

# ACCESS TO INFORMATION

## 1. Intrusive government and surveillance powers

*Proposed by the National Union of Journalists, UK and Ireland (NUJ)*

The World Congress of the International Federation of Journalists, meeting in Angers from June 7<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> 2016,

**noting** that the widespread use of smartphones, emails and social media over the last decade has given the intelligence agencies access to private data on a scale few would have imagined possible;

**applauding** the work of journalists in mining the massive leak of National Security Agency documents by an NSA officer-turned whistle-blower, Edward Snowden, which unravelled the most extensive global surveillance operation ever seen using the top secret prism;

**deploring** that the spying operation had direct access to data from Apple, Google and others; its use in gathering intelligence by the UK's GCHQ; the espionage on foreign politicians at international conferences, world leaders and embassies; as well as journalists. Between them, they allowed the agencies to harvest, store and analyse data of about millions of phone calls, emails and search-engine queries;

**thanking** the NUJ for organising a joint conference with *The Guardian*, one of the media investigating the scandal, and other IFJ unions which, for the first time, brought together journalists themselves to discuss the impact of these shock revelations on their work and the need for strong oversight of the intelligence agencies by parliament and the judiciary, neither of which exists at present;

**believing** that the Snowden revelations had disclosed matters of genuine public interest and concern to states across the globe and the implications for journalists and the risk to our democracies are far reaching, although it has proved difficult for journalists to be in full agreement;

Congress notes the setting up of an IFJ working group on surveillance and **calls on** the incoming Executive Committee to:

1. raise awareness and build a culture among journalists to be secure with their information and communications. Encryption and countless tools, often available for free online, must be used by journalists to protect their own work-in-progress and their communications with sensitive sources;

2. defend journalists' fundamental human rights at a time where many of the laws that underpin citizens' rights, as well as protect journalists, are being chipped away at by governments. In many countries, the government's surveillance programmes have

infiltrated most of the communications technologies we have come to rely on;

3. 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;

4. build campaigns and take concrete action to defend every case where journalists' ability to protect journalistic sources is attacked or where journalists are spied on. The courts should be used to ensure that governments' surveillance policies are consistent with national and international laws;

5. seek to translate the huge outcry into a momentum for change that would stop the indiscriminate collection of information and bring back surveillance policies under democratic control;

6. 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.

## Carried unanimously

### 2. Access to information

*Proposed by the Federation of African Journalists (FAJ)*

The World Congress of the International Federation of Journalists, meeting in Angers from June 7<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup> 2016,

**considering** the predominance of press freedom-killing laws on the African continent;

**noting** with great concern the serious shortcomings in the governance of many African States and a difficult access for journalists to public information sources;

**recognising** the strong determination of people in general and non-State actors to have access to information in real time;

Congress:

1. urges African States which have not done it until now to enact swiftly laws on access to information;

2. asks the IFJ Executive Committee and General Secretary to organise, to this end, in co-operation with FAJ high-level discussions and meetings with the African Union Commission;

3. invites the IFJ new Administrative Committee to develop strategic partnerships with States or bodies involved in this issue with a view to supporting the African trade unions fighting for access to information.

### Carried unanimously

### 3. Stop the Trans-Atlantic Free Trade Agreement (TAFTA)

*Proposed by the Syndicat national des journalistes CGT (SNJ-CGT)*

The World Congress of the International Federation of Journalists, meeting in Angers from June 7<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> 2016,

**observing** that upon completion of the Miami round the Tafta chief negotiators reaffirmed the objective to conclude the negotiations before the U.S. presidential election (beginning of November 2016);

**mindful** that to achieve this objective, intensive technical discussions are being planned for the coming months prior to a new formal session due to be held in Brussels;

**aware** that despite petitions and protests of millions of European citizens, these free-trade negotiations between United States and Europe have remained secret;

**recollecting** that at its Assembly General Meeting in June 2015 in Budva (Montenegro), EFJ voted a motion instructing especially its Steering Committee to:

- continue demanding a greater transparency on the content of the negotiations against the secrecy of the discussions;
- identify topics under negotiation which may affect the rights of journalists such as freedom of expression, press freedom, free access to information but also the author's rights and the journalists' welfare;
- maintain and develop the public information service, to preserve the quality of the content from commodification dangers and to safeguard the public service funding;

Under these conditions, the Congress **calls upon** the IFJ Executive Committee to adopt these proposals and to create the conditions of a joint endeavour uniting European and U.S. trade unions to oppose any decision that would harm the citizens' information on both sides of the Atlantic.

### Carried unanimously

# SAFETY OF JOURNALISTS

## 4. Safety of journalists and double standards

*Proposed by the Russian Union of Journalists (RUJ)*

The World Congress of the International Federation of Journalists, meeting in Angers from June 7th-10th 2016,

**recognising** that the problem of ensuring the safety of journalists in recent years has become as important as never before;

**recalling** decisions of previous IFJ Congress calling to ensure the safety of journalists in all regions of the world;

**expressing** anxiety for the unprecedented level of violence against media workers in recent years;

**expressing** concerns by practice of "double standards" in the coverage of security issues, which is a direct threat to the solidarity of journalists,

Congress **instructs** the IFJ Executive Committee to:

1. undertake urgent measures to intensify work in the field of security of journalists;
2. maintain the practice of the Days Against Impunity and to expand the information component of the campaign;
3. support trainings and development of new forms of work for the protection of journalists;
4. include into the IFJ Executive Committee working agenda the broad international discussion on overcoming the "double standards" and therefore to promote enhanced exchange of information on security and co-operation of regional organisations, as well as other IFJ and solidarity actions.

**Carried unanimously**

## 5. Co-operation with UN agencies

*Proposed by the National Union of Journalists, UK and Ireland (NUJ)*

The World Congress of the International Federation of Journalists, meeting in Angers from June 7<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> 2016,

**noting** the increased co-operation between the IFJ and UNESCO since the Cadiz congress, after the new IFJ leadership renewed their relationship with UNESCO and started working with them on many fronts – world press freedom day, safety and protection of journalists, implementation of UN plan of action, media and gender, media development, etc.;

**welcoming** the lead taken by UNESCO in coordinating the development and implementation of the UN Plan of Action on the Safety of Journalists and the Issue of Impunity, based on new coalition-building, awareness-raising, good practice and training;

**believing**, however, that the safety of journalists will improve only if the UN starts confronting the issue of impunity at every level, not just by raising awareness, but by forcing governments to implement the dozens of motions, declarations and international instruments agreed in the last 20 years;

**noting** the huge effort by the IFJ secretariat in keeping the issue of journalists' safety as a top priority for the IFJ, involving monitoring, advocacy, protests, regional and international campaigns, training and the most recent 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the killed list, published annually;

further **noting** the IFJ's interventions at the UN Human Rights Council to help member unions react to reports, declarations and universal periodic reviews;

Congress **calls on** the incoming Executive Committee to:

1. increase its co-operation with UNESCO by continued monitoring of the implementation of the UN Plan of Action, by ensuring that member unions in target countries are fully engaged with these activities and that all member unions can access the resources available in the UN system including best practice, expertise, funding possibility for capacity building, etc.;
2. upgrade its participation at the level of the UN through higher level of membership and the setting up of a coordination to plan and execute initiatives and lobbying;
3. ensure that all the activities within the UN agencies, whether the UN itself, its programs and funds, the relationship with various rapporteurs, UNESCO, UNHRC, etc. are thoroughly coordinated, involving relevant member unions when necessary.

**Carried unanimously**

## **6. Israel's attacks on Palestinian journalists**

*Proposed by the Palestinian Journalists' Syndicate (PJS)*

The World Congress of the International Federation of Journalists, meeting in Angers from June 7<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> 2016,

**condemning** the killing of 19 journalists and the wounding of scores of others during the 52-day long bombing of Gaza by the Israeli army in July 2014;

**Condemning** military and government spokesperson for the Israeli army who justify their attacks on media houses as “terror targets”, and making no distinction between journalists and combatants;

**reaffirming** that all journalists working in Gaza and the West Bank, whether local or foreign, must be afforded the same civilian protections under Article 51 of Additional Protocol I to the Geneva Conventions;

**deploring** the violent attack by the Israeli military on a peaceful demonstration organized by the PJS to mark World Press Freedom Day on May 3<sup>rd</sup> where security forces charged demonstrators firing stun grenades which injured several journalists including Abdelnasser Najjar, PJS President and member of the IFJ Executive Committee shot on both legs. Congress regrets that the National Federation of Israeli Journalists failed to condemn the Israeli aggression against Palestinian journalists, or to express solidarity with the PJS;

**further condemning** violations by Israeli authorities such as harassment, restriction of movement, prohibition from travel or prevention from covering an event, taking place almost daily as fundamental breach of journalists’ rights. Three radio stations in Hebron “Manbar Al-Houria, Sawt Al-Khalil and Dream Radio were ransacked by Israeli forces, their equipment destroyed before being closed down without a due process by order of the military commander accusing them of incitement;

**applauding** the global campaign waged by the PJS to defend journalists in Palestine including the global petition signed by tens of thousands of people in support of the right of journalists to freedom of movement, and the powerful intervention by PJS president Abdelnasser Najjar at the 29<sup>th</sup> session of the Human Rights Committee in June 2015 during the debate on the report by the UN Independent Commission of Inquiry on the 2014 Gaza conflict;

Congress **reaffirms** its view that:

- Freedom of movement is a central core of independent journalism and, in restricting such a right, Israeli authorities are in breach on international covenants and the right to report;
- Cases of directly and intentionally striking journalists are war crimes under international humanitarian law.

Congress **instructs** the Executive Committee to:

1. continue campaigning for Israel to recognise the IFJ press cards when carried by Palestinian journalists;
2. organise the widest international campaign to demand an end to impunity for attacks against journalists in Palestine and that the Israeli forces who carried out these appalling murders and attacks answer for their crimes and face the full weight of justice;
3. give full support to the PJS in taking up such cases to national and international tribunals;
4. seek from the Israeli government assurances that, in future, its military forces will abide by all international instruments relating to journalists, including Article 51 of the Geneva Conventions.

Carried

## EQUALITY

### 7. Developing the IFJ Gender Equality Programme

*Proposed by the Palestinian Journalists' Syndicate (PJS)*

The World Congress of the International Federation of Journalists, meeting in Angers, from June 7<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> 2016,

**reaffirming** motions on gender passed at successive congresses since the Seoul congress in 2001 setting up policies and campaigns by the Gender Council to promote equality within the IFJ;

**applauding** the success of the global mid-term Gender Council conference held in Tangier in January 2016 on the theme of "Gender and women – women taking the lead" which drew up a new road map to re-organise the mission and work of the Gender Council in all the IFJ regions;

**believing** that during these times of crisis, the strengthening of the ability of women journalists to contribute at all levels of the IFJ is of crucial importance to all the unions and regions;

**applauding** that, in affiliate unions such as the Palestinian Journalists' Syndicate, strong campaigns by women activists have resulted in a massive culture change within unions and an increased representation of women at all levels of the union's structure;

**regretting** that the IFJ leadership did not allocate sufficient resources to the work on gender, making it difficult for the Gender Council to implement its working programme and to continue assisting unions to develop initiatives that strengthen their women members;

**reaffirming** its main policies to campaign to end all forms of inequality, such as reducing the gender pay gap and highlighting its causes, equalising opportunities and improving conditions for women journalists, tackling the under-representation of women in unions structures, ensuring that women's issues/concerns are collectively articulated and actioned;

Congress therefore **instructs** the Executive Committee to:

1. continue to give its full support to the campaigns and initiatives of the Gender Council. It is crucial that in time of financial difficulties the work by IFJ women is not the first to be downgraded;
2. ensure that the IFJ offices in all the regions support the emerging regional structures and implement mainstreaming at their conferences and workshops;
3. urge the IFJ project office to include in its fund-raising effort specific projects to help affiliates and regions undertake initiatives to develop this work.

## Carried unanimously

### 8. Trade union fight for gender and ethnic equality

*Proposed by the Federação Nacional dos Jornalistas (FENAJ)*

The World Congress of the International Federation of Journalists, meeting in Angers from June 7<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> 2016,

**whereas hatred and intolerance** have permeated sexist, homophobic, racist and xenophobic discourses around the world, having harmful impacts on the work environment;

**whereas, in order to combat the rise of racism** in the world, the UN has proclaimed the International Decade for People of African Descent, beginning on January 31, 2015 and ending on December 31, 2024, which aims to raise visibility on the issue and promote respect among all peoples and fulfilment of all human rights and fundamental freedoms by people of African descent;

**whereas discrimination** takes place mainly in the work environment, where women of African descent are twice as discriminated against for their colour and gender;

**whereas wages and conditions** are unequal for people of African descent, both men and women;

**considering** the conditions of exploitation and inequalities that affect female journalists working in the press and in the media, resulting from the crisis and neoliberal gender policies, which aggravates the wage gap between men and women, discrimination, sexual abuse and harassment;

Congress believes that the trade union movement of journalists has great responsibility regarding this issue and must take up the fight against discrimination and, therefore, agrees that IFJ affiliates must fight to:

1. implement ILO Convention 111 in media companies, which addresses discrimination in respect of employment and occupation on the basis of race, colour, sex, religion, political opinion, national extraction or social origin, and promotes equality of opportunity or treatment in employment or occupation;
2. implement ILO Convention 100 in media companies, which addresses equal remuneration for men and women workers for work of equal value;
3. immediately implement, in media companies, the necessary measures to eliminate gender discrimination and to achieve equal opportunities for men and women in employment or occupation.

**Carried unanimously**

## **ETHICS**

### **9. Dialogue of trust against hate speech and aggression in media**

*Proposed by the Russian Union of Journalists (RUJ)*

The World Congress of the International Federation of Journalists, meeting in Angers from June 7<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> 2016,

**recalling** the previous decisions and statements of the IFJ;

**supporting** the IFJ intention to fight all kinds of discrimination, xenophobia and hatred, as well as the tendency to use journalists for political and other purposes far from the mission of the journalist;

**sharing** the concern and anxiety with the increase of a degree of aggression in the media, due to recent political developments;

Congress **instructs** the IFJ Executive Committee to:

1. develop an effective strategy to fight the language of hatred and aggression in the media and include this activity in the list of priorities for IFJ and its regional organisations;
2. assign the IFJ Executive Committee to facilitate the development of a unified strategy to overcome the rise of hate speech in the media;
3. request the IFJ Executive Committee to initiate a global campaign to overcome the aggression in the media, including regional campaigns and debates;
4. support co-operation and exchange of experiences in overcoming hate speech, informational wars and peaceful development of the language of communication;
5. support the initiative of Russian Union of Journalists and UNESCO's *Dialogue of Trust* as a tool to overcome the language of hatred and aggression and create a permanent dialogue in the profession and society.

## Carried unanimously

### 10. Stop hate speech

*Proposed by the Syndicat national des journalistes CGT (SNJ-CGT)*

The World Congress of the International Federation of Journalists, meeting in Angers from June 7<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> 2016,

**bearing in mind** the worrying rise of populism, especially in Europe where authorities – in Turkey, Poland and Hungary, i.a. – challenge the press freedom, threaten the public service existence and independence, imprison or kill journalists, apply censorship;

**noting** that warmongering choices of specific governments induce hawkish statements in the media increasingly concentrated in a handful of industrial corporations close to ruling authorities;

**observing** that during international crises – like the migrant crisis – hate speech used by populist parties and some States permeates the media and has a negative ripple effect on the profession;

**cognizant** that journalists under a broad range of different types of pressure and the staff cuts, the precariousness of their work, the conflictive or critical situations they are subject to, practise self-censorship;

**being aware** that under the pressure of increasing production speed induced by the media sacrosanct principle of free competition, journalists have a tendency to

becoming tools of propaganda, entailing immoderation and excesses, challenging the quality of information provided to the public;

Congress **proposes** that:

1. IFJ Executive Committee appeals to journalists urging them to abide by the professional principles of the Munich Declaration, to turn down sensationalism, competition laws, self-censorship, sweeping analyses;

2. IFJ denounces on the Council of Europe's Platform, with the United Nations, UNESCO States that harm the quality of information by supporting hate speech and their citizens' disinformation encouraging thereby the dissemination of populist ideas.

**Carried**

## **11. Ethical funding “HANDS OFF OUR UNIONS”**

*Proposed by: (1) Fédération Syndicale des Travailleurs de la Communication – Congo Brazzaville (FESYTRAC); (2) National Union of Somali Journalists (NUSOJ); (3) Sudan Journalists Union (SJU); (4) Syndicat de la Presse et de l'audio-Visuel de Djibouti (SPAD); (5) Syndicat National des Journalistes du Cameroun (SNJC); (6) Syndicat National des Professionnels de la Presse - République démocratique du Congo (SNPP); (7) Uganda Media Union (UMU); (8) Union Gabonaise des Professionnels de la Communication (UGPC)*

The World Congress of the International Federation of Journalists, meeting in Angers from June 7<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> 2016,

**recalling** the motion on ethical funding agreed at the IFJ Athens Congress in 2004. This motion listed positive and negative criteria that the IFJ should use when negotiating funding for projects based on options raised by the then General Secretary in his report on the funding of the IFJ future projects;

**believing** that the IFJ Secretariat has over the years scrupulously to ensure that the choices of partners and donors is based on these clear agreed principles;

**further recalling** that, by being first and foremost a confederation of trade unions of journalists, the IFJ is guided by its core labour values of social responsibility and social justice and our overall principles such as ethics, independence, respect and non-intrusion in other unions' governance;

**agreeing** that malicious misrepresentations, calumny, slander and libel as well as unfounded accusations are serious professional offences. The 2004 Congress motion specifically included in its list of negative criteria funds from organisations which “are working against the ethos of journalism”;

**concerned** that, in some instances, help from some donors had provoked huge divisions among affiliates and been used to run campaigns against individuals and union leaders and attempt to dictate who should be leading our unions – a sad reminder of a long-gone colonial era where imperialistic countries ruled the roost and exploited whole continents;

Congress **calls** on these donors to refrain from using their money to set union against union and to run campaigns to demonise individuals, in particular through unfounded accusations and slanders and the funds that come from governments who organise or support phantom unions or who do not respect the freedom of the press.

Congress **instructs** the Executive Committee to add to the negative criteria agreed at the 2004 congress: “funds which divide IFJ member unions and communities and which are used to seek to interfere in unions, their work, governance and choice of leaders.”

If indeed there are serious accusations of misconduct or breaches of internal rules against individuals and unions, they should be addressed to the IFJ leadership with evidence, so it can be followed in an orderly way and in line with the principles of natural justice.

**Carried**

## **12. Combating corruption**

*Proposed by the Russian Union of Journalists (RUJ)*

The World Congress of the International Federation of Journalists, meeting in Angers from June 7<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> 2016,

**guided** by the IFJ slogan that “there can be no press freedom if journalists exist in conditions of corruption, poverty or fear”;

**understanding** that corruption is one of the most dangerous problems of modern society affecting the core basis of the journalist profession;

**recognising** the RUJ experience in battling against corruption in Russia (all-Russian anticorruption contest of journalists; RUJ regional journalists' anti-corruption working groups, annual report on media publications against corruption);

Congress **instructs** the IFJ Executive Committee to:

1. study and use the RUJ experience in the fight against corruption as possible model that will support our members unions to battle corruption more effectively;

2. recognise the IFJ member unions activities on fight against corruption among the priorities;
3. establish an IFJ anticorruption expert group to organise and strengthen this type of member unions activity.

**Carried**

## **TRADE UNION DEVELOPMENT**

### **13. Regional trade union development and strengthening**

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

The World Congress of the International Federation of Journalists, meeting in Angers from June 7<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> 2016,

**whereas** the IFJ regional trade union structure representing 13 trade unions in Latin America and the Caribbean Countries has been rapidly losing momentum as a result of an inadequacy of meetings, activities, communication and real participation in the decision-making process which impacts directly the presence, the operation and the image of the Federación de Periodistas de América Latina y El Caribe (FEPALC);

**whereas** the decline has been generated by the growing distrust before, during and after the World Congress of Dublin and worsened during the FEPALC regional Congress in Mexico City, in September 2014;

**applauding** IFJ work, which in conjunction with the FEPALC member unions willing to strive to strengthen the trade union development and growth in our industry;

Congress **instructs** the IFJ Executive Committee to:

1. make all necessary efforts to support the restoration of a real trade union, participatory, solidarity-oriented, democratic and inclusive work in Latin America and the Caribbean Countries;
2. endorse the IFJ World Congress support to the trade union development and reinforcement which will certainly help FEPALC, the IFJ regional organisation, to grow and expand its footprint.

**Carried**

### **14. Backing the trade union development in DRC**

*Proposed by the Syndicat national des professionnels de la presse, République démocratique du Congo (SNPP)*

The World Congress of the International Federation of Journalists, meeting in Angers from June 7<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> 2016,

**recognising** the progress made by the Syndicat National des Professionnels de la Presse in DRC on issues of journalists' safety and the signing of a national Collective Agreement on media;

**considering** that the new administrative division of the country into 26 provinces instead of 11 induces the reorganisation of the trade union;

**deeply concerned** by the freeze of the trade union fees in the public sector since 2012 when wages started to be paid on bank accounts;

Congress **calls on** IFJ Executive Committee to give its technical and financial support to the implementation of the two-year programme 2016-2017 dedicated to the trade union development in the 15 new provinces and the stability of the national bodies.

## Carried

### 15. Trade union freedom in Equatorial Guinea

*Proposed by the Syndicat national des professionnels de la presse, République démocratique du Congo (SNPP)*

The World Congress of the International Federation of Journalists, meeting in Angers from June 7<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> 2016,

**deeply concerned** by the absence of trade union and association of journalists and persistent violations of the International Labour Organisation (ILO) Convention 87 by the country's authorities;

**observing** the difficult and unbearable situation of press freedom characterised by fear, self-censorship and exile of journalists;

**considering** that it cannot be accepted that Equatorial Guinea be an ongoing black hole due to a total absence of independent media;

Congress:

1. calls upon the International Federation of Journalists' Executive Committee to undertake emergency actions in support of press freedom and media independence in the country;
2. launches a pathetic appeal to Malabo's government to end the State control which kills the media and to abide by the labour law in the communication sector as provided for in Conventions 87 and 98 of the International Labour Organisation.

**Carried**

## **16. Media under threat of extinction in Central Africa**

*Proposed by the Syndicat national des professionnels de la presse, République démocratique du Congo (SNPP)*

The World Congress of the International Federation of Journalists, meeting in Angers from June 7<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> 2016,

**considering** that countries had to complete their the digital transition by June 2015 at the latest;

**deploring** that the transition in Central Africa be tough and imposed without any support to the media and the people;

**observing** that the switch from analog to digital distribution is condemning a large range of broadcasters to close down since they cannot afford to renew the information production equipment and pay for the new operating licences issued by the government;

**noting** that DRC and Cameroon broadcast media are dramatically hit and that in 2017 job losses will be particularly high in the industry;

Congress **urges** IFJ Executive Committee to carry out widespread awareness-raising campaigns and advocacy for the survival of the media under threat.

**Carried**

## **17. International Framework Agreements**

*Proposed by the Syndicat national des journalistes CGT (SNJ-CGT)*

The World Congress of the International Federation of Journalists, meeting in Angers from June 7<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> 2016,

**having in mind** that information is not just a commodity, that it is essential for citizens to form their own opinions against the background of a changing economy;

**considering** that digital technologies enable a flow of information without borders;

**aware** that information supports are being concentrated in a handful of multinational corporations in a large number of countries extending increasingly their control over them;

**conscious** that the shareholders of media companies are often hedge funds whose only rationale is to boost their capital to the detriment of the quality of information and most fundamental social rights (low wages and absence of social rules defined by ILO);

**further considering** that processing quality information is unthinkable without free journalists, independent from all authorities and lobbies, from the shareholders;

Congress **resolves** to:

1. develop a campaign for the signing of international framework agreements with multinational corporations to fight against the commodification of the information and to guarantee equal rights to all journalists working in a same corporation against the background of the “Corporate Social Responsibility – CSR”;
2. study with the member unions the list of corporations in which such agreements should be urgently negotiated including national IFJ unions;
3. draw up a model list of clauses to be negotiated as part of such agreements (minimum wage, hours of work, working conditions mindful of the journalists’ health and safety, labour contract, vocational training, right to union membership and of strike, etc.) allowing similar social standards in all the countries where the corporation has its operations;
4. establish a list of subsidiaries of a same corporation in which the terms and conditions provided for in the agreement must be enforced as well as the information mechanism of possible subcontractors;
5. ensure the inclusion of a monitoring mechanism of the agreement enforcement in all the corporate components.

**Carried unanimously**

## **18. Professional training in Journalism**

*Proposed by the Federação Nacional dos Jornalistas (FENAJ)*

The World Congress of the International Federation of Journalists, meeting in Angers from June 7<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> 2016,

**believing** that as communication and particularly journalism play an increasingly central role in the social construction of reality, aimed to serve the public interest and ensure people's right to information, a journalist's should solid and quality theoretical, technical, ethical and deontological training. New journalists must be trained and prepared to act professionally so as to be effectively able to fulfil the fundamental and important social role of journalism;

The increasingly younger newsrooms and other workplaces is another indication that professional training requires care and qualification to prepare young workers entering the journalism work market. They must be prepared to do Journalism with technical, theoretical and ethical quality. But also with capacity to intervene in this market, change it, safeguarding the dignity and respect of journalists and the quality, public interest, responsibility and ethics of Journalism. Only then can we, journalists, help protect democracy in Journalism, Communication and our nations;

Congress calls on IFJ member unions to:

1. defend and promote campaigns for widely available training in Journalism and also refresher and qualification training programs and projects to include courses and studies on gender and ethnicity issues; courses and discussions on labour union activity and labour
2. contribute to related issues; courses and discussions on protection of journalists;
3. implement programs and projects focused on these issues in order to prepare and qualify young journalists and to update the other segments of the profession.
4. Promote collective agreements on professional training

**Carried**

## **ORGANISATION**

### **19. Review of the regional offices**

*Proposed by the National Union of Journalists, UK and Ireland*

The World Congress of the International Federation of Journalists, meeting in Angers from June 7<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> 2016,

**noting** that regional structures continue to play an important role in helping develop the capacity of IFJ regions;

**recalling** motion 15 agreed by the Dublin congress setting out a path for developing IFJ regions through the building of the capacity of the regional offices and an increase in their functions;

**welcoming** the effort by the Secretariat to coordinate this work, in particular by arranging meetings of the regional directors to exchange information and to harmonise their activities;

**concerned** that governance and financial difficulties raised the need to review IFJ organisational and developmental framework for its regions;

**reiterating** that regional offices should at all time work under the full authority of and be accountable to the IFJ secretariat;

Congress **calls on** the incoming Executive Committee to:

1. initiate an urgent detailed review of the organisational and managerial structures of the regional offices including their funding, training of staff and ways of working;
2. implement the review as soon as possible in order to ensure that any growth of regional work is carried out in an ordered and efficient way supported by viable financial plans.

#### **Roll call vote: Result**

**For: 136**

**Against: 123**

**Abstentions: 7**

#### **Motion Carried**

## **20. Finance commission**

*Proposed by the Swedish Union of Journalists*

The World Congress of the International Federation of Journalists, meeting in Angers from June 7<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> 2016,

**recalling** that the Finance and Constitution Commission that worked during the Dublin Congress in 2013 recommended establishing a permanent commission “to oversee the budgetary process between Congresses, working in partnership with the

Honorary Treasurer”. The aim was to improve the management of the IFJ’s funds and, as a result of that, the IFJ’s economy;

further **recalling** that the Executive Committee appointed a relatively large commission (nine members), including members of the ExCom. The Honorary Treasurer is a “non-voting participant”, according to the rules for the FC that the Executive Committee has adopted. The members of the FC were supposed to meet by teleconferences, normally every quarter after receiving quarterly financial reports from the secretariat. None of this has happened;

**believing** that this is obviously not enough, neither to improve the management of funds nor the financial situation. The regular “meetings” of the FC have not taken place as foreseen. The different levels of participation/activity of FC members and the differences of opinion about the situation between members of the Executive Committee have made the work of the FC neither efficient nor helpful. The IFJ’s finances are a serious cause for alarm;

further **believing** that the future of the IFJ is dependent on the organisation’s ability to do the necessary work as well as the members’ confidence in same. That, of course, takes more than money but the finances, the responsible management of them and transparency are nevertheless crucial;

**noting** that the responsibility for the financial management of the IFJ is shared by several levels of the organisation and unevenly distributed between them. It is time for the IFJ to review and change the management of their finances, including the roles and responsibilities of the Executive and Administrative Committees, the Honorary Treasurer and the Secretariat.

Most non-profit organisations, including trade unions (e.g. the EFJ) elect lay auditors to complete the work of the professional auditors, to ensure the members’ insight and access to information – and to raise alarm if necessary. The present FC should be replaced by a commission elected by Congress and with a different objective. The new FC must be independent from other bodies of the IFJ but have the full co-operation of those bodies and access to all documents regarding finances;

Congress therefore **instructs** the incoming Administrative Committee to make sure that the new FC receive quarterly reports on the finances of the IFJ, that teleconferences are made available to the FC to the extent that the commission wishes and that physical meetings can take place at least once a year, together with members of the AdCom and relevant staff.

An interim finance commission is to be appointed in the following manner:

- Following the close of congress, the general secretary is to send a circular to member unions inviting nominations for the three lay auditor positions available.

- Nominations must be received by the general secretary by close of business on July 31
- The General Secretary will then propose three members of the interim finance commission to the Administrative Committee.
- The interim finance commission will serve as the finance commission until the next congress.

## Carried

### 21. International press cards

*Proposed by the Deutscher Journalisten-Verband (DJV) Germany and dju in ver.di, Germany*

The World Congress of the International Federation of Journalists, meeting in Angers from June 7<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> 2016,

**noting** that the IFJ is the only organisation with the authority to identify journalists and deliver a global press card;

equally **noting** that the International Press Card is the world's oldest and most reputable identification for working journalists across the globe;

**believing** that a redesign of the International Press Card is overdue;

Congress, therefore, **instructs** the Executive Committee of the IFJ to organise a redesign of the International Press Card in 2016 with the aim that it better serves the interests and demands of the member organisations of the IFJ in the regions.

## Defeated

### 22. Foundation Georges Bourdon

*Proposed by the Deutscher Journalisten-Verband (DJV) Germany and dju in ver.di, Germany*

The World Congress of the International Federation of Journalists, meeting in Angers from June 7<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> 2016,

**welcoming** the work of the IFJ Safety Fund in providing humanitarian and legal assistance to journalists around the world and its unique role as an important and crucial source of support for journalists under threats;

**recalling** that the Safety Fund has no legal status;

Congress, therefore, **instructs** the Executive Committee of the IFJ to investigate setting the Safety Fund as a charitable Foundation with the name “George Bourdon Foundation” under Belgian law.

The Ver.di delegation agreed to write to the general secretary and incoming executive regarding the state of the Safety fund and ask them to report back.  
**AGREED**

### **23. Think tank on media changes following digitalisation and globalisation**

*Proposed by the Deutscher Journalisten-Verband (DJV) Germany and dju in ver.di, Germany*

The World Congress of the International Federation of Journalists, meeting in Angers from June 7<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> 2016,

Notes the following

1. The international growth of news aggregators including google and facebook
2. The increasing capture of advertising revenues by these companies at the expense of long standing media organisations who invest in journalism and news media
3. The failure of news aggregators to invest in journalism and journalistic content
4. That news aggregation without appropriate regulation will result in further concentration of media ownership and the loss of separate and distinct voices
5. Diverse opinion and a plurality of media organisations is a democratic strength

resolves that

the Executive Committee shall establish a special commission which acts as a “think tank” to develop a strategy how the IFJ can focus on the challenges of media changes in the new environment of digitisation and globalisation. The aim is to strengthen the regional competence and to identify possible synergies with other organizations. The Executive Committee shall invite affiliates to nominate representatives for such a “think tank”. The commission shall report to the Executive Committee.

**Carried unanimously**

## 24. Regional groups

*Proposed by the Nordic Journalists Union (NJF)*

The World Congress of the International Federation of Journalists, meeting in Angers from June 7<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> 2016,

**emphasising** that the international journalist society should develop sustainable solidarity through strong organisations as both the IFJ and the regional organisations and groups should enhance their co-operation;

### **noting**

- concerns raised about the finances in the IFJ as the equity has decreased significantly since the Congress in 2013, and that the financial situation of the IFJ requires stability;
- that it is of great importance that each affiliate is able for its members to be accountable for the work done by the IFJ and the regional organizations;
- the importance of the affiliates to stretch out to more members to maintain and develop their representative as a prerequisite for strengthening our global network;
- that a number of affiliates every year have difficulties to pay their membership fees;
- that some affiliates often are more connected to their continental and regional organisations;

**reaffirming** IFJ policies to give more attention to regional groups to build upon the decision made at the Dublin Congress 2013 about developing a transregional dialogue and sustainable financial budgets in the regions.

**considering** that the liaison is stronger at regional level, both IFJ and the regional organisations will benefit from affiliates having stronger connections with their respective regional groups.

Congress **instructs** the IFJ Executive Committee to set up a membership Working Group. Such a group should be formed before the end of 2016 and include representatives from the IFJ Administrative Committee and from the IFJ continental and regional groups (EFJ, FEPALC, FAJ, Asia-Pacific and North America). The group should consider

- how to organise the affiliates in countries where there is a need of capacity building to get more representative organisations;
- the development of the structure of IFJ and its regional groups including the composition of the fee system taking into consideration the efforts made by the IFJ continental and regional groups to develop and consolidate the work of our unions and associations.

## Carried

## SOLIDARITY

### 25. Russian and Ukrainian professional dialogue development

*Proposed by the Russian Union of Journalists (RUJ)*

The World Congress of the International Federation of Journalists, meeting in Angers from June 7<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> 2016,

**recognising** the importance of the decisions of IFJ Congress IWF aimed at developing the solidarity of journalists in times of conflict;

**recalling** the dangers of involving journalists in political and ideological conflicts;

**Bearing in mind** the belief that only a solidarity work of journalists, who share the core professional values, can guarantee the right of audience for truthful information

Congress **instructs** the IFJ Executive Committee to:

1) to maintain the practice of the dialogue of Russian (RUJ) and Ukrainian (NUJU, IMTUU) professional journalists unions and to establish the working group for case by case evaluation of the emerging issues

2) to assist the practice of the Dialogue and to establish the tripartite body with equal representation, guided by IFJ, to keep the records of each violation of journalists rights with following provision of the timely support of journalists in Russia and Ukraine with special attention to conflict zones

## CARRIED Unanimously

### 26. Mumia must be freed

The World Congress of the International Federation of Journalists, meeting in Angers from June 7<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> 2016,

**recollecting** that for 34 years, our colleague, the Afro-American journalist, Mumia Abu-Jamal, has been imprisoned in the State of Pennsylvania, charged with the assassination of a policeman in Philadelphia on 9 December 1981, which he has always been denying;

**considering** that he was condemned to the death penalty in 1982 upon completion of a racist and unfair legal procedure during which his constitutional rights were literally dntrodden;

**observing** that despite a large number of legal and judiciary irregularities during the procedure, he has never obtained it revision to defend his innocence;

**noting** that Mumia Abu-Jamal, called “the voice of the voiceless”, has spent 10964 days (i.e. more than 30 years) on death row;

**further noting** that the international mobilisation has saved him twice from being executed (in 1995 and 1999) by the Pennsylvanian authorities;

**having in mind** that as a result of the mobilisation he could leave the death row in December 2011 as ruled by the U.S. Supreme Court;

**having in mind** that our colleague had his death penalty reduced to life imprisonment without parole eligibility;

**aware** that according to this ruling, Mumia Abu-Jamal is doomed to die in Mahanoy’s prison while he has been claiming his innocence for more than three decades;

Under these circumstances, Congress **calls upon** the IFJ Executive Committee to demand his release and the possibility to exercise his profession of journalist. More precisely, the Executive Committee is urged to make an appeal to the governor of Pennsylvania, Tom Wolf, and the President of the United States, Barack Obama.

**CARRIED Unanimously**