

MADMUN XVI

Press Corps

Chairs:

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Letter From the Chairs:

Hey delegates!

Welcome to MADMUN XVI. Our names are Teketel Stapleton (Monona Grove), Keatlyn Key (Verona Area), Tommy Gill (Edgewood), and Alexander Ohad (Marquette). We will be your Chairs. Our team consists of two seniors and two juniors. Just because we love MUN doesn't mean it's all we do. All of us engage in sports or activities outside of them. For some of us, this is our junior year and we're happy to jump right back in. For others, it's our last, so we're determined to go out with a bang! We all come from different places with different MUN experiences, which gives us a unique perspective. Though we don't have much experience chairing, we have the passion and energy to make up for it. We are dead set on making this a committee to remember, so come prepared because we are going to blow you away!



Committee Overview

Topic 1: Committee Function



The first part of the committee session will be an open speakers' list. This will be the only part of the committee that will have standard Parliamentary Procedure. This will be the same as standard opening speeches; you will have an opportunity to present some of the research that you did on your position. Journalists are encouraged to share the history, viewpoint, biases, and any controversies of their newspaper. Think outside the box. If you don't have a lot of information available, then find your own way to creatively express what the newspaper stands for.

Topic 2: Positions

Agence France-Presse (AFP)

The oldest news agency in the world, Agence France-Presse, has been one of the top international news agencies since 1835. The AFP takes pride in its vast, comprehensive coverage of world events, and they are known for its impartiality and use of other methods of media outside of written articles.

Al-Jazeera

Al-Jazeera is a news conglomerate headquartered in Qatar that is partially funded by the Qatari government. As the biggest Arabic news source, Al-Jazeera mainly covers events in West Asia and North Africa, but they do have worldwide offices. Al-Jazeera played a major role in fueling the 2011 Arab Spring through rapid coverage of the events across the Arab World.

Amnesty International

Amnesty International is a worldwide NGO based in the UK that advocates for human rights through research and journalism. The main goals of Amnesty International are to speak out against worldwide human rights violations and to aid the victims of human rights abuses.

Associated Press (AP)

The Associated Press is unique in the sense that its reporters are independent and free to pursue their stories at their own discretion. The AP is often considered one of the most trusted worldwide news sources, and it sets the standard for the journalism industry in many respects.

Avatar Star (Fire Nation)

The Avatar Star, as the name suggests, will be primarily focusing on the *Avatar: The Last Airbender* committee. The Avatar Star reporter should be familiar with the Avatar franchise and the characters of the story. This reporter is permitted to write about other committees, but they must write some of their articles about the Avatar committee. Due to them hailing from the fire nation, they will have a very opinionated way of reporting on the Avatar committee. Keep this in mind when writing articles.

BBC

The British Broadcasting Corporation is a publicly-funded news corporation from the United Kingdom. Chartered by the king, the BBC primarily focuses on providing accurate and impartial information. They also aim to bring Brits together through creativity and engagement.

Chicago Tribune

The largest newspaper in the Midwest, the Chicago Tribune is known for its investigative reporting and its questioning of political actions. The paper is not quite as nationally influential as some other papers, but they have a strong influence in the Great Lakes. Their editorials generally lean conservative.

CNN

Cable News Network is a television news source owned by the Warner Brothers Discovery parent company. CNN is the leader in real-time coverage of breaking news as they are the first 24-hour cable news network. The CNN reporter should be proactive about releasing breaking news to the public ASAP.

CGTN (Chinese Global Television Network)

CGTN is a state-run Chinese news network headquartered in Beijing. This network has faced heavy criticism for its use of Chinese propaganda and heavy censorship on the free press. The network claims to stand for “objectivity, rationality, and balance in reporting.” In reality, the network is a tool for the Chinese government to censor their media.

Der Spiegel

Der Spiegel is a German news magazine headquartered in Hamburg. They are famous for their harsh attacks of political figures and their relentless pursuit of government misconduct stories. Der Spiegel should be at the forefront of any corruption scandal playing out in a committee, especially in the Berlin Wall JCC.

Deutsche Well (DW)

DW is a global television news network headquartered in Bonn, Germany that primarily focuses on German and European affairs. The network has little bias and is known for its impartial coverage of events all across the world.

Euronews

Euronews covers news stories from all across Europe and the world. A key precept of Euronews is that they will cover world news from a European perspective. The Euronews reporter should be prepared to write impartial stories in a way that is presentable to a pan-European audience.

Fox News

Fox News is a conservative political commentary source that primarily focuses on its television channel. Owned by media mogul Rupert Murdoch, Fox News has come under heavy scrutiny in recent years over various headlines and stories they have released. Fox News is a defender of the Republican Party that appeals to an American conservative audience.

Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung

The FAZ is a German magazine based in Frankfurt that was established in 1949 as part of the effort to revitalize West Germany. This reporter will be focusing heavily on the West Berlin JCC since the magazine contains strong anti-communist and pro-Western rhetoric.

Hollywood Reporter

The Hollywood Reporter is the leading news source for the American film and entertainment industry, centered in LA. Some, if not all, of the Hollywood Reporter's work should be done on the Screen Actors Guild committee's SAG-AFTRA strike.

Moscow Times

The Moscow Times is an online news source headquartered in Amsterdam that reports on events in Russia. The paper has been at odds with the Russian government in recent years after its website was blocked in Russia. The reporter in this position should mostly report on topics that relate to Russia.

Neues Deutschland

Neues Deutschland is a German newspaper headquartered in Berlin that was the official party newspaper of East Germany for 43 years. Neues Deutschland contains a heavy leftist bias and should do much of its writing in proximity to the wall of the East German JCC.

New York Times

The New York Times is one of the most influential newspapers in the United States and worldwide. The NYT leans liberal and has consistently endorsed Democratic political candidates. The NYT reporter should focus on broad, major events rather than scandals and corruption.

Reuters

Reuters is one of the largest global news organizations in the world. The self-proclaimed largest multimedia news provider, Reuters, covers a wide array of topics through many different forms of media. Reuters is known for its leadership in world business news and financial data.

RT (Russia Today)

RT is a Russian state-funded news network headquartered in Moscow. Russia Today is known for its bias and spread of Russian propaganda, and it's considered by the West to be unreliable. RT admits that they view foreign events from a Russian standpoint, and their reporter should keep this in mind.

Sky News

Sky News is a major media outlet centered in the United Kingdom, mainly via its television channel. Sky News generally has a slight conservative leaning when discussing policy, so the Sky News reporter should have a grip on political analysis and editorial skills.

The Guardian

The Guardian is a British news source with a wide, international scope of current affairs. The organization has been recognized for writing a lot about social injustice and societal issues. This source has consistently aligned with center-left parties and policies.

Wall Street Journal

The Wall Street Journal is an American newspaper that provides a comprehensive look at business, economics, and finance. Due to its nature as a business-oriented newspaper, the WSJ has the largest print circulation of any newspaper in the United States. The WSJ also does mainstream media coverage in politics, sports, and entertainment.

Washington Post

The Washington Post is one of the largest newspapers in the US. It has been influential in many events throughout America's history, particularly with Watergate and the Pentagon Papers. The Washington Post is the leader in American political commentary and opinion.

Topic 3: Articles

The main part of the committee will not be spent inside the room but rather in other committees. You will be watching and taking note of the happenings of other committees so you can write articles. All of the articles that you will be writing will be in APA formatting. It's key to have your own style and flair while also maintaining a high quality of writing. You will be writing 4 types of articles: it will be an opinion, a feature, a standard, or a profile. Because we, like the press in the real world, want people to read our articles, it will be important that articles have attention-getting headlines. We would like you to try at least two during the committee. You can interview, take quotes, and take pictures so as to better capture the situation in the committee. Each of you will be writing multiple articles and possible follow-ups on them as the committees progress throughout the day. Articles can be as short or long as you like. That said, don't spend all of your time on one or two articles. You may also collaborate on articles in a committee, but make sure that it doesn't end up with only one person doing all the work. We may later on in the day do press raids where we will go as a group to one committee. In that event, you will be notified beforehand and given enough time to return to the committee room ahead of time. There will be further communication on procedures on the day of the conference.

Position Papers:

We will be expecting you to write position papers to be prepared for writing articles for the committee. For this reason, we will not be having you write a traditional paper; it will instead be an article as your position (ex, you will be writing as NPR). To write this article in the same style as your position, you will be expected to research your position specifically on the news organization's writing style. Writing style can be seen in the syntax of the articles written by a news organization. For example, the Associated Press writes out numbers lower than 10 and uses Arabic numerals for those above. They also don't use the Oxford comma (ex when saying cats, dogs and strollers, there is no comma before the and). For any other further questions on how to write the position paper, please reach out. We will be happy to help.

Extra Info:

- **For those of you who are writing from the perspective of a news agency in the past or have a position for a specialized committee (like the Avatar Star), try to write from the perspective of a person from that time/place for all committees**
- **When listening in on committees, we will ask that you refrain from disrupting them and only ask questions and do interviews during unmoderated caucuses**
 - **When doing interviews, please step outside so that the other delegates are not distracted**
- **Bring a device that you can carry along with you to take notes and write articles with, like a tablet, phone, or laptop (if there are any issues with this, please reach out)**
- **For the delegates who are assigned rooms, please read the background guides for those committees beforehand**

That's all delegates.

Catch you on the flip side!