Let Journalism Thrive! Towards Better Reporting, Gender Equality, & Media Safety in the Digital Age (At-a-Glance)

Saturday, 2 May 2015

14:00-17:00    Side Events
Venue: Stockholm School of Economics in Riga

17:00–19:00    Reception hosted by the Embassy of Sweden in Latvia
Venue: Stockholm School of Economics in Riga

Sunday, 3 May 2015

8:00 – 9:00    Registration (for all participants)
Venue: National Library, accreditation hall (to the left from the entrance)

9:00-10:00    Opening Ceremony: Free Flow of Ideas By Word and Image—Celebrating 70 Years of UNESCO
Venue: Imanta Ziedona Hall, National Library (with live streaming)

10:00-10:30    Refreshments break

10:30-12:00    Plenary 1: Independent and Quality Media
Venue: Imanta Ziedona Hall, National Library (with live streaming)

12:00-14:00    Lunch break

14:00-15:30    Parallel Session 1
Venue: Riga Hall
Challenges for Freedom of Expression
in the Digital Age

Parallel Session 2
Venue: Vidzeme Hall
Breaking the Glass Ceiling:
Women in Media Management:
Challenges and Opportunities?

Parallel Session 3
Venue: Kurzeme Hall
Sustainable self-regulation and
professional standards

15:30-16:00    Refreshments break

16:00-17:30    Parallel Session 4
Venue: Riga Hall
What Can Journalists Do About Hate Speech?

Parallel Session 5
Venue: Vidzeme Hall
Media and information literacy –
what solutions can it offer?

Parallel Session 6
Venue: Kurzeme Hall
Internet Intermediaries’ Roles in
Fostering Freedom of Expression

17:30-18:00    Refreshments break
Introductory meeting of the President with the VIP guests
in a separate room (by invitation)

18:00-19:00    UNESCO/Guillermo Cano World Press Freedom Prize Ceremony
Venue: Imanta Ziedona Hall, National Library (live streaming; with Presidency’s official photographer)

19:15-20:30    Reception hosted by the President of Latvia
Venue: Railway Museum

Monday, 4 May 2015

9:00-10:00    Joint Session Special Rapporteurs
Venue: Imanta Ziedona Hall, National Library

10:00-10:30    Refreshments break

10:30-12:00    Plenary 2: Gender and Media
Venue: Imanta Ziedona Hall, National Library (with live streaming)

12:00-14:00    Lunch (Sponsored by TBC)

14:00-15:30    Parallel Session 7
Venue: Riga Hall
Under Fire: Challenges for Journalists
and Editors in the World’s Hotspots

Parallel Session 8
Venue: Vidzeme Hall
Women’s Portrayal in the Media –
making more progress

Parallel Session 9
Venue: Kurzeme Hall
Innovative Business Models and
Commercial Influence

15:30-16:00    Refreshments break

16:00-17:30    Plenary 3: Digital safety for journalists
Venue: Imanta Ziedona Hall, National Library (with live streaming)

17:30-18:00    Closing Session: Adoption of the Riga Declaration & Handover to WPFD 2016 Host
Venue: Imanta Ziedona Hall, National Library (live streaming)
Let Journalism Thrive!

Towards Better Reporting, Gender Equality, & Media Safety in the Digital Age

(Full Programme)

Saturday, 2 May 2015

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<td>Introduction: Ms Baiba Braže, Ambassador, Head of the Security Policy and International Organizations Directorate, Latvia</td>
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<td>Welcome Remarks: Ms Irina Bokova, Director-General, UNESCO  Mr Edgars Rinkēvičs, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Latvia  Mr Dace Melbārde, Minister of Culture of the Republic of Latvia</td>
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<td>Keynote Speaker: Mr Zeid Ra’ad Zeid al-Hussein, UN High Commissioner for Human Rights (tbc)</td>
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<td>Special Presentation: Commemorative World Press Freedom Day Stamp to Irina Bokova</td>
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<td>Group photo session (with Presidency’s official photographer)  Venue: Lobby of the National Library</td>
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Independent and Quality Media

Description: Quality journalism can be an abstract concept to grasp as there is no universal set of criteria of quality journalism. Often, it is dependent on socio-political and cultural characteristics and constraints. The changing influence of commercialization and concentration of ownership also impacts on the independence and quality of journalism. Numbers of awards, audience share, the resources available for newsroom, audience responses and participation, and industry’s perception can all be part of the indicators of quality. Independence of the newsroom is also a crucial indicator: from editors being able to set the agenda to the individual reporter’s ability to seek out news story. The quality issue is further complicated by the proliferation of social media producers of news. What is clear is that investigative journalism, in particular, relies on the qualities of accurate, in-depth and critical reporting on matters of special public concern, work which often requires long and difficult research. What can be done to strengthen investigative journalism? Is there any way to strengthen professional reporting, and its role in burgeoning information environments? What can be done to raise standards amongst individuals who use new platforms from text-based micro-blogging to video reporting using video sharing networks?

Facilitator: Mr Guy Berger, Director of Freedom of Expression and Media Development, UNESCO

Speakers:
Ms Cilla Benko, Director-General, Swedish Radio, Sweden
Mr David Kaye, UN Special Rapporteur on the Promotion & Protection of the Right to Freedom of Opinion & Expression
Ms Maria Teresa Ronderos, Director, Programme on Independent Journalism, Open Society Foundation
Ms Inga Springe, Founder and Journalist, Re:Baltica, the Baltic Center for Investigative Journalism, Latvia
Mr Paul Steiger, Founding Editor-in-Chief & CEO, ProPublica
Ms Yuli Ismartono, Deputy Editor-in-Chief, Tempo, Indonesia (tbc)
Ongoing development of technology and convergence of modern media environments have led to significant changes in the media ecosystem. At the same time the most important questions on media regulation have to be asked. How do we regulate? How to protect the exercise of press freedom online from prior restraint or licence, i.e. "permissionless publishing"? Further, as described in UNESCO’s World Trends in Freedom of Expression and Media Development (2014), there is increasing filtering and blocking of online news content; how do journalists and journalism schools deal with such restrictions that impact the production and distribution of online news?

Facilitator: Ms Anna Staevska, Director for Media Development and Regulation, Albany’s Associate

Speakers: 
Ms Galina Arapova, Director, Mass Media Defence Center, Russia
Ms Marta Cerava, Chief Editor, Ism.lv, Latvia
Mr Edison Lanza, OAS Special Rapporteur on Freedom of Expression
Mr Larry Kliman, Secretary General, WAN-IFRA
Mr Edet Ojo, Executive Director, Media Rights Agenda, Nigeria

Organizer: International Women Media Foundation (IWMF)

In the media industry, despite improvements, women remain marginalized and experience a so-called 'glass ceiling', preventing them from attaining and occupying key positions. The 2011 Global Report on the Status of Women in the News Media, a 59-nation study of women’s employment, found that women represented only 27% of the top management positions. This is an improvement from a previous study in 1995 which found, on average, women made up only 12% of the top management positions in 239 countries. This lack of professional mobility differs from region to region but the overall exclusion of women from decision-making levels preserves the status quo, including low-levels of gender-sensitive reporting in news content. However, gender equality has begun to be recognized in and by a number of media regulatory bodies, and within some public service as well as private media structures.

Facilitator: Ms Nadine Hoffman, Deputy Director, International Women’s Media Foundation, USA

Speakers: 
Ms Marie-Catherine Beuth, Founder of News on Demand, France
Ms Inga Gorbunova, Journalist, Latvia
Ms Juanita Leon, Founder & Director, La Silla Vacia, Colombia
Ms Maria Ressa, Founder & CEO, Rappler, Philippines
Ms Wadia Samadi, Policy Administration Manager, Wadsam.com, Afghanistan

Organizer: International Federation of Journalists (IFJ) & European Federation of Journalists (EFJ)

Media regulation, re - regulation and de - regulation have become popular buzz words that only partly express the complexity of the unique media regulation problems within different countries and various media systems. Ongoing development of technology and convergence of modern media environments have led to significant changes in the media ecosystem. At the same time the most important questions on media regulation – What to regulate? How to regulate? – have to be answered with the aim to conceptualize how the media regulatory concepts and techniques are being refined and reformed. Studies have found that governments and politicians continue to have too much influence
who owns, operates and regulates the media and that many media markets continue to exist with monopolistic practices, corruption, or untransparent practices. Self-regulation can provide a defence for the integrity of journalism, but it is uneven. In addition, it exists today in juxtaposition to systems operated by internet intermediary companies which do not come from a freedom of expression background. Can the two systems learn anything from each other, and how can standards be raised that will protect and promote journalism at the same time as providing accountable redress to persons concerned with apparent violations of their rights?

Facilitator: Mr Jim Boumelha, President, International Federation of Journalists

Speakers:
Mr Mogens Blicher Bjerregrad, President of the European Federation of Journalists and Danish Union of Journalists, Denmark
Mr Younes Mjahed, President, Moroccan Syndicate of Journalists, Morocco
Ms Dominique Pradalié, Deputy General Secretary of the Syndicat national des journalistes français, France
Ms Anda Rožukalne, Chairman of the Latvian Association of Journalists & Head of Communication Studies Department, Riga Stradins University, Latvia
Mr Nimok Leksono, Representative of Press Council of Indonesia

15:30-16:00 Refreshments break
Venue: In front of Imanta Ziedoņa Hall

16:00-17:30 Parallel Session 4
What Can Journalists Do About Hate?
Venue: Riga Hall

Organizer: Ethical Journalism Network
Description: The shocking events in Paris in January 2015 have highlighted the crisis facing journalists worldwide, both as victims of hatred and intolerance and as communicators in the frontline of a struggle to protect press freedom. There is increasing manipulation of social media and even some news media to divide communities by defining people into “us” and “them” groups, and even by inciting violence against the “other”. In many places, laws are in place, but sometimes they simply don’t work or end up being used to deny legitimate speech. In this situation do we need yet more controls on the Internet? Can educational and journalistic strategies be more effective than law in combating hatred and preserving editorial independence and media pluralism? How can journalists and others in the public information space identify and isolate hateful communications, while giving voice to all sides in a conflict? What can journalists do to promote debate about, the differences between expression that may offend, and expression which constitutes hate speech? One answer may be to encourage all communicators to be more ethical and to give perspective, context and humanity in their work. Another answer may be to encourage media partnerships with and coverage of civil society initiatives to counter hatred online and, at the same time, for journalists to actively support media and information literacy programmes at all levels of society.

Facilitator: Mr Aidan White, Director of the Ethical Journalism Network

Speakers:
Mr Chris Elliott, The Guardian’s Readers’ Editor, UK
Mr Artūrs Kučs, Docent at University of Latvia
Mr Hamid Mir, Senior Journalist, GEO TV, Pakistan
Ms Dunja Mijatović, OSCE Representative of the Media Freedom
Ms Rachel Nakitare, the President of the International Association of Women in Radio and Television (IAWRT)

Parallel Session 5
Venue: Vidzeme Hall
Media and Information Literacy – What Solutions Can It Offer?

Organizer: Doha Centre for Media Freedom
Description: Rather than look solely to governments to protect Internet users from harm, there is a complementary approach of preparing these users to take care of themselves and make their own judgments. Many current challenges of the information society call for enhanced literacy that can empower users of digital communications. Such users need to know their rights online, and how to be ethically-reflective in their digital engagements. How to recognise online rumour, and how to find and identify verified news content are additional skills needed for the digital era. How to self-protect against viruses on the one hand, and on the other, how to combat online hate speech, cyberbullying and digital defamation, are other capacities needed. What needs to be done to get the composite package of Media and Information Literacy skills into the education system? How can media itself promote MIL? What are the specific MIL competencies that every journalist practitioner should develop?
World Press Freedom Day 2015

Facilitator:

Speakers:
Ms Ulla Carlsson, Professor and Chair of NORDICOM, University of Gothenburg in Sweden
Mr Keval J Kumar, Adjunct Professor, Mudra Institute of Communications Ahmedabad (MICA), India (tbc)
Mr Guillermo Orozco, Universidad de Guadalajara, Mexico
Ms Vita Zečē, Latvia, Professor, Department of Communication Studies, Faculty of Social Sciences, University of Latvia
Representative from Doha Centre for Media Freedom (tbc)

Parallel Session 6
Venue: Kurzeme Hall
Internet Intermediaries' Roles in Fostering Freedom of Expression

Organizer: Article 19
Description: Internet intermediaries, including internet service providers (ISPs), search engines, and social networking platforms, are services that mediate online communication and enable various forms of online expression – both foster and restrict freedom of expression across a range of jurisdictions, circumstances, technologies, and business models. These actors can enable freedom of expression in historically unprecedented ways. According to the UN Guiding Principles for Business and Human Rights, states have the primary duty to protect human rights, businesses have a responsibility to respect human rights, and both must play a role in providing remedy to those whose rights have been violated. UNESCO recently published the report on Role of Internet Intermediaries which explored the questions on how the rise of Internet Intermediaries impacts freedom of expression through analysis of empirical data. What are the challenges and opportunities for different types of intermediaries to respect online freedom of expression? How useful are the so-called ‘transparency reports’ issued by Internet intermediaries? Are international and national laws and media policy adequately addressing the phenomenon? What happens when intermediaries compromise press freedom by blocking news media content or by failing to protect the privacy of journalists and their sources?

Facilitator: Ms Barbora Bukovska, Senior Director for Law and Policy, Article 19
Speakers:
Mr Allon Bar, Ranking Digital Rights (tbc)
Mr Jānis Kārkliņš, UN Secretary General’s designated Chair of Multistakeholder Advisory Group (MAG)
Mr Michael Murungi, Policy and Government Relations, Google East Africa (tbc)
Ms Karmen Turk, Lawyer on Intellectual Property, Estonia (tbc)

17:30-18:00 Refreshment break
Introductory meeting of the President with the VIP guests in a separate room (by invitation only)

18:00-19:00 UNESCO/Guillermo Cano World Press Freedom Prize Ceremony (to be followed by a short meet-the-press with the Laureate)
Venue: Imanta Ziedoņa Hall, National Library (live streaming; with Presidency’s official photographer)

19:15-20:30 Reception hosted the President Mr Andris Bērziņš of Latvia @19:30 President’s toast
[to honour Latvia’s Independence Restoration Day, the Guillermo Cano WPF Prize Laureate 2015, the freedom of the press, UNESCO]
Venue: Railway Museum

Monday, 4 May 2015

9:00-10:00 Joint Session of Special Rapporteurs
Organizer: Article 19
Mr David Kaye, UN Special Rapporteur on the Promotion & Protection of the Right to Freedom of Opinion & Expression
Mr Edison Lanza, OAS Special Rapporteur on Freedom of Expression
Ms Dunja Mijatović, OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media
Ms Pansy Tlakula, Special Rapporteur African Commission on Human & People's Rights

10:00-10:30 Refreshments break
Venue: In front of Imanta Ziedoņa Hall

10:30-12:00 Plenary 2:
Venue: Imanta Ziedoņa Hall, National Library (with live streaming)
Gender and Media
(With Special Focus on the 20th Anniversary of the Beijing Declaration and the Platform for Action)
The Platform for Action includes two explicit goals which are to “increase the participation and access of women to expression and decision-making in and through the media and new technologies of communication” and to “promote a balanced and non-stereotyped portrayal of women in the media”. Twenty years on, obstacles are still present in today’s media industry, ranging from imbalanced access to information and under-representation of women in decision-making positions in the media, to insufficient media coverage of gender issues, stereotypical and over-sexualized presentation, cyber-bullying and outright violence against female journalists. What achievements have been made and which challenges lie still ahead?

Facilitator: Ms Sue Turton, Presenter and Correspondent, Al Jazeera Media Network (tbc)

Speakers:
Ms Jeanne Bourgault, President and CEO of Internews
Ms Maria Moukrim, Editor-in-Chief, Al-Ayyam, Morocco (tbc)
Ms Amie Joof, Executive Director of FAMEDEV- the Inter-Africa Network for Women, Media, Gender and Development (tbc)
Ms Lakshmi Puri, Deputy Executive Director & Assistant Secretary General, UN Women (tbc)
Ms Vaira Viķe-Freiberga, President of the Club de Madrid & Former President of the Republic of Latvia (1999-2007), Latvia
Ms Yuri Aono, Senior Editor, Mainichi News, Japan (tbc)

14:00-15:30
Parallel Session 7
Venue: Riga Hall
Under Fire: Challenges for Journalists and Editors in the World's Hotspots

Organizer: International Media Support (IMS)
Description: The work of journalists often puts them at specific risk of intimidation, harassment and violence. Some suffer kidnapping, torture, abduction, and arbitrary detention. These risks become particularly visible when a journalist is killed in a highly publicized manner such as the beheading of James Foley, Steven Sotloff and Kenji Goto in armed conflict situations and hotspots. When the danger is posed by non-State actors such as terrorist groups and criminal organizations, ensuring the safety of journalists becomes even harder. What are the challenges for journalists and editors reporting from such hostile and dangerous environments, and what more can be done to assist them under the UN Plan of Action on the Safety of Journalists and the Issue of Impunity? How can the new International Day to End Impunity for Crimes Against Journalists (2 November) serve to help secure justice for journalists?

Facilitator: Ms Biljana Tatomir, Deputy Executive Director, International Media Support (IMS)

Speakers and Respondents:
Mr Ahmad Khader Abu Tawahina, Psychologist, Gaza Community Mental Health Programme, Palestine
Mr Owais Aslam Ali, Secretary General, Pakistan Press Foundation (PPF), Pakistan
Mr Dlovan Barwari, Coordinator, Network of Lawyers for Freedom of Expression, Iraq
Ms Emma Beals, Freelance Journalists & Coordinator, Frontline Freelance Register
Ms Mariisol Cano Busquets, Director, Cano Foundation, Colombia (tbc)
Ms Eva Flomo, Radio Producer, United Nations Mission in Liberia-UNMIL, Liberia
Mr Peter Greste, Journalist, Al Jazeera Media Network, Australia (tbc)
Mr Sandijs Semjonovs Journalist, Latvia
Mr Najib Sharifi, Director of Afghan Journalist Safety Committee, Afghanistan

Parallel Session 8
Venue: Vidzeme Hall
Women's Portrayal in the Media

Organizer: UN WOMEN
Description: The Beijing Platform for Action pointed to the need to correct the stereotypical and often degrading depiction of women in media and instead realistically present women’s diversity and contribution to society. Change has since happened, yet progress has been too slow. The 2010 Global Media Monitoring Project found that only a quarter of people seen or heard in the news were women; only 13 percent of news stories focused on women. In the entertainment media, the 2014 first-ever global study on female characters in film commissioned by the Geena Davis Institute on Gender in Media revealed that women are twice as likely as men to be portrayed in an overly sexualized manner. The emergence of new online media has posed new challenges. The Platform for Action called for codes of conduct on reporting by the industry, gender-sensitive training for journalists as well as enhanced research and monitoring. Twenty years on, what are best practices and examples of what has worked in this regard? What is needed to accelerate progress?
Facilitator: Ms Nanette Braun, Chief of Communications and Advocacy, UN Women

Speakers:
Mr Samir Barhoum, Editor-in-Chief, Jordan Times; Beijing+20 Media Compact Partner, Jordan
Ms Iluta Lāce, Director of MARTA Resource Centre for Women, Latvia
Ms Lisa Kassenar, Editor at large for global women’s coverage, Bloomberg News, USA (tbc)
Ms Hannah Storm, International News Safety Institute, currently undertaking research for UN Women, UK

Parallel Session 9
Venue: Kurzeme Hall
Innovative Business Models and Commercial Influence

Organizer:
Description: News media are businesses but they are not like other businesses. They have a societal role of providing independent and credible news so that citizens can make informed decision in democratic society. Commercial enterprises, while not perfect, remain the most common model for independent news creation and delivery. But these business models are under severe challenge in the digital age. With increased pressure on media business models, commercialisation intensifies and leads some media into chasing audiences and advertisers at the expense of editorial ethics and integrity. In some cases, the lack of transparency of ownership and/or editorial policy makes it difficult to know whether media is truly independent. Can these trends be countered, and can news media businesses innovate in ways that reinforce professional standards? When media concentration is broken up through regulation, what checks can be introduced to prevent politicised reallocation such as of broadcast licences? Is transparency of media ownership appropriate to every situation?

Facilitator: Mr Pauls Raudseps, Political Commentator, Weekly Magazine IR, Latvia

Speakers:
Mr Marten Blankensteijn, CEO, Blendle, Netherlands (tbc)
Mr Eric Chinje, CEO of the African Media Initiative
Mr Ides Debruyne, Managing Director, Journalismfund.eu, Belgium
Ms Fatemah Farag, Director, Welad El Balad, Egypt
Mr Eliot Higgins, Founder of the Brown Moses Blog & Bellingcat, UK
Ms Nellija Ločmele, Editor-in-Chief, weekly magazine IR, Latvia

15:30-16:00 Refreshment break
16:00-17:30 Plenary 3
Venue: Imanta Ziedoņa Hall, National Library (with live streaming)
Digital Safety for Journalists

Description: With ever more sophisticated surveillance mechanisms, anonymity of sources could be a thing of the past. Is it possible to keep journalists’ sources confidential in the digital age? Can journalism move forward without anonymity of sources? What are the consequences of public trust for journalists? Are established limitations of surveillance, indicated in UN General Assembly resolutions, sufficient to address the boundaries between the right to privacy, especially with regard to sources, and authorities’ justifications to surveillance? Journalists and others who contribute to journalism also face a myriad of other digital security challenges, including software and hardware exploits without the knowledge of the target; phishing attacks; fake domain attacks; man-in-the-middle (MitM) attacks; denial of service (DoS) attacks; website defacement; compromised user accounts; intimidation, harassment and forced exposure of online networks; disinfection and smear campaigns; confiscation of journalistic work product, and data storage and mining. What can be done to better safeguard digital privacy and the security of digital data?

Facilitator: Ms Ilze Jaunalksne, Journalist & Anchor, weekly investigative TV programme “Nekā Personīga”, Latvia

Speakers:
Ms Maryam Al-Khawaja, Co-Director, Gulf Center for Human Rights
Ms Nushabe Fatullayeva, Stockholm School of Economics (Riga) Centre for Media Studies, Latvia
Mr Peter Noorlander, Media Legal Defence, UK
Mr Stavros Lambrinidis, European Union Special Representative for Human Rights
Ms Fleur Pellerin, Minister of Culture and Communication, France (tbc)
Mr Wairagala Wakabi, Journalists & Researcher, CIPESA, Uganda

17:30-18:00 Closing session: Adoption of the Riga Declaration and Handover to WPFD 2016 Host
Venue: Imanta Ziedoņa Hall, National Library (live streaming)