

# SECURITY COUNCIL: MEDIA STAKEOUTS & “TWIPLOMACY”

Nikki Haley, United States Permanent Representative to the UN, answers questions on DPR Korea in a Security Council Media Stakeout in New York.

UN Photo/Kim Haughton



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The television is like the sixteenth member of the Security Council.

**Boutros Boutros-Ghali,  
Former UN Secretary-General**

The international news media play an important role in Security Council negotiations. Positive coverage can encourage and mobilise collective action to further the aims of the United Nations, while negative attention can contribute to pressure for countries to take action.

Security Council delegates at WASAMUN will not only have to defend their policies to other delegates, but also to the news media.

## “Twiplomacy”

Social media is increasingly used by governments to conduct public diplomacy and directly engage a worldwide audience. Lüfkens (2018) found that only six UN Member States do not have a presence

on social media, with 951 active Twitter accounts linked to heads of state, heads of government and foreign ministers. Together they have accumulated over 485 million followers and likes.

Throughout the conference, Security Council delegates will have access to a simulated social media feed and email account. The simulation makes use of software used by real-life foreign ministries to train diplomat in crisis management.

Stories and commentary related to the crisis will appear in the social media feed and delegates may receive emails from their home governments with direction on their policies.

Delegates are also able to post to simulated social media themselves as their country's missions to the UN. Social and traditional media coverage of the Council may then have an impact on negotiations.

## Media stakeouts

Delegates will receive training from media



professionals and diplomats on how to communicate with the media.

They will then take part in Media Stakeouts covering the status of negotiations. “Stakeouts” are short, on-camera interviews that normally occur as diplomats are leaving the Security Council. Our stakeouts will be conducted in pairs and will involve a head-to-head discussion with a delegate representing another country.

Delegates will be given focused feedback on their performance at the end of each interview, and a full debriefing will take place at the end of the day with prizes awarded to the top three or four interviewees.

Each State will have two interviews over the course of the day - preferably one interview per delegate. The content of interviews will be guided by the scenario.

## Courtesy & etiquette

Delegates are reminded that every contribution to the media simulation should exhibit the same standards of courtesy and respect that characterises their contributions to normal committee debate.

Where there is no camera, there is no humanitarian intervention.

**Bernard Kouchner,**  
former foreign minister of France &  
founder of Médecins Sans Frontières

## Media stakeout schedule

Time	Delegations
I 100	Equatorial Guinea, Kazakhstan
I 110	Côte d'Ivoire, United Kingdom
I 120	Bolivia, Poland
I 130	Peru, Russian Federation
I 140	China, Netherlands
I 150	Equatorial Guinea, Sweden
I 200	Ethiopia, Kuwait
I 210	France, North Rengaan
I 220	South Rengaan, United States
I 330	Kazakhstan, Peru
I 340	South Rengaan, United Kingdom
I 350	Kuwait, United States
I 400	Côte d'Ivoire, France
I 410	Bolivia, North Rengaan
I 420	Poland, Russian Federation
I 430	China, Sweden
I 440	Ethiopia, Netherlands



A press officer from the UN Department for Public Information works covering a Security Council meeting on the situation in Haiti.

UN Photo/Amanda  
Voisard