

RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED AT THE IFJ CONGRESS

Tunis, 11-14 June 2019

SAFETY OF JOURNALISTS

1. Convention on the Safety of Journalists

Presented by the IFJ Executive Committee

The World Congress of the International Federation of Journalists, meeting in Tunis from 11th to 14th June 2019,

Recalling that 2018 has been a deadly year for journalists even in democratic countries where press freedom has been seen as an essential part of civil society, in particular, a Slovak journalist and his fiancée were shot dead in their home, a gunman stormed a Maryland newsroom in a targeted attack on the staff, a writer walked into the Saudi Consulate in Turkey – and never walked out; ninety-four journalists have been killed around the world as a result of their work;

Thanking all individuals and unions who worked to establish a new binding international instrument dedicated to the safety of journalists, the International Convention on the Safety and Independence of Journalists and Other Media Professionals;

Noting the massive effort undertaken by the Secretariat, the Administrative Committee and several IFJ affiliates to organise meetings of representatives from UN missions, culminating in a meeting at the United Nations last October to present the Convention and initiate a discussion on a road map which would help get it through the structures of the United Nations;

Welcoming the building of a coalition in support of the Convention which currently includes the European Broadcasting Union (EBU), the World Association of Newspapers (WAN-IFRA), and UNI, the global media workers federation, and soon to join the European Magazine Media Association (ENPA-EMMA), the Association of Commercial Television in Europe (ACTe) and the Association Mondiale des Radiodiffuseurs Communautaires Europe (AMARC);

Congress reconfirms the basic tenets of the Convention, namely:

- To introduce binding norms establishing safeguards for media workers specifically;
- To fill loopholes in humanitarian law, in particular the so-called ‘dual-purpose objectives’, ‘collateral damage’ which are not clearly defined and the risk of miscategorising the act of reporting as dissemination of information to the hostile party, war propaganda or espionage;
- To take into account the risks associated with the journalistic profession against the background of a continuing vulnerability of journalists as a category targeted on account of their profession.

Congress reaffirms that any new instrument should include specific enforcement mechanisms and provide a codification of all applicable rules in one instrument, bringing together both human rights and humanitarian law provisions.

Congress recognises that UN missions and partners may have different views on priorities but mandates the Administrative Committee to seek to keep core minimum fundamentals such as the

obligation to protect journalists against attacks on their lives, arbitrary arrest, violence and intimidation campaigns; the obligation to protect against forced disappearances and kidnapping, the obligation to carry out effective investigations into alleged interferences and bring the perpetrators to justice, and in the context of armed conflict, the obligation to treat media workers as civilians as well as their facilities and to conduct military operations with due diligence.

Congress urges all its affiliates worldwide to commit themselves and their members to this cause.

2. To promote the Convention to Protect Journalists by strengthening our regular communication on the murders of journalists.

Proposed by the Federación de Sindicatos de Periodistas (FeSP) and the Federación de Asociaciones de Periodistas de España (FAPE)

The World Congress of the International Federation of Journalists (IFJ), meeting in Tunis from 11th to 14th June 2019,

Assuming that the proposal for the adoption of a Convention to Protect Journalists and Media Professionals at the UN is a very important objective for the IFJ and all its affiliated organisations;

Believing that all our unions and associations are aware that more and more States and countries need to be involved in this objective;

Considering that the IFJ's Annual List of murdered journalists and media professionals is usually more accurate and comprehensive than those made by some NGOs defending freedom of the press, expression and information;

Noting that these NGOs often have a greater media impact, despite the fact that they are lighter in drawing up the list and that they are concluded too early before the end of each annual period;

- 1) **Approves** sending a specific quarterly communication on this subject to the media and our affiliates to multiply the impact of the IFJ's work in this field;
- 2) **Confirms** the publication of its annual report (*killed list*) in the month of December but brings forward the usual date of communication to the media by three weeks. The objective will be to anticipate other international organizations, which obtain the absurd benefit of having a greater impact simply because they do it in advance (*this communication, which will always be carried out with the month of December already started, does not exclude that the final figure will be established after December 31 of each year);
- 3) **Approves** coordinating and relaunching this specific type of periodic communication so that IFJ affiliates can send requests to their respective governments to support the Convention to Protect Journalists.

3. Safety of journalists and media workers in Latin America-Caribbean

Proposed by the Federación de Periodistas de América Latina y el Caribe (FEPALC)

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Considering:

- that a third of the journalists and media workers murdered in 2018 in the world were killed in Latin America-Caribbean, a region where no conventional war is being waged but which has countries like Mexico where more colleagues are killed than in Syria, Iraq or Afghanistan;
- that Latin American & Caribbean countries have an impunity rate of about 98% with less than 10% of those responsible for crimes against journalists and other media workers are brought to justice;
- that in addition to murders, kidnappings, disappearances, increased threats of imprisonment were added during 2018 due to the application of voracious laws that criminalize defamation in several countries of the continent and due to attacks on the professional secrecy of journalists as well as repeated practices of cyber-bullying against women journalists;

that despite a wide range of protocols, guidelines and proposals, journalists continue to face threats on a daily basis, increasing the need for IFJ to promote a specific instrument to overcome the weaknesses that persist in the international legal system.

Urges:

1. Affiliated unions to pledge their States' support to the International Convention on the Safety and Independence of Journalists and other media workers;
2. The IFJ Executive Committee to sustain the campaign against impunity and secure funding through projects to organise safety training for journalists and other media workers, implement self-protection protocols and establish a methodology for monitoring and recording aggressions to manage a unified global database;
3. The General Secretariat and Deputy General Secretariat to lobby United Nations agencies - as a priority UNESCO and the International Labour Organisation (ILO) - so that IFJ affiliates are involved in all initiatives to ensure the safety of journalists (regional or national political meetings), training and missions;
4. The IFJ Human Rights Officer to maintain an active presence in spaces such as the European Union, the UPR and the UN Report on Freedom of Expression by making the IFJ's position heard in the light of reports submitted by States.

4. Stop Attacks against Journalists in Palestine

Proposed by the Palestinian Journalists' Syndicate (PJS)

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Strongly *condemning* the killing by the Israeli Security forces of the Palestinian journalist Yasser Murtade on 5 April 2018, the first Day of the Return mobilisation on the Gaza border, the wounding of 13 journalists, and on 13 April the shooting of journalist Ahmed Abu Hussain who later died in hospital while they were all journalists wearing clear press identifications;

Deploring similar killing by army snipers on these days and following weeks of scores of unarmed Palestinian demonstrators and the wounding of more than one thousand more;

Thanking the IFJ Secretariat for protesting these killings and many sister unions who joined in demonstrations and solidarity work stoppages in some Arab countries;

Applauding the IFJ Executive Committee for its courageous stand at the Qalandia checkpoint in Ramallah in support of its Palestinians members' right to freedom of movement and for recognition of the IFJ press card and *reminding* that the peaceful assembly was brutally attacked by the Israeli army with tear gas;

Condemning settler violence which has risen by 175% since 2016 according to a UN report documenting these attacks, some against journalists, and *recalling* that according to the Israeli human rights organisation Yesh Din, only 21, or 11.4%, of the 185 investigations opened between 2014 and 2017 reached a final stage; according to international law, settlers' presence in the Palestinian territories occupied in 1967 is considered as a war crime;

Noting the strengthening of the PJS efforts in monitoring and reporting the spike in attacks against Palestinian journalists at the hand of the Israeli army, in particular since the declaration by US president Trump on Jerusalem in December 2017;

Commending the work of the union's Freedom Committee which documented 838 violations against Palestinian journalists in the West Bank and Gaza Strip since the beginning of 2018 with attacks against female journalists accounting for 13% of total violations and *being aware* that of these, 121 journalists were wounded, over 142 journalists were prevented from doing their jobs while the Israeli army raided 22 media institutions and destroyed their equipment;

Acclaiming the efforts of the PJS in taking the plight of its members to the European Parliament in Brussels and the Human Rights Council in Geneva;

- 1) **Notes** the pledge made by Michael Lynk, the Special Rapporteur on the Situation in Human Rights in the Palestinian Territories occupied since 1967, to produce a report on attacks against journalists for the Human Rights Council and urges the IFJ Secretariat to support his effort;
- 2) **Joins** its affiliate, the PJS, in calling on the Israeli authorities to stop these attacks against journalists and recognise the IFJ press card as a bona fide accreditation of journalists;
- 3) **Calls on** the IFJ Secretariat:
 - a) To continue to support the PJS campaign to defend its members, in particular by taking their case to international institutions;
 - b) To help seek legal remedies to these attacks in international and legal courts, and urge sister unions to help in this effort to identify the best legal options in terms of cost and efficiency;
 - c) To lodge jointly with the PJS a formal complaint at the ILO against the Israel Defense Force while calling on other IFJ unions to join in such action in whatever way possible.

5. Freedom of press must be allowed in the Palestinian Territories

Proposed by the Syndicat national des journalistes (France) and by FSC CC-OO (Spain)

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Noting that the repression of the occupying forces against the freedom to inform and be informed in the Palestinian territories and about the Palestinian territories from outside has increased considerably in 2018;

Deploring the fact that the Israeli army targeted and killed two Palestinian journalists and wounded many others who were well reported as press representatives, without investigations having established the responsibilities for these crimes;

Noting that obstacles of all kinds, including "administrative detention" in the exercise of their profession have multiplied in recent months;

Experiencing the extent of press freedom violations perpetrated by the Israeli authorities in Ramallah when the armed forces of the Israel fired gases, without warning, against members of the IFJ Executive Committee marching peacefully towards the Qalandia Checkpoint on 17th November 2018;

Condemns this harassment worthy of the most shameful regimes, gives its full support to Palestinian journalists, the Palestinian Journalist Syndicate and its President injured during the march and calls on its affiliates to protest to the Israeli embassies in their countries to stop these practices.

***6. Protection of Journalists in Africa**

Proposed by the Federation of African Journalists (FAJ)

The World Congress of the International Federation of Journalists, meeting in Tunis from 11th to 14th June 2019,

Expressing deep concerns about the many-sided attacks against journalists in Africa by State and Non-State actors; and *calling upon* the African governments as duty bearers to end oppressive attacks on journalists and to respect their constitutional and international human rights obligations including the African Charter on Human and People's Rights which guarantees the right to free expression and media freedom;

Believing that, despite constitutional protections for freedoms of opinion and expression and for media freedom, journalists in several African countries such as Eritrea, Egypt, Burundi, Cameroon, DRC, Uganda, Nigeria, Somalia, Mozambique, Angola, Zimbabwe and Tanzania continue to face severe government repression, including the threat of arbitrary arrest and illegal detention, fabricated charges and systematic deprivation of their rights, including the right to due process and freedom of movement, and *having in mind* that many are held under the country's repressive laws, and some have been sentenced and condemned in absentia or even forced into exile;

- 1) **Calls on** the African Union (AU) and Regional Economic Communities in Africa (RECs) to develop and implement a more effective system to address impunity in violent attacks and murders of journalists around the continent;
- 2) **Backs** the calls from the Federation of African Journalists (FAJ) to the governments of Africa to cease forthwith hostilities against African journalists and free all journalists detained in the continent for their media work including Aljazeera journalist Mohamud Hussein, who is detained incommunicado in Egypt without any trial, and to uphold national legal guarantees of

media freedom, free expression, and their commitment under their international human rights obligations and the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights;

- 3) **Urges** the African Commission on Human and People's Rights (ACHPR) and the UN Human Rights Council (HRC) to demand that governments of Africa end persecution of journalists, and to implore national authorities to allow a solidarity visit from IFJ and FAJ to persecuted journalists;
- 4) **Urges** African governments to carry out drastic reforms of their current counter-terror/security/criminal laws and other legal provisions that undermine journalists' ability to report freely, and to ensure that journalists can cover issues of public interest without fear of arbitrary detention and other reprisals from State institutions.

***7. Against Impunity in Somalia**

Proposed by the National Union of Somali Journalists (NUSOJ)

The World Congress of the International Federation of Journalists, meeting in Tunis from 11th to 14th June 2019,

Noting with deep concern the alarming increase in the deadly and hurtful violence against journalists and other media workers in recent years in Somalia;

Disappointed by the lack of progress made by the authorities of this country in solving the killings of journalists and other media workers perpetrated by government and armed non-State forces;

Endorsing the condemnations made by the international trade unions, ITUC, European Parliament and the ILO on violations of freedoms of expression and association by the Somali government and other oppressive forces;

Considering the problems of impunity and the lack of respect for the Somali journalists' rights to life, free expression, freedom of association and exercising legitimate union rights;

- 1) **Demands** that the Somali government speeds up setting up independent investigations into the whereabouts of the physical and intellectual authors of these killings and other attacks on Somali journalists by severely punishing the guilty parties, in accordance with the criminal justice system;
- 2) **Equally demands** full guarantees for the freedom of expression in Somalia, recognition and promotion of the right to freedom of association Somali journalists, an end to violence against journalists and an end to impunity for crimes committed against journalists and trade unionists;
- 3) **Condemns** the clear pattern to stigmatise, defame and de-legitimise Somali journalists, in direct retaliation for their human rights activities and legitimate union engagements.

8. Sexual assaults against sports journalists

Proposed by the Union syndicale des journalistes - CFDT (France)

The World Congress of the International Federation of Journalists, meeting in Tunis from 11th to 14th June 2019,

Noting that physical violence against women journalists is increasing even after the outbreak of the #MeToo phenomenon as management increasingly uses female staff to cover sports events;

Stressing that the perpetrators of such violence and touching of women journalists are rarely identified, prosecuted and punished, while these professionals work in public, very often in crowded places;

Noting that during the 2018 Football World Cup in Russia, several women, working for television in particular (TV Globo, correspondent for the international channel Deutsche Welle, France 24), were victims of direct sexual assault (inappropriate gestures, forced kisses);

Noting that these assaults are personal attacks on a very large scale;

Observing that the identified aggressors publicly attack their victims without fear of judicial reprisals;

Deploring that this indifference and the overall climate of tolerance towards these attacks feeds the feeling of impunity of their perpetrators, even if rare sanctions are taken such as the exclusion from the French tennis team of a player who had tried to kiss a French journalist several times during the French Open, Roland-Garros Tournament, in May 2017;

Noting that in Brazil, some 50 sports journalists have launched a campaign on social networks against the prevailing machismo #DeixaElaTrabalhar ("Laissez-la travailler !", in French) and that in France, more than 400 French women journalists have launched the movement #NousToutes to denounce sexism and sexual violence in the media, professional and wage inequality between women and men journalists ;

- 1) **Calls on** sports federations all over the world to launch prevention campaigns to strongly and publicly condemn attacks against journalists, especially when they are women;
- 2) **Encourages** all governments, through the relevant ministries, to take action to denounce violence against women in the exercise of their profession as journalists;
- 3) **Calls on** all trade unions worldwide to think about how to better protect women journalists with a view to taking action to achieve this.

***9. Murder of Journalist Dafne Caruana Galizia**

Proposed by the Federazione Nazionale della Stampa Italiana (FNSI)

The World Congress of the International Federation of Journalists, meeting in Tunis from 11th to 14th June 2019,

Whereas in the last six years more than 600 journalists have been killed worldwide, that in nine cases out of 10, the authors of these crimes remain unpunished and that in 2018, according to the IFJ, 94 journalists and media staff have been killed, a bigger number than in 2017;

Observing that media staff also die in countries that are not in a war zone and that more and more reporters pay with their lives, all over the world, just for doing their job of investigation to unmask crime and corruption;

Recalling that, on 16th October 2017, the Maltese reporter Daphne Caruana Galizia, a journalist and blogger well known beyond Malta for her commitment to expose corruption, was killed by a car bomb near Valletta after she repeatedly informed the Authorities of the threats received because of her inquiries;

Considering the efforts, including demonstrations in Italy and in Malta, by the Federazione Nazionale della Stampa Italiana urging repeatedly the Italian and the international authorities to take action to ensure that justice is done;

Noting that, one year later, there is as yet no progress in the investigation and no suspect being named;

- 1) **Welcomes** the FNSI's call to international institutions that an independent commission of inquiry should be set to uncover what happened to Daphne Caruana Galizia, and finally to get to the truth about her murder;
- 2) **Calls on** the Maltese authorities to give assurances that it will redouble its effort to bring the perpetrators to justice; and urges trade unions of journalists all over the world to join this campaign in order to keep the memory of the killed colleague in the public eye, and ask national governments and supranational institutions to make every effort to find the truth about her murder.

***10. Murder of Journalist Syed Saleem Shahzad**

Proposed by the Federazione Nazionale della Stampa Italiana (FNSI)

The World Congress of the International Federation of Journalists, meeting in Tunis from 11th to 14th June 2019,

Whereas in the last six years more than 600 journalists have been killed worldwide, that in nine cases out of 10, the authors of these crimes remain unpunished and that in 2018, according to IFJ, 94 journalists and media staff have been killed, a bigger number than in 2017;

Recalling that on 29th May 2011, the Pakistani journalist Syed Saleem Shahzad was kidnapped in Islamabad after the publication of his article on a terrorist attack against a naval base and immediately after the publication of his book on Al-Qaeda and the Taliban, in which he referred to links between the Pakistani navy officers and Al-Qaeda, his body was found two days later, on 31st May 2011, in a canal at about 150 kilometres from Islamabad;

Observing that Shahzad, correspondent of Aki-AdnKronos International and other Italian media, was tortured and killed because of his investigative work in Pakistan, a country considered the second most dangerous in the world for journalists after Mexico;

Considering that the National Federation of the Italian Press has joined the campaign promoted by the Italian news agency AdnKronos, together with Shahzad's wife, to remember his achievements, to bring his story back into the spotlight and to ask an end of the impunity on his murder;

Reaffirming that, even after an investigation conducted by the American Intelligence and seven years after the murder, no one knows who was responsible for the crime, if anyone has been brought to justice;

- 1) **Welcomes** the FNSI's call to international institutions to urge the Pakistani Authorities to get finally to the truth and ensure that justice is done in Syed Saleem Shahzad's murder; and

- 2) **Urges** trade unions of journalists all over the world to join the campaign to seek justice for the killed colleague, by asking national governments and supranational institutions to solve the murder.

Safety Fund

11. IFJ Safety Fund and strengthening of national organisations

Proposed by the Federación de Periodistas de América Latina y el Caribe (FEPALC)

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Considering:

- that IFJ unions believe that the role of the Safety Fund in providing humanitarian and legal assistance to journalists and media workers around the world is essential;
- that we are committed to strengthening the solidarity of journalists and media workers who are in dangerous situations or who are persecuted, harassed, attacked in their personal or working integrity, whether or not they belong to unions affiliated to IFJ, without any marginalisation;
- that the most effective filter for ascertaining the level of risk of journalists benefiting from the Fund is the national union that is able to attest to the need for assistance to the journalist or media worker;
- that the IFJ's global solidarity action should be aimed at strengthening its national unions;

Urges IFJ General Secretary, Deputy General Secretary and Administrative Committee to ensure that all requests for assistance to the Safety Fund are sponsored by the affiliated national unions.

ATTACKS ON MEDIA AND PRESS FREEDOMS

13. Freedom to inform is increasingly threatened in the world

Proposed by the Syndicat national des journalistes (SNJ), the Syndicat national des journalistes-CGT (SNJ-CGT) and the Union syndicale des journalistes - CFDT (France)

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Concerned about the increase in violations of freedom of expression, which is reflected in a growing deterioration in the conditions in which many journalists around the world can inform;

Noting that many governments anxious of preserving the political system of which they are the zealous guardians and that leaders of press groups eager to ensure the sustainability of an economic

system that allows them to prosper in their business and increase their dividends have shown boundless imagination in regulating information, that has been confiscated and subject to their interests;

Noting, moreover, that social networks, whose prospects for democratization of information are far from responding to these prospects, and instead are colonised by GAFAM as well as various pressure groups, and have become the largest source of fake news to the detriment of the work of journalists who verify and prioritise their information;

Noting that under the pretext of fighting Islamist and radical movements or opponents, many States have enacted freedom of expression laws that restrict the freedom of journalists to carry out their mission of informing citizens (in France, the Information Laws, the law against fake news etc., in Europe the Directive on business secrets);

Noting, however, that never before has the need for quality, reliable and verified information been so essential to citizens as unveiled by the success of international groups of journalists exposing scandals;

Deploring the rise of ultra-nationalist ideologies (Brazil, Turkey, Poland, Hungary, Italy, Slovakia, Austria, United States, etc.) and the strengthening of many already authoritarian regimes (Saudi Arabia, Ukraine, Russia, Belarus, China, Syria, Israel, Burma, Sudan, etc.) resulting in overall human rights violations and clearly limiting the investigative work of journalists, the murder in Europe of four journalists in 2018, and the continuing arrests in Turkey, making it the largest prison for journalists in the world, where 180 journalists are imprisoned, *deploring further* the practice of torture in many countries, the most tragic of which was the 2018 torture of the Saudi journalist Khashoggi murdered at the Saudi consulate in Turkey, *further deploring* the continuing tensions in conflict and crisis areas, such as the Israeli government's ban on the freedom of movement of Palestinian journalists, etc. or the detention of journalists in the case of the crisis between Ukraine and Russia, not to mention the attacks on journalists by fascist-like movements such as in Italy;

Denouncing the attacks and diatribes against journalists from leaders of major powers, the most emblematic of which are those of the US President Donald Trump, but also those from Hungary's Viktor Orbán, Brazil's Bolsonaro and Turkey's "Sultan" Erdogan, who never tires of pointing the finger at Turkish and Kurdish journalists critical of his regime;

Denouncing the growing danger of links between corrupt powers and mafias, which tends to weigh on the freedom to inform by physically attacking journalists investigating cases (even murdering them, as in Slovakia, Malta, Mexico, etc.);

- 1) **Requests** that the Executive Committee set up a "watchdog committee" to identify as soon as possible all violations of the freedom of information and freedom of expression and to organise the appropriate trade union response and international solidarity;
- 2) Also **suggests** that the UN, UNESCO, ILO, EU, UN Human Rights Committee and all other international bodies be called upon to report these facts and place in the dock those responsible for these restrictions on the freedom of information.

14. Campaign to demand and inform citizens about the need for publicly owned media for a real information democracy

Proposed by the Federación de Sindicatos de Periodistas, FeSP (España)

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Bearing in mind:

- That in recent times the neoliberal discourse of denying the need for publicly owned media, including public information agencies, has grown steadily, regardless of their territorial scope: state, regional or local;
- The sustained presence of this discourse in the far-right parties, which are gaining space in the parliaments of different European and South American countries;
- That this discourse is justifying the cuts in the competitive capacity of these media, with the consequent negative consequences:
 - a) Disinformation of citizens
 - b) Reduction of staffing levels
 - c) Encouraging the concentration of private medias to the detriment of a plurality of information;
- That a large part of the population lacks sufficient information to interpret this discourse and, as a result, this population is vulnerable to demagogic arguments that seek to confront investment in public media with the guarantee of other human rights as if they were mutually exclusive;

Is requested to assume the commitment:

- To promote a campaign aimed at raising awareness among the citizens of the different countries of our unions about the importance of public media;
- To provide our unions with convincing arguments to develop their affiliations and to outreach teachers and students;
- To generate audio-visual material in the same sense;
- To promote that our unions organize meetings with citizen and consumer associations on these same issues, and that they put forward legislative proposals aimed at guaranteeing the financial survival of these media, regardless of the political composition of the respective parliaments;
- To draw up and publish an analytical comparative study of the real independence of public media from political powers;
- To ask international bodies and institutions (United Nations, European Union...) to get involved in the defence of the public media and to urge governments to promote the legislative reforms that are necessary to guarantee the future of the public media, with a professional and independent management of the respective governments and political parties.

***15. Erosion of pluralism and quality information**

Proposed by the Federazione Nazionale della Stampa Italiana (FNSI)

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Expressing concern about the process of disinformation and about the attack on the intermediate bodies of the society under way all over the world, thanks to the abuse of web and social networks;

Sharing the alarm of the Federazione Nazionale della Stampa Italiana National Federation concerning the attempts, all over the world and in particular in Italy, to marginalise the role of information, favouring the direct relationship between those who rule and citizens, a tendency which is expressed

throughout the world by attacks of and threats on journalists and media, in order to reduce the confidence of citizens in the journalistic work, and to erode public support to the press, which affects pluralism of information;

Believing that the closure of newspapers and news media impoverishes democracy and increases precarious work;

Noting the effort of FNSI, engaged in a strong battle against the Italian government to stop its attempt to weaken information, and to oppose the war against pluralism which could only result in impoverishing democracies and democratic systems as the quality of democracy is directly proportionate to the quality of information and as less informed citizens are citizens unable to participate consciously in the democratic life;

Calls on IFJ to consider setting up a working group which, with the support of EFJ, shall state our concern to all international institutions, i.e. UN, UNESCO, the European Union, and build a campaign to safeguard freedom of expression, pluralism of information and work of journalists, and to promote the adoption of relevant conventions.

16. The crisis of democracy in Latin American and Caribbean countries

Proposed by the Federación de Periodistas de América Latina y el Caribe (FEPALC)

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Bearing in mind:

- That Latin America and the Caribbean are regions that are particularly vulnerable to international interests or to national interest of corrupt elites, where in the still recent past, these interests manifested themselves in attacks on democratic states based on justifications for fighting an imminently threatening supposed communism and that the tactic put into practice by the combination of these interests was military intervention and the implantation of puppet governments that reproduced the central wills;
- That today, the world capitalist crisis once again reserves a secondary but relevant role for the region on the international stage, that in order to correct the advance of popular governments and the configuration of a new international scenario, with the alliance of countries of the region and emerging economies out of line with the international establishment, new strategies and applied tactics are discussed;
- That instead of the classic coups of the 1960s perpetrated by the elites supported by the new military trained in the US, the agents are now others, although the motivation is the same: to guarantee US hegemony in the region;
- That if the so-called Cold War produced coups d'état with the often-declared presence of the USA and the taking of the National State as the final objective of the coup, today the corporations play the historical role of the sailors aimed at destroying and neutralising the national states;

- That the tactic has already been used successfully in several countries, such as Honduras, Paraguay, and Brazil where the latest successful result of what was called a "Hybrid War" was shown, while Argentina and Chile remained intermediate results of the application of this procedure; that instead of the military, the judiciary is used and the Lawfare, which comes from the ideology against communism (the discourse is still used to reinforce the justification), the press and the fight against corruption are used; that this hegemonic project does not accept the possibility of independent governments fulfilling their destinies based on the autonomy of the peoples and defying central interests;
- That once again, journalists are between the realization of this anti-grass roots project and the real needs of populations and regions; that intimidation and threats, aggressions and finally assassinations have been the tonic of the State or parastatal behaviour of the regional governments of the aligned elites.
 - 1) **Denounces** the concentration of media ownership, which inhibits good journalism, degrades the working conditions of professionals and compromises democracy;
 - 2) **Warns against** the existence of authoritarian and illegitimate governments that use the press to legitimize their exploitation of local populations and denounces the growing violence against media professionals based on organized crime and its penetration into the state levels of countries;
 - 3) Finally, **calls on** journalists around the world to denounce the establishment of neo-fascist governments supported by racist and exclusive neo-Pentecostal beliefs and practices of violence, intimidation and murder and states that democracy in the region depends on strong, independent and critical journalism.

17. Attack on democracy and the trade union rights in Brazil

Proposed by the Federação Nacional de los Periodistas Jornalistas, FENAJ (Brasil)

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Recalling that:

- The whole world has accompanied with apprehension the political events in Brazil, since the coup of 2016 that took out of the government President Dilma Rousseff, legitimately elected in 2014 and against whom nothing irregular was proved;
- Since that period, an unprecedented alliance between parliament, the judicial system and the economic power of the large national and international groups, with the unconditional support of the majority of the major media, began the process of destroying the social and union rights hard-won by the people, in addition to the death attacks on the sovereignty of the country, with the growing wave of privatization of our wealth - such as oil - and of our state-of-the-art technology, such as the aeronautical and naval industries, and its delivery to large companies and international corporations;
- On 1st January, the country was governed by a new government that has two representatives of the right-wing military as president and vice-president and that, already in the first measures

taken and announced, brought back the nightmare of fascism and the persecution of social movements, human rights and, mainly, freedom of the press, thought and expression, including the threats of total dismantling of public communication in Brazil;

- The many cases of aggressions against journalists during the electoral campaign and President Bolsonaro's indifference to the attacks reinforcing what his political trajectory had already shown: the far-right politician is averse to criticism and does not admit to being publicly questioned, even when the issues refer to his performance as a public man;
- Although the new presidents have committed themselves to abide by the Brazilian Constitution, authoritarian ideas, such as the defence of the military dictatorship, and even criminal ideas, such as the apology for torture, are public knowledge whereas we know that, under international law, the practice of torture is an imprescriptible crime;
- Since the announcement of the electoral victory, on the very day of the inauguration and in the coverage of the first days of activity, the government has already demonstrated how it will deal with the press and journalists: it subjected and subjects professionals to degrading situations in terms of working conditions and demonstrates censorship and direct interference in the right of access to information of public interest;
- The new measures announced, such as the reform of social security, the extinction of the protection of labour and union rights, the privatization of natural wealth, the extinction of the rights of Indians and descendants of slaves, the destruction of the Amazon and of Brazil's rich and unparalleled biodiversity, demonstrate that this government is an enemy of the rights of the Brazilian working population, which will demand from the Brazilian organized labour and social movement an organizational capacity and international solidarity for democratic resistance to the new state of emergency that has been installed in Brazil;

Urges the delegates present at the IFJ World Congress in Tunis, representing journalists' unions from all the continents to consider:

- a) That the existence of a democratic environment and freedom of the press and expression are fundamental to respect for human rights;
- b) That the existence of free, independent and sovereign unions in the relationship with their members will be an essential part in the organisation of the democratic resistance struggle against fascist attacks in Brazil, next to the social movement;
- c) That journalism and journalists are fundamental for democracy and the constitution of citizenship, the guarantee of individual and collective rights, of human, labour and social rights, and the guarantee of the Democratic Rule of Law;

Proposes to the International Federation of Journalists (IFJ):

- 1) To study the possibility of building, with the support of regional networks, an observatory for a systematic denunciation of attacks on the sovereignty and guarantees of the rights of Brazilian journalists with international bodies;
- 2) To deepen the international solidarity network, and strengthen the campaigns and projects that can support, develop and guarantee the strength of Brazilian journalists' unions in this new period of coming resistance.

In defence of democracy and national sovereignty!

In defence of freedom of speech and freedom of the press!

In defence of democracy and national sovereignty!
In defence of freedom of speech and freedom of the press!

18. Turkey's Press Freedom Crisis

Proposed by DİSK Basın İş (Turkey)

The World Congress of the International Federation of Journalists, meeting in Tunis from 11th - 14th June 2019,

Noting with alarm that, since the bloody coup attempt in July 2016, the pace of the crackdown by the Erdogan's government on Turkish journalists continues with unrelenting jailing of journalists, shutting down TV and radio stations and censoring the Internet – as of January 2018, 161 media workers have been jailed in Turkey, many of them waiting to be imprisoned and countless of them being on trial;

Further noting that employers have taken advantage of the government's hostility against journalists to lower wages, fire workers and attack journalists' unions, a process which has worsened since the presidential elections of June 2018;

Considering that the biggest mainstream media group, Turkey -Doğan Media Group, was forced to be sold to a pro-government businessman, including its TV stations, newspapers, the biggest distribution network, and the last independent news agency, that this was followed by a change in the political line and that a vicious purge against journalists and other media workers started, that the daily newspaper Vatan and news departments in the TV stations (starting with Kanal D) were closed and hundreds of journalists were fired or forced to resign;

Deploring that at Cumhuriyet, directors, journalists and lawyers have been imprisoned for 1.5 year (November 2016-April 2018) by a government-directed judicial procedure which forced the newspaper to change its executive body, which in turn forced dozens of journalists including Akın Atalay, Murat Sabuncu, Kadri Gürsel, Musa Kart, Aydın Engin, Güray Öz and Faruk Eren the President of DİSK Basın İş and many members of this union to leave their jobs;

Condemning the jailing by an appeal court on December of 2018 of five more journalists at Ozgur Gundem, including Ayşe Düzkan, a member of the board of DİSK Basın İş, to a total of nine years and nine months;

Aware that the sharpening economic crisis of Turkey has a marked impact on media with skyrocketing paper prices, that the dramatic decrease in the value of the Turkish lira was taken as a pretext by employers to close down local and national newspapers, magazines and sacking journalists without any payment, as well as to lower the wages and cut down the working conditions, to attack the labour and trade union rights of journalists to the extent that State-owned news agency Anadolu Agency and daily newspaper Sözcü, the biggest opposition newspaper, started forcing their employees to resign from their unions, that with a 7.2 % unionisation rate, our journalists' sector is now one of the most vulnerable sector of workers in Turkey;

Convinced that the Turkish government will continue and even increase its attacks against media organisations and journalists, while employers will take advantage of the situation to lower the wages, to undermine the working conditions and to fire journalists who defend their rights;

Instructs IFJ to redouble its support for Turkish journalists, in particular:

- 1) To help strengthen the monitoring work on violations of press freedom in Turkey (closure of media outlets, trials and/or imprisonment of journalists, allegations of torture) and ensure these violations are documented and publicised;
- 2) To help strengthen the monitoring work on violations of the labour law and trade-union rights of Turkish journalists and ensure that these violations are documented and publicised;
- 3) To mobilise member unions, the wider labour movement and civil rights groups to keep the pressure on Turkish authorities by protesting harassment against press and media, raising individual cases and urging government officials to act, take up these cases and speak out against torture and other forms of pressure;
- 4) To work with the ETUC and ITUC in involving the global labour movement in activities in solidarity with Turkish journalists, including producing briefings on ongoing trials, lobbying politicians, and visits to Turkish embassies to protest important court cases.

19. Freedom of expression in Turkey

Proposed by the Syndicat national des journalistes (SNJ) and the Union syndicale des journalistes - CFDT (France)

The World Congress of the International Federation of Journalists, meeting in Tunis from 11th - 14th June 2019,

Noting, with regret, that freedom of information and expression continues to decline in Turkey, with, in particular, the conviction on 8th January by a court in Istanbul of a young colleague Pelin Ünker, member of the International Consortium of Investigative Journalists (ICIJ), to 13 months and 15 days in prison and a fine of 1370 euros for insults and calumnies against an official representative following an article published in 2017 in the Cumhuriyet, denouncing the implication of Binali Yıldırım, former Turkish Prime Minister and his two sons in a case linked to the revelations of the "Paradise papers" (she appealed);

Considering that she has been a model of courage for all the professionals and that she joined those incarcerated for honestly carrying out their mission to inform their fellow citizens;

Recalling that Turkey is the largest prison in the world for journalists;

Calls on all its affiliates to continue to show strong solidarity with Turkish journalists and to provide them with all possible assistance.

20. In Defence of Media Freedom in Poland

Proposed by the Association of Journalists of the Republic of Poland (SDRP) and the Society of Journalists (TD)

The World Congress of the International Federation of Journalists, meeting in Tunis from 11th - 14th June 2019,

Noting that press freedom in Poland has been under constant attack since the election of the present Polish government in the autumn of 2015, which has sought and continues to seek to eliminate critical voices from the print and electronic media and to establish a media regime, which would solely support official policies;

Observing that the independence of the judiciary is essential if media freedom is to be secured and therefore;

Recognising the Polish legal profession's principled struggle in defence of the rule of law against the government's drive to bring the judiciary under its control; and the crucial contribution to the defence of the rule of law in Poland made by the European Commission as well as the Court of Justice of the European Union in Luxembourg;

Further noting that foreign investors in the Polish media from the United States, Germany and Switzerland are playing an important role in promoting the freedom of the media thanks to their publications in Poland, while many of the domestically owned commercial media maintain a critical stance towards the government in the public interest at the risk of their own profits;

Aware that the most dramatic example of the government policy till now has been the takeover of the public service media (PSM) in 2016, which brazenly flouts media laws guaranteeing balanced reporting and ignores media ethical codes which, in turn, demand the same balanced reporting to journalists employed by the PSM;

Deeply concerned that efforts are continuing to bring the privately-owned media under control through the following methods:

- a) by cutting off the flow of advertising from State-owned companies to critical commercial media and placing these advertisements with media which support official policies;
- b) by putting pressure on private media owners to tone down criticism of State policies, while offering inducements designed to support their business interests in other fields, if they do so;
- c) by attacking foreign owned media and threatening with policies, which would force them to cut their investments in Poland;
- d) by pursuing plans to have pro-government media outlets purchase privately-owned media through soft loans provided by State-controlled banks;
- e) by using court orders and the government-controlled prosecution service to censor any critical content in the private media and thus achieve a 'chilling effect' on media coverage of inappropriate acts by government officials and institutions;

- 1) **Expresses** its solidarity with those who are working to resist pressure on media freedom in Poland and in countries, such as Hungary;
- 2) **Thanks** IFJ for what it has done till now to defend the independent media in Poland, the Council of Europe Platform for the Protection of Journalism and the Safety of Journalists as well as the EFJ which co-organised the Free European Media Conference on 15th and 16th February 2018 in Gdansk; it further supports efforts by the IFJ to establish a United Nations Convention for the protection of journalists;
- 3) **Urges** IFJ to continue to support the independent media in Poland and to work with media freedom organisations in Poland and abroad, the EU institutions and Member States as well as the Council of Europe and its institutions, to defend the rule of law and media freedom in Poland.

21. Against any restrictions on the use of the Internet and social networks

Proposed by the Union des Journalistes Tchadiens (UJT)

The World Congress of the International Federation of Journalists, meeting in Tunis from 11th - 14th June 2019,

Considering the essential role of the Internet and social networks in terms of communication and information in the world in general and in Chad, Democratic Republic of Congo, Congo, Cameroon and Gabon in particular;

Regretting the restrictions imposed by authorities on the use of the Internet and social networks in in these countries, thus violating the fundamental principles of individual and collective freedoms of the people in these countries;

Aware of the use by a minority part of the population of social networks in order to stir up community hatred and even violence;

- 1) **Calls on** socio-political actors to raise public awareness and make rational use of these means of communication, which must be a source of unity and social cohesion;
- 2) **Demands** the immediate lifting of any technical or extra-legal restrictions imposed by the authorities on users who have difficulty circumventing this restriction by paying a high price to keep in touch with the outside world.

22. Tackling Surveillance

Proposed by the National Union of Journalists, UK and Ireland

The World Congress of the International Federation of Journalists, meeting in Tunis from 11th - 14th June 2019,

Noting the United Nations Human Rights Council resolution, adopted in September 2016, that, “in the digital age, encryption and anonymity tools have become vital for many journalists to exercise freely their work and their enjoyment of human rights, in particular their rights to freedom of expression and to privacy, including to secure their communications and to protect the confidentiality of their sources,” and that the same resolution called on Member States “not to interfere with the use of such technologies, with any restrictions thereon complying with States’ obligations under international human rights law.”

Further noting that, despite the UNHRC resolution, countries around the world have in recent years adopted (or found new ways to utilise) legislation that allows the surveillance of journalists’ data with insufficient safeguards to protect the confidentiality of sources, including the UK’s Investigatory Powers Act (2016), and a draft of legislation and proposed new laws in Australia;

Observing that a legal challenge to the UK’s Investigatory Powers Act succeeded, requiring the Government to amend the legislation, the action being crowdfunded to the tune of £50,000 with more than 200,000 signing a petition opposing the legislation;

Believing that it is critical to build support internationally for the principle that all journalistic material (which includes documents, metadata, messages and communications of all kinds) must have special protection if journalists are to fulfil their necessary role in democratic societies;

Thanking the members of the IFJ's Surveillance of Journalists Expert Group for their work in keeping these issues high on our list of concerns;

Calls on the incoming Executive Committee:

- 1) To do more to raise awareness of and build a culture to resist the surveillance of journalists among journalists themselves;
- 2) To promote both technological and organisational approaches to avoiding surveillance;
- 3) To create shareable anti-surveillance tools that can be used by affiliates to prepare their members;
- 4) To mobilise IFJ affiliates to get organised to begin dismantling the veil of secrecy around the use of intercept powers to get access to journalistic material and put pressure on the authorities to explain how and why they're being surveilled;
- 5) To build campaigns that capitalise on the demonstrable public disquiet with surveillance legislation;
- 6) To reach out to lawyers, barristers, the medical profession, social workers, accountants and all other professions that rely on professional confidentiality, in order to build a strong and coordinated global movement to rein in the unchecked surveillance powers that governments have misused over citizens;
- 7) To seek resources in partnership with civil liberties organisations, open rights groups and investigative journalism organisations to organise a world conference to take stock of how surveillance is evolving worldwide and agree new strategies.

23. Against the confiscation of journalists' working materials and for their right to maintain the secrecy of their sources of information

Proposed by the Federación de Asociaciones de Periodistas de España (FAPE)

The World Congress of the International Federation of Journalists, meeting in Tunis from 11th - 14th June 2019,

Recalling the serious case of the requisition (by court order) of mobile phones, computers and various documents of two Spanish journalists, which took place on 11th December 2018 in the city of Palma de Mallorca;

Recalling also that this requisition, carried out by the police by judicial order, was aimed at finding out the origin of various leaks related to corruption in that city;

Considering that the controversial judicial decision provoked the protest of FAPE and of journalists' unions and organizations in Spain;

Recalling also the collective protest of journalists in several cities in Spain against the clear violation of professional secrecy and the confidentiality that must exist between journalists and their sources;

Considering, moreover, that exposing information sources puts them in the spotlight of judges and prosecutors;

Considering that such steps only benefit those who try to conceal the corruption investigated by journalists;

Recalling that in Spain the professional secrecy of journalists is a right enshrined in its Constitution, but also an ethical and moral duty of information professionals (always obliged to maintain the confidentiality of their sources);

Stressing that in Spain and other countries corruption cases often cannot be discovered without the investigation of journalists;

Believing that denouncing corruption contributes to countering abuses of power and represents a service to citizens and that *reporting and denouncing* these abuses and corruption is not possible without the protection of journalists' sources;

Calls on the Spanish authorities to protect and confirm in practical and enforceable terms the right to professional secrecy of journalists, clearly established in the Spanish Constitution. Without the protection of this essential right of journalists, there is no truly free and democratic journalism.

24. Professional secrecy of journalists

Proposed by the Union syndicale des journalistes - CFDT (France)

The World Congress of the International Federation of Journalists, meeting in Tunis from 11th - 14th June 2019,

Noting that the professional secrecy of journalists is not respected, or even violated, by or under instructions from the public authorities, namely that such practices occur on all continents, including Europe, particularly in Spain as illustrated by the following case: at the end of December 2018 in the Balearic Islands, police seized the computers and telephones of two journalists to identify the informant(s) and searched the premises of a daily newspaper and a news agency;

Noting that the profession, together with the Spanish trade unions, has protested, in particular to affirm that: "*Our professional secrecy is your right to information*" and that this claim can be taken up everywhere by journalists;

Observing, however, that Article 20 of the Spanish Constitution guarantees the professional secrecy of journalists;

Noting that journalists in turn react in court to these breaches of professional secrecy, faced with business secrecy or State secrecy as revealed by the example of the Frenchman Édouard Perrin, who summoned the audit firm WaterhouseCoopers (PwC) for misusing the legal procedure on the protection of the confidentiality of journalists' sources in the Luxleaks case;

- 1) **Denounces** slip-ups and breaches of professional secrecy in order to muzzle information;
- 2) **Expresses** its solidarity with journalists whose right to the protection of sources is violated;
- 3) **Condemns** violations of journalists' professional secrecy, in defiance of the rules and texts in force, such as the European Convention on Human Rights;

- 4) **Defends** the right to professional secrecy for all journalists, as the protection of sources is one of the conditions for free and pluralistic information.

***25. Press Freedom under Grave Threat in India**

Proposed by the Indian Journalists' Union (IJU)

The World Congress of the International Federation of Journalists, meeting in Tunis from 11th - 14th June 2019,

Believing that press freedom in the world's largest democracy, India, is facing grave threats by the present right-wing government, including by way of:

- browbeating media houses, owned largely by corporations, to tow its line;
- crippling the trade union movement by diluting labour laws and allow the contract system of employment which undeniably impacts independence of the press and major layoffs in the media industry;
- undermining media institutions such as the Press Council of India and the Central Press Accreditation Committee by seeking to keep out media trade unions' and organisations' representatives on it;
- delaying the implementation of Wage Board Awards for journalists and setting up a fresh Wage Board;
- leaving unresponded the long-pending demand for a special law for safety of journalists, given that the number of journalists being killed is unprecedented;
- misusing the National Security Act against journalists, particularly in the North-eastern part of the country, impacting the right to free speech and expression;
- introducing sections in its IT law to allow government agencies to intercept, monitor and decrypt information transmitted by or stored in any computer to muzzle dissent;

Calls on the IFJ Executive Committee to join the effort by its affiliates in India to protect the rights of journalists and press freedom and support their ongoing campaigns against the government's manoeuvres.

Media Reforms

26. Media Reforms in the Arab world

Proposed by the Syndicat national de la presse marocaine (SNPM)

The World Congress of the International Federation of Journalists, meeting in Tunis from 11th - 14th June 2019,

Deploring that, despite a huge effort by the IFJ during the last three years to lobby Arab governments, only a third have signed up to the Declaration on Media Freedom in the Arab World, the first comprehensive statement on media freedom rights in the Arab World;

Thanking IFJ affiliates in Palestine, Tunisia, Morocco, Jordan and Sudan that have so far succeeded in getting their government to adopt the Declaration, paving the way for the introduction of mechanisms

in the Arab World to promote media freedom and independent journalism, as well as legislation in line with international standards;

Reiterating the IFJ's call, since the so-called Arab Spring, to its affiliates in the region to campaign for media reforms that ensure freedom of journalistic work, the right to access information and protection of sources, the abolition of prison sentences and detention, as well as ending the suspension of publications, setting limits for fines for press offences, and abolishing of all forms of pre-censorship;

Welcoming that in some countries like in Morocco, its affiliate the Syndicat National de la Presse Marocaine (SNPM) has led the media community in an inclusive dialogue establishing self-regulation structures for journalism capable of dealing with the complex media environment and complaint against the media;

Noting that such a campaign to set up independent self-regulation structures have succeeded in getting the SNPM candidate elected by all the journalists in Morocco to lead the national press council, which is a major first victory for all Arab journalists as this was achieved despite a strong campaign orchestrated by some employers against the union, in which the State-owned official news agency Maghreb Agence Presse played a leading role;

Instructs the Executive Committee to:

- 1) Re-energise the campaign for the Declaration by focusing the effort in particular on governments that have yet to sign;
- 2) Keep the reform of media laws as one of the priorities for the work of the IFJ in the region, including a programme of more targeted workshops, seminars and projects;
- 3) Give support to the SNPM during the launch period of the National Press Council and ensure that the lessons learnt from this process are shared throughout the region.

27. Media Reforms in Palestine

Proposed by the Palestinian Journalists' Syndicate (PJS)

The World Congress of the International Federation of Journalists, meeting in Tunis from 11th - 14th June 2019,

Recalling that Palestinian leader Mahmoud Abbas was the first Arab leader to sign in August 2016 the IFJ's Declaration on Media Freedom in the Arab world, a clear commitment to the principles of media freedom, independent journalism and the right to information;

Noting with concern that since this signing ceremony, several engagements made by the Palestine Authority to enact radical reforms of the legal environment to enable press and media to do their job have yet to be fulfilled;

Observing that as a minimum, such legislation should include laws that guarantee protection of sources and the right to access information and safeguard the right to make this information available to the public, while self-regulation structures should remain financially and politically fully independent;

- 1) **Calls on** the Palestine Authority to initiate forthwith a dialogue with the union representing journalists, publishers and media owners, as well as civil society

organisations to consult on the introduction of such legislation in line with international standards;

- 2) **Further instructs** the Executive Committee to support its affiliate, the PJS, in media literacy and education programme on self-regulation and the culture of accountability.

COUNTERING MISINFORMATION AND CYBERATTACKS

28. Combating Disinformation and “Fake News”

Proposed by the Russian Union of Journalists

The World Congress of the International Federation of Journalists, meeting in Tunis from 11th - 14th June 2019,

Noting the flurry by regional and international institutions, groups of experts, including academics and journalists, media, online platforms as well as civil society and fact-checking organizations, to advise on policy initiatives to counter disinformation and “fake news” spread online;

Considering that the first analyses in their report found that dis- and misinformation is a phenomenon well beyond the term “fake news” and has spread worldwide with the development of digital media, through the manipulative use of communication infrastructures for economic gains or for political or ideological goals;

Understanding the growing power of platforms as enablers and gatekeepers of information, and the role of digital media giants in enabling the circulation of various forms of disinformation on a global scale through an opaque ecosystem;

Deeply concerned that the growing wave and ever-increasing quality of AI-generated forgeries and manipulations and the strong forecasts of the scale, speed, and accuracy at which they will be distributed in the coming years;

Instructs the IFJ Executive Committee to:

- 1) Get involved whenever possible in consultations within these expert groups and give attention to their reports, analyses and recommendations;
- 2) Collaborate with media stakeholders in their response to disinformation and distribute to IFJ affiliates relevant aspects of their research in particular their multi-dimensional approach insisting on transparency, promoting media and information literacy and developing adequate tools to empower journalists and citizens to tackle disinformation;
- 3) Campaign to ensure that algorithm-driven business groups like Facebook and Google’s YouTube are called on to end the secrecy over the way they work and ensure transparency.

30. Ethical Challenges of Online News Sites

Proposed by the Syndicat national de la presse marocaine (SNPM)

The World Congress of the International Federation of Journalists, meeting in Tunis from 11th - 14th June 2019,

Observing the proliferation of web news sites in Morocco and the rest of the Arab world which have mushroomed since the impact of the Internet, a phenomenon which has started throwing a challenging light on the struggle for ethical journalism;

Further noting that while the plethora of dot-com journalism has the potential to introduce new voices and develop a dynamic for pluralism and a new information space, it is raising questions as to whether this is really a substitute for dedicated journalism of quality produced by well-trained reporters and editors working full time?

Welcoming the efforts of the affiliate in Morocco, SNPM, to recruit and organise journalists working in this new sector and engage them in discussions about ethics and media performance, on how to create conditions for quality content, and encourage them to commit themselves to transparent, accessible and honest accountability;

Observing some of the complex debates about the need for new legislation to protect privacy, decency, authors' rights and democratic standards and ensure that these bloggers and journalists respect ethical values and responsibility;

- 1) **Reaffirms** its belief of the effectiveness of self-regulation and, in particular, the value of voluntary mechanisms over the law; in many cases, government regulation of journalism ends up becoming self-serving, leading to forms of censorship and undue interference, even if its intentions are good at the outset;
- 2) **Calls on** the IFJ secretariat to organise and develop discussions and a plan of action among its affiliates affected by these challenges on the basic principles of self-regulation, how to establish dialogue and connections with civil society to restore public trust, and how to help develop a culture of accountability and promote a framework for setting standards.

31. Campaign against Cyber-bullying

Proposed by the Palestinian Journalists' Syndicate (PJS)

The World Congress of the International Federation of Journalists, meeting in Tunis from 11th - 14th June 2019,

Noting the academic survey "Violent Network" published last November by the Arab Centre for the Advancement of Social media which lifted the veil on gender-based violence on the Internet, particularly on social media, in Palestine;

Concerned by the statistics showing Palestinian women and girls exposed to various types of gender-based violence on social media, which according to Palestinian police, cited in the report, listed 1020 cybercrimes in 2015, and 922 in 2014 in the governorate of Hebron alone, and in the first quarter of 2017, 850 cases were reported in the West Bank;

Believing that cyber-bullying has seen a marked increase worldwide making the safety of women journalists a major issue in today's digital era while many IFJ unions have campaigned to ensure that online sexual harassment and intimidation be considered a criminal offence, to be dealt with accordingly and have issued guidelines to assist their members who have received such online abuse;

Welcoming the work done by UNESCO such as at the UN Commission on the Status of Women to draw attention to the numerous ways in which women journalists can be placed in vulnerable setting, leaving them open to harassment, intimidation and violence;

Equally welcoming the recommendations of the IFJ gender conference last year in Santander which singled out orchestrated trolling as one of the gender-based violence to be tackled and laws reinforced to deal with it;

Reiterates the call made by the Santander conference to strengthen the campaign against cyber-bullying and **instructs** the IFJ Executive Committee to:

- 1) Support its member unions in pushing back the tide of misogynistic-layered attacks against women journalists which are not only grave enough when online, but which can also become fatal;
- 2) Help raise awareness about the kinds of threats women journalists encounter, online and offline, so that society could recognise such violations of rights and understand why these also put everyone's right to information and democracy at stake;
- 3) Organise the sharing of best practices such as the NUJ UK's guidelines and relevant handbooks and legislation to allow member unions to train and specifically prepare their women journalists to confront the increase in threats targeting them;
- 4) Make representation to Facebook which must accept its role as a news publisher and take responsibility for the problem.

32. Motion on the role of the IFJ in combating cyber-bullying against journalists and on the reinforcement of training programmes on cybersecurity

Proposed by FSC-CC.OO.

The generalization of the use of new technologies as well as the extension of the digital infrastructures and of citizens' access and interconnection to the network has led to the proliferation throughout the world of the use of social networks as a means of widespreading aspects ranging from private life to politics, passing through any fact - proven or not - that the owner of the social network considers newsworthy or 'worthy' to share.

This generalization is generating new situations of attack on information professionals whom, with current technology, any individual - identified or not - can defame, insult, verbally assault or threaten, even with death, with little or no legal cost, since in most of these situations, these individuals remain unidentified, erase their profiles after the attack and become very difficult to track, due to a lack of resources to do so.

These attacks, of the so-called 'trolls', are expanding for gender reasons, as we were astonished by the attack on the general secretary of the Union of Journalists of Paraguay, including the threat of death, or as we witness any day at any time when any of our comrades defend the principles that are enshrined in the statutes of the IFJ.

To try to alleviate the situation of lack of protection faced by members of unions belonging to this International Federation,

the 30th IFJ Congress, meeting in Tunis from 11th to 14th June 2019,

Urges the IFJ AdCom and ExCom:

- 1) To put in place a shock plan to protect IFJ members from such 'cyberattacks' that seek to damage the public and professional image of the informant or intimidate him or her to stop doing the work in which he or she is involved:
 - (i) training measures for members of IFJ member unions, with particular attention to gender-based harassment in networks;
 - (ii) a campaign to call for regulation and protection, without limiting press freedom, to prevent these attacks on the performance of the journalistic profession in the States in which we are represented;
 - (iii) a communication campaign in which it is clearly explained that it is a 'troll' and how to act in the face of such an attack and in which all individuals identified or not - who carry out attacks in this sense are publicly denounced.

WORKING PROGRAMME

GENDER EQUALITY

33. Support #MeToo Movement in the Media

Proposed by the Indian Journalists' Union (IJU)

The World Congress of the International Federation of Journalists, meeting in Tunis from 11th - 14th June 2019,

Acknowledging that:

- the #MeToo movement has encouraged some women journalists to share their stories of sexual harassment by their superiors and interviewees and so on in the media world;
- it has been an uphill task to get justice as these women do not get peer support and instead face the threat of losing their jobs or being denied promotions or getting re-employed;
- many still do not recognize the various forms of 'sexual harassment';
- legislations have shortcomings;
- the movement gets attention in elite, urban and national media, leaving a big gap in regional or vernacular press

Calls on the IFJ Gender Council to:

- 1) Encourage affiliates to support the courageous women who have come out and have spoken about their horrifying incidents;
- 2) Build specific campaigns/modules to help women journalists recognise what amounts to sexual harassment;
- 3) Impress upon governments to enact legislations against sexual harassment at work place;
- 4) Take any other measure as found appropriate.

34 & 35. Equal Pay and the Gender Pay Gap

Proposed by the National Union of Journalists, UK and Ireland

The World Congress of the International Federation of Journalists, meeting in Tunis from 11th to 14th June 2019,

Noting that, despite advancements of women in the labour market across many countries, women earn on average substantially less than men with the gender gap standing on average at 23 per cent, having barely changed on the aggregate level over the last 15 years, that in the world, women only make 77 cents for every dollar earned by men and that as a result, face a lifetime of income inequality and poverty in retirement;

Welcoming the work of affiliates in many countries to expose and take collective action to address pay inequality and welcoming victories achieved by campaigning unions;

Believing that closing the gender pay gap requires a package of measures, central to which is decent work;

Further noting that the OECD in their reports has documented pay inequity and unfair recruitment practices across the world, and the UN estimates that, at current trends, gender differences in pay will not close until 2069, that such a slow reduction in the gender pay gap is unacceptable and therefore requires the accelerated adoption of proactive measures, that in Latin America, although the pay gap has shrunk by 12 percent since 1990, women still earn a quarter less than men in this region ; in Japan as well as in South Korea, women earn on average more than 30 % less than men; and in Azerbaijan and Benin, the gap is even higher than 40 % for the same amount of time worked;

Recollecting the work of the NUJ UK, following the publication of the BBC's top earners in 2017, in lodging 180 individual cases which led to an increasing number of cases being taken up across the media industry and propelled pay inequity on the national political agenda;

Recognising that one of the most effective and quickest ways to narrow gender pay gaps is through minimum living and universal social protection, including paid maternity leave, child care and other social and health care support, insurance against lost earnings due to sickness or occupational injuries and adequate pensions in retirement and that such protections are extended to all workers including freelancers;

Asserting that trade unions, freedom of association and collective bargaining are central to addressing the gender pay gap;

Believing that it is essential that journalists' trade unions take the lead in addressing this crucial issue;

Calls on the Executive Committee to work with the Gender Council to:

- 1) Develop a Federation-wide campaign to include model pay surveys, a good practice guide, model agreements and to develop campaigns, training and awareness-raising initiatives to make combating unequal pay a core part of the IFJ's working programme;
- 2) Coordinate a global strategy and campaign to end discrimination in pay and opportunities for women journalists;

- 3) Work with other Global Unions to establishing and enforcing equal pay and anti-discrimination legislation in practice bearing in mind that there are international labour standards such as ILO Convention 100 on equal remuneration for work of equal value which many governments have yet to sign;
- 4) Lobby and campaign to secure greater transparency amongst media organisations and commitments to action plans to tackle discrimination at work, in particular measures to enhance pay transparency, making it easier for unions to identify gender disparities in pay and for governments to identify violations of equal pay laws;
- 5) Share good practices amongst affiliates to assist in organising and recruiting women journalists on this important issue and to achieve work-life balance and secure meaningful changes to workplace cultures.

The Congress fully supports all the recommendations of the action programme agreed at the IFJ women’s Conference in May last year in Santander. In particular, **it calls on** affiliates to encourage greater participation by their women members at every level within their structures and organise concrete activities to start tackling the gender pay gap, including:

- 1) Carrying out an audit of women members and developing a programme to address the gaps;
- 2) Encouraging the use of equal pay surveys to ascertain the scale of the problem within workplaces;
- 3) Facilitating training for equality reps and equality training for officials.

36. THE FUTURE OF WORK

Impact of Automation Technology

Presented by the IFJ Executive Committee

The World Congress of the International Federation of Journalists, meeting in Tunis from 11th to 14th June 2019,

Noting that the future of work has become a major topic, with various narratives around what impact automation technology like artificial intelligence (AI) and robotics will have on jobs, skills, and wages;

Equally noting that at the heart of this debate are conflicting hypotheses about the changing models for work and work structure, in particular around independent work, the gig economy, and what is sometimes referred to as fissured work, and most important the income question;

Recalling Stephen Hawking’s timely warnings about Artificial Intelligence “replacing humanity” and given that Google has paid the Press Association over €700K to create 30K computer generated stories a month;

Welcoming the work of the ILO’s Future of Work Commission tasked to chart a pathway for full employment and decent work in the face of technological change;

Equally welcoming the debate and discussions among global federations within the International Trade Union Confederation – ITUC - as part of its Congress last December, which have included macro-economic analysis, legal and technological advances and most important union organising;

- 1) **Acknowledges** the emerging conclusions highlighting the denial of fundamental rights of workers, and the absence of shared prosperity;
- 2) **Instructs** the Executive Committee that among its working programme priorities should be to engage dialogues with the technology sector, to join other relevant trade union and research organisations in mapping up the impact of automation technology on the journalism profession and raising awareness among its affiliates through publications and workshops on the effects on jobs and working conditions.

37. Capacity-building in incorporating new technologies

Proposed by the Federación de trabajadores de los medios de comunicación social de Chile (FENATRAMCO)

The World Congress of the International Federation of Journalists, meeting in Tunis from 11th to 14th June 2019,

Considering the incorporation and technological changes in newspaper companies, that these changes are the foundation of the massive layoffs that are occurring in those that publish print newspapers;

Recognizing that it is necessary and urgent to have stable and lasting jobs in our sector;

Recognizing the difficult situation of press workers throughout the continent, as a result of precarious jobs which have suffered the incorporation of technology and a sustained decline in advertising;

Reaffirming the importance of having unions that respond to the concerns of men and women they represent by training managers in new areas of opportunities that can be generated by new technologies incorporated in newspaper companies;

Instructs the IFJ Executive Committee:

to promote and strengthen in the national scope of each union affiliated to FEPALC the joint implementation of training programmes on new technologies and their impacts, in conjunction with the IFJ regional office, with a view to better defend our jobs, our rights, our interests and the journalists' as well as communications workers' rights in the continent.

AUTHORS' RIGHTS

38. "Controlled Digital Lending" (CDL)

Proposed by the National Writers Union, USA (NWU)

The World Congress of the International Federation of Journalists, meeting in Tunis from 11th to 14th June 2019,

Disturbed that the Internet Archive and other entities have digitized hundreds of thousands of copyrighted books from library collections, discards, and donations, and are continuing to digitize

more than 1,000 books every day, and are distributing the complete text and illustrations of these books as page images on the World Wide Web, without any permission or remuneration of authors;

Noting that books published in many countries are already included among those that have been scanned and are being made available worldwide in this way;

Aware of the statement and white paper issued by the Internet Archive and others defending this practice as “Controlled Digital Lending” (CDL);

Believing that Controlled Digital Lending, as described in this statement and white paper and as practiced by the Internet Archive, is a flagrant violation of the copyright;

Recognising that journalists are among the victims of Controlled Digital Lending;

Mindful that unremunerated and unauthorized copying and worldwide distribution of digital copies over the Internet by the Internet Archive or other platforms, in the U.S. or any other country, competes with and deprives authors of revenues from legitimate copying, distribution, and revenue sources worldwide;

Concerned that Controlled Digital Lending could be expanded from books to newspapers and periodicals, resulting in even greater harm to journalists’ incomes;

- 1) **Affirms** the “Appeal from the Victims of Controlled Digital Lending” and the “FAQ on Controlled Digital Lending” initiated by the National Writers Union;
- 2) **Demands** an immediate halt to the practice of Controlled Digital Lending;
- 3) **Calls on** the Internet Archive and other practitioners of Controlled Digital Lending to recognize that their activities are interfering with the rights of authors, including journalists, and with our ability to earn a living from our work;
- 4) **Appeals** to archivists and librarians to engage in a dialogue with authors on how to enable and create digital libraries in better ways that respect authors’ rights;
- 5) **Directs** the Secretariat to send copies of this resolution to the Internet Archive, the initiators of the Statement and White Paper on Controlled Digital Lending, the American Library Association, and the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA).

***39. Payment for Use of Online News**

Proposed by the Federazione Nazionale della Stampa Italiana (FNSI)

The World Congress of the International Federation of Journalists, meeting in Tunis from 11th to 14th June 2019,

Aware of the necessity to adopt rules to protect journalistic work from the action of digital platforms, social network and search engines, which disseminate free journalistic contents as this process penalises the activity of media and puts at risk a lot of jobs all over the world;

Believing that democracy feeds on good information, that entrepreneurs who produce information invest, hire journalists and employees and, for this reason, expect a return in terms of turnover and profits;

Further *believing* that if a journalistic product is available for free through networks, it allows the so-called “over the top” to get substantial profits – through advertising revenue and release of data provided by the users of network – resulting in a problem, not only for media companies forced to reduce the number of journalists, employees and the supply of news, but also and above all for democracy;

Affirming that reducing space for quality of information and destroying regular jobs, weaken citizens and democracy;

Calls on IFJ affiliates to promote initiatives that campaign for rules to impose payments for copyright to whom use and disseminate news products online.

40. Moral Rights of Journalists and Authors

Proposed by the National Writers Union, USA (NWU)

The World Congress of the International Federation of Journalists, meeting in Tunis from 11th to 14th June 2019,

Recognising the critical importance of attribution of authorship and preservation of the integrity of written works and the ability of readers to assess the credibility of sources and to distinguish journalism from disinformation and “fake news”;

Bearing in mind that Article 6bis of the Berne Convention for the Protection of Literary and Artistic Works recognizes the moral rights of authors, including journalists, with respect to attribution of authorship and to the integrity of their works;

Further bearing in mind that Article 10 of the Berne Convention requires that quotations from newspaper articles and periodicals in the form of press summaries must mention “the source and the name of the author if it appears thereon”;

Concerned that the government of the United States of America has not transposed the provisions of the Berne Convention on moral rights, attribution, and integrity of written works into national law, and that the US law provides no means of redress for violations of the moral rights of journalists or authors of written works;

Disturbed that US-based Internet platforms for the redistribution of news articles, including Google News and Facebook, routinely violate journalists’ rights of attribution and integrity when news stories are “shared” or included in news summaries, in violation of Article 6bis and Article 10 of the Berne Convention;

Recalling with approval the submissions made by the Authors’ Rights Expert Group and the National Writers Union to the current policy study by the US Copyright Office concerning the need for new US legislation on moral rights;

- 1) **Calls on** Internet platforms and news summary services to respect the moral rights of journalists and other authors with respect to attribution of authorship and to the integrity of works that are “shared” or included in news summaries;

- 2) **Denounces** the government of the United States of America for its failure to implement the provisions of the Berne Convention with respect to the moral rights of journalists and other authors;
- 3) **Urges** the US Copyright Office to propose, and the US Congress to enact, legislation to protect and provide effective means of redress for violations of the moral rights of authors with respect to attribution and integrity of their works;
- 4) **Appeals** to all other State parties to the Berne Convention to invoke all measures available to them to compel the US government to fulfil its obligation to implement the provisions of the treaty respecting the moral rights of authors;
- 5) **Directs** the Secretariat to send copies of this resolution to Google, Facebook, the U.S. Register of Copyright, and the Chair and Ranking Minority Member of the Judiciary Committee of the US Senate and House of Representatives.

41. Motion for IFJ to urge the Government of Spain to regulate the authors' rights of Spanish journalists as individual and non-transferable rights, in compliance with objective 3.1 of the organisation's Statutes

Proposed by FSC-CC.OO.

The World Congress of the International Federation of Journalists, meeting in Tunis from 11th to 14th June 2019,

In view of the umpteenth amendment of the Intellectual Property Law made by the Spanish Parliament, in which the copyright of journalists in this country, moral or otherwise, are still not recognized as an individual and non-transferable right of the creator and not as a collective work,

Urges the IFJ AdCom and ExCom:

To launch a specific campaign in this sense to ensure that, regardless of the economic repercussions that it may have and that could be transferred to collective bargaining in each area, the Government of Spain regulates a situation which is completely atypical and leaves the authors of information published in collective format without any moral copyright on their own works, allowing publishers actions ranging from content modifications to the resale of those works, which can be published in any format or platform without the knowledge of the author.

BUILDING UNIONS' POWER

42. Developing our Capacity in Africa

Proposed by the Federation of African Journalists (FAJ)

The World Congress of the International Federation of Journalists, meeting in Tunis from 11th to 14th June 2019,

Noting that the power of journalists can only emanate from the journalists' capacity to organise themselves and to act as a collective power coming from the bottom and not from the top or from far whereby the size of the membership of journalists' organisations and an effective organisation are equally important;

Acknowledging that journalists' power cannot be built without a form of awareness-raising which should be achieved gradually through various stages in order to develop a professional consciousness which implies a change of approach and a capacity to critically analyse every situation in order to transform it;

Recognising the intense need for mobilisation, communication and information and education for African journalists to develop the capacity of African journalists' unions and offer better services to journalists in Africa;

Observing that there is a deficit of internal communication, insufficient human resources and a low capacity of mobilisation and organisation of members within the African journalists' unions/associations affiliated to the IFJ in Africa;

Recognising that journalist unions/associations need an internal capacity building and internal trade union democracy to promote collective emancipation of journalists and to meet media workers expectations for conducive working conditions and media freedom;

Instructs the IFJ General Secretary and Executive Committee to:

- 1) To promote African journalists' capacity development and proper training at all levels as a priority to renew the African journalists' movement particularly, in the following priority areas:
 - a) Membership development;
 - b) Political and Ideological development as a basis or tools of analysis to help African journalists understand their situation better.
 - c) A comprehensive education programme that targets both men and women journalists and that deals with building leadership;
- 2) To support specific training actions to develop African journalists' capacity to communicate effectively, mobilise, negotiate, manage conflicts, critically engage and also build alliances;
- 3) To prioritise the unionisation of women & young journalists as well as freelance journalists to create the conditions for union membership growth, relevance and mass actions;
- 4) To promote trade union independence in the media industry, as well as the full application and respect for trade union freedom and the right to bargain as stipulated in ILO Conventions N° 87 and 98;
- 5) To help African affiliates in developing and implementing their organising strategies; this relates more particularly to the creation and/or consolidation of membership of freelance journalists, recruitment of new member journalists and retaining the existing members.

43. Collective Bargaining for Freelancers

Proposed by the National Writers Union, USA (NWU)

The World Congress of the International Federation of Journalists, meeting in Tunis from 11th to 14th June 2019,

Understanding that freelance, work-for-hire, independent contractor and other self-employment arrangements are a rapidly expanding part of the global workforce, and especially so among media workers around the world;

Concerned that these types of arrangements may not only erode the working standards of journalists, who are increasingly forced to deal with global media entities one-on-one and in direct competition with their fellow media workers, but also create legal obstacles for self-employed media workers wishing to organize to protect themselves;

Recognising that antitrust laws in North America that were created to protect consumers from price-fixing by corporations are often used by those same corporations to prevent union organizing to improve pay and working conditions;

Believing that collective bargaining is the strongest and most effective check against the power of global media companies that media workers have at our disposal, and that legal prohibitions on media workers' right to collective bargaining is unjust and immoral;

- 1) **Calls on** member organizations to support legislative remedies to antitrust laws that prohibit union organizing;
- 2) **Appeals** to freelance and self-employed media workers around the world to organize and challenge outdated and unfair laws that don't recognize freelance work as equal to other forms of labour;
- 3) **Asks** that sister unions and labour organizations around the world stand in solidarity with non-traditional independent workers who try to organize;
- 4) **Demands** that the United States and Australian government recognizes that freelance writers have the right to collective bargaining and affords them the same legal protections as all workers under the National Labour Relations Act.

44. The future of international press agencies at stake

Proposed by the Syndicat national des journalistes (SNJ), the Syndicat national des journalistes-CGT (SNJ-CGT) and the Union syndicale des journalistes - CFDT (France)

The World Congress of the International Federation of Journalists, meeting in Tunis from 11th to 14th June 2019,

Aware that the role of the major international news agencies remains essential for reliable and verified information in a media world marked by the exorbitant weight of GAFAM;

Deploring that an acceleration of concentrations to the benefit of large transnational groups and a trend towards globalisation and standardisation of information reduce information to a product;

Noting that the governments of news agencies apply austerity measures that lead de facto to question the worldwide coverage of these entities and therefore the quality of information at the very moment when governments warn of the threat of "Fake News" which would undermine the free thought of citizens;

Noting that these measures aim internally to challenge the status of journalists (and other employees) of these agencies, which are subject to a sharp reduction in social benefits (salaries, jobs, working conditions, etc.), but also to significantly limit the scope of coverage, which would ultimately leave grey areas deprived of any reliable source of information, a lead cap would then be closed on these countries or regions, leaving the local authorities' hands free for any manipulation of information;

Noting that this process is gradually being implemented on a purely accounting basis;

Regretting that this is the case for Reuters, a subsidiary of the Canadian-British conglomerate Thomson-Reuters, with several of the agency's European offices facing plans to reduce or merge newsrooms, with plans to cut 3,200 jobs in two years' time, resulting in the closure of 30% of its offices worldwide;

Regretting that at AFP, the new CEO Fabrice Fries has launched a plan to reduce the workforce by 125 employees (or 5% of the workforce), a measure that comes after significant cuts in acquired rights of employees and their continued wage freeze over the past 6 years;

Noting that, for its part, the German agency DPA has dismissed 40 of the 50 journalists in the Hispanic service;

Stressing that in Argentina, the Telam agency has seen its staff strongly attacked, but the victorious battle by Telam's unions and employees must be an example to follow in this area;

With a view to defend the quality of information throughout the world;

Calls upon the IFJ Executive Committee:

- 1) To challenge the governments to safeguard international agencies in order to guarantee the quality of information by initiating draft international framework agreements with the ad hoc trade union structures;
- 2) To propose in this regard that a specific meeting of trade union representatives from the major agencies be rapidly scheduled in order to identify the situation not only of the three major international agencies (Reuters, AP, AFP), but also of the other national agencies which are subject to budget reduction measures, staff cuts, violations of social rights, as well as political pressures from structures dependent on the States;
- 3) To support the struggles and demands of employees against a weakening of the role of agencies that would leave entire areas in the five continents without coverage.

45. To defend the public media as guarantors of the right to information (Telam and Canal Sur)

Proposed by FSC-CC.OO.

The World Congress of the International Federation of Journalists, meeting in Tunis from 11th to 14th June 2019,

Considering that the rise to governments of countries all over the world of political forces, which do not respect freedom of expression, has made the public media an objective to be beaten since they are the guarantors of a human right that should be inviolable, such as "freedom of opinion and

expression", which "includes freedom to hold opinions without interference and to seek, receive and impart information and ideas through any media and regardless of frontiers", as stated in Article 19 of the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights;

Bearing in mind that these attacks, which are taking place in countries that have traditionally opted for the right to freedom of expression and which include it in their constitutions, are leading us to experience episodes such as the attempt to dismantle the Argentine News Agency TELAM - with the fraudulent dismissal of almost 400 information professionals - or more recently the harassment of Andalusia Public Radio and Television in Spain, with the proposal to close this autonomous channel, ignoring the backbone role and plurality of information that these channels offer in a multicultural reality such as Spain; all this just represents one further step ahead of the dismantlement of other channels such as the Public Broadcasting Madrid, Valencian or Greek perpetrated in recent years;

Fearing that this situation spreads throughout the world as a scourge that seems ready to put an end to freedom of expression;

Urges the IFJ ExCom:

- 1) To launch a campaign in defence of the public media as guarantors of freedom of expression and the right to receive truthful and quality information;
- 2) To send a formal protest to all governments that are attacking these public media, through the embassies of these countries in the States where IFJ has affiliates and urge them to readmit the dismissed public employees and to reactivate those public media that have been closed down in defence of the right to information;
- 3) To conduct a follow-up and support campaign for all public media that are or may be at risk of being attacked by providing IFJ member unions in those countries with all the resources and infrastructure necessary to prevent such attacks.

INTERNATIONAL LABOUR MOVEMENT

46. Cooperation with UNI Global Union

Proposed by the National Union of Journalists, UK and Ireland

The World Congress of the International Federation of Journalists, meeting in Tunis from 11th to 14th June 2019,

Noting IFJ's effort to represent journalists in the Global Unions, in particular working with international trade union organisations on transnational industrial relations and global unionism;

Reiterating policy decisions taken at various congresses regarding strengthening links with the wider trade union movement aimed at improving the efficiency and effectiveness of IFJ activities, expressed in particular in motions 1 and 2 agreed at the IFJ Seoul congress in 2001;

Recalling the decision to cooperate with the UNI Global union (UNI) on several fronts – authors' rights, freelances, globalisation and public sector broadcasting;

Believing that the new economic and technological forces that are shaping the global economy, our industry have made a far-reaching impact on our working lives, our journalism, our unions, and even to our identity as journalists;

Instructs the Executive Committee to open up an urgent discussion with UNI and, if necessary, other international federation on:

- 1) Pooling resources in order to develop a more effective voice for journalists and other media workers in dealing with global corporations, governments and international institutions;
- 2) Organising trade union education on specific topics such as worker representation, women's participation as well as health and safety issues among others;
- 3) Increasing our work within GUFs to focus on media global corporations in particular with the increased convergence between the Internet, broadcasting and Telecoms;
- 4) Setting out solidarity mechanisms between media workers to help in specific labour disputes involving violations of rights or health and safety standards, resistance to or denial of collective bargaining, and union recognition, and to strengthen our capacity to connecting with GUFs as a strategic resource for rescaling their struggle;
- 5) Encouraging IFJ regional organisations in getting involved in a broad range of initiatives and activities that could be considered as regional union 'network building' in order to leverage bargaining power and develop union presence, such as works councils' and union networks' meetings.

Further **calls for** the conclusion of such a debate to be disseminated among affiliates and, if necessary, be tabled in motions and reports for the forthcoming congress in 2022.

47. Motion on the promotion of framework agreements with other international federations in our field (UNI-MEI/ISP) and the inclusion of IFJ in any international space working on press freedom or working conditions and trade union rights of journalists, by virtue of Objective 3.k of the Statutes

Proposed by FSC-CC.OO.

The globalization of the economy, which has led any communication company to have its own shares, actions or even media in several countries on one or more continents, makes it necessary for IFJ to strongly value the fact that the strength of journalists in defending our labour, trade union and author's rights and above all in the exercise of freedom of expression involves joint action with all the international federations that work in the field of the media but also in those active in public services.

In the same way, this globalization - accentuated by the digitization of the economy - makes the presence of IFJ in any international space where freedom of the press or working conditions and trade union rights of journalists are discusses more necessary than ever.

These facts make it all the more imperative that unions defending the rights of journalists and media workers narrow down their avenues of collaboration through framework agreements that strengthen us as organisations capable of governing the transformation we are undergoing to ensure a just transition that favours an inclusive transformation.

Against this background, the 30th IFJ Congress, meeting in Tunis from 11th to 14th June 2019,

Urges the IFJ AdCom:

- 1) To strengthen union ties and collaboration strategies in all areas with those international areas with which we share spaces, such as UNI-MEI, FIA, FIM or ISP among others, and to collaborate to make our member unions stronger and better protect them in all spaces;
- 2) To occupy all possible spaces in which we work on press freedom or working conditions and trade union rights of journalists, to spread the voice and demands of our members to all corners.

48. Strengthening the ILO

Proposed by the National Union of Journalists, UK and Ireland

The World Congress of the International Federation of Journalists, meeting in Tunis from 11th to 14th June 2019, *notes* that 2019 marks the centenary of the foundation of the International Labour Organisation (ILO).

The founding principle of ILO: that universal, lasting peace can be established only if it is based on social justice is as relevant today as they were 100 years ago.

ILO was born out of a desire for global peace in the aftermath of World War I. In celebrating the centenary, we note with alarm the growing threat to social justice from the rise of extreme right parties and those who seek to undermine human rights, including the rights of all workers.

This Congress *commends* the ILO's seven Centenary Initiatives, set out under the headings:

- The future of work initiative
- The end of poverty initiative
- The women at work initiative
- The green initiative
- The standards initiatives
- The enterprise initiative
- The governance initiative.

Congress *notes* that the four pillars of the UN's Decent Work Agenda – employment creation, social protection, rights at work, and social dialogue are recognised as integral elements of 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Goal 8 of that Agenda calls for the promotion of sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work.

While the Organisation has played a significant role in seeking to defend workers throughout its history the parameters within which it is required to operate undermines the ability of the ILO to hold to account multinational companies who hold resources and exercise far greater economic power than many governments in the world.

Currently the ILO can only make determinations in respect of governments. A handful of multinational companies dominate the global media landscape, determining the terms and conditions of workers and exercising an unhealthy level of control over the flow of news and information across all platforms.

Many of these issues were raised by IFJ representatives at ILO Global Dialogue Forum: Media and Culture Industries in Geneva on May 14th and 15th 2014.

Congress calls on the incoming Executive Committee, in conjunction with the ITUC and affiliates, to:

- 1) Campaign for fundamental reforms which would allow the ILO to make determination in respect of employers and not just governments;
- 2) Examine how best the ILO may be used to further campaigns for the achievement of gender equality and the elimination of workplace discrimination;
- 3) Support the campaign of the ITUC and the European Trade Union Congress for inclusion of Health and Safety standards in the list of labour rights;
- 4) Campaign for ILO action on the outcome of the ILO Global Dialogue Forum 2014, with particular reference to the abuse of unpaid workers and interns in the media industry.

49. Protecting Trade Union Rights

Proposed by the National Union of Somali Journalists (NUSOJ)

The World Congress of the International Federation of Journalists, meeting in Tunis from 11th to 14th June 2019,

Reaffirming that trade union rights are human rights as stated in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and that their respect is a fundamental condition for democracy;

Further reaffirming that ILO Conventions uphold the rights of workers and promote collective bargaining, particularly Convention 87 concerning Freedom of Association and the Protection of the Right to Organise, Convention 98 concerning the Right to Organise and to Bargain Collectively, Convention 151 on the Conditions of Employment in the Public Service and Convention 154 on the Promotion of Collective Bargaining;

Observing that human rights are universal, inalienable, indivisible and inter-related and must be applied to all without discrimination of race, colour, gender, religion, political opinion or national or social origin;

Recognising that democracy, social and economic justice, human rights and harmonious relations cannot be maintained and would not flourish where freedom of association, freedom of expression and labour rights are suppressed, abused and denied, and where advocates of union rights are threatened, intimidated and are at severe risk;

Further recognising that anti-union activities and actions by governments and their enablers have undermined democracy, economic and social justice, development and the wellbeing of citizens and have contributed to crimes committed against journalists;

Underscoring that journalist unions, which are affiliated to the IFJ, are committed to the defence of press freedom, human rights, democratic trade union freedoms and social justice;

Affirming that the full exercise of all trade union rights is a fundamental right of all media workers and a prerequisite for improving the professional status and the welfare of journalists and other media workers;

Deploring the growing number of infringements on trade union rights, particularly violations and abuses of the right to freedom of association and the failure to provide equal trade union rights for journalists and other media workers;

- 1) **Urges** all affiliates of IFJ to collectively take meaningful steps to assert that trade union rights are human rights which should be respected internationally, continentally and nationally;
- 2) **Directs** the IFJ and all its affiliates to promote and uphold ILO core conventions on freedom of association and the effective recognition of the right to collective bargaining, and the recommendations from ILO supervisory mechanism;
- 3) **Decides** that violators of trade union rights be branded internationally by establishing criteria for identifying and categorising these individuals, entities or governments by publicly exposing them and the crimes that they have committed against journalists and their unions and to further explore effective means and ways in determining ways to expose anti-trade union atrocities and crimes.

50. On social security for workers in Latin America and the Caribbean

Proposed by the Federación de Periodistas de América Latina y el Caribe (FEPALC)

The World Congress of the International Federation of Journalists, meeting in Tunis from 11th to 14th June 2019,

Considering:

- That since the entry into force of Convention 102 on social security (Minimum Standard), only 55 countries have ratified it, of which 12 correspond to Latin America, out of a total of 187 ILO Member States;
 - That in Latin America more than half of the workers do not contribute to social security (55%), which represents close to 145 million workers in the region;
 - That social security is a fundamental component of the economic and social development, essential to be successful in the fight against poverty and inequality, in times of great uncertainty, generated by the future of work;
 - That the professional workers of journalism do not escape this reality, on the contrary we are victims of the precariousness of labour, of the new forms of hiring on a piece-rate or by task carried out;
- 1) **Urges** the IFJ leadership to hold talks with the ILO authorities in order to achieve the highest number of ratifications of Convention 102 on social security;
 - 2) **Asks** the IFJ leadership to include in its training platforms and campaigns the issue of social security as a fundamental mechanism for a full life, considering vulnerable sectors such as women, youth and older adults;
 - 3) **Urges** IFJ affiliates to look for ways to establish channels of dialogue and negotiation with social communication companies and governments, with the objective that all journalists enjoy social security;
 - 4) **Reiterates** and **reaffirms** that minimum standards on social security should be administered on a tripartite basis in order to guarantee and strengthen social dialogue between governments, employers and workers.

51. The effective right to national and regional collective bargaining

Proposed by the Federación de trabajadores de los medios de comunicación social de Chile (FENATRAMCO)

The World Congress of the International Federation of Journalists, meeting in Tunis from 11th to 14th June 2019,

Having regard to the importance for journalists and communications workers of secure, stable and dignified employment;

Considering that the neoliberal and flexibilizing policies that are implemented in all countries of the region seek to restrict the spaces of trade unions in their action and labour rights;

Considering that many of the countries represented in the FEPALC have very unstable and complex political and social contexts that require trade unions to strengthen their actions, such as training new management to develop action strategies that lead to the strengthening of their organizations and the construction of more just and equitable societies;

Observing that the difficult situation faced by press workers throughout the region in the face of precarious work, and in the most extreme cases the significant number of murders, threats, aggressions, and direct sanctions that end up in the imprisonment of workers, which requires a sustained struggle on the part of the unions, in order to get the Legislative, Executive, and Judicial branches to make progress in taking concrete measures to end the sanctions that limit the exercise of the profession and the right to communication in its broadest sense;

Observing the asymmetries between the different national press organizations that make up the FEPALC, as regards the creation, support or strengthening of the corresponding regulatory norms;

Instructs the FEPALC Executive Committee to:

- 1) Ensure that the IFJ makes progress in consolidating a trade union model of the organisation in order to achieve in the medium term the collective bargaining necessary to establish rights and duties through collective agreements or contracts with national and multinational companies;
- 2) Pursue the objective of systematically ensuring high standards at the regional level that allow FEPALC and its affiliated unions the right to monitor the national and regional behaviour of these companies in this and other areas, as well as to raise any violation of existing collective agreements in these companies.

52. Union training programmes on collective bargaining

Proposed by the Federación de trabajadores de los medios de comunicación social de Chile (FENATRAMCO)

The World Congress of the International Federation of Journalists, meeting in Tunis from 11th to 14th June 2019,

Considering that it is of the utmost importance for journalists and communications workers to have a regulatory framework for their activities, expressed in collective bargaining agreements or contracts;

Considering that the reality of the different national organizations of media workers in each country of the region, several of which having always been unable to achieve a process of collective bargaining, as a result of the shortcomings in the labour law and exploitation by the employers;

Recognizing that is necessary the solidary exchange of experiences on the process of drafting, sanction or enforcement of the laws that serve as framework to the collective agreements or contracts;

Reaffirming the importance of training leaders in collective bargaining processes;

Recognizing the difficult situation experienced by press workers throughout the continent as a result of insecure jobs;

Instructs the IFJ Executive Committee to:

to promote and strengthen, at the national level, the joint implementation with the IFJ regional office of Trade Union Training Programmes on Collective Bargaining, in order to better defend the rights, interests and fundamental freedoms of journalists and communications workers on the continent.

53. Safeguarding Independent and Responsible Media

Proposed by the Indian Journalists' Union (IJU)

The World Congress of the International Federation of Journalists, meeting in Tunis from 11th to 14th June 2019,

Given that:

- an independent and responsible media is vital for a functional democracy;
- both State and non-State actors need to ensure that the media carry out its role of being a public service, building public opinion and carrying out its role as the fourth estate;
- the media has grown manifold, including digital, and is increasingly being viewed more as any other business rather than a public service;
- we are confronted with various challenges impacting media freedom and sinister efforts to gag it;
- the attacks on journalists are ever increasing;

Reiterates its resolve to protect the freedom of the press by taking multiple actions to strengthen its affiliates by:

- 1) Ensuring that media's credibility stays intact by committing to basic standards of good journalism and re-emphasising ethical journalism;
- 2) Lending voice to affiliates which are seeking implementation of statutory Wage Boards as against contract employment based on the unfair practice of 'hire and fire' policy;
- 3) Encouraging governments to commit themselves to safety of journalists, by legislating specific national laws for journalists' protection while carrying out their duties;
- 4) Protecting and strengthening institutions set up to safeguard the independence of the press, which are increasingly getting undermined by governments;
- 5) Preparing region-wise strategy on prevailing labour laws and trade unions, which are increasingly being diluted, with a view to protect media business entities in countries where affiliates need support.

ORGANISATION

55. For a Regional Federation in Asia-Pacific

Proposed by the Indian Journalists' Union (IJU)

The World Congress of the International Federation of Journalists, meeting in Tunis from 11th to 14th June 2019,

Given that:

- The IFJ Constitution encourages the formation of regional federations: Paragraph 28 Section IX states: “Continental and regional groups may be set up by affiliate and associate members of the Federation. Such groups may regulate their own activities provided they are in accordance with this Constitution and are consistent with policies established by Congress”;
- While regional federations are already operational within the IFJ – EFJ, FEPALC and FAJ – representing the interests of journalists' unions and their members, there is no such regional federation in the Asia Pacific;
- This region includes all Asian and Oceanian associations and syndicates under the name of the International Federation of Journalists; as at the same time, it is very diverse in respect of political system, culture, social background, religion, the media situation, understanding of liberal democracy, etc;
- Affiliates do seek the formation of a regional federation and the IFJ Executive Committee held in Taipei has supported the establishment of such a group;

Executive Committee members from the Asia-Pacific **were requested** to commence the work along with General Secretary and Deputy General Secretary to develop a proposal for consideration at the Congress in Tunis next year;

Congress supports establishment of an Asia Pacific Federation.

56. Appeal to African affiliates

Proposed by the Syndicat national des journalistes (SNJ), France

The World Congress of the International Federation of Journalists, meeting in Tunis from 11th to 14th June 2019,

Welcoming with great pleasure the decisions of the Congress of the African Federation of Journalists held in Khartoum on 13 and 14 December 2018, which has worked tremendously for the future;

Considering that these journalists, delegates from 35 organizations, have begun a real collective work, whatever the differences in approach to their problems and the differences that may have opposed them in the past;

Calls on all affiliates to support their African sisters and brothers and to assist them through bilateral or multilateral exchanges of charters, collective agreements, experiences and texts that are more extensive and numerous.

57. Recruitment of New Journalists' Unions to the IFJ

Proposed by the Russian Union of Journalists

The World Congress of the International Federation of Journalists, meeting in Tunis from 11th to 14th June 2019,

Aware of the historical effort to continue building the IFJ on a global scale as the voice of journalists worldwide;

Considering the vital needs of journalists in many countries who require help and support to stand up to the pressures from those who want them to be servants of big business or of political masters whereas they earn to be part of a world community of journalists to keep watch on those in power, to inform citizens and to act in the public interest;

Recognising the impact of the technological and digital revolution on the world media markets today resulting in an unprecedented expansion of media as globalisation and increasing literacy provide new audiences;

Understanding the importance to establish new journalist's unions and to strengthen existing ones;

Instructs the IFJ Executive Committee to:

- 1) Commission a global mapping exercise through the IFJ regional offices to list in every country unions that can be brought into membership;
- 2) Use the RUJ experience in establishing regional journalists' organisations;
- 3) Seek to revive unions that used to be affiliates and have ceased to function;
- 4) Recruit new journalist's unions in countries where the IFJ organisation doesn't have members;
- 5) Raise the visibility of the IFJ in these countries by organising actions and presentations of IFJ activities as well as cooperation with potential affiliates

ORGANISING AND GIVING A VOICE TO YOUNG WORKERS IN THE MEDIA

***58. Communication Strategies for Youth Recruitment**

Proposed by the Media Workers Association of South Africa (MWASA)

The World Congress of the International Federation of Journalists, meeting in Tunis from 11th to 14th June 2019,

Noting that at the recent Communication Strategy Workshop held in Windhoek, Namibia, the importance of doing proper formative research on the target audience was highlighted as key to effectively target your message; with this in mind, it was proposed that a survey be conducted to gather information from journalism students and recent graduates about:

1. What challenges they face,
2. Whether the training they receive adequately prepares them for work in the field;
3. What they know about their rights in terms of labour laws;

4. Whether they receive any training on self-care, stress management, etc.;
5. Whether they are aware of IFJ and/or affiliated unions operating in their countries;
6. What are their impressions of unions;
7. What benefits could unions offer them to secure their membership;

Believing that the survey could be developed so as to be taken online (i.e. by survey monkey) and hence shouldn't have steep cost elements; that it could be advertised by IFJ and affiliated unions on social media platforms and that a mailing list of University lecturers could be compiled; that the "reward" for completing the survey could be entrance into a draw, the prize for students could be an internship/mentorship with a suitable media house to be identified by the IFJ and for recent graduates;

Calls on the Secretariat to implement this initiative.

***59. Growing the Next Generation of Journalists**

Proposed by the Media Workers Association of South Africa (MWASA)

The World Congress of the International Federation of Journalists, meeting in Tunis from 11th to 14th June 2019,

Reaffirming that in line with IFJ's Objective 3 (c) "To uphold and improve professionalism and to promote high standards of journalism and journalistic education", and *informed* by the results of the survey proposed by the Windhoek's workshop, recommending that a study be conducted to determine whether journalism degree programmes in Africa provide the following elements deemed to be necessary:

1. Awareness of labour laws related to their profession,
2. Awareness of Access to Information regulations,
3. Awareness of the value and existence of unions,
4. Awareness of best practices on the continent for negotiating freelance contracts,
5. Awareness of the importance of the role of journalists in promoting free speech and discouraging hate speech,
6. Health and Safety both in terms of the profession and in terms of the individual particularly with regard to psychological health – being able to identify the signs of stress and PTSD and be aware of psycho support available as well as self-care options;

Believing that funding for such a study could be sought from various organisations, for example fesmedia Africa;

Calls on the IFJ Secretariat to seek ways to use the survey to forge links with Journalism/Media departments with the aim to promote high standards of journalistic education and facilitate unions' engagement with students.

60. Fight against the precariousness of journalism

Proposed by FSC-CC.OO.

The extension of digital infrastructures and the generalisation of access and interconnection to the network by citizens, which began as a series of tools for improving communication, have become a system with repercussions in all areas of society and the economy.

The transformations focus on the changing ways of organising work and production, which has raised concerns about its effects on the quantity of employment, its quality, its stability and its remuneration.

In this context, the emergence of decentralized or horizontal exchange platforms through the network is transforming the classic roles of supply and demand in the labour market and affects the generation and distribution of income in the economy as a whole.

The 'uberisation' of work makes it possible to buy work and skills discretionally, making the labour market even more flexible and precarious.

Short-term micro-tasking, this succession of atypical jobs in the 'gig' economy, far from encouraging non-market exchange and collaboration, is a form of flexible subordination and profit-making by third parties whose only activity is intermediation and appropriation of the rights of creation of third parties.

Digitization of the economy is a phenomenon that can and must be governed with the participation of trade unions to ensure a just transition that favours an inclusive transformation.

To this end, the 30th IFJ Congress, meeting in Tunis from 11th to 14th June 2019,

Agrees:

- 1) To instruct the ExCom to present an action plan within a period of no more than one year, with the objective of establishing lines of work for the right to unionization, the recognition of the effective right to negotiate working conditions and to obtain unemployment insurance, pension and health care, as well as effective measures for the conciliation of work and personal life of platform workers;
- 2) To demand, in accordance with the ILO recommendations, that equality of treatment between standard and atypical work be guaranteed at the legislative level with regard to the enjoyment of economic rights and benefits, a guaranteed minimum of working hours, limiting the variability of working hours;
- 3) To strengthen the collaboration between the IFJ and the different international trade union organisations, with the aim of working towards guaranteeing a just and inclusive transition to the new digital scenario at all levels;

Calls on affiliated organisations to include in their trade union agenda the analysis of the digitisation process and of work through platforms in their field, in order to deal with its consequences in terms of labour and remuneration as well as intellectual property rights.

63. Motion to Free Manuel Duran and Support Central American Refugees

Proposed by the National Writers Union/UAW US (NWU)

The World Congress of the International Federation of Journalists, meeting in Tunis from 11th to 14th June 2019,

Recognising that the International Federation of Journalists is dedicated to improving the quality of life and supporting writers and freedom of expression;

Concerned that there are now more than 60 million refugees world-wide, the highest number since the Second World War;

Bearing in mind that IFJ affiliate unions represent citizen and immigrant journalists, who should enjoy the same rights and legal protections;

- 1) **Calls on** the US Government to release and drop deportation proceedings against Manuel Durán Ortega, a Salvadoran immigrant reporter arrested in Tennessee last 3rd April and held in an Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) detention center in Jena, Louisiana since his arrest;
- 2) **Supports** the efforts of the National Writers Union and many immigrant rights groups to aid the thousands of refugees at the US-Mexico border in seeking asylum and peacefully entering the U.S.;
- 3) **Joins** the growing chorus in the U.S. demanding an end to the Immigration and Customs Enforcement agency (ICE).

URGENT MOTIONS

1. US Government against Julian Assange

Moved by: MEAA, SNJ, SNJ-CGT, CFDT

The World Congress of the International Federation of Journalists, meeting in Tunis from 11th to 14th June 2019,

considering that the recent indictments filed by the US Government against Julian Assange pose a threat to journalists and journalism around the world;

considering that the indictments clearly seek to prosecute Assange for the receipt and publication of vital information in the public interest, clearly at odds with previous decisions of the U.S. Supreme Court;

Supports the call of IFJ affiliates to the governments of the United Kingdom and Australia to resist the application to extradite Assange to the United States;

Asks the IFJ Executive Committee to:

- 1) Take the case to the UN Human Rights Council;
- 2) Call on the European Parliament and the Council of Europe to respect freedom of opinion.

CARRIED

2. Decision by The International New York Times to end all daily political cartoons

Moved by: AGJPB-AVBB, NWU, Dansk Journalistforbundet, CWA, SNJ-CGT

The World Congress of the International Federation of Journalists, meeting in Tunis from 11th to 14th June 2019,

concerned by the decision of The International New York Times taken on 10 June 2019 to end all daily political cartoons by 1 July 2019;

considering that this decision is an insidious form of censorship as it seems motivated by the publication of a cartoon seen as anti-Semitic two months ago;

recalling that a cartoon is published under the editorial responsibility of an editor and that putting the responsibility on the cartoonists is shifting the responsibilities;

recalling how in January 2015, cartoonists and journalists from Charlie Hebdo paid the ultimate price of their lives in exercising their right to freedom of expression on their workplace and nobody will ever forget the enormous support of journalists, media and citizens around the world;

Asks the IFJ Executive Committee:

- To protest against this decision by the leadership of The International New York Times;
- To urge the leadership of The International New York Times to revise its decision on behalf of freedom of expression

CARRIED

3. Threat to press freedom in France

Moved by: SNJ, SNJ-CGT, CFDT

The World Congress of the International Federation of Journalists, meeting in Tunis from 11th to 14th June 2019,

noting that:

- 10 people, including 8 journalists, a press publisher and a media technician, have recently been summoned by the *Directorate General of Internal Intelligence* (DGSI) to be questioned about supposed breaches of the "secret defence"; the three media involved were the "Quotidien" TV-show, the "Disclose" website and the daily "*Le Monde*";
- the first journalists were heard for having published investigations on the sale of French arms to Saudi Arabia, allegedly used in Yemen against civilian populations;
- two other hearings concerned information given in the context of the Benalla case, the case of a man very close to the President of the Republic, involved in several cases and dismissed from the Security Services of the Élysée;
- a search was attempted against Mediapart on February 4 but was rejected by the management and editorial staff of the media;
- these facts are acts of intimidation and are intended to identify the sources of journalists;

further noting that:

- more than 100 journalists, according to the well-documented report prepared by the journalist David Dufresne, were prevented from working by the security forces as part of the social movement "Yellow Vests"; colleagues were arrested at the checkpoints, searched, insulted and their equipment was seized and broken, and their press cards were confiscated; journalists were detained in police custody, were filed and prosecuted;
- journalists were intentionally clubbed and targeted by Defence Ball Launchers (LBD) and other grenades while these weapons fall within the definition of weapons of war, and some journalists were seriously injured;
- these facts are serious restrictions to the freedom to inform and to be informed;

considering that despite multiple warnings at the French and international levels, the French authorities denied these facts;

- **Requests** a hearing for the IFJ by the President of the French Republic,

- **Supports** the open letter to the Paris Public Prosecutor, signed by numerous organizations defending liberties and many lawyers, journalists and citizens; this letter asks for the cessation of all these legal proceedings;

- **Calls for** independent investigations to be carried out to identify the responsibilities of restrictions and attacks against journalists,

- **Reaffirms** its support to French journalists and will address all the international organizations that have travelled to France to hear representatives of journalists:

- the Special Rapporteurs of the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights of the United Nations,
- the Commissioner for Human Rights of the Council of Europe,
- the Economic, Social and Environmental Committee.

CARRIED

4. Economic sanctions on Syrian media

Moved by the Syrian Journalists' Union - SJU, Syria

The World Congress of the International Federation of Journalists, meeting in Tunis from 11th to 14th June 2019,

considering that at the annual conference of the Syrian Journalists' Union, held on 9/5/2019, the journalists raised the difficulties of the Syrian media to modernize their equipment and to import modern technology because of the unilateral coercive sanctions imposed by the United States and European Union countries in violation of international laws and norms, as well as the second item of the third Section of the IFJ Constitution, which stipulates "respect for the right to access and defend information, as well as the freedom of the media and the independence of the press, especially through monitoring violations and taking measures to defend journalists and their work";

noting that the Arab Sat and Nilesat administrations had dropped the Syrian channels (Syrian satellite, Syrian news and Al-Duna channel) on satellite broadcasting;

Condemns these sanctions against the Syrian media as a violation of the freedom and independence of the media;

Demands that these sanctions be lifted and that such measures be suspended immediately;

Sends a message of greeting and solidarity to Syrian journalists who have faced all forms of violence and terrorism because of their professional work;

and **asks the IFJ Executive Committee to:**

- 1) communicate with regional and international organizations and mechanisms to pressure these countries to lift sanctions and stop these measures;
- 2) send a message of solidarity and support to the Syrian Journalists Union and help it in this case.

CARRIED

5. Raids by Australian Federal Police on the home of a journalist and the offices of the Australian Broadcasting Corporation

Moved by MEAA

The World Congress of the International Federation of Journalists, meeting in Tunis from 11th to 14th June 2019,

Considering the recent raids by Australian Federal Police on the home of a journalist and the offices of the Australian Broadcasting Corporation which are a grave assault on media freedom and the democratic right of citizens to be informed about the activities of their government;

Noting with concern the recent passage of legislation through the Australian Parliament which seeks to restrict public interest reporting, criminalise the work of investigative journalists and punish whistleblowers who bring important information forward in the public interest;

Further noting that Australia holds itself out as a bastion of media freedom, but that these recent events seriously challenge that view and send a dangerous message to the world;

Calls on the Australian Parliament to take urgent action to legislate for the protection of journalists and their confidential sources, and to end its system of mass data surveillance as democracy dies in darkness and it is vital that an appropriate balance be maintained between national security and the protection of free and fearless reporting in the public interest.

CARRIED

6. Media owners against EDOEAP Fund

The World Congress of the International Federation of Journalists, meeting in Tunis from 11th to 14th June 2019,

considering that on 5th June 2019, the court decided that the Greek State Council –the country’s Supreme Court- would hear the appeal filed by media owners against EDOEAP Fund on 24th June 2019, as journalists’ unions were informed;

aware that on June 24th June 2019 the very existence of EDEOAP Fund providing medical healthcare and supplementary pensions to all Greek journalists and media workers and their families would hang

on the balance when the Greek State Council would convene to hear the case brought by media employers;

noting that the appeal to repeal the 2% media employers' contribution to EDOEAP Fund was filed by the Union of Private National Broadcasting TV Stations representing TV owners and joined by other media owners, thus a total of 57 appeals;

recalling that Greek journalists as well as all media workers mobilized by their Unions achieved an honorable compromise to rescue EDOEAP FUND, covering medical and pharmaceutical expenses of healthcare for them all and their families, as well as their supplementary pensions, obtaining a 15% tax rebate on the 2% employers' contribution (private broadcasters instead of 20% would pay only 5%);

recalling that for the past four decades EDOEAP Fund has been a model of insurance and health provider which never burdened the State budget and is financed by employees and the 2% employers' contribution;

Invites its delegates to voice their solidarity with Greek Unions JUADN and PEPU, with Greek journalists and media workers who are in danger of losing EDOEAP Fund a model of insurance and health provider that has taken decades to build;

Instructs the new IFJ Executive Committee to contribute to the struggle of Greek Unions JUADN and PEPU in providing a viable solution for EDOEAP Fund to continue its operation for the benefit of all Greek journalists, media workers and their families.

UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED

7. Women's strike of 14 June 2019 in Switzerland

Moved by Sergio Ferrari and Marco Geissbühler - Syndicom, Swiss media and communication union, on 12th June 2019

The World Congress of the International Federation of Journalists, meeting in Tunis from 11th to 14th June 2019,

Ratifies the resolution adopted by the meeting of the IFJ Gender Council on 11.06.2019

Expresses its unconditional solidarity with the women's strike of 14th June 2019 in Switzerland, in particular with women journalists mobilized for equal pay, against all types of harassment, against sexism in journalism and to promote the reconciliation of professional and family activities.

Background/ Rationale

12th June 2019

Swiss women take to the streets to defend their rights. On 14th June 1991, the women's strike in Switzerland was followed by hundreds of thousands of people across the country. They demanded equal pay for work of equal value because this principle was still not implemented, despite the 1981 constitutional article on "equal rights between women and men". A second day of strike is therefore planned this year in Switzerland. Because some companies still do not respect equal pay. The wage gap between men and women is almost 20%. In addition, women receive on average 40% lower old-age

pensions than men. Under the motto "More pay, more time, more respect", trade unions and women's organisations call for a strong signal for equality across the country on 14 June. Media professionals have developed a set of demands that they will present to their employers. Here are their demands:

Editorial power

In the media in Switzerland, three out of four management positions are held by men. 70% of the staff of the political and economic newsrooms are male. The sections contributing to opinion-forming, namely analyses and comments, are also mainly in male hands. We demand an end to this gender imbalance that has persisted for years.

Equal pay for equal work

In the Swiss media industry, women earn 700 francs less per month than men for the same amount of professional experience. For managerial positions, the average salary difference is even 1,400 CHF. We demand equal pay for equal work.

Reconciling work and family activities

For media professionals, motherhood remains a barrier to career development. 54% of women working in the media are under 30 years of age, while only 30% are over 50 years of age (i.e. have more than 12 years of professional experience). We demand work structures that are compatible with the needs of families at all levels of the hierarchy, both for women and men.

Harassment

Because we are women, we are regularly targeted in our professional environment as well as on social networks and the Internet with disparaging comments and harassment. We demand that employers support us and protect us against these phenomena.

Sexism in journalism

Women are clearly under-represented in the Swiss media space. And when they are present, it is often in a stereotypical way. Women are not visible enough as active subjects and even tend to disappear from media coverage beyond a certain age. We demand adequate media representation of women and the variety of their professional projects and lifestyles. This objective must be anchored in the editorial guidelines of each media.

8. Safety of journalists in the Philippines

Moved by NUJP, Philippines

The World Congress of the International Federation of Journalists, meeting in Tunis from 11th to 14th June 2019,

alarmed that 61-year-old veteran journalist Margarita Valle was arrested by Philippine State forces and placed in solitary confinement incommunicado for nearly 12 hours on 10th June in an alleged case of mistaken identity;

considering that 12 media workers in the Philippines have been killed since President Rodrigo Duterte took office on 30th June 2016;

concerned that media workers perceived to be critical of the Duterte administration have been arrested, face criminal and civil charges, and are subjected to harassment and attacks;

disturbed that the National Union of Journalists of the Philippines, the Philippine affiliate of the International Federation of Journalists, is among media and civil society organizations being subjected to red-tagging and falsely linked to unfounded destabilization plots against the Philippine government;

noting that 23rd November 2019 marks the 10th anniversary of the Ampatuan Massacre in the Philippines wherein 58 persons including 32 media workers were gunned down;

further noting that after nearly ten years, not one of the suspects has been convicted for the massacre, considered the world's worst single attack against media workers;

believing that solidarity and active support are an integral part of the protection of all media workers and the fight against impunity;

recognizing the role of the International Federation of the Journalists and its affiliates in ensuring the safety of media workers and in helping find justice for the victims of the massacre;

Calls on the Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte and the Philippine government to uphold press freedom and ensure the safety of media workers in the Philippines;

Demands that the Philippine government takes concrete and credible steps and actions to resolve the killing of Filipino media workers and prevent further attacks;

Further demands the fast-tracking of the trial of the 2019 massacre case;

Supports the National Union of Journalists of the Philippines in fighting against worsening impunity and for justice for the massacre victims;

Enjoins all affiliates to actively support the Philippine media community and the families of murdered journalists by initiating and joining actions to defend press freedom in the Philippines and in marking the 10th massacre anniversary on 23rd November 2019 which was declared as International Day to End Impunity.

CARRIED

9. In defence of democracy and justice in Brazil! Free Lula!

Moved by the National Federation of Journalists of Brazil - FENAJ

The World Congress of the International Federation of Journalists, meeting in Tunis from 11th to 14th June 2019,

considering that the rule of law and due process are increasingly under threat denying citizens' access to justice;

recalling that former Brazilian President Luís Inácio Lula da Silva has been sent to prison in 7th April 2018, without any credible evidence to support his conviction for alleged crimes which were based

mainly on verbal accusations, obtained from prisoners under pressure to bear false testimony against Lula;

concerned by the inordinately expedient trial of Lula, unprecedented in the Brazilian justice system, with the obvious purpose of preventing him to stand in the Presidential elections in 2018;

noting that former Judge Sérgio Moro, who led Lula's trial in the first instance and ordered the arrest of the former president, has been appointed minister in the government of President Jair Bolsonaro, a candidate who directly benefited by the judicial decision to convict Lula;

emphasizing that the evidence for the illegal and biased actions of former judge Sergio Moro in the process which led to the conviction of Lula came to light on 9th June 2019;

stressing that, as long as Lula's conviction stands, there can be no trust in justice and in democracy in Brazil;

Supports the Brazilian social and democratic movement in declaring that Lula is, in essence, a political prisoner;

Demands the review of former President Lula's conviction and his immediate release;

And **stands** with the Brazilian people and journalists of this country in their fight for the right to decide freely about their destiny.

Free Lula!

CARRIED BY MAJORITY

10. Threats against public service broadcasting in France and support for the strike on Thursday 13th June

Moved by SNJ, SNJ-CGT & CFDT, France

The World Congress of the International Federation of Journalists, meeting in Tunis from 11th to 14th June 2019,

considering that the main French public media are threatened by government's drastic economic measures decreasing by 190 million euros the financing of public broadcasting, while demanding to devote 100 million per year to digital broadcasting, that these measures will undoubtedly have negative social consequences, which will affect the quality of the programmes and news;

noting that the unions were informed on 6th June that the management of Radio France, the public radio, had announced a budget reduction of 60 million euros by 2022 whereas France Inter – one of its channels – has the highest audience share, a proof that its listeners recognise the quality of its journalists' work;

further noting that the management of France Télévision, the public television, decided to favour the departure of 2000 workers, i.e. 25% of the workforce by 2022 and to impose a saving of 400 million euros;

bearing in mind that the journalists announced their intention to launch a strike this Thursday, 13th June, to demand that be maintained the news programme "Soir 3" on channel France 3 instead of transferring it to Franceinfo and, thereby, to a different type of audience;

considering that the public information service is an important pillar of democracy;

considering that at a time of misinformation by social networks, French public media need more stability or even increased public financial investment;

Expresses its support to all journalists in the French public broadcasting service, as well as to its SNJ, SNJ-CGT, CFDT members;

Calls on the Government to respect the social dialogue and to improve rather than weaken working conditions, particularly for precarious workers;

Recalls that the precariousness of journalists leads to misinformation of citizens.

CARRIED

11. Fugitive Offenders Ordinance

Moved by the Association of Journalists of Taiwan, AJT

The World Congress of the International Federation of Journalists, meeting in Tunis from 11th to 14th June 2019,

considering the disproportionate use of force by the Hong Kong police against citizens protesting the possible second reading of the controversial Fugitive Offenders Ordinance on 12th June;

Urges IFJ to join with our colleagues of the Hong Kong Federation of Journalists in condemning the insistence of the Hong Kong authorities to enact this ordinance despite an overwhelming public opposition, a stance that has resulted in injuries to many police and citizens and at least one employee for a Hong Kong news media; <<https://www.hkja.org.hk/en/statements/the-hong-kong-journalists-association-called-on-chief-executive-carrie-lam-to-intervene-immediately-to-stop-the-police-from-harassing-journalists-reporting-on-the-massive-demonstration-against-the-fug/>>

Calls on the Hong Kong authorities to retract the proposed draft ordinance which would allow the extradition of any persons residing in, visiting or transiting through Hong Kong as “fugitives” to face possible trial in the People`s Republic of China (PRC).

To extradite persons from Hong Kong and other countries or territories to the People`s Republic of China, which has no effective judicial independence or human rights protections, would prevent such persons from access to even minimum standards of fair trial and thus contravene Hong Kong`s obligations under the International Covenant for Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) and other international human rights treaties.

Given the notorious lack of respect for freedom of speech and the press in the People`s Republic of China, passage of this draft ordinance will have a chilling impact on freedom of speech and freedom of

the press and the safety of journalists that would not be limited to Hong Kong itself but would affect far beyond the borders of the People`s Republic of China and the East Asian region.

The IFJ, and especially our affiliates in Taiwan as well as in Hong Kong and Macau, are facing intensifying pressure from PRC political influence that poses threats to freedom of expression and of news coverage as well as basic human rights.

CARRIED

12. Call on the United Nations to end the policy of discriminatory exclusion of journalists from Taiwan

Moved by the Association of Journalists of Taiwan, AJT

The World Congress of the International Federation of Journalists, meeting in Tunis from 11th to 14th June 2019,

considering the discriminatory exclusion of journalists from Taiwan at this year`s World Health Assembly in Geneva, which had commenced in May without anyone on the floor to represent Taiwan;

observing that amongst nearly 23.8 million people having been stripped of their voice are also journalists, who were barred from press briefings at the Assembly for being holders of a Taiwanese passport and working for a bona fide media organisation formally registered in Taiwan;

noting that the journalists who have been denied access are Taiwanese nationals employed by the Central News Agency (CNA), producing every day 1,600 items of news in English, Japanese, and Spanish on top of Mandarin.

Demands the United Nations to cease all oppressive operations against journalists for being who they are and for working for whom they chose to work, and to immediately remove the sentence dictating that the applicant`s passport must be from a State recognised by the United Nations General Assembly. ([https://www.unog.ch/80256EDD006B9C2E/\(httpPages\)/70991F6887C73B2280256EE700379C58?OpenDocument](https://www.unog.ch/80256EDD006B9C2E/(httpPages)/70991F6887C73B2280256EE700379C58?OpenDocument))

The World Congress of the International Federation of Journalists, meeting in Tunis from 11th to 14th June 2019,

considering that the sentence as it is drafted suggests rejection for all holders of Taiwan passport hence denying the interests involved in the outcome of the approval procedure, that it is discriminatory as it clearly provides for inequality before the law;

Demands that the Office of the UN Assembly delete the sentence from the application rules;

Also demands that the Office grant Taiwanese journalists media access which would honour their right as `accredited media representatives`, allowing them to carry out the tasks listed in Section 5 `Media Access to Meetings and Other Activities Inside the Palais des Nations` of the Guidelines On Media Access To The Palais Des Nations In Geneva.

CARRIED