



CHAPTER THREE

INTERNATIONAL PRESS DELEGATION

WHAT IS THE INTERNATIONAL PRESS DELEGATION?

The International Press Delegation (IPD) is a unique simulation offered by very few Model UN programs.

While an “International Press Delegation” does not exist at the United Nations in the way it does at AMUN, hundreds of reporters from news agencies around the world cover the work of the United Nations, making information available to people living in most places on Earth. By doing so, the members of the international press corps assist the United Nations in fulfilling one of its fundamental objectives: the dissemination of information about the United Nations and world events to all people.

AMUN has created the IPD simulation in recognition of the critical role of the press in the workings of the United Nations. The IPD has two major goals:

- To provide an opportunity for students with an interest in journalism or communications to work as Reporters covering newsworthy events at the AMUN Conference.
- To provide all AMUN participants with a high-quality newspaper (the *AMUN Chronicle*) each day of the Conference, both to keep readers informed about the news from each simulation and to add to representatives’ understanding of how the United Nations functions as an organization. The *AMUN Chronicle* also allows representatives the opportunity to present their countries’ positions through press releases and press conferences.

AMUN Secretariat Members will serve in the following roles:

- The IPD Director is responsible for overseeing all IPD activities and for the content of the published *AMUN Chronicle*.
- Editors are responsible for helping Reporters plan each issue of the *AMUN Chronicle* and write their articles, lead press conferences, assist representatives with submitting press releases and press conference requests.
- The Publisher is responsible for taking the articles and laying them out into the template for the *AMUN Chronicle*.

All IPD Reporter meetings will occur in the Colorado Room. IPD Reporters will have access to computers and printing facilities. The AMUN Secretariat reserves the final editorial rights for all content published in the *AMUN Chronicle*.

IPD MEMBERSHIP

Any interested student can join the IPD. However, it is important to note that IPD Reporters cannot also be members of their school’s delegation(s). In other words, participation in the IPD is an exclusive, duration-of-the-Conference position. Up to two students from any school may become IPD Reporters. Students from schools that are not sending a delegation to AMUN are welcome to apply to participate in the IPD.

Due to the resource intensive and specialized nature of this simulation, AMUN will accept up to 14 IPD Reporters; positions will go to applicants on a first-come, first-served basis. Please contact the AMUN Executive Office (mail@amun.org) for more information. For the best chance of being accepted into the IPD, apply by mid-October.

DUTIES OF IPD REPORTERS

Each IPD Reporter will be assigned to at least one beat, which usually includes a specific simulation (e.g., Security Council, ICJ or Third Committee). Additionally, Reporters will be assigned to cover press conferences and other Conference events, such as interviews with guest

speakers. All IPD Reporters will be responsible for the submission of articles covering their assigned stories for each issue of the *AMUN Chronicle*. Reporters should be prepared to type their own articles and to assist with the production and distribution of the paper as needed. The IPD Procedures and Style Manual will be provided to all Reporters prior to the Conference to further assist in their preparations.

CONNECTING WITH THE IPD

All AMUN representatives and delegations are encouraged to explore the news-coverage possibilities offered by the IPD. In particular, representatives should get to know the Reporter(s) covering their simulations, make themselves available for interviews and provide background information when such is requested or when it is in their States’ interest to seek press coverage. Also, representatives and delegations are strongly encouraged to call press conferences and to submit to the IPD press releases, personal ads and letters to the editor. These opportunities are detailed below.

Press Conferences: Press conferences allow representatives a chance to give an oral statement and to answer questions from reporters and other conference participants. Representatives request press conferences using the IPD Request Form. They are asked to provide three specific pieces of information: (1) the time for the press conference, (2) the countries that will participate, and (3) the topic(s) that will be discussed. Representatives typically have a maximum of 20 minutes to complete the press conference, including the question-and-answer session. Time slots are made available on a first-come, first-served basis.

Press Releases: Press releases are official statements from a representative’s country. Typically, these releases detail or explain a country’s stance on one of the topics under debate at AMUN. Press releases are a maximum of 150 words and are included in every edition of the *AMUN Chronicle*, contingent upon available space. Press releases must be typed and submitted in the IPD Office. Press releases are edited by IPD Secretariat members for content and clarity.

Personal Ads: Informal personal ads can be submitted by any individual attending the AMUN Conference. Personal ads must be no longer than 30 words and are included in the *AMUN Chronicle* contingent upon available space. Personal ads must be submitted in writing (forms are available at the documents table in each simulation) or e-mailed to personals@amun.org after the Opening Plenary Session has ended.

Letters to the Editor: Letters to the editor can be submitted by any representative and can be on any topic germane to the Conference. Letters to the editor are limited to 250 words. At the discretion of the Director of the IPD, letters to the editor may include pictures. Letters to the editor must be typed and submitted in the IPD Office.

The decision to include material submitted to the IPD office in the *AMUN Chronicle* is left to the discretion of the Director of the International Press Delegation and the AMUN Executive Committee. Any material submitted to the IPD that is not diplomatically courteous will not be published in the *AMUN Chronicle*.