

Uniunea Sindicală *MediaSind*

- Romanian Journalists' and Printers' Syndical Federation
- Romanian Radio Society Syndical Federation
- Romanian National Television United Syndical Federation
- SZR – Romanian Journalists' Society Syndical Federation
- Journalists Trade Union from Republic of Moldova



Full member of the International Federation of Journalists

Str. W. Mărăcineanu, Nr. 1-3, Sector 1, București, Tel/fax: (+4) 021 314 33 36; (+4) 021 314 33 52, www.mediasind.ro
05.11.2007

Press Release

MediaSind Trade Union organized today, November 5, between 12am -1pm, a demonstration in front of the Romanian Parliament, in solidarity with the actions that took place on this day in 30 countries as a response to the initiative of the European Federation of Journalists, with the slogan "Stand Up for Journalism". At the manifestation took part members of **MediaSind** Trade Union: Romanian Journalists' and Printers' Syndical Federation, Romanian Radio Society Syndical Federation, Romanian National Television United Syndical Federation, SZR - Romanian Journalists' Society Syndical Federation. Statements were sent to Presidency, Parliament and Romanian Government and the leaders of territorial structures of US **MediaSind** have expressed also through statements their necessities related to the field they are working in, to the district Prefectures.

The action organized by US **MediaSind** tries to reach journalists consciousness and to inform the national and international public opinion about the problems that Romanian mass-media is confronted with:

- The depoliticizing of radio and television public institutions;
- The attacks to romanian journalists of the political branches, together with the Romanian President, Traian Basescu.
- The breach by the owners of journalists' rights that are stipulated in the Unique Collective Labour Agreement at the level of Mass-Media Branch;
- The existence of a quality journalism and the observance of the Code of Ethics stipulated in the Collective Agreement;
- The lack of a national strategy regarding the economical support of the press.

On this day, Journalists Union of Moldova (JUM) organized in Chi[inau actions of peaceful picketing of the Moldavian Parliament and handed over to the president of Parliament a statement issued by the national press club, in which are presented the concerns that JUM is preoccupied with, the lack of a national strategy for developing free press, the political pressure and control of mass-media, the precarious situation of the independent press, the growing monopoly of the governmental branches on mass-media field, the illegal privatization of public media, the journalists' persecution, the obstruction of press and journalists' right to access information, the lack of transparency of state institutions etc.

"Stand up for Journalism" is a protest against serious crises that journalists have to face within the process of excessive commercialization, of political pressures, of law standards and precarious working condition in Europe. In the same time, this event represents a proof of the important role that FEJ handles in what concerns the promoting of a quality journalism and defence of its member rights.

In Brussels, the General Secretary of FEJ, together with Belgian trade union AGJPB/AVBB, prepared special actions as well. Letters were sent to the members of the European Parliament and of the European Commission, joined by a "false" Newspaper which has as front page a page of a tabloid type, that refers to UE policies and a page with serious articles, to point out the necessity of quality in journalism. Moreover, FEJ issued a public statement, in cooperation with European Trade Union Confederation (ETUC) and with international trade movement.

As a part of the same action, in a few days shall be launched the Country Report on mass-media problems, a document that will be also sent to the European Commission and to other institutions which are in concern with this problem, with the help of FEJ.

We are grateful to our colleagues who joined us, against bad weather conditions.

Steering Committee of US **MediaSind**
President,
Cristi Godinac

