

UNCA

Background Guide 2025



Your guide to all things AMUN 2025; important messages from the Heads, how to go about tasks, what to expect and even a little sneak peek into some of your upcoming assignments. Make sure to read through this thoroughly and contact your Heads if you have any questions.

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Introduction

The Association shall be called the United Nations Correspondents Association. Its aims and purposes shall be:

1. To maintain and protect the freedom and prestige of Press, Radio and Television correspondents in all their relations with the United Nations.
2. To promote the interests of its members and to facilitate their personal and professional relationships.
3. To take whatever measures possible to protect the rights of bona fide correspondents to secure accreditation and unhindered access to the United Nations Headquarters or regional offices, and to their normally available facilities without discrimination.
4. To undertake any other action, when required, on behalf of press, Radio and Television correspondents accredited to the United Nations, either at its Headquarters or at any of its regional offices.
5. To facilitate social contact between its members, delegates from member nations of the United Nations, officials of the secretariat, and other distinguished personalities connected with international affairs.

The above aims and purposes are those of the UNCA, a specialised committee under the supervision of the UN. This year, we plan on simulating the UNCA as much as possible- even if it means memorising each word of this background guide.

This background guide is essentially there to help you, the reader, out with the task of being a member of the UNCA.

Use it wisely.

A Message from the Head of UNCA

To my UNCA delegates,

Welcome to AMUN Final Conference 2025!

Congratulations on making it this far :)

This message is going to be a long one, so buckle in.

I can't believe this is my last AMUN. I still remember starting as a journalist in 9th grade and having absolutely no clue what was happening. But how I came to love it. It was then that I made it my life's mission to become the Head of UNCA so that I could guide my UNCA delegates just as I was guided by my UNCA head three years ago. And here I am.

Being a part of the UNCA isn't as easy as people make it sound. Whether you're a journalist, photographer, or caricaturist, your skills of observation set you apart from everyone else. Being a part of this committee means being constantly aware of everything that's happening during the conference; that's not easy.

AMUN has meant so much to me. Every Wednesday stuck with me in some way or another, not to mention the samosa, which is basically an irreplaceable part of the conference. I'm so glad and grateful that I got the opportunity to guide delegates for the past two years in my capacity, both as Head of Journalism (last year) and Head of UNCA. I hope you grab the same opportunities and allow them to shape you.

To my first-time delegates, I'm delighted you were able to keep your heads up throughout this journey. MUN feels like a shot in the dark for a lot of first-timers (like it was for me), but you eventually find your way. This conference is not just about awards or who the best is; it's about discovering things about yourself that you wouldn't have otherwise. It's about gaining the confidence to stand your ground, be it through articles, photographs, or drawings. You learn so much about politics and the world through these committees that no textbook could ever teach you. I hope many of you go on to attend inter-school MUNs and pursue something in this field.

For the final conference, be confident in your abilities. Whatever it is, you can face it. Remember to ask for help should you need it.

You can always approach me for anything and everything.

Have a great conference, and don't forget to make memories :)

May your pens be swift and your deadlines merciful.

Love and light,

Devina Prashanth

Head of the United Nations Correspondents Association

Aravali Model United Nations 2025.

A Message from the Head of Journalism

Dear Journalists,

As I welcome you to the final conference, I find myself very, very proud of all of you - of the ideas you've shaped, of the stories you've told and the thoughtfulness and dedication that you guys have brought to this committee. Journalism is relentless and sometimes a little ruthless. But I want you all to know that you have distinct voices; you are observers of the little things and seekers of the truth. Final conference will test you - not only in terms of deadlines and discipline. There will be pressure and rewrites and maybe a little chaos, but there will be discovery. You'll be running on adrenaline and caffeine and hopefully some sense of deadline-discipline, but translating a room full of people and politics into words is learning in its own.

So, as you write over the next two days, I hope you allow yourself to take risks. Choose perspective, let your questions lead the way, honour your craft - because no matter what others say, what you're doing is extremely important and not everyone has the gift and talent to do it well. Write something you're proud of, don't shy away from weird ideas - they're usually the best ones.

If you need guidance, if you feel unsure of yourself - you can always come find Devadrita and I. We know you'll make it count. Have the most fun, take a moment (or multiple) between all the madness (and outfits) to enjoy.

With all my faith,

Ananya Mishra,

Head of Journalism.

United Correspondents Association

Aravali Model United Nations 2025.

A Message from the Head of Journalism

To our dear Journalists,

As we step into final conference, I wish to remind you all that you have already done something extraordinary. You have captured more than speeches and statistics – you have captured the in-between moments, last-minute wrong moves, and the true essence of AMUN. You've been looking where no one was, listening between the lines, and turning noise into narratives. Believe me, that is no small feat.

The next two days promise chaos, lots of running around and lots of fun. It will be a whirlwind of deadlines, final-second rewrites and maybe a little panic all while Ananya and I may be screaming at you to submit. But it will also be where you grow. Where your voice sharpens. Where your instincts take over and guide you better than any template could.

So be bold. Go with the weird idea. Follow the side story. Ask the question everyone else ignores. (Wear durable shoes.) You're not here to blend in—you're here to stand out, to question, to challenge.

And if at any point you feel stuck, overwhelmed, or need a break – come find us. No matter how stressful it gets, I promise you, you have every weapon in your arsenal—so take a shot.

With utmost pride (in you), barely contained excitement (to see your outfits), and all my belief,

Devadrita Dam,

Head of Journalism.

United Correspondents Association

Aravali Model United Nations 2025.

A Message from the Head of Photography

To my Photographers,

Welcome to Aravali Model United Nations 2025!!

There's something special about seeing the world through a lens - everything just feels a little prettier, a little more cinematic.

As photographers, you're not just "covering" the conference—you're shaping how it's remembered.

You're the visual voice of AMUN, making sure none of the magic goes unseen.

So don't just aim to take pictures. Capture moments.

Over the next two days, let instinct be your guide. From the adrenaline of crisis tasks to the blink-and-you'll-miss-it kind of moments, trust your timing, your eye, and your gut. You'll know when to click. You're not here to make things look perfect — you're here to show the beauty that's always been there, just waiting to be seen.

Sabrina and I are so happy to have you on the team and we can't wait to see the perspectives you bring through your lens!!

Amaira Wadhwa

Head of Photography

United Nations Correspondents Association

Aravali Model United Nations 2025.

A Message from the Head of Photography

Delegates,

First off, a huge congratulations on making it here! Believe me, this is no small feat, and your presence alone speaks volumes about your dedication and passion. Over the past weeks, you've persevered through intense sessions and challenging tasks, and now it's time to showcase the best version of yourselves.

For many of you, this might be your very first Model United Nations conference and, trust me, I understand how insanely nerve racking that can be. In my first year, I had my fair share of excitement, confusion and blurry frames but in the end, it all worked out. The friends I made stuck with me and the things I learnt will last forever. I came out a much more confident delegate.

Photography isn't just a skill, it's a language, a perspective. Most importantly, it's a story waiting to be told. Over the next couple of days, you'll be pushed outside your comfort zones, challenged to think creatively under pressure and probably be made to run around the whole school a few times. But here's the thing; every stay back you've attended after a long school day, all the editing that's gone into your tasks, the countless camera issues and SD card glitches you've had; all have prepared you for this. It's your time to prove to us, and to yourself, you can do it.

Amaira and I are here with you, every step of the way and we can't wait to see your talent. Stay true to yourself and true to your vision and it'll all be worth it.

All the best!

Sabrina Tiwari,
Head of Photography
United Nations Correspondents Association
Aravali Model United Nations 2025.

A Message from the Head of Caricature

Dear Caricaturists,

Going into Aravali Model United Nations, I never expected to find myself joining caricature, let alone becoming its head. I went from journalism to debating in the UNODC, hoping to find my place in AMUN, and quite frankly, I didn't think I ever would.

When I first came across Caricature, I simply brushed it off, assuming it wasn't something I'd enjoy. However eventually, I found myself drawn back to it, and Caricature welcomed me with open arms. I used to think I wasn't good enough to be a caricaturist; I was worried that I'd be judged for my untraditional art style and not-so-advanced skillset. However, I was proven to be wrong about that pretty quick; Caricature doesn't just ask for beautiful art, it asks for observation, creativity, wit and thoughtfulness. It doesn't demand perfection; it simply invites perspective, an account of the world told from a different lens.

It wasn't until stumbling into Caricature that I realised I didn't have to speak the loudest to make an impact. And that's exactly what I want to tell you; your voice is always heard here, even if it's expressed through a sketch rather than a speech.

You don't need to be the best artist or the most experienced delegate, you just need to be someone with room for perspective and the appetite to be a visual storyteller.

Caricature isn't simply about capturing a scenario; it's about capturing emotions, contradictions and chaos, then animating them to help others truly visualise the story. You don't just draw what you see, you draw what others need to understand. Through a single illustration, you can simplify complexity, challenge bias and even shift the way someone sees the issue. So take risks with your caricatures and be bold in your expression because your work can leave a lasting impact.

Every great caricature begins with a single line. And every great caricaturist begins with a single decision: to try.

Whether you're a returning delegate or stepping into the committee for the first time, I'm here to support you, guide you and help this space feel like your own.

Because sometimes, one caricature can do what a thousand speeches cannot. And that is why we need Caricature.

Here's to making this AMUN one for the papers.

Warmly,
Aishani Nanda Rao,
Head of Caricature and Design,
United Nations Correspondents Association
Aravali Model United Nations 2025.

A Message from the Head of Caricature

Dear Caricaturists,

As someone who was completely uninterested in the prospect of actually debating about world peace in AMUN, I never considered joining it— until I saw the caricature committee. Caricature is a space where you can explore various points of view, complicated topics and political ideologies. A space to shed light on topics that are hard to approach in a more humorous manner that others may glance over but hides depth and social criticism. Thought-provoking caricatures can transcend language barriers without words, an important characteristic in a diverse world.

Caricature combines humour, art and satire. In this committee, we share our views and present complex issues in a way that doesn't diminish them and without bias. We have the responsibility to hold this power and, shape public perception and influence discussions on global issues.

I encourage all caricaturists to show their artistic ability and think deeply on each topic, considering each and every assignment as something that holds power over public opinions. Caricature can encourage empathy, shed light on different perspectives and bring about change, a concept that may be difficult at first, without a keen understanding on the subject, but slowly, with experimentation, you will be able to flourish and think creatively for each assignment.

As you go through each topic, I will always be there in case you need guidance. I am confident that you will thrive in caricature and encourage you to enjoy your time and create cherished memories here. Through your work, you will be able to make a positive impact on others. Here's to the best AMUN!!

Reynah Gupta

Head of Caricature and Design,

United Nations Correspondents Association

Aravali Model United Nations 2025.

The Crisis

The crisis is probably the one thing all the committees, including the press, have in common. Every year, the Executive Board delights in making you, the journalists, photographers and caricaturists panic.

Crises vary. All three committees of UNCA come together to unravel the crisis. You will work as a team to solve the mystery. The crisis is never revealed to you beforehand, but most likely always happens on the second day of the conference. It is a period of rapid thinking and action. This is when you channel your inner detective. **Most** crises throw you in the middle of an unsolved mystery that you, as a correspondent, are required to solve.

The team first to solve the crisis will win. Candies may or may not be promised.

All the best!

Rules & Regulations

1. Everyone must stick to the dress code.

The dress code for the conference days are Western formals or Indian formals.

2. UNCA members cannot under any circumstance disturb committee proceedings. You are there as an external observer and must act as such. In case you need clarification on something or have a doubt, privately approach/send a chit to a member of the committee's executive board.

3. No form of plagiarism will be tolerated. If any of your work is found to be plagiarized, you will be immediately disqualified from the conference.

4. All UNCA members must be on their best behaviour. If disruptive behaviour is reported by an Executive Board member or observed, the delegate will be disqualified immediately.

Introduction

“Journalism will kill you, but it will keep you alive while you're at it.”

~ Horace Greeley

We live in a world characterised by uncertain political, social and individual landscapes. With every article a journalist publishes, a thought is moulded, a mind is shaped and a path for change is constructed, characterised by questioning those who are obligated to do good by the masses. Journalism is often portrayed as a mere storytelling of what has happened, but its true intricacies are only understood by those brave enough to ask the good question: the journalists.

In your time as journalists, you will learn how to construct convincing arguments, and articulate a point of view, backing it up with facts, evidence, and the most powerful weapon in your arsenal, emotion. Over the two days of the final conference, you will hold a power greater than that of your peers — the responsibility of crafting the very pieces that will serve as the lasting record of how conference unfolded. Whether it's through opinion editorials or beats, you'll be challenged not only to express your viewpoint, but to persuade the reader that yours is the only one that makes sense, or fluffs which will allow you to exercise your creative muscle, there will be no time to rest.

As journalists of AMUN's UNCA, you are expected to research your media house's bias - your Bible for reporting, furnish a plethora of articles and conduct a press conference. You will be judged on the content & creativity of your submissions, your style of writing and expression, the strength of your arguments, relevance to your media house's bias, and of course, adherence to the guidelines as well as deadlines.

Good luck!

How to Research Your Agenda

As a member of journalism, research forms the backbone of your article. Your research will provide your article with a foundation to stand upon. In case you need to substantiate your article with facts, statistics and nuanced opinions, research is your best friend. Research allows the journalist to convince the reader (and us) that your article is rife with information and nuance.

Researching an agenda, however, can sometimes feel a little overwhelming. While how much you research is also important (the more you know, the better), how you go about researching is what makes the actual difference.

This is NOT the only way to research; different approaches work for different sorts of people, but we're going to provide you with a list of things so that you don't get lost somewhere along the way.

- 1. WIKIPEDIA IS NOT YOUR BEST FRIEND.** Yes, it's cute and convenient. It is a valid place to start with, but please don't use statistics and facts stated by Wikipedia in your articles. They may turn out to be inaccurate, which would lead to severe downmarking of your piece. It is an unreliable source; however, it does give you a good summary of what you need to research more in-depth. Starting from here is not a bad idea.
- 2. The background guide is your holy book.** We know it's long but pay proper attention to the entire background of the committee you've been assigned. Read it at least twice to absorb all that is in there and keep it handy for reference. Screenshot, highlight, print.
- 3. Download it so that you can easily access it during the conference.** When you're familiar with the overall flow of the background guide, go through any recommended research sites or sources cited in it. If there aren't any, research on the topics mentioned in the background guide that are relevant to the committee proceedings & therefore, relevant to your writing.
- 4. ALWAYS look up unfamiliar terms in the guide.** If you don't know a certain policy, a certain fancy term - search it up now so that you don't panic later in case it's mentioned during the conference. The internet is there to help you.
- 5. If there are any unfamiliar events, stalk them.** Look up the different subheadings in the guide. The internet has more than enough resources to last you forever. Just remember to stop if the site has 6 pop-ups and uses an absurd amount of Comic Sans.
- 6. Start by looking up the key people involved in the events mentioned in the guide.** Documentaries are your best bet here. They actually try to tell the full story instead of just throwing facts at you. But please do refer to websites as well. Watch interviews, panel discussions, press conferences, and speeches to get a well-rounded view. Then, venture into the wild world of websites and articles.
- 7. Bonus points for finding work done on them by your news agency.** That's the dream.

8. **Double bonus points for finding PDFs of the relevant documents, treaties, charters, agreements, etc.** Use your bias.
9. **Never accept anything at face value,** probe deeper into every little thing you're presented with. Observe and evaluate. Ask where the statistics come from, ask what was said before and after an interesting quote.
10. **Create a cheat-sheet!** You might want to compile everything you find relevant in a document or notebook - anything you can easily access during the conference. It's going to be beyond helpful because you'll have stricter deadlines during the final conference and will require a simplified version of your research.
11. If you're not convinced, no one else will be. **Read up until you're convinced.** Conviction can't be faked.

News Agency Bias

Every single newsroom, whether it belongs to legacy media companies or forms part of the newer press agencies, has a certain narrative that they construct and stick to by the things that they decide to tell and the things they choose to ignore. The distinctive reporting style of an agency is shaped by such patterns of inclusion and omission.

What you are and are not permitted to believe in (this is restricted to your articles, of course) is determined by your news agency allotment. The bias of your agency exerts a strong influence on how you engage with your chosen committee's agenda. Think of it as a greyer version of foreign policy. Your bias serves as the guiding principle you must keep in mind when you choose what topics and individuals to write about.

If your allotment is a paper funded by the government,

- 1) You are loyal and you are proud. It's likely that you'll be extremely sycophant and state-centric. Your government's policies are yours - you follow the same mindset as them. The same goes for their allies and their adversaries.
- 2) Interview delegates who belong to the same bloc as your nation or who have similar values.
- 3) Try and toe the line of controversy. You can only toe this line, unless your country allows an ample amount of press freedom.

If your newspaper is privately owned/funded,

- 1) This site might be beneficial for you!!
<https://public.websites.umich.edu/~newsbias/wordchoice.html>
- 2) You most likely have a Board of Directors or Trustees as an extra layer of censorship. Subtly presenting your point is crucial. This also applies to caricaturists and photographers. Be bold without being obvious.
- 3) It matters what the advertisers want. In case you started losing advertisers after some radical change and running short of money, try to strike a balance.

How crucial is it that I adhere to the bias of my agency?

Short answer: Very.

Long answer: Think of it in this way. Not following your news agency's bias is essentially depriving them of what makes them unique: their identity. Please don't disregard your news agency's bias. However, please also remember that biases are dynamic! They can change as the committee proceedings progress.

For example, if a war happens to be declared, state-funded papers will become very nationalistic. Stances of papers will change with changes in the order of the nation and other countries as well. Your job as a journalist is to encapsulate the committee proceedings within the principles of your bias. Even if your allotted news agency doesn't have any coverage on the specific conversations occurring in the committee, you must understand its positions on different situations, the different parties involved and thus, express your agency's most probable opinion on the agenda.

Journalism at MUN isn't just about coverage- it's about crafting perception appropriately. That is your soft power - the ability to choose the order of words, the tone, the quotes, etc.

Bias doesn't necessarily mean lying; it means framing. Tell the truth by focusing on what makes your piece credible, with a highlighter in hand, but also with a smaller eraser in hand for the parts you'd rather skip.

Good Writing vs Writing Well

Saying a piece of writing is “good” doesn’t actually say much. It’s kind of like calling food “edible”—fine, but what does that really mean? In journalism, “good” usually just means the facts check out and it’s strung together decently. That’s the baseline. It doesn’t tell you whether it stands out or stays with the reader.

Good writing means:

- 1) It’s fact-checked
- 2) It’s original and ethically sourced
- 3) It treats its own subject with respect
- 4) And it doesn’t make the reader feel like they’re wasting their time.

On the other hand, writing well is slightly more difficult to execute, but it is precisely what we’re looking for! Writing well means you’ve gone beyond just using facts in your article. You’ve been precise and intentional. It’s difficult to define what well-written means, but here’s what writing well includes:

- Clarity without oversimplification
- Comprehensive pieces
- A structure and style that suits the article, not just your comfort zone
- Word choices that carry weight
- Understanding of the audience and readership
- Acknowledging and including the biases of your news agency
- Room for alternate perspectives
- Empathy with the subjects of your article
- Real research, not just vibes and Wikipedia
- Arguments that actually hold up under scrutiny (No fallacies and logical reasoning!!)

Basically, good is your floor, not your ceiling. But “well-written” is what you should be striving for, it is what gets you remembered and truly read.

Grammar

No good article is complete without proper grammar.

This grammar guide is meant to help you remember nitty-gritties that should be ingrained in your mind by now; however, in the chance that it is not, use this guide well.

1. Capitalization: Always used to indicate the start of a sentence, and when speaking of people, institutions/ organizations or locations. Avoid capitalizing words to lay emphasis on them, that is what italics are for.

Avoid: "I DO NOT AGREE WITH THIS," said the Delegate of Iran.

Instead: "I do *not* agree with this," said the Delegate of Iran.

2. Italics: Used to draw the reader's attention to a particular word or phrase, in other words, to lay emphasis (as mentioned before.) Additionally, your by-line as well as any quotes used must be italicised. Quotes from delegates can be in inverted commas only, but quotes and statements in any language apart from English must be italicised.

3. Dates & Numbers: Dates must be written in the British format (DD/MM/YY) and can also be written as June 15th, 2025. Time zones and freeze dates are important to keep in mind, not only for the purpose of your research, but also when reporting on an event that occurred at a significant time.

Numbers between 1-10 must be written in words, whereas numbers beyond 10 may be written in numerical.

4. Languages & Accents: Some languages use accents to change the sound of a letter and put greater stress on it while speaking.

Depending on your news agency, report and committee, limit the use of accents to the names of individuals. When using non-English words, it is imperative to include the correct English definition in brackets along with it.

5. Semicolon vs. em (—) dash: Semicolons (;) are major sentence separators. They link two similar independent clauses/sentences. Semicolons cannot replace commas but can replace a period. An em dash (—) is used when you want to create a strong pause, add emphasis, or insert an abrupt shift in a sentence. Unlike commas or parentheses, em dashes draw more attention to the inserted information, making them perfect for dramatic or impactful moments. You can use them to set off a thought, explanation, or list — especially when you want the sentence to feel more dynamic or conversational.

6. Personal Pronouns: Refrain from using any personal pronouns, especially ‘I,’ in any of your formal articles. Always write in third person.

Avoid: I believe...

Instead: In the opinion of the reporter..., This reporter argues that...

7. Tense: No matter the time stamp of your committee, or the type of article- always write your pieces in the past tense!

Standard Article Format

- ☆ All your articles must be written in Times New Roman.
- ☆ The title/headline of the articles should be in size 14, and in bold.
- ☆ The by-line (introduction to the journalist, as well as what you will be covering in the article) should be italicized, and in size 11.
- ☆ The main body of your article should be in size 12.
- ☆ Make sure to indent all paragraphs and include an introduction and conclusion in all your articles.
- ☆ When submitting your articles, make sure to follow the nomenclature:

NewsAgency_Committee Assigned_Type of Article

For example: BBC_UNODC_OpinionEditorial

How this should look:

Title/Headline (size 14)

Byline (size 11)

Content (size 12)

★ Not adhering to the above guidelines will lead to the deduction of marks :(



Informal Articles



Fluff

Fluffs are articles which are funny, quirky, witty and sarcastic. In such an article, your bias does not matter.

Fluff pieces are your space to get creative and they can be just about anything you want – from delegates zoning out and not paying attention to the temperature of the room you are in. These articles are meant to be an insight into the behaviour of delegates behind the scenes.

Fluffs can be about literally ANYTHING. There is no set style for a fluff — it can range from a poem to a song parody to a quirky paragraph. Let your imagination take the lead since this piece is all about creative freedom.

This is an article you can write in first person!

Ensure that your piece is funny and witty.

✿ Word Limit: Write a minimum of 100 words — from there on, it's entirely up to you!

Structure: None, have fun & be creative!

Editor's Choice

To My Best Friend

Devadrita Dam of El Tiempo fritters away time in the UNODC

To: The Director of the UNODC

“We were girls together, do you know how special that is?” is probably what we will say to each other, 30 years from now, as we reminisce about our high school journey.

8 years ago, you were another strange face, another person whose name I did not know. 8 years ago, I would not have imagined we would still be friends.

7 years ago, I found you slightly perplexing, I did not know what to make of your infectious personality and boisterous laugh. They are my favourite things about you now.

6 years ago, 5th grade pushed all our limits. It was a Cold War, but we made it.

5 years ago, I wasn't sure why we were still friends, we fought like snakes, we made each other cry- friendship did not come easy to us. Today, loving you comes as easy as breathing. When I look at you, I see you, everything that you are and everything you stand for and I know you see me too. Watching you, be so fearlessly yourself fills me with incomprehensible pride.

5 years from now, anyone who meets me will meet you too. To love me, will be to love you for there is no me without you.

6 years from now, I will remember the day I first met you and thank God, he put you in my life.

7 years from now, maybe I'll watch you get married, and maybe I'll see you fulfil your desire to start a family. Your kids will be as loved by me as they will be by you.

8 years from now, we will sit down at your place or mine and reminisce about our teenage years.

“I love you” is what I will say yesterday, today, tomorrow and every day that follows.

How to Look Like You Care, ft. Taylor Swift

Ananya Mishra of the Syrian Arab News Agency discusses the United Nations Security Council proceedings

If you've ever found yourself sitting in a United Nations Security Council meeting, pondering if watching paint dry would be a better use of your time, you're not alone. Fear not! Upon thorough observation of the delegates and the Executive Board, I present to you the comprehensive survival kit of navigating through the monotony brought along with these procedures.

Step 1: The Art of Pretend Curiosity

Observe as the Rapporteur applies his mastery in the fine art of nodding attentively while his mind drifts to a place far away. Practice the "serious face" in the mirror with furrowed brows and a mysterious gaze. This will give the illusion that you are highly engrossed in the riveting discussion of resolutions.

Step 2: The Strategic Use of Electronics

While it's highly recommended to appear focused, it's acceptable to scroll through the latest Ambani post-wedding updates under the guise of "note-taking" – much like I suspect the delegate of Oman is doing. Just ensure that your screen brightness is set to low to avoid drawing any unwanted attention.

Step 3: The Well-Timed Bathroom Break

Perfect the art of the well-timed bathroom breaks the same way the delegate of Mexico has. This gives you a moment to yourself and allows you to escape the room's oppressive atmosphere. Remember to keep an eye on the clock to avoid returning just as the discussion reaches its most lacklustre point.

Step 4: The Countdown

Focus on the light at the end of the tunnel. Visualize your post-committee plans like the Director seems to be doing. Whether it's a nap, a binge-worthy show or just sitting quietly in your room knowing four Executive Board members are not present to judge your thoughts - hold onto your vision; it will carry you through this journey.

Step 5: The Head-Nod

Adopt the classic, "I-care-so-deeply-about-economic-sanctions-and-whatever-else-you're-talking-about," head nod. Tilt your head a little, and nod occasionally as if you're processing their very profound insights. Bonus points if you can squint your eyes when certain buzz words are mentioned.

Step 6: The Breathing Exercise

Adopt a series of deep, brooding breaths. Inhale slowly through your nose and exhale slowly through your mouth, the same way you would if Taylor Swift unexpectedly decided to release Reputation (Taylor's Version) at that very moment. Sigh deeply to give off the impression you're trying to recall an urgent piece of information, as you revisit your grocery list.

Step 7: The Erratic Questioner

Prepare a set of vague yet fascinating questions that you can ask at certain points. This will indicate your engagement in the proceedings. Questions like, "Can you elaborate on that point?" or "How does this apply to...?" or, "Can you walk me through your thought process?" work wonders.

Upon following this guide, you'll emerge from the experience unscathed, or at least with your sense of humour intact.

Yours in eternal patience (usually),
Ananya Mishra.

Tweets

Like the name suggests, tweets are basically the same thing we see on Twitter (X), employing the same format. There are two ways to approach this piece:

1. Writing a summary of something that happened in committee that stuck out to you. A simple play-by play.
2. Writing a satirical or sarcastic tweet about something that happens in committee.

The second approach is recommended—this is another piece where you can employ your creative side. The funnier they are, the better you will have done!

You are allowed to create Twitter thread, if you want to follow up on a topic you have previously mention. They are **not** compulsory.

The entire thread will be considered one tweet, i.e., when we ask for 3 tweets, we would want 3 separate tweets which may or may not contain a thread.

✿ Word Limit: 3-5 tweets, each within 280 characters (including spaces).

Editor's Choice

(Crèche) Committee Chaos

Ananya Mishra of the Syrian Arab News Agency takes a gander at the United Nations Security Council proceedings

Tweet 1: The Director tried to play it cool, but dropped the gavel he was aggressively spinning. Spinning skills: 0, Entertainment: 10.

Tweet 2: The Syrian delegate's dramatic eye roll during could be seen from space. Interstellar expressions, truly.

Tweet 3: The Chairperson's glare upon announcing the minimal-table-tapping rule could silence a room. Who needs a gavel when you have those eyes?

Tweet 4: The ISIS delegate's speech was so long, we aged a year listening to it. Congratulations on your grey hair, Security Council.

Tweet 5: The Chinese delegate just gave a speech so monotone, it's now being used as a lullaby in the committee (crèche?).

Narcos: Streaming Now

Devadrita Dam of El Tiempo elaborates on the proceedings of the UNODC

Tweet 1: The Delegates' failed attempts at starting a motion were indeed entertaining but certainly not as much as the growing fondness between the Delegates of Panama and the Delegate of Argentina. We sure hope crises do not leak into this newfound, young love.

Tweet 2: The biggest human rights violation is the one committed by a science student: the decision to take science itself. Pablo Escobar, you've got nothing on us.

Tweet 3: The UNODC's agenda may be to investigate the threat posed by the Medellin Cartel but a bigger threat to the committee was the war brewing between the 'Logi' and the delegates. Evident disgust, a huge power gap and palpable tension promise the next two days of the committee to be enthralling (read: terrifying).



Formal Articles

Beats

Beats usually entail an ***in-depth look of one aspect of the committee proceedings***, such as a session, or any one delegate's speech. To put it simply, you must ***focus your attention on a small portion of the agenda and investigate and expand on it in detail***. It goes beyond merely stating facts; beats must include reflection, analysis, and remark. Use passive voice and only refer to yourself in third person (try to avoid referring to yourself entirely, but if you must, use: "this journalist," "the journalist of xyz news agency,")

Introduction:

Describe your committee to the readers, including the current agenda, significant past occurrences and any other relevant details. Make it interesting, and try to answer all 5Ws: what, where, when, who and why. The reader must be captivated by your introduction.

To sum up, your introduction serves to ***inform the reader about the background*** of what you will be writing about.

Main Body:

Elaborate and expand on one specific issue or topic of debate in committee, along with your opinions and analysis. Instead of trying to quote every speech, make a note of the ones that will add substance and relevance to your article - whether they are in favour of your argument or against.

Essentially, give us your ***interpretation + analysis*** backed by research.

Conclusion:

Your analysis and your arguments should be summarized here. Make sure the ending of your article is as powerful as the introduction.

Your main goal in writing a beat is to basically present your views and convince the reader that you are right.

✧ Word Limit: 350-400 words

☆ Note: You are more than welcome to pick out specific speeches and target those delegates. Just remember—you can mock, throw shade, or be aggressive towards a ***delegate's stance*** but not the delegate personally. A touch of humour, and deliberate belligerence are definitely encouraged, if done correctly.

Editor's Choice

The American Midas Touch

Ananya Mishra of the Syrian Arab News Agency examines the deliberations of the United Nations Security Council

The Security Council assembles on the 2nd of August, to address the rising Syrian conflict focusing specifically on the recent sarin gas attack on the Ghouta region. This heinous occurrence, resulting in 1400 civilian casualties, was initially credited to the Assad regime - wrongfully slandering the Syrian government. The situation has, however, taken a substantial turn as blame is cast upon the United States due to a crisis update stating that the Free Syrian Army carried out the attack with direct aid from the USA.

The United States delegate's speech attempts to deflect blame, by mentioning an accidental misfire due to altered coordinates. If that stands true, it raises serious concerns about the control the US exercises over its distributed weaponry. The delegate of the US is quick to remind the Council of the "atrocities" committed by the Assad regime. However, one mustn't forget the long history of US interventionism in the Middle East. This conflict is the result of the American Midas touch – it comes with a distinct pattern: support a faction, supply arms and then deal with consequences once things spiral. The Syrian delegate, on the other hand, seizes the opportunity to expose the hypocrisy of the United States. The delegate reports numerous instances where U.S. interventions have resulted in multiple civilian casualties.

The Syrian delegate also points out the selective humanitarianism demonstrated by the United States. Promises of aid to the Ghouta region are contradicted by the 1400 casualties and severe harm caused by their military actions. The delegate's assertion that the USA "would never intentionally harm civilians" stands in contrast to several documented incidents where the U.S. is not without its sin. Documented incidents such as the 2009 missile strike in Yemen, which killed 21 children and 14 women, the bombing of hospitals, schools, and residential areas in various conflict zones– such as the Qatar Airstrike on Fallujah, the 2002 Uruzgan Wedding Airstrike, Azizabad Airstrike are proof that US intervention leaves a trail of suffering in its wake.

The United States' resolve to achieve its goals against the Assad regime "at all costs" is a dangerous rhetoric. The "accidental attack" is a clear-cut aide-mémoire of the actual cost of their interventions, i.e. the lives lost, families displaced and torn apart, and communities and property destroyed. As the USA embarks on the pursuit of military dominance with the cover-up of justice, they overlook human devastation. The Security Council must keep in mind the grave implications for the innocent lives caught in the crossfire.

Public Enemy No.1

Devadrita Dam of El Tiempo asks you an imperative question, reflecting on the proceedings of the UNODC

In a rather precedent series of events, the UN Office of Drugs and Crimes continued its deliberation on the spread of narcotrafficking, and in a rather unprecedented turn of events, the Delegates finally acknowledged the exhaustion that is AMUN.

A crisis update demanded the Colombian people understand the true intentions of the Medellin Cartel and look past his seemingly generous acts provided to parts of the society the government had failed to support. The people of Colombia cannot be put to blame for the Medellin Cartel's pervasive rule.

Pablo Escobar's greatest tool was his masterful exploitation of the deep-seated vulnerabilities present in Colombian society to sustain his criminal empire. His abuse of these weaknesses not only expedited his rise to power, but also entrenched his influence over the political, economic and social settings in Colombia.

Colombia in the 1970s and 1980s was characterised by significant socioeconomic inequalities. This disparity between the wealthy elite and the poor was begging to be bridged, and Pablo Escobar seized this opportunity, to use to his own advantage. He built houses, schools and sports facilities in the slums of Medellin, endearing himself to the poor and gaining their loyalty and protection. This façade of philanthropy masked his criminal activities and kept him out of reach of law enforcement. The people of Colombia were deceived, by a master of this practice.

The Delegate of Colombia acknowledged this in his speech, admitting the government of Colombia had a long way to go to earn the trust they had lost. Thus, the Colombian Government was plagued by corruption and political instability. Bribery, manipulation and violence became Escobar's key tools to infiltrate the unstable government. "Plato o plomo" (silver or lead) became his mantra, literally meaning "take a bribe or take a bullet to the head"

In conclusion, Pablo Escobar's tactful penetration into the well-ingrained societal problems prevalent in Colombia cannot be put on the people's shoulders. The question at hand remains: will you follow in Albert Einstein's footsteps or be the smarter of the two and become your country's next Pablo Escobar? The power to choose lies in your hands, your heart the sole ruler of your decision.

Feature

A feature is an article that focuses on human interest. These types of articles convey soft news which invokes a ***strong sense of empathy*** in readers. This piece does not depend on actions- it depends on their consequences and the impact on innocent lives. It involves stories and vivid descriptions, compelling readers to feel a certain way.

You may get creative with the structures- your article can be in the form of intercepted letters, diary entries, telephone conversations, anything. Keep your freeze dates in mind, for features, as these will decide the availability of resources.

The tone of your piece should be line with your agenda, and the piece you've chosen to write. For example, if you are writing as a 7-year-old, the letter should reflect the writing abilities of one.

You may use ***linguistic fillers*** to add authenticity to your piece, but they must be in ***italics and their meanings are to be written in brackets***. Use your by-line to give some context or a background. While this is a creative piece, research is still an integral constituent of it. You must ***understand your agenda properly*** to be able to write a feature correctly.

Feature articles rely solely on human nature, on our ability to feel. Imagery is your best friend in this article, and the more vivid the picture painted through words, the more it resonates with the readers, grappling their attention.

NOTE: If you can make us cry, you've absolutely aced it.

Editor's Choice

Storybooks/Fictional Heroes

Ananya Mishra of the Syrian Arab News Agency intercepts a letter

A letter from a 14-year-old daughter of a victim of the ISIS ICBM attacks addressed to an unknown American pen pal, was intercepted.

-

i tried to believe that the noises of gunfire were thunder. mama once said they were fireworks—a gift for my birthday. the house is silent today, except for the creaks of the floorboard beneath me and i fear this may be the last letter i ever pen down. i have not seen anybody in a long time and i struggle to remember the sun's warmth against my face.

i remember when syria was more than just a warzone listed on a map. my laughter used to mingle with the calls of street vendors as i raced through the markets which are now soundless and boarded-up. since mama left for nawa, nobody has been home in weeks and the stench of smoke has taken all colour from the world. the sky is a canvas of fire.

each evening, i look through my window to see soldiers patrolling the streets. they are not like the conquerors in our storybooks, they are men with battered faces and hollow eyes. they do not see us; they see what is left of our city. i recall a tale papa used to tell — of the bird that soared high above, feasting on the ripe fruits of the sky, while the worms below fought for scraps of earth. the bird's song was a lullaby to those who could not see beyond their secluded burrows. it seems fitting now, as i watch the world turn a blind eye to the suffering that spreads like ink beneath the affluent feet of those who have never known want.

the world spins on a cruel axis. each drop of blood lost has added to the riches of the whites who sit in distant, gilded towers. your nation discusses the fate of ours as if we are figures on a spreadsheet. the scale is weighted against us. syria is but a smudge on their polished floors - a stain they wipe off with a careless sweep. i wonder if their dreams taste like the bitterness we are left to swallow.

please do not forget me, sadiqi (my friend). please remember the girl who danced in the rain and dreamt of becoming a doctor. remember those who have been broken by this war. today feels like the final chapter of our favourite book, slowly twisting into a nightmare.

yours lovingly,
salem.

Khuda Hafiz,

Ziad

Devadrita Dam unearths how even the worst choices are sometimes made from a pure heart

A series of letters found on one of the hijackers aboard the United Airlines Flight 175, written but never posted.

June, 2000

My dearest Hooriyah,

I have reached Florida today. My training begins tomorrow. I do not know when I will see you again, I do not know if I will ever see you again.

Yours,

Ziad.

February, 2001

My khayesta (beautiful) Hooriyah,

It has been so long since I have heard your laugh, za ta der yadawom (I miss you very much). How is the baby? Does she look like me? Does it pain you to see my face in hers? Or does she look just like you? That would be best I suppose, Allah pak somra khokoli stergi darkari di (Allah has blessed you with beautiful eyes).

Things are going well here my love, our nation would be proud. I hope you are too. Tell my angel about her Abba (father), tell her I did this for her.

Yours,

Ziad

Ziad left his wife, pregnant at the time with the rest of the forces of al-Qaeda, in the middle of the night. Ziad's wife, Hooriyah, gave birth on her own, amidst the chaos of the terrorist group.

September 11, 2001

My darling Hooriyah,

Today is the day. Today I must complete what I have come here to do, what I had to do to keep you and our baby safe. You may never know why I left, I did not dare to tell you why. Maybe you will know soon.

What good is a husband if he cannot take a beating for his wife? What is the purpose of a father, if not to protect his child? I was useless, in the months before I left, I did nothing. I let myself stand by and watch, only to cry myself to sleep. How could I allow our child to enter that cruel world? I would not be able to live with myself. I thought leaving would make it better, better for you, for our child and easier for me. But it didn't, khayesta jaan (beautiful darling), I am ridden with guilt. Even sleep does not bring me peace, my thoughts are haunted by what our life could have been and I perish slowly thinking of how you must be.

Today I know I will not see you again, I will never hear the sound of your laughter. I will be a father who has never seen his daughter. It pains me, but it is how it must be. Allah has written this destiny for me and I shall see it fulfilled. You will hate when you know what you hitherto have not. I will take a father away from his daughter, a husband from his wife, friends from friends. It does not pain me for it is a small price to pay to guarantee you live well.

I will wait for Yawm ad- Din (The Day of Judgement) and beg Allah to grant me Jinnah (heaven), so that I may see you again and then, I will beg for your forgiveness.

Astafirughullah, astaghfirullah (I seek forgiveness in God), astaghfir-hooriyah.

Tar bio leedo (Until we meet again),

Ziad.

Opinion Editorial

An opinion editorial is your commanding article as a journalist. It requires intense and in-depth research regarding the agenda of the committee you're going to be reporting on. They might seem similar to a beat; however, on a second glance, you will realize that beats are more focused upon specific speeches or portions of the committee proceedings, while opinion editorials are focused upon the agenda at large. It is your duty as a journalist to convince the reader of your opinion (which is based on your newspaper's allotment bias).

An op-ed is constructed to convince the reader to form an opinion for or against a country, a policy, something or someone. Your goal with the article is to convince your reader that your newspaper agency's opinion is the best possible opinion out there. You have to present your arguments and weave your article in a manner that displays your capabilities and abilities as a journalist. Please ensure, before writing this article, that you have developed a deep understanding of the agenda. Research as much as the internet allows, and understand what biases and fallacies are occurring under it.

You MUST adhere to the freeze date of the agenda. You can ask an EB member what the freeze date is if you're unsure. You can't present any research beyond the freeze date. If the freeze date is 1st August 2025, you cannot provide any information beyond that date. It should be relevant only to what happened before the date.

Give a background of the committee proceedings so that the reader understands the context behind your words. Ensure that you are aware of your news agency's bias completely, since going against it will lead to extreme downmarking. Opinion editorials can seem difficult to write; however, spending sufficient time on your research will prove immensely beneficial to you.

✳ Word Limit: 500-600 words

Structure: Follow the structure of an inverted funnel and go from general to specific. There aren't any stylistic restrictions besides citing your source for any knowledge. Remember that this is a formal article.

In case the agenda is the Syrian War Crisis and your allocated stance is support for Syria and disdain towards the United States, you can frame your article in a way that undermines and discourages the behaviour of the United States while showing sympathy/support for Syria.

"The United States may bellow 'Long Live America,' but with the history of their blunders regarding interference, it's worth questioning whether the country's longevity is as secure as their tagline suggests. While the USA anxiously holds its breath over the potential threat that ISIS's nuclear armaments may pose towards their civilians, it is interesting to note how quick they are in reducing Syria's sufferings to white noise and feel at ease whilst attacking them using lethal compounds. The Syrian War has brought into bold relief just how easily crises are overshadowed by selective outrage and hypocrisy that undermine genuine efforts toward global diplomacy."

Editor's Choice

Pot, Kettle & Sarin Gas

Ananya Mishra of the Syrian Arab News Agency observes the United Nations Security Council proceedings

In August of 2013, the already complex and conflicting Syrian Civil War witnessed an escalation with the sarin gas attack in Ghouta which killed around 1400 people. The very first finger pointed was at the Assad regime, however, this event took a turn once evidence emerged suggesting that the attack occurred at the hands of Free Syrian Army with direct support from the USA. The United States may bellow 'Long Live America,' but with the history of their blunders regarding interference, it's worth questioning whether the country's longevity is as secure as their tagline suggests.

While the USA anxiously holds its breath over the potential threat that ISIS's nuclear armaments may pose towards their civilians, it is interesting to note how quick they are in reducing Syria's sufferings to white noise and feel at ease whilst attacking them using lethal compounds. The Syrian War has brought into bold relief just how easily crises are overshadowed by selective outrage and hypocrisy that undermine genuine efforts toward global diplomacy.

The United States has been notably loud and vigorous in its condemnation of Syria for violations of the Geneva Convention, specifically for using sarin gas. However, the tables have turned on the United States once the blame shifted onto them. France's call to deploy a worldwide peace-keeping force does not detract from their previous statement where they openly stated their support for the arming of ISIS on "humanitarian" grounds. This stance overlooks the indulgence of ISIS in displacing and murdering civilians; the rise of ISIS as a self-proclaimed nuclear power is a matter of grave concern. Considering their barbaric practices on the soil of Iraq, vicious attack on the Yazidis and jihadist philosophies, their past record raises a significant question regarding their reliability about not deploying previously mentioned weapons. The Western nations, that have time and again critiqued the Assad regime for its oppressive nature, paradoxically indulge in indiscriminate deployment of ICBMs and other forms of military aggression resulting in further casualties.

The Assad regime has provided stability in fractured Syrian regions and has offered protection to minority sects and religions, including Alawites, Christians, and Kurds. Assad's efforts in maintaining Syrian sovereignty while preventing the nation from falling into anarchy simultaneously must not go unnoticed. The construction of 18,000 mosques and 220 Sharia schools speaks to his commitment to religious and educational infrastructure. The post-Gaddafi mayhem in Libya, the sectarian strife in Iraq after the topping of Saddam Hussein's regime and the Taliban's ascendance after the Soviet withdrawal from Afghanistan are all pristine examples of the perils of regime change without a stabilization blueprint - which the rebels do not offer.

The Sykes-Picot Agreement, framed during World War I, divided the Middle Eastern territories of the Ottoman Empire into spheres of influence between Britain and France without any consideration of the diversified ethnic and religious structure in the region. This in itself set the stage for arbitrary national boundaries which disregarded previous sectarian divisions. After Syria's independence in 1946, there were several coups which sent the religious tensions flaming. The Assad regime emerged as a viable central control that attempted to manage these deep-seated divisions and as a result, formally kept Syria from spiralling into greater chaos.

The sanctimonies of these nations now stand openly, and painfully, obvious. While the U.S. continues to denounce Assad for the looming threat of FOAB bombs against the U.S. in retaliation against potential American action through Lebanon, attention must be drawn that this act has been driven by the thesis of vengeance - an "eye for an eye" response. The Assad regime brought much-needed stability to a fragmented country, protected minorities while maintaining order in a region marred by harsh injustice.

The Final Showdown

Devadrita Dam of El Tiempo on the proceedings of the UNODC

Escobar's influence extends beyond his illicit operations. His approach to power, combining philanthropy with bone-shattering terror, has garnered both fear and loyalty from the masses. This support is further multiplied because of the support he lends to the poor. He has earned the title of 'Robin Hood' by providing infrastructure, housing and financial aid to those in need. However, his violent methods, including assassination, bribery, and intimidation paint a rather gory picture of his reign.

The Delegate of Mexico, now deemed the President brought this to the attention of the Colombian President, questioning their capabilities to stop Pablo Escobar. The President of Colombia made a note-worthy reply, stating it takes a very authoritative government to be able to implement significant and successful measures against the Medellin Cartel and Pablo.

Contrary to the Mexican President's belief, the Colombian Government has made valiant efforts to tackle this problem. The government's multifaceted efforts to curb narcotrafficking include attempts at legal reform, increased police and military operations and cooperation across its borders, in particular with the United States of America. This started with US President, Richard Nixon's declaration of drugs as "public enemy number 1" which was followed by increased federal funding for drug-control agencies and drug-treatment efforts. With the support of the United States of America, the Colombian Government has demonstrated a resolute stance against narcotrafficking and dedication to restoring peace, order and justice within its country.

Additionally, the Government recognises the reason for the public's unwavering support of Pablo Escobar. The relief he provided to the poor was one the government had previously failed to provide, and now works to bridge the disparities Pablo exploited. By investing in infrastructure, education and poverty alleviation, the Government seeks to loosen the chokehold that the Medellin Cartel, with Pablo Escobar at the helm, had on its people while simultaneously strengthening the nation's resilience.

While other countries may find the Colombian Government's measure insufficient, they fail to realise the fragile unity and integrity Pablo Escobar broke within the people of Colombia. The Government's main focus remains to regain the public's trust and have their support in curbing drug trafficking and stopping the Medellin Cartel's ubiquitous reign in their country. At the end of the day, a nation is nothing without its people and the Colombian Government recognises this.

The administration's efforts represent a determined and courageous stand against narcotrafficking and Pablo Escobar—one of the most formidable threats the nation has ever faced. The government's every effort, whether it be within its own borders, or the alliances formed outside, is a testament to its commitment to peace and justice. The journey to reclaim its integrity is sure to be an arduous one but with continued support from its allies in the US, and determination, there is hope for Colombia to be freed from the scourge of narco-trafficking.

Rest assured, fellow Colombians, your government has got your back.

News Report

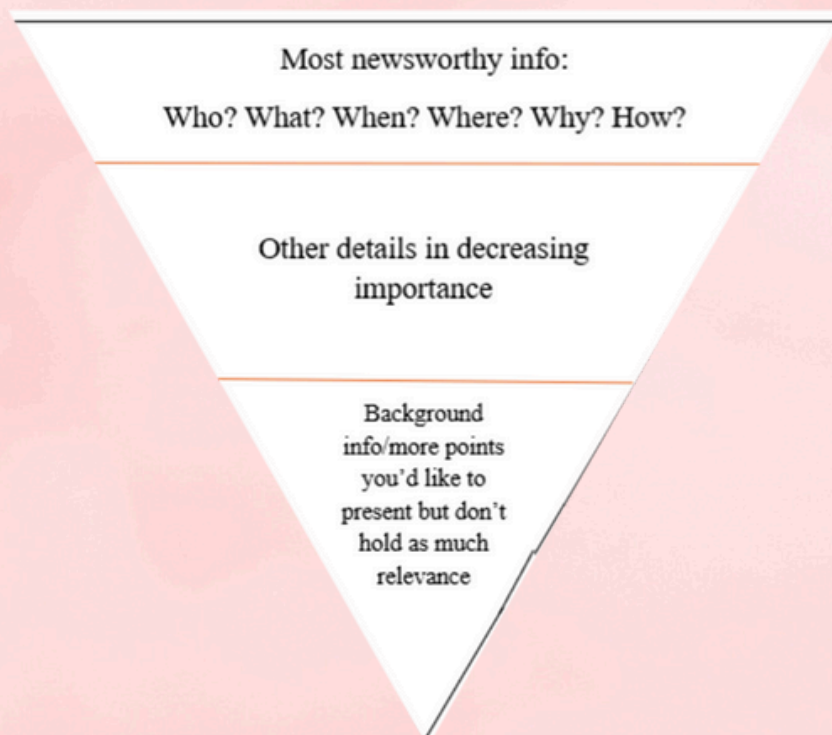
News reports, when reduced to their structure are monotonous to say the least.

In its essence, a news report is a summary, of all relevant information on events that occurred that day. These are very objective pieces, and although no opinions or analyses are entertained, you are still required to highlight your media house's bias. This can be done by presenting information favourably to the readers.

In a piece like this, where opinion is not regarded, you must know where to redirect the lens. A news report is a play-by-play which must be done tastefully. Know which voices to amplify, and which ones to dampen.

Keep in mind, ***any sort of analyses and opinion must NOT be presented.***

Style & Structure: Write in passive voice. You should **not** be *able* to refer to yourself anywhere in the article, (remember if you do: do not use personal pronouns.) A news report is return strictly in ***past tense*** and requires extensive observation during committee. Start your article with a hard lead (answer the 5W's: Who? What? When? Where? Why? How?) and then present information in order of decreasing importance.



✿ **Word Limit:** 350 - 400 words

★ **IMPORTANT:** Since we did not get a chance to cover them during stay backs, we are making them optional. However, if submitted, they will be marked. You are encouraged to do so.

Editor's Choice

Money, Money, Money

Devadrita Dam of El Tiempo throws light on the proceedings of the UNODC

On this day, Iran attempted to invade Kuwait only to be repulsed by the USA. On this day, in World War II, a Japanese destroyer sank a US Navy torpedo boat commanded by John F. Kennedy. And on this day, 2nd August 2024, the United Nations Office of Drugs and Crime convened to discuss the Medellin Cartel's increasing power and implications for international security. The hostility in the Biology Lab was almost tangible, overlapping voices and disdainful eyes, paint a perfect picture of how the ODC appeared.

The UNODC's most competent delegates squared off in a 4 v 4, split into 2 blocs- the 'Speedophiles' and the 'Godfathers'. The former consisting of Ecuador, Peru and Panama and the latter of Mexico, Colombia and the USA.

While Colombia and Mexico begged to set aside "petty" problems and focus on international collaboration to combat the rising drug crisis, Ecuador's biggest concern was how it's supposed request for financial aid had gone unanswered. Both Colombia and Mexico explained that through their directive, 'Operation Cooperation,' they had provided what Ecuador had asked for—data. Ecuador, angered by Colombia's use of the word "petty," remained unsatisfied, demanding further explanation, and was backed by Peru.

The Colombian Delegate clarified that Colombia was in no position to provide financial aid and had asked the US for assistance themselves.

UNODC, perfectly encapsulated what global politics emulates, while bickering back and forth about the financial aid. Not even the Director's call for a consensus was enough to bring this argument to an end.

The rest of the delegates remained apathetic, tired and uninterested throughout. One would think that getting reprimanded for lack of participation would jog the sleepy delegates' attention to the committee, but again, the Executive Board remained powerless; highlighting the strength of 'Gen-Z' brought to the forefront of world politics.

This journalist begs to ask whether there is even a future to safeguard if it lies in those hands.

Hero to All, Villain to None

Ananya Mishra of the Syrian Arab News Agency reports on the destructive nature of the debates of the United Nations Security Council

The United Nations Security Council gathered for a crucial debate on the Syrian quagmire and the possibility of international intervention. The session, held at 11:35 a.m. on Friday, in the Robotics Lab of the Shri Ram School, centred around a proposal by the United States for escalating military action against Syria and the Syrian government's unyielding defence of its national sovereignty.

A grim portrait of the 100,000 civilians lost, treaties broken, and human rights trampled under the iron heels of ISIS was drawn by the Syrian delegate. He stood at the heart of all webs of alliances and hostilities formed. A rare moment of truthfulness was shown by the ISIS delegate when he accused the United States of consistently engaging in civilian torture, and then deflecting the charges. Iran, the land of the Shia Muslims, openly backed Assad - viewing ISIS's drafting of only Sunni Muslims in their army as a personal attack on their faith.

Norway, ever so eloquent, had only one thing to say – that he was not in favour of the SFF nuclear bombs being produced by ISIS. Egypt - while facing significant human rights criticisms such as the overthrow of a democratically elected government, excessive force used by security personnel resulting in carnages and torture, freedom of expression and press - chose to critique the Assad regime on their "atrocious acts against their own citizens."

Iran righteously stated that Assad has been unfairly portrayed as a villain and is, in fact, a hero to many. In typical fashion, the United States made it a point to mention its disregard for the opinions of the Russian and Spanish people. France, USA, and the United Kingdom collectively diagnosed Syria with a severe case of humanitarian crisis. However, this critique rings hollow given their own histories of humanitarian laws.

When Syria pointed out ISIS's claim that their bombs were not intended for deployment, the United States offered an uncommon moment of frankness, citing from the crisis update the possibility of these weapons being used against Syria, directly contradicting ISIS's statement. Contrarily, the United Kingdom, seemingly out of arguments, resorted to questioning whether toothpaste ingredients in Syria could be considered as chemical weapons.

After a fruitful session, the state of the Security Council persists – the Syrian War Crisis serves as an alarming challenge with multiple opposing viewpoints. Peace remains aloof.

[illegible]

Position Paper

A position paper is a culmination of all your research for your news agency. This is essentially where the research for your news agency begins. It will allow you to grasp your news agency's bias and form of reporting. Please ensure that you include all of the following points in the articles that you write, but feel free to go beyond these, particularly if you're finding it a little difficult to find any information on a particular prompt.

1. Funding: Where is the agency's money coming from? Is it state-funded, owned by corporate stakeholders or do they get revenue from subscriptions and advertisements? Are there industrialists involved? Are they flourishing financially or facing some sort of a budget crunch?

Agencies most often reflect the views of their funders. State funding often leads to a pro-government stance and ownership of influential individuals can shape some sort of bias as well.

2. Chief Editor: Try to examine the editor's personal and professional background. Have they been involved in any sort of political resistance, have they faced exile? Do their opinion-editorials reveal anything about them? Have they rebranded the agency in any way? Are they generally praised or criticized for the type of articles they write?

Understanding the mindset of the editor will allow you to somewhat replicate how they would frame the news.

3. Lawsuits and controversies are your closest companions. Track down any legal battles that the agency might have faced. Any backlash or public scandals that they've been involved in offer insight into tendencies and biases that the agency has. This sort of drama is useful- it shows cracks in credibility and public support.

4. Impact and Legacy refers to the meaningful change that the agency has contributed to. It could be any sort of influence they've extended on the general population or it could be something that they pride themselves on - political influence, crisp reporting, breakthroughs while investigating a particular case etc.

5. Demographics: Who is your agency's main audience and demographic? What age, class, and political orientation are they catering to? What is the main readership?

6. What is **the relationship between the region that will be reading your work and the region where the crisis is?** Is it the same region? How can you adapt the information to make it relevant? Is there anything from the past you should highlight or gloss over? Has anyone ever been blacklisted? Compare the articles written by your agency to those written by Reuters (international outlet) on the same matter.

7. Unless your agency has been shut down, they will be having **social media platforms**. Check their activity on those platforms (Instagram, Facebook, Youtube etc.). What does it look like, who do they follow? Are they followed by any important institutions or people? What could it imply?

8. Freedom of the Press: How much freedom does the media have in the country in which your agency operates? Is there any sort of press intimidation, propaganda or even censorship laws?

9. Staffing: Does your agency have enough resources when it comes to staff? Is it because of budget cuts, legal battles or any crackdowns from the government?

✳️Word Limit: 400-500 words

Please note that this article is your blueprint. Before the final conference, it will make you aware of your bias and the way you need to write your articles.

Editor's Choice

SANA-tized Truths

Ananya Mishra explores the nooks and crannies of the Syrian Arab News Agency

Established in 1965, the Syrian Arab News Agency (SANA) stands as Syria's national and official news outlet, operating under the Ministry of Information with its headquarters in Damascus. As the heart of Syrian print media and a state-run entity, its content is heavily influenced by the government's ideologies due to its reliance on state funding. SANA occupies offices in over a dozen countries and employs hundreds of staffers to supply news copies to newspapers, Syrian Arab Radio and Television.

The Editor-in-Chief's identity at SANA remains unclear, with Ahmad Dawa listed as Director-General since April 20, 2011. Despite facing criticism for state-controlled media, Dawa has overseen noteworthy achievements, including the archiving of nearly 1,000,000 documents and over 200,000 images in the past five years.

SANA's chief incentive has been sanitizing tragic events to serve the interests of the Syrian regime. They have been accused of repressing civilian suffering, glorifying government-led massacres and demonizing opposition groups - all of which points to SANA acting as a mouthpiece for the government's narrative. For instance, following the devastating chemical attack by Assad's government in Ghouta in August 2013, which resulted in fatalities ranging from 281 to 1,729, SANA painted the scene as the government's triumph over extremism.

SANA primarily serves Syrian citizens and governmental officials seeking news regarding national affairs. For international or unbiased news outlets, it provides a distinction to the opposition's accounts by offering the government's perspective. SANA has blacklisted journalists disapproving of the Syrian government, including Mazem Darwish and Raed Fares, whose work they have either discredited or ignored.

Reuters and SANA present strongly contrasting views on the Assad regime's chemical weapon activities. While Reuters adheres to objectivity while discussing the sarin attack in Damascus, SANA tends to portray the Assad regime as compliant with humanitarian law and international regulations. For example, Reuters discussed allegations of the Syrian government secretly maintaining chemical weapons after the Sarin attack whilst SANA emphasized the government's positive developments while ignoring all criticism. SANA has harshly critiqued Syria's adversaries, with examples like the USA's alleged oil looting in the Jazira region and Israel's violation of humanitarian laws in Gaza.

SANA has been instrumental in shaping public perception by boosting the Assad regime's image domestically and internationally. Its biggest achievement is propagating the government's perspective by presenting the opposition as terrorists. SANA's social media pages underline government initiatives, provide updates on weather, sports, and general news, and follow the Syrian Presidency and the First Lady, Asma al-Assad. Press and media freedom in Syria is heavily constrained, with the government exerting control over news agencies including SANA. The government mandates SANA's alignment with governmental standpoints which leaves no room for independent journalism.

SANA has established partnerships with multiple news agencies, which includes co-founding Federation of Arab News Agencies, the Alliance of Mediterranean News Agencies and membership of the Organization of Asia-Pacific News Agencies. SANA's coverage of the Syrian Civil War involves framing the Civil War through a lens that encompasses terrorism as the main purpose of the opposition parties. SANA's unwavering stance on the war has consequently led to their polarized reputation in Syria as well as internationally.

Que Empiecen Los Juegos

Devadrita Dam of El Tiempo gives you a detailed account of the esteemed news agency

El Tiempo, one of Colombia's most prominent newspapers and with the largest readership, was founded in 1911 by Alfonso Villegas Restrepo. A mere 2 years later, it was purchased by Alfonso's brother-in-law, Eduardo Santo Montejo. Eduardo was a significant figure in Colombian history, having served as Governor of Santander, Minister of Foreign Affairs, and, to top it all off, President of Colombia. Today, nearly 86% of El Tiempo is owned by Luis Carlos Sarmiento Angulo, who originally obtained ownership in 2012 and is now, one of Colombia's wealthiest men.

A Spanish daily, it is owned by Casa Editorial El Tiempo (CEET), which is a publishing company owned by Grupo Aval. The publishing house was historically associated with the Santos family, one of the most important Colombian political elites, to which the former president of Colombia, Juan Manuel Santos, belongs. Over the years, its political orientation has been considered centrist to centre-right.

Its support of traditional political structures present in Colombia is no secret. This is reflected in its editorial stance, which showcases bias towards moderate and conservative takes on economic and social issues. However, El Tiempo's success can be attributed to the newspaper's journalistic integrity and efforts to cover pieces from different perspectives.

The mastermind behind the success of 'El Tiempo' is a prominent figure in Colombian journalism, Andrés Mompotes. Mompotes has played a key role in maintaining the newspaper's status as one of Colombia's finest, leading projects like introducing the first podcast for the newspaper and creating the Multimedia Journalism School. His work as a journalist has collected laurels as prestigious as those of Simón Bolívar and the CPB.

A newspaper like 'El Tiempo' is not renowned only for its informative editorials and political pieces; it has also been involved in several controversies over the years. In its earlier years, it was owned by the Santos family, a lineage that includes several influential political figures like Eduardo Santos Montejo and Juan Manuel Santos, both former presidents of Colombia. This connection often gave rise to scrutiny due to political conflicts of interest between journalism and politics. Luis Carlos Sarmiento's ownership also brought forth many concerns about similar conflicts, owing to Sarmiento's vast business empire and close ties to various political figures. Additionally, he has been linked to several controversies regarding alleged money laundering for notorious drug cartels in the 1980s. One of the most significant is his company, Grupo Aval's, connection to the Odebrecht scandal, one of the largest corruption cases documented in recent Latin American history. Grupo Aval and its subsidiary were implicated in a bribery case related to the Ruta de Sol project.

Additionally, in the 1980s, the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration discovered that Banco de Bogota, another one of its subsidiaries, was laundering money for the Medellín Cartel. Though neither Sarmiento nor his family members were directly charged, their companies faced legal and financial repercussions over the following years. Interestingly, the Medellín Cartel was founded by none other than Pablo Escobar, the UNODC's PEN1.

GTKYEB

GTKYEB is the classic AMUN tradition that is followed every year - the GTKYEB profiles are versatile pre-conference articles. They introduce the Executive Board prior to the Final Conference. It essentially aims to capture the story, spirit and standout moments of the Executive Board in an engaging format of writing.

Your article will be featured in the official newsletter, read by delegates and cherished by all members of the Executive Board long after the event concludes. These profiles are not formal introductions, they're time capsules. As a journalist, you need to objectively and in a respectful manner, highlight the aspects of the assigned Executive Board member that you find important, striking a balance between MUN and their personality beyond the gavel.

You will be required to build your piece by interviewing the EB member through a medium of their choice and convenience. You can speak to their friends, teachers or even delegates from their committee to paint a well-rounded portrait. Avoid speculation - you can include personal observations, but they need to be grounded in some evidence.

All Executive Board members look forward to being interviewed and reading these articles so please ensure that you pay due attention to this article.

✧ Word Limit: 300-500 words.

Style & Structure: Write about the person using third person pronouns, however, the writing needs to be accessible, professional and you have full creative autonomy. Slight deviations from grammatical norms can be allowed, if they truly add to the voice of the piece - but be careful about this. Minor stylization is alright; you can play around with the tone as well - but nothing too extreme! Again, this goes in the official newsletter.

By-line: Mention the EB member's position in the byline, not their name.

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Sample Questions:

To the Executive Board Member:

- 1) What's your biggest pre-conference ritual, or a superstition you follow?
- 2) When you're stressed, what's your go-to-comfort food?
- 3) If you had to live inside a movie for a week, what would it be?
- 4) What is the most memorable moment you've had in MUN so far?
- 5) If your MUN journey had a title, what would it be?

To a Friend/Peer/Delegate:

- 1) What's something only people close to them would know?
- 2) If they were a genre of music, what genre would they be & why?
- 3) What's their vibe in 3 emojis?
- 4) What's one thing you admire about them?
- 5) What's a moment or memory with them you hold close to heart?

Editor's Choice

Diplomacy Nine-Nine, Hitler & Predators

Ananya Mishra profiles the AMUN Secretary General

Case Summary: File-AMUN-2024-Therapist-001 — Clinical Psychologist, Ananya Mishra analyzes the Secretary-General's experiences at AMUN conferences based on confidential therapeutic sessions with Anvi Kumar. Unauthorized access is strictly prohibited and may violate professional ethics and confidentiality agreements.

Anvi's top pick for this year's agendas is the UN Office of Drugs and Crime's focus on combatting the Medellín Cartel, closely followed by the FIA's agenda. If her friends had to title a book about her, Pierra would go with "Anvi's World (We're All Side Characters)." Anvi's perspective on whether water is wet is baffling: she believes the answer lies in the temperature—warm water is wet, while cold water is not. Anvi chose Hitler as the historical figure she would invite to speak at the final conference, controversially commenting, "You just have to be like him sometimes," in reference to his profound gaslighting of Europe. She imagines he would deliver a message revolving around how one's desire for their goals reflects their determination to pursue them. If she had to have a rap battle against an EB member, she would choose Anadya, Rapporteur of UNODC.

When asked about a show worth binge-watching, she named "Brooklyn Nine-Nine", adding that she also enjoyed Outer Banks. Supposing she could live in any era of history, she would face a three-way split: World War II for the thrill of the Jewish Exodus, the Renaissance for its inquisitive spirit, flourishing art and literature, and 'Bridgerton'-esque fashion, and the 2000s with their skinny jeans and concealer-on-lips trend. Anvi's AMUN standout outfit so far has been an all-black attire - trousers paired with a matching coat and spaghetti top. Standing tall at 5'10', she defies expectations by adding black heels to her look. If not for Anvi's current role, she would have chosen to chair a crisis committee like the UNSC. When asked about a memorable anecdote, Kiya recalled filming a Room Tour after she visited the Harry Potter World, where Anvi and her guessed jellybean flavours, talked in accents and ended up wrestling on the bed. Aayaan fondly reminisced about his graduation performance with Anvi, where despite initial clumsiness, their practice prevailed, resulting in a captivating memoir. If she were to receive titles resembling those in a high-school yearbook, her friend Dhun would award her "Most Likely to Turn a Moment of Silence into a Monologue." Anvi would opt for the Megalodon shark as her creature companion — the most dominant predator of its time. She believes that befriending it would mean that her "opps are done for."

Anvi's ideal dinner with three guests, alive or dead, would include Michelle Obama, whose work fascinates her, the inspiring Serena Williams, and her late grandfather. If Anvi could travel back in time to advise her freshman self, she would warn herself against borderline bullying a boy to mask romantic feelings. Her favourite school lunch is easily Rajma Chawal but if she had to savour one cuisine for the rest of her life, she would indulge in Asian dishes, like Sushi and Thai curry. If Anvi were to describe her AMUN experience in three emojis, she would choose the mind-blown one to express her approval for the agendas, the skull for the "out of pocket delegates" and a heart because since 6th grade she knew this is where she wanted to be.

Crazy, Stupid, Love (ft. Murder & Taylor Swift)

Devadrita Dam profiles the Head of Journalism

After attending the AMUN orientation, much to her delight (and her mother's dismay), Devina knew, "without a second thought," which committee she would opt for: UNCA's Journalism. And so the story goes...

Having first signed up for MUN because of her mother's adamance to enhance her public speaking skills, Devina was never one to "stand up in front of a room full of people and tell them that they were wrong," rather someone who preferred to hide behind her words (spoiler alert: she still does). She recalls her first AMUN experience as a whole bunch of "huh?", admitting she had no clue what MUN was and even less about what Journalism was "for an alarmingly large part" of her first year. Armed with her fancy clothes and laptop, she was still "clued out" when final conference came around but went on to win an award the next day, and suddenly, MUN became a "huge part" of who she was and still is. Her thoughts quickly changed from "What am I supposed to do?" to "I love what I'm supposed to do."

Devina Prashanth, Head of Journalism, may appear intimidating at first glance, as she did to her friends Ayati and Anoushka. Still, both admitted to her being a big "softie" underneath her tough exterior. So much so that Anoushka imagines Devina as someone living in the middle of the woods (if she could) in a small cabin where she would write stories and poetry with "a quilled pen on thin sheet parchments by candlelight." While her friend believes Devina's fictional world to be tranquil and sedate, Devina thinks her real life as a movie would more closely resemble the "most dramatic drama to ever exist." Filled with a little too many Taylor Swift references, it would be obnoxious, hilarious, sad, and joyful, with at least one murder in it (note to the delegates: do not get on her bad side) because of her love for true crime and forensic science investigations. Mindy Kaling was her immediate answer when asked to cast someone to play her role. "Farfetched, I know," she said, "but I love her as a comedian, and I think she'd be perfect."

Speaking of movies, Devina relates the most to Jake Peralta (from Brooklyn Nine-Nine, for the amateurs) because of their shared desire for their lives to be like movies. She says she wants to "find drama in almost everything" and to pretend she's actually in a movie. But no, Die Hard would not be her movie of choice.

Ever the Swiftie, the song she would choose to be the soundtrack of her life is The Archer by Taylor Swift. "The lyrics of the song encapsulate what my life has been like till now," she explained, "and the composition of the song just hits different."

When asked to share her favourite MUN memory, she recalled her first pre-conference stay back. While her head of journalism detailed the finer points of Final Conference, the only thoughts running through Devina's mind were, "What exactly is Final Conference?". So she did what anyone must do—she asked her head exactly that. Though she was given, "in hindsight," one of the best possible explanations, Devina was left as clueless as before, if not more. Instead of letting her know that she was still unsure, in true Ramite spirit, she went to get herself a samosa. What was a mighty stranger to 14-year-old Devina—two years later, became something she feels so "weirdly at home" at that she would not switch her role for the world, "I would stay right where I am."

To my fellow journalists in the trenches, as final conference approaches, it will do us well to keep Devina's words in mind: "Ask me all your stupid questions, no matter how many. Be confident, go down that rabbit hole of research, have fun, and make memories because you can never have too many."

Press Conference

A press conference is a session in which you, as a journalist, question the delegate on the basis of committee proceedings and they must provide an answer. You might have observed in committee proceedings how delegates raise Points of Information (POIs) to ask the other delegates questions based upon their stances. Through the press conference, journalists do the same. Press conferences make the concerned delegates re-evaluate and reflect on their progress throughout the conference.

An exceptionally skilled delegate could potentially disrupt matters for the delegates, which is a positive here. Here lies your chance to bring the focus on your voice and make an impression on the committee as an outside observer, constrained solely by your bias (this does NOT apply to the Mock Press Conference). An unsatisfactory answer from a delegate who is aligned with your bias will not work favourably for you, no matter how good the question. Questions posed during the press conference may be directed to a single delegate, or they may be opened to the floor, where any committee member can respond.

The questions are intended to be serious. You are supposed to question the delegates and expose any problems you see with the progress made by them till the press conference. You may prepare counter-arguments for them when they stand by their infallible (or so they think) plans. Ask questions which would halt the committee proceedings, undermine the confidence of the delegates and jeopardize the very fabric which holds the committee together.

Since it is a formal event, your behaviour should be appropriate. There should be no usage of offensive words or signs, make sure your conduct is prim and proper. Inquiries should pertain ONLY to the committee activities.

Questions can be asked based on statements made by delegates (ensure that you quote them directly). However, questions cannot be posed on the basis of statements made by delegates during the unmoderated caucuses.

Brownie points will be awarded according to the influence you generate in the committee through the nature of questions asked and the contentious responses you elicit.



Photography

Introduction

This committee offers a unique platform for those driven by the desire to create, express, and capture the world through their lens. Be it global news, lifestyle stories, or current events, every photographer brings a distinctive perspective that evokes a spectrum of emotions in their audience.

Photographers represent the art of real-time creativity, using visual media to tell compelling stories. A single photograph has the power to do more than just document an event; it can transport viewers back to the emotions, sounds, and sensations of a moment. A great photographer possesses the ability to transform both ordinary and extraordinary scenes into profound interpretations, delivering beauty and meaning through their work.

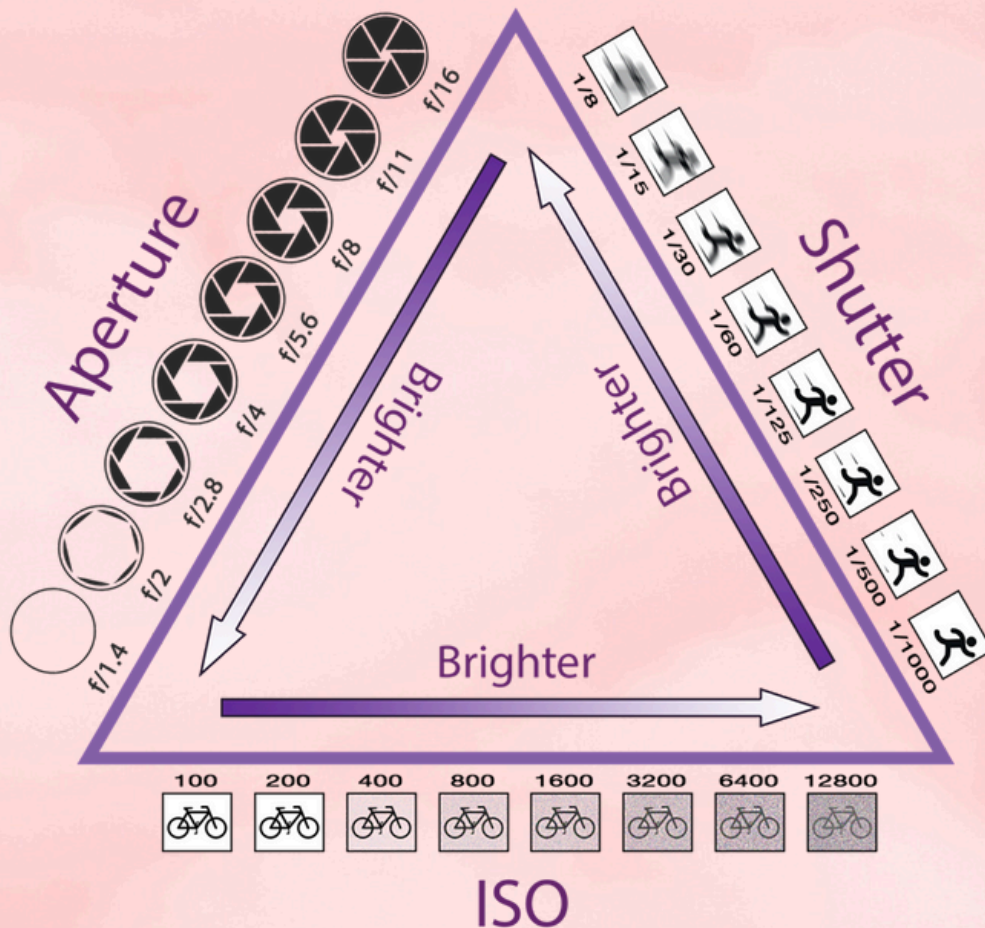
At AMUN, photographers will be embedded in various conventional committees, tasked with documenting key moments and expressions while spotlighting pressing issues, including the challenges faced by freedom of the press. Through their lenses, they will craft narratives that resonate with audiences, combining artistry with journalism.

Participants will be assessed not only on their ability to compose and capture impactful images but also on their efficiency, adherence to themes, and performance under pressure. The ability to deliver high-quality work within strict deadlines is paramount.

"Every picture has a story to tell."
Now, it's your turn to share yours.

Technical Guide

These are fundamental basics in photography that are essential to know.



1.Exposure Triangle

The exposure triangle depicts the relationship between shutter speed, ISO and the aperture of a picture. These three factors each help determine the suitable exposure while shooting.

The exposure triangle, or photographic triangle helps determine how the picture will look before taking the shot. Although saving film is not your first priority in today's digitally dominated world, knowing how these three factors work together to compose your image will make you faster and more efficient.

2.Aperture

Aperture, akin to the iris of the human eye, is a key component of a camera's lens. It controls the light entering the lens, directly impacting the photo's exposure. Measured in f-stops, the aperture setting defines the size of the lens opening, influencing both the depth of field and the sharpness of the image. Most lenses have an ideal range, often referred to as the "sweet spot" or "critical focus," which typically falls between f/4 and f/11.

3.Shutter Speed

The aperture controls the width of the lens opening, while the shutter speed governs the duration the lens remains open, regulating the amount of light that enters the sensor, as determined by the aperture. A faster shutter speed, such as 1/1000th of a second, freezes motion, capturing a still image. On the other hand, a slower shutter speed, like 1/60th of a second, results in motion blur, as it captures the movement within a scene.

4.ISO

Adjusting the ISO setting allows for greater flexibility in low-light conditions by increasing the sensor's sensitivity to light. While a higher ISO brightens dark images, it often introduces noise, reducing the overall detail and quality of the shot. Simply put, increasing ISO can improve brightness but may compromise clarity by adding visual disturbances.

At lower ISO levels, the camera's signal overshadows noise, resulting in cleaner and sharper visuals. For this reason, it is generally advisable to keep the ISO as low as possible to minimize noise. However, the ideal ISO setting depends on the environment and lighting conditions.

In dimly lit scenarios, a higher ISO may be necessary to achieve proper exposure and brightness in your photos or videos. Conversely, in bright or well-lit environments, using a lower ISO helps maintain image quality by avoiding unnecessary noise. Balancing ISO settings according to the specific shooting conditions is essential for capturing optimal results.

COMPOSITION:

Composition refers to the arrangement of all elements within your photograph, shaping how your audience perceives and connects with the image. A well-composed shot can elevate its appeal, while poor composition may detract from its impact. Here are some key rules to guide you toward creating visually striking photographs:

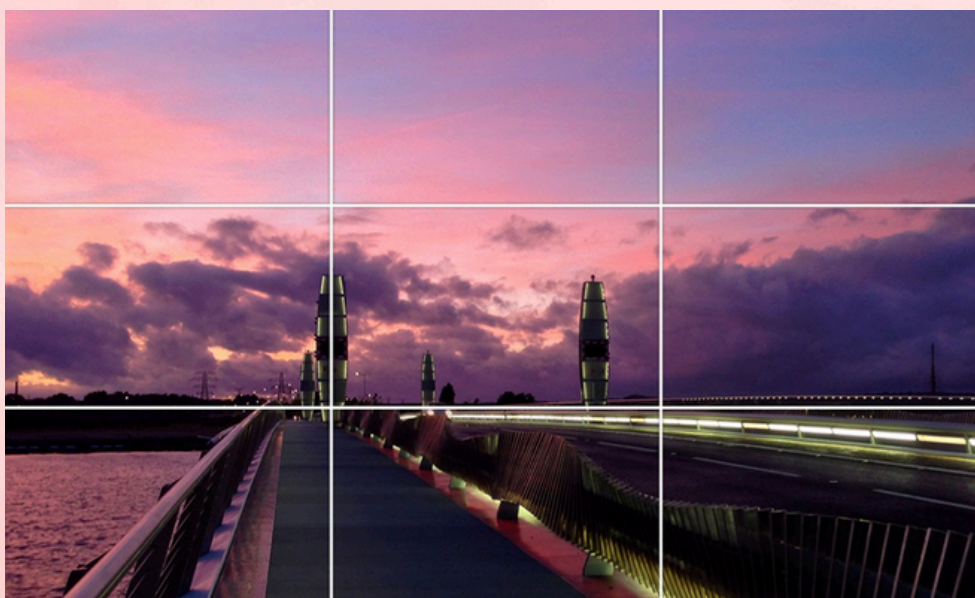
1. Simplify the Scene

A clutter-free background enhances focus on the subject, drawing attention to the key elements of your photo. Removing unnecessary distractions always helps highlight your intended message.

2. Apply the Rule of Thirds

The Rule of Thirds is a foundational technique in photography and visual arts. It involves dividing the frame into nine equal sections using two horizontal and two vertical lines, creating four intersection points. Positioning important elements along these points or lines results in a more balanced and visually pleasing composition.

Placing horizons along the top or bottom third further enhances appeal by directing the viewer's gaze naturally. Off-centre compositions foster a sense of space and interaction between the subject and its surroundings, adding depth and encouraging a more dynamic engagement with the photo.



3. Fill the Frame

While negative space can occasionally enhance a photo, excessive empty areas may detract from its impact. Typically, moving closer to your subject or zooming in to fill the frame creates a more intimate and compelling image.

4. Experiment with Angles

Unconventional perspectives, such as bird's eye (high) or worm's eye (low) views, add intrigue and creativity to your photographs. These angles offer fresh perspectives, capturing your audience's attention.

5. Embrace Patterns and Textures

Repetitive patterns naturally captivate viewers, as the human brain finds satisfaction in order and symmetry. Incorporating shapes, lines, and repeating designs can enhance your composition. Patterns that double as textures—where fine, repetitive details create tactile surfaces—add a layer of familiarity and engagement to your images.

Mastering these compositional techniques can transform your photographs into powerful visual stories that resonate with your audience.

Possible Tasks

1. **Crisis Task:** This fast-paced assignment demands swift execution under tight deadlines, often involving unexpected challenges and close collaboration with fellow members of the United Nations Correspondents Association.
2. **Background Video Task:** Produce a short video (60–120 seconds) based on a given theme, to be completed between the opening and closing sessions of the conference. Use only original footage and audio —avoid incorporating content sourced from the internet.
3. **Mood Board:** Design a photo collage of 5–8 images centred around a specific theme, with a strong emphasis on visual aesthetics. You may include logos or text sourced from the internet as part of the composition.



1. **Photo Essay:** Curate a series of 5–7 photographs that together tell a compelling, theme-based story related to the conference. The images should be thoughtfully arranged to convey a clear, engaging narrative.
2. **Social Media Posts:** Create visually striking social media content tailored to specific aspect ratios (e.g., Instagram 1:1, 1.91:1, or 4:5). Use editing tools like Canva to enhance graphics and craft captivating captions to maximize audience engagement.



How to Prepare

- Ensure that you have an editing software on your laptop. Familiarise yourself with it and solve any bugs or glitches that may be present.
- Try to not use your phone for editing as the quality of the photo gets compromised. Most windows devices have an inbuilt basic software.
- Here are some free editing softwares you can use:
 1. Photo editing: Polarr, Adobe Photoshop Express, Snapseed, Lightroom
 2. Video editing: Lightworks, Davinci Resolve, iMovie
- Test your equipment and software prior to the conference to ensure that everything is working smoothly.
- Keep a spare memory device (SD card, pen drive, hard drive) on hand in case you run out of storage. Also clear out the SD card that you'll be shooting on.
- You can use a tripod if you have one.
- Ensure that you label your equipment.
- Brief yourself on the agenda of the committee you have been assigned.



Caricature and Design

Introduction

Visual Journalism, or caricature has the power to make or break decisions, change the world's views or bring about revolutions. The power a caricaturist has in the real world is extraordinary, millions of people across the world open the newspaper and their eyes are guided to the colourful bold caricatures in the centre of the page. Their thoughts are influenced by the political satire and humour that can get thousands of messages across.

Your goal is to capture the magic of caricature in the committees of the AMUN. The first step: research. Gain knowledge on the topic and form your opinion. Think about it in the perspective you want to show it in, what global issues you want to criticise and shed light on, with the knowledge that you possess the ability to bring about change.

Express your opinion in the boldest, strongest way possible. Use colours, text, shapes and symbols to get your message across. Be creative, smart and daring, this is what will bring attention to your caricature and help cross language barriers and show your opinions. You have power in the real world and can shape the future of global dialogue and make a difference.

What is Caricature?

A caricature is putting the face of a joke on the body of a truth. It is a picture, description, or imitation of a person in which certain striking characteristics are exaggerated in order to create a comic or grotesque effect. The main aim of a caricaturist is to make the images showing the features of the subject in a simplified or exaggerated way through sketching, pencil strokes or through other artistic drawings.

Caricatures can be complementary or insulting and can serve different purposes such as gentle mockery of political persons, for their serious socio-political actions or for entertainment. Caricatures can be complementary or insulting and can serve different purposes such as gentle mockery of political persons, for their serious socio-political actions or for entertainment.

How to go about a task

The most important thing is to think of an idea related to the assignment.

- Observe the committee proceedings:

Depending on the assignment, this can be a crucial step to make your caricature shine.

- Jot down certain phrases or remarks made by delegates
- Link the discussion with the agenda assigned to you
- Make a rough sketch
- Proceed with the outcome

You can use colours, shapes, text boxes and anything else you want to express your idea out clearly.

Important Points

Acquaint yourself with the agenda. Read articles, timelines and other material to have a good understanding of the agenda. This is crucial to understand committee proceedings and portray them effectively. Also understand both sides of the agenda to accurately depict the occurrences of the committee.

Since a caricature involves the exaggeration of certain striking characteristics in a person, it is advisable to search up images of the personalities related to the agenda and assess which trait to portray or show more.

Think of punchlines or slogans to incorporate in your pieces. Don't be afraid of other's opinions as you make your caricatures and depict your own true thoughts. Withhold any bias from your caricatures and truly depict things in a way that gets the point across and also stands for what the topic is asking for.

Each submission will have a deadline of approximately 0.5 - 1.5 hours. Failure to submit on time will affect your marking.