



Supplementary Human Dimension Meeting

FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION AND FREEDOM OF THE MEDIA WITH A SPECIAL FOCUS ON CONFLICT SITUATIONS, INCLUDING PROTECTION OF JOURNALISTS AND REPORTING DURING ARMED CONFLICT

27-28 OCTOBER 2016
HOFBURG, VIENNA

FINAL REPORT

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OVERVIEW

I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The second Supplementary Human Dimension Meeting (SHDM) on Freedom of expression and freedom of the media with a special focus on conflict situations, including protection of journalists and reporting during armed conflict, was held in Vienna on 27-28 October 2016. It was co-organized by the German OSCE Chairmanship-in-Office, the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights and the Office of the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media.

The meeting was attended by 170 participants, among them 106 participants from 45 participating States, two representatives from two Partners for Co-operation, and five representatives from four international organizations: the Council of Europe, the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe, the Regional Co-operation Council, the EU Agency for Fundamental Rights, and UNESCO. 33 representatives of 29 NGOs, altogether from nine participating States, also attended the meeting as well as seven representatives of media. Moreover, 12 representatives from the OSCE and the Institutions also participated (OSCE Secretariat, OSCE Parliamentary Assembly, OSCE Parliamentary Liaison Office, the Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights and the Office of the Representative on Freedom of the Media), as well as five representatives of three OSCE Missions/Field Operations (the OSCE Mission to Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Office of the OSCE Project Co-ordinator in Ukraine, and the OSCE Office in Yerevan).

The meeting was organized in three sessions:

1. Safety of journalists in armed conflict;
2. Media co- and self-regulation as an instrument to improve ethical standards and counter propaganda;
3. The roles of the OSCE, governments and the civil society to protect media freedom in times of crisis.

II. SYNOPSIS OF THE SESSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The following section summarizes the discussions that took place during the opening session, the three thematic sessions and the closing session, and presents recommendations made by participants. The recommendations were directed at a variety of actors, including OSCE participating States, OSCE executive structures, institutions and field operations, civil society actors and representatives of international organizations. These recommendations have no official status and are not based on consensus among the 57 OSCE participating States. The inclusion of recommendations in this report does not suggest that it reflects the views or policies of the OSCE. Nevertheless, the recommendations serve as useful indicators for the OSCE to reflect on how participating States are meeting their commitments related to

freedom of expression and media freedom, as well as their views on OSCE follow-up activities in this area.

OPENING SESSION

Opening remarks:

Ms. Dunja Mijatović, OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media

Mr. Michael Georg Link, Director of the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (OSCE/ODIHR)

Ambassador Eberhard Pohl, Chairperson of the OSCE Permanent Council, Permanent Representative of Germany to the OSCE

Keynote speech:

Mr. Michael O'Flaherty, Director of the EU Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA)

In her opening remarks, Representative Mijatovic encouraged all participants to help raise international awareness to the challenges facing the media, in order to help journalists carry out their work without fear, or, if fear is unavoidable, knowing that their work is respected and trusted by the public as well as by the authorities. She emphasized that journalists who venture out to report on issues of real public interest are often subject to various forms of punishment for doing their job. When this takes place in or around armed conflicts, the results could be deadly for the journalists and dangerous for democracy.

She recalled the numerous OSCE commitments and international standards related to the safety of journalists, and noted that the media and journalists are pillars of free expression and of open and pluralistic debates. She emphasized that there are ways to report more safely, and this involves a deep commitment of all parties, including governments, armed forces, law enforcement and local authorities. It also involves a deep discussion among media professionals about their standards and attitudes.

She concluded by noting that whenever the risks become unbearable and journalists disappear from conflict zones, these areas become black spots on the information map of the world. In the absence of journalists, civilian populations become even more vulnerable to violence and barbaric acts. The very presence of media has a positive and preventive impact.

Director Link started his remarks by noting that in conflict situations freedom of expression is often the first right that is restricted, which in turn puts in danger the protection of other human rights. He recalled that the situation of journalists is uniquely challenging in active or protracted conflicts. When the law falls silent under the guns, journalists often become subject to harassment, physical attacks, arbitrary detention or enforced disappearances.

The Director recalled that participating States committed themselves never to expel or penalize journalists legitimately pursuing their activity, but added that the existing situations in the OSCE area have shown an erosion of these commitments. He emphasized that human

rights defenders and civil society play a fundamental and vital role in reporting on issues of public importance, even more importantly in times of conflict. Furthermore, media professionals and citizen journalists have made increasingly important contributions to the protection of human rights in the modern landscape of new media and social media.

Human rights defenders need, and should receive, enhanced protection at the local, national and international levels, argued the Director, informing the participants that ODIHR has been building the capacity of human rights defenders on human rights monitoring and reporting, safety and security, including digital security and self-care.

ODIHR has also been raising awareness about the obligations of the State to protect human rights defenders, and how to create a safe and enabling environment for their work, such as through the Guidelines on the Protection of Human Rights Defenders published by ODIHR in 2014. Monitoring and reporting in conflict situations will be one of the topics for the networking event for defenders that ODIHR is preparing in cooperation with the European Parliament for early 2017.

Ambassador Pohl addressed the participants by emphasizing the indispensability of freedom of expression in democratic societies, and its close connection with other fundamental freedoms. He reminded that in cases where freedom of expression is under pressure in a society, a highly relevant component of the concept of comprehensive security is at stake, a notion that prompted the 2016 German Chairmanship to choose free expression as one of the Chairmanship's priorities.

Independent media and investigative, factual journalism need safe working conditions, the Ambassador stressed, which highlights the importance of addressing the issue of physical safety of journalists. Attention needs to be directed to the situation of journalists in armed conflicts, but also beyond. Ambassador Pohl reminded that disinformation and propaganda not only harm the right to freely express ourselves, but they also expose persons to physical danger. He noted that media co- and self-regulation, which would be in the focus of one of the event's sessions, are one of the most important instruments to counter propaganda. Efforts to increase the quality of journalistic work, as well as to advance media literacy with special regard to the youth and their ways of using electronic media devices, also need further discussions.

The Ambassador continued by evoking the link between quality journalism and the economic conditions of journalists, urging for discussions on the governments' task to provide a regulatory framework that avoids information monopolies and promotes efforts to strengthen quality journalism. He concluded by encouraging participants to also focus on effective ways to combat impunity of violence against journalists for their work, recalling the importance of independent judiciary in this matter.

Keynote speaker Director O'Flaherty addressed the event by noting that there was no room for complacency with regard to the safety of journalists in the European Union or elsewhere. He recalled the importance of a strong, vigorous, free media in conflict prevention, in witnessing conflicts, and in contributing to delivering justice and guaranteeing the rule of

law. He reminded that there can be no justification under any circumstances for attacks against journalists, and noted that international law sets clear obligations for States to provide for the safety of journalists.

The dangers that human rights defenders often face for their work was emphasized by O'Flaherty as well. Noting that the media do not always play a positive function, recalling cases where in the name of media freedom some media coverage of events could lead to incitement, O'Flaherty stressed that any limitation to media freedom must be legal, strictly following the principles of necessity and proportionality.

He recalled that the European Commission chose media pluralism and democracy as the theme of its annual colloquium on fundamental rights, which shows that the EU takes the issue seriously. Attacks on the media in the EU fall typically into five categories, he said: threats of violence, interference by political actors, pressures to disclose confidential sources and materials, interference through security and intelligence services, as well as financial and economic pressures.

He noted the particular situation of women journalists, including in the European Union, and highlighted the importance of adopting a gendered approach. He also informed participants about a media toolkit currently being developed by FRA to guide journalists on how to include a human rights perspective in their reporting, and expressed the hope that the OSCE would work with the toolkit in the future.

SESSION I: Safety of journalists in armed conflict

Moderator: Mr. Frane Maroevic, Director, the Office of the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media (RFOM)

Panelists:

Mr. Gerhard Doujak, Human Rights Department of the Austrian Foreign Ministry

Ms. Nadezhda Azhghina, Vice President of the European Federation of Journalists

Mr Patrick Penninckx, Head of the Information Department of the Council of Europe

Following up on what had already been stated in the course of the introductory remarks, panelists of session 1 agreed that international treaties and mechanisms are very clear about the importance of ensuring journalist safety both in times of peace and conflict, and there is no institutional nor legal gap.

The real problem - panelists and many speakers from the floor agreed - lays with the lack of implementation of said treaties and agreements. The political will is needed.

Research shows that there has been an increase in attacks and killings of journalists over the past ten years; that over 90% of the victims were local journalists covering local issues; and that over 80% of the journalists killed are directly targeted as a consequence of their reports or investigations, mostly aimed at exposing corruption and illegal activities.

Looking at the implementation of existing commitments by member states in this area, Austria has made safety of journalists one of its priorities as part of their membership on the Human Rights Council, with a specific focus on implementation.

Following up on Security Council resolutions on safety of journalists, Austria felt it was important to address the issue of safety from a human rights perspective, and not exclusively as a security issue: killing of journalists is a violation of human rights, as it deprives people from information they have a right to receive.

The importance of involving professional organizations of journalists in the issue of journalist safety was also highlighted. The situation today is even more complex than it used to be: on one hand states in conflict do not need journalists, as they have sufficient channels to disseminate information/propaganda directly to their audiences.

On the other hand, studies show that an increasing number of journalists covering conflicts, and victims of violence, are freelancers (often without proper training and insurance).

A recommendation was made that media owners hold responsibility for the safety of the freelancers they employ, and have an obligation to cover their insurance and offer adequate training.

It was further highlighted that safety of journalists remains a serious concern even among Council of Europe/OSCE member states, many of which have very high democratic standards. The lack of prosecution of the perpetrators remains a very serious problem, together with verbal abuse and politically motivated detentions.

Concerns were raised also about the practice of accreditation of journalists and the (ab)use of accreditation to restrict journalist access, in breach of resolutions in this area.

Training is important not only for journalists, but for all actors in society, including prosecutors, judicial authorities, military forces, and all those, who deal with journalists.

Calls on members states to fully implement their commitments to end crimes against journalists were repeated throughout the two-days conference.

Furthermore, it was stressed that the disproportionately greater number of attacks against women journalist and the very specific characteristics of attacks against women required a gender sensitive approach in dealing with journalist safety.

Talking about implementation, the UN Plan of Action was brought as a positive example, in particular the fact that an increasing number of member states respond to UNESCO's requests about the state of investigations in the killing of journalists in their countries. In spite of this increased attention, the number of cases solved remains extremely low. Impunity is dominant.

Participants referred to freedom of expression as "an inalienable right" and "a precondition

in any effort to counter propaganda war”.

The following specific recommendations were made in Session I:

Recommendations to OSCE participating States:

- Existing commitments to provide safe working conditions for journalists and end crimes against journalists must be implemented.
- Political will is needed in order to improve the implementation of treaties and agreements related to safety of journalists both in times of peace and conflict
- Progress is urgently needed in prosecuting the perpetrators of attacks against journalists, verbal abuse of journalists for their work, and politically motivated detentions must stop.
- Concerns about the practice of accreditation of journalists and the (ab)use of accreditation to restrict journalist access must be urgently addressed and practical steps need to be taken to resolve them.
- All actors in society, including prosecutors, judicial authorities, military forces, and all dealing with journalists need training about their handling of the media and the importance to ensure that journalists can work freely and safely.
- A gender sensitive approach is needed to address safety of journalists, due to the disproportionately greater number of attacks against women journalist and the very specific characteristics of attacks against women.

Recommendations to civil society:

- Media owners should be held responsible for the safety of the freelancers they employ, and they should have an obligation to cover their insurance and offer adequate training.
- Professional journalist organizations should get involved in tackling issues related to safety of journalists.

SESSION II: Media co- and self-regulation as an instrument to improve ethical standards and counter propaganda

Moderator: Mr. Andrey Rikhter, Senior Adviser to the Representative on Freedom of the Media, OSCE

Panellists:

Ms. Maria Donde, International Policy Manager, Office of Communications, U.K.

Mr. Boris Navasardyan, President, Yerevan Press Club, Armenia

Prof. Wolfgang Kenntemich, Director of Europäisches Institut für Qualitätsjournalismus, Germany

Some participants noted problems in the coverage of conflicts, adding that journalists have not always been able to retain the necessary independence. Nevertheless, this cannot become a justification for attacks and violence against the media. Violence against journalists is a crime and unacceptable under any circumstances.

All panelists stressed that there should not be any pre-condition for safety. The Internet has affected not only the quantity but also the quality of the information disseminated. The low costs of products on the market means that the quality cannot come through. The gatekeeper function of journalists has become irrelevant, which could be problematic.

Self-regulation, carried out by journalists, who understand the public-interest function of their profession, is the best remedy to journalistic shortcomings.

The important role of self-regulatory bodies, such as independent press councils, was also described. Linking quality to freedom will result in strong media that support democratic structures.

Independence (perceived and de facto) is also fundamental for statutory regulatory bodies regulating the broadcasting sector for the purpose of limiting misleading and harmful content. Examples of the work of a broadcasting regulatory body were brought highlighting efforts to ensure that, in current affairs programs at least, there is an effort to offer balanced information in particular on issues that inevitably are multi-faceted

Reality is manifold and journalists have the duty to reflect the different aspects of reality. The work of media regulatory bodies will be successful only if there is an in-depth analysis of the content in the context it was disseminated before taking any regulatory decision .

It was highlighted that efforts to counter propaganda will be effective only if various tools are put in place and implemented in a coordinated fashion: they include an adequate legal framework, effective regulatory systems, journalism education, protection of journalists rights and editorial independence, and, of course, self-regulation.

A new initiative by the Network of Media Self-Regulatory Organizations, which brings together self-regulatory bodies from Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Moldova, Russia and Ukraine, was presented. This is the creation earlier this year to set up an Anti-Propaganda Advisory Commission, with a very specific mandate addressing propaganda. The Commission works as a cross-country media complaint entity, in an effort to address propaganda through self-regulatory tools.

The notion of media ethics is vital, but can be misused by authorities. In particular, concerns were expressed about the abuse of notions such as public moral, national security to impose legislation used to restrict press freedom.

State should refrain from using propaganda and the use of trolls to spread propagandist messages. Other member states must condemn such propaganda.

Viewers themselves have a certain amount of responsibility, hence the need to promote media literacy, critical understanding of media content

The following specific recommendations were made in Session II:

Recommendations to OSCE participating States:

- The quality of reporting can never be a justification for attacks or violence against the media. The authorities should not set any precondition for guaranteeing the safety of journalists.
- The authorities must guarantee a legal environment where regulatory bodies can work independently.
- Efforts to counter propaganda will be effective only if various tools are put in place and implemented in a coordinated fashion: they include an adequate legal framework, effective regulatory systems, journalism education, protection of journalists' rights and editorial independence, and self-regulation.
- States should refrain from using propaganda and the use of trolls to spread propagandist messages. Other participating states must condemn such propaganda.

Recommendations to civil society:

- Self-regulatory bodies, such as independent press councils, must continue their important role. Self-regulation, carried out by journalists who understand the public-interest function of their profession, is the best remedy to journalistic shortcomings.
- Broadcasting regulatory bodies should increase their efforts to ensure that pluralistic information is offered on all issues of public importance.
- Viewers themselves have a certain amount of responsibility, hence the need to promote media literacy, and the critical understanding of media content.

SESSION III: *The Roles of the OSCE, Governments and the Civil Society to Protect Media Freedom in Times of Crises*

Moderator: Mr. Thijs Berman, Principal Adviser to the Representative on Freedom of the Media, OSCE

Panellists:

Ambassador Vaidotas Verba, OSCE Project Co-ordinator in Ukraine

Ms. Lucie Morillon, Reporters Without Borders Programme Director, New Media Specialist

The session presented an example of what can be done through cooperation between government institutions, intergovernmental as well as non-governmental organizations: in late 2015, a training on working in hostile environments was offered to several journalists in Ukraine as part of an OSCE initiative. Journalists who received the training have spoken highly of its importance in increasing their safety during their work.

The participants emphasized the need for a dialogue between the military and journalists. Some have recalled the success of a project linked to an OSCE partnership with all relevant partners in Ukraine. The existing close co-operation of journalists with the Office of the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media was also mentioned.

The session recalled that the safety of journalists remains important to long-term stability in societies. Some participants noted that when covering conflicts, journalists no longer enjoy a neutral status as they used to, and they often find themselves under pressure if they fail to deliver the views of the belligerent parties.

The discussion mentioned ways that the NGOs can raise awareness to the above situation, for example by exercising pressure on governments and intergovernmental organizations through discrete or public diplomacy, by providing financial support to journalists in order to allow them to continue their work, and other forms of capacity building.

NGOs can also protect journalists in danger by providing hands-on security guides with practical tips, some participants noted. They recalled that in the area of protection of journalists, a very effective co-operation exists between NGOs and intergovernmental organizations such as the Council of Europe, OSCE, and UNESCO,

Participants discussed that in some cases, growing restrictions imposed on local NGOs make it difficult for the NGOs to operate at the local level. They suggested that international NGOs support and strengthen local NGOs whenever possible.

The importance of preventive measures was also mentioned: participants recalled that many killed journalists had received warnings and threats earlier, and too many times such threats were ignored either by the journalists themselves, by their colleagues and supervisors, and/or by the police.

The session noted that governments need not only to bring the perpetrators of crimes against journalists to justice, but also, as a first reaction, they need to publicly condemn the killings of journalists. Governments must also not interfere with the legal system, and they need to ensure that the judiciary receives thorough training in issues related to freedom of speech and freedom of the media.

For the purpose of implementation of existing treaties, it was recommended to appoint a special representative to the UN Secretary General for the safety of journalists – some participants noted that this request was supported by the leading freedom of expression organizations and well as intergovernmental organizations.

The discussion noted that today it should be left up to the journalists' judgment whether they wish to use a "press" sign and identify themselves as journalists in their work. In some cases, this may protect them; in other cases, this could make them a target of violence.

Many participants emphasized that states have a primary responsibility in ensuring respect of freedom of opinion and expression. They noted the important role of the OSCE Representative of Freedom of the Media in the defense of these rights.

The exchange between local and international organizations dedicated to freedom of expression is vital, in order to discuss concerns as well as for the purpose of meaningful dialogues. International organizations enjoy greater neutrality than local ones, and they have greater access to state representatives.

The session also discussed the need to discuss and strengthen the essential role that journalists play in our societies, which can also contribute to less violence against them. Furthermore, government officials need to lead by example by accepting scrutiny and criticism by journalists for their public role.

The participants discussed amendments to the guidelines for officials of the United States Department of Defense, aimed at ensuring that all journalists, independently of their professional status, receive full protection when covering conflicts. Participants pointed out that these amendments were introduced following related concerns expressed by civil society organizations.

The possibility of introducing an international press card was discussed at the session, together with concerns by some that this may become counterproductive to their safety and work.

It was suggested to put in place an agreement on accreditation of journalists, to prevent harassment of journalists on the basis of accreditation, and promote greater understanding by consular services about the role of journalists.

Some participants saw difficulties in maintaining a constructive dialogue and exchange of ideas. They expressed appreciation for the work of the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media aimed at promoting such dialogues. In spite of the challenges, some participants noted good examples where the situation of journalists working in challenging environments has improved.

The following specific recommendations were made in Session III:

Recommendations to OSCE participating States:

- Governments need not only to bring the perpetrators of crimes against journalists to justice, but also, as a first reaction, need to publicly and strongly condemn any attacks or killings of journalists.

- Preventive measures need to be put in place. Many killed journalists had received warnings and threats, and too many times such threats were ignored either by the journalists themselves, by their colleagues and supervisors, and/or by the police.
- Governments must not interfere with the legal system; the judiciary must be specifically trained in the area of freedom of expression and media freedom.
- Governments and political leaders should refrain from funding and using propaganda. This is especially the case when it may lead to intolerance, discriminatory stereotyping or may incite war, violence or hostility.
- Government officials need to lead by example by accepting scrutiny and even criticism by journalists. The role that journalists play in our societies must be strengthened, together with the importance of criticism that journalists exercise; this could also help decrease attacks against journalists for their work.
- In the efforts to fight propaganda for war and hatred, authorities should make steps to support the independent, sustainable and accessible activities of public service media with strong professional standards.
- Publicly encourage a dialogue between military and journalists in order to clarify the essential role played by journalists in informing the public about conflicts.
- Cooperate closely with the office of the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media in the efforts to guarantee safety of journalists.
- Appointment of a special representative to the UN Secretary General is recommended, to focus on safety of journalists.
- Consider creating an agreement on accreditation of journalists, to prevent harassment of journalists on the basis of accreditation, and promote greater understanding by consular services about the role of journalists.

Recommendations to the OSCE executive structures, its institutions and field operations:

- Assist in ensuring a dialogue between military and journalists for better understanding.

Recommendations to civil society:

- Continue raising awareness, putting pressure on governments and organizations through discrete or public diplomacy, help ensure financial and material support to journalists to allow them to continue their work.
- International NGOs must help strengthen local NGOs whenever possible.
- The exchange between local-level and international organizations dedicated to freedom of expression is vital and must be further strengthened. International organizations enjoy greater neutrality than local ones, and often have greater access to state representatives.

- Preventive measures need to be put in place. Many killed journalists had received warnings and threats, and too many times such threats were ignored either by the journalists themselves, by their colleagues and supervisors, and/or by the police.
- Journalists must be free to decide on the use of a press sign and on the need to identify themselves as journalists.

CLOSING SESSION: Report by the Rapporteur and Closing Remarks

Report by the Rapporteur from the Working Sessions:

Ms. Barbara Trionfi, Executive Director, International Press Institute

Closing remarks:

Ms. Dunja Mijatović, OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media, delivered on her behalf by **Mr. Frane Maroevic**, Director of the Office of the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media

Ambassador Eberhard Pohl, Chairperson of the OSCE Permanent Council, Permanent Representative of Germany to the OSCE

Ms Trionfi has presented a short summary of the three working session to the participants. She recalled that Session I discussed the international treaties and mechanisms on safety of journalists, noting that the main problem was the lack of their implementation, which requires political will. The increase in attacks and killings of journalists for their work over the past ten years, as well as the related impunity of perpetrators and masterminds were noted with great concern, and the importance of involving professional organizations of journalists in the issue of journalist safety was also highlighted.

Ms Trionfi informed about discussions in Session II on the importance of self-regulation, the role of self-regulatory bodies such as independent press councils, efforts to counter propaganda and the tools that it requires, including adequate legal framework, effective regulatory systems, journalism education, protection of journalists' rights and editorial independence, and self-regulation. The importance of not misusing the notion of media ethics by authorities was also noted in the session, as well as the call to States to condemn propaganda, and refrain from using propaganda and the use of trolls to spread propaganda messages. The session noted the responsibility of media users as well, and calls were made to promote media literacy and a critical understanding of media content.

Session III presented examples of co-operation between government institutions, intergovernmental as well as non-governmental organizations to improve safety of journalists. The discussion mentioned ways in which NGOs can help improve safety of journalists. As growing restrictions imposed on local NGOs were reported by many as a way to make it difficult for the NGOs to operate at the local level, NGOs suggested that international NGOs support and strengthen local NGOs whenever possible. The session noted that governments need not only to bring the perpetrators of crimes against journalists

to justice, but also, as a first reaction, they need to publicly condemn the killings of journalists.

Mr Maroevic, on behalf of the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media, expressed his appreciation to all speakers and participants of the event for the detailed discussions, and encouraged all to continue close co-operation with the Office, and use the assistance of the Office in developing all issues covered at the event. Recalling past activities of the Office on the three session topics, he also outlined future activities planned to continue strengthening safety of journalists, self-regulatory efforts by the media, as well as the Office's co-operation with participating States and other intergovernmental organizations.

Ambassador Pohl closed the session, urging all participants to use every tool and every opportunity they have to increase safe and independent working conditions of journalists and their protection. The Ambassador also encouraged the increase of ethical standards in journalism to help counter the exploitation of media for propaganda for war and hatred. He recalled that in February 2016, the Chairmanship, together with the Office of the Representative, have organized a one-day expert meeting titled "Propaganda for war and hatred and freedom of the media", aimed to help better understand the destructive consequences that propaganda can pose on media freedom. The Ambassador also noted that the German Chairmanship had presented two draft decisions for the 2016 Ministerial Council in Hamburg: one on "Freedom of expression and free and pluralistic media" highlighting the current challenges in the OSCE region, and one on "actions required to counteract propaganda for war and hatred". He expressed hope that achieving agreement on them in Hamburg would be a very important signal that the OSCE participating States are indeed taking up the tasks to combat propaganda for war and hatred, to protect journalists and to reverse existing violations.

ANNEXES

ANNEX I: SHORT AGENDA

AGENDA

Day 1 **27 October 2016**

13:00 – 15:00 Side events

15:00 – 16:00 **OPENING SESSION**

Opening remarks:

Ms. Dunja Mijatović, OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media (*Introducer*)

Mr. Michael Georg Link, Director of the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (OSCE/ODIHR)

Ambassador Eberhard Pohl, Chairperson of the OSCE Permanent Council, Permanent Representative of Germany to the OSCE

Keynote speech:

Michael O'Flaherty, Director of the EU Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA)

Technical information by **Mr. Frane Maroevic**, Director, the Office of the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media (RFOM)

16:00 – 18:00 **SESSION I: Safety of Journalists in Armed Conflict**

Panelists:

Mr. Gerhard Doujak, Human Rights Department of the Austrian Foreign Ministry

Ms. Nadezhda Azhghina, Vice President of the European Federation of Journalists

Mr. Patrick Penninckx, Head of the Information Department of the Council of Europe

Moderator:

Mr. Frane Maroevic, Director, the Office of the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media (RFOM)

18:00 – 19:00 Reception hosted by the German OSCE Chairmanship and the Swedish Delegation, Schwedenhaus (*transport provided upon registration at hdmeetings@odihhr.pl, shuttle from Hofburg leaving at 18:15, doors open at 18:30*)

Day 2 **28 October 2016**

10:00 – 12:00 **SESSION II: Media co- and self-regulation as an instrument to improve ethical standards and counter propaganda**

Panelists:

Ms. Maria Donde, International Policy Manager, Office of Communications, U.K.

Mr. Boris Navasardyan, President, Yerevan Press Club

Prof. Wolfgang Kenntemich, Director of Europäisches Institut für Qualitätsjournalismus, Germany

Moderator:

Mr. Andrey Rikhter, Senior Adviser to the Representative on Freedom of the Media, OSCE

12:00 – 14:00 Lunch break / Side events

14:00 – 16:00 **SESSION III: The Roles of the OSCE, Governments and the Civil Society to Protect Media Freedom in Times of Crises**

Panelists:

Ambassador Vaidotas Verba, OSCE Project Co-ordinator in Ukraine

Ms. Lucie Morillon, Reporters Without Borders Programme Director, New Media Specialist

Moderator:

Mr. Thijs Berman, Principal Adviser to the Representative on Freedom of the Media, OSCE

16:00 – 16:30 Break

16:30 – 17:30 **CLOSING SESSION**

Reports from the Working Sessions:

Rapporteur

Ms. Barbara Trionfi, Executive Director, International Press Institute

Comments from the floor

Closing remarks

Ms. Dunja Mijatović, OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media

Ambassador Eberhard Pohl, Chairperson of the OSCE Permanent Council, Permanent Representative of Germany to the OSCE

ANNEX II: BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION: Keynote Speaker, Introducers and Moderators

Day 1: Thursday, 27 October 2016

15.00 – 16.00: OPENING SESSION

Opening remarks: Ms. Dunja Mijatović

The Representative on Freedom of the Media is Dunja Mijatović of Bosnia and Herzegovina. She took over this post on 11 March 2010. Mijatović is one of the founders of the Communications Regulatory Agency of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

In 2007 she was elected Chair of the European Platform of Regulatory Agencies. Prior to this, she chaired the Council of Europe's Group of Specialists on freedom of expression and information in times of crisis.

Mijatović is an expert in human rights; communications and media strategy; and regulatory and policy media framework. She has extensive knowledge of institution-building in transition states and many years' experience of issues related to journalist's safety and new technologies, with the emphasis on digitalization, convergence and Internet technologies

Opening remarks: Mr. Michael Georg Link

Michael Georg Link (Germany) began his tenure as ODIHR director on 1 July 2014. Before joining the Office, he served from January 2012 to December 2014 as the Minister of State for Europe in the German government, responsible for OSCE, EU, Council of Europe and NATO affairs. He was elected to the German parliament in 2005, representing Heilbronn/Baden-Württemberg, and served through 2013. During that term, from 2006 to 2013, Link established a strong OSCE connection as a member of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly.

The ODIHR director is a past member of the boards of the Center for International Peace Operations (ZIF), the German Foundation for Peace Research and the Foundation for German-Polish Cooperation, and remains active in international NGOs, including the German Council on Foreign Relations, the German Association for Eastern European Studies, the Southeast Europe Association, and the German Atlantic Association.

Opening remarks: Ambassador Eberhard Pohl

Eberhard Pohl, who holds a degree in Law, has over 30 years of experience working in the German diplomatic service with a focus on security policy. Since July 2015 Ambassador Pohl has served as Head of Mission at the Permanent Mission of Germany to the OSCE in Vienna and since beginning of 2016 he is Chair of the Permanent Council in the framework of the German OSCE Chairmanship. Before that, from 2011 until 2015, Pohl served as Head of Mission at the German Embassy in Ankara, Turkey. From 2007 to 2011 he served as Deputy Political Director at the Federal Foreign Office in Berlin.

Key Note Speaker: **Mr. Michael O’Flaherty**

Michael O’Flaherty is FRA’s current Director. Previously, he was Professor of Human Rights Law and Director of the Irish Centre for Human Rights at the National University of Ireland, Galway. He has also been the Chief Commissioner of the Northern Ireland Human Rights Commission. In addition, he has held a number of senior UN posts in the field, supported UN headquarters in various human rights programmes, been a Vice-Chairperson of the UN Human Rights Committee and has sat on the advisory boards of numerous human rights groups and journals internationally. His recent publications include volumes on the law and practice of human rights field operations, the professionalization of human rights field work and human rights diplomacy.

16:00-18:00 SESSION I: SAFETY OF JOURNALISTS IN ARMED CONFLICT

Panellist: **Mr. Gerhard Doujak**

Gerhard Doujak, born in 1960 in Vienna, is working since 2010 as Director for Human Rights and Minority issues at the Federal Ministry for Europe, Integration and International Affairs in Vienna. He previously served as Austrian Ambassador to Peru and to Senegal from 2002 to 2010. His activities in the Ministry includes experience in the field of development cooperation as well as multilateral disarmament and arms control. Previous assignments abroad include Bujumbura (for UNDP), in Paris and New York, where he worked at the Permanent Mission of Austria to the UN. He studied law at the University of Vienna and international law at the Graduate Institute for Higher International Studies in Geneva, Switzerland.

Panellist: **Ms. Nadzezda Azhghina**

Elected as Vice president of European Federation of Journalists in 2013, re-elected in 2016. Journalist, scholar and activist, worked as columnist and editor in Russian national print media (“Ogonyok” magazine and “Nezavissimaya Gazeta”). Works in Russian Union of Journalists as Executive Secretary on International cooperation, safety and creative journalism. Member of IFJ Gender council and GAMAG (UNESCO Global Alliance for Media and Gender) . Graduated from Moscow State University, Faculty of Journalist, Ph. D in Russian Literature and Journalism. Member of Russian PEN, Union of Russian Writers. Coordinator and team leader of number of International initiatives and projects on media freedom, journalist solidarity, culture of tolerance, safety, gender equality and culture, under umbrella of UNESCO, UN WOMEN, OSCE, IFJ. Russian coordinator of Dialogue of professional organizations of Russia and Ukraine since 2014. Published and edited number of books and collections on journalism, human rights, gender and culture.

Panellist: **Mr. Patrick Penninckx**

30 years professionally active, 25 spent at the Council of Europe, focusing on transformation processes in the Organisation, developing partnerships with other international organisations

and national partners. In the field of Human Resources, Patrick was in charge of human resources policy development, transforming the administrative management of personnel to a competency based human resource policy. Patrick also led the Pompidou Group of the Council of Europe through major changes in Membership profile, flexible working methods and innovative human and financial resources management.

Currently Head of the Information Society Department under the Directorate General Human Rights and the Rule of Law at the Council of Europe. This covers Freedom of Expression, Protection of Journalists, Data Protection, Cybercrime and Digital Governance (internet Governance). Key areas of development: Guide on Human Rights for Internet Users, revised Convention on Data Protection, new internet governance strategy and creating a common profile and identity for the Department.

Moderator: Mr. Frane Maroević

Director of the Office of the Representative on Freedom of the Media, Frane Maroevic 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.

Day 2: Friday, 28 October 2016

10:00 – 13:00 SESSION II: MEDIA CO-AND SELF-REGULATION AS AN INSTRUMENT TO IMPROVE ETHICAL STANDARDS AND COUNTER PROPAGANDA

Panellist: Ms. Maria Donde

Maria works for the UK Office of Communications (Ofcom) as an International Policy Manager, focusing on media, content and broadcasting issues. She is responsible for Ofcom's engagement with other European regulators, and with the European Commission on matters relating to the AVMS Directive.

Prior to that, Maria worked in the Broadcasting Standards team at Ofcom. Her regulatory background is in advertising, having spent four years at the Advertising Standards Authority advising practitioners on the application of the UK's advertising Codes. Prior to that, she worked in media analysis, and before that as a radio producer for the BBC World Service.

Panellist: Mr. Boris Navasardyan

Boris Navasardian has made impressive journalistic career since 1979. He edited and published "Republic of Armenia" (Russian language version) and "Zerkalo" (The Mirror) newspapers, produced and hosted TV shows. Since 1995 he is the President of Yerevan

Press Club, the first journalistic association established in post-Soviet Armenia. Mr. Navasardian is initiator of the establishment media self-regulation body in Armenia – Media Ethics Observatory, which is member of Alliance of Independent Press Councils of Europe. In 2005-2007 he was member of Council of Europe’s expert group on “Freedom of expression and freedom of information in times of crisis. Boris Navasardian was also active in the spheres of regional cooperation, conflict prevention and resolution, civil society development serving as Board Chair of Open Society Institute Armenia (2002-2006) member and co-chair of the Steering Committee of the Eastern Partnership Civil Society Forum (2009-2014).

Panellist: Prof. Wolfgang Kenntemich

After finishing high school and doing his service as a press officer in the army, Wolfgang Kenntemich worked first as a political editor for the daily newspaper *Westfälische Nachrichten*. In 1973, he moved to the news agency *Deutscher Depeschendienst*, where he became editor-in-chief in 1979. He then worked for Axel Springer Verlag starting in 1983 in Bonn, overseeing the offices for the magazines *Bild* and *Bild am Sonntag*. Before switching to TV in 1991, Kenntemich also worked as senior correspondent for Gruner + Jahr. After a short stint at the Bavarian Broadcasting (BR), he moved in November 1991 to the newly reopened Mitteldeutscher Rundfunk (MDR), and was there the editor-in-chief for television for twenty years. He is a book editor and author, amongst other of *The flood of the century* and *That was the GDR. A story of the other Germany*. At present he is an honorary professor for journalism at the University of Leipzig. Besides other roles, Kenntemich is Co-president of the European Pro Europa cultural foundation, Honorary President of the Mitteldeutscher Presseclub in Leipzig, and a member of the advisory committee of NUMOV, the German Near and Middle East Association. Wolfgang Kenntemich assumed the directorship of the newly founded European Institute on Quality Journalism in Leipzig, Germany, at the start of 2013.

Moderator: Mr. Andrey Rikhter

Andrey Rikhter is Senior Adviser at the OSCE Office of the Representative on Freedom of the Media. He was also a professor at the School of Journalism, Lomonosov Moscow State University, where he chaired a department in media law and history. Rikhter sits on the editorial boards of a number of international journals on communications and the media. He has authored more than 200 publications on media law in Russian, English, Armenian, Azeri, Bosnian, Croat, German, French, Serbian, Slovak, Tajik and Ukrainian, including the only standard media law textbook for journalism students in the Russian Federation (2002, 2009), a textbook on international standards of media regulation (2011), a textbook on online media law (2014), and a book on censorship and freedom of the media in post-Soviet countries, published by UNESCO (2007). Rikhter holds university degrees in law and foreign languages, and a doctorate and professorship in journalism studies. He was a commissioner at the International Commission of Jurists and the Chair of the Law Section of the International Association for Media and Communication Research.

14:00-16:00 **SESSION III: THE ROLES OF THE OSCE, GOVERNMENTS AND THE CIVIL SOCIETY TO PROTECT MEDIA FREEDOM IN TIMES OF CRISES**

Panellist: **Amb. Vaidotas Verba**

Ambassador Vaidotas Verba of Lithuania assumed responsibilities of the OSCE Project Co-ordinator in Ukraine on September 1, 2014. Previously, he was a team leader of Odessa group of the OSCE Special Monitoring Mission in 2014. Before that, since 2012 he was Special Envoy for the EU's Eastern Partnership at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Lithuania, in that capacity he also was Chief Co-ordinator for the preparation of the third Eastern Partnership summit in Vilnius in autumn of 2013. Since 2007 he was Ambassador of Lithuania to the Netherlands, Permanent Representative to the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons. From 2003 Ambassador Verba headed Consular Department in the Lithuanian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and from 2000 to 2003, he was the Minister Counsellor of the Lithuanian Embassy in Canada.

Ambassador Verba has Master Degree in Law of Vilnius University; he also graduated from the University of Birmingham, Graduate School of Political Science and International Studies, as well as Lithuanian Physical Education Academy.

His awards include the Knight's Cross of the Oder for Merits to Lithuania, the Civil Service Merit Cross of Spain, and the Knight Grand Cross of Orange Nassau (Netherlands). Ambassador Verba speaks Lithuanian, English, German (basics), Russian and French (basics).

Panellist: **Ms. Lucie Morillon**

Lucie Morillon is Reporters Without Borders' Programme Director. She joined the organization in 2000. She oversees Advocacy, Research and Capacity Building activities, coordinating the organization's various projects in the field. Previously, she was the Head of the organization's New Media Desk. She was from 2004 to 2009 based in Washington DC, where she opened a representative office. She is an expert in media freedom and new media.

Moderator: **Mr. Thijs Berman**

Thijs Berman started his professional career as a journalist for almost 20 years, and has been posted in Paris and Moscow as a correspondent for various Dutch public media. He was a member of the European parliament from 2004 till 2014, and now serves as the Principal Adviser of the RFOM.

16.30 – 17.30: **CLOSING SESSION**

Rapporteur: **Ms. Barbara Trionfi**

With an academic background in international relations and human rights, Barbara Trionfi joined the International Press Institute (IPI) in 2000 as a press freedom adviser for the Asia-Pacific region, where she had studied and worked for over two years, carrying out research in the field of human rights and freedom of expression.

Later, as press freedom manager, she oversaw IPI's global press freedom activities. Today, as executive director, she manages IPI's operations in line with the overall strategy defined by the IPI executive board.

Barbara has taught courses at Webster University – Vienna in Media Ethics, Media Literacy and Cultural Diversity and the Media.

Her field of expertise covers different areas related to press freedom and freedom of expression, including self-regulatory media accountability systems, safety of journalists, and international mechanisms to protect press freedom.

Closing remarks: Ms. Dunja Mijatović

The Representative on Freedom of the Media is Dunja Mijatović of Bosnia and Herzegovina. She took over this post on 11 March 2010. Mijatović is one of the founders of the Communications Regulatory Agency of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

In 2007 she was elected Chair of the European Platform of Regulatory Agencies. Prior to this, she chaired the Council of Europe's Group of Specialists on freedom of expression and information in times of crisis.

Mijatović is an expert in human rights; communications and media strategy; and regulatory and policy media framework. She has extensive knowledge of institution-building in transition states and many years' experience of issues related to journalist's safety and new technologies, with the emphasis on digitalization, convergence and Internet technologies.

Closing remarks: Amb. Eberhard Pohl

Eberhard Pohl, who holds a degree in Law, has over 30 years of experience working in the German diplomatic service with a focus on security policy. Since July 2015 Ambassador Pohl has served as Head of Mission at the Permanent Mission of Germany to the OSCE in Vienna and since beginning of 2016 he is Chair of the Permanent Council in the framework of the German OSCE Chairmanship. Before that, from 2011 until 2015, Pohl served as Head of Mission at the German Embassy in Ankara, Turkey. From 2007 to 2011 he served as Deputy Political Director at the Federal Foreign Office in Berlin.