

Press Corps



PRESS CORPS

Moderator | **Suzeth Pacheco Martínez**

Director | **Santiago Garza**

Committee | **Press Corps**

Topic | **Press Corps**



I. Introduction

Greetings reporters, welcome to SPISMUN2024! We are pleased to have you in this edition of MUN. We are so happy to be your chair this year. We hope you enjoy this SPISMUN as much as we do.

When people think of Model UN conferences, committees like the General Assembly or the Security Council come to mind. As you progress to more challenging models, you'll encounter new teams like Press Corps. Instead of debating issues and representing countries or individuals, delegates become journalists for global news organizations. Press Corps meetings are designed to represent the journalistic community that normally attends the UN. Press Corps journalists will report on the progress of debates of SPISMUN 2024. During the conference, you will have the opportunity to organize and participate in press conferences, interview delegates, and write articles for publication. This is our most unique selection of the year! As journalists in Press Corps, you have the challenge and responsibility to report on this incident. In this way, you will learn about real situations and develop journalistic skills.

Please note that this committee will require delegates to bring: laptops, tablets, or iPads to the sessions, as Press Corps will focus more on intensive writing.

Please familiarize yourself with SPISMUN committees first and study your News Outlet concerning it. Please remember that members of an agency need to be well-versed and ready to cover all stories, and this could include events outside the sessions as well. Additionally, please check the Press Corps preparation page at [SPIS MUN Press Corps Structure](#), for further information, article structure, writing styles, and sample articles.

Unlike other committees at SPISMUN, Press Corps is not focused on a particular issue, time, or country. The goal is to report on the committee sessions that you are assigned, which rotate

and change. Therefore, the remainder of this guide is intended to provide information on how to fulfill your assignment.

We look forward to meeting you in April. In the meantime, you can contact us at:

-suzethpachecom_a@sanpatricio.edu.mx

We truly hope you enjoy this committee as much as we did organizing it.

Sincerely, Suzeth Pacheco.

II. Terminology

Editor-in-chief: This individual will oversee the committee, guide the reporters, and serve as a resource for the reporters.

Editor and Publisher: This individual will help the Editor-in-chief, and will also focus on revising and proofreading the articles made by the reporters.

Delegates or Reporters: These individual has been assigned a news outlet. This character is a high-class journalist representing a news outlet, both national and international.

“In the Office”: This phrase refers to when reporters are inside the committee room, mainly writing, finishing, and proofreading their articles.

“In the field”: This term refers to when reporters are outside the committee room investigating, interviewing, or gathering information on their upcoming article.

III. Responsibilities of the Press Corps at SPISMUN

Reporters at SPISMUN are not required to have any journalistic experience, all of the necessary skills will be taught at the beginning of the conference. Reporters are expected to read these documents and the committee's guidelines at [Press Corps further Information](#)

All articles can be edited by a maximum of 2 editors of the committee and it is expected that articles are submitted before the deadline established by the Chair. As the conference advances, reporters are expected to improve their style of writing and the quality of articles.

At least one issue of the *Green Bear Times* needs to be delivered every two sessions. This article should contain the progress of the committee, the flow of the debate, delegates' opinions, and interviews.

Reporters are also expected to follow the deadlines established by the Chair (Section VI). Deadlines give time for the editors to revise and publish the articles and allow the staff to print them.

A reporter's main responsibility is to support evidence while communicating newsworthy events to the reader. Reporters have complete control over who is featured in the *Green Bear Times* and what the reader learns from a featured representative.

Finally, reporters must be on their best behavior and respect the guidelines established by the Secretariat. Any misconduct or reports from Secretariat members will result in a written warning.

IV. Format

Each reporter is tasked to investigate the development of the conference through the production of written content and lines of questioning. During sessions, reporters will be free to move between committees. At this time, delegates will collect information, write content, and submit work to the Chair for edits.

“On the field”

- Reporters will rotate between being “on the field” and “in-office”. Work on the field should only be done when reporting on a certain committee. At this time, reporters will take notes about the debate, possible resolutions, or ongoing conflicts between delegates. Reporters may also interview delegates or representatives whose points of view may contribute to the article. Lastly, they are also able to take pictures of the debate discreetly.

“In Office”

- Work in-office will be done when reporters already have their notes and just need to write and proofread their articles. After revising it, they may send it to the Dias for approval.

V. Logistics

The following section will focus on the functions of the committee.

Forms of Media

Today's political climate and rapid development of technology have allowed journalists to no longer depend on a printed press for large-scale news production and publishing. At SPISMUN the content you produce will be available on the SPISMUN website as well as in the form of a newspaper at the website. Lastly, reporters will be using Google Docs or Microsoft Word to write and design their articles.

Visual Graphics

We encourage reporters to utilize visual graphics as a visual aid in your article. This can be provided using the information in the form of infographics, data visualizations, graphs, animations, etc.

Articles

Writing articles will be your primary focus at the conference. Each reporter needs to deliver at least one long-form article, with a minimum of 3 paragraphs. This can be an opinion piece or an informative one. You can opt to cover more than one committee in a single piece. Remember gathering information from different sources is crucial for a journalist, this data will be collected mostly through your interaction with the chairs and delegates of your respective committees. It's also key to getting to know the Dias and delegates. This will help in interviews since the tension will surely decline. Moreover, to provide a higher-quality article reporters should future well-chosen quotes and high-quality information.

Aside from the long-form article, reporters are required to write at least one article every two sessions. Short-form articles may be only one paragraph long and may be, opinion pieces, brief essays, interviews, or even blog-style posts. Keep in mind reporters may also report relevant events happening at SPISMUN, they may work on these articles in conjunction.

Photographs

They are also allowed in articles to illustrate different situations. Photos need to be taken discretely on your electronic device. If any delegate reacts inappropriately to a photograph taken by reporters, it's up to the Dias criteria to give out warnings.

VI. Publication Timelines

The standard timeline for the Press Corps in SPISMUN goes as follows:

On the first day, reporters are expected to each write at least 1 article which would be in the future on that day's *Green Bear Times* post. On the second day, reporters should write at least one long-form article and a minimum of one short-form article. At the closing ceremony, one article from each reporter will be chosen to be featured in that day's *Green Bear Times* post. This article should be distributed at the end, while the first one will be distributed earlier that morning.

VII. Final Thoughts

Press Corps at SPISMUN is a great place for delegates to experience new committees, develop their journalistic skills, and see MUN conferences from a new angle. Your role will be crucial at the conference and will be pivotal in making this conference effective and successful. Reporters are encouraged to question, follow leads, be curious, and pursue the story.

VIII. Informal Points

A more technical explanation of the article structure can be found at [SPISMUN Press Corps Structure](#). Understanding the size of the committee, teams will be divided at the first session.

Good luck reporters on this adventure you are about to take on. Welcome to SPISMUN Cumbres 2024!
See you in April!