out within minutes of the event occurring. A notable example was how closely the press keeps us updated with France's poop in the river protest (yes, it's real, [look it up](#)).

Do not worry, this report will brief you on ways to write an article and possible templates that you could look into in order to suit your reporting needs!

### Article Writing 101

The basics of writing any article starts with facts. Because news must be published quickly and efficiently, it is very important for the **MOST IMPORTANT** facts to be addressed first. This method can be called the Inverted Triangle.



This method is the breakdown of literally EVERY news release anywhere. Open up a newspaper or any news website of your choice and you will begin to notice a pattern. The top of the article lies the most important information. This includes your **Headline** (the title of the article), and your **lead**.

Everyone knows a headline is popular for being the only thing that everyone reads - not a good habit but understandable - because it contains the subject of the article. The lead is the short sentence that comes beneath a headline before the actual article. Think of it as a subheading. This allows the reader to have a bit more context about the headline.

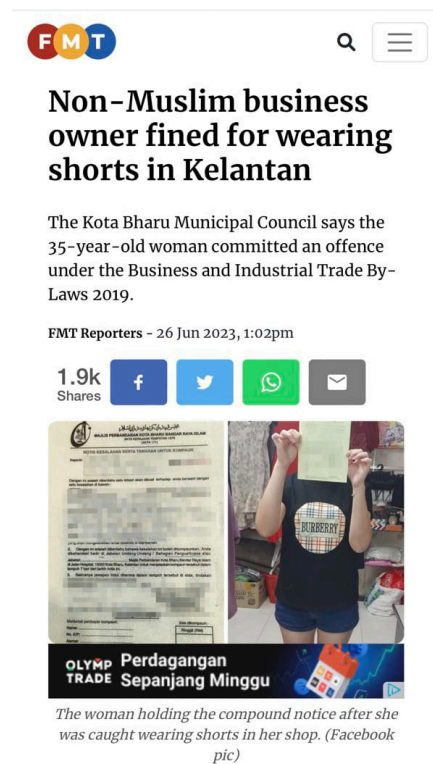
*But what if people only read the first part and not the rest of my article?* That's okay! Because not everyone has the time to read the whole article (and that is part of life). Your reader could be a Grab driver, a Shopee deliveryman, a kitchen cook, or even, a student, like most of you. There

are a lot of things to do that do not involve the liberty of sitting down and taking a break JUST to read an article. Which makes it even more important for you to put the most important facts **on top**. Therefore, there isn't a chance for someone to miss out on anything that could potentially be concerning.

*Then what is the point of writing the rest of the article?* Good question! While the top article gives straight facts about the news, the second section gives more background into the case. This could involve more context about the story. More on this later.

*Ok, so what is the point of the last part then? Can I just skip that?* Fortunately - or maybe unfortunately - no. Some online news articles that happen within MINUTES of an event occurring may seem short enough to skip out on it. But if you look again, you will notice that the last detail will always be there. The point of this very last detail is to give a current progress of the case, or a bit of background about the subject of the news.

Let's take this [FMT article](#) as an example;



In this screenshot, you can see the headline and the lead (and an accompanying image, more on this in our **Photojournalism** section). The headline is very simple and the lead is basically giving a bit more background on what happened to the woman.

Now let's take a look at the first paragraph of this article; Every article will have the general location or area in CAPITAL LETTERS followed by the starting paragraph. There is no need for any formal introduction. The article simply gets straight into the information with a short and direct sentence. The following paragraph then gives more context as to who issued the notice, who received the notice, and how the MPKB found out.

From here, you will notice it will be background context, after background context, after even more background context. Let's take a look at the last paragraph;

According to the compound notice, which has been circulated on social media, the woman has seven days to settle the amount or face legal action.

This last paragraph is a good example of the current progress of the case. It tells the reader what the woman needs to do at the moment.

*This sounds like an article is literally just paragraphs of contexts after contexts... Yes it is. Of course, not every article sounds like this. If you compare this FMT article to a [Buzzfeed article](#), for example, they will sound very different. More on this will be explained under our **Feature Article** section.*

### ***Feature Articles***

A feature article is a form of journalistic writing that explores a specific topic in depth, often with a narrative or storytelling approach. It goes beyond reporting basic facts and delves into the background, context, and human elements of a subject. Feature articles aim to captivate and engage readers through descriptive language, personal anecdotes, and engaging storytelling techniques.

- Explore a topic or issue of current importance.
- Follows narratorial conventions (i.e. There is a plot, complication, and conclusion)
- Written in short paragraphs.
- Combine facts and opinions.
- Provide a perspective or angle about the topic or issue.
- Includes catchy features

### ***Press Release***

s conference, it states the agenda of the upcoming event, some details that include, but are not limited to, venue, date, or time, and some details about the subject company involved.

A press release generally follows the inverted triangle format as previously mentioned and is always much longer in length in order to address the agenda. Typically it is drafted by the media representative of the subject company and sent out to agencies in order to circulate them to the public.

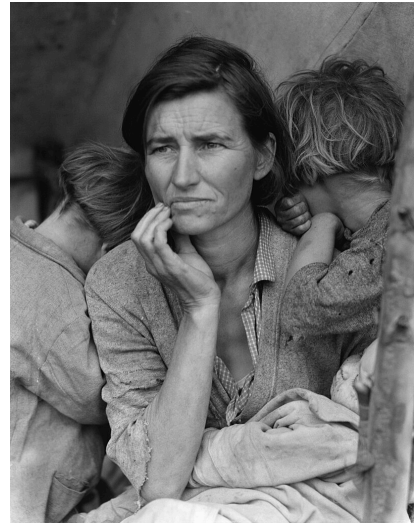
Another reason press releases are made is because it is a method generally used to *invite* notable journalists into a press conference. More on that in our **Press Conference** section. This allows the news agency to gauge whether your press conference is worth the effort or not based on measures of newsworthiness.

## **Photojournalism**

Want more than just writing articles? Did you know that you can write based off of photos too? Photojournalism is a form of journalism that focuses on photography and pictures. A good example of this is taking a nice picture of a tense negotiation or a lively unmoderated caucus.

While photojournalism is fun, it is currently a requirement for articles to come with a nice photograph to accompany the articles that you have written. While this is not compulsory, this will make your article look pleasing via thumbnails.

Photos play an important role in giving your readers a visual guidance or attraction towards your new piece. Not every article needs a photo, but every photo will always need context, despite speaking a thousand words. So remember to always accompany your photos with a descriptive caption. If the photo stands alone without an article, then be sure to give it a good title as well.



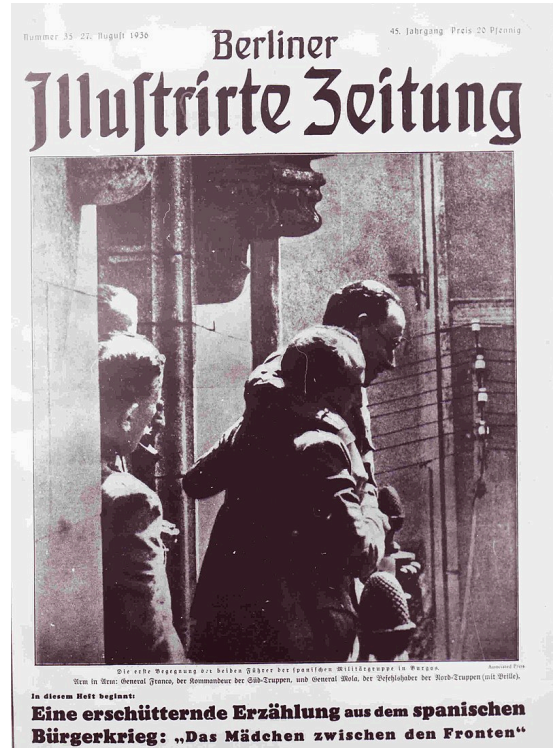
Here are more good examples of photojournalism:

## On cloud 9

09-06-2023 01:01 AM



A group of 9A+ scorers from Sekolah Sultan Alam Shah in Putrajaya are beaming with joy as they celebrate their excellent results in the Sijil Pelajaran Malaysia. AMIRUL SYAFIQ THESUN



## **Interviews**

If you're looking to obtain that shiny "Best Journalist Award", doing an interview is a very good way to bump up your scores. Not only do you get bonus marks for engagement, but an interview might prove to be a source of information that might help enhance your articles or help you write an entirely new one.

### **Interview Procedure**

#### ***Identifying the Interviewee***

Requesting an interview starts with identifying which delegate (or chair) you want to interview. You might interview a delegate on their stance on the topic on the council, or a chair on their opinions of the council's direction.

#### ***Making sure everyone is ready***

Ask the delegate, either through the help of volunteers in the council, private messages or passing notes. If you've gotten approval, arrange a time to interview the delegate, and approach the chair to ask for permission. It is up to the chair's discretion whether or not they allow the delegate out for an interview. Inform the IPC editors about it.

#### ***Questions***

Prepare a set of questions you plan to ask the delegate and forward it to the IPC editors for confirmation. Once the IPC editors have given the green light, send it to the delegate to allow them to prepare.

#### ***Before the interview***

Make sure that there is at least one editor who is there with you while you're doing the interview. Prepare your laptop, tablet or notebook to take notes, or have your phone to record the interview (with the delegate's consent)

#### ***Conducting the Interview***

Interviews are an essential key to unlocking a delegate's/chair's opinions. Let them know why you're there and how you'll use the info. Make sure that both the delegate and you are comfortable. This sets a chill, professional vibe for the interview.

#### ***Follow-Up Questions***

Follow-up questions are essential in interviews, whether it may be a eureka moment on the spot or a deeper clarification of what was said by the delegate. Explore new angles and get more details.



Based on what they say, hit them with some follow-up questions. This is where you dig deeper and get the real gem. Clarify points, explore new angles, and get more details. Follow-ups turn a good interview into a great one.

### ***Conclusion***

Wrap up the interview by thanking the delegate/chair for their time and insight.

### ***Post-Interview***

After you're done, review your notes and recordings to make sure you've got everything you need. Then it's time to start working. Use it to supplement an article you are writing, or you could have a special article dedicated to the interview itself. Journalists working on media packets may also use some clips to help enhance their media packets.

### ***Do's and Don'ts***

- Try and research the delegate in question before proceeding with the interview, an example would be the country's stance on a topic
- Don't do an interview during break time. Delegates and chairs (and you) are supposed to be having a break during BREAK time, have some rest or (highly not recommended) work on all your unfinished articles/videos during this time
- Take notes or recordings during your interview, you might forget some words that the delegate said during the interview, having something to refer back to can help to ensure the accuracy of the statements

## **Press Conferences**

A press conference is defined as an interview or announcement given by a public figure to the press by appointment. After you've read that twice you might have realised that press conferences are organised NOT by the journalists, BUT by the councils themselves.

In a MUN context, press conferences are organised by councils for the purpose of:

1. Making a public announcement
2. Ensure media consistency
3. Answer questions the public may have (via journalists)

Due to unavoidable circumstances, your kind and hardworking (definitely not overworked) chairs editors have taken upon the task itself to arrange and host press conferences for the councils. Journalists, you will still be graded on the type of engagement and insight you can extract from delegates, or even, chairs.

A press conference normally starts with a delegate summarising what the council has done up to that point. This is then followed up with journalists asking questions for a specified amount of time determined by the editorial board and the chairs. Journalists are then required to complete an article based on the press conference.

During a press conference, journalists should record the press conference using a voice recorder or jot down notes. Being able to refer back to the notes or recording can drastically help with article writing as the journalist will have something to look to instead of having to rely on memory. This can also help to ensure that there is no misinformation when writing articles.

### **Interaction and Conduct**

One of the main focuses of a press conference is the questioning phase. During this phase, journalists will raise their placards for the chance to ask questions. The journalist will then be recognized by the editors and allowed to ask questions. Journalists will take turns asking questions in a moderated manner to ensure that neither delegates nor journalists talk over each other, as press conferences do tend to get a bit ....*unruly*.



*Press Conference at Dewan Rakyat Council, TLMUN 2023*

The question may be based on the council's topic, a statement made by a delegate or a chair's decision and can be directed to any delegate, a specific delegate or the chairs.

When asking questions, try not to offend any delegate, or the entire council for that matter (yes it has happened before). Within the chairing marksheet, there is a category labelled as "Decorum" which is essentially your behaviour during council sessions. All you have to do is not cause chaos during council sessions, such as butting in during formal sessions. This is essentially free marks so please don't be that person who somehow loses marks in this category.

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