

INTERNATIONAL
CONFERENCE



JOURNALISTS UNDER ATTACK

a threat to media freedom

12 April 2019, Vienna

Journalism is a dangerous profession. When reporting at times of war and embedded in conflict zones, living with danger is part of the job description. However, increasingly also journalists working in democratic societies have to live with this fear. More and more often, reports emanate of journalists being harassed, intimidated, abducted, interrogated, arbitrarily detained and/or imprisoned, or even killed for the work they do.

Some of the most horrifying examples include the assassination of Maltese journalist, writer and anti- corruption activist Daphne Caruana Galizia in June 2017 and Slovak investigative journalist Ján Kuciak in February 2018, as well as that of Saudi Arabian journalist Jamal Khashoggi in October 2018. The deaths of these journalists, including the killing of five Capital Gazette staff in June 2018 and the terrorist attack against Charlie Hebdo journalists in January 2015, shocked the global media community, and serve as a sobering reminder of the risks faced by many media workers today.

Sadly, the list does however not end here. When reporting to the OSCE Permanent Council on his interventions made between July and November 2018, the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media (RFoM) brought with him a list of 170 cases from the OSCE region, 53 of which related to the safety of journalists. This included 14 cases of physical violence, two shootings, one arson attack, as well as a number of threats of physical violence.

Too many of these cases are either investigated too slowly or remain without conclusive result. They too often end without perpetrators and instigators being brought to justice. In 2017, the Office of the RFoM put together a report on journalist killings in the OSCE region since 1992. The result is chilling: more than 400 journalists paid the ultimate price for their work. However, even

EXKLUZÍVNE NA AKTUALITY.SK

Vražda Jána Kuciaka a Martiny Kušnírovej

Investigatívneho novinára Jána Kuciaka (27) a jeho snúbenicu, archeologičku Martinu Kušnírovú (27) zavraždili 21. februára 2018 v ich rodinnom dome vo Veľkej Mači. Za hlavný motív vraždy označila polícia prácu novinára. V prípade najomnej vraždy zatiaľ obvinili štyroch ľudí: Alenu Zsuzsovú (objednávateľka), Zoltána Andruskóa (sprostredkovateľ), Miroslava Marčeka (vodič) a Tomáša Szabóa (strelec).
Výpočet zrejme nie je konečný.





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more shocking is the fact that in 85 per cent of these cases, those responsible were neither arrested nor prosecuted.

These statistics reflect a troubling trend: media workers are less seen as important contributors to a democratic and free society than as troublesome “whistleblowers”, probably biased and reporting “fake news.” This erosion of public trust in the media creates the environment in which it becomes acceptable to blame journalists for the negative facts they report. And from blame, there is a short step to aggression.

In December 2018, at the OSCE Ministerial Council meeting in Milan, the Organization’s participating States adopted a landmark decision on the safety of journalists. The mere fact that this decision was necessary speaks for itself. However, this decision was timely and necessary, and strongly reaffirms that “independent media are essential to a free and open society and accountable systems of government”.

85% of more than 400 cases of killed journalists in the last 25 years in the OSCE region, those responsible for these crimes have gone unpunished and have not been prosecuted.

The OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media, Harlem Désir found clear words when commenting on the decision: “At a time when journalists are attacked, threatened and killed for their work, this is a major step forward and a strong signal of support to all journalists exposed to difficult and often dangerous conditions in the OSCE region,” he said.

The decision calls of the OSCE’s 57 participating States to “take effective measures to end impunity for crimes committed against journalists” and urges “political leaders, public officials and/or authorities to refrain from intimidating,

A year after her murder, where is the justice for Daphne Caruana Galizia?

Margaret Atwood

The Maltese journalist reported on government corruption, but no politician has been questioned about her murder, says novelist Margaret Atwood, writing on behalf of PEN International



threatening or condoning – and to unequivocally condemn – violence against journalists”. Most importantly, it underlines “the importance of investigative journalism..., including in holding public institutions and officials accountable” and “the crucial role of journalists in covering elections”.

Journalists are threatened, harassed or attacked for their work every day in the OSCE region. The Milan decision will not change these facts over night. But it sets an important marker to remind us that the media plays a crucial role in our democratic societies. Journalists inform us, they hold those in power accountable, they give critical views a voice, they refuse censorship. In short, they are a cornerstone of democracy. Letting those that aggress and even kill journalists get away with it, constitutes a second crime against the victims. And it is encouragement for more aggression in the future.



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Venue: Hofburg Congress Center on Heldenplatz, Ratsaal room (5th floor)

9:00 – 09:30 **REGISTRATION**

09:30 – 10:00 **OPENING REMARKS**

- **Harlem Désir**, OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media (RFoM)

10:00 – 11:30 **CHALLENGES OF WORKING UNDER THREAT**

Threats to journalists' safety can also lead to self-censorship, restrict or deter media professionals' ability to legitimately gather and report information, or force them to leave the profession altogether.

Four thematic discussions will focus on the testimonies of journalists who have been victims of attacks, along with their relatives and colleagues, outline difficulties in continuing the work of journalism and offer ways to improve the situation.

Moderators:

- **Harlem Désir**, OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media
- **Nadezhda Azhgikhina**, Vice-President of the European Federation of Journalists
- **Frane Maroevic**, Director, Office of the RFoM

Discussion 1 – Continuing the work

- **Matthew Caruana Galizia**, Investigative Journalist and son of killed journalist Daphne Anne Caruana Galizia (Malta)
- **Peter Bárdy**, Chief Editor of killed journalist Ján Kuciak at Aktuality.sk, (Slovakia)
- **Katya Gorchinskaya**, Journalist/Media Manager and friend of killed journalist Pavel Sheremet (Ukraine)
- **Nadezhda Prusenkova**, Head of press service, Journalist and Executive Editor of *Novaya Gazeta* newspaper (Russian Federation)



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Discussion 2 – The fight against impunity

- **Svetlana Lukić**, Editor-in-Chief of *Peščanik* online portal (Serbia)
- **Ine Dippmann**, Journalist at regional public service media Mitteldeutscher Rundfunk (MDR) in Leipzig & Chairwoman of the German Journalist Association of Saxony (Germany)
- **Inga Sikorskaia**, Director of the School of Peacemaking and Media Technology (Kyrgyzstan)
- **Gevorg Ghazaryan**, Freelance Journalist (Armenia)
- **Saša Leković**, Investigative Journalist and President of the Investigative Journalism Center (Croatia)

11:30 – 12:00 **COFFEE BREAK**

12:00 – 13:30 **CHALLENGES OF WORKING UNDER THREAT (continued)**

Moderators:

- **Harlem Désir**, OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media
- **Nadezhda Azhgikhina**, Vice-President of the European Federation of Journalists
- **Frane Maroevic**, Director, Office of the RFoM

Discussion 3 – Investigating under assault

- **Lukpan Akhmedyarov**, Chief Editor of *Uralskaya Nedelya* newspaper (Kazakhstan)
- **Vladimir Kovačević**, Journalist at BN TV (Bosnia and Herzegovina)
- **Elif Akgül**, Freelance Journalist (Turkey)
- **Paolo Berizzi**, Correspondent for *La Repubblica* newspaper (Italy)

Discussion 4 – Overcoming threats and self-censorship

- **Tatyana Felgenhauer**, Presenter at Ekho Moskvyy radio station (Russian Federation)
- **Pavel Dabravolski**, Journalist for Naviny.by (Belarus)
- **Leyla Mustafayeva**, Journalist and wife of jailed journalist Afgan Mukhtarli (Azerbaijan)
- **Olivera Lakić**, Investigative Journalist for *Vijesti* newspaper (Montenegro)

13:30 – 15:00 **LUNCH & SIDE EVENT**

14.00-15.00: Side event “Turning Words into Deeds: Implementation of OSCE commitments on the Safety of Journalists,” organized by the Group of Friends on Safety of Journalists (Hofburg, Bibliotheksaal, 5th floor)



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15:00 – 16:30

RESPONSIBILITIES, OBLIGATIONS AND FRAMEWORKS TO PROTECT JOURNALISTS AND FIGHT IMPUNITY

States have positive obligations in relation to freedom of expression and free media to ensure a favourable working environment for safe, inclusive and pluralistic public debates. However, there is still a staggering gap in addressing the safety of journalists, including due to a lack of adequate framework and practices aimed at preventing crimes against media actors, protecting them when needed, and prosecuting, in a timely manner, the perpetrators and masterminds of relevant illegal acts. While political commitments to protect media freedom, including those adopted in the OSCE framework, are imperative, they are only effective when backed up by strong political will, as well as by solid policies and practices to bolster the safety of media, and to establish comprehensive cooperation between States, international institutions and non-governmental organisations.

This session will explore the existing frameworks relevant to the safety of journalists, discuss challenges and opportunities regarding their implementation, as well as highlight positive practices.

Moderator: **Joy Hyvarinen**, Head of Advocacy, Index on Censorship

Speakers:

- **Ambassador Alessandro Azzoni**, Permanent Representative of Italy to the OSCE
- **Sergiy Tomilenko**, President, National Union of Journalist of Ukraine
- **Thomas Bruning**, General Secretary, Dutch Association of Journalists
- **Branko Stamenković**, Deputy Republic Public Prosecutor, Head of the Special Prosecutor's Office for High-Tech Crime in Serbia, member of the Permanent Working Group on Journalists' Safety in Serbia
- **Sarah Clarke**, Head of Europe and Central Asia, ARTICLE 19
- **Gulnara Akhundova**, Head of Global Response Department, International Media Support

16:30 – 17:00

COFFEE BREAK





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17:00 – 18:20

MONITORING AND ADDRESSING ATTACKS AND VIOLENCE AGAINST JOURNALISTS

Many national, international and local non-governmental organisations monitor the cases of violence against media actors. These efforts, which require investment of adequate time and resources, represent important mechanisms in identifying violations, patterns, causes and possible solutions, as well as in providing an analysis of the effectiveness of prevention, protection and prosecution measures undertaken by the States. Accessible databases, together with regular engagement between NGOs and law-enforcement bodies, are crucial for establishing good practices to respond efficiently and timely to attacks against journalists.

The OSCE Ministerial Council Decision on the Safety of Journalists, adopted by the participating States last December in Milan, highlights various contemporary challenges faced by media actors including, among other things, 10 recommendations for establishing or strengthening, where possible, national data collection, analysis and reporting on attacks and violence against journalists.

This session will explore such questions as:

- *What are available monitoring mechanisms and methodologies?*
- *How can such mechanisms be established and strengthened in accordance with the Ministerial Council Decision?*
- *How can such mechanisms help in combatting impunity?*

Moderator: **Katharine Sarikakis**, Professor, Chair of Media Governance, Media Organisation and Media Industries at the Department of Communication, University of Vienna

Speakers:

- **Pauline Adès-Mével**, Head of European Union & Balkan desk, Reporters Without Borders
- **Tom Gibson**, EU Representative and Advocacy Manager, Committee to Protect Journalists
- **Saorla McCabe**, Programme Specialist, Freedom of Expression and Media Development, UNESCO
- **Matjaž Gruden**, Director of Democratic Participation, Directorate General of Democracy, Council of Europe
- **Ambassador Ulrika Funered**, Permanent Representative of Sweden to the OSCE in Vienna, member of the Group of Friends on Safety of journalists

18:20 – 18:30

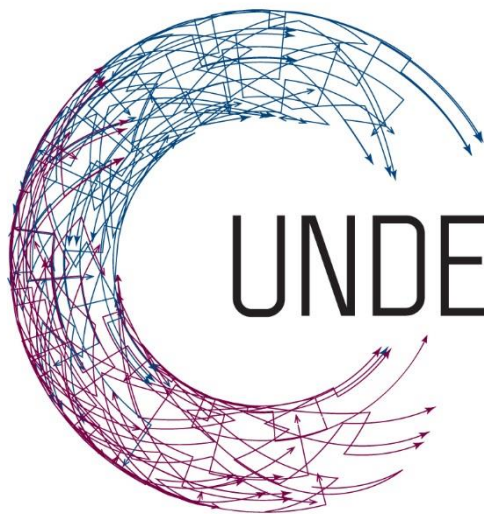
CONCLUSIONS

- **Ambassador Radomír Boháč**, Chairperson of the OSCE Permanent Council, Permanent Representative of Slovakia to the OSCE, 2019 OSCE Slovak Chairmanship
- **Harlem Désir**, OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media (RFoM)

18:30 – 19:30

DRINKS RECEPTION

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12 April 2019, Vienna

PRESENTATION OF SPEAKERS AND MODERATORS

OPENING & CLOSING REMARKS



Harlem Désir

OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media

Harlem Désir is the fourth OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media. He was appointed in July 2017 for a period of three years. Previously, he was the French Secretary of State for European Affairs. Before joining the government, he was for 15 years a Member of the European Parliament. The Representative on Freedom of the Media has a mandate to intervene on all media freedom issues in the 57 OSCE participating States, including on individual cases, safety of journalists, imprisonment, but also on legislation and promotion of media pluralism.

[@OSCE_RFoM](#)



Ambassador Radomír Boháč

Chairperson of the OSCE Permanent Council, Permanent Representative of Slovakia to the OSCE, 2019 OSCE Slovak Chairmanship

Radomír Boháč has served at the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs of the Slovak Republic for the last 30 years. His postings abroad have taken him to New Delhi as the 1st Secretary in the Commercial and Trade Section at the Embassy of the Slovak Republic; as the Permanent Representative of Slovakia to the UN office at Nairobi; and as Slovak Ambassador to Ethiopia, Kenya, the Seychelles, Uganda, Portugal and Denmark. In 2014, he was appointed the Governor of Slovakia at the Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF), and has served as Permanent Representative of Slovakia to the OSCE since 2017.

[@RadomirBohac](#)



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CHALLENGES OF WORKING UNDER THREAT

Moderators:



Frane Maroevic

Director of the Office of the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media (RFoM)

Frane Maroevic previously held the post of Senior Advisor in the Office of the RFoM. He began his career at the OSCE in 2010 as the Deputy Head of Press and Public Information. Before joining the OSCE, he was the Director of Communications for the High Representative and EU Special Representative in Bosnia and Herzegovina, as well as the Spokesperson for the European Commission in Bosnia and Herzegovina and a journalist with the BBC World Service in London.

@Frane_M



Nadezhda Azhgikhina

Vice-president of the European Federation of Journalists

Nadezhda Azhgikhina is a member of the Union of Russian Writers, as well as a member of the Global Alliance for Media and Gender and Executive Director of PEN Moscow. Since 2014 she has been the Russian coordinator for a dialogue between Russian and Ukrainian journalists' organizations, "Two Countries - One Profession" under the auspices of the Office of the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media. In the past, she has also worked as a journalist and Editor in Russian national media, and for the Russian Union of Journalists as Executive Secretary on International cooperation.

Discussion 1 – Continuing the work



Matthew Caruana Galizia is the son of Daphne Caruana Galizia, an investigative journalist who was killed by a car bomb near her home in October 2017 in Malta. He is a journalist and software engineer who worked for the International Consortium of Investigative Journalists, where his team won the Pulitzer Prize. He left in 2018 to focus on obtaining justice for his mother and her reporting. None of the people who commissioned the assassination have been charged.

@mcaruanagalizia



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Peter Bárty is Chief Editor of the Bratislava-based online newspaper Aktuality.sk, which the investigative journalist, Ján Kuciak, who was killed in February 2018, worked for. In March 2019 a Slovak businessman, who was a frequent target of Kuciak's investigations, was charged with ordering the murder.

Aktuality.sk is one of most popular and respected news websites in Slovakia. Bárty has been involved in the media for more than 20 years. He began his career writing articles about crime and the mafia in Slovakia, followed by a period focusing on politics.

[@PeterBardy](#)



Katya Gorchinskaya is a well-known Ukrainian journalist, who was a friend of Pavel Sheremet, a prominent media professional who worked in Belarus, Russia and Ukraine and who was killed in a car explosion in Kyiv in July 2016. His case remains unresolved.

Gorchinskaya has been in journalism for more than 20 years, working with such media outlets as Politico, The Guardian, The Wall Street Journal, The Economist, The Financial Times, Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty and Kyiv Post. She also co-founded an international festival for investigative journalists and the National Award for best journalistic investigation.

[@kgorchinskaya](#)



Nadezhda Prusenkova is head of the press service, journalist and executive editor of the independent Moscow-based Novaya Gazeta newspaper. She writes about courts, as well as about nationalist movements and neo-Nazis, for which she has received threats.

Since 2000, six people working for or contributing to Novaya Gazeta have been killed or died under suspicious circumstances: 16.07.2000 - Igor Domnikov; 3.6.2003 - Yuri Shchekochikhin; 7.10.2006 - Anna Politkovskaya; 19.1.2009 - Anastasia Baburova and Stanislav Markelov; 15.7.2009 - Natalia Estemirova.

Discussion 2 – The fight against impunity



Svetlana Lukić is the Editor-in-Chief of the *Peščanik* online portal. As a result of her war reporting from Croatia and Bosnia and Herzegovina, she was fired from the state radio in 1993 and joined the EU's Radio Ship project. Since 1994 she worked for Radio B92. In 2007, she received the Reporters Without Borders Award.

Peščanik was among those, its editors, a sociologist and the former MP Vesna Pešić who were sued by the Serbian Minister of Police for an article the outlet published in 2016. The court ruled that they must pay financial compensation for violation of the Minister's honor and reputation.



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Ine Dippmann is a journalist from the German public broadcaster MDR, who was attacked in January 2016 while covering a demonstration of the German nationalist far-right movement PEGIDA in Leipzig. Dippmann is Chairwoman of the German Journalist Association of Saxony (DJV Sachsen). In this role she has been a persistent voice calling for the protection of journalists covering demonstrations.

[@Eninna](#)



Inga Sikorskaia is a journalist, media expert and trainer on freedom of expression, countering hate speech & extremist propaganda and conflict-sensitive journalism, and is the Director of the School of Peacemaking & Media Technology.

In November 2018, Sikorskaia was injured in a car accident deliberately caused by her taxi driver, which has yet to be investigated. Sikorskaia subsequently received threatening phone calls and an attack on her organisation's office. She has faced pressure from government authorities since 2017 in relation to her professional activities.

[@IngaIngas](#)



Gevorg Ghazaryan is a freelance journalist from Armenia who was beaten and detained by law enforcement authorities during public demonstrations in 2015 and 2016 in Yerevan. His equipment was also intentionally damaged by police.

Although a criminal case surrounding the police's misconduct during the demonstrations was initiated, there have been no convictions. The journalist later filed a complaint with the UN Human Rights Committee.

[@initiaty](#)



Saša Leković is the President of the Investigative Journalism Center in Croatia and has been a journalist for the past 40 years working in various media outlets. He has been the target of numerous threats, including death threats, as well as on and offline hate speech campaigns. In 2017, an indictment was issued against one of the perpetrators responsible for the threats against him.

[@SasaLekovic](#)



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Discussion 3 – Investigating under assault



Lukpan Akhmedyarov is Chief Editor of the *Uralskaya Nedelya* newspaper from Kazakhstan. In April 2012, he was stabbed multiple times and shot in the head and the arm near his house by two individuals who were later identified and convicted. Akhmedyarov and *Uralskaya Nedelya* are known countrywide for their critical reporting. Journalists of the weekly are constantly exposed to defamation lawsuits and put under pressure to disclose their sources of information.

[@Lakhmedyarov](#)



Vladimir Kovačević is a journalist from the independent Bosnian Serb television station BN TV. In August 2018, he was beaten by unknown assailants in front of his house after reporting on an anti-government protest in Banja Luka.

Kovačević started his career as a journalist in 2005, as a contributor to several Bosnian TV Stations in Banja Luka, and the co-owner of an internet news portal.

[@corbapas](#)



Elif Akgül is a freelance journalist from Turkey and a former bianet.org news portal editor. She was harassed and beaten during protests in Istanbul in 2013.

Akgül covers freedom of speech issues, including journalists on trial, censorship and internet freedom, since 2012. She also co-authored the *Gender-Based Journalism Handbook*, and was co-awarded the Metin Göktepe Journalism Awards for her coverage of the murder case of Armenian journalist Hrant Dink.

[@akgulelif](#)



Paolo Berizzi is a correspondent for the Italian newspaper *La Repubblica*, who is living under police protection since 2017. For years he has been investigating the activities of rising neo-fascist movements, also exposing their links to political parties.

Berizzi has been repeatedly targeted by neo-fascists with smear campaigns as a result of his work, as well as exposed to numerous threats and intimidation.

[@PBerizzi](#)



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Discussion 4 – Overcoming threats and self-censorship



Tatyana Felgenhauer is a presenter at the independent Moscow-based radio station Ekho Moskvyy, who was stabbed in the neck at the station's office in October 2017. The assailant was subsequently arrested and sentenced to mandatory mental treatment. Felgenhauer worked at Ekho Moskvyy for more than 10 years where she hosted several political radio programs, as well as covered the 2011-2013 protests in Moscow.

[@t_felg](#)



Pavel Dabravolski is a Belarusian journalist for the online newspaper Naviny.by, who was attacked by police officers while covering the detention of two protesters in a court building in Minsk in 2016. The journalist was then detained and fined by the same court on charges of hooliganism and disobeying the police. The law enforcement authorities did not find any misdemeanour offence by police officers and dismissed the case three months after the attack.

[@p_dabravolski](#)



Leyla Mustafayeva is a journalist from Azerbaijan and wife of jailed journalist Afgan Mukhtarli, who was abducted in Tbilisi and sentenced to 6 years in prison in Azerbaijan on allegations of illegal border crossing and smuggling in 2017. The investigation which was launched in Georgia after the abduction remains stalemated since 2017.

Leyla's family fled to Georgia from Azerbaijan in 2014 after receiving threats in relation to Mukhtarli's investigative reporting. Mukhtarli contributed to the Berlin-based independent news outlet Meydan TV and the London-based Institute of War and Peace Reporting.

[@LeylaMustafaeva](#)



Olivera Lakić is an investigative journalist for the Montenegrin newspaper *Vijesti*. She was shot in the leg in front of her home in Podgorica in May 2018. Several suspects, allegedly connected to the attack, have been arrested. She and other *Vijesti* journalists have been targets of numerous threats and attacks for their investigative stories on organized crime, corruption and smuggling in the country.

On 7 March 2019, Lakić was presented with the International Women of Courage (IWOC) Award during a ceremony at the U.S. Department of State.

[@OliveraMN](#)



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RESPONSIBILITIES, OBLIGATIONS AND FRAMEWORKS TO PROTECT JOURNALISTS AND FIGHT IMPUNITY

Moderator:



Joy Hyvarinen

Head of Advocacy, Index on Censorship

Joy Hyvarinen is head of advocacy at Index on Censorship and was a member of the research and editorial team of Index on Censorship's "Mapping Media Freedom" project that investigated threats to media freedom in 42 countries and documented over 4,000 media freedom incidents since 2014. Hyvarinen has many years of experience in advocacy, campaigns and policy, in particular international advocacy.

[@JoyHyvarinen](#)

Speakers:



Ambassador Alessandro Azzoni

Permanent Representative of Italy to the OSCE

Ambassador Azzoni joined the Diplomatic Service in 1991. Since then, he has served in various positions within the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Italy. His latest postings include Counsellor at the Permanent Mission of Italy to the International Organizations in Vienna from 2004-2008; Deputy Head of Mission in Ankara from 2008-2012; and Head of European Foreign and Security Policy Division, Directorate General for Political Affairs and Security of Italian MFA from 2012-2016.

[@AlleAzzoni](#)



Sergiy Tomilenko

President, National Union of Journalist of Ukraine (NUJU)

Since 2006 Tomilenko has served as Chairman of the Cherkassy Regional branch of NUJU. In May 2012 he was appointed the First Secretary (Deputy Chairman) of NUJU. Tomilenko is also the founder of the news agency Procherk.in and was an editor of the Cherkasy regional newspaper New Day, and worked as deputy editor of the newspaper Youth of Cherkassy.

[@Stommedia](#)



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Thomas Bruning

General secretary, Dutch Association of Journalists

Thomas Bruning is also Director of the Villamedia Uitgeverij media outlet. He is also the founder, board member and secretary of Stichting Persvrijheidsfonds (Free Press Foundation), and board member of the Dutch Sports Press. He is also a member of the Journalistic Source Protection study committee and regularly publishes opinion articles on media policy, freedom of the press and media related legal issues.

[@thomasbruning](#)



Branko Stamenković

Deputy Republic Public Prosecutor, Head of the Special Prosecutor's Office for High-Tech Crime in Serbia, member of the Permanent Working Group on Journalists' Safety in Serbia.

The Permanent Working Group for Safety of Journalists is a body established in January 2017 by the Republic Public Prosecutor, the Ministry of Interior and seven journalists and media associations, with the aim of increasing safety of journalists in the country. He also participates in the work of two Sub-groups analysing the efficiency of criminal protection of journalists and transparency of state institutions when it comes to safety of journalists. Stamenković is also an expert for the Council of Europe and European Union projects on Cybercrime.



Sarah Clarke

Head of Europe and Central Asia, ARTICLE 19

Before joining ARTICLE 19, Sarah Clarke led PEN International's policy and advocacy work, overseeing its engagement with the UN and regional human rights mechanisms and governments. She is the author of numerous country-specific and thematic PEN International reports concerning legal restrictions on free expression and the protection of writers at risk. She has led numerous advocacy missions, trial observations and the amicus interventions in Turkey on priority cases of journalists before the European Court of Human Rights. Sarah has consulted for UNHCR, UNOHCHR and Oxford and Harvard universities on issues relating to freedom of expression, asylum and forced migration.

[@Sarah_M_Clarke](#)



Gulnara Akhundova

Head of Global Response Department, International Media Support

Akhundova is a human rights defender with wide-ranging international advocacy expertise, who reported on and advocated for scores of journalists and media workers who have been censored, threatened, intimidated, unjustly prosecuted, imprisoned, attacked, blackmailed or murdered. She specializes in Eurasian politics, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Central Asia, Georgia, Russia, Turkey, international human rights law, Council of Europe & UN Human Rights Council. Akhundova has contributed stories on violations of press freedom to a number of international media outlets.



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MONITORING AND ADDRESSING ATTACKS AND VIOLENCE AGAINST JOURNALISTS

Moderator:



Katharine Sarikakis

Professor, Chair of Media Governance, Media Organisation and Media Industries at the Department of Communication, University of Vienna

Katharine Sarikakis is the founding Chair of the Communication Law and Policy Section of the European Communication Research and Education Association. She is currently an elected member to the European Communication Research and Education Association Executive Board, and is also an elected Member of the International Council of the International Association for Media and Communication Research. She is the Co-Editor of the International Journal of Media and Cultural Politics.

Speakers:



Pauline Adès-Mével

Head of European Union & Balkan desk, Reporters Without Borders

Pauline Adès-Mével joined Reporters Without Borders (RSF) in 2016 where she is monitoring violations of the rights of journalists and the media in the European Union's 28 member states and the six Balkan countries that are candidates for admission to the EU. Prior to this, she worked as a reporter for the Television division of Thomson Reuters in Paris and covered politics, sports, entertainment, business and other breaking news across France. From 2003 to 2010, she worked for Canal Plus and iTélé.

[@rsf_europe](#)



Tom Gibson

EU Representative and Advocacy Manager, Committee to Protect Journalists

Tom Gibson joined CPJ in January 2017 and is the organisation's lead advocate in Brussels covering the institutions of the European Union. His advocacy has in part focused on pushing EU institutions to address impunity for the journalist murders in Malta and Slovakia as well as strengthen institutional responses to Member States restrictions on press freedom. Between 2014 and 2016, Gibson managed Protection International's Burundi and Congo desks, advocating for stronger state accountability for the protection of human rights defenders and journalists as well as developing emergency responses and protection measures. Previously, he worked in Amnesty International's Africa program from 2005 to 2014.

[@at_tgibson](#)



Saorla McCabe

Programme Specialist, Freedom of Expression and Media Development, UNESCO

Saorla McCabe works on activities aimed at monitoring, protecting and preventing attacks against journalists, with a specific focus on tackling harassment and violence against women journalists within the framework of the UN Plan of Action for the Safety of Journalists. Previously, she was a coordinator and editor of UNESCO's Media Development Indicators Series, and contributed to the elaboration of UNESCO's Journalists' Safety Indicators and Media Viability Indicators.



Matjaž Gruden

Director, Council of Europe (CoE) Directorate of Democratic Participation

Matjaž Gruden is in charge of the CoE's Platform for the Protection of Journalism and Safety of Journalists. He previously served as Director of Policy Planning, Deputy Director of the Private Office of the Secretary General, political adviser and speechwriter for the Secretary General and President of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe. Prior to his career at the Council of Europe, he was a diplomat at the Slovenian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, posted in Brussels.

@CoeGruden



Ambassador Ulrika Funered

Permanent Representative of Sweden to the OSCE in Vienna, member of the OSCE Group of Friends on safety of journalists

Ulrika Funered was appointed as Head of the Permanent Delegation of Sweden to the OSCE in Vienna in May 2017. She is coming from the Swedish Embassy in London where she has served as Deputy Head of the Embassy. She has also served at the Permanent Representation of Sweden to the European Union in Brussels and at the International Department of the Swedish Riksdag.

@UlrikaFunered

