

LETTER FROM THE CHAIRPERSON

Greetings Delegates,

I am honoured and privileged to extend my warmest welcome to all of you as we convene in the International Press Corps Committee at MEGAMUN'23. The intrinsic value of freedom of expression, information, and speech as universal human rights cannot be overstated. These principles are instilled within us from birth, forming the bedrock of a just and equitable society. In this context, a free and independent press emerges as a crucial pillar upon which a prosperous and egalitarian society can thrive. In the realm of a free press, these principles find their most ardent champions. It is through the media's commitment to uncovering truth and delivering information that the public's right to know and the freedom to express opinions are upheld.

When propaganda infiltrates popular media, it directly threatens not only the integrity of journalism but also the safety of journalists. Propaganda, whether employed by governments, interest groups, or malicious entities, distorts information to serve specific agendas. It erodes the trust that citizens place in journalistic institutions and hampers the media's ability to fulfil its role as a defender of truth. Furthermore, the financial interests of media organizations may be manipulated when they fall victim to sensationalism or bias-driven reporting. This not only distorts the news but also endangers the sustainability of ethical journalism, posing an additional challenge to press freedom.

In the crucible of conflict, where chaos and turmoil reign supreme, the media assumes a multifaceted role, akin to a double-edged sword. On one hand, it acts as a beacon of truth, disseminating crucial information, holding conflicting parties accountable, and facilitating peace through unbiased reporting. The media, at its best, is an instrument of transparency, shedding light on the often-hidden realities of conflict, and thereby, it facilitates informed decision-making, humanitarian responses, and diplomatic initiatives.

However, it is imperative to recognize that the role of media in conflict zones is fraught with perils. Journalists operating in these environments face grave threats to their safety. They are exposed to physical harm, kidnapping, censorship, intimidation, and even loss of life in their pursuit of truth. Their dedication to uncovering facts and reporting on the ground often places them squarely in the crosshairs of those who seek to control the narrative or suppress dissent.

It is within this complex landscape that we must engage in discussions, deliberate, and collaborate to address the intricate web of challenges surrounding the agendas. We must explore the delicate balance between the media's role as a disseminator of truth and its

vulnerability to manipulation as a tool of propaganda and censorship, which can further fuel conflict.

Regards,

Atri Raychaudhuri,
Chairperson,
International Press Corps



BACKGROUND STUDY

DISCUSSING THE ROLE OF MEDIA AND SAFETY OF JOURNALISTS IN CONFLICT ZONES

In the heart of conflict zones, where chaos and turmoil reign supreme, the role of media and the safety of journalists become paramount concerns that transcend mere journalism; they become matters of global significance and moral imperative. In these crucibles of strife, where the very fabric of society is torn asunder, the media serves as both a beacon of truth and a potential catalyst for further discord. This dual role underscores the immense influence and profound responsibility borne by journalists and media outlets operating in such high-risk environments.

The importance of the media's role in conflict zones cannot be overstated. It acts as the primary source of information, disseminating crucial updates, eyewitness accounts, and analysis to local populations and the international community. In doing so, it sheds light on the often-hidden realities of conflict, facilitating informed decision-making, humanitarian responses, and diplomatic initiatives.

However, this role is fraught with peril. Journalists in conflict zones face grave threats to their safety, from physical harm and kidnapping to censorship and intimidation. Their tireless pursuit of truth often places them squarely in the crosshairs of those who seek to control the narrative or suppress dissent.

Understanding the delicate balance between the media's role as a disseminator of truth and its vulnerability to manipulation is crucial. It requires us to grapple with questions of press freedom, ethical reporting, and the broader implications for conflict resolution and peace-building. As we embark on a journey to explore this intricate web of challenges and opportunities, we must remain acutely aware of the stakes at hand – not just for journalists and media professionals but for the very societies torn apart by conflict.

Thus, it is our responsibility to examine the role media can play in areas of conflict, and measures that can be undertaken in order to create a safer and better work environment for them and ensure the smooth, unrestricted flow of news from the sources to the public as well as protecting journalists from any harm that may come their way. Keeping the above in mind, as members of the International Press Corps, it is essential that we address these issues which plague us daily and play a major role in determining the nature of our careers.

The committee seeks answers to the following questions in the course of debate:

1. What are the major challenges that journalists face when reporting in conflict zones, and how do these challenges vary across different regions and conflicts?
2. How does the role of media impact conflict dynamics, including peace negotiations, conflict escalation, and public perception of the conflict?
3. What are the main forms and consequences of propaganda in conflict zones, and how does it affect media reporting and press freedom?
4. Are there successful examples of conflict resolution or peacebuilding initiatives that were influenced by media coverage or the work of journalists in conflict zones?
5. How can the international community support and ensure the safety of journalists operating in conflict zones, and what measures can be taken to hold governments and non-state actors accountable for attacks on journalists?
6. What international laws and agreements exist to protect journalists in conflict zones, and how effective have they been in preventing attacks on journalists and ensuring their safety?
7. What role do governments, armed groups, and non-state actors play in perpetrating violence against journalists in conflict zones, and how can their actions be addressed and deterred?
8. Are there successful examples of initiatives or mechanisms that have been implemented to improve the safety of journalists in conflict zones, and what lessons can be drawn from these experiences?
9. What measures can be taken to enhance the physical security of journalists, including training, equipment, and access to safety resources?
10. What role can media organizations play in ensuring the safety of their journalists operating in conflict zones, and how can they balance the imperative to report with concerns for their personnel's well-being?

These questions encompass a wide range of issues related to the agenda. Addressing them can help provide a comprehensive understanding of the topic and guide discussions and resolutions during the committee session.

To cover this agenda effectively:

- Research the current state of media freedom and safety of journalists in conflict zones worldwide.
- Familiarize yourself with relevant international treaties and organizations, such as the [UN Plan of Action on the Safety of Journalists and the Issue of Impunity](#).
- While debating, do not forget the biases of your allotted news agencies.

External research documents and links

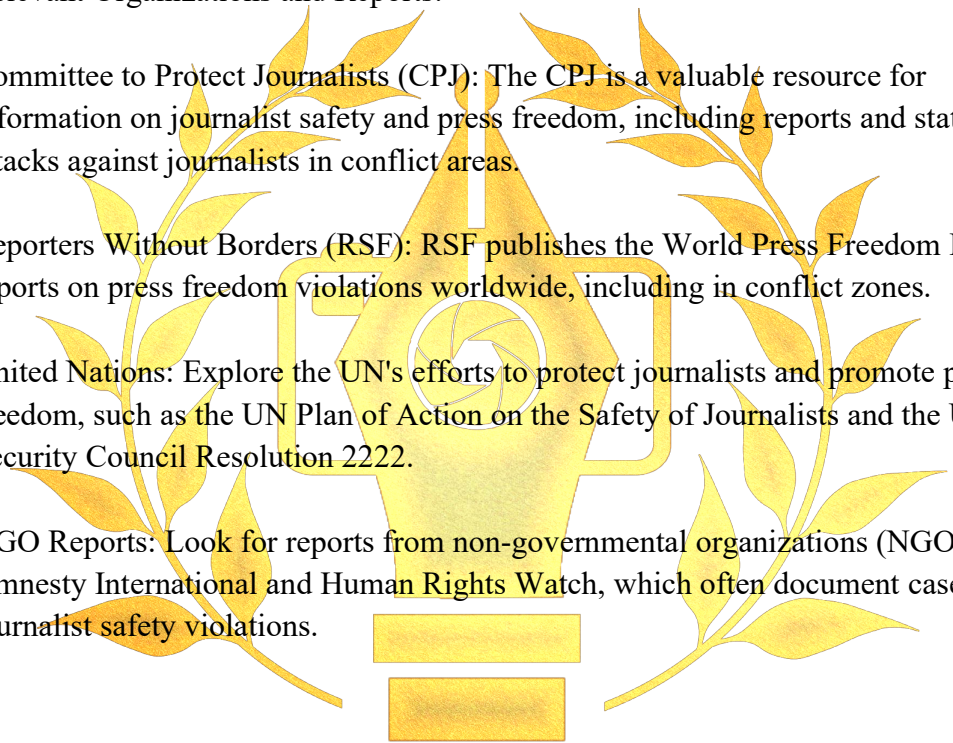
1. [A google drive, containing a few important documents](#)
2. <https://safety.rsf.org/appendix-i-protection-of-journalists-in-war-zones/>
3. Relevant Organizations and Reports:

Committee to Protect Journalists (CPJ): The CPJ is a valuable resource for information on journalist safety and press freedom, including reports and statistics on attacks against journalists in conflict areas.

Reporters Without Borders (RSF): RSF publishes the World Press Freedom Index and reports on press freedom violations worldwide, including in conflict zones.

United Nations: Explore the UN's efforts to protect journalists and promote press freedom, such as the UN Plan of Action on the Safety of Journalists and the UN Security Council Resolution 2222.

NGO Reports: Look for reports from non-governmental organizations (NGOs) like Amnesty International and Human Rights Watch, which often document cases of journalist safety violations.



DISCUSSING THE ROLE OF PROPAGANDA IN INFLUENCING POPULAR MEDIA AND ITS SEVERE CONSEQUENCES ON PRESS FREEDOM

Propaganda, misinformation and fake news have the potential to polarise public opinion, to promote violent extremism and hate speech and, ultimately, to undermine democracies and reduce trust in the democratic processes. In recent years the advent of personal computers and mobile phones and the development of the Internet has brought about a massive, worldwide proliferation of systems and facilities for news gathering, publishing, broadcasting, holding meetings, and speechmaking. At present, almost everyone's mind is bombarded daily by far more media, symbols, and messages than the human organism can possibly pay attention to. The mind reels under noisy assortments of information bits about rival politicians, rival political programs and doctrines, new technical discoveries, insistently advertised commercial products, and new views on morality, ecological horrors, and military nightmares. This sort of communication overload already has resulted in the alienation of millions of people from much of modern life. Overload and alienation can be expected to reach even higher levels in coming generations as still higher densities of population, intercultural contacts, and communication facilities cause economic, political, doctrinal, and commercial rivalries to become still more intense.

Media companies use advertising to advance propaganda. Studies have reported that organisations use advertising to promote economic propaganda by influencing how consumers perceive brands. Ideally, consumers need to have access to all the necessary information that is required to make purchase decisions. On the contrary, advertisements contain positive and exaggerated information that is intended to convince a consumer to buy a particular product. Many adverts are known to include phrases such as "50 percent stronger" or "Less than 30 percent fat", which are highly emphasised. These statements mislead consumers who fail to take into account the shortcomings associated with products that are typically repressed in the advert while focusing on exaggerated features. Accordingly, this strategy amounts to propaganda since companies use it to cause consumers to make irrational decisions by intentional influencing.

Media bias is the bias of journalists and news producers within the mass media in the selection of many events and stories that are reported and how they are covered. The term "media bias" implies a pervasive or widespread bias contravening the standards of journalism, rather than the perspective of an individual journalist or article. The direction and degree of media bias in various countries is widely disputed.

Practical limitations to media neutrality include the inability of journalists to report all available stories and facts, and the requirement that selected facts be linked into a coherent narrative. Government influence, including overt and covert censorship, biases the media in

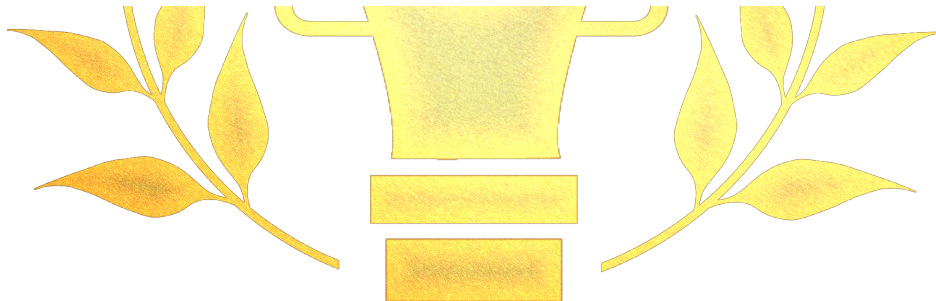
some countries, for example, China, North Korea, Syria and Myanmar. Politics and media bias may interact with each other; the media has the ability to influence politicians, and politicians may have the power to influence the media. This can change the distribution of power in society. Market forces may also cause bias. Examples include bias introduced by the ownership of media, including a concentration of media ownership, the subjective selection of staff, or the perceived preferences of an intended audience.

There are a number of national and international watchdog groups that report on the bias of the media.

The ambit of discussion in this committee will hopefully not only be limited to the topics that the Executive Board had suggested but will go above and beyond to understand the arenas of debate.

External research documents and links:

1. [https://oxfordre.com/communication/oso/viewentry/10.1093\\$002facrefore\\$002f9780190228613.001.0001\\$002facrefore-9780190228613-e-864](https://oxfordre.com/communication/oso/viewentry/10.1093$002facrefore$002f9780190228613.001.0001$002facrefore-9780190228613-e-864)
2. https://www.researchgate.net/publication/361039309_PROPAGANDA_IN_JOURNALISM_ADVERTISING_AND_POLITICS
3. <https://www.cambridgescholars.com/resources/pdfs/978-1-5275-7356-7-sample.pdf>
4. <https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/21670811.2022.2156366>



COVERING THE CONFERENCE

This section describes the best practices for authoring articles you are required to submit to the Executive Board of the IP. The types of deliverables and the deadlines for submission will be specified on the first day of the MUN. While authoring articles, you are recommended to install a built-in grammar check tool on your Internet browser (e.g. Grammarly extension, Microsoft Editor extension) to minimize grammatical errors. Google Docs is the preferred format for authoring content, as it can be easily converted to other text formats. Your deliverables will be marked based on the following parameters:

1. **RESEARCH:** Your ability to research your committee, its agenda, its history, and the foreign policies of the delegates in your allotted MUN committee will determine how well you craft the end product, i.e. your submissions. (Tip: As a best practice, start by reading the study guide for the committee you will be reporting at. Skim through all crucial documents-agreements, treaties, minutes of meetings etc.)

2. **ANALYSIS:** Especially in long-form articles, you will be evaluated on the basis of how well you can analyse your research, and how articulately you can put forth an argument. In opinionated articles, always ask yourself the questions:

- a. Why are people having this conversation?
- b. How can I add value to this conversation?
- c. Why should the reader believe what I have to say?

3. **NARRATIVE STRUCTURE:** A large part of successful journalistic endeavours is the ability to creatively tell a story. Journalistic articles are often described as creative non-fiction. Make things interesting. Enthrall your readers.

4. **GRAMMAR:** It's difficult to read an article that's riddled with grammatical errors, such as incorrect spellings, punctuation, and loose formatting. For every five misspelled words found in your article, one mark will be deducted from your cumulative score.

Finally, take note of your deliverables as an International Press Reporter:

1. **Beat Article (250-350 words)** – You will write two beats over the course of two days. These will focus on one area of debate, but it has to give me a close account of the deliberations taking place in your committee.

2. **Op-Ed (1000-1200 words)** – This is a long form, editorial article. You have to pick a topic, take a stance, explain the nuances and by the end of it you have to convey a particular angle of a committee's agenda to me.

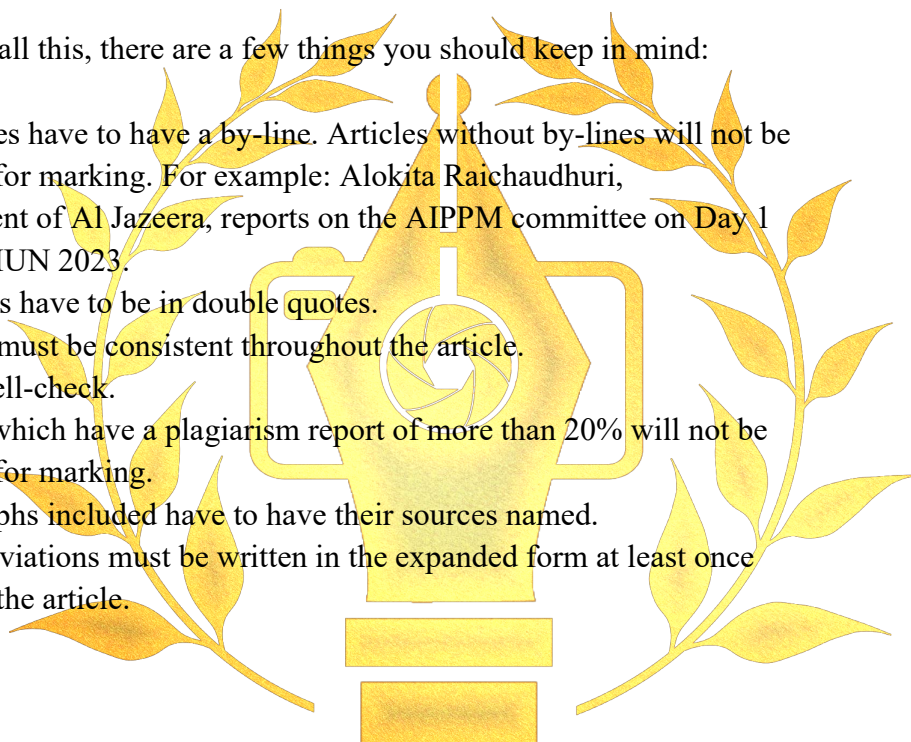
3. Feature Article (800-1000 words) – For this article, I want you to pick a topic that has real-world implications and tell the story. The article has to be interesting and fun to read.

4. Press Conference – 3 questions with a maximum of 2 follow-up questions that can be asked to any delegate or executive board member. It should be specific and to the point.

5. Personal Interview – This article will be a short interview of an active delegate in the committee. Ask the questions which are not being discussed in committee. Hold delegates accountable and try to get answers out of them.

Apart from all this, there are a few things you should keep in mind:

1. All articles have to have a by-line. Articles without by-lines will not be considered for marking. For example: Alokita Raichaudhuri, correspondent of Al Jazeera, reports on the AIPPM committee on Day 1 of MEGAMUN 2023.
2. All quotes have to be in double quotes.
3. The font must be consistent throughout the article.
4. Run a spell-check.
5. Articles which have a plagiarism report of more than 20% will not be considered for marking.
6. Photographs included have to have their sources named.
7. All abbreviations must be written in the expanded form at least once throughout the article.



ARTICLES

Each delegate will be allotted a news agency/news publisher/newspaper and a committee to report in. Every reporter has to compulsorily submit the following articles given down below.

- a) One Beat Article at the end of the first day. (Deadline: 11th October; by 12AM)
- b) One Beat Article at the end of the second day. (Deadline: 12th October; by 12AM)
- c) One Editorial/Op-Ed by the end of the second day. (Deadline: 12th October; by 12AM)
- d) Either one of the two articles by the third day: Feature/Interview Article. (Deadline: 13th October; by 2PM)

All articles need to be submitted within the deadline. Otherwise, marks would be severely deducted by the Executive Board. If an article is more than 20% plagiarised, the article will not be marked. The Executive Board would be also checking for AI. Any article that has traces of use of AI would absolutely not be accepted. Strictly adhere to word limits and format of articles.



1. NEWS BASED ARTICLE (BEAT)

These are essentially factual and objective news-based articles. The definition of 'beat' here means the coherent flow of information regarding a particular subject or topic such that the article appears to have a rhythm that would grasp the attention of the reader. The reporter has to give an account about committee proceedings, and any relevant updates which should be logically connected with each other such that the reader does not lose interest due to haphazard organization of facts. These articles should not be plagiarised and fabricated in any way. Beats may include interviews of other delegates in a committee, and quotations from speeches of the same or verbatim to further materialise the facts in the beat. All quotes and interviews should be within inverted commas and in italics.

Example: The Delegate of the United States of America said, "*We need to stop this war before it's too late.*"

Any personal bias should not be reflected in this article, and the language used should be formal and neutral. **Word Limit:** 450-500 words.

FORMAT OF ARTICLE (BEAT)

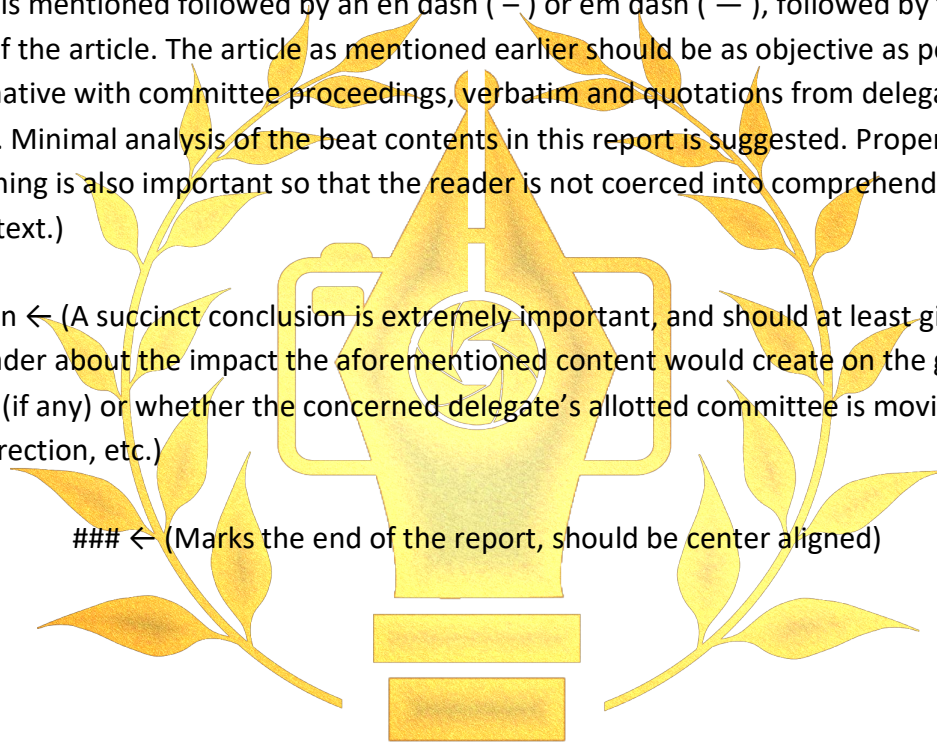
TITLE OF THE ARTICLE ← (Should be concise, appealing, and impactful. Title is compulsory and ought to be bolded.)

Byline ← (A brief summary of the article which would enlighten the reader about what they are about to read next. Should contain details like the committee in which the reporter is reporting, name and news agency of the reporter. Byline is compulsory and should be italicised. Should not exceed 50 words and be around 35 words.)

City, Country — Body Paragraphs ← (Begins with the location where the beat contents were recorded is mentioned followed by an en dash ('–') or em dash ('—'), followed by the actual content of the article. The article as mentioned earlier should be as objective as possible and be informative with committee proceedings, verbatim and quotations from delegates' speeches. Minimal analysis of the beat contents in this report is suggested. Proper paragraphing is also important so that the reader is not coerced into comprehending a huge chunk of text.)

Conclusion ← (A succinct conclusion is extremely important, and should at least give an idea to the reader about the impact the aforementioned content would create on the general populace (if any) or whether the concerned delegate's allotted committee is moving in a fruitful direction, etc.)

← (Marks the end of the report, should be center aligned)



SAMPLE REPORT (BEAT)

PAKISTAN IN TROUBLE? CHAOS ENSUES AMIDST RAMPANT POLICY VIOLATIONS AND MILITARY ALTERCATIONS

<NAME>, correspondent of Al Jazeera, reports on the Joint Chiefs of Staff Committee, on Day 3 of BESCAON 2023.

Rawalpindi, Pakistan-The third day of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Committee began with a speech by Gulbuddin Hekmatyar, the former Head of State of Afghanistan, wherein he stressed on the need for better relations between Pakistan and Afghanistan. He expressed his desire to negotiate about the Balochistan region as he has connections with more than half of the *maulvis* in Pakistan occupied Kashmir. He reaffirmed his firm belief in wanting to make “India bleed through a thousand cuts”.

Post this, the Pakistan’s Ambassador to United States of America said Pakistan is in ‘*mehfooz*’ hands. He did urge the committee as large to focus on efficiently using their air forces as there has been constant military failure. “Doing this alone could very well help us to bring the war in favour of Pakistan”, he said. The Engineer to the Chief of Army explained that they have missiles ready which could be applied to the F-16 interjector jets. Since the committee was following an ironhand policy at the moment, this could very well be a clearcut victory.

The Chief of Navy brought forth a very pertinent point which was before neglected. India has actually began Operation Talwar, the focal point of attention should be on ending it. The Pakistani Navy should try to remove the blockade and it should be the common voice of the committee. The Chief mentioned that since martial law was in place already, he did not think there was a need of diplomatic connections anymore. The War had been waged already and necessary actions should be taken accordingly.

With this, the committee adjourned for lunch.

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2. OPINION BASED ARTICLES (OP-ED/EDITORIAL)

Opinion Based Articles are of two types and the reporter could choose any one form:
Editorial: These articles are written by the senior editorial staff of a newspaper or news publishing company. In other words, reporters are required to adhere to the editorial policy of their respective allotment. If the editorial board has any particular biases or affinities, they should be subtly hinted throughout the article.

Op-Ed: The abbreviation for “Opposite the Editorial Page”, Op-Eds are articles written by authors not affiliated with the editorial board. Therefore, the reporter’s individual opinion on the topic is emphasized, and takes precedence over the editorial policy of the allotment. This is recommended for reporters whose news agencies/newspapers have not published any article regarding a topic previously.

All Opinion Based Articles will be written on the agenda of the committee, the reporter is allotted to and may not contain committee proceedings.

Word Limit: 800-1000 words.

FORMAT OF ARTICLE (OP-ED)

TITLE OF THE ARTICLE ← (Should be concise, appealing, and impactful. Title is compulsory and is preferable to be bolded.)

Byline ← (A brief summary of the article which would enlighten the reader about what they are about to read next. Should contain the name and news agency of the reporter along with the mention of the agenda. Byline is compulsory and should be italicised. Should not exceed 50 words and be around 35 words.)

Body Paragraphs ← (Content should be rich in opinion, analysis, and conclusions of the reporter in case of an Op-Ed or the stance of the Editorial Board in case of an Editorial. Examples, case precedents, statistics, other relevant data, and facts to support your opinion should be incorporated in the article. If possible, road maps to problems are highly recommended. However, remember not to decorate the article with too many facts that would, in the end, overshadow the actual opinion. The opinion has to be clear and strong. Paragraphing is vital.

Conclusion ← (The conclusion should be the final remarks of the writer. Ideally, it should summarize the entire article in or highlight the opinion once again with the major points in the report.)

← (Marks the end of the report, should be center aligned)

SAMPLE REPORT (OP-ED)

CANADA'S ALLEGATIONS ROIL GEOPOLITICAL WATERS

<NAME> of XYZ News Agency delves into the unfolding Canada-India rift, entailing Trudeau's accusations, diplomatic fallout, and broader implications, providing a comprehensive examination of recent developments in bilateral relations.

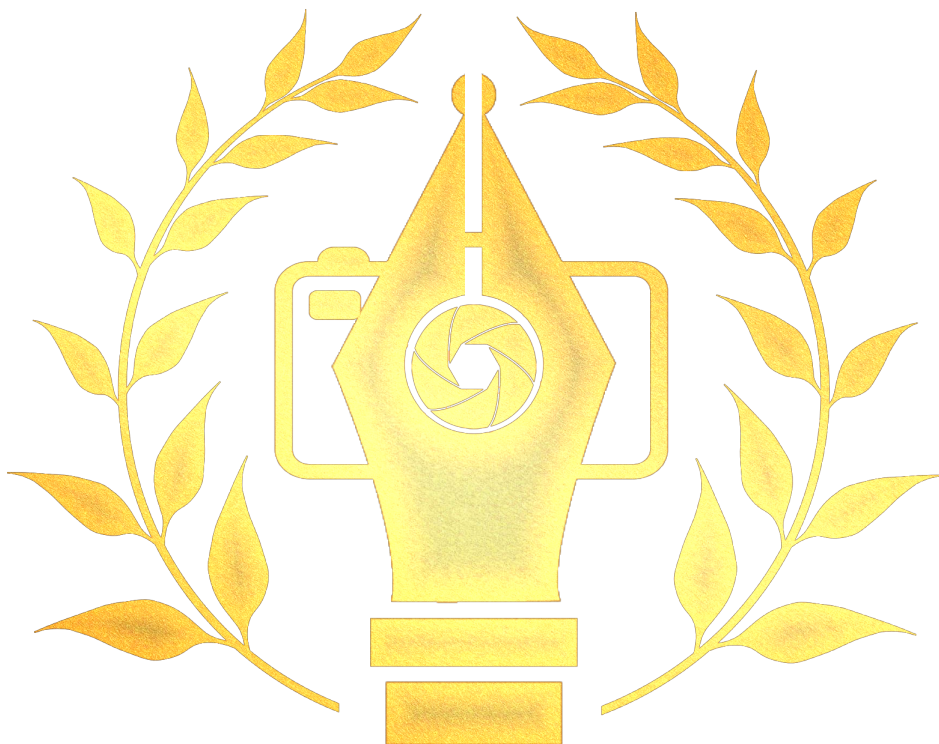
Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau's startling allegation, tying the killing of Canadian Khalistani leader Hardeep Singh Nijjar in June, to "agents of the Government of India", marks a new low in their unravelling ties. Mr. Trudeau's accusation — he said evidence had been shared with India and also raised in a bilateral meeting with Prime Minister Narendra Modi last weekend — has set off a chain of events. After Canada expelled a senior Indian diplomat, India summoned the Canadian High Commissioner and expelled Canada's Station chief for intelligence on Tuesday.

The United States and Australia, partners with Canada in the "Five Eyes" intelligence sharing agreement, have expressed "deep concerns" over the issue. The External Affairs Ministry has also accused Canadian diplomats of "anti-India" activities, indicating that more diplomats may be under scrutiny, while the Canadian government has spoken about the violation of the international rule of law, and of Canadian "sovereignty", which could invoke other areas of confrontation. Given the support Mr. Trudeau received from his political rivals in Parliament, remarks critical of India by leaders such as Pierre Poilievre and Jagmeet Singh, it is also likely that the chill will outlast this government, if voted out in elections due in 2025. Unlike with Pakistan, where such allegations, name-calling and public confrontation have become routine, it is worth remembering that Canada is a part of the western NATO alliance, and home to Indians and Indian-origin Canadians, and the impact of the rupture will be felt wider.

The first step at such a fraught moment has to be some cold reflection over the next steps. For Mr. Trudeau, the priority must be to publicly prove his very serious allegations, or admit he is unable to. India's assertions over Canadian safe havens for anti-India, separatist violent Khalistani groups have already been proven by many incidents, beginning from the early 1980s to more recent targeting of Indian diplomats and Indian community centres. That Nijjar, chief of the "Khalistan Tiger Force" — he was wanted in India, accused of being behind terror operations in Punjab in the 1990s, and had an Interpol red corner notice — was a Canadian citizen speaks for itself. New Delhi must also consider how it wishes to proceed on its ties with Canada. The government had hailed Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to Canada in 2015, the first bilateral visit by an Indian PM since 1973, with the assumption that decades of mistrust over the Khalistan issue could be brushed aside. Earlier this year, India and Canada attempted another reset, with visits by Canadian Foreign Minister Melanie Joly,

and fast-tracking free trade talks. However, after the acrimonious Trudeau-Modi meeting on the sidelines of the G-20, and the latest allegations by Mr. Trudeau, diplomatic niceties are clearly at an end, while the FTA talks have been put on pause.

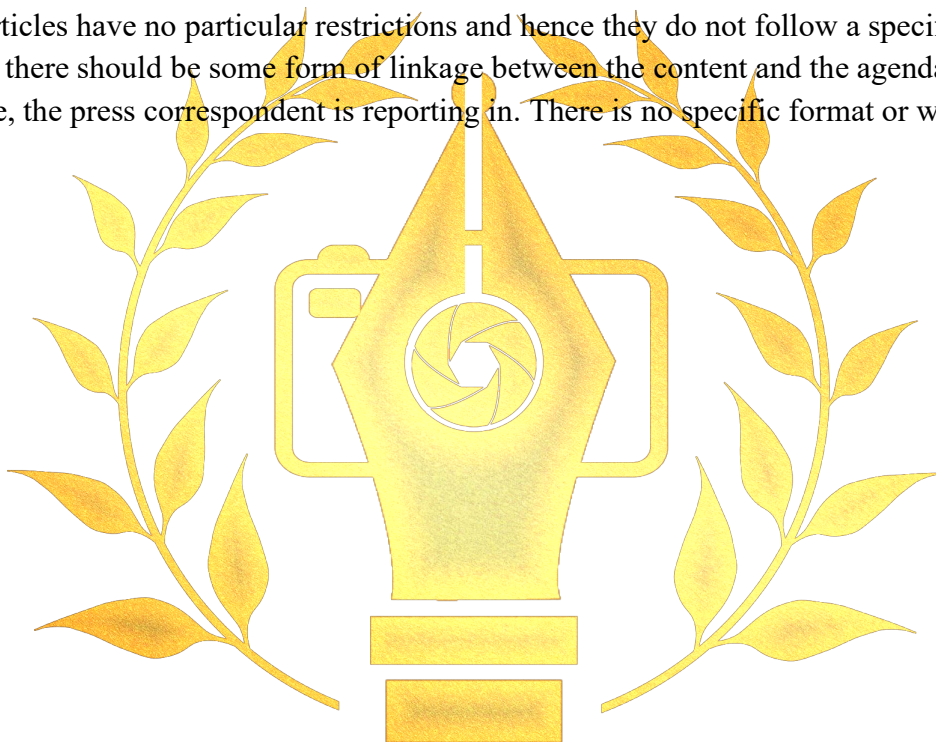
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3. FEATURE ARTICLE

These articles are not bound by the limitations of fact rubrics and are essentially a manifestation of a delegate's creativity. It is more similar to fiction because it tells a story. For example, a news story about the Prime Minister might be about what is happening in Cabinet or perhaps which laws are under consideration. A feature article, on the other hand, would perhaps look at the Prime Minister's leisure activities or tell the story of some 7 Definitely try to be original with the content, and it is permitted to use relevant photos in this article to substantiate the article if required.

Feature articles have no particular restrictions and hence they do not follow a specific format. However, there should be some form of linkage between the content and the agenda of the committee, the press correspondent is reporting in. There is no specific format or word limit.



4. INTERVIEW ARTICLE

An interview article must be based on an interview of delegate(s) in the committee conducted by the reporter. The questions for the interview may not be excessively hostile or aggressive in tone. They should be phrased in a way that will elicit interesting information from the interview. The interview article comprises 5-6 questions and have no specific word limit.

FORMAT OF ARTICLE (INTERVIEW)

TITLE OF THE ARTICLE ← (Should be concise but appealing. Title is compulsory and is preferable to be bolded.)

Byline ← (Should contain the name and news agency of the reporter. Can contain short remarks or highlights from the overall interview. Byline is compulsory and should be italicised. Should not exceed 50 words and be around 35 words.)

Reporter: <Question> ← (Question, if possible, should be detailed, concise and end with a question mark. "**Reporter:**" should be bolded.) You might also use your own name in the first question and continue with an acronym in the proceeding questions. Any one of the formats is accepted.

The Delegate of <Country>: <Answer> ← (Answer, should be unadulterated and not fabricated. "The Delegate of <Country>:" should be bolded. Example: "**The Delegate of Gambia:**")

OR

The Minister of <portfolio>: <Answer> ← (Example: "**The Minister of Foreign Affairs:**")

OR

<Honorary Title and Name of the interviewee's allotment>: <Answer> ← (Honorary titles may be omitted. Initials with surname is also allowed. Should not be the delegates' real name and should be the allotment's name. Example: "**Dr. Manmohan Singh:**", "**M. Singh:**")

SAMPLE REPORT (INTERVIEW)

IN CONVERSATION WITH MR. PERVEZ MUSHARRAF, THE NEWLY ELECTED, 10TH PRESIDENT OF PAKISTAN

Alokita Raichaudhuri, correspondent of Al Jazeera, reports on the Joint Chiefs of Staff Committee on Day 3 of the BESCOON.

Alokita Raichaudhuri: Keeping in mind that Pakistan needs diplomatic, military and economic support from the international community, after the introduction of martial law and the military coup in our country, will the democratic countries, particularly the Western countries which have economically dense resources, support Pakistan and would China be in a position to support us as of now?

Pervez Musharraf: China would definitely be supporting us as we are fighting China's biggest enemy, India, right now. Therefore, we can have a relationship of mutual benefit when it comes to attacking India. China might not necessarily militarily intervene because China has always maintained this policy, but they can use economic warfare and other facets against non-partners. That being said, when you talk about the West, we are trying our best to negotiate with the United States but they want a no first-strike policy. Here, we will try our best to make sure that we leave enough loopholes in our policy that we put up so that we can use it against whoever threatens to attack us in the future.

ARC: Is the government currently looking to take this war on a multifront level? Citing the bombing in the interior of our nation, can we bomb Indian bases close to borders like Amritsar and Pathankot?

PM: We should be aware that since weapons can be used against us. Since we always follow necessity, proportionality, and other such facets when we act in self-defense, we can hundred percent use the same things that have been used on us even if that brings in international scrutiny. At a time of war, if it is required, given that this is my cabinet, we will find an appropriate way to clean our image later.

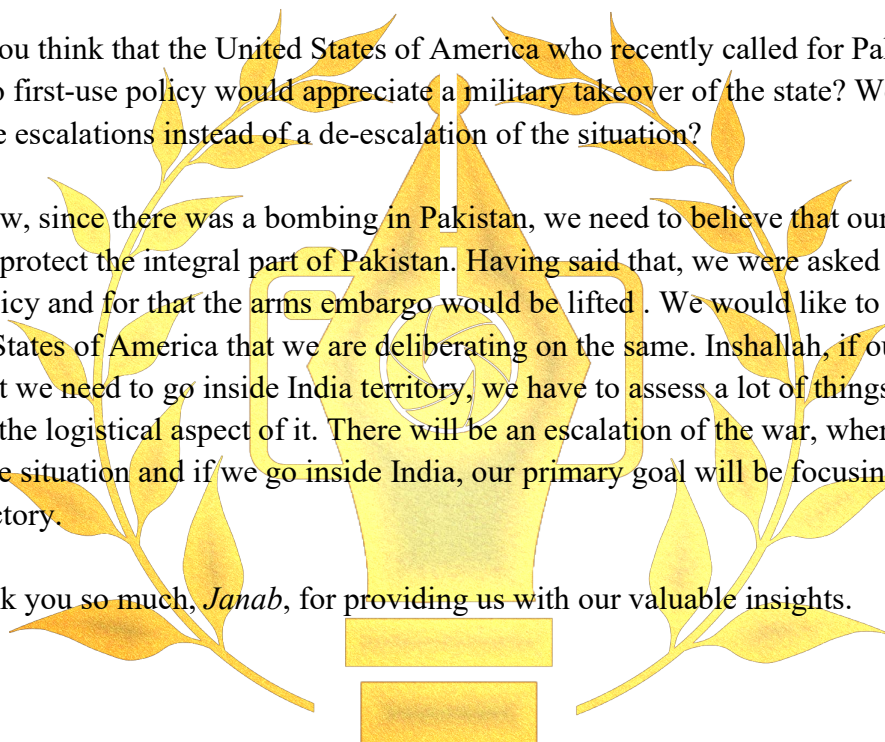
ARC: Have the US softened their stance on their no first-use policy or is it still a requirement for them to support Pakistan?

PM: India's nuclear policy is quite threatening to us and if we maintain a no first-strike policy, especially with regard to nuclear weapons, that could be detrimental to our own security in the future. Therefore with regard to our nuclear policy, what we can do is go forward to the United States of America stating that we are ready to adopt a no first-use policy but not with regard to nuclear weapons in particular. So, we use the ambiguity of our policy to imply the fact that in case of an attack, there will be a response from our end. We will not be the one to threaten any other country with our nuclear weapons but at the same time, since we are not explicitly mentioning our nuclear policy, we are keeping some scope open to use any kind of weapons. If Pakistan needs to use them, we should have legal provisions to do so. We should have a defense in the international community. Therefore we will not declare a nuclear policy as such right now.

ARC: Do you think that the United States of America who recently called for Pakistan to employ a no first-use policy would appreciate a military takeover of the state? Would it not lead to more escalations instead of a de-escalation of the situation?

PM: For now, since there was a bombing in Pakistan, we need to believe that our primary option is to protect the integral part of Pakistan. Having said that, we were asked to use a no first-use policy and for that the arms embargo would be lifted. We would like to convey to the United States of America that we are deliberating on the same. Inshallah, if our country believes that we need to go inside India territory, we have to assess a lot of things, one of them being the logistical aspect of it. There will be an escalation of the war, wherein if we take over the situation and if we go inside India, our primary goal will be focusing towards a clear cut victory.

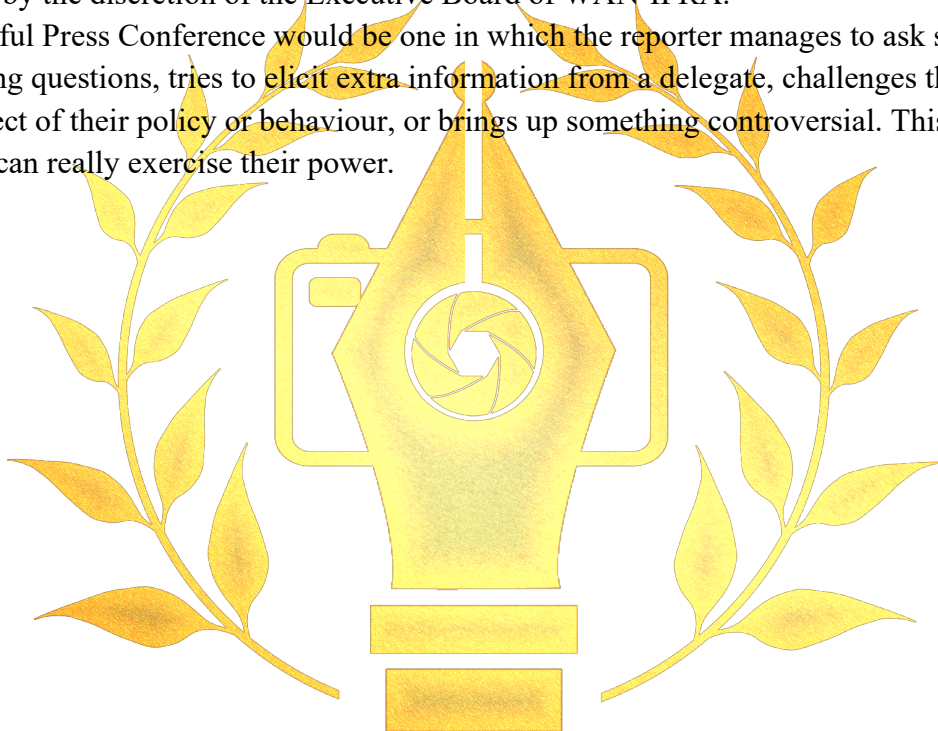
ARC: Thank you so much, *Janab*, for providing us with our valuable insights.



5. PRESS CONFERENCE

The chairpersons of all the committees are in power to call a Press Conference. The Press member(s) allotted to their respective committees will be allowed to ask questions to the delegates of the respective committees. The Press Member will be informed beforehand, for the press member to frame the questions, he/she intends to ask. The delegates will then have the opportunity to answer and defend themselves if they wish to. Follow-ups will be permitted by the discretion of the Executive Board of WAN-IFRA.

A successful Press Conference would be one in which the reporter manages to ask some hard-hitting questions, tries to elicit extra information from a delegate, challenges them on some aspect of their policy or behaviour, or brings up something controversial. This is where the Press can really exercise their power.



Please feel free to contact any member of your executive board (via call, text, or mail) for any assistance –

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