

## 17<sup>TH</sup> CENTRAL ASIA MEDIA CONFERENCE

## Digitalization for freedom of the media

19-20 November 2015, Dushanbe, Tajikistan

## **BIOGRAPHIES OF INTERNATIONAL SPEAKERS**



**Bettina Ruigies** is Regional Coordinator for Europe & Central Asia and Deputy Team Leader Asia & Europe at the Deutsche Welle Akademie in Bonn. She has more than 20 years of experience as a journalist, producer and manager for media outlets with a focus on the former Soviet countries. She is currently implementing DW Akademie's programs in Ukraine, Moldova and Georgia. The objectives include media and information literacy, media law, media management and transformation of the public service broadcaster in Ukraine.

As Project Director for Internews Kyrgyzstan in 2012-2013, Ms. Ruigies launched the reform of the national broadcaster OTRK into a public service broadcaster. The reform included preparing the broadcaster for the digital switchover. For Deutsche Welle Akademie, she also conducted in-house trainings for national broadcasters in Moldova, Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan and Turkmenistan between 2010 and 2013. As Integrated Expert with the Center for International Migration from 2006-2012, she introduced the concept of sustainable community media development into the Kyrgyz media landscape, combining analogue and digital tools and eventually building a network of community media in the country.

Ms. Ruigies began her career as producer for Germany's most popular broadcaster RTL in Moscow in the early '90's. After receiving her MBA from Bradford/NIMBAS Graduate School of Management, she moved to the field of media development assistance.



**Christian Nissen** is an Adjunct Professor in Management at the Copenhagen Business School. He served as Director General of the Danish Broadcasting Corporation (DR) from 1994 until 2004; a time when DR and other public broadcasters in Europe were confronted with fierce competition from fast growing private media corporations. From 1997 to 2001 he was a member of the European Broadcasting Union (EBU)'s Administrative Council and in the period from 1999 until 2003 he chaired the EBU "Digital Strategy Group", where he analysed broadcast perspectives ahead of the process of digitization and laid out strategic goals and paths for the European public

service broadcasters.

Since leaving DR in 2004, Mr. Nissen is doing advisory work and is member of a number of boards. He writes for and participates in numerous international conferences and seminars on broadcasting all over the world. His publications include articles on how governments interfere with public service media and the impact of the digital switchover on media.

Mr. Nissen earned a Master of Arts in Social Sciences in 1972 from the University of Copenhagen, along with a degree in political science from Aarhus University. He began his career as an Associate Professor in International Politics at the University of Copenhagen and has worked in various management positions for the Danish public administration.

Ninjbolor Khurel is the Deputy Director of the Regulatory Department at the Communications Regulatory Commission of Mongolia (CRC). She is responsible for the formulation and reviews of licensing regulations, as well as enforcement of these regulations to promote and maintain sustainable competition in the telecommunication and broadcasting sector.

Mrs Khurel joined the CRC in 2002. She has successfully organized and managed more than a hundred standard projects and coordinated the cooperation with related parties such as the National Standardization Council, the Information and Communications Technology Authority and the Science and Technical Council of Mongolia. She has served as delegation member of the CRC to various international and national conferences where she presented reports on ICT sector's policy and regulation, standardization issues in Mongolia and other topics.

Mrs Khurel holds a Master's degree in Public Policy and Management from the University of Melbourne, Australia and a science degree in Electronics from the National University of Mongolia.