

DRSMUN 2026

International Press

Photojournalism Background Guide

Affah Aigar
Director Of Photography

Letter From Executive Board

Hello Photojournalists,

This is Afifah Aigar, Director of Photography for DRSMUN 2026

Let's talk about photojournalism. It goes far beyond just taking pictures, it's the art of capturing the energy, emotion, and narrative of a moment. Unlike traditional photography, photojournalism requires a sharp eye for detail, context, and authenticity. Every image you capture should reflect the significance of what's happening, especially in a dynamic MUN environment where discussions, debates, and decisions are constantly shaping the story.

As delegates voice their opinions and craft resolutions, it is our responsibility in the International Press to document those defining moments truthfully and thoughtfully. Remember, our cameras are the world's window into this event, we are the storytellers for every committee, ensuring that the essence and spirit of DRSMUN are vividly preserved.

Photography and documentation are not just methods of recording; they are powerful instruments that influence how the conference will be remembered and understood. As members of the International Press at DRSMUN, we carry the unique honor of capturing the heart of this conference.

Above all, view this as an incredible opportunity to learn and grow. I urge you to approach each assignment with creativity, professionalism, and genuine enthusiasm. Let's work together to ensure that every shot we take helps tell the DRSMUN 2026 complete story.

I can't wait to see your creativity and commitment in action at DRSMUN 2026. Let's make every frame Count!

Introduction to International Press (Photojournalism)

Photojournalism is the art of telling stories through photographs that document real events as they unfold. Rather than relying on posed or staged images, photojournalism focuses on capturing genuine moments, emotions, interactions, and details as they naturally occur. Every photograph should contribute to a larger story and give the audience a deeper understanding of what took place.

Within an MUN conference, photojournalists serve as **visual storytellers**. Their role extends beyond simply photographing delegates or recording what happens in a committee. They capture the intensity of debate, the dynamics between delegates, moments of diplomacy and collaboration, and the atmosphere that makes each committee unique.

A strong photojournalist looks beyond the obvious. Instead of focusing only on familiar faces or major moments, take the time to observe the smaller details — a delegate preparing to speak, an exchange

between delegates, a moment of concentration, or the energy within a committee. These moments can often tell a story just as effectively as a formal speech or ceremony.

As a member of the Photography Team, your responsibility is to document the conference **accurately, creatively, and respectfully**. Understand the context of the committee you are covering, anticipate important moments, and use your creativity to present them in a meaningful way. Explore different committees, perspectives, and styles rather than repeatedly capturing the same subjects.

Most importantly, remember that photography at MUN is a collaborative effort. Work alongside fellow photographers, journalists, and reporters, communicate with your team, and contribute to a shared visual narrative of the conference.

General Guideline and rules of conduct

Authenticity: Capture genuine, unscripted moments and never stage or interfere with committee proceedings.

Professionalism: Remain respectful, discreet, and unobtrusive while working around delegates, EB members, and fellow press members.

Creativity: Use different angles, perspectives, depth, and composition to capture the story beyond simple posed or speaking shots.

Equipment Readiness: Check your camera, batteries, memory cards, and other equipment before every session.

Silent Shooting: Use silent or electronic shutter modes where possible to avoid disrupting the committee.

No Flash: Flash photography is strictly prohibited during committee sessions.

No Unauthorised Editing: Do not crop, filter, or edit photographs unless instructed by the DOP.

File Submission: Submit photographs in **.JPG** or **.JPEG** format through the designated Google Drive folders and meet all deadlines.

Committee Familiarity: Visit your assigned committee beforehand to understand its layout, lighting, and available shooting space.

Responsible Photography: Respect the privacy and comfort of subjects, and obtain consent when required before publication.

Collaboration: Coordinate with photographers, reporters, and the DOP to ensure complete and varied conference coverage.

Coverage: Avoid repetitive photographs and ensure your submissions collectively capture the delegates, EB, committees, events, atmosphere, and important moments of the conference.

Key Shots & Techniques

1. Frame-in-Frame A composition where elements within the environment naturally

surround or “frame” the main subject. This can be created using doorways, arches, chairs, other delegates, or even another photographer’s camera. Use this technique to add depth and make the subject stand out.

2. Thematic Series

A collection of photographs connected by a common theme, idea, subject, or visual style. Instead of relying on one photograph to tell the story, use multiple images that work together to document a particular aspect of the conference — such as diplomacy, debate, teamwork, or the atmosphere of a committee.

3. Candid

Unposed photographs that capture genuine moments as they happen. Look for natural interactions, reactions, concentration, conversations, and small moments between delegates. The aim is to capture people naturally rather than asking them to pose.

4. Portrait

A photograph that focuses primarily on an individual's face, expression, or presence. Portraits should capture the personality and character of the subject while maintaining strong composition and focus. Where appropriate, use a shallow depth of field to separate the subject from the background.

5. Emotion

Photographs that communicate a clear feeling or mood. Look beyond obvious expressions and observe moments of excitement, concentration, nervousness, confidence, frustration, laughter, or anticipation. A successful emotional photograph should allow the viewer to feel the atmosphere of the moment.

6. Monochrome

Photography that uses a single colour or a range of tones rather than a full-colour image, most commonly black and white. Monochrome can be used to emphasise contrast, texture, lighting, expressions, and mood. Use it intentionally rather than simply applying a black-and-white filter.

7. Frame of the Conference

A photograph that captures the **overall identity and atmosphere of the MUN**. These images should show more than individual delegates — include the venue, committees, decorations, crowds, dais, activities, and significant moments. The goal is to create photographs that, when viewed together, give someone a sense of what the entire conference felt like.

Key Elements of Camera

Framing:

Framing your pictures helps you to convey a story through your photography. Use Rule of Thirds, Center, Golden Ratio rules for Framing.

White Balance:

White Balance controls white temperature in the camera which is warmth and Cold temperatures in your Pictures.

Composition:

Composition in your picture refers to how elements are arranged within a frame to create balance and visual interest. Good Composition directs the viewer's eye and helps to convey a visual story through your pictures.

ISO:

ISO in photography measures your camera sensor's sensitivity to light; a lower ISO means less sensitivity and ner grain, while a higher ISO allows you to shoot in low light but can introduce more noise or grain to the image. Adjusting ISO helps control brightness without changing shutter speed or aperture.

Aperture:

Aperture in photography is the opening in a lens that controls how much light enters the camera; a wider aperture (lower f-number) lets in more light and creates a blurrier background, while a narrower aperture (higher f-number) lets in less light and keeps more of the image in focus. Adjusting aperture helps control both exposure and depth of eld in your photos.

Shutter Speed:

Shutter speed in photography is the amount of time the camera's shutter remains open to let in light; a faster shutter speed freezes motion, while a slower shutter speed creates motion blur and lets in more light. Adjusting shutter speed helps control both the exposure of your image and how movement is captured in your photo.

Reference Photos



Frame-in-Frame

Thematic Series





Frame of the
conference



Emotion- Irritated



Candid



Portrait