



PROTECTING THE SAFETY OF JOURNALISTS PROTECTING FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION

A HANDBOOK FOR EU DELEGATIONS



Funded by the European Union



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Media4Democracy provides customised technical support to individual European Union Delegations as well as advocacy support and capacity building services to EU Delegations worldwide, all designed to strengthen European Union Delegations' own ability to support media and freedom of expression.

The Brussels-based core team of two senior experts and one junior expert deploys a global network of leading freedom of expression and media development professionals to work with EU Delegations in their context on their unique priorities. Media4Democracy is backed by a consortium of prominent European organisations from the field of freedom of expression, media development and democracy support: ARTICLE 19, DW Akademie, European Partnership for Democracy, Free Press Unlimited and the Thomson Foundation, as well as Particip, which leads the Consortium.

Consortium partner Free Press Unlimited is a media development organisation dedicated to ensuring objective news and information is available to everyone, especially in countries with no or limited media freedom. Free Press Unlimited assigns top priority to supporting a safe working environment for journalists, through trainings, an emergency support mechanism, the development of safety tools and advocating for a safer working environment for journalists worldwide. Free Press Unlimited provides technical assistance to EU Delegations, in the framework of Media4Democracy, on media, access to information and the empowerment of women and girls.

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

ACHPR	African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights
ACHR	Arab Charter on Human Rights
CFI	Canal France International
CI	Communication and Information Sector
CBSS	Country Based Support Scheme
CoE	Council of Europe
CPJ	Committee to Protect Journalists
CSOs	Civil Society Organisations
LA	Local authorities
EC	European Commission
ECHR	European Convention on Human Rights
EEAS	European External Action Service
EED	European Endowment for Democracy
EIDHR	European Instrument for Democracy and Human Rights
EOM	Election observation mission
EU	European Union
EUSRs	EU Special Representatives
FH	Freedom House
FPU	Free Press Unlimited
HRCSPD	Human Rights Council and Special Procedures Division
HRDs	Human rights defenders
IACHR	Inter-American Commission on Human Rights
ICT	Information and Communications Technology
IDEI	International Day to End Impunity for Crimes Against Journalists
IDUAI	International Day for Universal Access to Information
IMS	International Media Support
INSI	International News Safety Institute
IFJ	International Federation of Journalists
IWMF	International Women's Media Foundation
MADA	Palestinian Center for Development and Media Freedoms
NGOs	Non-Governmental Organisations
OAS	Organization of American States
OHCHR	Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
OSCE	Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe
RSF	Reporters Without Borders
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
UN	United Nations
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNHRC	United Nations Human Rights Council
UNSR	United Nations Special Representative
UPR	Universal Periodic Review
WPFD	World Press Freedom Day

PURPOSE OF THIS HANDBOOK

Freedom of opinion, freedom of expression and the right to information are basic human rights guaranteed by the adoption of the *Universal Declaration of Human Rights* by the United Nations in 1948. They are seen as cornerstones of public debate and democracy. These rights are protected by the 1950 *Charter of Fundamental Rights* of the European Union.

Freedom of expression and the safety of journalists face major challenges worldwide, including within the EU¹. The 2019 World Press Freedom Index shows that the number of countries regarded as safe for journalists continues to decline². While authoritarian regimes further tighten their grip on the media, leaders in new and established democracies also increasingly threaten journalists' freedom and safety. In many countries, journalists are directly targeted; their lives are at risk. Journalists and media outlets face censorship, political and economic pressure, intimidation, job insecurity, and abusive use of defamation laws and other legal instruments, in addition to threats and physical attacks. These offences are often committed in a context of impunity, which fuels recidivism and has a chilling effect on media freedom and freedom of expression.

'Combating violence, persecution, harassment and intimidation of individuals, including journalists and other media actors, because of their exercise of the right to freedom of expression online and offline, and combating impunity for such crimes' is one of the six priorities outlined by the 2014 *EU Human Rights Guidelines on Freedom of Expression Online and Offline* (the Guidelines). These Guidelines reinforce and complement the *EU Human Rights Guidelines on Human Rights Defenders* adopted in 2008.

European Union Delegations are at the frontline of promoting these principles through their work with authorities, institutions and citizens in third countries. They can have a substantial impact on strengthening governments' commitment to protect journalists and fight against impunity by supporting the improvement of legal frameworks and the adoption (and implementation) of national protection mechanisms, and by supporting civil society and media actors to defend and advocate for these rights.

1 <https://rsf.org/en/rsf-index-2018-journalists-are-murdered-europe-well>

2 <https://rsf.org/en/2019-world-press-freedom-index-cycle-fear>

This Handbook, which provides non-compulsory technical guidance to EU Delegations, aims to provide tools and hands-on examples to support them in implementing the Guidelines and in taking actions to support the safety and security of journalists in their context. First, the Handbook presents a brief on the European and international policy framework regarding safety of journalists and clarifies relevant concepts. The second section focuses on the actions EU Delegations can carry out in their own local context – working in an emergency situation, or as tools for mid- and long-term policy and programming.

New context of COVID-19

At the time of finalising this handbook in June 2020, the global coronavirus pandemic and its ramifications are affecting citizens in all countries, and, in addition to illness and death, leading to social distancing and stay-at-home orders, the closure of schools and harsh economic consequences. Many EU Delegation staff are working from home and managing social distancing requirements.

Within this context, the challenges to the safety and security of journalists and media outlets have been exacerbated, often by governments – both authoritarian and democratically elected – seeking to repress and restrict reporting on the pandemic. This means that alongside the inherent dangers and personal risks that journalists take to report on the epidemic and provide citizens with access to accurate information, they are also at risk of being arrested for doing so. Journalists imprisoned for exercising their right to freedom of expression to report on COVID-19 are then at extreme risk of infection whilst held in custody.

Some government moves to clamp down on media may be temporary; others may be longer lasting. What is clear, however, is that the negative financial consequences of the pandemic for journalists and media houses will reshape the media landscape, possibly forever, as media outlets close, journalists lose their jobs, and basic economic business models, which were already under pressure, are no longer viable.



© UNESCO/Nidal Alwahidi

In response to the acute crisis for journalism safety and security, the international community and media sector actors are adapting advocacy efforts and resources to increase the protection for journalists. These efforts are being undertaken through monitoring the impact of coronavirus on journalism and journalists' safety³; the provision of online hubs for sharing tools, resources and information about emergency funds for journalists and media to protect themselves⁴; and through accessible online training courses on safety issues while reporting on COVID-19⁵.

So many things across all countries remain unclear, but what is certain is that journalists and media houses are at increased risk and the role of EU Delegations working to protect them and defend freedom of expression is – and will be – even more vital.

3 <https://rsf.org/en/tracker19-Coronavirus-Covid19>

4 <https://cpi.org/covid-19/>

5 <https://thomsonfoundation.edcastcloud.com/learn/reporting-on-covid-19-safety-self-paced>



WHAT EU DELEGATIONS NEED TO KNOW

1.1 SAFETY OF JOURNALISTS AND IMPUNITY: THE ISSUES

Safety vs. Security

The *EU Human Rights Guidelines⁶ on Freedom of Expression Online and Offline*⁶ refer to safety and security of journalists in paragraph 29(c), stating that the EU will call ‘on all States to take active steps to prevent violence against journalists and other media actors, enabling them to work in safety and security, without fear of violence and persecution.’ Paragraph 31 says that ‘all governments must allow journalists to work in a free and enabling environment in safety and security, without the fear of censorship or restraint.’ Though the Guidelines refer to these two terms, they do not provide any explicit definition.

In the framework of the Guidelines, ‘safety’ should be understood as a holistic approach. It contains three components: physical, digital and psychosocial. For safety to be guaranteed, each of these three components must be fulfilled. The term ‘security’ is related to the process of ensuring safety.

Typology of media actors

The Guidelines set a broad definition of *media actors* protected. It does not differentiate a print, broadcast or internet reporter from a photographer or a camera operator, nor a columnist from an editor, editorial cartoonist, reporter or online producer. The Guidelines cover media collaborators (technicians, stringers, translators, and drivers) as well as publishers and owners.

They do not differentiate between professional and non-professional journalists or between journalists that operate with a press card or those that do not. Section 1(A)(5) of the Guidelines refers to ‘journalists and other media actors’ and states that ‘efforts to protect journalists should not be limited to those formally recognised as such, but should also cover support staff and others, such as “citizen journalists” bloggers, editorial cartoonists, social media activists and human rights defenders, who use new media to reach a mass audience.’

No distinction is made between local journalists and international reporters (Section 43), although the Guidelines focus on the promotion of journalists’ safety at a local level.

6 https://eeas.europa.eu/sites/eeas/files/eu_human_rights_guidelines_on_freedom_of_expression_online_and_offline_en.pdf

Freelance journalists are not clearly mentioned. An indirect reference is made in Section 1(A)(5) in which the Guidelines mention that ‘efforts ... should cover staff and others.’ The situation of freelance journalists differs from staff media actors, as they rarely have the support and backup of a media organisation.

Journalists as human rights defenders

The Guidelines include journalists within the broader category of human rights defenders (HRDs) as they are on the front line of defending and promoting the rights of all citizens to freedom of expression and access to information, which are fundamental rights and enabling rights for achieving all social, economic, political and civil rights.

The Guidelines make clear that journalists must have access to the same support as all HRDs, by emphasising in paragraph 5 that ‘Efforts to end impunity for crimes against journalists and other media actors must be associated with the protection and defence of human rights defenders.’ Actions identified to protect journalists in the Guidelines are also applicable for protecting HRDs, such as continuing to provide technical and other support to ensure their exercise of freedom of expression online and offline.



© Pedro X. Molina (Nicaragua), Cartooning for Peace

Typology of threats and perpetratorsof violence against media actors

One of the six priority areas of actions in the Guidelines – providing guidance to EU Delegations, institutions and Member States is ‘Combating violence, persecution, harassment and intimidation’ of journalists and media houses. The Guidelines explicitly covers both online and offline threats.

- ▶ Regarding physical threats against journalists, the Guidelines list (paragraph 29(a)) **‘killings, attacks, execution, torture, enforced disappearance or other acts of serious violence or intimidation against any individual for exercising his or her right to freedom of expression, as well as attacks on media outlets.’**

These violations of human rights are condemned by international conventions, such as the *United Nations Convention Against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment*⁷ and the *International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance*⁸.

- ▶ *In relation to the use of laws and legal tools to threaten journalists*, the Guidelines note (paragraph 30) that **'freedom of expression is often curtailed by laws or practices that impose censorship, encourage self-censorship or provide legal penalties, including criminal, financial and administrative sanctions.'** Governments in more and more countries are resorting to unlawful arrests of journalists, in violation of international standards on freedom of expression. In 2019, the Committee to Protect Journalists (CPJ) reported that the number of journalists in prison for work-related charges stood at 257. Frequently, journalists harassed with unlawful arrest or legal sanctions are subsequently subjected to physical threats.

Different kinds of perpetrators harass, threaten and attack media actors: public officials, political leaders and their supporters, demonstrators, religious groups, militias/armed groups, criminal organisations and trolls, intelligence agencies, security forces and agents, or even media regulators.

In March 2020, Reporters Without Borders (RSF) issued a list of 20 of the 'worst digital predators of press freedom'⁹ highlighting the most prominent identified perpetrators.

DIGITAL OR ONLINE THREATS

The nature of digital threats to journalists is constantly evolving. Persistent or significant digital threats often foretell the use of physical threats and thus should be taken seriously as early warning signs of danger.

The following are methods commonly utilised by perpetrators, mainly government actors.

- ▶ **Internet shutdown** and slowing down Internet connection speed.
- ▶ **Content filtering** with the blockade of specific websites or access to some social media platforms.
- ▶ **Content removal** when website hosting companies are under pressure to remove content. They are often forced to implement 'withdrawal notifications' upon the request of local authorities. →

7 <https://www.ohchr.org/en/professionalinterest/pages/cat.aspx>

8 <https://www.ohchr.org/en/hrbodies/ced/pages/conventionced.aspx>

9 <https://rsf.org/en/news/rsf-unveils-2020-list-press-freedoms-digital-predators>

- ▶ **Internet and telecommunication surveillance** monitoring journalists' online activities, sources and contacts, including tracking their use of encryption and circumvention tools.
- ▶ **Neutralisation** of encryption, anonymisation and circumvention tools.
- ▶ **Online attacks** include hacking of news websites or independent websites, online identity fraud, trolling, spear phishing, malwares, spam campaigns, etc. Such online threats can include actions outlined below.
 - *Phishing* is a technique used to 'phish' for social network usernames and passwords. This form of social engineering uses email or malicious websites (among other channels) to solicit personal information from an individual or company by posing as a trustworthy organisation or entity. Phishing attacks often use email as a vehicle, sending email messages to users that appear to be from an institution or company that the individual conducts business with, such as a banking or financial institution, or a web service with which the individual has an account.
 - *Trolling* is a form of online harassment using online attacks on opponents and dissidents. This technique is often used in the framework of a propaganda war with the publication of propaganda messages on the internet.
 - *Hacking of websites.* Governments can often be behind the hacking of news websites or independent websites as a way of conducting surveillance of media. In addition, there are cases of governments asking internet service providers to redirect web users to websites containing malicious software (malware) or spyware.
 - *Doxing* is the practice of accessing and sharing personal and private documents, often with the intention of shaming or threatening a journalist.
 - *Direct denial of services* occurs when a website is taken out of service by flooding it with computer-generated requests or by other means.
 - *Disinformation* is proliferation of fake news items that look real, planted to make a journalist vulnerable to hatred, attack or arrest.

TO GO FURTHER:

- ▶ List of principal international human rights instruments and their monitoring bodies: <https://www.ohchr.org/EN/ProfessionalInterest/Pages/CoreInstruments.aspx>
- ▶ UNESCO's publication Building Digital Safety for Journalism: <http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0023/002323/232358e.pdf>

1.1.1 Safety and impunity: the current global context

Current global trends

Murder and other forms of violence such as arbitrary detention, torture, kidnapping, gender-based violence, threats or harassments are perpetrated against journalists and media workers daily. Journalists are killed in the course of their work or targeted because of their investigative reporting. Threats to investigative reporters and unprecedented verbal attacks on the media, mainly by political leaders, have increased in recent years. Aside from outright violence, governments are using a wide range of tactics to silence journalists including resorting to unlawful arrest and legal sanctions.

At the close of 2019, RSF¹⁰ reported that 389 journalists were in prison and 57 were being held hostage, with 49 journalists killed during the year. This compares with RSF 2018 totals of 348 journalists in prison, 60 journalists being held hostage and 80 journalists killed¹¹.

While the 2019 figures show a significant decline in journalists killed, to the lowest point in 12 years, this can be attributed to fewer journalists killed in war zones, according to RSF. This is seen in the decline of journalists killed across the three conflict zones of Syria, Yemen and Afghanistan during 2019, dropping to 17 as compared to 34 in 2018.

RSF points out that ‘this unprecedented fall must not however eclipse the fact that the number of journalists killed in countries at peace continues to be as high as in previous years.’ Rather, this data highlights the change developing over the last decade: that today a journalist is more likely to be killed at home or at work in their own city than when reporting from a war zone.

United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) also voiced concern about this trend, stating, ‘Almost two thirds (61 %) of cases in 2019 occurred in countries not experiencing armed conflict, a notable spike in a wider trend in recent years, and a reversal of the situation of 2014, when this figure was one third. More than 90 % of cases recorded in 2019 concerned local journalists.’¹²

10 <https://rsf.org/en/news/rsf-yearly-round-historically-low-number-journalists-killed-2019>

11 <https://rsf.org/en/news/rsfs-2018-round-deadly-attacks-and-abuses-against-journalists-figures-all-categories>

12 <https://en.unesco.org/news/unesco-concerned-about-press-freedom-worldwide-despite-drop-number-media-casualties-2019>

In parallel, it remains clear that aside from outright violence, governments are also using a wide range of tactics to silence journalists including resorting to unlawful arrest and legal sanctions. The 2019 data from CPJ notes that the number of journalists arrested because of their work remains consistently high with around 250 journalists in prison – with China, Turkey, Saudi Arabia and Egypt topping the list¹³.

Several media and international organisations track and publish data about journalists' safety at different intervals throughout the year, often with country-specific reports available. The reporting focus and schedule, the methodology to compile and calculate data, and country/regional focus differs between organisations.

It is recommended that EU Delegations directly access the most up-to-date data relevant to their context. Several sources are noted below.

Selected data sources for security of journalists and media freedom trends:

- ▶ UNESCO Observatory of killed journalists – a database of journalists killed since 1993 and the most dangerous countries for journalists in terms of life threats¹⁴
- ▶ *UNESCO World Trends in Freedom of Expression and Media Development 2017-2018*¹⁵
- ▶ *RSF 2020 World Press Freedom Index*¹⁶, global analysis¹⁷ and regional analysis¹⁸
- ▶ CPJ database of attacks on the press since 1992¹⁹ as well as the 2019 *Global Impunity Index*²⁰
- ▶ Freedom House (FH) *Freedom of the Press* 2019²¹; *Freedom on the Net* 2019²²; and *Freedom in the World* 2019²³ with country-specific reports and sections focused on media.

13 <https://cpj.org/reports/2019/12/journalists-jailed-china-turkey-saudi-arabia-egypt/>

14 <https://en.unesco.org/themes/safety-journalists/observatory>

15 <https://en.unesco.org/world-media-trends>

16 <https://rsf.org/en/ranking>

17 <https://rsf.org/en/2020-world-press-freedom-index-entering-decisive-decade-journalism-exacerbated-coronavirus>

18 <https://rsf.org/en/news/rsf-index-2020-regional-analysis>

19 <https://cpj.org/data/>

20 <https://cpj.org/reports/2019/10/getting-away-with-murder-killed-justice.php>

21 <https://freedomhouse.org/report/freedom-media/freedom-media-2019>

22 <https://www.freedomonthenet.org/report/freedom-on-the-net/2019/the-crisis-of-social-media>

23 <https://freedomhouse.org/report/freedom-world/2019/democracy-retreat>



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The role played by UNESCO in the field of safety of journalists

UNESCO is one of the key UN agencies that actively promotes freedom of expression, press freedom and freedom of information, including the promotion of journalists' safety and the fight against impunity.

Since 2014 UNESCO has spearheaded the *United Nations Plan of Action on Safety and Security of Journalists and the Issue of Impunity*²⁴, building momentum for countries to develop national plans based on the model of a multi-stakeholder, multi-level approach to promoting journalist safety, and requiring UN Member States to report on progress towards investigating and prosecuting serious cases.

Based on UNESCO's crucial role in promoting the safety of journalists as well as fighting against impunity, it is recommended that EU Delegations have regular contacts with UNESCO Communication and Information Sector representatives in the field to coordinate activities. The UNESCO Headquarters in Paris²⁵ has a programme specialist working on the issue of safety and security of journalists who can provide information to EU Delegations on the topic. The UNESCO Liaison Office and Representation to the European Institutions in Brussels can connect EU Delegations to UNESCO colleagues in the respective country²⁶.

²⁴ <https://en.unesco.org/un-plan-action-safety-journalists>

²⁵ <http://www.unesco.org/new/unesco/about-us/where-we-are/contact-us>

²⁶ The contact person in Brussels is Ms Adeline Hulin: a.hulin@unesco.org

UN PLAN OF ACTION ON THE SAFETY OF JOURNALISTS AND THE ISSUE OF IMPUNITY

Adopted in 2012, the *United Nations Plan of Action on the Safety of Journalists and the Issue of Impunity* is the first UN strategy addressing safety of journalists in conflict and non-conflict contexts. It is designed to uphold the fundamental right to freedom of expression. Its measures include, among other undertakings, the establishment of a UN Inter-Agency Mechanism on Safety of Journalists amongst UN agencies to handle issues related to the safety of journalists, and the involvement of other intergovernmental organisations at international and regional levels to encourage the incorporation of journalists' safety within their respective strategies.

Furthermore, it proposes assistance to countries to develop legislation and mechanisms favourable to freedom of expression and information, supporting their efforts to implement existing international rules and principles. This United Nations Plan of Action has been a catalyst for landmark resolutions passed by the United Nations General Assembly, the United Nations Security Council and the Human Rights Council, that are listed in this handbook. →

TO GO FURTHER:

- ▶ UNESCO Webpage on the Safety of journalists: <https://en.unesco.org/themes/safety-journalists>
- ▶ UNESCO Director-General's Report on the Safety of Journalists and the Danger of Impunity: <https://en.unesco.org/dg-report>
- ▶ Implementation Review of the United Nations Plan of Action (2013-2014): http://www.unesco.org/new/fileadmin/MULTIMEDIA/HQ/CI/import/ReviewReportUNPlan_of_Action_on_Safety_of_Journalist_Fin.pdf
- ▶ Strengthening the implementation of the United Nations Plan of Action (2017) provides the results of a stakeholder consultation on ways to improve the plan: https://en.unesco.org/sites/default/files/options_geneva_consultation.pdf
- ▶ List of the texts of reference at international and regional levels when it comes to freedom of opinion and of expression: <https://www.ohchr.org/EN/Issues/FreedomOpinion/Pages/Standards.aspx>

The central tenet of the UN Plan of Action is that each country should develop its own national action plan based on a multi-stakeholder model designed to streamline efforts by media, civil society, policymakers, judicial sector and legal actors – and government representatives where possible – to tackle the crisis in journalists' safety. The UN acts as a hub and clearing house for providing international technical and legal support and tools to national coalitions, and for ensuring that national advocacy is supported by international advocacy. Many of the recommended actions provided in the Guidelines and in this Handbook can be aligned with a national multi-stakeholder approach or plan, where it exists.

1.1.2 Issue of impunity

Impunity in the context of journalists' safety refers to the fact that the vast majority of perpetrators of violence against journalists are not brought to justice. In 9 out of 10 cases where a journalist is murdered, those responsible go free. Impunity for the killing of a journalist is the norm both in fragile and conflict-affected states, and in more stable contexts where government and political opposition groups, criminal groups, and powerful private sector actors all resort to violence to silence criticism or investigation of their activities.

The factors that enable and drive impunity are diverse but include corruption and the lack of effective institutions and justice systems, and the increasing number of politicians and officials that operate outside of the rule of law. Many experts point to the simple fact that when the state is directly or indirectly linked to the killing of a journalist, it is extremely hard to bring anyone to account, including in Europe. According to CPJ's Global Impunity Index for 2019²⁷, in the last 10 years, around 85% of all cases have resulted in no prosecution or conviction, and most are simply not investigated by the authorities.

In recent years, there have been renewed international efforts to increase the investigation, prosecution and conviction rates for these crimes, working on the premise that if powerful perpetrators can be held to account more often, this could deter future murders. Under the framework of the UN Plan of Action, UNESCO is leading efforts to train security forces, judges and legal actors including in Latin America, Africa and Arab States to build their skills to investigate and prosecute crimes against journalists and to be able to defend journalists against false charges²⁸. There is also growing pressure on governments

27 <https://cpj.org/reports/2019/10/getting-away-with-murder-killed-justice.php>

28 <https://en.unesco.org/training-foe>

to hold other governments to account more effectively through international mechanisms, to ensure that authorities in all countries investigate all crimes and prosecute perpetrators.

The cycle of impunity contributes to a ‘chilling effect’ on journalists and leads to the widespread practice of self-censorship. Many leave the profession or go into exile and are unable to work. Even in countries where data indicates a decline in violence against journalists, the underlying factor is often that journalists have simply stopped reporting on certain issues, or they are working underground at great personal risk.

1.1.3 The specificities of safety of women journalists

Women journalists face threats, violence, abuse and sexual assault while doing their work in conflict and fragile security zones. Female freelancers are even more vulnerable as they rarely have institutional support and resources to ensure their safety. While women journalists do not appear in high numbers among the journalists killed annually, their percentage is rising. Further, they are disproportionately represented among those facing other types of violence – such as sexual violence – and are significantly and disproportionately affected by online harassment, which is difficult to monitor.

Despite representing a relatively low percentage of media professionals killed worldwide each year, the proportion of women journalists murdered rose from 4 % in 2012 to 14 % in 2017²⁹. UNESCO reports that between 2017 and 2019 a total of 23 women journalists were killed worldwide, four of those within the EU³⁰. In 2017, UNESCO recorded the highest number of women journalists killed since 2006.

Sexual violence, or the threat of it, has been particularly used to silence women journalists and is especially pernicious because many women feel, for different reasons, compelled not to report on attacks perpetrated against them. That is why CPJ has referred to it as the silencing crime³¹.

Sexual harassment is another challenge – both within newsrooms and in the field. Based on data released by the International Federation of Journalists (IFJ) in 2017, women journalists said these violations are committed by people both outside and inside their workplaces. The IFJ data reports that 45 % of perpetrators of gender-based violence were people outside of the workplace – sources, politicians, readers,

29 <https://en.unesco.org/news/murder-tv-reporter-victoria-marinova-bulgaria-dg-voices-concern-over-rise-proportion-women>

30 <https://en.unesco.org/themes/safety-journalists/observatory>

31 <https://en.unesco.org/themes/safety-journalists/observatory>

or listeners; 38 % were a boss or supervisor. More than 65 % of survey respondents said they did not make a formal complaint. Of those who did complain, 84.8 % did not believe adequate measures had been taken in cases against the perpetrators. Only 12.3 % were satisfied with the outcome³².

Women journalists are the main targets of online harassment. According to UNESCO, '[t]his violence has many forms, including sending or publishing misogynistic or demeaning comments, jokes and memes, as well as sexually explicit or even pornographic content.'³³ According to the UN Special Rapporteur on Violence Against Women, the digital era has 'provided a platform for new forms of online violence including cyberstalking, defamation campaigns, "doxing", "sextortion" and "trolling", as well as the non-consensual distribution of intimate content (or "revenge porn")'³⁴.

In a 2019 CPJ survey, female journalists cited online harassment as the biggest safety concern facing many female journalists (90 % in the US and 71 % in Canada)³⁵. According to a survey of 597 women journalists and media workers by the International Women's Media Foundation (IWMF) and Troll-Busters.com, nearly two of three respondents said they had been threatened or harassed online at least once. Of those, approximately 40 % said they avoided reporting certain stories as a result of online harassment³⁶.

Women journalists also face professional challenges resulting from bias and discrimination within their media organizations. These may be reflected in the types of issues women are assigned to cover (with women being excluded from some issues); pay gaps between male and female journalists; and underrepresentation of women in visible and decision-making positions. All these professional challenges could also be considered gender-based violence, as per the definition put forward by *Convention on the Elimination of all forms of Discrimination Against Women*.

Violence against women journalists has been receiving increasing attention at the international level. In 2017, the UN Secretary General dedicated a full report to the topic³⁷. The UN General Assembly adopted a resolution calling on Member States for training and awareness-raising actions, the implementation of gender-sensitive

32 <https://www.ifj.org/media-centre/news/detail/category/press-releases/article/ifj-survey-one-in-two-women-journalists-suffer-gender-based-violence-at-work.html>

33 <https://unesdoc.unesco.org/ark:/48223/pf0000371487>

34 <https://www.ohchr.org/EN/Issues/Women/SRWomen/Pages/VAWJournalists.aspx>

35 <https://cpj.org/blog/2019/09/canada-usa-female-journalist-safety-online-harassment-survey.php>

36 <https://www.iwmf.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/09/Attacks-and-Harassment.pdf>

37 https://www.un.org/en/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=A/72/290

strategies to combat impunity, and the provision of adequate support to victims and survivors³⁸. In 2018, the Organization of American States (OAS) Special Rapporteur on Freedom of Expression also focused one of his thematic reports on violence against women journalists in which he highlighted the particularly difficult situation faced by indigenous women journalists and the problem of intersectionality³⁹. In 2019, the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR) adopted an important final report on the case of Colombian journalist Jineth Bedoya Lima, who survived abduction, rape and torture by paramilitary fighters while reporting a story on alleged arms trafficking by state officials and a far-right paramilitary group in 2000. The report points out ‘the need for training programs for public servants, security forces, and justice authorities in order to ensure that they have the necessary knowledge to identify gender-based acts and manifestations of violence against women that affect female journalists, protect them in dangerous situations, and investigate and prosecute the perpetrators.’⁴⁰

Organisations supporting safety of women journalists

- ▶ The International News Safety Institute (INSI) provides safety advice and training to female journalists delivered by female trainers.
- ▶ IWMF provides capacity building to women journalists.
- ▶ CPJ carries out research on the issue and provides support to individual cases.
- ▶ Free Press Unlimited (FPU) provides materials and support to strengthen the safety and security of women journalists, including the set-up of a network of female journalists and training and coaching for media outlets on improving the working conditions of female journalists⁴¹. In parallel, FPU has also supported Media4Democracy’s work with EU Delegations to strengthen media and women’s access to information and information and communications technology (ICT) to support gender equality.
- ▶ The Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) Representative on Freedom of the Media has a full web page dedicated to the issue of safety of female journalists online, where a number of resources are made available to researchers or women journalists seeking to report cases or receive support.

38 <https://documents-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N17/456/40/pdf/N1745640.pdf?OpenElement>

39 <http://www.oas.org/en/iachr/expression/docs/reports/WomenJournalists.pdf>

40 <https://www.abcolombia.org.uk/inter-american-commission-adopts-merits-report-in-jineth-bedoya-case/>

41 <https://www.freepressunlimited.org/en/gender-in-the-media/empowering-female-journalists>

- ▶ Karisma Foundation provides research and guidance to women facing online gender-based violence and carries out advocacy at the domestic, regional and international level to advance freedom of expression standards on this matter.
- ▶ Troll-Busters.com provides research, guidance and courses on online safety.
- ▶ Global Journalist Security⁴² offers trainings in hostile environment and first aid for journalists, non-governmental organisation (NGO) professionals and other civilians operating in moderate and high-risk environments, including gender-based violence against journalists.

PRACTICAL TIP:

Ensure gender is considered in all decisions and actions in relation to safety of journalists by:

- ▶ Collecting disaggregated data on journalism safety by gender when assessing risks, threats and looking into protection measures;
- ▶ Understanding the particular safety concerns faced by women journalists;
- ▶ Engaging and supporting civil society organisations (CSOs)/media organisations/unions representing and supporting women and female journalists; and
- ▶ Promoting different activities aimed at supporting peer-to-peer support networks.

⁴² <https://www.gjs-security.com/training/>

1.2 INTERNATIONAL POLICY FRAMEWORK FOR THE SAFETY OF JOURNALISTS

Instruments and mechanisms aiming at defending and promoting the safety of journalists, as well as fighting against impunity, have been set up at the international and regional levels.

1.2.1 EU Human Rights Guidelines and the protection of journalists

Since 1998, the EU has developed more than a dozen Guidelines on protecting key human rights⁴³. These Guidelines form an operational foundation for the EU and its institutions to protect the range of human rights that support democracy.

EU Human Rights Guidelines on Freedom of Expression Online and Offline⁴⁴

In 2014, the Council of the European Union adopted the *EU Human Rights Guidelines on Freedom of Expression Online and Offline*, presenting specific practical and operational guidance for the EU, Member States and EU Delegations operating in third countries to protect and defend the security of journalists, as well as their, and all citizens', fundamental human right to freedom of expression.

The Guidelines reference existing policies on freedom of opinion and expression, as well as political and operational guidance to the officials and staff of EU institutions and the EU Member States for their work in this area. It provides guidance for contributions to preventing potential violations of freedom of opinion and expression, analysing cases of violence and reacting effectively when violations occur. The Guidelines also outline how and in which strictly prescribed circumstances freedom of opinion and expression can be legitimately limited.

The Guidelines on Freedom of Expression priority area one is focused on:

Combating violence, persecution, harassment and intimidation of individuals, including journalists and other media actors, because of their exercise of the right to freedom of expression online and offline, and combating impunity for such crimes.



⁴³ https://eeas.europa.eu/headquarters/headquarters-homepage_en/6987/EU%20Human%20rights%20guidelines

⁴⁴ <https://ec.europa.eu/digital-single-market/en/news/eu-human-rights-guidelines-freedom-expression-online-and-offline>

- ▶ The EU is committed to promoting and protecting the freedom of opinion and expression worldwide and condemns the increasing level of intimidation and violence that journalists, media actors and other individuals face in many countries across the world because of exercising the right to freedom of opinion and expression online and offline. States must take active steps to prevent violence and to promote a safe environment for journalists and other media actors, enabling them to carry out their work independently, without undue interference and without fear of violence or persecution.
- ▶ The EU attaches the highest priority to the safety of journalists and other media actors. The EU will take all appropriate steps to ensure the protection of journalists, both in terms of preventive measures and by urging effective investigations when violations occur.

The EU will:

- **Publicly condemn** the killings, attack, execution, torture, enforced disappearance or other acts of serious violence or intimidation against any individual for exercising his or her right to freedom of opinion and expression, as well as attacks on media outlets; and consider appropriate additional measures.
- **Appeal to State authorities** to fully abide by their international obligations to effectively, promptly and in an independent manner investigate such crimes and to ensure that both state and non-state perpetrators and instigators of such violence are brought to justice. Where appropriate, the EU will encourage international trial observation to ensure the follow up on cases of violence and promote the fight against impunity.
- **Call on all States to take active steps to prevent violence** against journalists and other media actors, enabling them to work in safety and security, without fear of violence and persecution.
- Strongly **encourage state officials and other influential actors in society to publicly denounce acts of violence** or intimidation against journalists and other media actors, particularly in cases where the state itself has encouraged or condoned such attacks.
- **Support the implementation of UNGA Resolution** on 'The safety of journalists and the issue of impunity' and the **UN Plan of Action** on the same subject.
- **Facilitate exchange of experience** with media managers, editors, journalists and other media actors in order to raise awareness, develop their capacity to prevent attacks and enhance the safety of journalists, including through training measures. →

- **Facilitate exchange of good practices** for the safety of journalists with government officials, including members of the judiciary, prosecution and law enforcement.



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The Guidelines on Freedom of Expression priority area two is focused on:

Promoting laws and policies that protect freedom of opinion and expression.

- Freedom of expression is often curtailed by laws or practices that impose censorship, encourage self-censorship or provide legal penalties, including criminal, financial and administrative sanctions on the exercise of freedom of opinion and expression in violation of international human rights laws.
- All governments must allow journalists to work in a free and enabling environment in safety and security, without the fear of censorship or restraint.

The EU will:

- **Work against arbitrary attacks, indiscriminate abuse of criminal and civil proceedings, defamation campaigns and excessive restrictions** on journalists, media actors, NGOs and social media personalities launched with the aim of preventing these associations and individuals from freely exercising their right to freedom of expression.
- **Condemn any restriction on freedom of expression and censorship, both online and offline, in violation of international human rights law.** →

- **Urge repealing or amending of laws** or practices that penalise individuals or organisations for exercising their right to express opinions or disseminate information, both bilaterally and in multilateral and regional human rights fora.
- **Advocate against restrictive legislation** shrinking the space for civil society and human rights defenders promoting and protecting freedom of expression and their access to funding.
- Ask for the release and **observe the trials of journalists** or other individuals who have been detained or imprisoned for the expression of their views online and offline, or for the dissemination of information as protected under international human rights law.
- **Support the adoption of legislation that provides adequate protection for whistleblowers** and support reforms to give legal protection to journalists' **right of nondisclosure of sources**.
- Encourage **exchanges of good practices** on the promotion and protection of freedom of opinion and expression with all relevant stakeholders, including law enforcement officers, the judiciary, civil society, politicians, human rights defenders, lawyers, security forces, academics and religious or cultural agencies.
- Continue to provide journalists and other media actors, human rights defenders, political activists and other individuals with the **technical tools and support** they need in order to exercise their right to freedom of expression online as well as offline.
- Ensure that the media, both mass and social, recognise and **respect the rights of the child**, as enshrined in the *Convention on the Rights of the Child*.

Promoting the safety of journalists and other media actors and fighting against impunity for crimes perpetrated against their integrity is one of the six priority areas of action set up by the Guidelines.

EU Human Rights Guidelines on Human Rights Defenders⁴⁵

Another important document for the protection of journalists and media actors is the *EU Human Rights Guidelines on Human Rights Defenders*. This document identifies practical ways for the EU to support and assist HRDs working in third countries, upholding the work of the United Nations Special Rapporteur on HRDs and the regional mechanisms for HRDs' protection. It adopts the definition of 'defender' provided by the *UN Declaration on HRDs*: defenders are 'individuals, groups and organs of society that promote and protect universally recognised human rights and fundamental freedoms'. Thus, applicable to journalists and other media actors. EU Delegations can use mechanisms intended for the protection of HRDs to assist journalists in danger.

The EU Strategic Framework on Human Rights and Democracy (2012)⁴⁶

The *EU Strategic Framework on Human Rights and Democracy* stresses that 'the EU will continue to promote freedom of expression, opinion, assembly and association, both on-line and offline; democracy cannot exist without these rights.'⁴⁷

⁴⁵ https://eeas.europa.eu/headquarters/headquarters-homepage_en/3958/EU%20Guidelines%20on%20Human%20Rights%20Defenders

⁴⁶ <http://data.consilium.europa.eu/doc/document/ST-11855-2012-INIT/en/pdf>

⁴⁷ Ibid, pg. 2.

TO GO FURTHER:

The EU Annual Reports on Human Rights and Democracy – since 2009. The reports often contain a section on the situation of freedom of expression and/or of human rights defenders: https://eeas.europa.eu/headquarters/headquarters-homepage_en/8437/EU_Annual_Reports_on_Human_Rights_and_Democratisation.

The EU Action Plan on Human Rights and Democracy⁴⁸

The 2015-2019 Action Plan instructs EU institutions, in protecting and promoting freedom of expression online and offline, to ‘take active steps to prevent and respond to violence against journalists, bloggers and other media actors, enabling them to work in safety and security, online as well as offline without fear of harassment, political pressure, censorship and persecution.’⁴⁹

The *Action Plan on Human Rights and Democracy* for the period 2020–2024 has been adopted by the European Commission⁵⁰ and the European Council should endorse it in spring 2020. It contains a range of EU objectives linked broadly to freedom of expression and specifically to enhancing security of journalists.

48 https://ec.europa.eu/anti-trafficking/sites/antitrafficking/files/action-plan-on-human-rights-and-democracy-2015-2019_en.pdf

49 Ibid, pg. 11.

50 <https://ec.europa.eu/transparency/regdoc/rep/10101/2020/EN/JOIN-2020-5-F1-EN-MAIN-PART-1.PDF>; Annex -<https://ec.europa.eu/transparency/regdoc/rep/10101/2020/EN/JOIN-2020-5-F1-EN-ANNEX-1-PART-1.PDF>



WHAT EU DELEGATIONS CAN DO

2.1 FIRST STEPS: ASSESSMENTS AND ANALYSIS, UNDERSTANDING THE CONTEXT

In the domain of journalist safety, the *EU Human Rights Guidelines on Freedom of Expression Online and Offline* focuses on two objectives:

- ▶ ‘Combating the violence, persecution, harassment and intimidation of individual media actors, which occurs as a result of them exercising their right to freedom of expression online and offline’; and
- ▶ ‘Combating impunity for such crimes.’

To fulfil these objectives, two approaches to action could be considered by EU Delegations: **short-term actions** in response to immediate violations and **longer-term actions** to create a safer environment for journalists and other media actors, and to fight against impunity for crimes against journalists.

Section 2.1.1 below provides information and tools for EU Delegations to analyse the context and map stakeholders as a foundation for quick reactions in emergencies and as a platform for ongoing actions. Section 2.1.2 provides information and resources for EU Delegations action in emergency situations, including an EU Delegation Checklist. Section 2.1.3 reviews longer-term activities for EU Delegation. Section 2.1.4 offers information on other international mechanisms supporting journalists’ safety and security.

2.1.1 Understanding the context and the challenges journalists and media face

Challenges to media freedom in different contexts

To have an accurate picture of the safety challenges that journalists and other media actors face, it is essential to understand the local context of freedom of expression and freedom of information. Although threats vary in each context – there are typical issues that arise in broadly similar contexts. These may include countries with:

- ▶ Highly repressive regimes where governments conduct surveillance and censor all media;
- ▶ Democratically elected governments increasingly undermining the independence of media;

- ▶ Journalists who work freely except where they are investigating corruption linked to politicians or powerful private companies;
- ▶ Closing civil spaces where journalists are prevented from reporting on protests or criticising governments; and/or
- ▶ Armed conflict which creates physical danger for journalists seeking to report on the conflict.

In all contexts, it is essential to understand the changing nature of the threats to journalists. The following indicators and associated questions can assist in evaluating the level of media freedom.

Several indicators can be applied as a framework for assessing the local media freedom context, as a backdrop to understanding the issues associated to safety and security of journalists in country. Common indicators are listed below and are also used in the *media freedom mapping tool developed for EU Delegations* introduced in the section below and contained in Annex 1 of this document.

Media freedom indicators assessment questions:

- ▶ *Pluralism*: To what degree are different opinions represented in the media?
- ▶ *Media independence*: To what degree are the media able to function independently from sources of political, governmental, business and religious power and influence?
- ▶ *Environment and self-censorship*: What is the degree of self-censorship by journalists and other media actors?
- ▶ *Legislative framework governing news and information activities*: To what extent is media freedom, freedom of information and freedom of expression guaranteed by national law? To what extent are these rights enforced in practice?
- ▶ *Transparency of the institutions and procedures*: To what extent is the production of news and information affected by the lack of transparency of institutions and procedures?
- ▶ *Infrastructure*: To what extent is the telecommunication infrastructure able to support the production of news and information, especially when it comes to the internet? Is there any willingness or are there plans to develop and improve the weak or limited infrastructure?

The safety situation of journalists and other media actors and the issue of impunity – desk research

Desk research is useful to identify existing information about a country. There are many available online resources providing foundational information on safety of journalists and the issue of impunity. Areas addressed usually include *offline safety* – information related to the number of journalists, or other media actors killed, kidnapped, arrested, beaten, injured, threatened, prosecuted, etc. while carrying out their work – which is mostly public. They also address *online safety* – detailed information about the nature of the digital threats. In addition, it is important to draw on reports to understand the current state of knowledge and awareness on the part of journalists and media actors about how to protect themselves against physical, legal and digital threats and how to report them when they occur.

Some resources address the *issue of impunity*: information may have been collected regarding efforts made by the authorities to investigate, prosecute and convict perpetrators of violence against journalists and other media actors.

Below are lists of EU, UN and other resources that EU Delegations can access to gain information and conduct desk review on media freedom and threats to safety of journalists in the specific context in which they are working.

Sources of information

EU internal resources:

- ▶ The EU Delegations' own Human Rights and Democracy Country Strategy reporting
- ▶ EU election observation missions has a section on media, but only around election time
- ▶ Press reviews
- ▶ Risk Monitor Frames are yearly reports in countries which receive budget support. They contain a question on the situation on media, to which the Delegation responds with analysis of the situation
- ▶ *Annual Reports on Human Rights and Democracy* – since 2009. The reports often contain a chapter/section on the situation of freedom of expression and/or of HRDs at a global level.

UN resources:

- ▶ The situation of HR country per country – Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR)⁵¹
- ▶ *Universal Human Rights Index*⁵²
- ▶ The Universal Periodic Review (UPR) and the list of recommendations in terms of freedom of expression; refer to documentation by country⁵³
- ▶ Annual reports of the UN Special Rapporteur on Freedom of Opinion and Expression⁵⁴
- ▶ The list of country visits carried out by the UN Special Rapporteur on Freedom of Opinion and Expression⁵⁵.

Websites of NGOs focusing on freedom of expression:

- ▶ ARTICLE 19⁵⁶
- ▶ Committee to Protect Journalists⁵⁷
- ▶ Freedom House⁵⁸
- ▶ International News Safety Institute⁵⁹
- ▶ International Federation of Journalists⁶⁰
- ▶ Pen International⁶¹

51 <https://www.ohchr.org/EN/Countries/Pages/HumanRightsintheWorld.aspx>

52 <http://uhri.ohchr.org/>

53 <https://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/UPR/Pages/Documentation.aspx>

54 <https://www.ohchr.org/EN/Issues/FreedomOpinion/Pages/Annual.aspx>

55 <https://www.ohchr.org/EN/Issues/FreedomOpinion/Pages/Visits.aspx>

56 <https://www.article19.org/>

57 <https://cpj.org/>

58 <https://freedomhouse.org/>

59 <https://newssafety.org/home/>

60 www.ifj.org

61 <http://www.pen-international.org>

- ▶ International Press Institute⁶²
- ▶ Media Legal Defence Initiative⁶³
- ▶ Reporters Without Borders⁶⁴.

Websites of NGOs having a broader mandate:

- ▶ Amnesty International⁶⁵
- ▶ Civicus⁶⁶
- ▶ Human Rights Watch⁶⁷
- ▶ International Federation for Human Rights⁶⁸.

2.1.2 Mapping media freedom and stakeholders in local context

Mapping current and prior issues associated to media freedom and safety and identifying local stakeholders is a valuable process for EU Delegations. Doing so can help EU Delegations to understand current dynamics and identify pressing issues, as well as provide platforms for engaging with media, civil society and governmental stakeholders. In well-established EU Delegations, this type of mapping or similar information may already be available. However, after a change in context (coup d'état, change of institutional framework, elections, establishment of the Delegation, EU staff arriving after a long vacancy of the post), the EU Delegation can benefit by refreshing the mapping, identifying current issues and stakeholders.

ANNEX 1: TOOL TO SUPPORT MEDIA FREEDOM MAPPING

Provides a detailed matrix to support EU Delegation context review of media freedom and journalists' safety. The matrix can be used as a tool by EU Delegations to conduct their own direct research based on relevant documents, or discussions with local individuals or stakeholder groups. It can also serve as a guide when commissioning research with external consultants.

62 www.freemedia.at

63 <http://www.mediadefence.org>

64 <https://rsf.org/en>

65 www.amnesty.org

66 <https://monitor.civicus.org/>

67 www.hrw.org

68 www.fidh.org

Stakeholder mapping is a highly relevant aspect of this exercise and can be directly done by EU Delegation staff with an audit of actors, such as: EU Member States; other active donors in-country; national authorities holding influential positions in the field of freedom of expression (Head of State, Ministry of Communication or Information, Interior, or Human Rights, parliamentary legal commissions, etc.); influential political parties; local, regional and international CSOs; media, journalists and key personalities/influencers; foreign governments; etc.

EU Delegations can also identify international and national organisations with a mandate in their country, understand their work and make contact with in-country organisational staff. In some contexts, independent national organisations are focused on providing services to journalists at risk, advocating for better protection mechanisms and maintaining data records of incidents of attacks. Such organisations can be identified via local UNESCO offices or other international or national organisations working on press freedom.

Protection mechanisms involve local authorities, NGOs/CSOs, media organisations, etc. with the support of international partners (institutional or NGOs). Together, they work at elaborating national protection mechanisms to prevent or address violence against media actors. They do so by raising awareness of their rights and obligations or putting in place protective systems, such as safe houses, or by setting up task forces to combat impunity.

ANNEX 2: SUPPORTING STAKEHOLDER MAPPING

Provides a detailed list of international, regional and national organisations active in the field of freedom of expression and safety and security of journalists.

PRACTICAL TIPS:

- ▶ In the absence of coordination and protection mechanisms, set up periodic meetings with EU Member States and other like-minded states.
- ▶ Hold group consultations with local actors, for example, before Human Rights Dialogues or during International Days: World Press Freedom Day (3 May), International Day for Universal Access to Information (28 September) and International Day to End Impunity for Crimes Against Journalists (2 November). Coordinate actions with EU Member States to mark these days.

2.1.3 Consulting experts and media actors and the importance of safe communications

Direct consultations with media experts and actors can help EU Delegations gather high-quality information on the current situation of press freedom and safety of journalists, refining the context analysis. A **Focal Point for Safety of Journalists** can be designated inside the EU Delegation. This person can be the European Instrument for Democracy and Human Rights (EIDHR) Focal Point, or a Political and Press Officer. The Focal Point can be in touch with local, regional and international actors involved in the field of freedom of expression and protection of HRDs. The Focal Point could also maintain regular contact with journalists, keep them informed of the necessary safety measures and useful contacts, and integrate journalists in networks.

Safety of communications

While EU Delegations have secure means to exchange information with Headquarters, specific precautions have to be taken when communicating with journalists, media actors and civil society representatives who may be at risk.

EU Delegation staff can consult sources to identify the specific threat a journalist or media outlet is facing and the best way in which the EU Delegations can directly or indirectly communicate with them. However, as journalists and other media actors may be facing security concerns, contacting them directly might put them in a more vulnerable situation. Necessary precautions should be taken so as not to expose them to additional threats.

EU Delegation staff could agree with journalists and other interlocutors on the most secure and relevant communication protocol including possibly using communication tools with end-to-end encryption such as Telegram and Signal, bearing in mind that different tools have different levels of risk in different contexts. Telegram and Signal are examples of easy-to-download digital applications that EU Delegation staff can use for improved security of communication.

TO GO FURTHER:

- ▶ Electronic Frontier Foundation and its Surveillance Self-Defence Project: <https://ssd.eff.org>
- ▶ Access Now and their booklet, *A First Look at Digital Security*: <https://www.accessnow.org/your-spring-welcoming-gift-is-here-the-freshest-version-of-a-first-look-at-digital-security/>
- ▶ Citizen Lab Security Planner: <https://securityplanner.org/#/>

2.2 IMMEDIATE ACTION IN EMERGENCY SITUATIONS

Killings, attacks, executions, torture, enforced disappearances or other acts of serious violence or intimidation against any individual for exercising their right to freedom of opinion and expression may warrant immediate action from the EU Delegation and EU Member States. This section focuses on threats to physical safety that may constitute an emergency situation and includes recommended actions for EU Delegations.

ANNEX 3: CHECKLIST FOR EU DELEGATION ACTIONS IN EMERGENCIES

Provides a Checklist tool that Delegations can use to prepare, plan and respond to emergency situations. The actions summarised in the Checklist are elaborated in more detail in this section.

With change of relevant EU Delegation staff and notably with the arrival of a new Head of Delegation, it is valuable to organise a comprehensive review of an EU Delegation's approach to supporting journalists and media houses during emergency situations and to develop a standard operating procedure to respond. Co-ordination with EU Member States in this regard is also valuable.

Keep in mind:

- ▶ The implementation of the following recommended measures will have to take the local context into consideration. Measures might be relevant in some countries, but not in others.
- ▶ The Head of Delegation should always be consulted before any action is taken.
- ▶ EU Delegation staff needs to coordinate actions and inform other relevant colleagues inside of the Delegation (political section, press officer, coordination section) and also in Brussels at the European External Action Service (EEAS) and the Commission. Agreement should be sought from hierarchies in EU Delegations and at Headquarters for public and other significant action.
- ▶ EU Member States representatives could be consulted in order to agree, if possible, on a common line of action.
- ▶ Any action or decision must be based on the journalist's best interest and safety (as well as that of their family) in line with do-no-harm approach.
- ▶ Any action or decision must be based on the respect of the multilateral coordination mechanisms (see section 2.1.3).

- ▶ Coordination with ProtectDefenders.eu (see sections 2.2 and 2.3) for activities or actions dealing with safety of journalists is important.

ANNEX 4: RESOURCES AND ORGANISATIONS FOR SUPPORTING ACTIONS IN EMERGENCIES

Provides information on organisations and resources to support actions in emergency situations.

2.2.1 In cases of physical violence against journalists

General recommended actions for EU Delegations based on the Guidelines

- ▶ Publicly condemn violence and issue public statements: consult locally with EU Member States and try to obtain a consensus about the publication of a local statement condemning the violations or other forms of reaction. In the absence of consensus, propose to have a statement issued by the office of the European Commission (EC) Spokesperson⁶⁹.
- ▶ Make a formal/informal appeal to states, encourage states to denounce violence; request an investigation by government officials.
- ▶ If timing allows, use political dialogues with partner countries and high-level visit(s) to raise awareness on specific case(s) as appropriate.
- ▶ Contact the victim, their close relative(s) or legal adviser to find out if they need any support and/or are at risk, and to enquire whether action would be welcome. In case of physical attack, contact the media actor/family in order to assess the situation and enquire if there are any urgent needs (hospitalisation, surgery, rehab, etc).

EU Delegation statements as well as Twitter can be used, depending on the desired impact, by the EU Delegation, its Spokespersons or the Head of Delegation. Examples below illustrate how the EU Delegation can highlight journalists' situations in particular and contextualise general situations for higher impact on public opinion.

In sensitive cases, before communicating publicly, make sure that you have the agreement of your hierarchy to tweet.

⁶⁹ Statements of the EC Spokesperson regarding Human Rights & Democracy topics on EEAS website: https://eeas.europa.eu/headquarters/headquarters-homepage/search/site/en?f%5B0%5D=im_field_eeas_homepage%3A38&f%5B1%5D=sm_specific_content_type%3Aeeas_press%3Afield_eeas_press_category%3Aapp

Examples of EU Delegation action following the murder of a journalist

Mexico

EU press release: In June 2018, the EU Delegation to Mexico, together with the EU Member States in Mexico, as well as Norway and Switzerland, issued a statement condemning the assassination of the journalist Héctor González Antonio⁷⁰.

Ukraine

EU Delegation tweet: In July 2018, two years after the assassination of journalist Pavel Sheremet, the EU Delegation to Ukraine posted a message on Facebook and Twitter expressing support for his family and the Ukrainian media community.



Two years ago Ukrainian media community lost one of its most talented and brave journalists – Pavel Sheremet – in a cold-blooded killing. This tragedy remains a source of sadness for his family and many of his colleagues across the region, who continue their vital work.⁷¹

Pakistan

EU Head of Mission tweet: Following the assassination of the Pakistani journalist, Zaman Mehsud, on 3 November 2015, the EU Ambassador in Pakistan posted the following message on Twitter:



Very sad to learn journalist Zaman Mehsud assassinated one day after International Day to End Impunity for Crimes against Journalists.

Examples of EU Delegation action after attack/threat on a media actor or media outlets

Undisclosed country in Africa

In an African country where media freedom has continued to deteriorate, as evidenced by increasing detentions, kidnappings, assaults and death threats against journalists, an editor of an important newspaper was attacked and beaten by a group of masked assailants. One week after the violent attack, the EU Delegation met with the editor to convey the EU's concerns and assess his situation. This meeting also provided an occasion to explain EU mechanisms for protecting HRDs and journalists and its different modalities.

⁷⁰ [https://eeas.europa.eu/delegations/mexico_es/45759/Declaración local de la Unión Europea, Noruega y Suiza, sobre el asesinato del periodista Héctor González Antonio](https://eeas.europa.eu/delegations/mexico_es/45759/Declaración%20local%20de%20la%20Unión%20Europea,%20Noruega%20y%20Suiza,%20sobre%20el%20asesinato%20del%20periodista%20Héctor%20González%20Antonio)

⁷¹ <https://www.facebook.com/126879227356714/posts/1965534733491145/>

The editor submitted a request to ProtectDefenders.eu for relocation to a safe house and follow-up trauma counselling. The EU Delegation supported his request and, in parallel, took measures to assist with improving security for members of his family.

Mozambique

The EU Delegation to Mozambique, in coordination with EU Member States in country, issued a local declaration in January 2020 expressing regret regarding the violent attack on Matias Guente, the Editor of Canal de Moçambique, the month before in Maputo. The declaration also called on relevant authorities to investigate the crime thoroughly and swiftly, in order to bring those responsible to justice⁷².

In April 2020, issuing a statement expressing concern regarding the deteriorating security situation in Cabo Delgado, the EU Delegation to Mozambique called on the authorities to investigate the disappearance of the journalist of Radio Comunitária de Palma, Ibraimo Abu Mbaruco on 7 April⁷³.

Pakistan

The EU Delegation to Pakistan posted a tweet following the targeting and threatening of journalists there in January 2014.



Sorrowful day when journalists are targeted #ExpressNews. Attack on freedom of speech is an attack on democracy.⁷⁴

⁷² https://eeas.europa.eu/delegations/mozambique/72698/delegation-european-union-issues-local-declaration-coordination-heads-mission-eu-member-states_en

⁷³ <https://eeas.europa.eu/delegations/mozambique/77613/mo%C3%A7ambique-delega%C3%A7%C3%A3o-da-uni%C3%A3o-europeia-manifesta-preocupa%C3%A7%C3%A3o-com-situa%C3%A7%C3%A3o-em-cabo-delgado>

⁷⁴ <https://twitter.com/EUPakistan/status/424934553728217088>

2.2.2 Charges, trial without legal basis, sentence and detention

‘Where appropriate, the EU will encourage international trial observation to ensure the follow up on cases of violence and promote the fight against impunity.’

– The EU Human Rights Guidelines on Freedom of Expression Online and Offline

A journalist can be prosecuted for a wide range of charges, under different laws in various countries. Media actors are often tried for alleged acts including defamation, spying (as was the case with Ukrainian journalists in Russia and Algeria); being a foreign agent (Russia); ‘infringing on the interests of the state,’ ‘undermining internal security’ or ‘undermining the state’s unity and sovereignty’ (Morocco); ‘constituting a threat to national security,’ and ‘felony’ (United States); and ‘treason’ or even ‘high treason’ (Russia).

Terrorism charges are also frequent as has been the case in Morocco, Turkey, Ethiopia, Jordan, and others. Apostasy/blasphemy charges may be used (Pakistan, Afghanistan, Mauritania). Administrative detention might occur in Israel for Palestinian media actors. Journalists might be prosecuted under the press or media law, the penal code/criminal law, martial law, terrorism law, cyber-security law, etc. presented to a civil or criminal court, but also to a counterterrorism or military court.

Recommended actions

- ▶ Issue public statements: seek a consensus among EU Member States about the publication of a public statement or a statement issued by the office of the EC Spokesperson.
- ▶ Trial observation: send an EU Delegation representative to observe the trial (in coordination with EU Member States); request detention visits and possibly support fees for legal defence.
- ▶ Human rights and political dialogues: mention the case in dialogue with government officials.

Examples of EU Delegation action (during trial, detention and sentence without legal basis)

Turkey

EU Delegation tweet: The EU Delegation in Turkey observed the hearings of several journalists and HRDs and posted several messages on Twitter accordingly. For example:



On 6 July, the EU Delegation to Turkey will observe the hearing of the journalists/writers at the Zaman Court case before the 13th Istanbul Heavy Criminal Court.⁷⁵

Burundi

In September 2014, the EU Delegation to Burundi issued a statement expressing its concerns about the health conditions of detained Burundian HRDs, among them the President of the Association for the Protection of Human Rights and Incarcerated Persons⁷⁶.

Egypt

Following the sentencing of *Al-Jazeera* journalists in Egypt in August 2018, the EU Delegation tweeted to amplify its issuance of a press release on the incident.



Statement of the Spokesperson on the sentencing of the [#AlJazeera](#) [#journalists](#) in [#Egypt eeas.europa.eu/statements-eea...](#)⁷⁷

2.2.3 EU tools for emergency support to journalists

There are several EU-funded tools outlined in this section that EU Delegations can access in emergency situations. There are additional protection mechanisms available, not necessarily funded by the EU but which are operated by CSOs and international organisations, such as CPJ, International Media Support, and Global Media Defence Fund, which may be active in specific regions.

European Instrument for Democracy and Human Rights (EIDHR)

In emergency cases, EIDHR is the funding instrument that can be mobilised to support journalists and other media actors. Established by Regulation (EU) No

⁷⁵ <https://twitter.com/EUDelegationTur/status/1015112409730703360>

⁷⁶ http://www.arib.info/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=9958

⁷⁷ <https://twitter.com/EUinEgypt/status/637728086100938752>

235/2014⁷⁸, the EIDHR is a thematic funding instrument for EU external action aiming to support projects in the area of human rights, fundamental freedoms and democracy in non-EU countries. EU Delegations can use EIDHR to directly finance HRDs and local CSOs without needing approval by national authorities. Freedom of expression is among the sensitive political issues addressed by the EIDHR.

Since the protection of HRDs is the first objective of EIDHR, EU Delegations could use this instrument and initiate actions in emergency situations when they need support, including for journalists.

EIDHR Emergency Fund for HRDs at risk⁷⁹

This EIDHR Emergency Fund allows EU Delegations to channel emergency grants of up to EUR 10 000 to HRDs at risk. Journalists and media actors are among the beneficiaries of this emergency fund. This mechanism of ad-hoc small grants to HRDs in need of urgent support has been in place since 2010.

There are a number of criteria considered when assessing and prioritising cases for this funding. The assistance provided through this emergency fund may include the coverage of fees for the legal representation of defenders; medical emergency expenses and rehabilitation of victims of torture and inhuman and degrading treatment; the purchase of security material for local organisations; the temporary relocation of HRDs forced to leave their place of residence or their countries for security reasons; and temporary support to families of imprisoned or deceased defenders. The list of activities is non-exhaustive, and depends upon the gravity/urgency of individual situations, and the effectiveness of the action in favour of the HRD at risk.

These emergency grants are managed with the utmost confidentiality in order to ensure the safety of the HRDs. In consultation with the relevant EU Delegations and the EEAS, the DEVCO Focal Point for Human Rights Defenders (B1) evaluates each request on the basis of the criteria of identity, situation and needs, and cannot guarantee support for all requests. The EC carries out the due diligence for each beneficiary, including verification of the amount requested, and ensuring the beneficiary fits grant criteria.

EU Delegations can get in touch with the DEVCO Focal Point for Human Rights Defenders (B1) to request support and further information.

⁷⁸ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:L:2014:077:0085:0094:EN:PDF>

⁷⁹ https://ec.europa.eu/international-partnerships/system/files/eidhr-maap-annex-1-hrds_en.pdf

Direct and confidential grants under the Human Rights Crisis Facility to CSOs and HRDs in recognised crisis situations

In order to respond in countries or situations where there is a serious lack of fundamental freedoms, a more flexible funding modality has been in place since 2014. Under the EIDHR Human Rights Crisis Facility, direct awards can now exceptionally be granted to finance civil society actions in the most difficult situations. These situations are those in which human security is most at risk, where human rights organisations and defenders work in exceptionally difficult conditions and/or where the publication of a call for proposals would be inappropriate. These grants, where appropriate and without the need for co-funding, shall not exceed EUR 1 000 000 and shall have a duration of up to 18 months. Grants may be extended by a further 12 months in the event of objective and unforeseen obstacles to their implementation. In 2018, the annual allocation of the EIDHR Human Rights Crisis Facility was EUR 3.5 million.

These proposals are managed with confidentiality in order to ensure the safety of the end beneficiaries. The EC evaluates each request on a case-by-case basis, taking into consideration the exceptional conditions and relevance of the action. It can by no means guarantee support for all demands.

EU Delegations can request support and more information from the Focal Point for Human Rights at DEVCO B1.

EU Special Representative for Human Rights

The European Union Special Representatives (EUSRs) promote the EU's policies and interests in troubled regions and countries. They play an active role in efforts to consolidate peace, stability and the rule of law. EU Delegations can solicit a statement and/or a visit from the EUSR for Human Rights.

ProtectDefenders.eu⁸⁰

ProtectDefenders.eu is the EU HRDs mechanism, established to protect HRDs at risk worldwide. Funded 95 % by the EIDHR and led by a consortium of 12 NGOs active in the field of human rights, the project runs from 2015–2023. ProtectDefenders.eu is committed to reaching HRDs working in remote areas and countries where working on human rights is particularly dangerous. It also focuses on defenders who are especially targeted, including women HRDs, defenders of LGBTIQ+ rights, land rights, environmental rights, economic and social rights defenders, defenders

80 <https://www.protectdefenders.eu/en/index.html>

In addition to providing support in case of emergency, ProtectDefenders.eu provides capacity building support through a grants programme.

of minorities, lawyers, and those fighting for freedom of expression and association. Journalists and media actors are among ProtectDefenders.eu beneficiaries.

The consortium evaluates requests and takes the final decision. Before referring an individual or organisation to ProtectDefenders.eu, EU Delegations should a) do a background check of the potential applicant; b) check if the potential applicant is in danger as a result of their work in fighting for human rights; and c) be able to provide a reference check.

The ProtectDefenders.eu website explains how potential beneficiaries can apply for support and offers a secured web platform and an emergency hotline⁸¹.

ProtectDefenders.eu in emergency situations

The emergency grants programme ensures that HRDs can access and implement urgent security measures to protect themselves, their family and their work. Grants may include physical security, digital security, office security, family support, legal and medical support and emergency relocation. HRDs experiencing urgent threats can also contact ProtectDefenders.eu through a **24/7 hotline** working in five languages, or through a secured and encrypted channel⁸². When preventive and protective measures for personal security are no longer enough, HRDs can apply for **temporary relocation grants** in order to receive support to move out of danger and manage a safe return.

81 <https://www.protectdefenders.eu/en/supporting-defenders.html#emergency-support>.

82 <https://www.protectdefenders.eu/en/supporting-defenders.html>

TO GO FURTHER:

- ▶ List of EUSRs: https://eeas.europa.eu/headquarters/headquarters-homepage_en/3606/EU-Special-Representatives
- ▶ Frontline Defenders has produced a useful handbook for HRDs, including journalists, *The European Union: What it Can Do, Getting it to Take Action*, explaining what HRDs and journalists can expect from EU Delegations in terms of protection. This can be accessed at: <https://www.frontlinedefenders.org/en/resource-publication/european-union-what-it-can-do-getting-it-take-action>.

2.3 PLANNING ACTIVITIES AND PROGRAMMING, MID- AND LONG-TERM ACTIONS

2.3.1 Activities at a political level

Political dialogue with authorities

EU Delegations can raise the issue of journalists' safety in the framework of a political dialogue with authorities, especially when meeting with persons holding influential positions in the field of freedom of expression⁸³.

Recommended actions

- ▶ Raise individual cases of concern whenever necessary and appropriate.
- ▶ Raise the issue of internet censorship and control whenever necessary and appropriate.
- ▶ Appeal to local authorities to develop and/or strengthen a national mechanism for the safety of journalists in alignment with the UN Plan of Action.
- ▶ Appeal to local authorities to abide by their international obligations (when looking at the international conventions and treaties they are party to, and the UPR recommendations presented at the United Nations Human Rights Council (UNHRC) and particularly those recommendations adopted by the local or national governments) to respect the rights of journalists and HRDs online and offline.
- ▶ Appeal to local authorities to fight against impunity.
- ▶ Request local authorities provide updates regarding investigations into violations perpetrated against media actors.
- ▶ Encourage local authorities to publicly denounce any act of violence or intimidation against media actors.

⁸³ Head of State, Ministry of Communication or Information, Interior, of Human Rights, parliamentary legal commissions, etc.

Examples of EU good practice (within the Human Rights Dialogue framework)

Vietnam

During the 6th round of the EU-Vietnam Human Rights Dialogue, the EU Delegation released a press statement to raise its concerns regarding the situation of detained media representatives⁸⁴.

China

In July 2018, in the framework of the 36th round of EU-China Human Rights Dialogue, the EUSR for Human Rights addressed the situation of freedom of expression in the country⁸⁵.



#EU4HumanRights concludes 2018

HumRights Dialogue w #China. Deficiencies in rights of accused, crim justice, religious freedom & free expression/assoc among topics. Key individual cases raised, incl Liu Xia, ...⁸⁶

With EU Member States

The EU Council elaborated *Guidelines on human rights dialogues with third countries*⁸⁷, reaffirming its commitment to the principles of coherence and consistency, integration of human rights into all its actions, openness of its policies and identification of priority areas. They clarify the interaction between EU Delegations and EU Member States in addressing human rights in third countries. Meetings between EU Delegations and representatives of EU Member States – which take place on a regular basis, at different levels, at least between Heads of Political Section and Heads of Cooperation Section – are leveraging opportunities to deal with human rights issues, such as the safety of journalists and the fight against impunity.

Recommended actions

- Strengthen the coordination between EU Member States on the safety of journalists, especially with the country in charge of the EU presidency and address the issue of safety of journalists during these coordination meetings.

⁸⁴ https://eeas.europa.eu/headquarters/headquarters-homepage_en/16779/6th%20EU-Vietnam%20Human%20Rights%20Dialogue

⁸⁵ https://eeas.europa.eu/headquarters/headquarters-homepage_en/48217/The%20European%20Union%20and%20China%20held%20their%20annual%20Human%20Rights%20Dialogue

⁸⁶ <https://twitter.com/SJLambrinidis/status/1016990927943094272>

⁸⁷ https://eeas.europa.eu/sites/eeas/files/eu_guidelines_on_human_rights_dialogues_with_third_countries.pdf

- ▶ When a high-level representative of an EU Member State visits, raise the situation of freedom of expression and safety of media actors.
- ▶ Encourage EU Member States to raise their concerns regarding the safety of journalists during their meetings with local authorities.
- ▶ Encourage EU Member States to publicly denounce acts of violence or intimidation against journalists and other media actors, particularly in cases where state organs have encouraged or condoned such attacks.
- ▶ During the UPR of a third country, the EU Delegation can support a Member State when it is formally taking part in reviewing a State as part of the official troika, by contributing suggestions for recommendations on journalists' safety. In addition, the Delegation can provide support to civil society organisations preparing shadow reports to ensure that safety of journalists is included as a priority and monitored during the implementation period.
- ▶ EU Delegations at the national level can share with EU Member States in country the Delegation's standard operating procedures and other plans for acting to protect journalists and media houses.

With EU institutions

Recommended actions:

- ▶ When there is a clear need, solicit a visit from EUSRs on Human Rights so they can raise EU concerns about freedom of expression and safety of media actors.
- ▶ When there is a clear need, solicit a statement from a high-level EU representative (especially the EUSR on Human Rights) to raise EU concerns about freedom of expression and the safety of media actors
- ▶ When a high-level representative of an EU institution visits, include the situation of freedom of expression and the safety of media actors in their briefings and their speaking points for meetings with local authorities.
- ▶ When negotiating preferential trade agreements, promote reference to the Generalised Scheme of Preferences for sustainable development and good governance (GSP+) agreement, so that these countries abide by basic human rights principles.

Examples of actions (public diplomacy and advocacy)

Eamon Gilmore, the EUSR for Human Rights, issued a statement on behalf of the EU at the Global Conference for Media Freedom in London on 11 July 2019 expressing concerns of the EU and its Member States on the safety and security situation of journalists and the high number of journalists killed in 2018⁸⁸.

With the United Nations

Regular formal or informal meetings often take place with UN agencies in the field.

Recommended actions:

- ▶ Attend (or participate in) regular coordination meetings with UN agencies when it comes to issues related to freedom of expression and safety of media actors (especially UNESCO offices).
- ▶ Encourage UN agencies to publicly denounce acts of violence or intimidation against media actors, particularly in cases where state organs have encouraged or condoned such attacks.
- ▶ Alert the United Nations Special Rapporteur on Freedom of Expression (and other UN Special Rapporteurs) on a specific case, including a potential recommendation for a visit to the country.
- ▶ When a high-level UN representative visits, raise the situation of freedom of expression and safety of media actors.

⁸⁸ <http://www.gilmore.ie/statement-by-the-eu-special-representative-for-human-rights-mr-eamon-gilmore-on-behalf-of-the-eu-at-the-global-conference-for-media-freedom/>

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS (SDGS) AND PROTECTION OF JOURNALISTS

SDG 16.10 specifically commits UN Member States to *‘ensure public access to information and protect fundamental freedoms, in accordance with national legislation and international agreements.’*

UN Member States have also committed to report on SDG indicator 16.10.1: *‘Number of verified cases of killing, kidnapping, enforced disappearance, arbitrary detention and torture of journalists, associated media personnel, trade unionists and human rights advocates in the previous 12 months.’*

National civil society platforms set up to produce shadow reports on the progress of States towards achieving the SDG targets may require financial or technical support to include information and reporting on SDG 16.10 indicators within their reports. EU Delegations can also support the success of the reports by providing visibility and publicity to them by convening multi-stakeholder meetings or events or by issuing press releases welcoming publication of the reports.

The UN has established a metadata repository for the SDG indicators, including SDG indicator 16.10.1⁸⁹. The UN has also set up a ‘knowledge platform’ that compiles information regarding the SDGs and their implementation by UN Member States⁹⁰. Yet it is far from being complete. According to the SDG Data Initiative, ‘there is not a comprehensive global data set yet available at this time’ regarding SDG 16.10⁹¹.

In 2017 and 2018, the SDG Data Initiative published a *Global Report* that ‘aims to evaluate global progress towards realizing the 2030 Agenda’s promise of peaceful, just and inclusive societies.’ The Global Report provides governments, UN officials, and civil society stakeholders with a resource to help understand progress on SDG16 targets and an evidence base for them to identify gaps and shortcomings in both implementing and monitoring SDG16⁹².

89 <https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/metadata/files/Metadata-16-10-01.pdf>

90 <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/memberstates>

91 http://www.sdg16.org/data/?indicator=number_of_verified_cases

92 <https://www.sdg16report.org/> and <https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/progress-report/>

2.3.2 Engagement with media actors and civil society

It is valuable for political and cooperation sections of EU Delegations to have regular formal and informal meetings with local media actors, relevant institutions and CSOs that support safety and security of journalists and media houses.

Recommended actions:

- ▶ Maintain contacts with media actors, including receiving them in EU Delegations and visiting their places of work.
- ▶ Provide, as appropriate, visible recognition to media actors, using appropriate publicity, visits or invitations.
- ▶ Raise awareness among media actors on the issue of safety and security to increase their knowledge about specific digital, physical and legal methods governments are using. Provide them with, and ensure continued, access to tools for protection, possibly by connecting them to digital security experts.
- ▶ Raise awareness among media owners and editors about the need to ensure employees are trained on how to assess risk and protect themselves against threats and what to do in an emergency.
- ▶ In order to support information exchange and peer-to-peer knowledge sharing, the EU Delegation can periodically convene meetings with groups of media (if safe to do so), or meet with individual media organisations.
- ▶ Ensure that media actors can access resources they need (both international and financial) and that they are aware of the existing funding instruments available.
- ▶ Organise (or support) networking initiatives to empower CSOs and reinforce their capacities, as well as the strengthening of existing regional mechanisms for the protection of media actors.
- ▶ Encourage media actors to join existing national or international initiatives and provide information about existing resources.
- ▶ If appropriate, encourage journalists to raise awareness about their situation with international peer networks.
- ▶ Support participation by journalists in trainings and meetings of their networks.

- Based on the local context, encourage CSOs and other media actors to publicly denounce acts of violence or intimidation against media actors, particularly in cases where national authorities have encouraged or condoned such attacks.

Example of actions

Lebanon

The EU Delegation to Lebanon tweeted to publicise a reception it hosted to honour media representatives at the EU residence.



Journalists, reporters and bloggers gather tonight at the EU residence for the annual reception in honour of their work #EUinLebanon.⁹³



Multi-stakeholder initiatives

One of the characteristics of the United Nations Plan of Action is its multi-stakeholder approach. This is based on the reality that the issue of the safety of journalists is much too complex to be resolved by any single actor. By drawing on the various strengths and resources of different stakeholders collectively, there is a better prospect for improving the safety of journalists and ending impunity. Member States are encouraged to engage in regular multi-stakeholder discussions with

⁹³ <https://twitter.com/EUinLebanon/status/964177593367973888>

PEER-TO-PEER SUPPORT MECHANISMS FOR JOURNALISTS

It is vital that, even in highly restrictive environments, journalists and media organisations are able to find and share information with each other and with organisations that can protect them about the ever-evolving ‘cat-and-mouse’ nature of the threats they face from governments, political groups, organised criminal groups or armed militia. While peer-to-peer support networks may emerge organically, they may benefit from technical or financial support from the EU Delegation or by having a safe space in which to meet and discuss issues. In highly restrictive environments, individual journalists or small groups working secretly or anonymously find it hard to access information and technical support, particularly relevant to digital security. EU Delegations can work through specialised media development organisations equipped with the technical skills and trusted networks to support individuals without compromising their safety and security.

the UN and other international organisations, as well as relevant national actors, within the framework of the United Nations Action Plan to push forward shared solutions for ensuring the safety of journalists.

Most of the time, EU Delegations are represented at multi-stakeholder meetings that take place on a regular basis in the country where they work.

Recommended actions:

- ▶ Attend (or participate in) regular multi-stakeholder meetings when it comes to issues related to freedom of expression and safety of media actors.
- ▶ Encourage other stakeholders to publicly denounce acts of violence or intimidation against media actors, particularly in cases where state organs have encouraged or condoned such attacks.

Examples of actions

Somalia

Publicised presence at multi-stakeholder meetings: In Somalia, following up on the November 2017 Nairobi Declaration, the EU Delegation joined the Multi-stakeholder Dialogue Forum for Safety of Journalists that was launched in April 2018⁹⁴.

Democratic Republic of Congo

Locally issued press release statement, followed by a tweet: In November 2017, the EU Delegation to the Democratic Republic of Congo published a statement in agreement with the Heads of Mission of EU Member States present in Kinshasa, the United States, Switzerland and Canada to express concerns and reaffirm the importance of respecting freedom of expression and freedom of assembly.



Déclaration commune sur le respect des libertés d'expression et de réunion. La Délégation de l'UE publie la déclaration suivante en accord avec les chefs de la mission des pays membres de l'UE présents à #Kinshasa, des Etats Unis, de la #Suisse et du #Canada eeas.europa.eu/sites/eeas/fil...⁹⁵



⁹⁴ http://www.unesco.org/new/en/communication-and-information/resources/news-and-in-focus-articles/all-news/news/somalia_launches_multi_stakeholder_forum_for_safety_of_journ/

⁹⁵ <https://twitter.com/UEenRDC/status/931186523147522048>

2.3.3 Public advocacy

International days focusing on freedom of expression and the safety of journalists

International days focusing on freedom of expression, safety of journalists and impunity are opportunities for EU Delegations to promote safety of journalists and fight against impunity. Relevant days include World Press Freedom Day (WPFD) (3 May), International Day for Universal Access to Information (IDUAI) (28 November) and International Day to End Impunity for Crimes Against Journalists (IDEI) (2 November).

These international days present a valuable opportunity for EU Delegations to coordinate actions with EU Member States. The actions outlined below can be undertaken as part of such collaboration.

Recommended actions:

- ▶ Launch social media awareness campaigns to raise awareness using hashtags like #EndImpunity, #JournoSafe and #TruthNeverDies.
- ▶ Utilise messages and visual materials distributed by DEVCO and EEAS communication offices.
- ▶ Organise round tables with media managers to promote exchange of good practices.
- ▶ Publish press releases quoting the EU Guidelines and United Nations Plan of Action.
- ▶ Organise high-level political dialogue with national authorities and media actors about safety mechanisms.
- ▶ Join activities planned by UNESCO offices.
- ▶ Highlight a specific case of impunity.

ANNEX 5: EU DELEGATION ACTIONS ON THE INTERNATIONAL DAY TO END IMPUNITY FOR CRIMES AGAINST JOURNALISTS

Suggests activities for EU Delegations to mark the IDEI.

Examples of action during international days

Tunisia

On the occasion of the celebration of IDEI on 4 November 2014, the UNESCO office in Tunis issued the teaching manual *Freedom of expression and public order*⁹⁶. This manual was originally developed as part of a training programme implemented in Tunisia for security forces on human rights, freedom of expression and safety of journalists. It also provides advice for journalists on how to promote their own safety.

Zimbabwe

The EU Delegation to Zimbabwe shared the EU video made in 2017 on the occasion of the IDEI through social media channels.



#JournalismisNotACrime

Today is the International Day to End Impunity for Crimes against Journalists – have you seen our video yet?⁹⁷



⁹⁶ <http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0023/002313/231305e.pdf>

⁹⁷ <https://twitter.com/euinzim/status/926084254269870080>

On the occasion of World Press Freedom Day

Pakistan

The EU Delegation to Pakistan published a statement on the occasion of the 2017 WPF.D.



#EU takes concrete steps to prevent and respond to attacks against journalists and bloggers [#WorldPressFreedomDay consilium.europa.eu/en/press...](https://consilium.europa.eu/en/press...)⁹⁸

On the occasion of World Press Freedom Day 2020, EEAS StratCom team launched a campaign on Facebook⁹⁹, Twitter¹⁰⁰ and Instagram¹⁰¹. Its main purpose was to give a voice to media professionals, so they could express what freedom of media means to them. The campaign also highlighted the impact of journalism on citizens' lives by focusing on the question: 'What if there was no journalism?'

The campaign featured media professionals from 36 countries around the world. To highlight that press freedom is not only a concern outside the EU, there was also participation from journalists from EU Member States (Belgium, France, Greece, Italy and Lithuania).

The campaign reached about 400 000 people, most of them organically. The English version of the main video was watched about 90 000 times. More than 100 EU Delegations also shared video and posts in multiple languages among them– English, Spanish, French, Portuguese and Arabic.



⁹⁸ <https://twitter.com/EUPakistan/status/859639385180049408>

⁹⁹ <https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=664944417640166>

¹⁰⁰ https://twitter.com/eu_eeas/status/1256840918738571265?s=20

¹⁰¹ https://www.instagram.com/tv/B_t3BTLlDvM/?utm_source=ig_web_button_share_sheet

Specific events according to the local context

Pakistan

On IDUAI¹⁰² 2017, the EU Delegation to Pakistan co-organised – along with UNESCO, the Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands, and the Embassy of Sweden – an event entitled ‘Powering Sustainable Development with Access to Information’. Ensuring journalists have legal access to government information and the capacity and means to use this information in their reporting is an important element of supporting journalists’ ability to do their work safely.

The event was moderated by national experts, with speakers discussing the right to universal access to information. Discussions including government officials, civil society, and the international community focused on specific topics such as gender, the role of media in access to information, and government-citizen partnerships within the right to information framework¹⁰³.

Awards sponsored by EU marking national days

EU Delegations can award a prize to local media actors/media outlets for their work and their involvement in fighting for safety and against impunity. An example could be an award named after a local media actor murdered or kidnapped (or support for similar initiative of a local NGO). Similar actions could be considered according to the local context.

¹⁰² 28 September marks the International Day for Universal Access to Information, informally known as Right To Know Day or Access to Information Day. UNESCO established the Day in 2015 after the adoption of the SDGs, among them SDG 16.10 by which all UN Member States have agreed to ‘Ensure public access to information and protect fundamental freedoms, in accordance with national legislation and international agreements.’ EU Delegations are at the frontline of these issues and can impact progress in strengthening ATI in their respective context and country.

¹⁰³ http://unesco.org.pk/ci/intd_access_information.html

Lebanon

Strategising a mini-campaign: The EU Delegation to Lebanon, along with The Samir Kassir Foundation, launched the 'Samir Kassir Award for Freedom of the Press' in 2006¹⁰⁴.



Since 12 years now, the Samir Kassir Award is given to brave and ambitious journalists from the [#MENAreigion](#); [#EUHumanRights](#) [#SKA2017](#)¹⁰⁵



¹⁰⁴ Named after the well-known Lebanese journalist assassinated on 2 June 2005. The Samir Kassir Award now covers 18 Arabic and Mediterranean countries and is awarded to journalists and young researchers who defend the rule of law in their written production. See: https://www.welcomeurope.com/european-funds/prize-samir-kassir-award-freedom-of-press-701+601.html#tab=onglet_details

¹⁰⁵ <https://twitter.com/EUAmbLebanon/status/870682620765421568>

Indonesia

The EU Delegation to Indonesia used National Press Freedom Day to advocate for freedom of expression, the role of journalists and the importance of their safety.

SELAMAT HARI PERS NASIONAL – 9 FEBRUARY



Happy National Press Day! We celebrate the journalists who day after day work passionately to enrich the public arena, while upholding the highest ideals of their profession

#HariPersNasional2018 #HPN2018 #HPN¹⁰⁶



2.3.3 Programming support in a range of circumstances

Support to media actors and CSOs active at the local level

EU Delegations can play an important role in strengthening media actors, media houses and CSOs and building the capacity of their staff to defend and promote safety of journalists and freedom of expression.

Recommended actions:

- ▶ Raise awareness among journalists, media actors, cartoonists, and activists exercising their freedom of expression regarding the nature of the threats they might face (especially when it comes to those of a digital nature), and the need to protect themselves and ensure their safety.

¹⁰⁶ https://twitter.com/uni_eropa/status/961833373684580352

- ▶ Use appropriate finance instruments, including Country Based Support Scheme (CBSS) to support calls for proposals focusing on freedom of expression and the safety of journalists.
- ▶ Reinforce the capacity of journalists, media actors, and activists exercising their freedom of expression by, for example: supporting the organisation of regular training sessions for media actors, and/or supporting the organisation of regular training sessions for trainers/experts in holistic approaches to safety.

PRACTICAL TIPS:

- ▶ Include a safety component with a holistic approach addressing physical and digital threats, and the psychosocial impact on journalists in conflict and other high-risk situations.
- ▶ Support CSOs/media organisations promoting the protection of female journalists.

Examples of Action

Turkey

With EIDHR financial support, the Journalists Union of Turkey, partnering with the European Federation of Journalists (EFJ) and International Federations of Journalists (IFJ) in October 2017 organised a two-day safety workshop in Turkey for local and visiting journalists regularly covering conflict zones in the region. The participants were trained on personal security, managing high-risk environments, digital security, and post-traumatic stress disorder by three specialised trainers. The participants issued a 16-point Safety Protocol for journalists covering news in the region¹⁰⁷.

Palestine

In September 2018, the Palestinian Center for Development and Media Freedoms (MADA) announced the launch of the first index on the freedom of the press in Palestine¹⁰⁸. Working with this Index is part of a three-year project entitled 'A step forward towards enhancing freedom of expression in Palestine' funded by the European Neighbourhood Instrument and EIDHR Country Based Support Scheme.

¹⁰⁷ <https://mailchi.mp/ifj/serbia-attacks-against-journalists-must-stop-645725?e=c6c1b8620a>

¹⁰⁸ <http://english.pnn.ps/2018/09/20/mada-announces-the-launch-of-freedom-of-the-press-index-in-palestine/>

Yemen

In 2019 the Yemeni Media Emergency Response+ was awarded under the Instrument for Stability and Peace to Canal France International and regional partners the Arab Reporters for Investigative Journalism and the Studies and Economic Media Centre in Yemen. The overall objective of the project is to contribute to de-escalation of the conflict in Yemen, with a specific objective of enabling Yemeni journalists to play an active role in supporting the humanitarian effort and the peace process. Activities were undertaken to ensure journalists have access to the physical and digital security skills and support they need when reporting on the humanitarian crisis and on the conflict. The project highlights the need during ongoing conflict or a chronic or emergency humanitarian situation to support all three elements of journalists' safety: physical, digital and psychosocial.

Actors involved in law-making (lawyers, judges, prosecutors, constitutional judges)

Because of their role in the law-making process, it is important to include lawyers, judges and prosecutors in activities dealing with the safety of journalists, in order to sensitise them to the issues and make them aware of the specific safety challenges journalists face.

Recommended actions:

- ▶ Raise awareness with such actors during regular meetings and consultations.
- ▶ Reinforce their capacities by organising or supporting roundtables with local and international legal experts.
- ▶ Support relevant training sessions for judges, legal and constitutional experts, and people responsible for drafting laws or elements of a constitution.
- ▶ Finance civil society initiatives such as round tables, meetings or seminars.

PRACTICAL TIPS:

When reviewing the legal frameworks and other institutional mechanisms related to freedom of expression in country, consider:

- ▶ The restrictions regarding the number of journalists' unions.
- ▶ The non-compulsory nature of union membership to hold a press card.
- ▶ The recognition of the role played by non-professional journalists in the field of freedom of expression.
- ▶ Equal treatment between staff and freelance journalists.

Examples of action

School for Judges

Between 2014 and November 2017, UNESCO organised the ‘School for Judges’ programme in Latin America. This programme trained judges and judicial operators throughout the region. More than 600 judges and other government professionals participated in face-to-face workshops and another 7000 in online training platforms. ‘International legal framework on Freedom of Expression, Access to Public Information and Safety of Journalists’ was among the online courses offered.

A 300-page course manual, or ‘toolkit’, was created with detailed explanations of key legal principles and caselaw histories in three interconnected areas: freedom of expression, access to information and the protection of journalists¹⁰⁹.

Actors responsible for law and order

It is also important for EU Delegations to consider activities engaging officials responsible for law and order, such as the police force, army, special forces and security agencies.

Recommended actions:

- ▶ Organise round tables with law enforcement and security actors to raise awareness about the safety of media actors.
- ▶ Support the organisation of seminars and dialogues including law enforcement and security actors and media actors to provide a platform for exchange of their respective concerns and constraints and to identify potential solutions to safety-related issues.

¹⁰⁹ <http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0025/002515/251593S.pdf>

Examples of actions

The Gambia

Following the historic elections in 2016 which saw the end of 22 years of autocratic rule, the EU Delegation to The Gambia supported UNESCO with a EUR 691 583 grant with a focus to support media actors¹¹⁰. Gambian security forces were trained on respecting the safety and the freedom of expression of journalists. The project also supported the media to contribute to the revision of the draconian media laws.



Tunisia

In 2014, the EU Delegation to Tunisia supported the initiative carried out by RSF in partnership with the Tunis Centre for Press Freedom to hold a dialogue between media actors and security forces¹¹¹.

Philippines

In the Philippines in 2018, IMS launched the 'Safeguarding Press Freedom in the Philippines' project with EU support. The project has two specific objectives: 1) the enabling environment is improved to become more conducive to the exercise of press freedom and defence of human rights; and 2) capacity of journalists and media workers is enhanced to professionally practice their work in safety and in critical engagement with state actors¹¹².

Other relevant actors

Cartooning for Peace and Democracy

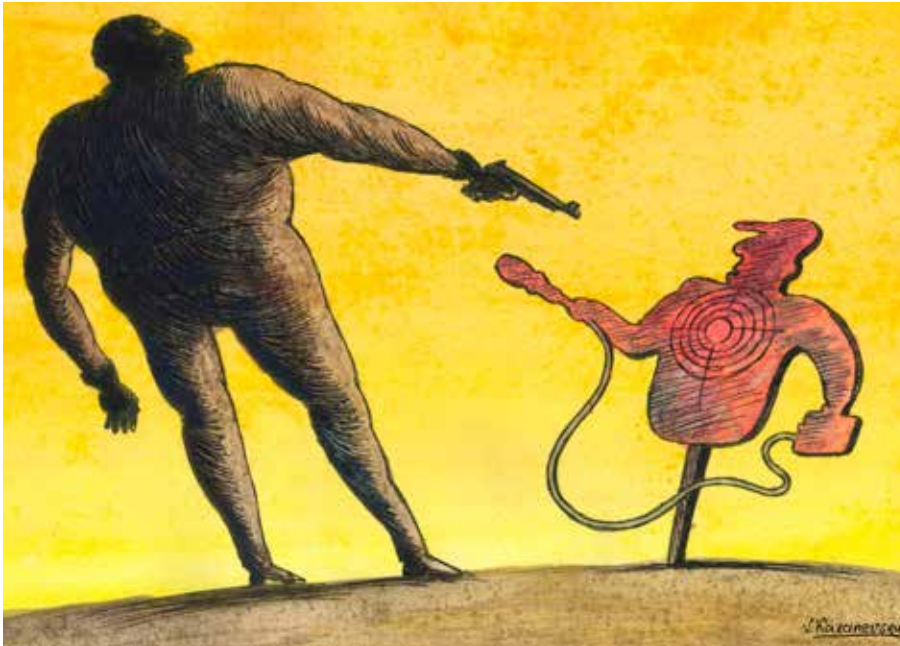
Following the attacks against the Charlie Hebdo newsroom in January 2015, 'Cartooning for Peace and Democracy'¹¹³ was financed under EIDHR to the newly-formed organisation Cartooning for Peace. The programme ran from 2016 to late 2019.

¹¹⁰ http://www.unesco.org/new/fr/member-states/single-view/news/une_presselibre_pour_une_nouvellegambie_unesco_et_l/

¹¹¹ <https://rsf.org/fr/actualites/publication-des-recommandations-pour-un-meilleur-dialogue-entre-journalistes-et-policiers>

¹¹² <https://www.mediasupport.org/kick-off-of-national-effort-to-address-the-safety-of-journalists-in-the-philippines/>

¹¹³ <https://www.cartooningforpeace.org/en/>



© Kazanovsky (Ukraine), Cartooning for Peace

Among other activities¹¹⁴, it focused on raising awareness about press cartoonists as HRDs and supporting journalists in danger through networking, guidance, communication, campaigns, diplomatic work, and financial support. The programme also produced two major documents:

- ▶ A report on the situation of cartoonists around the world¹¹⁵;
- ▶ A practical guide for cartoonists aimed at providing advice and resources to allow press cartoonists to anticipate and respond to threats¹¹⁶.

MedMedia

In 2014, the EU launched the BBC MediaAction-led ‘MedMedia’ project. This three-year project was aimed at supporting the institutions and individuals committed to reforming the media sector in the Southern Mediterranean. The objective was to offer policy makers, regulators, broadcasters and union leaders with access to relevant experience and knowledge from both sides of the Mediterranean¹¹⁷.

¹¹⁴ The programme also had a media literacy component which focused on the role of press cartooning as an educational tool and focused on developing a large network of partners to defend freedom of expression by using press cartoons as a universal mean of expression.

¹¹⁵ The first edition was released in 2017: https://www.cartooningforpeace.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/05/Cartooning_for_Peace_report_situation_cartoonists_20162017.pdf. The second one will be produced in collaboration with the newspaper *Courrier International*.

¹¹⁶ <https://www.cartooningforpeace.org/soutiens/guide-pratique-pour-la-protection-des-dessinateur-rice-s-de-presse/>

¹¹⁷ <http://www.med-media.eu/>

2.3.4 Activities in specific circumstances

Demonstrations/uprisings

During demonstrations, media actors often face increased threats from security forces and non-state actors.

Recommended actions:

- ▶ Support the organisation of training sessions for media actors that include modules dedicated to safety and sessions on how to cover demonstrations and/or uprisings.
- ▶ Organise or support awareness sessions with security forces to raise their understanding of the role of media actors.
- ▶ Organise meetings between media actors and security forces to raise the understanding of their respective concerns and identify potential solutions to safety-related issues.

Elections

Pre-electoral and electoral periods are usually sensitive moments for media actors in which the risk of threats increases physically and legally.

Recommended actions:

- ▶ Support the organisation of training sessions for media actors and media organisations to build/reinforce their capacities, with modules dedicated to safety as well as sessions on how to cover elections.
- ▶ Organise awareness sessions with security forces to strengthen their understanding of the role of the media actors at a time of elections.
- ▶ Organise or support meetings between media actors and security forces to raise the understanding of their respective concerns and identify potential solutions to safety-related issues.
- ▶ Following elections, use citizen reports and international observation mission reports – including EU EOMs – to raise individual cases with authorities and demand investigations into violations perpetrated against media actors.

2.3.5 EU funding instruments and tools for mid- to long-term support to journalists

The EU financially supports mid- to long-term projects and activities including training, and ongoing capacity building to support the protection of journalists, bloggers, HRDs, media regulators, etc. Such projects also provide support for legal and administrative reforms in the media sector which can strengthen protection and safety of media actors.

These activities are financed both by the geographic and thematic instruments of the EU development cooperation, with some details presented below. (Some specific examples of projects funded both under geographical and thematic instruments are described in the sections above.)

Geographical instruments

Activities financed by geographical instruments are approved by the national authorising officer. Consequently, sensitive activities will not be set up using such instruments. However, capacity-building activities or projects in support of freedom of expression and journalists can be financed through geographical instruments.

The most frequently-used geographical instruments in this context are:

- ▶ Instrument for Pre-accession Assistance II¹¹⁸;
- ▶ European Neighbourhood Instrument¹¹⁹.

¹¹⁸ http://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/en/funding/ipa/

¹¹⁹ <https://www.euneighbours.eu/en/policy/european-neighbourhood-instrument-eni>

TO GO FURTHER:

- ▶ *The Handbook for European Union Election Observation Missions – 3rd edition*: https://eeas.europa.eu/sites/eeas/files/handbook_for_eu_eom_2016.pdf

Thematic instruments

EIDHR Global and Country Based Support Scheme

The main thematic instrument for projects related to freedom of expression is the EIDHR. The CBSS is dedicated to providing grants to local CSOs and HRDs. The instrument does not require any approval from national authorities and the outcomes of the call for proposals in the framework of CBSS grants are not necessarily public.

Civil Society Organisations programme

The CSO programme – formerly known as the Civil Society Organisation and Local Authorities (CSO-LA) programme – can also be used to promote journalism safety. Its aims are to strengthen cooperation and facilitate exchange of knowledge and experience and capacities of CSOs and local authorities in partner countries. This instrument does not require any approval from local authorities and the outcome of the call for proposals in the framework of CBSS grants might not be public.

Instrument contributing to Stability and Peace¹²⁰

The Instrument contributing to Stability and Peace (IcSP) helps to prevent and respond to crises and create a safe and stable environment in partner countries. It can be used to finance projects in support of CSOs or promote human rights, including support for journalists.

Support via other EU-funded channels

The European Endowment for Democracy¹²¹

The European Endowment for Democracy (EED) is a joint initiative of EU Member States and institutions and serves as an independent grant-giving organisation that supports actors of democratic change in the European Neighbourhood and beyond. It supports CSOs, movements and individual activists working towards a pluralistic democratic political system. This includes significant support to media and freedom of expression activities. For example, in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region, EED has supported several CSOs defending press freedom, such as the Palestinian Center for Development and Media Freedoms (MADA) and its programme entitled ‘Combatting self-censorship and protection digital rights in Palestine’.

¹²⁰ Cf. Regulation (EU) No 230/2014 of European Parliament and of the Council of 11 March 2014.

¹²¹ According to the 2017 report, 23 countries that are members of the Board of Governors have contributed to EED’s programme budget to date, as well as Canada through a special grant for Ukraine. The EED operations budget is covered by a European Commission grant.

Newly-created or non-registered organisations, informal platforms, youth groups and individuals also get support. Official registration is not a requirement. Direct beneficiaries of EED can include pro-democracy movements and actors, civil society organisations, independent media, journalists and bloggers, artists, and non-governmental institutions including foundations and educational institutions.

EED primarily seeks to support groups and activists that cannot be supported by existing EU instruments or other programmes. EED is complementary to other donor programmes, acts as a gap-filler and aims to provide fast and flexible support. When meeting local interlocutors, EU Delegations can direct media actors and CSOs to EED.

2.4 OTHER INTERNATIONAL MECHANISMS SUPPORTING SAFETY AND SECURITY OF JOURNALISTS

2.4.1 Range of United Nations mechanisms strengthening security of journalists

The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

The Human Rights Council and Special Procedures Division (HRCSPD) is one of the four major divisions of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR). It provides substantive and organisational support to the Human Rights Council, its Universal Periodic Review (UPR) mechanism, special procedures and other subsidiary bodies.

TO GO FURTHER:

- ▶ List of UPR cycles: <https://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/UPR/Pages/CyclesUPR.aspx>
- ▶ List of UPR sessions: <https://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/UPR/Pages/UPRSessions.aspx>
- ▶ On the mandate of the UN Special Rapporteur on Freedom of Opinion and Expression: <https://www.ohchr.org/EN/Issues/FreedomOpinion/Pages/OpinionIndex.aspx>
- ▶ On the country-visits carried out by the UN Special Rapporteur on Freedom of Opinion and Expression: <https://www.ohchr.org/EN/Issues/FreedomOpinion/Pages/Visits.aspx>
- ▶ On the annual reports of the UN Special Rapporteur on Freedom of Opinion and Expression: <https://www.ohchr.org/EN/Issues/FreedomOpinion/Pages/Annual.aspx>

The Universal Periodic Review¹²² is a unique process that involves a review of the human rights records of all United Nations Member States. The UPR is a State-driven process, under the auspices of the Human Rights Council, which provides the opportunity for each State to declare what actions they have taken to improve the situation of human rights and to fulfil their obligations. UPR reviews are an important source of information as they compile observations from the United Nations Human Rights Council (UNHRC) regarding the situation of human rights in the country being reviewed, as well as commitments from the national authorities to improve the situation of human rights. UPR cycles help coordinate reporting with EU Member States to highlight the violations of journalists' rights and impunity cases.

Mid-term UPR reviews can serve as a platform for EU Delegation-supported CSOs to submit reports to the UNHRC. In the framework of the Human Rights Dialogues with the authorities, EU Delegations can also question the latter on journalists' safety issues.

United Nations Special Rapporteur on Freedom of Opinion and Expression

This UN Special Rapporteur is mandated 'to gather all relevant information, wherever it may occur, relating to violations of the right to freedom of opinion and expression, discrimination against, threats or use of violence, harassment, persecution or intimidation directed at persons seeking to exercise or to promote the exercise of the right to freedom of opinion and expression, including, as a matter of high priority, against journalists or other professionals in the field of information.'

PRACTICAL TIPS:

- ▶ Alerting the UN Special Rapporteur on Freedom of Opinion and Expression and soliciting a statement and/or a visit is an efficient tool for action and visibility.

2.4.2 Other European Mechanisms

Council of Europe

Article 10 of the *European Convention on Human Rights* (ECHR)¹²³ guarantees the 'freedom of expression.'

On the basis of the ECHR as well as the European Court of Human Rights' case law, Member States have both negative and positive obligations to protect journalists.

¹²² <https://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/UPR/Pages/UPRMain.aspx>

¹²³ https://www.echr.coe.int/Documents/Convention_ENG.pdf

PRACTICAL TIPS:

- ▶ Joint statements regarding the safety of journalists can be drafted, monitor trials of Human Rights Detainees and journalists.
- ▶ Alerting the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media is also an efficient tool for action and visibility.
- ▶ In the field, EU representatives in the host country liaise and coordinate with heads of OSCE field operations. In the past they have been invited to address the OSCE Permanent Council and used the opportunity to raise the issues of freedom of expression and safety of journalists in this forum.

Not only must they refrain from making intimidating political declarations or judicial practices against media actors, they also have the duty to actively grant media actors full protection of the law and the judiciary in order to create an enabling environment for their journalistic activities.

The Council of Europe (CoE) launched a Journalism Safety Platform in 2014 as a tool to facilitate the compilation, processing and dissemination of information on serious concerns about media freedom and safety of journalists in CoE Member States, as guaranteed by Article 10 of the ECHR. The platform aims to improve the protection of journalists and foster early warning mechanisms and response capacity within the CoE. Fourteen international NGOs and associations of journalists are partners to the platform, allowing them to post alerts, subject to their own verification processes and standards.

The Delegation Focal Points for Safety of Journalists in countries members of the Council of Europe can subscribe to the online alerts of the Platform for their country: <https://www.coe.int/en/web/media-freedom/all-alerts>.

Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE)

Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR)¹²⁴ of OSCE provides support, assistance and expertise to participating States and civil society to promote democracy, rule of law, human rights and tolerance and non-discrimination. The Office conducts training programmes for government and law-enforcement officials as well as non-governmental organisations on how to uphold, promote and monitor human rights, including freedom of expression and safety of journalists. ODIHR also monitors trials.

¹²⁴ <https://www.osce.org/odihr>

The OSCE regularly issues statements regarding the situation of human rights among its Member States. There are different kinds of statements, such as joint statements from OSCE Member States¹²⁵, but also from the OSCE Troika¹²⁶.

The OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media¹²⁷ observes media developments as part of an early warning function; and helps participating States abide by their commitments to freedom of expression and free media. In April 2018, OSCE delegations established an informal ‘Group of Friends on Safety of Journalists’¹²⁸ whose objective is to keep the topic of safety of journalists high on the OSCE agenda.

2.4.3 Regional human rights mechanisms

The Organization of American States (OAS)¹²⁹

The Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR)¹³⁰ adopted the *American Convention on Human Rights*¹³¹ in 1969 (enforced in 1978). In Article 13 it guarantees ‘Freedom of thought and expression.’ To promote freedom of expression, the IACHR appointed a Special Rapporteur for Freedom of Expression in 1997¹³². In 2000, the latter elaborated the Declaration of *Principles on Freedom of Expression*¹³³ which was approved by the IACHR. The Declaration mentions as its 9th principle the issue of safety of ‘social communicators’, as well as the duty of the state to fight against impunity.

PRACTICAL TIPS:

- In OAS-covered regions, alerting the IACHR Special Rapporteur for Freedom of Expression to take on advocacy steps is an efficient tool for action and visibility.

125 See OSCE Ministerial DECISION No.3/18 SAFETY OF JOURNALISTS (Milan, 2018): <https://www.osce.org/chairmanship/406538?download=true>

126 Each year, a different OSCE participating State chairs the Organisation and brings its own perspective to bear on the year’s work. The OSCE Troika was invented at the Helsinki Summit in 1992 to bring an element of continuity to the OSCE’s leadership. It is a format of co-operation between the present, previous and succeeding Chairmanships.

127 <https://www.osce.org/representative-on-freedom-of-media>

128 <https://osce.usmission.gov/osce-delegations-establish-a-group-of-friends-on-safety-of-journalists/>

129 <http://www.oas.org/en/>

130 <http://www.oas.org/en/iachr/mandate/what.asp>

131 http://www.cidh.oas.org/Basicos/English/Basic3.American_Convention.htm

132 <http://www.oas.org/en/iachr/expression/index.asp>

133 <http://www.oas.org/en/iachr/expression/showarticle.asp?artid=26>

African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights (ACHPR)¹³⁴

The ACHPR is an autonomous treaty body working within the framework of the African Union to promote human rights and ensure protection in Africa. Its task is to monitor the implementation of the *African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights* (also known as the Banjul Charter), whose Article 9 guarantees freedom of expression.

The ACHPR Special Rapporteur on Freedom of Expression and Access to Information in Africa is mandated to monitor compliance of national media legislation, policies and practices with freedom of expression standards; undertake investigative missions; make public interventions; and submit reports at each ordinary session of the African Commission on the status of the right to freedom of expression in Africa.

¹³⁴ <http://www.achpr.org/>

TO GO FURTHER:

- ▶ The activities per country of the CoE in the field of freedom of expression: <https://www.coe.int/en/web/freedom-expression/news-by-country>
- ▶ The publications of the CoE regarding freedom of expression: <https://www.coe.int/en/web/freedom-expression/publications>
- ▶ Activities of the CoE to promote freedom of expression: <https://www.coe.int/en/web/freedom-expression>
- ▶ The mandate of the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media: <https://www.osce.org/pc/40131?download=true>
- ▶ On the activities of the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media on the safety of journalists: <https://www.osce.org/representative-on-freedom-of-media/106283>
- ▶ OSCE Guidebook on the Safety of Journalists: <https://www.osce.org/fom/118052?download=true>
- ▶ OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media's Statements and Regular reports to the Permanent Council: <https://www.osce.org/fom/66084>

Arab Charter on Human Rights (ACHR)¹³⁵

The ACHR, was deemed by the United Nations High Commissioner as incompatible with the UN understanding of universal human rights, particularly with respect to women's rights and capital punishment for children, in addition to other provisions in the Charter¹³⁶.

Beside the ACHR of the Arab League, a *Declaration on Media Freedom in the Arab World*¹³⁷ was adopted in 2016, based on an initiative from the International Federation of Journalists and the Federation of Arab Journalists. This Declaration is considered as the first comprehensive statement of media freedom rights in the Arab world. The values it espouses reflect strong international standards of media freedom and the protection of journalists' rights. Since its adoption, a process has been underway to obtain formal recognition of the Declaration by Arab States, resulting in the current endorsement of this Declaration by a growing number of these States.

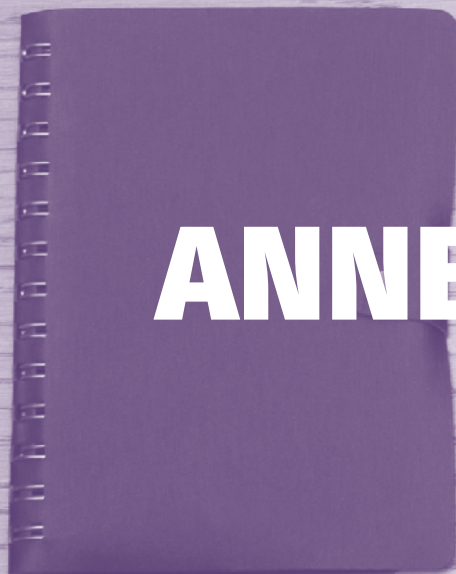
135 <https://www.refworld.org/docid/3ae6b38540.html>

136 <https://iheu.org/arab-charter-human-rights-incompatible-international-standards-louise-arbour/>

137 https://www.ifj.org/fileadmin/user_upload/filelist/Declaration_on_media_freedom_in_the_Arab_World_EN.pdf

TO GO FURTHER:

- ▶ On IACHR: <http://www.oas.org/en/iachr/mandate/Basics/intro.asp>
- ▶ On the work of the IACHR Special Rapporteur on Freedom of Expression – Read the June 2018 report about the situation in Mexico: http://www.oas.org/en/iachr/expression/docs/2018_06_18_CIDH-UN_FINAL_MX_report_ENG.pdf
- ▶ ACHPR State Reports and concluding observations: <http://www.achpr.org/states/>
- ▶ Declaration of Principles on Freedom of Expression in Africa adopted in 2002 (safety is mentioned in Section IV): <http://hrlibrary.umn.edu/achpr/expressionfreedomdec.html>
- ▶ Resolution 185 on the Safety of Journalists and Media Practitioners in Africa adopted in 2011: <https://www.refworld.org/docid/51949f714.html>



ANNEXES

ANNEX 1 – ASSESSMENT MATRIX: MEDIA FREEDOM AND JOURNALISTS’ SAFETY

This matrix is designed to help EU Delegation staff assess the broad media freedom situation in their context, including a focused section to help gather information about the safety situation for journalists and media actors and efforts to address impunity.

The table immediately below identifies categories of stakeholders that staff can reach out to for information and background and provides useful sources of data and analysis – either global or country-by-country – that can be used as a foundation for an assessment.

The assessment matrix that follows is outlined in five sections that provide model questions, with the first four addressing standard media freedom indicators: pluralism, independence, working conditions and legislative framework. The fifth section provides a platform to assess the safety situation of journalists and other media actors and the levels of impunity in the country – which can be completed as part of a broad assessment or independently as a focused assessment of the safety and security for journalists in country.

Categories of stakeholder organisations to consult with

- ▶ International and local CSOs and media development organisations working on media freedom¹³⁸.
 - ▶ Media editors and professionals from broadcast, print and online media.
 - ▶ Professional journalism bodies, press clubs and journalism unions.
 - ▶ Media councils and self-regulatory institutions.
 - ▶ University departments or research institutions specialising in media and communications, freedom of expression or access to information.
 - ▶ National authorities in the field of freedom of expression such as Head of State, Prime Minister’s Office, Ministry of Communication/Information, Ministry of Interior, Ministry of Human Rights, Human Rights Commission.
 - ▶ Parliamentary bodies on freedom of expression and/or human rights.
-

¹³⁸ See Annex 2 for a list of stakeholder organisations active in the field.

Selection of key sources of data and analyses

Organisations	Information available
Freedom House	<p>Freedom House publishes the annual <i>Freedom in the World</i> reports that track the situation for freedom and democracy, including freedom of expression, with global and country analysis demonstrating a clear decline in the last decade.</p> <p>https://freedomhouse.org/report/freedom-world/2020/leaderless-struggle-democracy</p> <p>Freedom House also produces global analysis about the state of internet freedom, based on data from over sixty countries, whose 2019 report highlights the crisis in social media.</p> <p>https://freedomhouse.org/report/freedom-net/2019/crisis-social-media</p>
UNESCO	<p>UNESCO is the lead agency implementing the UN Action Plan on Safety and Security of Journalists and the Issue of Impunity. It produces a bi-annual Director General report with analysis based on official data submitted by UN Member States. https://en.unesco.org/dg-report</p> <p>UNESCO also produces a bi-annual report <i>World Trends in Freedom of Expression and Media Development</i>: https://en.unesco.org/world-media-trends-2017</p>
ARTICLE 19	<p>ARTICLE 19 develops and advocates for international standards on freedom of expression and produces annual reports tracking freedom of expression and information with global thematic and regional summaries.</p> <p>https://www.article19.org/xpa-2019/</p>
Centre for Law and Democracy and AccessInfo	<p>The Centre maintains the <i>Global Right to Information Rating Map</i> – an interactive global map of the strength and quality of right to information system and laws in all countries.</p> <p>https://www.rti-rating.org/</p>

Selection of key sources of data and analyses

**International
Press Institute**

The Institute's *Media Laws Database* provides a country-by-country database with detailed information on legal provisions affecting the media, measured according to international standards on freedom of expression. <http://legaldb.freemedia.at/>

**Reporters
Without Borders
(RSF)**

The Reporters Without Borders *Media Ownership Monitor* project produces analysis and reports to create transparency about who owns and controls the media.

<http://www.mom-rsf.org/>

RSF produces a global map with countries ranked according to their world press freedom index.

<https://rsf.org/en/ranking/2019>

RSF also produces country profiles with information about the world press freedom ranking and analysis.

<https://rsf.org/en>

**European Centre
for Press and
Media Freedom**

The Centre's *Mapping Media Freedom* tracks limitations, threats and violations that affect media professionals in 43 countries which include the EU Member States, accession and neighbouring countries. <https://mappingmediafreedom.org>

MATRIX TO ASSESS MEDIA FREEDOM		
1. MEDIA PLURALISM		
To what extent is there a plurality of media ownership, content, and sources of information?		
Questions	Findings	
How diverse is media ownership in the country? Is there a mix of private, public and community-owned media?		
How concentrated is the ownership of private media?		
How transparent is media ownership?		
Does the public have access to sources of information that represent and reflect a full range of political and social viewpoints?		
Is there a nationwide public service broadcaster? Does it reflect views of a wide political spectrum or provide only an official point of view?		
Do some media outlets reach marginalised communities or groups within society?		
To what extent does the physical and digital infrastructure enable or restrict media from operating?		
EU Delegation Priorities		Next Steps
Based on findings above, what are the most feasible and relevant actions to be undertaken by the EU Delegation?		



MATRIX TO ASSESS MEDIA FREEDOM

2. MEDIA INDEPENDENCE

To what extent are the media editorially independent of political, governmental, corporate and religious power and influence?

Questions	Findings
To what extent are media outlets editorially and/or financially controlled by the government or opposition?	
To what extent does the environment enable or prevent the creation of independent, privately owned media? What are the factors that restrict it (regulation and licensing, administrative rules, fiscal rules, funding restrictions, high costs)?	
Is government advertising distributed equitably across different media? Is there transparent information about state-sponsored advertising available?	
To what extent is media self-regulation practiced, and what are the key barriers preventing self-regulation?	
To what extent are there locally-active civil society and media sectors advocating for media independence and laws to protect it?	
To what extent does the judicial system have capacity and skills to defend media independence through the judicial system?	
To what extent does the physical and digital infrastructure enable or restrict media from operating?	
EU Delegation Priorities	Next Steps
Based on findings above, what are the most feasible and relevant actions to be undertaken by the EU Delegation?	

MATRIX TO ASSESS MEDIA FREEDOM

3. JOURNALISM PRACTICE AND WORKING CONDITIONS

To what extent do working conditions and regulations enable and support journalists and media actors?

Questions	Findings
Are journalists required by law to be licensed? Are licensing processes conducted fairly and are they affordable? Are journalists legally required to join an official organisation to receive a license?	
Are there key topics that media is restricted from reporting on, such as corruption, the role of the armed forces, extractive industries, political opposition, human rights or religion?	
How are journalists enabled or prevented from reporting on public demonstrations and protests?	
Are certain geographical areas of the country forbidden to journalists?	
Do journalists sometimes take payments in return for reporting? If so, how common is this?	
Are pay levels for journalists and other media professionals sufficiently high to discourage them taking payments for content?	
How prevalent are employment contracts for journalists and other media workers?	
Can journalists choose which journalist union to join? Are journalist unions or associations free to attract members and free to advocate on the working conditions and rights of journalists? How many journalist unions are there? Are unions considered impartial by journalists? Is there a union that can represent women journalists effectively?	
Are there equal numbers of men and women entering the journalism profession? Are there specific barriers affecting women entering and progressing in the sector?	
Is there widespread self-censorship practiced by journalists in both private and state-controlled media?	
Are educational qualifications compulsory for journalists?	
What is the quality of journalism education and professionalisation provision?	
EU Delegation Priorities	Next Steps
Based on findings above, what are the most feasible and relevant actions to be undertaken by the EU Delegation?	



MATRIX TO ASSESS MEDIA FREEDOM

4. LEGISLATIVE FRAMEWORK GOVERNING NEWS AND INFORMATION ACTIVITIES

To what extent are press freedom, freedom of information and freedom of expression guaranteed in national law and in practice?

Questions	Findings
Are press freedom, the right to freedom of expression and opinion guaranteed in the Constitution? Has the country ratified relevant treaties? Are these rights protected by national laws? Are they protected by caselaw?	
Do any laws or regulations restrict media freedom in contravention of treaties and/or international standards on freedom of expression? Do cyberlaws violate the right to free expression on the internet? Do laws balance freedom of expression and the right to privacy effectively?	
To what extent are defamation and blasphemy laws used to silence media?	
To what extent are lawyers and judges able to protect journalists and media outlets from prosecution by laws that contravene international standards on freedom of expression?	
How robust is the access to information legislation and system in the country and to what extent is it implemented?	
Does a legal mechanism exist to protect the confidentiality of journalists' sources?	
Is there an official censorship body? Does prior censorship or monitoring exist in the print press and/or radio and TV broadcasting?	
EU Delegation Priorities	
Based on findings above, what are the most feasible and relevant actions to be undertaken by the EU Delegation?	Next Steps

MATRIX TO ASSESS MEDIA FREEDOM

5. SAFETY OF MEDIA ACTORS & FIGHT AGAINST IMPUNITY

What specific threats do journalists and media actors face, who are the perpetrators and what are the levels of protection and defence available?

Questions	Findings
What are the number of killings, attacks, execution, torture, enforced disappearance or other acts of serious violence or intimidation against male & female journalists/media actors in the last 12 months? Is the trajectory up or down in the country?	
How many media organisations were subjected to physical attack, to seizure of copies of newspapers, radio or television transmitters, satellite dishes, or production equipment?	
What are the most significant threats that journalists and media organisations face in relation to their safety and security?	
Who is perpetrating and/or financing the threats that journalists and media actors face?	
Does the government protect journalists threatened by non-state actors?	
How many male and female journalists and media actors have been arrested, prosecuted or jailed as a result of their journalism? How many journalists/media actors are still detained?	
To what extent does the government / other powerful actors use digital surveillance of journalists and target them with online intimidation?	
Have journalists and media actors been particularly threatened during elections?	
How many online news outlets, social media platforms, websites, or pages have been blocked, filtered or taken down, either by authorities or intermediaries pressured by the authorities?	
Do journalists and media outlets have access to digital security technology and skills to circumvent online harassment & surveillance? Do digital security experts provide support to journalists and media actors to protect themselves?	
How many journalists have fled the country or gone into hiding or exile to avoid such repercussions? Does data exist to monitor this?	
Is the judiciary system able and willing to protect journalists? Are judges and legal actors subject to excessive pressure from the executive branch?	
What proportion of crimes against journalists and media actors are investigated and prosecuted? What level of impunity exists for those who commit crimes against journalists?	
Do journalists under threat from non-state actors receive protection from state authorities?	
Is there an active network of stakeholders focusing on protection of journalists? Has there been active use of international or national protection mechanisms?	
To what extent are local and international CSOs monitoring and reporting on safety and security of journalists, or submitting reports through SDG 16.10 or UPR mechanisms?	
EU Delegation Priorities	Next Steps
Based on findings above, what are the most feasible and relevant actions to be undertaken by the EU Delegation?	



ANNEX 2 – ORGANISATIONS SUPPORTING FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION AND SAFETY OF JOURNALISTS

Organisations active at INTERNATIONAL level with their main fields of expertise

- ▶ ARTICLE 19 – Advocacy/Training: <http://www.article19.org>
- ▶ BBC Media Action -Training / Media Development: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/mediaaction>
- ▶ Catholic Media Council (CAMECO) – Training / Media Development: <https://www.cameco.org/>
- ▶ Canal France International – Training / Media Development: <https://www.cfi.fr/en>
- ▶ Committee to Protect Journalists – Advocacy / Assistance: <https://cpj.org/>
- ▶ Community Media Solutions – Training / Media Development: <http://cmso.co.uk/>
- ▶ DW Akademie – Training / Media Development: <https://www.dw.com/en/dw-akademie/about-us/s-9519>
- ▶ Electronic Frontier Foundation (EFF) – Training / Advocacy: <https://www.eff.org/fr>
- ▶ Fondation Hirondelle / Media Development: <https://www.hirondelle.org/fr/>
- ▶ Free Press Unlimited (FPU) – Training / Media Development / Assistance: <https://www.freepressunlimited.org/en>
- ▶ Freedom House – Advocacy: <https://freedomhouse.org/>
- ▶ Index on Censorship – Advocacy: <https://www.indexoncensorship.org/>
- ▶ Institute for War and Peace Reporting – Training / Media Development / Assistance: <https://iwpr.net/>
- ▶ International Federation of Journalists – Advocacy / Training / Media Development / Assistance: <http://www.ifj.org/>
- ▶ International Media Support (IMS) -Training / Media Development / Assistance: <https://www.mediasupport.org/>
- ▶ International News Safety Institute (INSI) – Advocacy: <https://newssafety.org/home/>
- ▶ International Press Institute (IPI) – Advocacy / Training / Media Development: <https://ipi.media/>
- ▶ Internews – Training / Media Development / Assistance: <https://www.internews.org/>

- ▶ IREX – Training / Media Development / Assistance: <https://www.irex.org/>
- ▶ Media in transition and cooperation (MICT) – Training / Media Development: <https://www.mict-international.org/>
- ▶ PEN International – Advocacy: <https://pen-international.org/>
- ▶ Radio Netherlands Worldwide – Training / Media Development: <https://www.rnw.org/>
- ▶ Reporters Without Borders: [Advocacy / Assistance: https://rsf.org/en](https://rsf.org/en)
- ▶ World Association of Community Radio Broadcasters (AMARC) – Training / Media Development: <https://amarceurope.eu/>

Organisations in AFRICA

CAMEROON

- ▶ Cameroon Association of Media Professionals: <https://www.facebook.com/campcig>

DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO

- ▶ Journalist in Danger / Journaliste en danger (JED): <http://jed-afrique.org/>

GHANA

- ▶ Media Foundation for West Africa (MFWA): <http://www.mfwa.org/>

KENYA

- ▶ African Media Initiative: <http://africanmediainitiative.org/>

LIBERIA

- ▶ Center for Media Studies & Peace Building (CEMESP): <http://cemespliberia.org/>
- ▶ Liberian Media Women Action Committee: <https://www.facebook.com/Liberia-Women-Media-Action-Committee-204199889707487/>

NAMIBIA

- ▶ Media Institute of Southern Africa (MISA): <http://misa.org/>

NIGERIA

- ▶ Africa Media Development Foundation: <http://www.amdf-centre.org/>
- ▶ Institute for Media and Society (IMESO): <https://imesoimeso.org/>
- ▶ International Press Centre (IPC): <http://www.ipcng.org/en/>
- ▶ Media Rights Agenda (MRA): <http://mediarightsagenda.org/press.html>

SENEGAL

- ▶ West African Journalists Association (WAJA): <https://www.indexonensorship.org/2009/05/west-african-journalists-association-waja/>

SOMALIA

- ▶ National Union of Somali Journalists (NUSOJ): <http://www.nusoj.org/>

SOUTH AFRICA

- ▶ Freedom of Expression Institute (FXI): <https://www.fxj.org.za/>

SOUTH SUDAN

- ▶ Association for Media Development in South Sudan (AMDISS): <http://amdissmedia.net/>

SUDAN

- ▶ Nuba Reports: <https://nubareports.org/>

UGANDA

- ▶ Africa Freedom of Information Centre (AFIC): <https://africafoicentre.org/>
- ▶ Human Rights Network for Journalists – Uganda (HRNJ-Uganda): <https://hrnjuganda.org/>

Organisations in THE AMERICAS

- ▶ El Centro Latinoamericano de Periodismo (CELAP): <http://celap.net/>
- ▶ Inter American Press Association (IAPA): <https://en.sipiapa.org/contenidos/home.html>
- ▶ Association of Caribbean Media Workers: <http://acmpress.org/>

ARGENTINA

- ▶ Asociación por los Derechos Civiles (ADC): <https://adc.org.ar/>
- ▶ Foro de Periodismo Argentino: <http://www.fopea.org/>

BOLIVIA

- ▶ National Press Association: <http://www.anp-bolivia.com/>
- ▶ Fundacion para el Periodismo: <http://fundacionperiodismo.org/>

BRAZIL

- ▶ Agencia de Noticias dos Direitos da Infancia – (ANDI): <http://www.andi.org.br/>
- ▶ Brazilian Association for Investigative Journalism – (ABRAJI): <http://www.abraji.org.br/>

CANADA

- ▶ Ad IDEM/Canadian Media Lawyers Association: <https://canadianmedialawyers.com/>
- ▶ Canadian Journalists for Free Expression: <https://www.cjfe.org/>
- ▶ OPEN Media: <https://openmedia.org/en/ca>
- ▶ PEN Canada: <https://pencanada.ca/>

CHILE

- ▶ Derechos Digitales: <https://www.derechosdigitales.org/>

COLOMBIA

- ▶ Foundation for Press Freedom / Fundación para la Libertad de Prensa – FLIP: <https://flip.org.co/index.php/en/>
- ▶ Fundación Karisma: <https://karisma.org.co/>
- ▶ Fundación Nuevo Periodismo Iberoamericano (FNPI): <http://fnpi.org/>

COSTA RICA

- ▶ Instituto de Prensa y Libertad de Expresión – (IPLEX): <http://iplexcr.org/>

ECUADOR

- ▶ Fundamedios – Andean Foundation for Media Observation and Study: <http://www.fundamedios.org/>

GUATEMALA

- ▶ Centro Civitas: <https://centrocivitas.org/>

HONDURAS

- ▶ Comité por la Libre Expresión – C-Libre <http://www.clibrehonduras.com/>

MEXICO

- ▶ Centro Nacional de Comunicación Social: <http://cencos.com.mx/>
- ▶ Centro de Periodismo y Ética Pública – (CEPET): <https://www.cepel.org/>
- ▶ Fundación Prensa y Democracia: <http://www.aprende.org.mx/>

NICARAGUA

- ▶ Fundación Violeta Barrios de Chamorro – (FVBCH): <https://www.violetachamorro.org/>

PARAGUAY

- ▶ El Foro de Periodistas Paraguayos (FOPEP): <http://www.vivaparaguay.com/fopep.org.py/beta/index.php>
- ▶ Sindicato de Periodistas del Paraguay: <http://www.sindicatodeperiodistas.org.py/>

PERU

- ▶ Instituto Prensa y Sociedad: <http://www.ipys.org/index.php>
- ▶ Observatorio Latinoamericano para la Libertad de Expresión – (OLA): <http://www.felatraccs.org/portal/index.php>

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

- ▶ Trinidad and Tobago's Publishers and Broadcasters Association: <http://ttpba.org.tt/>

UNITED STATES

- ▶ PEN American Center: <https://pen.org/>

URUGUAY

- ▶ AROJO: <https://www.elabrojo.org.uy/>
- ▶ Centro de Archivos y Acceso a la Información Pública: <http://www.cainfo.org.uy/>
- ▶ Latin American Observatory of Regulation, Media and Convergence – (OBSERVACOM): <http://www.observacom.org/>

VENEZUELA

- ▶ Espacio Público: <http://espaciopublico.org/>
- ▶ Instituto Prensa y Sociedad de Venezuela: <http://www.ipys.org.ve/>

Organisations in ASIA and the PACIFIC

TRANS-SOUTHEAST ASIA

- ▶ Southeast Asian Press Alliance (SEAPA): <https://www.apc.org/en/partner/southeast-asian-press-alliance>

TRANS-PACIFIC

- ▶ Pacific Islands News Association (PINA) – MEDIA: <http://pina.com.fj/>

AFGHANISTAN

- ▶ Afghanistan Journalists Center (AFJC): <http://www.afjc.af/english/>
- ▶ Nai Supporting Open Media in Afghanistan: <http://nai.org.af/>

AUSTRALIA

- ▶ Media, Entertainment and Arts Alliance (MEAA): <https://www.meaa.org/>

BANGLADESH

- ▶ Media Watch Bangladesh: https://www.facebook.com/pg/NewMediaWatchBangladesh/about/?ref=page_internal

BURMA

- ▶ Mizzima News (MEDIA): <http://www.mizzima.com/>

CAMBODIA

- ▶ Cambodian Center for Human Rights (CCHR): <https://cchrcambodia.org/>
- ▶ Cambodian Centre for Independent Media (CCIM): <https://www.ccimcambodia.org/>

CHINA / HONG KONG

- ▶ Hong Kong Journalists Association: <https://www.facebook.com/HKJA.official>

INDIA

- ▶ SFLC.in <https://sflc.in/>

INDONESIA

- ▶ Aliansi Jurnalis Independen/Alliance of Independent Journalists (AJI): <https://aji.or.id/>
- ▶ Indonesia Press Council: <https://dewanpers.or.id/>
- ▶ Institute for the Studies on Free Flow of Information: <https://ifex.org/members/institute-for-the-studies-on-free-flow-of-information/>

MALAYSIA

- ▶ Centre for Independent Journalism (CIJ): <http://www.cijmalaysia.org/>

MONGOLIA

- ▶ Globe International Center: <http://www.globeinter.org.mn/>

NEPAL

- ▶ Federation of Nepali Journalists (FNJ): <http://www.fnjnepal.org/en>
- ▶ Freedom Forum-Nepal: <http://freedomforum.org.np/>

PAKISTAN

- ▶ Bytes for All (B4A): <https://bytesforall.pk/>
- ▶ Digital Rights Foundation: <https://digitalrightsfoundation.pk/>
- ▶ Pakistan Press Foundation: <https://www.pakistanpressfoundation.org/>

PHILIPPINES

- ▶ Center for Media Freedom and Responsibility (CMFR): <http://cmfr-phil.org/>

SAMOA

- ▶ Pacific Freedom Forum (PFF) – MEDIA: <http://www.pacificfreedomforum.info/>

SRI LANKA

- ▶ Free Media Movement: <https://freemediasrilanka.wordpress.com/>
- ▶ Journalists for Democracy in Sri Lanka (JDS): <http://www.jdslanka.org/>

THAILAND

- ▶ Thai Journalists Association: <http://www.tja.or.th/>

Organisations in EUROPE and CENTRAL ASIA

TRANS-REGION

- ▶ Adil Soz – International Foundation for Protection of Freedom of Speech (CENTRAL ASIA STATES): <http://www.adilsoz.kz/site/index/lang/en>
- ▶ Association of European Journalists: <http://aej.org/>
- ▶ Eastern Partnership Civil Society Forum: <http://eap-csf.eu/>
- ▶ European Centre for Press and Media Freedom (ECPMF): <https://ecpmf.eu/>
- ▶ European Federation of Journalists (EFJ): <http://europeanjournalists.org/about-efj/>
- ▶ European Journalism Centre: <https://ejc.net/>
- ▶ South East European Network for Professionalisation of Media (SEENPM): <https://www.facebook.com/seenpm.org/>

ALBANIA

- ▶ Albanian Media Institute: <http://www.institutemedia.org/>
- ▶ Balkan Investigative Reporting Network in Albania (BIRN Albania): <http://birn.eu.com/>

AUSTRIA

- ▶ South East Europe Media Organisation (SEEMO): <http://www.seemo.org/>

AZERBAIJAN

- ▶ Institute for Reporters' Freedom and Safety (IRFS): <https://www.irfs.org/>

BELARUS

- ▶ Belarusian Association of Journalists (BAJ): <https://baj.by/en>

BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

- ▶ Mediacentar Sarajevo: <http://www.media.ba/bs>

CZECH REPUBLIC

- ▶ Sourcefabric: <https://www.sourcefabric.org/>

GEORGIA

- ▶ Internews – Georgia: <http://www.media.ge/en/>

HUNGARY

- ▶ Center for Independent Journalism – Hungary: <http://www.cij.hu/en/>
- ▶ Hungarian Civil Liberties Union: <https://hclu.hu/>
- ▶ South East European Network for Professionalization of Media (SEENPM): <http://www.seenpm.org/>

MOLDOVA

- ▶ Independent Journalism Center (IJC): <http://media-azi.md/en>

KYRGYZSTAN

- ▶ Media Policy Institute:
<https://www.mediadefence.org/partner/media-policy-institute>
- ▶ Public Association ‘Journalists’:
[https://www.facebook.com/pages/
Public-Association-Journalists/647723595251940](https://www.facebook.com/pages/Public-Association-Journalists/647723595251940)

MACEDONIA

- ▶ Metamorphosis, Foundation for Internet and Society:
<http://metamorphosis.org.mk/en/>

NORWAY

- ▶ PEN Norway: http://norskpen.no/nb_NO/

ROMANIA

- ▶ ActiveWatch – Media Monitoring Agency: <https://activewatch.ro/en/home/>
- ▶ Center for Independent Journalism – Romania:
<http://www.ijf-cij.org/bucharest.html>

RUSSIA

- ▶ Russian Union of Journalists: <http://www.ruj.ru/>

SERBIA

- ▶ Association of Independent Electronic Media (ANEM): [http://www.anem.rs/
en.html](http://www.anem.rs/en.html)

TURKEY

- ▶ Initiative for Freedom of Expression – Turkey: <http://www.dusun-think.net/>
- ▶ IPS Communication Foundation – Bianet: <http://bianet.org/english>
- ▶ P24 Platform for Independent Journalism: <http://platform24.org/>

UKRAINE

- ▶ Independent Association of Broadcasters (NAM – Ukraine) – MEDIA: <http://www.nam.org.ua/>
- ▶ Institute of Mass Information (IMI): <http://imi.org.ua/en/>
- ▶ Internews Ukraine: <http://internews.ua/>
- ▶ Media Law Initiative: <https://cedem.org.ua/>

Organisations in the MENA region

TRANS-REGION

- ▶ Al Jazeera Public Liberties & and Human Rights Centre: <http://liberties.aljazeera.com/en>
- ▶ Arab Reporters for Investigative Journalism: <https://en.arij.net/>
- ▶ Arabic Network for Human Rights Information (ANHRI) – EGYPT: <https://anhri.net/?lang=en>
- ▶ Doha Centre for Media Freedom – QATAR: <http://www.dc4mf.org>
- ▶ Gulf Centre for Human Rights (GCHR): <https://www.gc4hr.org/>
- ▶ SKEYES-LEBANON Center for Media and Cultural Freedom: <http://www.skeyesmedia.org/en/Home>

BAHRAIN

- ▶ Americans for Democracy & Human Rights in Bahrain (ADHRB): <https://www.adhrb.org/>
- ▶ Bahrain Center for Human Rights: <http://www.bahrainrights.org/>

EGYPT

- ▶ Association for Freedom of Thought and Expression (AFTE): <https://afteegypt.org/?lang=en>
- ▶ Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies (CIHRS): <https://www.cihrs.org/?lang=en>
- ▶ The Danish Egyptian Dialogue Institute: <https://www.dedi.org.eg/>
- ▶ Egypt Media Development Program: <http://emdponline.com/en/>

IRAQ

- ▶ Journalistic Freedom Observatory (JFO) <http://www.jfoiraq.org/en>

LEBANON

- ▶ Maharat Foundation: <http://www.maharatfoundation.org/>
- ▶ March Lebanon: <https://www.marchlebanon.org/>
- ▶ May Chidiac Foundation: <https://arab.org/directory/may-chidiac-foundation/>
- ▶ Social Media Exchange (SMEX): <https://smex.org/>

LIBYA

- ▶ Libyan Centre for Freedom of Press: <https://www.facebook.com/libyafreepress>

PALESTINE

- ▶ 7amleh – Arab Center for the Advancement of Social Media: <http://7amleh.org/>
- ▶ I'lam Arab Center for Media Freedom Development and Research: <http://www.ilam-center.org/en/>
- ▶ Palestinian Center for Development and Media Freedoms: <http://www.madacenter.org/index.php?lang=1>

SYRIA

- ▶ Association de soutien aux médias libres (ASML): <https://asmlsyria.com/>
- ▶ Syrian Center for Media and Freedom of Expression (SCM): <https://scm.bz/en/>
- ▶ Syrian Journalists Association (SJA): <https://www.syja.org/en/home>

TUNISIA

- ▶ Amnesty International – Section Tunisienne: <https://www.facebook.com/AlTunisia/>
- ▶ Comité pour le Respect des Libertés et des Droits de l'Homme en Tunisie (CRLDHT): <https://www.facebook.com/crldhtunisie>
- ▶ Forum Tunisien des Droits Economiques et Sociaux (FTDES): <https://fr-fr.facebook.com/ftdes/>
- ▶ Free Sight Association: <http://www.free-sight-association.org/>
- ▶ Syndicat National des Journalistes Tunisiens (SNJT): <https://www.facebook.com/snjt.tunisie/>
- ▶ Vigilance for Democracy and the Civic State: <https://www.facebook.com/assovigilancetn>

ANNEX 3 – CHECKLIST TOOL FOR PREPARING, PLANNING AND RESPONDING IN AN EMERGENCY PROTECTING JOURNALISTS AND MEDIA OUTLETS



EU Delegation Emergency Action Checklist

The EU Human Rights Guidelines on Freedom of Expression Online and Offline provide EU Delegations with a mandate to act when a journalist or media outlet is threatened or violated. EU Delegations can also use their convening role with Member States and their partnerships with CSOs to coordinate actions, putting them in a good position to play an essential role in responding to emergency situations.

A range of actions are available to EU Delegations to act if journalists have been arrested, attacked or are under imminent threat; or if media houses have been closed or attacked.

Any EU Delegation action should be undertaken with the approval of Headquarters and EU Delegation hierarchies. All consideration should be given to the context, and the political and security concerns of the country. The risks to journalists or media outlets of any action (or inaction) by the EU Delegation should be considered through a do-no-harm approach.

Preparing for an emergency

Prior to activating an emergency response, it is important that each EU Delegation develop its own action plan for emergency scenarios, possibly in coordination with Member States and other actors. Each Delegation could identify a member of staff with the responsibility for developing the action plan and for coordinating any response. This person could either be the designated EIDHR Focal Point, or someone from the political section. The action plan could include the names of individuals, organisations and protection mechanisms which the EU Delegation will contact –and coordinate with – in case of emergency. It is, therefore, important to prepare ahead of time by building relationships with the relevant government bodies, legal actors, media outlets, local and international CSOs and protection mechanisms that will be contacted in an emergency.

Possible actions during an emergency

The actions proposed below are listed as good practice recommendations from which EU Delegation staff can best select appropriate actions.

1. Coordination

- ▶ Rapidly brief EU Delegation leadership and Headquarters and coordinate internal discussion.
- ▶ Coordinate with Headquarters about lines to take – ‘LLTs’ – and the possible release of an EU Delegation statement.
- ▶ Consult and coordinate with EU Member States and/or convene a meeting for discussion.
- ▶ Encourage coordinated actions with Member States, including joint statements.
- ▶ Consult with specialised national and/or international CSOs and legal defence organisations to deepen understanding of the situation and potential for coordinated action.
- ▶ Connect with local protection mechanisms or advocacy organisations.
- ▶ Engage with ProtectDefenders.eu to identify and activate support.
- ▶ Engage with and, if possible, coordinate with in-country UN agencies, missions or other relevant international organisations.

2. Engaging with authorities

- ▶ Make direct contact with relevant individuals working in government, ministries, or parliament to voice concern and to ask for specific actions by their departments, such as to enhance protection, investigate an incident, or to publicly condemn violence.
- ▶ Directly call on the authorities to take active steps to prevent violence or the closure of media houses – encourage Member States to do the same.

3. Public communication

- ▶ Provide comments or interviews to the national and international press – encouraging Member States to do the same.
- ▶ Release Twitter messages via the EU Delegation account, or, if agreed and appropriate, directly by the Head of Delegation.
- ▶ Encourage influential actors, including state officials, to publicly denounce violence or closure of media houses.

4. Monitoring situation and follow up

- ▶ In the case of arrest and trial, ensure trial observation.
- ▶ Monitor emergency situation for developments and need for continued action, in close communication with Member States, UN bodies and CSOs.

Highlight incidents as part of ongoing monitoring of freedom of expression and raise the issue as part of any advocacy initiatives or in dialogue with the government, encouraging Member States to do the same.

ANNEX 4 – ORGANISATIONS AND RESOURCES FOR EMERGENCY SITUATIONS

Activities related to emergency situations

- ▶ **Financial and logistical support** activities provide grants for safety equipment, temporary relocation, or legal support, etc.

Examples include:

- › Free Press Unlimited and its '**Reporters Respond' emergency fund**¹³⁹, members of the 'Journalist in Distress Network'¹⁴⁰ or members of the EU-funded consortium ProtectDefenders.eu¹⁴¹ (also see sections 2.2 and 2.3).
 - › The **Rory Peck Trust**¹⁴² supports **freelance journalists** and their families exclusively.
 - › The **Frontline Club** initiated the Fixers' Fund¹⁴³ – a special project to raise money for the **families of fixers** killed or injured around the world while working with international media.
 - › The **International Women Media Foundation**¹⁴⁴ offers safety training, reporting trips, and by-line opportunities, all tailored to female journalists – both established, and up-and-coming.
 - › **Media Legal Defence Initiative**¹⁴⁵ provides legal defence to journalists, bloggers and independent media across the world.
- ▶ **Hotlines** – Several organisations run hotlines, such as the International Committee of the Red Cross' Assistance for Journalists on Dangerous Assignments¹⁴⁶; or Front Line Defenders' Emergency Hotline for Human Rights Defenders¹⁴⁷.

139 <https://www.freepressunlimited.org/en/emergency-support>

140 The JID members are: Article19, CJFE, CPJ, FPU, Freedom House, Frontline Defenders, Human Rights Watch, IFJ, IMS, IWMF, IREX, JhJ, Kaliti Fonden, MLDI, Pen America, Pen International, Rory Peck Trust, Reporters Without Borders. <https://www.mediasupport.org/what-we-do/safety-for-journalists/#safety-fund>

141 <https://www.protectdefenders.eu/en/index.html>

142 <https://rorypecktrust.org/>

143 <https://www.frontlineclub.com/frontline-fund/>

144 <https://www.iwmf.org/about/>

145 <https://www.mediadefence.org/>

146 <https://www.icrc.org/en/document/hotline-assistance-journalists-dangerous-assignments-0>

147 <https://www.frontlinedefenders.org/en/emergency-support>

- ▶ **Insurance for journalists and other media actors** – Several organisations are active in this field:
 - The Rory Peck Trust’s website proposes lists of insurance options for freelance journalists¹⁴⁸.
 - RSF proposes insurance for journalists when on assignment (short and long term). These insurance policies are not designed to cover local journalists working in their own context¹⁴⁹.
 - ACOS Alliance¹⁵⁰ – This coalition of organisations (news organisations, freelance journalist associations and press freedom NGOs working together to champion safe and responsible journalistic practices for freelance and local journalists worldwide) facilitates access to insurance for freelancers and local journalists around the world. ACOS planned to provide some new options in 2019 that will cover not only reporters, but fixers and stringers, drivers and translators on the ground, regardless of where they are based, at discounted prices.
 - In 2017, the International Federation of Journalists launched a campaign for an insurance scheme called ‘Insurance for Journalists’¹⁵¹.
- ▶ **Lending safety equipment** – RSF lends bulletproof vests and helmets to journalists travelling to dangerous areas¹⁵².
- ▶ **Local Unions** – Depending on the local context, national unions of journalists are active in the field of safety for their members. The International Federation of Journalists¹⁵³, which represents most of the journalists’ unions worldwide, has played an important role in that regard.

Capacity building activities

- ▶ **Safety Training Courses** – Some CSOs focus on capacity building and providing safety training to journalists and media actors, as part of their media development activities. These include BBC Media Action, Canal France International, DW Akademie, Free Press Unlimited, IREX, Internews and International Media Support.

¹⁴⁸ <https://rorypecktrust.org/freelance-resources/insurance/>

¹⁴⁹ <https://rsf.org/en/insurance-0>

¹⁵⁰ <https://www.acosalliance.org/>

¹⁵¹ <http://www.ifj.org/nc/news-single-view/backpid/50/article/insurance-for-journalists-campaign-materials/> and <https://insuranceforjournalists.com/>

¹⁵² <https://rsf.org/en/borrowing-bulletproof-vests-and-helmets>

¹⁵³ <http://www.ifj.org/>

➤ **IREX's Securing Access to Free Expression (SAFE) Initiative**¹⁵⁴

SAFE serves to equip media practitioners and human rights defenders with the means to resiliently continue their important work as safely as possible in closed and closing spaces. It supports them to manage – as well as mitigate—the risks and threats they face in their day-to-day work uncovering injustices, reporting on corruption, and holding authorities accountable. SAFE addresses safety through a holistic approach of digital identity, physical awareness, and psychosocial care.

▶ **Safety focusing on freelance and local journalists**¹⁵⁵

➤ **ACOS Alliance**

This coalition of NGOs and media organisations encourages all journalists to complete a safety and first aid training course before working in a hostile environment. The ACOS Alliance helps freelance journalists access safety-training courses. It encourages news organisations and journalists around the world to endorse the 'Freelance Journalist Safety Principles'¹⁵⁶. These principles are a comprehensive set of safety practices that have been signed by around 100 organisations from more than a dozen countries, including all the global news wire services, US TV news networks and major US and European non-profit journalism organisations. The Alliance works to embed a culture of safety and promote safe practices.

➤ **Frontline Freelance Register (FFR)**¹⁵⁷

FFR is a representative body for freelance journalists, created and run by freelancers, for freelancers. FFR is part of the ACOS Alliance. It actively supports access to safety training courses for freelance journalists.

- ▶ **Focusing on psychosocial support** – In recent years, more and more attention has been paid to the need for psychosocial support for journalists and media actors. Several NGOs/CSOs have elaborated safety curricula including a psychosocial component. IREX's SAFE Initiative has a specific programme focusing on psychosocial support, via their regional offices.

¹⁵⁴ <https://www.irex.org/project/safe-securing-access-free-expression>

¹⁵⁵ <https://www.irex.org/project/safe-securing-access-free-expression>

¹⁵⁶ <https://www.acosalliance.org/the-principles>

¹⁵⁷ <https://www.frontlinefreelance.org/>

➤ **The Dart Center for Journalism and Trauma**¹⁵⁸

The Dart Center supports news organisations in developing countries in implementing initiatives to address psychosocial safety and spotlighting the cases of individual journalists targeted with violence.

Activities related to advocacy

- ▶ **Watchdogs** monitor press freedom and violations against journalists and other media actors. They advocate for freedom of expression and the safety of journalists. This is the core mandate of NGOs such as ARTICLE 19, CPJ, International Press Institute, International Federation of Journalists, International News Safety Institute, or RSF. UNESCO also carries out monitoring activities.

¹⁵⁸ <https://dartcenter.org/>

ANNEX 5 – EU DELEGATION ACTIONS ON THE INTERNATIONAL DAY TO END IMPUNITY FOR CRIMES AGAINST JOURNALISTS

Many activities noted below can be undertaken in coordination with EU Member States.

Use the day to raise awareness on safety of journalists

- ▶ Share and publish High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy statement.
- ▶ Post messages and visual materials distributed by DEVCO/EEAS/DG NEAR on social media (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, VKontaktye) raising awareness about the issues of safety and the fight against impunity, using the most common **hashtags** #EndImpunity #Journosafe #TrustNeverDies #KeepTruthAlive and #SOFJO (for safety of female journalists) as well as **Emojis** for justice¹⁵⁹, media/formation¹⁶⁰, and death/danger¹⁶¹.
- ▶ Guiding principles for awareness-raising on journalists' safety and impunity in social media posts are:
 - Highlight individual cases of journalists killed during the year and call for governments to do their utmost to protect journalists and fight against impunity.
 - Raise awareness among citizens about the role played by media actors in fighting corruption by holding powerholders to account.
 - Point out that journalists who are most under threat are those who investigate corruption of state and non-state actors.
- ▶ Publish Head of Delegation statements on the country situation, possibly quoting the UN Plan of Action as well as the EU Guidelines, highlighting specific cases of impunity when relevant and calling for investigations.

¹⁵⁹ <https://emojipedia.org/scales/>

¹⁶⁰ <https://emojipedia.org/mobile-phone/> <https://emojipedia.org/newspaper/> <https://emojipedia.org/desktop-computer/> <https://emojipedia.org/television/>

¹⁶¹ <https://emojipedia.org/skull-and-crossbones/> <https://emojipedia.org/coffin/> <https://emojipedia.org/high-voltage-sign/>

Use the day to hold political dialogue with national authorities

- ▶ Appeal to national authorities to develop and/or strengthen a national mechanism for the safety of journalists.
- ▶ Raise individual cases with national authorities.
- ▶ Note past issues that have been raised in earlier human rights dialogues or UPR.
- ▶ Organise events that bring national authorities together with media and CSOs to share views.

Use the day to organise or support dedicated events with CSOs and media actors

- ▶ Convene public events such as debates, panel discussions, round tables, and on the record discussions, including multiple stakeholders such as: government, media regulatory authorities, media associations, journalists, media bloggers, social media platforms, technology companies, civil society and academics.
- ▶ Support stakeholders' activities, such as those of media institutions, donor groups or EU Member States, educational institutions and civil society.
- ▶ Join or intervene in activities planned by UNESCO office, media or CSOs. Example: In 2019 UNESCO organised IDEI ceremonies and events in Brazil, Ghana, Ecuador, Indonesia, Kyrgyzstan, Mexico, Tanzania, and Zimbabwe, among others¹⁶².

¹⁶² <https://en.unesco.org/commemorations/endimpunityday/2019/events>

ABOUT Media4Democracy.EU

Media4Democracy is an EU-funded Technical Assistance Programme strengthening the European Union Delegations' ability to implement the *EU Human Rights Guidelines on Freedom of Expression Online and Offline*.

With free expression and open media increasingly under pressure, Media4Democracy supports EU efforts to strengthen these fundamental drivers of democracy and development. Media4Democracy helps EU Delegations (EUDs) across developing contexts take appropriate actions freedom of expression, media pluralism and access to information, while developing near-, medium and long-term strategies, including as part of strategic cooperation development programmes.

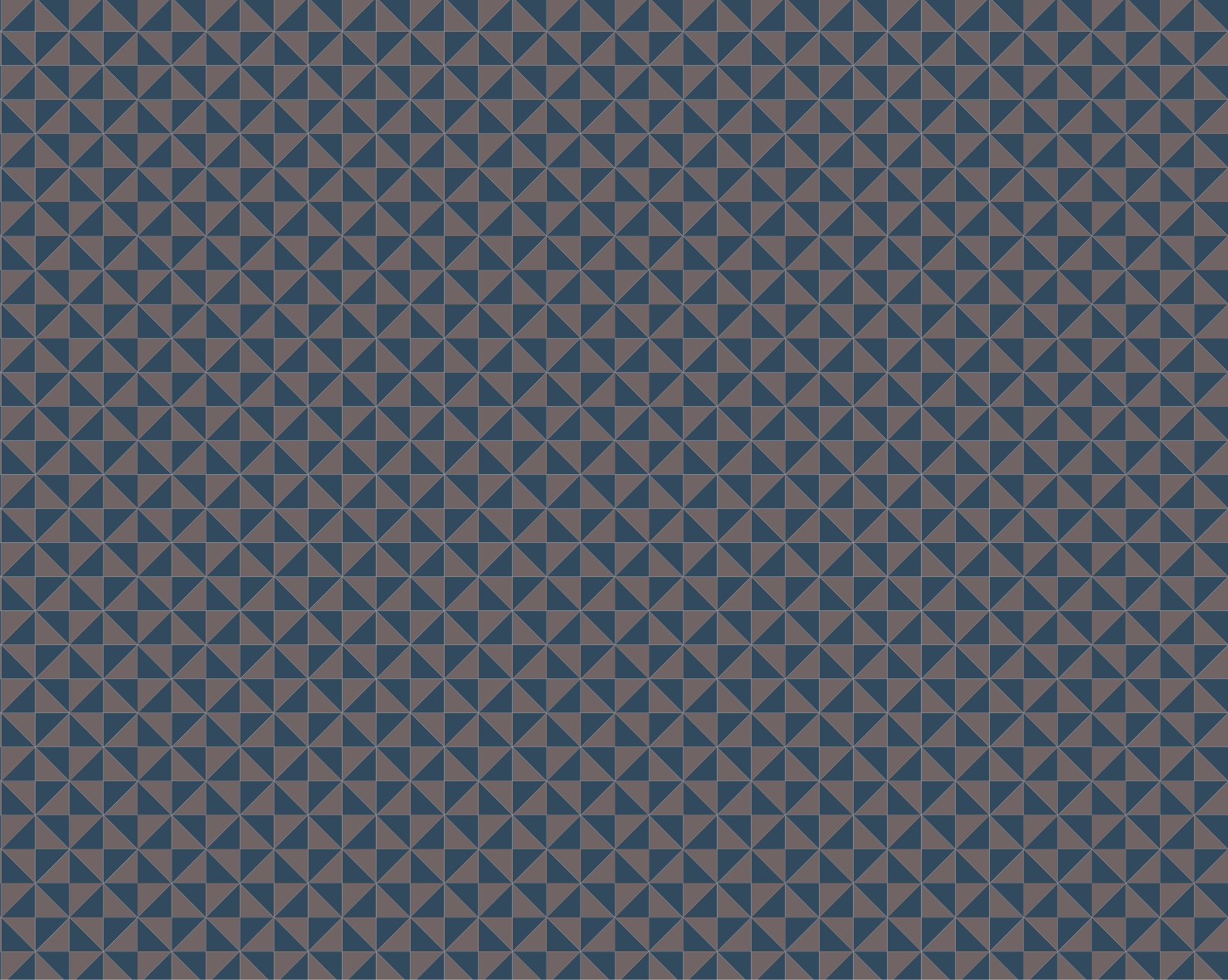
Media4Democracy is based in Brussels and provides advocacy support and capacity building services to all EU Delegations worldwide, as well as customised technical support to individual EU Delegations.

The team of three senior experts also utilises and deploys a global network of leading freedom of expression and media professionals, working together to provide tailored support and expertise to EU Delegations.

Media4Democracy is backed by a consortium of prominent European organisations from the field of freedom of expression, media development and democracy support: ARTICLE 19, DW Akademie, European Partnership for Democracy, Free Press Unlimited, Particip and the Thomson Foundation.

Media4Democracy was established by the European Commission's Directorate-General for International Cooperation and Development (DEVCO) in January 2017 under the European Instrument for Democracy & Human Rights (EIDHR).





ARTICLE 19, DW Akademie, European Partnership for Democracy,
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