

LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

Dear Delegates,

Welcome to IOIT MUN 2023!

A warm welcome to the International Press committee. Journalism, I acknowledge that it can be daunting to have the task of reporting heated debates and contributing to conversations that take place within the committee rooms. Bear in mind that it is not your responsibility to provide an accurate description of events that are unfolding in a MUN committee, but to highlight details about the developments taking place with regards to the agenda. Make sure to go through the study guide of the committee for which you are reporting. Ensure that you are punctual in your delivery. And finally, fact-check any information that you include in your articles.

Looking forward to seeing you!

Best Wishes,

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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 audience.

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. Narrative 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.

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 UNCSW committee on Day 1 of IOIT MUN 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 5% 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.

That is all, delegates! Do not forget to report on time on Day 1. I can assure you that this experience will be a learning one for both you and me.