



PRESS CORPS

MARIA
GRACIA
JIMENEZ

NEWMUN



Table of Contents

Letter from the Secretary-General.....	3
Letter from the Committee Director.....	4
Introduction to the Committee.....	5
History of the Press Corps.....	5
Committee Dynamics.....	6
Forms of Content.....	7
Delegate Evaluation.....	8
Guidelines for Position Papers.....	9
Closing Remarks.....	10
Sources.....	11

Letter from the Secretary-General

Dear Delegates,

It is with immense pleasure that I welcome you to Newton College Model United Nations 2023. My name is Anika Sahoo, and as the acting Secretary-General, I am grateful for the opportunity to host such a large-scale conference in the grounds of our school after 3 years persevering in the virtual setting. Alongside the organisers of the conference, I look forward to being presented with our world's future leaders in this year's edition by witnessing what I am certain will be worthwhile debate and convincing resolutions.

To catch you up to speed, my MUN journey began back in 2018 when I joined the very first session of the club. Although I was a naive and inexperienced 10-year-old at the time, I was intrigued by how middle/high-schoolers would simulate the process used by the United Nations to deal with international conflicts. Hence, just a few weeks later, I became an usher for NewMUN 2018, where I found myself enthralled by the discussions that took place amongst the delegates. Soon enough, I was attending conferences as a delegate myself, directly involved amid all the fruitful and fierce debate. While I had the opportunity to explore my skills in various committee types, my interests aligned towards humanitarian topics, resulting in my curiosity for the UN WOMEN committee. Until now, I never let an opportunity pass where I can express my opinions regarding women's rights causes.

While I greatly value the skills and confidence I obtained from my participation in conferences, MUN has provided me with unforgettable experiences and everlasting friendships. During my first years, I was blessed with the opportunity to befriend ex-Secretariat members who shaped me into the person I am today. Nowadays, being in the position they once held has allowed me to feel the same pride they felt towards their mentees every time they overcame a new fear, unlocked a new skill, or were overjoyed with their performance in a conference. Being a Secretary-General is not a position I take lightly, as I strive to make every single session within our delegation memorable, just as I strive to make this conference for you, delegates and faculty members.

For some of you, NewMUN 2023 will be your first conference. For others, your last. Regardless of where you are in your MUN journey, I would like to remind you to continue challenging yourself. Overcome any obstacles you are currently facing. Set yourself goals no matter how far you might have come. Strive to become more self-assured while maintaining yourself kind and humble. On behalf of all NewMUN 2023 organisers, we look forward to seeing your participation in the conference!

Best of luck,

Anika Sahoo

Secretary-General of NewMUN 2023

2012239@newton.pe

Letter from the Committee Director

Dear Delegates,

It is with my greatest pleasure and most sincere honour to welcome you to NewMUN 2023 and to the Press Corps.

My name is Maria Gracia Jimenez and I will be your director for the duration of the conference. I am a student at Newton College and I am currently entering Form V. In my free time, I enjoy coffee, reading, baking, watching rom-coms, and solving my problems one playlist at a time.

My MUN career began when I was 11 years old as an usher for NewMUN 2018. I remember how excited I was for that conference; the night before I had picked out my most elegant dress and gone to bed early so that I could rise with the sun and head to the conference. The faces and words of delegates past, of the MUN giants whose legacy we now stand upon, remain engraved in my memory even now. It was marvellous; I remember being utterly shocked by the brilliance and diplomacy that I had witnessed during that conference. After that experience, I didn't feel as odd with my love for politics and debate as I usually did, but rather I realised that I had encountered a community of brilliant and passionate like-minded individuals that made me feel like I could belong. After that day, I fell in love with MUN.

During the past years, I have been to numerous conferences and won various awards. I have been to most types of committees and I have met some truly wonderful people who are now not just delegates I met but they are people who I now can comfortably call friends. For the past 2 to 3 years now I have also established myself as Newton's resident Press delegate. In Press is where I found and now refine my love for writing and journalism.

With time I have been able to realise that MUN is much more than awards and politics. MUN is about the memories that one makes, the friends that one gains, and the knowledge that one acquires. How well you did in a conference should not be measured by whether you get an award or not but rather by how much you were able to learn and grow from the experience.

With all of this in mind, I would like to thank you for your participation and wish you all the best of luck.

Kind Regards,
Maria Gracia Jiménez
Director of Press Corps
2010130@newton.pe

Introduction to the Committee

The Collins English dictionary defines Press Corps as “a group of journalists and reporters who are all working in a particular place, for different news organisations.”. However, Press Corps is in fact much more than that. So what is the Press Corps?



To put it simply, your job as a press delegate is to make an impact on a committee by altering the course of debate progressively and creatively. It's about understanding the dynamics around you and using that to influence the outcome of your desire. Journalism is key to a progressive and truly democratic world. It's the most basic form of freedom of speech. It is about informing people about the unknown and the unheard. It's about truly shedding light into that which lies in darkness. It is essential for a truly functional society.

A press delegate is a light in the dark. It's your job to creatively and uniquely affect the people around you and the committees by using tools and content forms.

History of the Press Corps

Journalism has always been part of our world. The earliest form of journalism as we now know and recognize it is registered to have been in ancient Rome (59 BCE); the “Acta Diurna” worked as a circular, recording important events during the day and then being hung up somewhere in the city for citizens to be able to read. Since ancient times, however, journalism has evolved. With the help of technology, the mass circulation of newspapers and such became much more feasible. From the telegraph to the printer, they all aided in constructing the world of modern journalism where news is varied and can come in multiple forms and from multiple outlets.

The Press Corps in NewMUN 2023 will be based on the United Nations Correspondents Association. The UNCA was founded in 1948, three years after the formation of the United Nations in 1945. The

UNCA works as the organisation representing the United Nations Press Corps. In the beginning, the UNCA consisted of only fifty members who were mostly American and Canadian media representatives.

From its beginning, the UNCA worked to bring members of diplomatic delegations together through press conferences, social functions, luncheons, and more. To improve the performance of the UNCA, the organisation established the Global Media Awards of Excellence for UN Coverage. These awards are given to journalists globally and are held annually in December in New York up to this day.



Committee Dynamics

As a press delegate, committee dynamics are different from your usual MUN committee, so in order to aid your understanding of the committee, we have broken it down into two parts: how you will interact within the committee and how you will interact with other committees.

Interaction within the Committee

As a press delegate, you will spend most of your time outside the committee performing interviews, writing articles, presenting updates, and doing much more. However, there are a few guidelines that you must follow regarding your interaction within the committee.

- You must be present in committee during the start and 5 minutes before the end of each session
- All work (pieces of content) must be uploaded to a drive that will be shared with you upon the beginning of the conference.
 - You must not open or edit any drive file outside of your own.
- Unless otherwise instructed, all work must be done and submitted within conference hours.

Interaction with Other Committees

When visiting other committees, you must first introduce yourself to the chair or director (under the name of your news agency, of course), sending them a note to let them know that you are present in that committee. When preparing updates, always confer with the chair of the committee beforehand and be respectful when interacting with them at all times. Diplomacy is a compulsory part of MUN

and as such of Press Corps too. It is imperative that you interact with other delegates in a respectful and diplomatic manner at all times; during interviews please always keep these values and ideals in mind.

Forms of Content

Please keep in mind that all forms of content and media you release will be checked by the Chair and must follow committee and conference guidelines, as well as your organisation's bias and policies.

➤ Article

Articles are the most common form of content. When creating an article, your focus is to report on a specific issue or situation inside your chosen committee. An article must include certain aspects which depend on your organisation (some things to be included in an article may be: headers, social links, images, logos, and fonts). Articles may include your personal opinions, but they must be aligned with your organisation's bias and beliefs.

➤ Update

Updates (otherwise known as news flashes) are a common way in which a Press Delegate can interact with the committee and thus alter the course of debate. Updates generally include facts, news, opinions, and new information that aim to challenge and/or spark debate in the committee. When doing updates, the dais may allow Press Delegates to receive questions. This is extremely important and useful to you since the way you address the questions may alter the force of impact of your update on the committee. Just like with articles, when including your opinion in an update, make sure it is aligned with your organisation's bias and beliefs.

➤ Video

Videos are a great and creative way to present updates and articles. It is very attractive and engaging to delegates and updates can be presented in the form of videos as well as articles or other media. It is also a great way to showcase your ability as a Press Delegate to present information in a variety of ways. However, just like other forms of content, videos are subject to certain guidelines and must follow your organisation's bias and views.

➤ Infographics

Infographics are a great visual way to highlight and present information regarding a specific situation related to a committee you are working on. They may include statistics, quotes, facts,

photos, and other forms of information (as long as bias and policies are respected.)

➤ Others

Although not mandatory, there are other different forms of content that can be produced. These include social media, websites, and photography. If any delegate wishes to produce content in any form other than the ones listed here, they are more than welcome to as long as they consult the dais first.

○ *Social Media*

Press Delegates are allowed to create social media accounts to connect better with delegates and increase the impact of their content. The content that you put into your social media depends on you and can be as creative as you wish (while following the conference and committee guidelines).

○ *Websites*

Delegates may use websites as a way to share their articles, show information about their press agency, upload photography, etc. The content of the website however may change or vary depending on what purpose each delegate gives to their websites. Websites may be as creative and imaginative as delegates wish to make them (again while following the conference and committee guidelines).

Delegate Evaluation

Throughout the conference, you will be evaluated on four different criteria; participation, knowledge, language and format, and attitude.

- **Participation:** As Press delegates, it is expected that you participate and involve yourself in the committees of your interest. The main sources of participation that we will look for are your interviews with other delegates, the updates that you produce, and your presence in the committee itself.
- **Knowledge:** We expect delegates to have in-depth knowledge of their news agencies and the committees that they are attending. Delegates should be able to provide more than just superficial information regarding the topics of their committees of interest when producing pieces of media.
- **Creativity:** During this conference, delegates will have a lot of creative freedom and the opportunity to explore different media and forms of content. We expect you to take advantage

of this and go as far as your creativity (and policy) will allow you to go.

- **Language and Format:** Delegates should employ language that is appropriate for their news agencies and shows the essence of such. The formatting of videos, articles, and generally all pieces of content should also reveal the news agency's essence and go along with the news agency's formatting for content pieces.
- **Attitude:** Delegates should have an overall positive and respectful attitude throughout the conference. We will not only be evaluating content pieces but also you as a delegate.

Guidelines for Positions Papers

Delegates will be required to present a position paper. The said document will need to include:

- **Paragraph 1:** A brief introduction to your press agency. Some questions that might help guide you through the first paragraph are: What's the mission of your press agency? Why is it relevant? How has it been relevant through the years?
- **Paragraph 2:** Choose the committees that you would like to focus on during the conference and explain why you have chosen them. We'd recommend that you choose 2 committees. Remember delegates, "quality over quantity".
- **Paragraph 3:** Your mission within the conference and what your news agency intends on accomplishing by the end of the conference. Use the committees chosen to sustain your ideas.
- **Bibliography:** A bibliography in MLA 9 citation format is required. Any position paper that does not include a bibliography will be instantly considered as plagiarised work and will be ruled out, meaning that the delegate will not be eligible for an award.

We encourage delegates to adhere to the following format:

- **Font:** Times New Roman 11 pts.
- **Line Spacing:** 1.15.
- **Margins:** 1 inch (2.54 cm) from all extremities (standard margins)
- **Pages:** 1-page max. (excluding bibliography)
- **Bibliography format:** MLA9
- If a citation machine is used, please cite it.

We highly recommend delivering position papers as a PDF file to avoid any compatibility issues when opening documents. It is required that delegates submit their position papers to be eligible for an award.

Position papers are to be delivered before **April 14th at 11:59 pm** to the following emails: 2010130@newton.pe and acoronadoharman05@gmail.com. For ease and to make sure no position

papers are lost in spam, please send all of them with the subject “Position Paper - *Your Agency*”.

To be prepared for the conference, we suggest that you do extra research on your press agencies, the committees you are planning to report on, and further information. On a final note, if you have any questions or concerns regarding position papers or anything at all, don't hesitate to contact us. We are more than happy to help.

Closing Remarks

Thank you for reading the study guide! As chairs, we expect diplomacy, engagement, and hard work that will be reflected in the different forms of content you will present at the conference. If you have any doubt, don't hesitate in asking any of the chairs present. We are looking forward to getting to know all of you during the conference.

Sources (in MLA9 format)

Contributors to Wikimedia projects. "United Nations - Wikipedia." 26 Dec. 2020,
[en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=United Nations&oldid=996423999](https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=United_Nations&oldid=996423999).

Council of Europe. "Press Freedom Day: Media and Journalists Need Better Protection." Council of Europe, 9 May 2022,
www.coe.int/en/web/portal/-/press-freedom-day-media-and-journalists-need-better-protection.

"Countries Not In The UN 2020." 1 Jan. 2021,
worldpopulationreview.com/country-rankings/countries-not-in-the-un.

"History of the United Nations Correspondents Association « The United Nations Correspondents Association." 1 Jan. 2021, unca.com/unca-history.

The Editors of Encyclopaedia Britannica. "Journalism | Definition, History, and Facts." Encyclopedia Britannica, 20 July 1998, www.britannica.com/topic/journalism.

"UN Correspondents Association Annual Awards Dinner." Flickr, 6 Dec. 2019,
https://www.flickr.com/photos/un_photo/49200345011.