



75 Years of Uniting Nations: Overcoming Conflict to Achieve Common Goals

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Media Team

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Word of Welcome

Dear Journalists,

I am very pleased to welcome you in the Media Team for this exceptional BIMUN/SINUB 2020 edition. My name is Leonie and I will be your Editor-in-Chief. Together we will be covering the conference, what is happening content-wise in the committees as well as all the gossip. The press will be the binding element between the committees, especially in this situation of (social) distancing.

Journalism has the power to change opinions and enhance emotions. I strongly encourage you to use that power, in your articles as well as on the press team's social media.

We are a small team, but hopefully this will bind us together to create great work. I hope I do get to know you all despite us sitting in front of different desks in different countries. I will assign one journalist per committee to cover all the contents, we will have editorial meetings to discuss the plans for the day, so that the whole team is up to date every day.

This Guide shall help you prepare for the conference as it provides you with an overview of what to expect as well as what is expected of you. I am looking forward to meeting you (virtually). Should you have any questions do not hesitate to contact me!

Also even though this guide is serious in nature, please keep in mind this is about having fun.

Best wishes,

Leonie

Introduction

BIMUN/SINUB Online version

This year BIMUN/SINUB Conference will be an online version for obvious reasons. I hope you are motivated to participate none the less. Online version means that we as the Media team have a job even more special than normally. Instead of being that one extra person in a room, you will be that one name in a conference tool nobody knows which country that person represents.

Nevertheless, the press will be there to cover it!

Committees

We will have four committees this year: UNCCD, UNCSW, NATO and Crisis. They will each discuss one topic.

UNCCD (United Nations C to Combat Desertification) will be addressing: **Migration and Desertification in West-Africa: Fighting Drought for a Better Future**

UNCSW (United Nations Commission on the Status of Women) will be addressing: **Domestic Gender-Based Violence: A Shadow Pandemic**

NATO (North Atlantic Treaty Organization) will be addressing: **Space Defence: From Science Fiction to Science Fact**

The Crisis will be a historical committee this year and they will be dealing with the **Second Opium War**.

BIMUN Tribune

Covering the whole conference

My goal is that this year's media team covers the whole conference, which means that we keep our focus (what is happening in the committees) but add the other aspects. Every conference is made happening by a group of very dedicated individuals: the organizing team. I want to highlight that they are part of the conference as well, which is why I think that it is important that the media team covers their work as well.

Print edition

The BIMUN Tribune is the daily edition of a four-page newspaper covering events of the conference as well as the content of the committees. As BIMUN/SINUB is a green conference we will not have a printed version distributed to the delegates every day, but a PDF version distributed via social media, so the online version does not change anything here. The BIMUN Tribune is mostly serious journalism, covering the events of the conference.

As an example of what we are aiming at I will also send you scans of previous BIMUN Tribune editions from the last years.

General Writing

For writing articles, my main advice is to find an interesting angle for what you are trying to tell. Transcribing everything delegates say during sessions does not work, rather try to find the theme of their discussion, try to complement it with the research you have done on the topic and provide constructive criticism or praise if appropriate. The topics debated in a MUN conference are very complex and multi-faceted, so please prepare yourself by studying the topics of your committee. Also, please reread (and proofread) your articles before sending them in.

Citation

It is extremely important that we cite properly all of the content that we use, that is not coming directly from the delegates. This also applies for the use of pictures in

the BIMUN Tribune. Pictures we are using have to be cited like seen in the example below or be stock photos or photos made by the BIMUN/SINUB photographer in a previous edition of this conference. Example:



Iraq, the only Middle Eastern country present at this WHO summit seemed to be the only one coming forward with sensible ideas on what is best to do. But, as we all know, we do not do what is best. We do what is best for the west. That being said, the USA countered these sensible arguments made by Iraq. The ever-effective argument about Islamic radicalization was thrown on the table together with the mention of 9/11. Iraq was not amused, while France was rather shocked (as you can imagine). In short, suddenly France's idea about crystal healing did not seem like the bad of a proposition anymore. Perhaps a compromise between drugs and crystals could be found, namely crystal meth.

USA proposing a Woodstock solution. Credits: Texas Public Radio

Extract of the KULMUN Newswire 2019. Credits: KULMUN Newswire.

Gossip

The Media Team does not only cover the content of a conference but also the gossip. To provide others with the gossip you hear about we will use the BIMUN Tribunes Twitter account. There will also be an anonymous gossip box in form of a Google Sheet, that participants can use to provide the Media with gossip.

When covering gossip please keep in mind: Do not make anyone uncomfortable!

Editorial meetings

We will be having at least one editorial meeting per day, so we can stay informed on what you're working on, what's been happening in your respective committees, and also give you feedback on your articles and how the media team is working as a whole. The times for these meeting will be decided as we go and communicated to you via our Facebook chat.

I want to emphasize that we will work as a team, so communication is the key.

Preparation of the conference

As a preparation for the conference I want you to write an article about the committee you cover and the topic that they will be discussing. Your allocated committee will be communicated in the Welcome Mail. The Welcome Mail will also

contain the Study Guide of the Committee you have been allocated to, this will help you prepare the topic discussed.

Even though this will be an online conference there will be the usual dress code, Western business attire. This means a suit and a collared shirt for the gentlemen, and a pantsuit, skirt suit or formal dress for the ladies.

Code of Conduct

The ten commandments of the press

1. Journalists shall treat all participants of the conference respectfully. Hatred or discrimination will not be tolerated.
2. Journalists shall be informed and acquainted about the subject your committee is discussing as well as what is going on off-topic.
3. Journalists shall always be on time and not miss anything going on.
4. Journalists shall not interrupt their committee and speak up only if invited to by the chairpersons. Journalists shall approach the delegates of their committee during breaks or unmoderated caucuses or via social media to get exclusive information.
5. Journalists shall submit their work in time to the Editor-in-Chief and publish only works that have been approved by the Editor-in-Chief.
6. Journalists shall not reveal their sources if spoken to “off the record”, except to the Editor-in-Chief.
7. Journalists shall not plagiarize, and fact check what they publish.
8. Journalists shall use adequate citation for text as well as for pictures.
9. Journalists shall engage with all participants of the conference in order to guarantee an inclusive press.
10. Journalists shall show initiative and diligence.
11. Journalists shall always defend the freedom of speech and the freedom of the press.