



American Model United Nations Conference Preparation Newsletter 19–22 November 2022

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International Press Delegation Needs Reporters!

Greetings from the AMUN Secretariat. The International Press Delegation (IPD) is one of AMUN's premier simulations that replicates, instead of a UN body, the entire International Press Corps. In a time when breaking news goes viral, it is imperative that delegations have access to a free, accountable press, which is what IPD simulates. Reporters at Conference are both passive and active participants in the conference. They observe the actions of the simulations, interview and question conference participants, and through their words help shape the Conference. We are reinstating in-person student reporters this year, so we are sending out a call for students to sign up for IPD! [You can register for the International Press Delegation online.](#)

Who Should Participate in IPD?

Anyone! But the students that will get the most out of the experience might be described as:

- Students interested in journalism, copywriting, editing, or blogging,
- Students who love to write, and/or
- Students who love to research by interviewing people.

Being a reporter is a fun but challenging experience. You have to balance writing, peer-editing, observing simulations and interviewing participants. If you have a student who is up for a challenge, writes well and is interested in international relations on the whole, then please encourage them to sign up for IPD.

Day in a Reporter's Shoes



Each day in the International Press Delegation begins with a meeting for all the reporters to come together and let the IPD staff know what stories they are working on and their status. Reporters then are given time to “work their beat” in the different simulation rooms to identify stories of interest, where reporters are encouraged to interview multiple sources for their stories. During session time,

reporters will write their own articles, peer review articles of other reporters, and work with the IPD staff to incorporate edits and publish their articles. All of these articles are published on the AMUN blog on a special *AMUN Chronicle* channel. Then the process repeats. We encourage Reporters to produce six total articles: one on Saturday and Tuesday (the first and last days of Conference), and two on Sunday and Monday.

What Does an Article Look Like?

While there is no one set way for what we like to see as a finished article, there are several key things that we look for in each article. The first thing is a word count: we recommend that all articles are either 250 words or less for a short update, or 500–800 words for a feature article. For well-written, impactful work, we will allow for longer articles. The second thing we look for is research. We expect all reporters to do their own research on the topics under discussion and the parties relevant to the article, starting with the online *AMUN Handbook* and the Position Papers submitted by participants prior to the start of conference. The third important thing we look for in each article is at least two interviews. We encourage each article to have at least two quotations from two different conference participants relevant to the story.



Beyond that, we largely give free reign to the reporters to produce content as long as it falls under activities of a Member State, activities of a simulation or of the Conference as a whole. We encourage both creativity and passion. We want reporters to write about what interests them about the conference because that will help contribute to a quality article.

How Conference Participants Interact with Reporters

Conference participants primarily interact with reporters in two ways: (1) through interviews with reporters and (2) by hosting press conferences. Press conferences at AMUN are just as interactive as in real life. Member States host press conferences in the IPD offices in the Colorado room on Level 2.



Each press conference is open to all delegates and reporters; at times members of the AMUN Secretariat will attend in their capacity as roleplayers to round out the experience. Participants are encouraged to be active participants, firing away with questions, just as would happen in any other press conference. A summary of the press conference is then written up by an IPD reporter and published in the *AMUN Chronicle*. There are only a

limited number of press conference slots available during the conference, so we encourage participants to sign up for them as quickly as possible.

Also available to conference participants is the option to write a Letter to the Editor. Letters to the editor are your personal take on any topic related to the conference, the simulations, the topics being discussed, or the United Nations in general. Any student can submit a letter to the editor and,

contingent upon approval by the AMUN Secretariat, be published on the AMUN blog.

Questions, Comments or Concerns?

If you have any questions about this email, please contact us directly at mail@amun.org and we will be happy to help. As always, if you are no longer the primary contact for your school's Model UN club or class, please contact us at mail@amun.org with updated contact information or fill out our [Change of Address/Contact](#) form online.

Good luck on your preparations,

Christina R. Johnson
2022 Secretary-General

Shannon L. Dunn
AMUN Executive Director

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