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Press Committee

Study Guide



TABLE OF CONTENTS

[UCLMUN Edition X](#)

[25th - 27th October 2024](#)

[Table of contents](#)

[Introduction to the Press Committee](#)

[About the team](#)

[Types of content](#)

[1. Written work](#)

[Submission Guidelines](#)

[Formats](#)

[Academic Integrity Policies](#)

[2. Interviews](#)

[Submission guidelines](#)

[3. Social media](#)

[Submission guidelines](#)

[Press Committee Members](#)

[Plagiarism](#)

[Award Criteria](#)

[Bibliography](#)

INTRODUCTION TO THE PRESS COMMITTEE

Welcome to the Press Committee at UCLMUN Edition X! The unique Press Committee provides comprehensive coverage and analysis of events during the conference, across all committees and during socials.

Unlike General Assembly committees' structure, as a press delegate you will each represent a news outlet and be present during debate sessions in different committees, observing and documenting the proceedings. Take note of any headline-worthy occurrences, as you will write journalistic articles that capture the essence of discussions and debates, conduct insightful interviews with delegates, chairs and key figures, and create engaging social media updates, all whilst imparting your news outlet's viewpoint.

With news outlets of various political leanings and reporting countries, the Press Committee as a whole offers diverse perspectives, fostering a deeper understanding of the topics discussed in other committees.

Please read through this handbook thoroughly to better understand a press delegate's tasks and responsibilities throughout the conference. We hope you enjoy being a delegate in the Press Committee over the weekend!

Don't hesitate to contact us at press.uclmun2024@gmail.com if you have any questions or queries.

Hayley Kwok (Press Director)

Eleanor Brinsden, Oliver Chan, Pia Heong (Press Chairs)

ABOUT THE TEAM

PRESS DIRECTOR: HAYLEY KWOK



Hi everyone! I'm Hayley, Press Director for UCLMUN 2024! I'm honoured to bring the unique and creative Press Committee to life, and hope you will have a great time over the weekend! What was once just an idea has since turned into an exciting and innovative addition to our Edition X conference. Aside from developing and refining the Press Committee from scratch, which couldn't be possible without such an amazing chair team, I am also UCLUNA's Vice President for External Affairs

- so I do hope to see you at upcoming conferences.

When I'm not nose deep in MUN related endeavours or studying for my French with Management degree, you'll probably find me drinking lots of coffee, taking photos of just about everything, baking up a storm, or bouldering. I look forward to meeting you soon at UCLMUN 2024!

CHAIR: ELEANOR BRINDEN



Hi everyone, my name is Eleanor and I'll be overseeing interviews as one of your Press Chairs! I'm a UCL English student, but outside of my degree and MUN, you can find me exploring London, writing/producing for UCL media societies, and drinking coffee. Really looking forward to meeting all of you, and see you soon!

Eleanor will oversee the interviews conducted by press delegates throughout the conference.

CHAIR: OLIVER CHAN



Hi all, Oliver here and I'm thrilled to be acting as one of your press chairs overseeing all things social media-related! Outside of MUN and my law degree, you'll probably catch me either behind a camera, on the badminton courts or huddled around a table playing mahjong. Hayley, Eleanor, Pia and I are so excited to see what you guys have in store for UCLMUN's press team, and we hope your experience here will be fun and rewarding!

Oliver will oversee press delegates' social media posts throughout the conference.

CHAIR: PIA HEONG



Hello hello, I'm Pia and I'll be handling the news articles as one of the press chairs! Beyond MUN, you can find me at yet another university society event, or occasionally studying for my psychology course. In my free time, I enjoy baking to varying degrees of success, fulfilling my word games addiction, and very casually strolling in the city of Bath. I look forward to everyone's writings in the press committee, and we hope you all have a great time!

Pia will oversee press delegates' written articles throughout the conference.

TYPES OF CONTENT

1. WRITTEN WORK

Includes news articles, news updates, features, and opinion editorials.

When writing articles and reports, keep in mind the target audience and make sure to create eye-catching headlines. It's always good to support your statements with statistics or quotes from external sources or delegates alike, but do not refer to delegates by their name (only by the country they are representing). Remember to take a photo or two during the socials too!

News Article

News articles factually report on key discussions, notable developments, and proposed solutions in committee. Articles are the most common type of news reporting and usually adhere to the “inverted pyramid structure”: where most crucial information is presented first, with later paragraphs addressing background context and then discussions. Information should be conveyed with clarity, conciseness, and an objective reporting tone.

Minimum word count: 400-500 words.

News Update

News updates provide quick, recent updates on any major developments within the committee. Typically, they also cover previous events that led to the development and its implications for future debates.

Minimum word count: 300-350 words.

Feature

Feature articles or stories take on a more creative, narrative focus to explore specifically the current issues, topics in the debate, or policies proposed. Features add human elements and more description to the topic area. They may introduce background context on issues, delegates' viewpoints, or expert opinions.

Word count: 400-450 words.

Opinion Editorial

Opinion Editorials (OpEds) express certain points in committee discussions, then also provide the journalist's own viewpoint and may address controversies or global implications. It would warrant a less impartial tone relative to other types of articles, but should still be respectable. Press delegates' stances should align with their newspaper's reporting styles and political leanings.

Minimum word count: 350-450 words.

Submission Guidelines

Delegates are expected to publish a minimum of **two written articles per day** during the conference, other than day 1 for which the minimum is one written article. The choice of articles can be any from the list above, though selection of a variety throughout the conference is valued.

- Articles should be submitted in Microsoft Word document (.docx) format throughout the day to press.uclmun2024@gmail.com.
- File names for submission and email subjects should follow this format:
 - NewsOutlet_Committee_ArticleType_SubmissionNumber
 - E.g.: WallStreetJournal_ECOSOC_OpEd_01

Formats

- The word count is provided for each type of article, and must be within the given range. Headlines, bylines, any captions, and the bibliography will not count towards the word count.
- The article's headline should be left aligned and bolded.
- Articles are to include simple bylines (italicised), shown below:
 - "News Outlet
By [Press Delegate's Name], UN Correspondent"
- **Font style:** Times New Roman
- Size **16** for headlines, and size **12** for bylines and body text.

APA Referencing Guidelines

Format for Referencing Online Articles

Author's Last Name, First Name Initial., & 2nd Author's Last Name, First Name Initials. (Year, Month Day). Title of the article. *Title of the Source*. URL

Example:

Carey, B. (2019, March 22). Can we get better at forgetting? *The New York Times*.
<https://www.nytimes.com/2019/03/22/health/memory-forgetting-psychology.html>

- Only the first letter of the first word in the article's title should be capitalised, other than proper nouns.
- The title of the source must be italicised, with all major words capitalised.

Further Resources

The APA Style of Referencing –

<https://apastyle.apa.org/style-grammar-guidelines/references>

Official UN Names of Nations and UN Charter Names –

<https://www.un.int/protocol/sites/www.un.int/files/Protocol%20and%20Liaison%20Service/officialnamesofcountries.pdf>

Academic Integrity Policies

Academic integrity must be upheld throughout the conference and plagiarism of any form is strictly prohibited. This includes the use of generative AI in writing. Upon suspicion of academic integrity violations, the work produced will be subjected to thorough checks by a plagiarism detector and assessed by the chairing team. If there is reasonable evidence implying plagiarism, the delegate will be informed regarding the case. Delegate's eligibility for awards may be reconsidered as a result.

2. INTERVIEWS

Format

A video interview between the interviewer (a Press delegate), who can be behind or in front of the camera, and another delegate of another committee, a chair or a secretariat member, who consents to being filmed.





Introduce yourself. What news company are you representing? Which committee is the interview centred around and what have they been debating as of late?




Suggested questions for interviews

- Given the escalating hostility between X and X, do you envision the committee coming to a mutual resolution?
- Given the (recent update) in the situation in X, how do you think this will change the development of the talks?

- Do you think X's position in the talks represents an obvious conflict of interest? Has the committee been addressing this?
- Given that your nation ...XXX, do you think this represents an obvious conflict of interest?
- Do you envision X from backing off their hard stance on X?

Types of Interviews

One-on-one interviews		When an interviewer and an interviewee sit faced-to-faced. These interviews tend to be in a longer format and have a conversational tone. Questions can be planned or unplanned in advance.
Panel interview		When people from different backgrounds and opinions come together to form a panel. Depending on the interviewer, a panel interview can remain a discussion or guided into a debate between panellists.
The press conference		An official event organised to answer questions from the media. Normally after a significant event, an announcement, or any other public relations issue. This is a chance for the media to ask questions.
Radio/Podcast		Where an interview is distributed on radio or podcast—this format is typically audio-only.

<p><u>Down-the-line</u></p>		<p>Used on live television when the outlet has a reporter on the scene/in a secondary location. The first reporter (at the news desk) will typically ask the second reporter for first-hand insight on the situation they are reporting on.</p>
<p><u>The doorstep interview</u></p>		<p>When a team of journalists wait outside 'the door' in an attempt to catch a subject as they are leaving the building. The subject is normally unprepared and the questions asked are normally targeted.</p>
<p>Off-the-record interview</p>		<p>Journalists cannot use what has been said in an 'off-the-record' interview in any content they are creating, but they may use the interview as a jumping off point to search for other sources/interview candidates.</p>

(This is not a definitive list)

Advice on how to conduct an interview

Who is your audience? You have to tell a story that will appeal to your audience. Are they academics? Business owners? Gossip lovers?

Know what story you want to tell. Think about your main message; ask the questions which will help you bring this message across.

Do your research. Your questions should give your audience an exclusive insight into your subject/the event; they should not be something they can easily look-up. Who are you interviewing? What are they anticipating you to ask? What are they not anticipating?

Have a list of ready questions. Going off-the-cuff can be risky and result in an unfruitful interview; choose your questions in advance to maximise your (and your subject's) time.

Avoid Talking About Yourself. Your job is to tell a story, not to be the story.

Timing is key. Allow your interviewees to pause—use silence to your advantage!

Be a good listener. Your interview should feel more like a conversation and less like a questionnaire! Don't be afraid to go off script if there is a natural follow up question.

Submission guidelines

- Submit your interviews to press.uclmun2024@gmail.com with video file name and email subject as follows:
NewsOutlet_Committee_Interview_SubmissionNumber
E.g.: WallStreetJournal_ECOSOC_Interview_02
(for the 2nd interview submitted - independent of written articles or social media posts submitted)

3. SOCIAL MEDIA

Includes images, infographics, video reels, and so on.

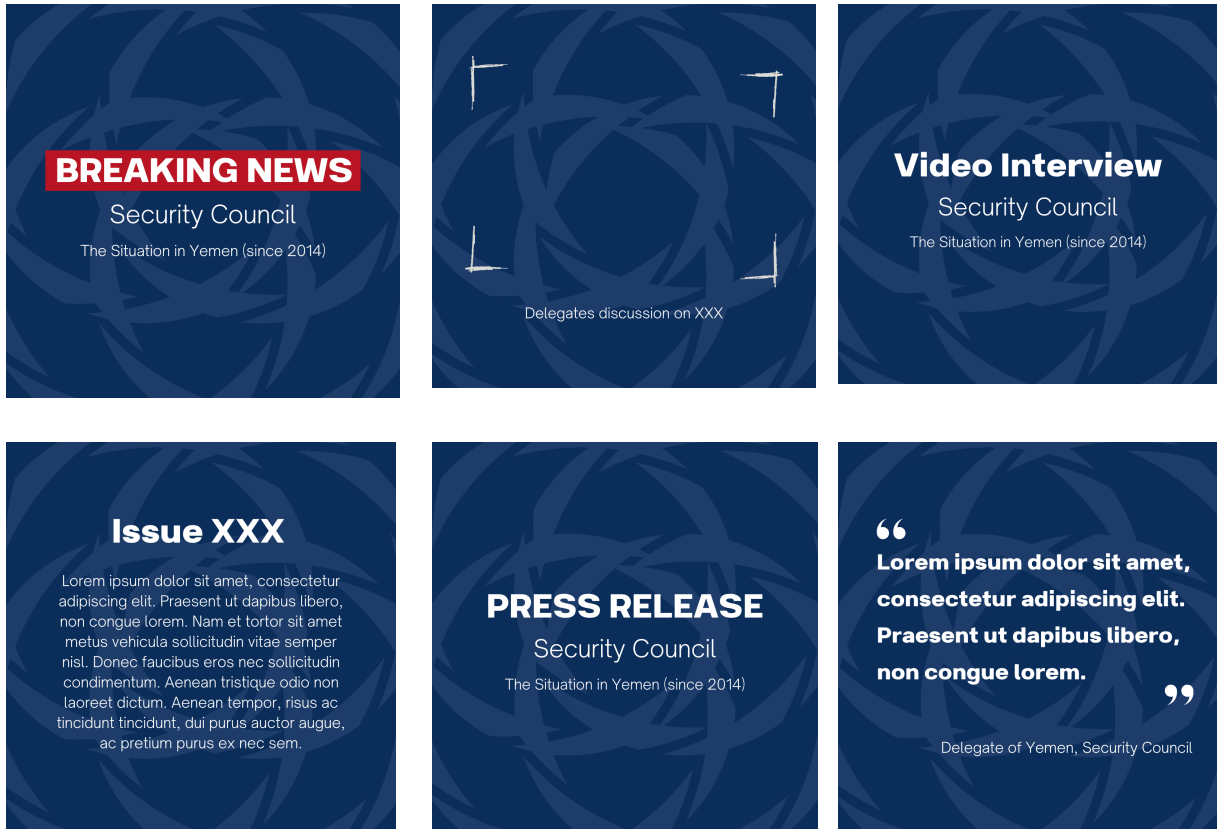
Social media post (photo)

This can include images of committee action with a short caption describing the scene, or an infographic explaining the topic of a committee and breaking down how their committee sessions have progressed, or something else entirely - use your imagination!

Social media short-form video (reel)

This can include clips of debate in other committees, a summary of one day at the conference, a deep dive into a topic discussed in a moderated caucus, a glimpse into a committee, and so on. Be creative and create something unique that catches our attention!

Example posts:



Submission guidelines

- Submit your social media content to press.uclmun2024@gmail.com with the file name and email subject as follows:
 NewsOutlet_Committee_SocialMedia_SubmissionNumber
 E.g.: WallStreetJournal_ECOSOC_SocialMedia_03
 (for the 3rd social media post you submit - independent of written articles or interviews submitted)
- It will be edited with a logo/watermark for your news outlet and posted on the @uclmun_press Instagram.

PRESS COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Delegates will be assigned to a news outlet, which they will represent in all of their reports and social media publications. The list below is a description of each news outlet.

Daily Mail

[\[Link to website\]](#)

Daily Mail is a British tabloid newspaper established by brothers Alfred and Harold Harmsworth in 1896. The news outlet is known for its heavy coverage on UK politics, but also of foreign affairs, and public figures.

In terms of political alignment, Daily Mail is right-wing and a supporter of Conservative policies, according to Media Bias Fact Check. It has been under criticism from other media companies for controversial headlines and several articles that failed fact checks. Analysis by Ad Fontes Media depicted the outlet to have notable variation in reporting reliability, ranging from “thorough fact reporting” to “contains inaccurate/fabricated info”.

Daily Mail’s reporting style is characterised by suggestive, sensationalist headlines and loaded wordings in content, for dramatic effect to attract views. Hence, although many of their news stories are right-aligned, stories from any side that can evoke sensationalism may be reported.

Example Headlines

“Google search spike suggests many people don’t know why they voted for Brexit.” ([Fact Check Failed](#))

“Trump kisses the helmet of slain retired fire chief Corey Comperatore after he was shot and killed by gunman at his rally”

“Biden, 81, sparks fresh health fears by staring blankly ahead as confident Kamala Harris takes lead while meeting Americans freed from Russian prisons”

Novara

[\[Link to website\]](#)

Established in 2011, Novara is an independent, non-profit media organisation based in the UK. Its coverage on news and political commentary are concentrated on contemporary issues such as the “crisis of capitalism to racism and climate change.” Novara Media also features interviews with political figures, scientists, and activists, as well as produced podcasts and Youtube videos.

Novara Media is given a far-left bias rating by Media Bias Fact Checker. Co-founder Aaron Bastani has vocalised his political alignment to the radical left, previously in support of Corbyn’s leadership in the Labour party, according to The New Statesman. Novara’s editorials promote anti-capitalism and luxury communism, racial social equality, and climate concerns. Despite the far-left perspectives, news reporting remains factual.

Novara’s approach aims to challenge mainstream narratives, with original reporting that analyses underrepresented current issues in-depth. The non-profit media outlet depends on donations, and their readers value Novara as an alternative to mainstream media. Its headlines tend to be fairly direct and emphasise the urgency of issues.

Example headlines:

“Why Do We Still Fetishise Homeownership?”

“Covid Has Exposed Conservatives As Complete Idiots”

The Guardian

[\[Link to website\]](#)

The Guardian is a British daily newspaper founded in 1821, one of the oldest newspapers in the UK. ‘The Scott Trust’ in 1936 allowed the news outlet to secure financial and editorial independence, for journalistic freedom and liberal values to be maintained without political or commercial interference. The Guardian now has a considerable

global reach, even having editions for the US, Australia, and an international one. Its extensive range of coverage includes politics, international relations, policies, and more. The Guardian also has its own podcast.

The Guardian is considered left-leaning and progressive, focusing on issues like social justice and climate change with stories favouring the left. Ad Fontes Media analyses the news outlet to have a 40.83 reliability score, indicating general reliability of factual reporting and analysis. There have been several fact check fails, but are relatively rare given The Guardian's long duration of news coverage.

The Guardian's reporting style is typically objective and factual. Article headlines tend to be informative and invite critical reflection on the issues reported.

Example headlines:

"Thousands call for 'climate reparations and justice' in global protests"

"Foreign Office official quits over UK refusal to ban arms exports to Israel"

British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC)

[\[Link to website\]](#)

The British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) is a public service broadcaster, established in the UK in 1922. It is among the world's most trusted international news broadcasters. The BBC is funded by UK consumers' licence fees, allowing services to be independent of shareholder and political interests. Its status as a quasi-autonomous corporation under the royal charter enables BBC to be operationally independent of the government. The BBC's news coverage includes areas like politics, current affairs, and business.

The BBC is considered left-centre in its political alignment, although both sides of the political spectrum have accused them of having a liberal or conservative bias. One example of slight left bias is shown through word choices that evoke a negative tone when reporting on former US President Donald Trump and his policies. While BBC's

story selections may slightly favour the left, their factual reporting is rated to be reliable by Ad Fontes Media.

In terms of reporting style, BBC's headlines uses minimal loaded words and draws from proper sources for information. The BBC also has a commitment to their editorial guidelines, which aims for impartiality and freedom from political and commercial influences in news reporting.

Example headlines:

“Diplomatic tightrope for Modi as he visits Kyiv after Moscow”

“Why Ethiopia is so alarmed by an Egypt-Somalia alliance”

Reuters

[\[Link to website\]](#)

Reuters is a world-leading international news agency founded in 1851, with the headquarters in London. It is globally recognised as one of the most trusted and largest news sources, adhering to principles of “independence, integrity and freedom from bias”. Global news coverage ranges from topics like politics, finance, science, and more.

Reuters falls in the centre for political leaning, due to minimal bias in reporting and reputation for reliability. The news agency is a certified IFCN fact-checker, upholding themselves to the code of principles to ensure credible news reporting. Issues are often covered from multiple sides, portraying nuance and balanced reporting. Reuters have won two Pulitzer Prizes in 2018: one for exposing police killing squads in the Philippines president's drug war, and the other for feature photography depicting the Rohingya refugee crisis in Myanmar and Bangladesh.

Reuters maintains objectivity and neutrality in reporting by not taking sides in controversial issues, ensuring balanced coverage, and vigilance in word choice to avoid bias implications. Opinion pieces are distinctly separated from news reporting and are published in columns. Headlines should be reality-focused, prioritising clarity and objectivity over sensationalism.

Example headlines:

“Countries still far apart on COP29 finance goal”

“Frustration deepens two years after UN report on China abuses”

The Economist

[\[Link to website\]](#)

Founded in 1843, The Economist is a UK-based weekly news magazine, which is owned by a British multinational media company called the Economist Group. Its international circulation resulted in the US-based readership accounting for over half of all subscribers of The Economist. Its news coverage typically features business and economic analyses, political affairs, and social issues.

The Economist falls in the centre for political leanings, as they claimed to be “neither right nor left but a blend of the two, drawing on classical liberalism of the 19th century and coming [from] the radical centre,” according to their website. Generally, the news outlet endorsed policies and beliefs from both the left and the right. The Economist has the editorial stance of right-leaning neoliberalism involving globalisation and free trade, while also supporting social liberalism policies like environmental protectionism initiatives. According to Ad Fontes Media, The Economist is rated to be reliable in news fact reporting and analysis, and have not failed fact-checks.

The Economists’ headlines tend to avoid loaded language, prioritising clarity and conciseness over sensationalism. However, these headlines may aim to be intellectually engaging. In terms of reporting in articles, there is minimal emotional bias.

Example headlines:

“China’s giant solar industry is in turmoil”

“America’s Supreme Court should reject the challenge to abortion drugs”

Fox News

[\[Link to website\]](#)

Fox News is an American cable news channel founded in 1996, characterised by its focus on political commentaries. It has been the most watched cable news network in the US since 2002. Fox News is mainly concentrated on US politics, live coverage of news and events, as well as notable foreign affairs.

Fox News is an established ring-wing news outlet with right bias ratings. The news network has featured on-air personalities that avidly support candidate Donald Trump in the 2020 election, with some instigating false accusations and conspiracies of election fraud post-election. Fox News later faced a defamation lawsuit for the false claims against Dominion Voting Systems, which were eventually settled. While Fox News do publish some credible news stories with fact-based reporting, the predominant right-wing political commentaries and questionable claims overshadow them.

In terms of reporting style, Fox News takes on a sensationalist approach as a cable news network, where headlines contain loaded language to evoke strong emotions. Notable emphasis is placed on controversial issues with hardline stances in narratives.

Example headlines:

“White House defends slamming half of America as ‘semi-fascist,’ ‘terrorists’ despite Biden’s unity pledge”

“NASA scientists fudged the numbers to make 1998 the hottest year to overstate the extent of global warming.” ([Failed Fact Check](#))

Wall Street Journal

[\[Link to website\]](#)

Wall Street Journal is an international business newspaper established in the US, with headquarters in New York City. It is the largest newspaper by circulation in the US, and is also respected internationally by professionals in finance, business, economics, and politics.

Wall Street Journal is considered to be right-centre, due to favourable reporting of far-right politicians abroad and pro-Trump coverage.

Example headlines:

“China Slaps Provisional Tariffs on EU Brandy Imports, Hurting Drinks Stocks”

“Harris’s Uphill Battle in Michigan: Winning Over Its Large Arab Community”

Vox Media

[\[Link to website\]](#)

Established in 2011, Vox Media is an American mass media company that owns a number of distinct brands. Vox Media focuses on multimedia coverage through their brands, and produces podcasts, maintains a Youtube channel, and news reporting. Its flagship brand, Vox, is a news hub that covers topics like politics, international affairs, and current events.

Vox is characterised as left-wing and its left bias is shown by the routine favouring of left-leaning views and policies. Right-leaning views are often not included in Vox’s selection of stories, resulting in one-sided reporting, according to AllSides. Media Bias Fact Check also notes the anti-Trump tone in articles, adding to left bias. However, Vox’s factual reporting is generally reliable due to use of credible sources, and no failed fact checks.

Vox’s approach focuses on explanatory journalism, a form of reporting that provides more context to better understand the topic, which aims to present news stories in a more accessible manner. Regarding headlines, Vox tends to use emotionally loaded language to evoke a strong narrative.

Example headlines:

“The most depressing energy chart of the year – Coal has got to go”

“The felon frontrunner: How Trump warped our politics”

Cable News Network (CNN)

[\[Link to website\]](#)

Cable News Network (CNN) is a multinational news channel and website operating from Midtown Atlanta, Georgia, U.S. Founded in 1980. It is currently owned by Warner Bros. Discovery, and provides 24-hour cable news coverage.

Its political leanings are mostly left-leaning, although their reporting tones and accuracy are often high and reliable. This is evident from the guests they invite on their shows carrying liberal biases (a "campaign finance score" of -9.7 , where 0 is equal airtime, compared to -14.1 for MSNBC and 49.8 for Fox News).

Its reporting styles are short, catchy and simple as their mission is to be "The Most Trusted Name in News" whilst also dramatically covering breaking news with the least delay possible.

Example headlines:

‘What Trump's waffling on abortion means for his campaign’

‘Brazil begins to block X as Elon Musk’s feud with judge deepens’

‘Why an election for 330 million-plus people may still come down to so few votes’

Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty

[\[Link to website\]](#)

Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty is an American government-funded international media organisation that broadcasts and reports news information, and analyses to Eastern Europe, Central Asia, the Caucasus, and the Middle East. As a privately owned company supervised by the US, it was previously established in order to broadcast news from the US to Soviet satellite states.

Recently, it has been facing heavy controversy due to unreliable coverage of Azerbaijan’s election, and has even been banned in Russia and condemned by Belarus’ forces due to its reporting of the Russo-Ukrainian war.

Its reputation has generally been positive and is not considered biased or having strong political leanings, and its content is mostly factual.

Example headlines:

‘Pro-War Policies Put Russia’s Orthodox Church Under Increasing Pressure Outside Russia’

‘Azerbaijan’s Second Snap Vote Since Karabakh Victory Could Further Signal Democratic Dead-End’

‘UN Vows To Remain Engaged In Afghanistan Despite Taliban’s Latest Restrictions On Women’

Buenos Aires Times

[\[Link to website\]](#)

As Argentina’s only English-language newspaper, the newspaper has been generally popular within the English-speaking community in Argentina. Its article titles are also creative, often featuring political references characterised by short and catchy titles with a simple photocard.

Its political leanings have been observed to be right-centrist, with a high degree of factual reporting. Its words in its articles might be slightly loaded and tend to favour the right-wing government currently in power.

Example headlines:

‘Argentina at risk of falling onto FATF money-laundering ‘grey list’’

‘Libertarian entrapment’

‘When ugly ducklings are black swans’

Telesur

[\[Link to website\]](#)

Telesur is a Latin American terrestrial and satellite news television network headquartered in Venezuela. It is sponsored by the governments of Venezuela, Cuba and Nicaragua, which might result in its articles and reports leaning towards the political parties in the respective countries to advance their agendas.

It has been described as a network showcasing the diversity of Latin America and a propaganda outlet for state views. It is currently heavily left-biased and often lacks fact-checking, resulting in its reputation being doubted by the international community.

Example headlines:

‘President Maduro Assures That Those Responsible for the Attacks on the Electrical System Will Face the Justice’

‘Brazil Blocks X After Elon Musk’s Judicial Breaches’

‘Kamala Harris Says She Will Continue Sending Weapons to Israel If She Wins the Election’

Agencia EFE

[\[Link to website\]](#)

Agencia EFE is a Spanish international news agency, the major Spanish-language multimedia news agency and the world's fourth largest wire service. Its media bias is generally centrist, whilst carrying language that slightly favour liberal views.

Example headlines:

‘Israeli government votes to keep troops on Gaza’s border with Egypt

‘“My values have not changed:” Kamala Harris defends shifting positions on key issues’

‘Typhoon Shanshan wreaks havoc in Japan, kills at least 4’

Le Monde

[\[Link to website\]](#)

Le Monde is a French daily afternoon newspaper and the main publication of Le Monde Group. Le Monde is considered one of the French newspapers of record, and has been voted to be the most trusted French newspaper by the public. Its independence is also guaranteed by the fact that while shareholders appoint the company's CEO, the editor is elected by Le Monde's journalists to uphold the newsroom's independence.

It has been deemed to be left-centrist leaning, with high degrees of reliable reporting.

Example headlines:

‘Brazil's Federal Supreme Court escalates tensions with Musk after suspending X’

‘Trump contradicts himself on abortion in search of political gain’

‘Israel's deadly raid in occupied West Bank continues as Gaza polio vaccine campaign begins’

Agenzia Nazionale Stampa Associata (ANSA)

[\[Link to website\]](#)

The Agenzia Nazionale Stampa Associata is the leading news agency in Italy and one of the top ranking in the world. ANSA is a not-for-profit cooperative, whose members and owners are 36 leading news organisations in Italy. It has been characterised with a general non-bias in terms of political leanings, and a high degree of factual accuracy.

Example headlines:

‘Alleged Verzeni killer ‘under close surveillance’ in jail’

‘Bayesian sailor ‘woke captain up due to strong wind’

‘Migrant gets residence permit for aiding police’

Der Spiegel

[\[Link to website\]](#)

Der Spiegel ('The Mirror') is a German weekly news magazine published in Hamburg, and is considered one of the largest publications in Europe. It is known mostly for its investigative journalism due to its key role in uncovering many political scandals such as the Spiegel affair in 1962 and the Flick affair in the 1980s. It has been deemed to be left-centrist leaning.

Example headlines:

'Pithy Sayings Are Not Part of My Approach to Politics'

'War in Sudan: Soup Kitchens Fight against Looming Famine'

'Warsaw's Palace of Culture: From a Symbol of Oppression to a Symbol of Subversion'

The Moscow Times

[\[Link to website\]](#)

The Moscow Times is an independent English-language and Russian-language online newspaper. It was the first Western daily to be published in Russia in the Cold War, and quickly became "a primary source of news and opinion" quoted in both Russia and the West. Russia recently labelled The Moscow Times an "undesirable organisation.". It was said to have a left-centrist political bias.

Example headlines:

'Kremlin Unconcerned Over Possible Arrest of Putin During Mongolia Visit'

'Newspaper Publisher in Siberia Jailed 8 Years Over War 'Fakes''

'Yabloko Lawmakers Urge Military to Stop Deploying Conscripts in Russia's Kursk Region'

South China Morning Post

[\[Link to website\]](#)

A Hong Kong based newspaper established in 1903, producing a print edition available in Hong Kong as well as an online news website. The focus of their coverage are stories important to East and South-East Asia, but they can also be seen covering stories around the globe. SCMP is an English language newspaper and has an international readership, who consider the newspaper a way to gain an important insight into Chinese politics and matters. They are often cited by other media companies as a source of expert, regional analysis. Their reporting tends to be factual yet nuanced, with both Ad Fontes Media and All sides giving them a 'centre' bias rating.

SCMP is owned entirely by the Alibaba Group, however, the company "[articulated its commitment to the newspaper's editorial independence](#)". Jack Ma, Alibaba's founder and executive chairman, has also expressed he shall and would not interfere with the newspaper's editorial decision-making. Alibaba Group is a Chinese multinational company. It could be said that Ali Baba had a large influence on the newspaper's expansion into the digital and global market.

Other important facts:

- Their website is blocked in mainland China.
- They also offer multimedia content, expanding into podcast and video.
- Articles are now behind a paywall.
- **Mission statement:** "Our vision is to Elevate Thought, and our mission is to Lead the Global Conversation about China"

Example Headlines:

"Washington uses Tiananmen Square commemorations to invoke current human rights issues"

"Cap and gloom: Australia's appeal as top pick for Chinese students dims"

"Price war nibbles as China's embattled restaurants struggle to stay afloat"

Rodong Sinmun

[\[Link to website\]](#)

Rodong Sinmun is the official newspaper of North Korea's ruling party, the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea. It is often quoted by international media to represent North Korea's official state viewpoint. All coverage of international news is in appraisal of North Korea's government while criticising other countries such as the United States and South Korea. Media Bias/Fact Check gives them an 'extreme-left' rating and is widely considered a propaganda outlet. All media in North Korea is controlled by the Korean Central News Agency.

North Korea ranks 177 out of 180 in Reporters without borders' 2024 Press Freedom Index.

Other important facts:

- The English Language version was launched in 2012, 66 years after the newspaper was founded.

Example Headlines:

"Respected Comrade Kim Jong Un receives reply message from Vietnamese Party Leader"

"Houses built for farmers in Kangwon province"

The Straits Times

[\[Link to website\]](#)

A Singaporean paper established in 1845, it is the most read newspaper in Singapore with their coverage focusing on local and regional matters, while also covering global news with correspondents stationed all over the world. Their reporting is often concise and factual, with Media Bias/Fact Check giving them a 'right-centre' bias rating. While their primary readership is the Singaporean public (from all backgrounds in society), they are one of the most respected newspapers in South East Asia.

However, Human Rights Watch have said that "[t]he government effectively controls print media, and online media outlets are forced to register with the government and post a significant bond."

Other important facts:

- They cover news stories and create content on their website, youtube, and instagram among other platforms.
- Owned by the SPH Media Trust.

Example Headlines:

"With Pacific policing deal, Australia curtails China influence in long diplomatic game"

"Telegram and the limits of free speech"

Al Jazeera

[\[Link to website\]](#)

Al Jazeera is a Qatar-based global news network founded in 1996. It is one of the most influential international news outlets in the world, reaching to a global audience of over 430 million people. They provide a non-western perspective on global news, often reporting on matters that are unreported in other large media networks, largely focusing on Middle-Eastern affairs, conflicts, and politics.

While they receive funding from the Qatar government, AJMN is a private company and asserts their commitment to their editorial independence. They have often been accused of catering towards the Qatari government's interests, but they maintain that they are not influenced by, nor represent, any official government viewpoints. Ad Fontes Media and AllSides have given them a 'lean-right' bias rating.

Other important facts:

- They run a 24-hour news channel and publish their coverage on their website and social media. Additionally, they produce documentaries. They are known for their strong investigative journalism unit.
- They broadcast in both Arabic and English.

Example Headlines:

"Hiding in the kitchen from Israeli snipers: A Jenin family's diary"

"'Houses would get petrol bombed': UK race riots evoke memories of the 1970s"

The Tehran Times

[\[Link to website\]](#)

The Tehran Times is Iran's first English-Language newspaper. It was founded shortly after the Islamic Revolution in 1979 to provide an Iranian perspective of global affairs, catering towards an English speaking audience. While it is not state-owned, it proudly discloses the newspaper as "a loud voice of the Islamic Revolution and the oppressed people of the world" (the words of Ayatollah Beheshti, the paper's founder). Media Bias/Fact check give them a 'right' bias rating.

Other important facts:

- The Tehran Times and the Mehr News Agency are run under a single management system, after the paper established the news agency in 2002

Example Headlines:

"Iran, Russia long-term cooperation agreement to be implemented"

"Pezeshkian says Iran will change policy if it remains under sanctions and pressure"

The Herald Sun

[\[Link to website\]](#)

An Conservative Australian newspaper based in Melbourne and a part of The News Corporation Limited, the Murdoch owned mass media multi-national. Their paper uses a 'tabloid-format', with eye-catching design, images, and sensational headlines. Their reporting, particularly on progressive issues such as LGBT rights, has often been characterised by fear-mongering and divisive rhetoric, with Media Bias/Fact Check giving the paper a 'centre-right' bias rating.

Example Headlines:

"Children to be asked pronouns under new library guidelines"

"Coming or going? Dons stuck in footy purgatory"

"'Most Aussie party of all time': Crowds pack out Bunnings rave"

FURTHER POLICIES

PLAGIARISM

Submitted articles must be original. Make sure to remain unbiased in your reports and represent the interests of your media outlet, and do not let your personal views affect your work. If acts of plagiarism or significant use of generative AI are suspected and there is evidence indicating plagiarism, your work will be closely reviewed and may not be approved, and your eligibility for awards may be reconsidered.

AWARD CRITERIA

Your performance will be assessed based on:

- High quality of work submitted;
- Consistency throughout the duration of the conference;
- Creativity and innovation;
- Alignment with your news outlet's stance and reporting style.

REFERENCES

Media Bias Fact Check (2024). *Media Bias/Fact Check*. [online] Media Bias/Fact Check. Available at:
<https://mediabiasfactcheck.com/>.