



## **Press Corps/British Broadcasting Corporation**

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### **Press Corps**

**Reporter:** Elias Gray

**Topic:** HRC / Safety of Journalists

I was very excited to interview many different countries from the Human Rights Council, Safety of Journalists. Many countries came up with some ideas on how to stop people or countries from abusing, or murdering journalists. I reported on the different ways countries found common ground on their solutions. How did all the different countries, some with a history of mistreating journalists, come together and find a way to stop or eradicate mistreatment of journalists?

When the conference started everyone was in different groups in the informal consultation. A lot of countries, such as; Qatar, France, Sudan, Lau, Pakistan, Jordan, were open to the idea of changing the way they treated journalist. But one did not, it was china. China would not side with anyone until later in the conference.

Montessori Model United Nations

NYC, March 2020

When we went to the formal consultation everyone brought their ideas together. One idea was to have guns or body guards for the journalists. A lot of people liked the idea, but one country asked where the bodyguards would come from and the response was from “the government.” The idea was shut down though when someone pointed out that the government was part of the problem. Then they said that they would have NGO’s provide the money and the bodyguards. A delegation also proposed an idea for the journalists to have bulletproof vests and guns to protect them, and everyone liked that but some said they might need training to use those weapons. And that led to the idea to educate the journalists on the dangers of journalism and also train them on how to protect themselves

Another idea was to have UN peacekeepers to go and try to protect the journalists. But one delegate pointed out that would break the laws of the UN. Another delegation proposed the idea for the journalists to go in teams so it wouldn’t be a solo mission. Many different delegations went back and forth talking about that idea, but eventually a delegate mentioned that that would propose a new danger. The danger that more journalists would be killed while they are there.

Another idea was for the journalists to have tracking devices when people go into dangerous countries to tell when there is danger or someone is trying to harm them. Some people liked it but again china did not and they brought up their own idea lock the killers of the journalists in a UN jail. Nobody really liked that idea so it went back to the trackers, and once we were back at that topic France pointed out something important. The tracker could also lead police to the danger areas and find more on how the journalists were killed.

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When I interviewed the countries they were all very open to sharing what they are doing about the safety of journalists, except for China. Qatar agreed to put some regulations on journalism and the dangers of it. Same with Brazil, France, El Salvador, Lau, Pakistan, and Jordan.

Near the end of the conference they started combining all they're ideas, and for once China agreed with the Asia-pacific area ideas, which was to have the country take responsibility for the actions of somebody in their country. As the final moments happen they bring all their ideas to the center and they all combine their ideas.

At the beginning of the conference all the delegations were split up on their ideals on what they want to happen. Then they slowly started talking and making compromises to share their ideas and combine them. Then the delegations came together and tied up all their ideas on how to stop the gruesome murders of journalists.