



**The Guardian** **BBC**  
**TIMES NOW** **NEWS**  
*The New York Times* *Le Monde*

# BACKGROUND GUIDE INTERNATIONAL PRESS CORPS



**THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.**

**DAWN**

*The Washington Post*

**CHINADAILY**

中國日報

**LE JOURNAL  
DE MONTRÉAL**



*The Sydney Morning Herald* **CNN**

# **SECRETARY GENERAL'S ADDRESSAL**

It is my pleasure to welcome all you budding delegates to the 5th edition of SelaQui International School's signature MUN conference-QMUN.

One of the country's premiere Junior MUNs, QMUN has grown from strength to strength in a short span of time. Since its inception, QMUN has had a special place for everyone in SelaQui, promoting negotiation, diplomacy and collaboration. Seeing the current state of the world, there has probably never been a greater need to simulate the world's foremost diplomatic organization- The United Nations. With hostile ideals progressively plunging the world into anarchy, the people of the world must rally as one if we hope to extract ourselves from the precipice.

In this grand and often daunting scheme of things, one can make the mistake of neglecting the importance of the individual. This notion of reluctance - in various forms- acts as a catalyst for a myriad of issues that plague us. A delegate, therefore, has to shoulder enormous responsibility while evaluating events and formulating strategies to deal with their ramifications.

With QMUN'19, we hope to provide young delegates a glimpse of what it takes to strategise and coordinate at a global level while developing intrinsic skills of diplomacy and negotiation.

**Looking forward to welcoming you,  
SECRETARY GENERAL**

# CHAIR PERSON'S ADDRESSAL

I, Aaryan Sodhi Bawa, will be acting as the chair of International Press Corps this Qmun'19. I take a Keen interest in following International relations and passionate about being political analyst. My hobbies and Interest are fueled through reading and writing and count the seconds and look forward to seeing you all this summer.

The International Press Corps at Qmun embodies the very spirit being an important organ in the working of an MUN, and shall be the committee that reports the events occurring throughout the conference. The IPC shall be as crucial to the MUN as the press is to the functioning of a nation, it accounts for reporting and imitates the functions that media holds.

The media can be a most useful building block that integrates the functions in our communities by objectively circulating all manner of information and opinions. The media is the single most powerful entity on Earth today, they have the power to create and change public opinion with ease, armies are not needed anymore, the media is far more powerful than any army could ever be, they control public discussion, they create opinions, they change opinions, they create sentiments, they create realities.

Therefore, I too expect well-articulated discourse and professional courtesy and commitments from you young, aspiring media person. My team consists of 3 very ardent reporting heads. First we have Manan Gagerna who is an avid Guitarist with a rich sense of humour. Next we have Abinav Reddy a comical South-Indian with a lot of Frankness in his genes. Last but not the least Sanskar Maheshwari a proud National Shooter but his wits can manipulate anyone easily. Me and My squad are looking forward to the proceedings.

**WARM REGARDS,  
AARYAN SODHI BAWA**

The reporter will not merely report the council proceedings but also draw upon the debate and analyze it. The essence of this newsletter will be the political analytical articles and debate drawings and interviews. We are looking at a simulation of press corps which will be deliberative and well researched. It will be filled with articles, editorials, Op-eds, Interviews, press conferences and subtle form of intelligent humour. It is necessary to have a code of ethics for any journalistic institution as it provides the journalists with guidelines on how best to approach their profession. Since there are times when journalists might exceed the freedom given to them, a set of codes and policies will make it less likely for them to cross this boundary. For such validity, It becomes important for a committee like International Press Corps to have a code of ethics as well.

**You shall be familiarized with all these forms in one-by-one manner through this guide.**

### **Reporting (Formal)**

One of the most important tasks that journalists in the International Press perform is formal reportage. They are primarily required to cover the event and describe it to others in the most structured and concise way possible, and for this purpose, they take notes and submit articles that contain the major happenings/discussions in their respective councils. A good news report ought to be articulate, succinct, neutral in tone and opinion, and be able to convey the essence of a discussion/occurrence to someone who has not personally witnessed it.

The key points to remember while writing are:

1) Keep your article brief and to-the-point. Council reports should ideally not exceed 300-350 words.

2) Your article must not betray your personal perspective on the agenda. It is very important to maintain objectivity and report the incidents/conversations with as much neutrality and accuracy as possible. This is a key difference between reporting and writing an Op-Ed article. For this purpose, you are advised to be meticulous with your notes and include quotes as much as possible, with due credit to the speaker.

3) Your article must be coherent and well-structured. It ought to contain an identifiable opening, two descriptive paragraphs, and a conclusion. You must give your article a relevant headline and a by-line containing “By (Your Name)”. Lack of the same may result in negative marking.

Every line mentioned in the article ought to be pertinent to the idea you are attempting to convey.

4) Grammar and punctuation must not be compromised with. A spell-check of the final draft is essential.

### **Beat Reporting**

Considering that any Model United Nations conference has multiple discussions in every session, it is virtually impossible to report every Caucus/Point in your article. Therefore, your focus should not be on putting in as much information as you can, but to put in only the **relevant** information. The best way to include the most pertinent information in your article is to recognize a ‘beat’ and write a beat-based article.

## **Opinion Pieces**

An op-ed is almost like an essay though an essay may demand a holistic perspective or an all-round approach- something that is not mandatory for an op-ed. However, an op-ed differs from an editorial in the sense that an op-ed reflects an individual's views while an editorial reflects a newspaper's policy. Hence, the moral onus on an editorial is much higher and an editorial cannot take sides on an issue openly. It is supposed to be a presentation of views, yet abstain from being subjective.

There are different styles of writing op-eds as different op-eds serve different functions. There are really no specific types of op-eds but familiarizing oneself with the variety of writing styles would help one write interesting and informative op-eds.

### **Some of the functions that op-eds perform include, but are not restricted to:**

- Debating a proposition and/or providing rebuttals
- Providing background and/or historical perspective on a contemporary issue
- Highlighting aspects/dimensions that are hitherto not covered by „news pieces“
- Provide suggestions and/or map out a plan of action
- Explain an idea, concept in immense detail
- Share expertise

## **Interviews**

Conducting interviews for news stories is an important skill for any journalist. A “source” – anyone a journalist interviews - can provide the following elements that are vital to any news story:

- basic factual information
- perspective and context on the topic being discussed
- direct quotes
- ideas on how to approach the story
- names and contact information of other people to interview

### **Interviews in the MUN:**

The constant debating may provide with little opportunities of you getting ample time for a detailed interview. The ideal interview times are refreshment breaks and through chits. Chits are one tool which we encourage you to use for substantive purpose only. You can bring out the relevant points through chits and you can take permission for a prior interview through them.

### **Preparing for the Interview:**

- **Research** – Do as much research as you can. If you’re going to interview, say, a head of state, read up on the subject and make sure you understand basic terms such as “fiscal policy.” A well-prepared reporter inspires confidence in the person being interviewed.
- **Developing Questions** – Once you’ve thoroughly researched your topic, prepare a list of questions to ask. That will help you remember all the points you want to cover once the interview is underway.
- **Keys to a Successful Interview**
- **Establish a Rapport** – When starting out, don’t abruptly launch into your questions. Chitchat a little with your source. Compliment them on their office, or comment on the weather. This puts your source at ease
- **Keep it Natural** – An interview can be an uncomfortable experience, so keep things natural and conversational. Instead of mechanically reading out your list of questions, weave your queries naturally into the flow of the conversation.  
Also, maintain eye contact as much as possible. Nothing is more unnerving to a source than a reporter who never looks up from their notebook.

- **Keep it Natural** – An interview can be an uncomfortable experience, so keep things natural and conversational. Instead of mechanically reading out your list of questions, weave your queries naturally into the flow of the conversation. Also, maintain eye contact as much as possible. Nothing is more unnerving to a source than a reporter who never looks up from their notebook
- **Be Open** – Don't be so focused on getting through your list of questions that you miss something interesting.
- **Maintain Control** – Be open, yes, but don't waste your time. If your source starts to ramble on about things that are clearly of no use to you, don't be afraid to gently – but firmly – steer the conversation back to the topic at hand.
- **Wrapping Up** – At the end of the interview, ask your source if there's anything they want to discuss that you hadn't asked about. Double-check the meanings of any terms or words they used that you're unsure about. And always ask if there are other people they recommend that you speak with.
- **A Note about Note-taking** – Beginning reporters often freak out when they realize they can't possibly write down everything the source is saying, word-for-word. Don't sweat it. Experienced reporters learn to take down just the interesting stuff they know they'll use, and ignore the stuff they won't. This takes some practice, but the more interviews you do, the easier it gets.

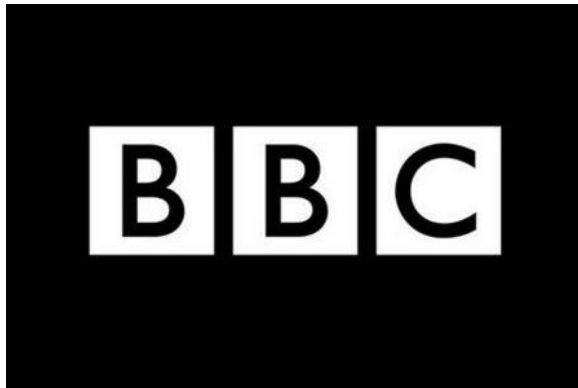
### Elements of style

- **Abbreviations.** No periods should be used separating letters of an abbreviated organization or agency. Only standard acronyms and approved abbreviations should be used. If questions arise see the Editor or Publisher. Some example abbreviations include: JMC MUN, CS, DS, ECOSOC, FAO, GA, HG, HSC, ICJ, IPD, NATO, UK, UN, US, USSR.
- **Currency.** Dollar values are displayed with the appropriate currency symbol. Values on orders at or greater than one million are summarized, for example \$54,000, \$135,000 or \$214 million. Indian Rupees shall be written as INR and not Rs.



- **Member States.** In print, references to United Nations "Member States" should be initially capitalized.
- **Names.** Reporters should never guess the spelling of a person's name to be reported. Verbal verification is mandatory on all named sources.
- **National references.** When referring to any UN Member State or Observer, standard UN country names should be used. These names match those with which each nation signed the UN Charter. For example, the People's Republic of China should always be referred to as "China." Additionally, some national names are longer than those commonly used
- **Quotation marks.** As per Standard English grammar, punctuation at the conclusion of quotation must always be included inside the closing quotation mark.
- **Spacing.** One space is used to separate words, as well as following commas, semicolons, colons and periods. Since the The newsletter is published in a variable width font, two spaces between sentences will not be necessary
- **Spelling.** Reporters should be sure to spell check all articles before the editorial deadline. This will greatly assist the Editor.
- **Titles.** The categories of title to be used include:  
Standard professional titles: Periods will be used on abbreviated titles, such as Mr., Ms., Amb., Dr., Pres.
- **UN titles:** These titles will not be abbreviated. UN and AIMUN official titles include  
Secretary-General, Under-Secretary-General, Director-General, Assistant Secretary-General, Deputy Secretary-General. Secretary-General shall never be abbreviated as Sec Gen.

# SOME INFORMATION ON THE AGENCIES



The BBC is Britain's official public broadcaster. Its range and size are unparalleled, as the oldest national broadcaster, and the largest broadcaster in the world, with reporters and offices all over the world. Though it is funded by the government, it remains neutral on most issues. It rarely criticizes the Government or Royal Family, but can be counted on for good, non-biased coverage. It has few opinion pieces, but in its online publication has started to branch out and modernize. It has a wide range of coverage of both domestic as well as global issues and has become an important piece of Britain's history and present culture.



Reuters is an international news agency headquartered in London, United Kingdom. Reuter saw the possibilities of the telegraph for news reporting and built up an organization that maintained correspondents throughout the world. In the 1960s Reuters became one of the first news agencies to use computers to transmit financial data overseas. The agency subsequently afforded the capacity to make electronic transactions over its network and went on to develop a wide array of electronic trading and brokerage services. Reuters is also a publicly listed company on the London Stock Exchange (LSE) and also on the NASDAQ

# The Guardian

The Guardian is a British daily newspaper. The paper's readership is generally on the mainstream left of British political opinion. The newspaper has an online UK edition as well as two international websites, Guardian Australia and Guardian US. The newspaper's online edition was the fifth most widely read in the world in October 2014, with over 42.6 million readers. Its combined print and online editions reach nearly 9 million British readers. The Guardian has been named Newspaper of the Year four times at the annual British Press Awards, the most recent in 2014 for reporting on government surveillance.



Al Jazeera English is an international state-funded 24-hour English-language news and current affairs TV channel head-quartered in Doha, Qatar. It is a sister channel of the Bosnia and Herzegovina-based multi-language Al Jazeera Balkans, the online digital networks AJ+ and the original, Arabic-language, Al Jazeera. The station broadcasts news features and analysis, documentaries, debates, current affairs, business, technology, and sports news, and claims to be the first global highdefinition television network. The channel aims to provide both a regional voice and a global perspective for a potential world audience of over one billion English speakers who do not share an AngloAmerican worldview.

The logo for Dawn, featuring the word "DAWN" in a bold, serif font. The letters are flanked by horizontal lines that create a sense of motion or a stylized sunburst effect.

Dawn represents the views of Pakistan's educated middle- and upper-classes, and is one of the Country's oldest print newspapers, as well as one of the few English-language newspapers. As a voice for independent opinion, the paper is as equally likely to critique government actions as it is to provide supportive intellectual credentials to nationalist policy. It has fairly progressive stances and came out in support of abolishing the death penalty in Pakistan in 2016. Readers can expect thoughtful writing that is hard-hitting at home and abroad.

The logo for Times Now, consisting of the word "TIMES" in white, bold, sans-serif font on a red background, and the word "NOW" in white, bold, sans-serif font on a blue background.

Times Now is a 24-hour English news channel in India owned and operated by The Times Group. Times Now is a Leading 24-hour English News channel that provides the Urbane viewers the complete picture of the news that is relevant, presented in a vivid and insightful manner, which enables them to widen their horizons & stay ahead. They operate out of Mumbai, with presence in 15 other cities through our Bureaus and offices, complemented by the news gathering teams of The Times of India and The Economic Times



CNN, an American-based news outlet, is one of the biggest and widest-ranging news outlets in the world. Generally speaking, it is seen as a centre-left news outlet. Under heavy criticism by the new Trump administration, CNN falls into a difficult position, remaining neutral even though attacks on the integrity of the news channel are fired by one of the most powerful people on the planet. CNN has also been characterized as a more sensational news channel after the new CEO of CNN, Jeff Zucker, took control over the channel. It was one of the first news outlets to have 24-hour news coverage, effectively changing the news media landscape as others have adapted to this.

## The New York Times

Recently characterized as one of the “defenders of truth” against the anti-journalist rhetoric of the current US administration. The American newspaper is known for high-quality, in-depth reporting, with the most Pulitzer prizes of any newspaper worldwide. It is one of the most widely-circulated papers in both the US and the world. Calling itself the “newspaper of record,” it covers localized as well as national and international issues. Recently, it has brought in more opinion pieces and has looked to give voice to different sides of the political spectrum, though many would still consider it a centrist or centre-left publication.

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.  
**WSJ**

The Wall Street Journal is an international newspaper based in the United States, focusing on business and economics. Trusted by both liberal and conservative readers, this paper plays to both sides of political bias with conservative and liberally-charged columns. It aims to provide a wide variety of news coverage while appealing to all perspectives.

**The  
Washington  
Post**

The Washington Post is a major American daily newspaper published in Washington, D.C., with a particular emphasis on national politics and the federal government. It has the largest circulation in the Washington metropolitan area. Its slogan "Democracy Dies in Darkness" began appearing on its masthead in 2017.

**CHINADAILY**

中國日報

China Daily is an English-language daily newspaper owned by the Publicity Department of the Communist Party of China and published in the People's Republic of China. *China Daily* was established in June 1981 and has the widest print circulation of any English-language newspaper in China (over 200,000 copies per issue, of which a third are abroad). Along with the flagship edition on Chinese mainland, China Daily publishes nine overseas editions – covering North and South America, Europe, the Asia-Pacific and Africa – and various digital platforms

*The Asahi Shimbun*  
Asia & Japan Watch

The Asahi Shimbun is one of Japan's five national newspapers, with a wide arrange of topics including sports, culture, and politics. The paper focuses on Asia-centric news, with limited articles emphasizing European current events. It holds a pro-Japanese bias, emphasizing the effect of international economics on Japan's politics and culture.

# Le Monde

Le Monde is a French daily afternoon newspaper founded by Hubert Beuve-Méry at the request of Charles de Gaulle. It reported an average circulation of 323,039 copies per issue in 2009, about 40,000 of which were sold abroad. The paper's journalistic side has a collegial form of organization, in which most journalists are not only tenured, but financial stakeholders in the enterprise as well, and participate in the elections of upper management and senior executives.

# The Sydney Morning Herald

The Sydney Morning Herald is a daily compact newspaper owned by Nine in Sydney, New South Wales, Australia. Founded in 1831 as the Sydney Herald, the SMH is the oldest continuously published newspaper in Australia and a national online news brand. The print version of the newspaper is published six days a week, enabling readers to engage with The Sydney Morning Herald Age in a more user-friendly print format, while also delivering key benefits for advertisers.



# LE JOURNAL DE MONTRÉAL

The Montreal Journal is a daily tabloid newspaper published in Montreal, Quebec, Canada. It has the largest circulation of any newspaper in Quebec and is also the largest French-language newspaper in North America. *Le Journal de Montréal* covers mostly local and provincial news, as well as sports, arts and justice. It is known for its sensationalist news, and its columnists who are often public figures.



The Hindu is an Indian daily newspaper, headquartered in Chennai. It was started as a weekly in 1878 and became a daily in 1889. It is one of the Indian newspapers of record and the second most circulated English-language newspaper in India, after *The Times of India* with average qualifying sales of 1.21 million copies as of Jan–Jun 2017. The Hindu's independent editorial stand and its reliable and balanced presentation of the news have over the years, won for it the serious attention and regard of the people who matter in India and abroad. The Hindu uses modern facilities for news gathering, page composition and printing. It is printed in seventeen centres.