

International Press Corps (IPC)



Letter From the Dais

Dear Delegates,

Welcome to the International Press Corps! We are Sofia Abarca and Alexander Farrell, co-chairs, and we are beyond excited to welcome you to our first fully international ASFMUN! Throughout the two days in which the conference will take place, prepare to immerse yourself in the life of a world-class journalist as you are granted exclusive insider access to every single committee of the conference, exposing yourselves to the conflicts discussed by fellow delegates; alliances and blocks being formed in order to combat these issues; and the elaboration of resolutions for them. You are tasked with documenting all of the action occurring in the 7 remaining committees—of course, keeping in mind the style and diction of your assigned news source. While no easy task, the IPC is usually recognized as the most dynamic committee, as you get to interact with committees as a whole and individual delegates- So, remember that while you have a task to accomplish, we encourage you to enjoy it and make the most out of this unique opportunity.

The both of us can't wait to meet you (even if it is online) and see your writing and journalism chops. As a friendly tip, we recommend that leading up to the conference, you thoroughly study your media source, its style and substance. Superficial vs. deep understanding of your news outlet is what can make the difference between a good delegate and the best delegate! If you have any questions in preparation or during the conference, don't hesitate to reach out to us!

See you on February 23rd! Until then, stay safe and take care.

Regards,

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Committee Overview

Delegates of the International Press Corporation (IPC) roam the conference reporting on the proceedings from the viewpoint of an international news/media source. Press Corps delegates observe, interview, and write about the activities of delegates and other ASFMUN committees. IPC staff then edits these articles and publishes them for all conference delegates to read. Unlike other committees, the Press Corps does not have a specific agenda. Instead, reporters choose committee topics on which they want to report.

Slack

In efforts to facilitate communication we have opted to use slack.com, a user-friendly collaboration tool that brings the necessary “people, information, and tools together.” We kindly request you join the [ASFMUN IPC 2021 Slack Workspace](#) by the day of. Once you do so, you will be added to a private channel with your dias– it is here where we will receive your drafts for notes and hold quick one-on-one conversations.

Additionally, you can also choose to download the Slack App onto your portable electronic device. To do so, visit the App Store and type in “slack”. You should be able to join with the email you initially used to sign-up.

We highly suggest you begin playing around with the platform. We’ve also attached a great [tutorial](#) that will guide you through the basics. It can oftentimes be tricky, yet trust us when we say it will assure our committee runs smoothly.

Participating Media Outlets

	<p>Al Arabiya is a news source founded in Saudi Arabia. It is now owned by the broadcasting service Middle East Broadcasting Channel (MBC); whose 60% of shares are owned by Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman. This amount of government control has rendered Al Arabiya a highly unreliable source due to the amount of censorship on its journalists and the content it publishes; along with a tendency towards pro-government propaganda. For more information, check out this link.</p>
	<p>Al Jazeera is a media network initially based and funded by the state of Qatar and broadcasted throughout the Arabic peninsula. It has since expanded into a worldwide network that is usually recognized for its mostly neutral, unbiased approach to news broadcasting and as a reliable network for global news. For more information, check out this link.</p>
	<p>Buzzfeed is an American online entertainment site which content includes news reporting on a diverse range of topics from global news stories to reporting on the celebrity and entertainment industry. It is also well-known for its multiple video series, lists, quizzes and polls. Due to its nature, however, it hasn't always been deemed as the most reliable news source, as some believe it to generally be aimed at a younger, more liberal, and leftist audience— however, it has had minimal incidences of failed fact checks. For more information, check out this link.</p>
	<p>CNN is one of the most widely renowned global news networks, originating in the United States and with posts in all 5 continents of the world. It was the first news platform with 24-hour coverage. Having branched out from cable news, now with a significant online presence, it is often regarded as a somewhat biased network, with a tendency towards favoring left-wing politics in its story selection, news reporting, and sensationalization of headlines. For more information, check out this link.</p>
	<p>The Daily Times Nigeria is a Lagos-based, previously state-owned newspaper now under the ownership of the Folio Communications Limited company. It has existed since 1926 and has seen its fair share of controversies and lawsuits, largely due to its constant changing of publishers. It has been the flagship news source of the country ever since its establishment. For more information, check out this link.</p>

	<p>Fox News is an American multinational media network, which is mainly centered around political news reporting and commentary. It is widely considered to have conservative scope in its coverage, and has been continuously linked with the American Republican party. Because of its approach, along with its multi-platform presence, it has been cited by various critics as a detriment to the integrity of modern news reporting in the United States. For more information, check out this link.</p>
	<p>Maclean's Magazine is a Canadian monthly news magazine, known for its coverage of politics, pop culture, and current affairs. It is under private ownership (currently by St. Joseph Communications) and was founded in 1905. It is well-renowned for its mostly factual and minimal bias in its news reporting, although some consider it to be somewhat left-leaning. For more information, check out this link.</p>
	<p>National Public Radio is an American private media organization, created under the Public Broadcasting Act of 1967. Aside from its highly prominent radio-broadcasting presence, NPR's presence also exists in print in the form of its news magazines <i>Morning Edition</i> and <i>All Things Considered</i>, along with its news-reporting website. Noted as a highly reliable news source due to its very accurate and factual news reporting; NPR is still acknowledged as an outlet that tends to favor the left in terms of its story selection and, often, word choice in its reporting. For more information, check out this link.</p>
	<p>Reforma is a Mexican independent newspaper. It is well-known as the first newsgroup in Mexico to separate its commercial division from its journalism division, allowing its journalists to have more freedom in their reporting. Although one of its major claims in terms of unbiased news reporting is its non-partisanship, it has often been cited by other media outlets and political figures to be right-leaning, particularly favoring the National Action Party (PAN). However, along its ranks are journalists with vocal political alignments to other Mexican parties, such as current president Andrés Manuel López Obrador's, Morena. For more information, check out this link.</p>
	<p>Reuters is a multinational media news agency whose content is based on news from all over the world and spans from business, to politics, technology, and lifestyle. It was founded in 1854 in London. With 2 Pulitzer Prizes under its belt for its international news reporting, it is</p>

	<p>considered one of the respectable news sources due to its unbiased, objective, and highly factual reporting. Its coverage is characterized by being direct and to-the-point, along with proper sourcing of information. For more information, check out this link.</p>
	<p>Russia Today is an international news network funded by the Russian government. Its scope is beyond its home country and offers content in English, Spanish, French, German, and Arabic. It is panned as a highly unreliable news outlet, often spreading disinformation and working as broadcaster of Russian government propaganda and prostate conspiracy theories. In its coverage of international news, it tends towards a right-wing bias. For more information, check out this link.</p>
	<p>The Atlantic is an American literature, politics, and lifestyle multi-platform media publisher. It has long circulated as a high-profile monthly editorial magazine—a recipient to more National Magazine Awards than any other periodic publication—which now has expanded into daily news reporting on its website. Because of the nature of its content and its audience, The Atlantic is regarded as a very respectable news source that tends to highlight liberal points of view, along with publicly supporting Democratic candidates throughout its existence. For more information, check out this link.</p>
	<p>The Economist is an English weekly news magazine that reports on current affairs, international stories and politics, business, and technology (among others); with particular focus on data journalism and reporting analysis as well. Though it is well-known for coverage that centers around economic liberalism, it is considered a highly reliable news source due to the lack of emotional bias in its news reporting. For more information, check out this link.</p>
	<p>The Guardian is an independent British newspaper under the Guardian Media Group. Highly regarded and with massive outreach, it has nevertheless recognized its left-wing bias and tendency to favor liberal points of view. Despite being regarded by the general public as one of the most trustworthy sources, critics have called into question its factual reporting, being misled by emotionally loaded headlines. Yet, their sourcing is considered reliable. For more information, check out this link.</p>
	<p>The Onion is a high-profile satirical media organization, based in Chicago.</p>

	<p>Although it does report on current events, The Onion is known for recurring to the exaggeration and humoring of news stories, along with the purposeful fabrication of some, with the purpose of parodying traditional news organizations. Since its creation in 1988, the publication has also run the newspapers The A.V. Club and Clickhole (which is no longer part of The Onion publishing family), both following in the satirical nature of its parent platform. Because of its aim, the crudeness of its content has been involved in some controversies over the years. For more information, check out this link.</p>
 <p>THE TIMES OF INDIA</p>	<p>Times of India is an Indian, English-language daily news publication owned by The Times Group. Since its foundation in 1838, it has been cited by many as one of Asia's top newspapers, and ranked highly across the world as a respectable news source. However, its credibility has fallen over the years. It has been widely publicized for being the first newspaper to institutionalize paid news by businesses, politicians, and public personalities; and it now stands as a news outlet that tends to favor the right, in line with the ruling party in India, following widespread government censorship in the country. For more information, check out this link.</p>
	<p>Vox is an American news website that has, since its establishment, branched out into a multimedia network, including a Youtube channel, a number of podcasts, and a show on Netflix (Explained). It is characterized by its broad news coverage, dedicated to explaining contextual information and giving detailed commentary on the news stories it reports on. It has been criticized for its clickbait-y headlines and for its redaction style, particularly by the conservative media. For more information, check out this link.</p>
<p>XINHUANET</p>	<p>Xinhuanet is a Chinese news publisher part of the Xinhua News Agency, the official agency of the People's Republic of China and the most influential news agency not only in China, but with the widest outreach of any news agency in the world. Because it is state-sponsored and state-run, its reporting usually includes pro-government propaganda that seeks to promote socialist/communist views. Because of this, its reliability is not very high, both because of bias and lack of sourcing. However, it tends to report on actual facts and often avoids spreading disinformation. For more information, check out this link.</p>

Note: Al Jazeera, BuzzFeed, CNN, Fox News, NPR, Reuters, The Atlantic, The Economist, The Guardian, and Vox are included in this [Media Bias Chart](#). This is a great resource for you to gain some perspective as to the political alignment of your media source, the type of information it communicates and how it communicates it.

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