



In the Grip of Violence

JOURNALISTS AND MEDIA STAFF KILLED IN 2012

No part of this publication may be reproduced in any form without the written permission of the publisher. The contents of this book are copyrighted and the rights to use of contributions rest with the authors themselves.

Cover image: Reuters cameraman Ayman al-Sahili reacts after being shot in the leg while filming on the front line in Syria's north city of Aleppo by a sniper loyal to Syrian President Bashar el-Assad. © REUTERS/Ahmed Jadallah

Publisher: Beth Costa, IFJ General Secretary

Managing Editor: Ernest Sagaga, IFJ Human Rights and Communications Officer

Design: Mary Schrider, mary@hazards.org

Printed by Druk. Hoeilaart, Belgium

The IFJ would like to thank Reuters, its member unions and individuals who contributed photos to this publication.

Published in Belgium by the International Federation of Journalists

© 2013 International Federation of Journalists

International Press Centre Residence Palace, Block C

155 rue de la Loi B - 1040 Brussels Belgium

Contents

Introduction: A Call for Action.....	2
The Wrong Direction	4
Killed List	5
List of accidents	7
Africa.....	9
Americas	13
Asia-Pacific.....	18
Europe.....	25
Middle East and Arab World	28
International Safety Fund Report	33
Solidarity in Action	35
International Code of Practice.....	36

A Call for Action

BY IFJ GENERAL SECRETARY



THERE CAN BE NO MORE SOBERING TASK FOR THE GENERAL SECRETARY OF THE INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF JOURNALISTS THAN ONE OF DELIVERING A REPORT ON A ROLL CALL OF TRAGEDY AND LOSS WHICH BRINGS INTO SHARP FOCUS THE SAFETY CRISIS IN JOURNALISM. THIS IS THE SECOND REPORT ON JOURNALISTS AND MEDIA STAFF KILLED SINCE I TOOK UP MY POSITION AND THE TREND FROM PREVIOUS ONES REMAINS A CAUSE OF CONCERN FOR THE WHOLE IFJ FAMILY.

Last year, we were hoping for a decline in numbers of killed journalist in 2012, only to post one of the highest death tolls since the IFJ started issuing annual reports on killings of journalists and media staff.

121 colleagues, from all sectors of the media industry, lost their lives in violent incidents in the four corners of the globe. Thirty more journalists and media staff were killed in work-related accidents. The regional perspectives in this report tell the stories of violence targeting media. They include the bloodbath in Syria which came top of this year's list, the lawlessness in second place Somalia and the ruthless rule of militants in Pakistan and crime barons in Mexico which made the two countries the third most dangerous places for journalists in 2012.

The gut-wrenching circumstances of these killings show the determination of journalists to endure hardship in their work, sometimes to the detriment of their personal health with tragic consequences such as the asthma attack which killed the New York Times reporter and award winning journalist Anthony Shahid in Syria. They expose the sheer brutality which is unleashed on media to prevent independent reporting, such as the shelling of a makeshift media centre in the city of Homs, Syria, in which Sunday Times reporter Marie Colvin and photojournalist Remi Ochlik died. They also depict the cruel treatment of journalists to scare off others, including the beheading of Abdirahman Mohamed Ali in Somalia or murder by torture in Mexico of Esteban Rodríguez who had been forced to leave the profession because of threats to his life.

However, the story in each region goes beyond the cursory outbreak of armed conflict or the pervasive writ of criminal gangs in some countries. The single biggest contributor to violence targeting media remains the culture of impunity. Many journalists continue to suffer attacks in their own com-

munities because such acts of violence have become risk-free and represent a very attractive recourse for those intent on keeping their shady dealings out of the public knowledge.

It is estimated that out of ten cases of journalists' killings, only one is investigated. It is little wonder that journalists are considered a soft target by men of violence.

Every year, the IFJ and its unions renew their commitment to spearheading the fight against impunity for violence targeting journalists and media staff. In October 2012, the Federation organised one -day Safety Summit in Nuremberg, Germany to underscore the urgency in addressing the desperate facing the world of journalism.

The Summit brought together the IFJ leaders, unions' leaders, academics, researchers and representatives of international organisations, including UNESCO and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), to debate the comprehensive safety strategy adopted by the IFJ Executive Committee in March 2012. The Summit provided an opportunity to fine - tune the strategy, identify potential partners and define areas of cooperation.

The IFJ also welcomed other positive initiatives launched this year which can contribute to the promotion of safety in media. In September 2012, the UN Human Rights Council issued resolution 21/12 on the Safety of Journalists. This was followed by the launch of the United Nations Action Plan on the Safety of Journalists and the Issue of Impunity was launched at a UN Inter-Agency Conference in Vienna, Austria in November.

The IFJ enjoys widespread recognition for championing a safer journalism which has made the Federation a partner of choice with other actors in this domain. This year saw a



Journalists Bryn Karcha (C) of Canada and Toshifumi Fujimoto (R) of Japan run for cover next to an unidentified fixer in a street in Aleppo's district of Salaheddine December 29, 2012. © REUTERS/Muzaffar Salman

confirmation of this status. The IFJ was invited to the conference on the safety of journalists organised in Doha by Qatari National Committee for Human Rights (QNCHR) in January 2012. The IFJ President and leaders of its regional organisations in Africa and Latin America were members of the delegation from the conference which met the President of the UN General Assembly in September 2012 to press for global action on the safety of journalists.

The Federation, which was admitted into associate status with UNESCO in March 2012, also contributed to the preparatory work of the UN Action Plan and was represented at its launch.

These are crucial entry points into the international system we can take advantage of to ensure that safety in journalism remains a high priority on the international policy agenda. But, we must do more and push for genuine implementation of new proposals and existing legal instruments to protect our colleagues around the world.

The new initiatives are welcome but this is very much a case of the last chance saloon. The situation is so desperate that inaction no longer represents an option.

Beth Costa
IFJ General Secretary

The Wrong Direction

THIS YEAR, FOR THE FIRST TIME, THE KILLED LIST CONTAINS A SPECIFIC LISTING FOR FEMALE MEDIA WORKERS. IN THE FIGHT AGAINST IMPUNITY, AND FOR EQUALITY, IT IS ESSENTIAL TO COLLECT AND PUBLISH THIS INFORMATION. YET, IT IS ALSO TINGED WITH SADNESS, AND ANGER, AS NUMBERS OF THOSE SLAIN RISE STEADILY EACH YEAR. AS THIS IS THE FIRST YEAR THESE SPECIFIC FIGURES ARE PUBLISHED, THERE IS NO WAY YET TO KNOW IF THIS RISE IS ALSO TRUE FOR FEMALE MEDIA WORKERS.

The figures show that 13 female media workers were reported killed this year. Syria was the deadliest place to be in terms of targeted deaths (3), followed by Bangladesh, India and Mexico. Reported accidents also claimed lives in Peru (3), followed by Indonesia (2), Malaysia and India. As has been shown each year in the killed list, it is always local reporters, journalists, photojournalists and support staff that are most at risk. The figures for female media workers also bear this out, with 11 killings of local media workers against two foreign reporters'. For this reason, the IFJ has increased the number of safety trainings offered to local female journalists working in areas of conflict or high-level safety risks.

What is not seen on this list, but has been felt anecdotally, is the steady rise in violence and sexual violence used against female media workers to silence and intimidate them. Additionally, as women, we are also exposed

to the same risks as any other women. Recently, the UN reported on mob violence targeting women in public spaces in Egypt, and widespread domestic and sexual violence against women in Latin America and the Caribbean. They estimate that 70% of all women will experience violence or sexual abuse at some time in their lives. Another unknown is whether all female media workers deaths are even reported, as many killings of women are hidden among other statistics, or go unreported.

Yet, regardless of these uncertainties, it is undeniably an important step forward to publish statistics of deaths of female media workers, to ensure their passing does not go unnoticed. Even if, as with our male counter-parts, we see the numbers go in the wrong direction.

Mindy Ran, *Chair, IFJ Gender Council*



121 targeted killings 30 accidental deaths

COUNTRY	NAME	POSITION	EMPLOYER	DATE	GENDER
Afghanistan	Abdul Hadi Hamdard	Reporter	Radio Television of Afghanistan	11/7/12	M
Afghanistan	Sadimkhaan Bahadurzoy	Radio Station Manager	Melma Radio	20/2/12	M
Bangladesh	Jamal Uddin	Correspondent	Gramer Kagoj	15/6/12	M
Bangladesh	Sagar Sarowar	News Editor	Massrang TV	11/2/12	M
Bangladesh	Mehrun Runi	Senior Reporter	ATN Bangla TV	11/2/12	F
Brazil	Valerio Luiz	Sports Commentator	Radio Journal 820AM	5/7/12	M
Brazil	Décio Sá	Bloger and Writer	Blog do Decio	23/4/12	M
Brazil	Paulo Roberto Cardoso Rodrigues	Editor	Journal Da Praca and Mercosul News	12/2/12	M
Brazil	Mario Randolph Marques Lopes	Editor-in-chief	Vassouras na Net	12/2/12	M
Brazil	Laecio de Souza	News Reporter	Sucesso FM	3/1/12	M
Brazil	Eduardo Carvalho	Editor-in-chief	Ultima Hora News Web site	21/11/12	M
Cambodia	Hang Serei Oudom			12/9/12	M
Colombia	Jesus Martinez Orozco	Radio Reporter	La Nueva Station	2/4/12	M
Colombia	Argemiro Cardenas Agudelo	Presenter	Metro Radio Estereo	15/3/12	M
Colombia	Guillermo Quiroz Delgado	Journalist	Notisabanas	28/11/12	M
Ecuador	Byron Baldeon	Photojournalist	Freelancer	1/7/12	M
Egypt	El-Hosseini Abul-Deif	Photojournalist	El-Fagr	12/12/12	M
India	Tarun Sehrawat	Photojournalist	Tehelka	15/6/12	M
India	Rajesh Mishra	Journalist	Media Raj	2/3/12	M
India	Chandrika Rai	Freelance Journalist	Navbharat and The Hitavada	18/2/12	M
India	Chaitali Santra	Freelance/contributor	Julm Se Jang	24/9/12	F
India	Nanao Singh	Journalist	Prime News	24/12/12	M
Indonesia	Leiron Kogoya	Reporter	Papua Pos Nabire and Pasifik Post	8/4/12	M
Indonesia	Darma Sahlan	Journalist	Monitor Medan	5/2/12	M
Iraq	Kamiran Salaheddin	Salahaddin TV	Salahaddin TV	2/4/12	M
Iraq	Farqad Hussein	Journalist	Al Adwa newspaper	9/9/12	M
Iraq	Ziad Tareq		Dyali TV	14/11/12	M
Iraq	Samir Shikh Ali	Editor	Al Gamaheer	17/11/12	M
Iraq	Ghazwan Anas	Presenter	Sama Al-Mossoul TV	31/7/12	M
Lebanon	Ali Shaaban	Cameraman	Al-Jadeed TV	10/4/12	M
Haiti	Jean Liphete Nelson	Manager	Radio Boukman	7/3/12	M
Honduras	Noel Alexander Valladares	TV Presenter	Maya TV	23/4/12	M
Honduras	Alfredo Villatoro	Presenter	HRN Radio Station	15/5/12	M
Mexico	Raul Quirino Garza	Journalist	The Last Word	6/1/12	M
Mexico	Regina Martinez Perez	Correspondent	Proceso	28/4/12	F
Mexico	Victor Baez	Crime Reporter	Milenio Newspaper and Reporteros Policiacos	14/6/12	M
Mexico	Marco antonio Avilla Garcia	Reporter	El Regional de Sonora and Diario Sonora de la trade	18/5/12	M
Mexico	Gabriel Hugué Cordova	Photojournalist	Formerly Daily Notiver	3/5/12	M
Mexico	Guillermo Luna Varela	Journalist	Formerly Veracruznews	2/5/12	M
Mexico	Esteban Rodriguez	Photojournalist	Diario AZ	3/5/12	M
Mexico	Arturo Barajas	Photojournalist	Diario de Zamora	20/8/12	M
Mexico	José Antonio Aguilar Mota	Photojournalist		20/8/12	M
Mexico	Adrián Silva Moreno	Journalist		14/11/12	M

COUNTRY	NAME	POSITION	EMPLOYER	DATE	GENDER
Nepal	Yadav Poudel	Correspondent	Avenues TV and Rajdhani Daily Newspaper	4/4/12	M
Nigeria	Enenche Akogwu	Reporter/Cameraman	Channels TV	20/1/12	M
Nigeria	Nansok Sallah	News Editor	Highland FM	18/1/12	M
Pakistan	Murtaza Razvi	Columnist/Political Analyst	Daily Dawn	19/4/12	M
Pakistan	Abdul Razaq Gul	Journalist	Express news TV	19/5/12	M
Pakistan	Aurengzeb Tunio	TV Reporter	Kawaish Television Network	10/5/12	M
Pakistan	Tariq Kamal	Reporter		9/5/12	M
Pakistan	Abdul Qadir Hajizai	TV Journalist	Wash TV	28/5/12	M
Pakistan	Abdul Haq Zehri	TV Journalist		29/9/12	M
Pakistan	Mushtaq Khand	Reporter	Dharti TV Network	8/10/12	M
Pakistan	Mukarram Khan Aatif	Correspondent	Dunya News and Deewa Radio	17/1/12	M
Pakistan	Rehmatullah Abid	Senior Journalist	Dunya News TV	18/11/12	M
Pakistan	Saqib Khan	Photojournalist	Ummat	22/11/12	M
Palestine	Mahmoud Al-Komi	Cameraman	Al-Aqsa TV	20/11/12	M
Palestine	Hossam Salameh	Cameraman	Al-Aqsa TV	20/11/12	M
Palestine	Muhammad Abu Aisha	Director	al Quds Educational radio	20/11/12	M
Philippines	Christopher Guarin	Radio Presenter and Editor	Radio Mindanao Network and Tarak News Nationwide	5/1/12	M
Philippines	Aldion Layao	Journalist	Bombo Radio	8/4/12	M
Philippines	Rommel «Jojo» Palma	Driver and casual reporter	dxMC-Bombo Radyo Koronadal	30/4/12	M
Philippines	Nestor Libaton	Journalist	DXHM Radio (Davao del Sur)	8/5/12	M
Philippines	Julio Cauzo	Journalist	Radio dwJJ	8/11/12	M
Russia	Alexander Khodzinsky	Freelance		7/7/12	M
Russia	Kazbek Gekkiev	Journalist	Kabardino-Balkaria TV	5/12/12	M
Somalia	Hassan Osman Abdi	Journalist and Director	Shabelle Media Network	28/1/12	M
Somalia	Ahmed Addow Anshur	Producer and Reporter	Radio Shabelle	24/5/12	M
Somalia	Farhan Jeemis Abdulle	Reporter	Radio Daljir - Galkayo Branch	2/5/12	M
Somalia	Mahamad Salad Adan	Correspondent	Shabelle Media Network	5/4/12	M
Somalia	Ali Ahmed Abdi	Reporter	Radio Galkayo	4/3/12	M
Somalia	Abukar Hassan Mohamoud	Director	Radio Somaliweyn	28/2/12	M
Somalia	Abdi Jeylani Malaq Marshale	Producer	Kulmiye radio station	31/7/12	M
Somalia	Mohamud Ali Keyre	Freelance Journalist		12/8/12	M
Somalia	Zakariye Mohamed Mohamud	Cameraman		16/9/12	M
Somalia	Liban Ali Nur	Editor	Somali National TV	20/9/12	M
Somalia	Abdisatar Daher Sabriye	Head of News	Radio Mogadishu	20/9/12	M
Somalia	Abdirahman Yasin Ali	Director	Radio Hamar	20/9/12	M
Somalia	Hassan Yusuf Absuge	Journalist	Radio Maanta	21/9/12	M
Somalia	Abdirahman Mohamed Ali	Journalist	Cayaarahamaanta Sports News	27/9/12	M
Somalia	Ahmed Abdullahi Farah	Cameraman	Saba News Agency	28/9/12	M
Somalia	Ahmed Farah Ilyas	Journalist	Universal TV	22/10/12	M
Somalia	Mohamed Mohamud Turyare	Journalist	Radio Shabelle	21/10/12	M
Somalia	Warsame Mohamed Awale	Freelance Contributor		30/10/12	M
South Soudan	Diing Chan Awuol	Columnist / contributor	Sudan Tribute, Gurtong and Sudanese Online	5/12/12	M
Syria	Shoukri Ahmed Ratib Abu el Bourghoul	Presenter	Radio – Al Thawra	2/1/12	M
Syria	Gilles Jacquier	Reporter	France 2 TV (Killed in Syria)	11/1/12	M
Syria	Mazhar Tayyara	Freelancer	AFP and The Guardian (UK)	4/2/12	M
Syria	Rami al-Sayed	Journalist		21/2/12	M
Syria	Marie Colvin	War Reporter	The Sunday Times (UK) Killed in Syria	22/2/12	F
Syria	Remi Ochlik	Freelance Photographer	IP3 Press (Killed in Syria)	22/2/12	M
Syria	Anas al-Tarsha	Journalist		24/2/12	M

COUNTRY	NAME	POSITION	EMPLOYER	DATE	GENDER
Syria	Sameer Shalab al-Sham	Journalist		14/4/12	M
Syria	Ahmed Abdollah Fakhriyeh	Journalist		14/4/12	M
Syria	Khaled Mahmoud Kabbisho	Journalist		17/4/12	M
Syria	Ammr Mohamed Zado	Journalist	Shaam News Network	27/5/12	M
Syria	Lawrence Fahmy Al-Naimi	Journalist	Shaam News Network	27/5/12	M
Syria	Ahmed Adnan Al-Ashlaq	Journalist	Shaam News Network	27/5/12	M
Syria	Basel Al Shahade	Journalist		28/5/12	M
Syria	Ahmed Al Assam	Cameraman		28/5/12	M
Syria	Mohamed Shamma	Technician	Al-Ikhbariya TV	27/6/12	M
Syria	Sami Abou Amin	Technician	Al-Ikhbariya TV	27/6/12	M
Syria	Zaid Kahl	Technician	Al-Ikhbariya TV	27/6/12	M
Syria	Ihsan al-Buni	Photojournalist	Al Thawra	12/7/12	M
Syria	Ali Juburi	Freelance		16/7/12	M
Syria	Falah Taha	Freelance		16/7/12	M
Syria	Mohammad Saeed	Presenter	Syrian national TV	5/8/12	M
Syria	Mika Yamamoto	Photojournalist	Japan Press	20/8/12	F
Syria	Mossaab Mohamed Saeed Al-Odaallah	Journalist	Tishreen	22/8/12	M
Syria	Tamer Al-Awam	Freelance Journalist		8/9/12	M
Syria	Hatem Abu Yehia	Camera Assistant	Al-Ikhbariya	10/8/12	M
Syria	Ali Abbas	Correspondent	Sana News Agency	11/8/12	M
Syria	Yusuf Ahmed Deeb	Journalist	Liwa Al-Fatih	16/9/12	M
Syria	Abdel Karim El Oqda	cameraman and reporter	Shaam News Network	19/9/12	M
Syria	Maya Nasser	Correspondent	Press TV	26/9/12	M
Syria	Mona al-Bakkour	Journalist	Al Thawra	3/10/12	F
Syria	Mohamed Al-Ashram	Cameraman	Al-Ikhbariya TV	10/10/12	M
Syria	Hisham Moussalli	Editor	Syrian national TV	15/10/12	M
Tanzania	Daudi Mwangosi	Journalist	Channel Ten TV	2/9/12	M
Thailand	Wisut Tangwitthayaporn	Owner and Editor	Inside Phuket and E-news	12/1/12	M
Uganda	Amon Thembo Wa'Mupaghasya	TV Director		12/5/12	M

TOTAL VICTIMS: 121 MALE: 115 FEMALE: 6

Accidents, diseases and natural disasters related incidents

COUNTRY	NAME	POSITION	EMPLOYER	DATE	GENDER
Angola	Feliciano Saiminho 'magic'	Reporter	Public Television Angola	28/3/12	M
Belgium	Michael Cornette	Journalist	Krant Van West-Vlaanderen	2/1/12	M
Brazil	Enildo Paulo Pereira	News Host	Bandeirantes Television	20/4/12	M
	Ezequiel Barbosa	Cameraman	Bandeirantes Television	27/4/12	M
Egypt	Adel al-Gogary	Editor	Al Anwar	18/7/12	M
India	Ravindra Shah	Associate Editor	Outlook Magazine	20/2/12	M
	Amrita Choudhary	Senior Journalist	The Indian Express	22/10/12	F
Indonesia	Femi Adi	Journalist	Bloomberg Market	9/5/12	F
	Dody Aviantra	Journalist	Angkasa Magazine	9/5/12	M
	Didik Nur Yusuf	Journalist	Angkasa Magazine	9/5/12	M
	Ismiyati Sunarto	Journalist	Trans TV	9/5/12	F
	Aditya Sukardi	Journalist	Trans TV	9/5/12	M

COUNTRY	NAME	POSITION	EMPLOYER	DATE	GENDER
Malaysia	Gaing anak Kunding	Journalist	<i>The Borneo Post</i>	2/5/12	M
	Patricia Yiu	Journalist	<i>See Hua Daily News</i>	2/5/12	F
Nepal	Naresh Khadka				M
Nigeria	Olatunji Jacob	Reporter	<i>Independent Television</i>	28/4/12	M
	George Okosun	Reporter	<i>Independent Television</i>	28/4/12	M
	Fidelis Okhani	Reporter	<i>African Independent Television</i>	28/4/12	M
Peru	Lorena Chauca	Online editor	<i>Publimetro</i>	6/11/12	F
	Marisol Rojas	Journalist	<i>El Comercio</i>	6/11/12	F
	María Gomez	Photojournalist		6/11/12	F
	Javier Azcue	Journalist		6/11/12	M
South Africa	Tim Ncube	Journalist		16/4/12	M
Sri Lanka	Muhandiram Nurania Hassan	Director of Muslim Service	<i>Sri Lanka Broadcasting Corporation</i>	19/4/12	M
Syria	Anthony Shadid	Reporter	<i>New York Times</i>	16/2/12	M
Sudan	Abdulhay al Rabei	Journalist	<i>Sudan TV</i>	19/8/12	M
	Ismael Abdulkarim	Cameraman	<i>Sudan TV</i>	19/8/12	M
	Bashir Fadil al Sayeed	Correspondent	<i>Khartoum TV</i>	19/8/12	M
	Andulaati Mohammed	Cameraman	<i>Khartoum TV</i>	19/8/12	M
Ukraine	Yuriy Danylov	Sport Journalist		11/11/12	M

TOTAL VICTIMS: 30 MALE: 23 FEMALE: 7

Journalists Killed by Region

AFRICA KILLED

Nigeria	2
Somalia	18
South Soudan	1
Tanzania	1
Uganda	1

Accidental deaths

Angola	1
South Africa	1
Nigeria	3
Sudan	4

AMERICAS KILLED

Brazil	6
Colombia	3
Ecuador	1
Haiti	1
Honduras	2
Mexico	10

Accidental deaths

Brazil	2
Peru	4

ASIA-PACIFIC KILLED

Afghanistan	2
Bangladesh	3
Cambodia	1
India	4
Indonesia	2
Nepal	1
Pakistan	10
Philippines	5
Thailand	1

Accidental deaths

India	3
Indonesia	5
Malaysia	2
Nepal	1
Sri Lanka	1

EUROPE KILLED

Russia	2
Accidental deaths	2
Belgium	1
Ukraine	1

MIDDLE EAST & ARAB WORLD KILLED

Egypt	1
Iraq	5
Lebanon	1
Palestine	3
Syria	33

Accidental deaths

Egypt	1
Syria	1



Africa

OMAR FARUK OSMAN, President of the Federation of African Journalists (FAJ)

IT IS HARROWING TO PRESENT THIS YEAR'S GRIM PICTURE OF VIOLENCE AGAINST JOURNALISTS IN AFRICA. 2012 WAS THE DEADLIEST YEAR FOR THE MEDIA ON THE CONTINENT IN RECENT MEMORY.

23 media workers were murdered in Africa with the Eastern Africa recording the largest number of killed journalists. Out of the continent's over fifty nations, four countries feature in this year's review of unbearable media deaths, namely Nigeria, Sudan, South Sudan, Tanzania and Somalia.

As Somalia transitioned to more federal governance structure and politicians' power jostle developed, journalists borne the brunt of the targeted assassinations. 18 journalists and media workers were killed in Somalia, making it the most dangerous country for media on the continent. The toxic mix of political violence and religious extremism also fuelled violence against journalists in Nigeria where the notorious sect Boko Haram targeted the media in the country. Enenche Akogwu was the first journalist murdered in 2012 by the extremist group in Nigeria.

Violence against journalists did not spare journalists even in stable democracies. A police officer allegedly murdered a journalist in Tanzania, one of the countries recognised as a beacon of democracy in Africa.

While there was no repeat of attacks on journalists we witnessed during last year's uprising in North Africa, the safety challenges remain. Colleagues in Tunisia are yet to see dividends of the popular revolution as demands for their rights and freedoms are met with physical violence and threats.

Journalists and their leaders have repeatedly been victims of abusive and disparaging speeches or writings by those

who are waging a character assassination campaign against defenders of the cause of journalists and other media workers.

The killings and violent attacks on journalists in Africa have been exacerbated by the worsening culture of impunity. Journalists who are victims of violence and their families are denied justice. Murders are not seriously investigated, suspected are not arrested, making impunity for crimes against journalists the order of the day.

The Federation of African Journalists (FAJ) has been waging a rigorous campaign for the safety of journalists in Africa. The campaign's successes have raised the hope that the summit of the African Union Heads of State and Government will soon adopt a legally binding resolution on the protection of the safety of journalists. FAJ also contributed to the United Nations Plan of Action on the Safety of Journalists and the Issue of Impunity design to boost the safety of journalists globally.

Meanwhile, in the midst of the increased killings of journalists in Eastern Africa, the IFJ in cooperation with the Eastern Africa Journalists Association trained some 150 journalists in safety and how to operate in hostile environment.

We shall continue to demand justice for killed journalists and for uncovering the truth. We must also redouble our efforts to protect those who are still risking their life.

The heinous crimes committed against our colleagues make our struggle inexorably important. They reinvigorate our determination to stand up for the safety of journalists. Journalism is a public good and those who perform this important role deserve our support in protecting their rights and freedoms.

Omar Faruk Osman, *FAJ President*



Images from left to right: **Enenche Akogwu**, **Ahmed Addow Anshur**, **Hassan Osman Abdi**, and **Abukar Hassan Mohamoud**.

JANUARY 18 **NIGERIA**

Nansok Sallah, news editor at government-owned radio station Highland FM, was found dead under a bridge in the city of Jose, central Nigeria. He appeared uninjured except for a wound at the back of his ear. Sallah had not reported any threats to his life, but colleagues called his death suspicious as no money or belonging were stolen.

JANUARY 20 **NIGERIA**

Enenche Akogwu, reporter for private television station, Channel Television, was shot dead while covering clashes between members of radical Islamist sect Boko Haram and security forces in the region of Kano, northern Nigeria.

JANUARY 28 **SOMALIA**

Hassan Osman Abdi, director of Shabelle Media Network, a private radio and television company in Somalia, was killed near his home in the capital of Mogadishu. According to local media reports, Abdi was shot and fatally injured by unidentified men who followed him as he returned home. He was rushed to hospital but was pronounced dead on arrival.

FEBRUARY 28 **SOMALIA**

Abukar Hassan Mohamoud, Director of Radio Somaliweyn, was shot dead near his home in the Hawa-Tako neighbourhood of the Wadajir district in Mogadishu. His family and colleagues were quoted as saying he may have been targeted for his attempts to re-launch Somaliweyn after it was raided and looted by militant Islamist group Al-Shabab in May 2010.

MARCH 4 **SOMALIA**

Ali Ahmed Abdi, a reporter for Radio Galkayo in the north-central town of Galkayo, was shot dead by gunmen as he walked home. He was hit in the head and died of his wounds.

APRIL 5 **SOMALIA**

Mahamad Salad Adan, a journalist at Radio Shabelle, was shot dead near his home in Beledweyn in the central Somali region of Hiran. Adan had previously reported on clashes between militant Islamist groups Al-Shabab and Ahlu Sunah Waljama in the region. According to the National Union of Somali Journalists (NUSOJ), Adan received death threats following the capture of Hiran by governments' troops and Ethiopian forces.

MAY 2 **SOMALIA**

Farhan Jeemis Abdulle, a reporter for Radio Daljir and Radio Simba, was shot and killed by two assailants while on his way to work in the town of Galkayo, located in the semi-autonomous region of Puntland. According to colleagues, Abdulle had received threatening phone calls just days before his murder. Fellow journalists believed Abdulle was killed by Al-Shabab militants due to his coverage of the conflict between the Islamist group and the government.

MAY 12 **UGANDA**

Amon Thembo Wa'Mupaghasya, the director of Mupaghasya Community Television Centre in Kasese Town, was killed as he returned home in Kyogha Village in Bwera Sub-county. Local police said that Thembo was shot by unknown assailants as he returned from covering a wedding party. The victim was with his young son, who was not harmed in the attack.

MAY 24 **SOMALIA**

Ahmed Addow Anshur, presenter at Radio Shabelle, was shot dead by four unidentified gunmen in the Bo'le neighbourhood of Dharkenly district in Mogadishu. Anshur was the host of a popular political programme and a well-known critic of both the interim federal government and the Al-Shabab militants. Many believe he was killed because of his views.



Images from left to right: Demonstration against impunity in Tanzania, **Abdisatar Daher Sabriye** and **Diing Chan Awuol**

JULY 31 SOMALIA

Abdi Jeylani Malaq Marshale, a drama producer for Radio Kulmiye, was shot dead by gunmen after leaving the station in the Waberi district of the capital, Mogadishu. He was pronounced dead on arrival at the hospital.

AUGUST 12 SOMALIA

Mohamud Ali Keyre, a freelance journalist with *Horyaal-media.com* website and former contributor to *Voice of Democracy* radio station was shot and killed in Mogadishu. Witnesses stated the fatal shot may have come from a government soldier. Keyre had recently returned to Somalia after being forced into exile due to death threats.

SEPTEMBER 2 TANZANIA

Daudi Mwangosi, a journalist at private television station Channel Ten, was killed while covering a political rally in the south Iringa region that turned violent when police charged members of the political opposition. According to witnesses, Mwangosi was attacked by police officers who threw a tear gas canister at him. Some reports claimed that officers set upon the journalist when he confronted them over the arrest of another journalist. A widely circulated photograph taken at the scene showed Mwangosi on the ground being hit by police. He died of his injuries.

SEPTEMBER 16 SOMALIA

Zakariye Mohamed Mohamud, a freelance cameraman, was killed in the Nasib Bundio neighbourhood of the Shibis district of Mogadishu. According to eyewitness, Mohamud was shot in the chest and head by armed men outside his house. He died on the spot.

SEPTEMBER 20 SOMALIA

Liban Ali Nur, head of news at Somali public television, **Abdisatar Daher Sabriye**, director of news at Radio Somalia and **Abdirhman Yasin Ali**, director of Radio Hamar, were killed in a bomb blast attack at a restaurant popular with members of the media in Mogadishu. Two men walked into the 'Village' restaurant in Mother's House building and set off the bomb after evening prayers. 14 people were killed and 40 injured in the blast.

SEPTEMBER 21 SOMALIA

Hassan Yusuf Absuge, a prominent journalist and head of programmes at private station Radio Maanta, was shot in the head by men armed with pistols at the Bar Ayaan junction in Mogadishu.

SEPTEMBER 27 SOMALIA

Abdirahman Mohamed Ali, a journalist with Cayaara-hamaanta sports news station, was found beheaded in the Suuqa Xoolaha neighbourhood of Mogadishu. According to witness accounts, he had been missing since the day before.

SEPTEMBER 28 SOMALIA

Ahmed Abdullahi Farah, a reporter and cameraman for Yemeni news agency Saba, was killed while travelling in a minibus in the Dharkenely district of Mogadishu. Armed men posing as photographers shot him dead.



A security guard stands watch on a tower constructed within the compound of Radio Shabelle in Mogadishu ©Tobin Jones

OCTOBER 21 SOMALIA

Mohamed Mohamud Turyare, a young producer at Radio Shabelle, died of gun wounds he sustained when he was attacked on his way home in the Wadajir district of Mogadishu. The journalist was admitted at Madina Hospital, where his initial prognosis looked promising, but he suffered complications the following day and died.

OCTOBER 22 SOMALIA

Ahmed Farah Ilyas, a television journalist at Universal TV, was shot and killed by gunmen as he returned home from work.

OCTOBER 30 SOMALIA

Warsame Mohamed Awale, a veteran journalist, popular poet and song-writer was killed by armed men near his home in Mogadishu. His death is widely believed to be retaliation for his writings which were critical of Islamist militants Al-Shabab.

DECEMBER 5 SOUTH SUDAN

Diing Chan Awuol, a columnist and contributor for Paris based *Sudan Tribune* and Sudanese Online, was murdered outside his home in the suburb of Gudek in Juba, the country's capital city. Witnesses said that he was shot in the face as he answered his door.

ACCIDENTAL DEATHS AFRICA

MARCH 28 ANGOLA

Feliciano Saiminho 'magic', a reporter of the Public Television of Angola (TPA), died in a helicopter crash. The accident happened as the chopper left Huambo city bound for Kuito city, central Bie province. Police said that a board technician was also killed, while other TPA journalists Samuel Lussati and Alexandre Cose as well as image reporter Sergio Bravo and the helicopter pilot, Alcides Valdemiro, were seriously injured.

APRIL 16 SOUTH AFRICA

Tim Ncube, a journalist with the South Africa Broadcasting Corporation (SABC) was killed in a car accident when his vehicle was involved in a collision with a car driven by a royal protection officer of the king of KwaZulu-Natal, Goodwill Zwelithini. According to police sources quoted in local media, the officer tried to overtake other cars to keep up with the king's convoy, causing a frontal collision with Ncube's car. Both the journalist and the protection officer were killed on the spot.

APRIL 28 NIGERIA

Olatunji Jacob and George Okosun, both reporters with Independent television ITV, along with cameraman **Fidelis Okhani** of African Independent Television, were killed in a road accident. The three were travelling in a press bus to cover the campaign of Edo state Governor, Adams Oshiomhole, when the driver of an oncoming lorry lost control and crashed into their bus.

AUGUST 19 SUDAN

Abdal Alhay Rabie and **Ismael Kareem** both journalists with Sudan TV along with **Bashir Fadly** correspondent with KTV and his cameraman **Abd Al-Ati** were killed in a plane crash in the Sudanese region of South Kordofan. The group was on an assignment to cover the peace trip initiative of 22 leaders from the government and the opposition to mark Eid-el Fitr, the end of the Muslim fasting month.



Americas

CELSE SCHRODER, FEPALC President

FEPALC and the IFJ office in Latin America Celebrate Successful Year in Service of Journalists

2012 saw remarkable progress achieved by the Federación de Periodistas de América Latina y el Caribe (FEPALC) and the IFJ Latin America Regional Office LARO) in their daily struggle in defence of journalists' interests. Both organisations have initiated many strong campaigns, making 2012 a very successful year for our members. Nevertheless, we still have a long way to go in the defence of democracy, for better working conditions and salaries of media professionals, for the protection of journalists against violence and for democratisation of the media.

FEPALC is very concerned by threats to democracy in certain Latin American countries. The impeachment process which brought the Vice President of Paraguay, Fernando Lugo, into office after a coup d'état lasting only 24 hours endangered the country's membership of UNASUR (Unión de Naciones Suramericanas, Union of South American Nations) and MERCOSUR (Mercado Común del Sur, South American Common Market) as well as other multi-lateral organisations.

The political situation has been equally worrying in Honduras which saw several serious attempts against civil liberties. Here too, a coup d'état brought down the government: in 2009. Former President Manuel Zelaya was replaced by a provisional cabinet drawn up by Roberto Micheletti. Subsequently, a confusing voting process led to the appointment of Porfirio Lobo as the new president. Since then, the country is going through an unprecedented political crisis.

Furthermore, the economy is stagnating and human rights organisations denounce more than 13 000 violent deaths, the repression of citizens' movements and the restrictions on

freedom of the press. Journalists have been one of the most repressed groups by the obscurantist regime in Honduras.

These situations required FEPALC, IFJ and other international organisations to campaign for an end to violations of fundamental human rights, to push for real prosecution of criminals and for monitoring the electoral processes scheduled this year. The presidential election in Paraguay will take place in April 2013 and the elections in Honduras are scheduled for the end of 2013.

Violence against journalists

Violence against journalists is another cause for concern in our region. FEPALC, LARO and other entities have urged Mexican authorities several times to protect media professionals and to investigate attacks against them. As part of one of our latest initiatives, on 23 November (International Day Against Impunity), we sent a letter to the attorney general of the State of Veracruz highlighting the fact that six out of the 10 killing in Mexico this year happened in his district.

Equally, several demands to protect media workers were made to the authorities in Brazil where six journalists were killed in 2012.

It is also important to point out the impact of several joint UN and IFJ initiatives to press governments on respecting international regulations and laws about security and protection of journalists.

Labour Relations

In the area of Labour Relations, it is important to showcase the solidarity of FEPALC and journalists' organisations with workers of Uruguayan daily newspaper *Unoticias* who in



Friends of TV presenter **Noel Alexander Valladares** react to news of his killing in Tegucigalpa. ©REUTERS/Jorge Cabrera

August faced the closing of their newspaper followed by threats of massive redundancies. The decision sparked protests and demonstrations. Employees occupied the newspaper's offices with the support of *Asociación de Periodistas de Uruguay* (APU), in order to defend jobs and the social benefits of our colleagues.

Similarly, in the second half of 2012, numerous redundancies and lay-offs in different media outlets were made in Brazil. The *Federação Nacional dos Jornalistas do Brasil* (FENAJ) and FEPALC backed the journalists' unions in standing for the preservation of workers' rights and the respect for Convention 158 of the International Labour Organisation (ILO).

Similar events took place in other Latin American countries, where there were attempts to disguise administrative incompetence and lack of entrepreneurial under the cloak of the international economic crisis and the emergence of new communications technologies, particularly the rise of the internet.

Trade union training

In July, FEPALC and IFJ organised training in trade unionism in Costa Rica. The initiatives to support and organ-

ise journalists were very successful, bringing together 42 professionals and union leaders from 13 countries under the motto "Developing union leadership". The participants met to exchange union experiences from Europe and Latin America. The debates focused on issues of collective bargaining processes and regulation of labour conditions, especially in relation to conflicts between media owners and media workers.

Democratisation of communication

FEPALC is committed to promoting further communication democracy to address the concerns of journalists and civil society over the monopolisation and media ownership which have the potential to limit freedom of the press and freedom of expression as well as media pluralism.

A good example is the Clarín press group which opposes the restrictions on the press within the media law in Argentina.

In this respect, in collaboration with the Sindicato dos Jornalistas do Rio Grande do Sul, we organised in January 2013 an international seminar of human rights and journalism. The gathering which took place in Porto Alegre, Brazil, was attended by IFJ and FENAJ leaders.



Images clockwise: Laécio de Souza, Mário Randolpho Marques Lopes, and Paulo Roberto Cardoso Rodrigues

3 JANUARY 3 BRAZIL

Laécio de Souza, a local news reporter for radio station Sucesso FM, was shot dead by two gunmen in Salvador, in the north east of the country. Police said the journalist received threats on his mobile phone prior to his murder.

JANUARY 6 MEXICO

Raúl Quirino Garza (30), a municipal employee and journalist with local weekly *La Última Palabra*, was killed by unidentified gunmen in the Cadereyta municipality near Monterrey. According to media sources, Garza was driving a new car when he was pursued by his assailants and shot over 15 times.

FEBRUARY 10 BRAZIL

Mário Randolpho Marques Lopes, the editor of the *Vassouras na Net* website, and his partner, Maria Aparecida Guimarães, were shot dead in Barra do Piraí, Rio de Janeiro. According to local media reports, the two were abducted from the journalist's home and their bodies found in another part of the city. Marques Lopes was well-known for his investigative work on political corruption and had previously been sued for defamation by a police inspector and a judge. He survived a previous attempt on his life in 2011, when masked gunmen entered his former home in Vassouras and shot him in the head. After his recovery, he moved to Barra do Piraí.

FEBRUARY 12 BRAZIL

Paulo Roberto Cardoso Rodrigues, editor of *Jornal da Praça* was shot and killed as he made his way home in the Paraguayan border state of Mato Grosso do Sul. Rodrigues also ran a news website and worked as a correspondent for *Correio do Estado* and *O Progresso de Dourados* newspapers and was known for his staunch opposition to corruption. According to sources, he was driving home when two gunmen on a motorbike opened fire on him.

MARCH 15 COLOMBIA

Argemiro Cardenas Agudelo, manager of Metro Radio, was shot dead in broad daylight in Dosquebradas, the Risaralda Department town where he had previously served as mayor. According to media reports, the journalist had reported death threats prior to his murder. On the day of his death, Agudelo received a call to arrange a meeting. He was shot and killed by a gunman as he set off to meet his contact.

APRIL 2 COLOMBIA

Jesús Martínez Orozco, a reporter for a community radio station La Nueva and contributor for *La Opinión de Sabanalarga* newspaper, was shot dead by two men on a motorcycle who overtook him as he drove to visit a friend in Sabanalarga. Martínez was a respected voice on music and culture.

APRIL 23 BRAZIL

Décio Sá, a political reporter with regional newspaper *O Estado do Maranhão*, was gunned down in a waterfront bar in São Luís, the capital of the northeastern state of Maranhão. Witnesses said a man walked into the bar and shot Sá six times before escaping with an accomplice who was waiting outside on a motorcycle. In June 2012, police arrested seven people, including a businessman and a police officer, in connection with the murder of Sá.

APRIL 23 HONDURAS

Noel Alexander Valladares, host of the daily entertainment program *El Tecolote* (The Owl) on local channel Maya TV, was killed as he left work. According to eyewitness accounts, a group of men wearing ski masks opened fire on Valladares' car, killing the journalist, his uncle Renán Adonis Valladares Escoto and his bodyguard Marcos Adrián Gutiérrez Andrade. His wife Yorleny Pavón, was seriously injured in the attack, but it is thought she survived because her husband tried to shield her when the shooting began.



Friends of TV presenter **Noel Alexander Valladares** react to news of his killing in Tegucigalpa. ©REUTERS/Jorge Cabrera



Clockwise from top left: A man holds posters with the image of **Regina Martínez** at a protest against the killing of journalists in Mexico City. ©REUTERS/Edgard Garrido; A picture of Mexican journalist **Marco Antonio Ávila** is seen next to his coffin in Ciudad Obregon. ©REUTERS/German Osuna; Mexican reporter **Victor Baez** is pictured in Veracruz in 2011. ©REUTERS; Journalists hang cameras and protest posters outside the Government of Veracruz building in Mexico City the day after photographers **Guillermo Luna** and **Gabriel Hugué** were found murdered. ©REUTERS/Edgard Garrido; Cameras hang from a monument dedicated to Mexican revolutionary Eufemio Zapata, as part of a protest by members of the media against the killing of journalists, in Cuernavaca May 2012. ©REUTERS/Margarito Perez Retana; A forensic technician examines the vehicle used to kidnap journalist **Alfredo Villatoro** in Tegucigalpa. ©REUTERS/Jorge Cabrera

APRIL 28 MEXICO

Regina Martínez Pérez, investigative journalist with national magazine *Proceso*, was found beaten and strangled to death at her home in Xalapa, Veracruz. Her computer, mobile phone and television were also stolen. Although Martínez had not spoken of any death threats, she was well known for her hard-hitting stories on drug cartels and government corruption.

MAY 3 MEXICO

Gabriel Hugué Córdova, freelance photojournalist, his nephew, Veracruz news photojournalist **Guillermo Luna Varela**, and former news photographer **Esteban Rodríguez** were found dead in the state of Veracruz. They had been tortured and dismembered and dumped into a canal in Boca del Río. Hugué and Luna had just returned to the area after fleeing the previous year after the murders of colleagues at the *Notiver* local paper. Rodríguez had stopped working in media altogether. The body of Luna's girlfriend Irasema Becerra was also found.

MAY 15 HONDURAS

Alfredo Villatoro, a reporter for HRN radio station, was kidnapped on his way to work by a gang of youths and found dead a week later on the outskirts of Tegucigalpa. There

were signs he had been strangled. His captors reportedly called his family to confirm they held him, but gave no further details. Villatoro had reportedly received death threats prior to his abduction and killing.

MAY 18 MEXICO

The body of **Marco Antonio Ávila García**, a crime reporter with *El Regional de Sonora* and *El Diario de Sonora* was found in a plastic bag on a dirt road near the city of Empalme. There were signs that he had been tortured before being strangled to death. García was abducted the day before while he waited for his car to be washed in Ciudad Obregón. According to a spokesman for the attorney general, there was a note found with the body signed by a cartel, but no further details were given.

JUNE 14 MEXICO

Victor Baez, an acclaimed crime reporter with the weekly newspaper *Milenio* and coordinator of the *Reporteros Policianos* website was found dead in Xalapa, Veracruz a day after being abducted outside his office. According to sources, Baez's body was found with a note from crime syndicate Los Zetas saying, "This is what happens to those who betray us and be clever."



Left to right: Valerio Luiz de Oliveira and Adrián Silva Moreno

JULY 1 ECUADOR

Freelance photojournalist **Byron Baldeón** was shot dead at close range by two gunmen on a motorbike as he arrived home. According to media reports, the coroner counted 17 bullet wounds. The journalist was recently witness to a robbery in which police officers were suspects. He had been subpoenaed by prosecutors in connection with a photo he had taken of the theft of a container-load of televisions.

JULY 5 BRAZIL

Radio Jornal 820 AM sports journalist **Valerio Luiz de Oliveira** was killed as he left work in Goiânia, the capital of the state of Goiás. According to reports, Oliveira was followed by an unidentified gunman on a motorcycle as he exited the station. He attempted to flee in his car, but lost control and collided with another vehicle. After the crash, the assailant shot Oliveira as he called for help. He died shortly after while being transported to hospital. Oliveira had received death threats in connection to his outspoken views on the local football club.

AUGUST 20 MEXICO

Photojournalists **Arturo Barajas** (46) and **José Antonio Aguilar Mota** (26) were found dead in the boot of an abandoned car on the side of a highway in the state of Michoacán. According to sources, the men had been tortured, shot in the head and dismembered. Both men worked as freelancers, mostly in the entertainment and tourist sectors, but Barajas sometimes worked on a contract basis for *Diario de Zamora* covering organised crime.

NOVEMBER 14 MEXICO

Adrián Silva Moreno, a freelance journalist with *Puntual* daily newspaper, was shot and killed in Tehuacán, Puebla state, while working on a story about fuel theft from a government petroleum company. Silva witnessed a raid on a warehouse storing stolen fuel and the standoff that followed between soldiers and armed men. He called a colleague to say he found something important on the scene, but was gunned down as he drove away. His companion Misray López González was also killed in the attack.

NOVEMBER 21 BRAZIL

Eduardo Carvalho, the owner-editor of a Brazilian website noted for its investigative journalism, was shot dead in front of his home in Campo Grande, capital of Mato Grosso do Sul state. Carvalho, who had received several death threats, was shot several times by gunmen. His website, *Ultima Hora News*, specialised in publishing stories about corruption and abuse of authority which were critical of both politicians and police.

NOVEMBER 28 COLOMBIA

Guillermo Quiroz Delgado, a freelance journalist, died of injuries sustained when he was arrested and assaulted by police. The journalist was reporting a protest in the town of San Pedro when he was detained. He reportedly said the police beat him up and threw him from a moving vehicle. He spent several days in hospital where he fell into a coma and died of his injuries.

ACCIDENTAL DEATHS AMERICAS

APRIL 27 BRAZIL

Enildo Paulo Pereira, presenter of a news programme on Bandeirantes television and cameraman **Ezequiel Barbosa** were killed when a truck slammed into press and police vehicles on a highway in the southern Brazilian state of Rio Grande do Sul, local media reported.

According to local authorities, the driver of the truck lost control of the rig and plowed into three press vehicles and three police cars near the city of Farroupilha. News crews from Bandeirantes, SBT, RBS and other media outlets were at the location to cover a planned state police operation against a criminal organisation. The car carrying the Bandeirantes team was crushed when the truck pushed it into the other vehicles. Seven others were injured, including two who sustained serious injuries and were taken to a hospital in Porto Alegre, the state's capital.

NOVEMBER 6 PERU

Lorena Chauca, journalist for the daily *Publimetro* and three other journalists, **Javier Ascue**, a 40-year veteran of *El Comercio*, **Maria Gilda Gomez**, former President of the Association of Journalists of Peru in the city of La Merced, as well as **Marisol Rojas** died when their car plunged in the Tarma River. The accident occurred near the Carpapata area, when the group was traveling from Lima to the city of Chanchamayo, in Junin province.



Asia-Pacific

JACQUI PARK, Director of IFJ Asia-Pacific Office

2012 MARKED ANOTHER HORRIFIC YEAR FOR JOURNALISTS AND MEDIA WORKERS ACROSS ASIA WITH A STAGGERING 30 KILLINGS. OF THOSE KILLED,, HALF WERE FROM PAKISTAN AND THE PHILIPPINES, WHERE THE ALARMING TREND OF TARGETED KILLINGS BY UNIDENTIFIED ASSAILANTS CONTINUES. THE YEAR ALSO BROUGHT A MARKED INCREASE IN INCIDENTS OF VIOLENCE, IMPRISONMENT, THREATS AND EXPLOITATIVE LABOUR PRACTICES.

Within conflict-ridden areas of Afghanistan and Pakistan, media personnel are sandwiched between insurgent elements and security forces, making it virtually impossible for them to conduct their work safely and freely. Pakistan's rising death toll has been concentrated in a few areas. 2012 was a particularly dangerous year for journalists in Balochistan who regularly face violence and threats from security and intelligence agencies, as well as ethnic, sectarian and separatist groups. Of the ten journalists killed in Pakistan, three were victims of targeted killings in Balochistan. There have also been numerous incidents in tribal areas where correspondents were picked up and tortured by militant groups. They were attacked because of reports and editorials published in their newspapers or broadcast by their organisations, even though these journalists were not directly responsible for these reports.

The Philippines remains one of the most dangerous countries in the world for journalists. 23 November 2012 marked the third anniversary of the Mindanao Massacre in which 32 journalists and media workers, were murdered - the single worst atrocity against journalists and media personnel. The Aquino government, however, is yet to act on its 2010

commitment to end impunity and, as a result, local power-holders know they will not be held accountable for their brazen acts of violence. The national Union of Journalists in the Philippines recorded a spike in the cases of threats and attempted killings of journalists throughout the country and there are real concerns that the situation will deteriorate even further in the lead up to the 2013 elections..

A disturbing trend that has emerged in 2012 is the number of targeted drive-by killings. Four of the five killings in the Philippines and two of those in Pakistan were carried out by unidentified assailants on motorbikes.

Such blatant disregard for the lives of journalists continues to take place in countries where a culture of impunity prevails because of lack of political will to bring to justice the perpetrators of these crimes. In Pakistan, the murder of Daniel Pearl, the reporter for the Wall Street Journal who was killed in 2000, is the country's single case in which suspects of a journalist's murder have been prosecuted and convicted since 2001.

The Chinese Government clampdown on press freedom continued during 2012. An IFJ report into Press Freedom in China has found attacks on media personnel by police or local authorities whilst carrying out their duties continue to be common place.

In Bangladesh, a pattern of violence persists. Journalists face harassment, torture, arrest and threats. Attacks on the media have increasingly been perpetrated by officials of the state and its agencies in response to reporting that they consider biased against the government. Media safety issues were highlighted by the brutal murder of two journalists in the capital city Dhaka, in February 2012.

In India, threats made against journalists are mounting, with media houses only interested in publishing sensational stories coming out of the Maoist regions and Maoist groups increasingly demanding favourable coverage.

While journalists in Nepal did not face the same levels of violence in 2012, compared to recent years of internal conflict, they still face enormous challenges, including political instability, death threats and a campaign of violence against journalists with authorities showing little interest in protecting them.

However, the high number of killings and attempted killings across Asia in 2012 does not reveal all aspects of the safety crisis in media. These paint an even gloomier reality as threats to the lives of journalists and their families have resulted in self-censorship, succeeded in silencing independent media and reduced the chance for a genuine freedom of the press.

In Sri Lanka, the reduction in the number of killings is indicative of the culture of fear and impunity where attacks on journalists have largely succeeded in suppressing independent reporting. The optimism in Sri Lanka towards securing a free media has diminished, particularly over the past twelve months. The Conflict in the north has created an unsafe and fragile environment for media workers. Pressure and intimidation have led to widespread self-censorship and forced many journalists to flee the country. On 23 March 2012, Sri Lanka's Minister for Public Relations, Mervyn Silva, addressed a public demonstration against the UNHRC resolution, threatening to "break the limbs" of any of the exiled journalists if they dared set foot in the country again.

The grim death toll across Asia again underscores the extreme risks for media personnel in the region. It also illustrates the dangerous impact that political indifference and inadequate policies of governments and media houses can have on the lives of journalists and press freedom.



A journalist holds a placard while taking part in a demonstration in Islamabad, Pakistan. ©REUTERS/Faisal Mahmood



Mukaram Khan Atif (L) and Sagar Sarowar and Meherun Runi (R)

JANUARY 5 PHILIPPINES

Christopher Guarin, the publisher of *Tatak News Nationwide* was murdered in General Santos City in the southern Philippines. Guarin was shot by gunmen while driving his wife and two children home from his office. Guarin's wife was wounded in the attack, but survived. The shooting was witnessed by his nine year old daughter. In an interview with local radio, Guarin's wife claimed that her husband had received several death threats in the days leading up to his murder.

JANUARY 12 THAILAND

Wisut Tangwithayaporn, the owner of the *Inside Phuket* newspaper and editor of *Phuket E-news*, died of wounds he sustained when a gunman on a motorbike opened fire on while Tangwithayaporn drove his car down a major road in Phuket. The journalist was hit in the chest and shoulder. He was taken to Vachira Phuleet hospital where he later died. His wife was travelling with him at the time and was also injured. Police suspected that Wisut's murder was connected to his reporting on illegal land permits on the island.

JANUARY 17 PAKISTAN

Mukaram Khan Atif, a senior journalist for Dewa Radio – a Pashto language radio channel of the Voice of America – and a reporter for Dunya TV in Pakistan, was murdered by two gunmen who shot him in then head and chest. According to Khyber Union of Journalists (KhUJ) General Secretary Yousuf Ali, the attack occurred while Atif was offering evening prayers at a mosque near his home in Shabqadar Town Charsadda. He was taken to a local hospital where he died of his injuries. According to an AFP report, militant group Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan claimed responsibility for the murder. The President of the Tribal Union of Journalists (TUJ) Safdar Dawar said that Mukaram Khan Atif had been receiving threats since moving to Charsadda.

FEBRUARY 5 INDONESIA

Darma Sahlan, a reporter for the weekly magazine *Monitor*, was found dead in a ditch in the village of Lawe Dua in Southeast Aceh district. Police initially suggested a tragic road accident, but fellow journalists disputed the claim. *The Jakarta Globe* newspaper quoted Aceh Journalists Association President Muhammad A.H. as saying that their own investigation led them to conclude Sahlan was murdered. He cited testimonies of residents of the area near where the body was found who denied "hearing anything resembling a crash". The journalist's motorbike showed no signs of damage, ruling out the likelihood of an accident. Darma's family also reportedly that he had wounds on his face, neck and bruises they believed originated from a blunt object. The journalists believed their colleague was killed elsewhere and his body moved afterwards.

FEBRUARY 11 BANGLADESH

Television journalists and married couple **Sagar Sarowar** and **Meherun Runi** were found stabbed to death at their home in Dhaka. Sarowar's hands were bound and his laptop was stolen. Their bodies were discovered by their five-year old son. Sarowar was a news editor for private television channel Maasranga and Runi was a senior reporter with private television channel ATN Bangla. Reports have speculated on a link between Sarowar's investigations into energy corruption and violence against minorities in Bangladesh. There have been very few leads in the case and family members and fellow journalists have criticised police handling of the case.

FEBRUARY 18 INDIA

Freelance journalist **Chandrika Rai** and was killed in a violent attack alongside his wife, 19-year old son and 17-year old daughter in their home in the Umaria district of the central Indian state of Madhya Pradesh. Rai worked for the daily newspapers *Navbharat* and *The Hitavada*.



Left to right: **Rajesh Mishra** and **Yadav Poudel**

Local media reports suggested Rai may have been targeted in retaliation for his articles exposing corruption in the regional coal trade. His family criticised the handling of the case.

FEBRUARY 20 AFGHANISTAN

Afghan journalist **Sadimkhaan Bahadurzoy** and founder and chief-editor of Radio Melma (a private FM channel) in Sharan city of Paktika province in the East of Afghanistan, was killed by unidentified gunmen. His channel, run mostly by youth volunteers, has been critical of both local officials and insurgents. On the evening of his murder, Bahadurzoy received a phone call and left his house. Around an hour later, his decapitated body was found nearby. Local officials appointed a special commission to investigate the case, but the perpetrators have not been found.

MARCH 2 INDIA

Rajesh Mishra, a journalist with *Media Raj* weekly newspaper, was attacked and beaten to death in the central state of Madhya Pradesh. Mishra received threats following publication of his articles on alleged mismanagement of regional schools owned by Rajneesh Banerjee, publisher of the *Vindhya Bharat* newspaper. He was invited to meet Banerjee at a tea stand and was attacked by two men during the meeting.

APRIL 4 NEPAL

Yadav Poudel, a correspondent with Kathamanu-based Avenues Television and national broadsheet *Rajdhani Daily*, was killed in the eastern district of Jhapa, at a hotel in the Birtamod Bus Park. The journalist also worked as a sub-editor for

the local *Mechi Times* and was the former secretary of the Jhapa Press Union.

According to the Federation of Nepali Journalists (FNJ), Yuv Raj Giri, Som Lal Dhakal and his wife Phul Maya Karki were remanded in custody, accused of Poudel's murder. Yuvraj Giri was eventually charged with killing the journalist by pushing him from the rooftop of Hotel Purvanchal and Sekuwa Corner. It is thought that the motive for his killing was his reports on prostitution rings in which the accused were involved.

APRIL 8 INDONESIA

Leiron Kogoya, a journalist for *Papua Pos Nabire* and *Pasifik Pos Daily*, was travelling in a small Twin Otter plane when it was attacked by unidentified assailants as it touched down at Mulia Airport, in Papua's Puncak Jaya district. Leiron was visiting Mulia to cover the local elections in the provincial capital, Jayapura. He was shot in the neck during the attack and died shortly afterwards. After the attack, the plane crashed into an airport building with eight passengers and crew aboard. Information gathered by IFJ-affiliate AJI suggested Leiron was not a specific target.

APRIL 8 PHILIPPINES

Aldion Layao, a broadcaster for *Bombo Radio*, was shot dead by two unidentified men on a motorcycle. Reports received by the IFJ stated that Layao and another man were driving home around 9:30 on Sunday night when the motorcycle pulled up beside their car and shots were fired. Layao was pronounced dead on arrival at Robillo Medical Clinic.



Rommel "Jojo" Palma

APRIL 19 PAKISTAN

Murtaza Razvi, a senior assistant editor and head of magazines at *Dawn*, was murdered in Karachi. According to police, Razvi's body was found in an office apartment in the Defence Housing Authority (DHA) area. His hands were bound and his body showed signs of torture. It is thought he was strangled to death. Razvi worked for a number of renowned publications before joining the *Dawn Media Group*, where he also held the post of resident editor in Lahore.

APRIL 30 PHILIPPINES

Rommel "Jojo" Palma, a casual on-air reporter for regional Philippines radio station dxMC-Bombo Radyo Koronadal, was shot and killed by two unidentified men. Palma had just driven another reporter to the local hospital across from the radio station and was parking his vehicle, when two men on a motorcycle ambushed him, shooting him in the spine and the neck.

MAY 8 PHILIPPINES

Nestor Libaton, a news reporter for radio station DXHM, owned by the Roman Catholic church, was shot and killed on a highway in Mati City, Davao del Sur, in the southern Philippines. According to regional police commander, Chief Superintendent Jaime Morante, Libaton was riding as a passenger on a motorcycle when gunmen on another motorcycle shot him seven times. At the time of his death, he was the fourth media person killed within the preceding 30 days. He is survived by his wife and four children.

MAY 7 PAKISTAN

Tariq Kamal, a reporter with a Sindhi language daily published in Pakistan's southern city of Karachi was brutally murdered. He and a friend were both reported missing on May 7. His body was found with multiple bullet wounds and signs of torture on May 9.

On the day before his body was discovered, Kamal had a telephone conversation with his family and reportedly said that his "hours were numbered" and that he would soon be killed on the orders of a sardar, a traditional clan chieftain in the Sindh area. Kamal's family said he left Karachi for another town in Sindh province to follow up on an "exclusive" news story. They reported him missing after he was out of contact for more than 24 hours. Some reports indicated that Kamal's abductors called his family using his cell phone to inform them he would be killed because he was suspected of being a police informer.

MAY 11 PAKISTAN

Aurengzeb Tunio, a Pakistani journalist with leading news channel Kawaish Television Network (KTN) was shot and killed by a group of armed men in the local office of KTN in the Lalu Ranwak Village, Qambar District. Tunio's brother and friend were also killed in the attack. Colleagues allege the attacks were in retaliation for some recent stories of his, which angered local tribal groups.

MAY 19 PAKISTAN

Senior journalist and reporter with *Express News* **Abdul Razzaq Gul** was abducted and found dead the following day in Turbat in the Balochistan Province. According to the Pakistan Federal Union of Journalists (PFUJ), an IFJ affiliate, he was shot multiple times in the head and chest and showed signs he had been severely tortured.

MAY 28 PAKISTAN

Abdul Qadir Hajizai, a correspondent with private Balochi language TV channel, WASH TV was shot by armed assailants on a motorcycle as he made his way home from work in the Basima area of Washik district in Balochistan. He was taken to a local hospital where he later died of his injuries.

JUNE 15 BANGLADESH

Jamal Uddin, a journalist with the daily Bengali-language newspaper *Gramer Kagoj*, was violently attacked by a group of armed men while having tea in the Sharsha area of Jessore, a district located in the Khulna Division of southwestern Bangladesh. Uddin was rushed to Buruzbagan Upazila Health Complex where he died that night. Uddin had been threatened by local drug dealers and it is thought he was killed in retaliation for his reporting on drug crime.

JULY 11 AFGHANISTAN

Abdul Hadi Hamdard, a presenter and producer for the state-owned *Radio in Helmand*, died when a roadside bomb went off in Abbazan area of Greshk district in Helmand province. The head of the state-owned Radio Television of Afghanistan (RTA) in Helmand, Ahmad Nawid Nazari, said the improvised explosive device (IED) detonated under Hadi's vehicle, killing him and another Afghan. Two more people were injured during the incident.

SEPTEMBER 12 CAMBODIA

Hang Serei Oudom, reporter for the local newspaper *Vorakchun Khmer Daily*, was found dead in the boot of his car. He had been missing for three days. Oudom had exposed illegal logging and corruption in Cambodia. Police found his bloodied body in his abandoned car on a cashew nut plantation in the north east Ratanakiri province. His wife Em Channy said that when she called him, a man answered "in a threatening voice" then hung up.

Colleagues had been worried about his safety after he wrote a series of articles about timber smuggling and corruption in Ratanakiri. His last story accused the son of a military police commander of smuggling logs and extorting money from people legally transporting wood.

SEPTEMBER 24 INDIA

Chaitali Santra, a female correspondent for a Delhi-based Hindi weekly called *Julm se Jung*, was killed when a bobby-trapped parcel exploded in her hands at her home in Howrah's South Banksara. The bomb blew out the window of her bedroom, slammed her against a wall, and severely injured her husband Himangshu. The reporter's relatives said she could have been targeted due to her reporting.

Her daughter Satabdi Santra was quoted in media as saying that her mother had taken a call in the week before her death from someone who was asking the journalist to come out of her house. "If you are so close to my home, why don't you just come in instead of asking me to go out?" Satabdi Santra recalled her mother telling the caller.

SEPTEMBER 29 PAKISTAN

Abdul Haq Zehri, a TV journalist and General Secretary of Khuzdar Press Club, was on his way home after work when unidentified masked armed men opened fire on him. Haq received multiple bullet wounds and died on the scene. Police reports suggested it was targeted killing.

OCTOBER 7 PAKISTAN

Mushtaq Khand, a reporter for privately-owned Dharti TV, was shot and killed during a public meeting organised by the ruling Pakistan People's Party (PPP) in Khairpur, in the south-eastern province of Sindh.

Khand was covering the meeting when over 10 gunmen opened fire. It is believed that up to seven people were killed and twelve more injured in the incident, including journalists Faheem Mangi, Allah Dad Rind and Mukhtiar Phulpoto, who was shot five times. Khand worked as a journalist for a decade and was President of the Khairpur Press Club for five years.

NOVEMBER 8 PHILIPPINES

Julios Cauzo, a radio broadcaster, was shot and killed by an unidentified gunman. According to reports, Cauzo was driving his motorcycle when a gunman on another motorcycle pulled alongside and fired shots. Cauzo sustained three wounds to the chest and was rushed to the Nueva Ecija Good Samaritan Hospital. He was pronounced dead on arrival.

Cauzo was a reporter and anchor for Radio dwJJ in Cabanatuan City, which is owned by Mayor Jay Vergara. Police have yet to determine if the killing is related to Cauzo's work, which would have made him the 14th journalist killed in the line of duty under President Benigno Aquino III's watch, and the fifth in 2012. According to local newspaper the *Philippine Star*, a colleague of Cauzo's claimed he received death threats prior to his murder.

NOVEMBER 18 PAKISTAN

Rehmatullah Abid, a senior journalist working with the Dunya News TV Channel, was sitting in a shop when unidentified armed men on a motorcycle opened fire, killing him instantly. The incident occurred in the Washbood area of the Panjgur District, some 600 kilometres away from Quetta, the provincial capital of Balochistan.

Local Police cordoned off the area as a crime scene, but were unable to make an arrest and no group claimed responsibility for the killing. According to Abid's family, he had no known enemies.

NOVEMBER 22 PAKISTAN

Sauqib Khan, a photojournalist with the Urdu newspaper *Ummat*, was among those injured in a twin bomb attack near a religious shrine in Karachi, which killed four people and injured several others, including fellow journalists. Khan arrived at the scene of the first blast when the second went off. He was subsequently taken to hospital for treatment for what appeared to be symptoms of shock, but suffered a cardiac arrest *en route* and died.

DECEMBER 24 INDIA

Nanao Singh, a local reporter in India's eastern state of Manipur, was killed as police fired on a violent rally calling for the arrest of a man accused of molesting a film star. Singh was critically injured and later died of his wounds.

ACCIDENTAL DEATHS ASIA-PACIFIC

FEBRUARY 20 INDIA

Ravindra Shah, an associate editor of Hindi magazine *Outlook*, was killed and four others injured in a road accident near Sehere. Police said the accident took place when the car in which they were travelling lost control and skidded off the road, killing Shah on the spot and injuring others.

APRIL 19 SRI LANKA

Muhandiram Mudiyanse **Nuraniya Hassan**, director of Muslim service at the Sri Lanka Broadcasting Corporation (SLBC), died in a car accident which also injured five other people. The vehicle carrying the SLBC staff including the deceased collided with a truck in Rambawe, Anuradhapura. The party was travelling to Jaffna to organise a Sinhala and Tamil New Year festival. The injured included four staff members of SLBC and another person.

MAY 2 MALAYSIA

Gaing anak Kunding, a journalist with the country's English daily *The Borneo Post* and his colleague **Patricia Yiu** of the *See Hua Daily News*, were killed in a car accident. Police said that their car collided with a bus as they were returning from an 'earth-breaking' ceremony held at a kindergarten at longhouse Rh.Aji.

MAY 9 INDONESIA

Femi Adi, **Dody Aviantra**, **Didik Nur Yusuf**, **Ismiyati Sunatro** and **Aditya Sukardi** died aboard Russian-made passenger jet which crashed into a mountain in Western Java. The five journalists perished along with 44 other passengers of the ill-fated flight. The twin-engine plane vanished from radar screens during a demonstration trip, but ran into bad weather when it crashed into a cliff on Mount Salak.

JUNE 15 INDIA

Tarun Sehrawat, a photographer with *Tehelkapent* died of cerebral malaria he contracted after a week on assignment in the forests of Chhattisgarh. It is believed that Sehrawat and colleague Tusha Mittal took with them a few bottles of drinking water and packets of biscuits but did not take malaria prophylactics, nor did they carry mosquito nets or even chlorine tablets to treat their drinking water.

SEPTEMBER 12 NEPAL

Naresh Khadka, Secretary of the Bajhang Chapter of FNJ, succumbed to serious head injuries after falling cliff rocks hit him on the Pankot Bridge of Hemantawada VDC-1 of Bajhang District, far western region of Nepal. The accident occurred when Khadka was on his way to work at the *Chainpur* daily. Khadka was airlifted in an unconscious state to Nepalgunj on a helicopter and then on to Kathmandu on a regular flight following the advice of medical doctors treating him. He died while undergoing treatment at Annapurna Neuro Hospital in Anamnagar, Kathmandu. The IFJ International Safety Fund contributed to the payment of bills associated with Khadka's treatment.

OCTOBER 20 INDIA

Senior journalist **Amrita Choudhary** died in a road accident on the Chandigarh-Ludhiana highway. Choudhary, a Ludhiana-based principal correspondent of *The Indian Express*, was returning to Ludhiana after attending a function in Chandigarh when the taxi she was travelling in collided head-on with a Tata Innova at Kohara. She was rushed to the local Dayanand Medical College where the doctors declared her brain dead, after all attempts to save her had failed. One of her colleagues and the taxi driver were also injured.



Tarun Sehrawat



Europe

ARNE KÖNIG, President of the European Federation of Journalists (EFJ)

WHILE EUROPE FARED BETTER IN 2012, COMPARED TO MANY OTHER PARTS OF THE WORLD WHICH SUFFERED ANOTHER GRIM YEAR FOR JOURNALISTS' SAFETY, IT STILL FACES ITS OWN CHALLENGES.

The EFJ recorded the killings of two colleagues in Russia who were, we believe, targeted because of their profession. Alexander Khodzinsky was a journalist and activist, and was stabbed to death on 7 July in Tulun, a town in the Irkutsk region of south-central Siberia. Two days later, the police arrested a former deputy mayor as a suspect. The former mayor had left public office to take charge of a local company and, according to news sources, he and Khodzinsky knew each other and were openly in a dispute.

The Irkutsk regional ombudsman Valery Lukin in a comment reportedly said that Khodzinsky had been publicly campaigning against abusive and illegal practices by some local officials involved in the construction of a new shopping mall in the town centre.

Kazbek Gekkiev, the 28 year-old Russian journalist, was shot dead on 6 December by unknown gunmen in the Kabardino-Balkaria republic in Russia's North Caucasus. Kazbek Gekkiev had been working for Vesti-VGTRK for more than three years, mainly as an anchor on Balkar-language broadcasts. The authorities said an investigation is underway to determine whether the murder is connected to his professional activities. But initial reports on the murder suggest he was targeted because of his job. The BBC reported a witness' account saying that the killers, prior to shooting Gekkiev, asked him if he was a journalist. Kazbek Gekkiev started anchoring the main Russian-language news program

after several journalists left their jobs as a result of a video posted on the Internet by an extremist group called Imarat Kavkaz – Caucasus Emirate.

Two other European journalists, Gilles Jacquier of France 2 and photojournalist Remi Ochlik, were killed in the Syrian civil war. They both died in rocket attacks on the Syrian city of Homs.

In a year with one of the highest numbers of killed journalists in the world, Russia ranked again as one of the most dangerous countries in Europe, a sad reminder of the reality for the Russian colleagues who commemorate every 15 December their colleagues who lost their lives over the years in work-related killings.

The EFJ and the Russian Journalists' union believe that impunity is the single biggest contributor to violence against media, as very few investigations have been conducted into journalists' killings. Even the rare prosecutions launched could only lead to partial justice for our colleagues.

Thanks to the campaign of the EFJ, together with the International Federation of Journalists and the Russian Union of Journalists, we see a slight shift towards more accountability but there is still a long way to go. The situation is unlikely to change significantly unless the working conditions and the status of journalists improve to make their protection a high priority for the authorities.

The killings of journalists recorded in 2012 were not the only form of violence against journalists on the rise. There were other attacks, both verbal and physical which represented a trend in some parts of Europe where journalists face more



People hold portraits of slain journalist Anna Politkovskaya on the sixth anniversary of her death, next to her block of flats in central Moscow October 7, 2012. © REUTERS/Sergei Karpukhin

intimidation in their work, including threats to jail intrepid reporters who seek to scrutinise governments' conduct of public affairs.

A case in point is Turkey where criminal litigation against independent media has been turned into official policy. There are currently around 69 colleagues behind bars, mostly accused of being terrorists. The charges encompass any reporting on Kurdish issues which the authorities have declared red lines that journalists cross at their perils.

Despite the gloomy picture of the present crisis in media safety, there is a positive development to report. The hardening of positions on – and interest in – the promotion of press

freedom among the political leaders of Europe is welcome. Thus, the European Commission is maintaining pressure on Turkey to enact credible reforms, including on human rights such as respect for press freedom. The Austrian government is also playing a leading role on the new United Nations' Plan on the safety of journalists and the issue of impunity.

However, the progress is painfully slow. As in all of these cases where human life and human freedoms are at stake, action cannot wait for ever. We remain determined to push for drastic and speedy remedial measures.

Arne König
President, the European Federation of Journalists

JULY 7 RUSSIA

Journalist and activist **Alexander Khodzinsky** was stabbed to death in Tulun, a town in the Irkutsk region of south-central Siberia. Police arrested former deputy mayor Genady Zhigaryov on suspicion of his murder. Zhigaryov had left public office to run a local business and, according to sources, he and Khodzinsky often clashed. Khodzinsky actively campaigned against corruption in local government, especially officials involved in the construction of the “Sozvedzie” (Constellation) shopping mall. It is thought he was killed as a direct result of his investigative reports.



DECEMBER 5 RUSSIA

Kazbek Gekkiev, a journalist for Vesti-VGTRK, was gunned down by unknown assailants as he walked home from work in the Kabardino-Balkaria republic in Russia's North Caucasus. Gekkiev, 28, worked for Vesti-VGTRK for more than three years, mainly as a presenter of a Balkar-language broadcasts. He had been made anchor of the main Russian-language news program after several colleagues quit their jobs due to threats made by the extremist group Imarat Kavkaz (Caucasus Emirate). According to BBC's Russian service reports, witnesses said the killers asked Gekkiev if he was a journalist before they shot him and fled.



Alexander Khodzinsky (L)
and Kazbek Gekkiev (R)

ACCIDENTAL DEATHS EUROPE

JANUARY 2 BELGIUM

Michael Cornette, a journalist for the *Krant Van West-Vlaanderen* newspaper, was killed near Kortrijk, Belgium during a test drive of the Ariel Atom 3, a street-legal track car. Cornette was in the passenger seat of the vehicle, a race car for the street with no doors or roof, when the driver lost control and slammed into a silo. Cornette died on the scene.

NOVEMBER 11 UKRAINE

Sports journalist **Yuriy Danylov**, died while covering a hockey match between Ukraine and Poland at Kiev's Sports Palace. According to reports, employees of the Sports Palace were hastily preparing for a concert after the game and while erecting structures for the concert, made a hole near the ice. It is though normal health and safety protocol was not followed and Danylov fell in the hole and died of his injuries.



Middle East & Arab World

MONIR ZAAROUR, IFJ Arab World and Middle East Coordinator

THE SAFETY OF JOURNALISTS IN THE MIDDLE EAST AND THE ARAB WORLD IS AGAIN IN THE BALANCE AS VIOLENCE ARISING FROM THE REGION'S CONFLICTS SPARKED NEW SPIKES IN THE FIGURES OF KILLED JOURNALISTS IN 2012.

At least 44 confirmed deaths were recorded, the majority of them in Syria and Somalia. Such a tragic loss of so many brave colleagues, while depressingly familiar, never fails to shock the journalists' community in the region and beyond.

The unfolding tragedy in Syria claimed the lives of at least 34 journalists and media workers this year of several different nationalities, most of them Syrian nationals. At least nine more have also gone missing. While some were caught in cross fire incidents, there is strong evidence that the warring sides involved in the civil war have deliberately targeted journalists and, by doing so, are implicated in committing what may be war crimes. The public outcry against threats by sections of the Free Syrian Army to execute Palestinian-Ukrainian journalist Anhar Kochneva for alleged spying activities, in mid-December, may have saved her life. However, both sides must be held to account for their crimes against journalists.

Journalists and media workers were also killed in Somalia, Iraq, Lebanon, Egypt and Palestine. In most of these cases our colleagues died because they were deliberately targeted and killed. Three Palestinian journalists died when the Israeli army targeted the cars they were travelling in during the recent conflict in the Gaza strip. More journalists and media workers were severely injured when the building housing

their offices was also targeted and destroyed. Four Iraqi journalists met violent deaths from car bombs, an attack by an armed gang and a cross fire incident.

In Egypt, one journalist was shot and murdered as he was reporting from violent clashes between opponents and supporters of President Mohammed Morsi and another suffered a stroke live on air, eventually dying an hour later in hospital. We include his death in the work-related illness as an example of how excessive stress levels can often lead to deaths within the journalists' profession.

Throughout this period, the IFJ has maintained pressure on governments to conduct independent investigations into the deaths of journalists and, where we believe strong evidence of responsibility for war crimes exists, call on the UN to conduct independent investigations such as in the deliberate targeting of media in Gaza and Syria.

Much more needs to be done to end this cycle of violence which endangers the lives of journalists, their profession and the prospect of a successful democratic transition for societies in the region. IFJ affiliates are committed to fighting the culture of impunity and governments' inaction. Moreover, the IFJ is complimenting its campaigning work with practical action to train and protect journalists faced with violence in conflict reporting. This year, the IFJ's network of safety trainers trained at least 300 journalists throughout the region. In 2013 the network is expected to be expanded from four to nine countries to create a comprehensive journalists' safety network for the region.

Monir Zaarour
IFJ Arab World and Middle East Coordinator



Left to right: French journalist **Gilles Jacquier** is seen in this undated picture released by France Televisions. ©REUTERS; Journalist **Marie Colvin** poses for a photograph with Libyan rebels (unseen) in Misrata in June 2011. ©REUTERS/Zohra Bensemra; French photographer **Remi Ochlik** is seen working in Paris in November 2009. ©REUTERS/Gonzalo Fuentes

JANUARY 2 SYRIA

Shoukri Ahmed Ratib Abu el Bourghoul, a presenter at Damascus Radio – Al Thawra, was shot in the face on 30 December 2011 after hosting his weekly programme. He died in the hospital three days later.

JANUARY 11 SYRIA

French veteran war reporter **Gilles Jacquier** was working for France 2 when he died in a rocket attack in the city of Homs, a stronghold of the opposition to President Bashar el-Assad. Jacquier was taking part in a press visit organised by the Syrian authorities. Colleagues said the attack was directed at anti-government protesters in the city.

FEBRUARY 4 SYRIA

Mazhar Tayyara, a freelance photographer who worked for several Western media such as AFP, *The Guardian* and *Die Welt*, was injured in the city Homs when government's forces bombed the city. The journalist sustained multiple severe injuries and died at a local hospital within hours of being admitted.

FEBRUARY 21 SYRIA

Rami al-Sayed, a freelance Syrian journalist, died during the heavy shelling of Baba Amr, a rebel stronghold in the city of Homs. Human rights activists say he was killed by shrapnel when the building he was filming from was shelled.

FEBRUARY 22 SYRIA

Veteran *Sunday Times* reporter **Marie Colvin** and award-winning French photographer **Remi Ochlik** were killed in the city of Homs when Syrian army forces attacked a house being used as a makeshift media centre in the Baba Amr district. Media reports said that the two reporters were hit by a rocket as they tried to escape shelling of the house.

Colvin and Ochlik were among a few Western journalists reporting from Homs, a battleground between the Syrian army and opposition forces. Colvin reported earlier on the shelling in the city, describing the bloodshed as “absolutely sickening.” Another French journalist, **Edith Bouvier**, was wounded in the same attack and later evacuated safely to Lebanon.

FEBRUARY 24 SYRIA

Anas al-Tarsha, a young cameraman who filmed clashes between Syrian forces and rebels, was killed in a mortar attack in the city of Homs. Al-Tarsha was just 17 when he died after a shell landed near where he was filming the fighting in Qarabees district. He was killed instantly.

APRIL 2 IRAQ

Kamiran Salaheddin, a journalist with Salaheddin TV channel, was killed by a bomb when an explosive device attached to his car went off while he was driving home late at night in the city of Tikrit. Salaheddin Channel was established by American forces in 2004 and is funded by Salaheddin provincial council, reports said.



A Turkish journalist holds portraits of **Marie Colvin** and **Remi Ochlik** during a demonstration against the killings of journalists in Syria. ©REUTERS/Umit Bektas



Left to right: Lebanese activists and journalists take part in a protest, against the killing of cameraman **Ali Shaaban** by Syrian soldiers on the Lebanese-Syrian border. ©REUTERS/Mohamed Azakir; Carpets are erected as protection from snipers along a street at the al-Bayada district of Homs. ©REUTERS/Yazan Homsy

APRIL 10 LEBANON

Ali Shaaban, a cameraman with Al-Jaddad TV, was killed in Wadi Khalid area close to the Syrian-Lebanese border when the TV crew came under gun fire from the Syrian army. Al-Jaddad's management accused the Syrian army of deliberately shooting at the journalists and the victim's colleague, Hussein Khreiss, reportedly said the crew had explained to the Syrians that they were journalists before the shooting began. "We told our Syrian brothers that we are not military but they opened fire heavily on the car," Khreiss was quoted as saying on the channel's website, according to Reuters.

APRIL 14 SYRIA

Sameer Shalab al-Sham, an amateur film maker, who on occasion managed to live stream the shelling, was reportedly killed as he filmed this video from the roof of a building, according to sources quoted by the French broadcaster France 24. **Ahmed Abdollah Fakhriyeh**, a citizen journalist, was also killed on the same day.

APRIL 17 SYRIA

Khaled Mahmoud Kabbisho, a media activist, was summarily executed after being questioned in the North West of the country, according to media reports. It was reported his head was crushed by a tank.

MAY 27 SYRIA

Ammr Mohamed Zado, **Lawrence Fahmy Al-Naimi** and **Ahmed Adnan Al-Ashlaq**, all three journalists for Al-Shaam News Network were killed in the Khaldiya neighborhood of Homs, media reports said. They died when their building

came under mortal attack and took a direct hit during fierce fighting between government's forces and rebels.

MAY 28 SYRIA

Basel Al Shahade, an independent film maker and cameraman **Ahmed Al Assam** were killed as they were filming the troops' movement in the Safsafa district of Homs, according to the Committee to Protect Journalists (CPJ).

JUNE 27 SYRIA

Mohamed Shamma, **Sami Abou Amin** and **Zaid Kahl**, who worked as technicians for a pro government Al-Ikhbariya TV, were killed when the TV station was bombed by unknown attackers, reports said. They were among the seven station's employees who were killed in the attack. On July 4, Al-Nusra Front claimed responsibility for the attack, according to AP and IPI.

JULY 12 SYRIA

Ihsan al-Buni, a cameraman with *al-Thawra* newspaper, was killed by unidentified armed men in Daraya, Damascus countryside while he was returning home from his work.

JULY 16 SYRIA

Ali Juburi, editor of the Iraqi newspaper *Al Roaa* and the paper's photojournalist **Falah Taha** were found with gunshots in Damascus. Media reports said that the two reporters were killed while covering clashes between government forces and the FSA. Taha fled Iraq in 2007/2008 and had been living and working in Syria ever since. Syrian authorities handed over his body to Iraqi authorities on July 16.

JULY 31 SYRIA

Ghazwan Anas, a presenter with al-Mosul satellite TV channel, was shot dead at his home by gunmen. Local sources said the journalist was having his Iftar, the evening meal that breaks the dawn-to-dusk fast during the holy month of Ramadan, when the gunmen broke into the family's home Monday night in the city of Mosul. His mother and wife were wounded in the attack.

AUGUST 5 SYRIA

Mohammad al-Saeed, a Syrian state TV, was kidnapped and killed. The militant Islamist group Al-Nusra claimed responsibility for the killing, according to the UK-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights reported. The Al-Nusra Front later posted a statement August 4 on an Al-Qaeda-affiliated internet forum.

"The heroes of western Ghouta (in Damascus province) imprisoned the shabih (pro-regime militia) presenter on July 19...He was then killed after he had been interrogated," AFP reported. The post showed a photograph of frightened al-Saeed sitting against the wall. "May this be a lesson to all those who support the regime," the note read.

AUGUST 10 SYRIA

Hatem Abu Yehia, an assistant cameraman of Al-Ikhbariya TV, was kidnapped along with two colleague and their driver. The channel later announced that Yehia had been killed. The other members of his crew were freed after several days, according to the SANA news agency.

AUGUST 11 SYRIA

Ali Abbas, the head of internal affairs at state owned news agency SANA, was killed by unidentified gunmen at his home in the Jdaifat Artouz District of Damascus, according to his employer.

SEPTEMBER 9 IRAQ

Farqad Hussein, editor-in-chief of *Al Adwa* newspaper and worked for many media organisations in Dhi Qar province, was killed in a car bomb explosion. The blast went off in Al Hobobi Area, Al Kornish Street in the center of al Nasiriyah city.

SEPTEMBER 16 SYRIA

Yusuf Ahmed Deeb, a journalist for *Liwa Al-Fatih* newspaper, was killed during Syrian airstrikes on the newspaper's printing press in the northwestern city of Aleppo, according to media reports. Deeb had been covering events in Syria since the beginning of the uprising in March 2011, taking videos and gathering and distributing stories to local media, reports said.

SEPTEMBER 19 SYRIA

Abdel Karim El Oqda, a cameraman and reporter for Shaam News network, was killed during an attack on a neighborhood in the city of Hama, the network reported. Oqda died with three colleagues after troops surrounded the house they were in. Soldiers then reportedly burned the house after the killings, according to Al Arabiya News.

SEPTEMBER 26 SYRIA

Maya Nasser, the correspondent of Iran's English-language cable network, Press TV, was shot dead and his colleague and Damascus bureau chief Hussein Murtada wounded. The two journalists were covering the aftermath of the massive bombs attacks which targeted the Syrian army building in Damascus. According to a statement from Press TV, Maya was hit in the neck by a sniper shot. The channel blamed the Syrian rebels for this attack and accused several countries in the region of arming the rebellion against President Bashar al-Assad.

OCTOBER 3 SYRIA

Mona al-Bakkour, a female journalist of *Al Thawra* newspaper in Aleppo and managed the *Syria Al-Qaalla* website, was killed in an explosion near the Al-Siyahi hotel located in Saadallah Al-Jabri square in the city of Aleppo where she was covering the fighting between government(s) forces and rebels.

OCTOBER 10 SYRIA

Mohamed Al-Ashram, a cameraman of pro-government Al-Ikhbariya TV, was shot in the chest and leg while covering clashes between Syrian forces and the rebel Free Syrian Army in the eastern city of Deir Al-Zour, according to his employer.

OCTOBER 15 SYRIA

Hisham Moussalli, editor at the Syrian General Organisation of Radio and TV, died under torture after being detained for two months by Syrian security services, according to media reports. His body was returned to his family, reports added.

NOVEMBER 14 IRAQ

Ziad Tareq, a journalist with Dyal TV, was killed by an explosive device attached to his car which went off in the city of Baquba.

NOVEMBER 17 IRAQ

Samir Shikh Ali, editor of *Al Gamaheer* newspaper Age 61, was killed in a cross fire in al Dorah neighbourhood, southern Baghdad.

NOVEMBER 20 PALESTINE

Mahmoud Al-Komi, cameraman for Al-Aqsa TV and his colleague **Hossam Salameh** were killed when their car was hit by an Israeli missile near the Ashifa hospital. The two were reportedly on their way to the hospital where victims of the Israeli attacks were being treated. In a separate incident, another journalist, **Muhammad Abu Aisha** who was the director of al-Quds Educational radio, was also killed in his car.

DECEMBER 12 EGYPT

El-Hosseini Abul-Deif, a reporter of *El-Fagr* newspaper, was shot and critically injured during the clashes between opponents and supporters of President Mohammed Morsi. He was taken to Zahraa hospital where doctors declared him clinically dead, according to media reports. Five more people were also killed in the same incident. Reports said that El-Hosseini was seemingly shot at close range for photographs he had taken of the protests outside the Presidential palace in Cairo. The Egyptian Journalists' Syndicate has blamed members of the Muslim Brotherhood for the attack.

ACCIDENTAL DEATHS MIDDLE EAST & ARAB WORLD

FEBRUARY 16 SYRIA

Anthony Shadid, a correspondent of *The New York Times*, died of an asthma attack while on a reporting assignment in Syria. Tyler Hicks, a Times photographer who was with Mr. Shadid, carried his body across the border to Turkey. Shahid had been reporting inside Syria for a week on the Free Syrian Army and other armed elements of the resistance to the government of President Bashar al-Assad, according to The Times. Mr. Hicks said that Mr. Shadid, who had asthma and had carried medication with him, began to show symptoms as both of them were preparing to leave Syria and the symptoms escalated into what became a fatal attack, the paper added.

JULY 18 EGYPT

Adel al-Gogary, editor-in-chief of *al-Anwar* newspaper, was taken ill during a television debate hosted by the Iraqi al-Hadath TV, according to the UAE's al-Bayan daily. Gogary was a guest on a programme called Neqat Sakhena (Hot Spots), discussing the opposition to President Bashar Al-Assad in Syria. He suffered a stroke and was rushed to hospital where he died shortly afterwards.



©REUTERS/SUHAIB SALEM

INTERNATIONAL **safety** **FUND**

2012 REPORT

2012 WAS A WATERSHED YEAR FOR THE IFJ INTERNATIONAL SAFETY FUND. IT MARKED ITS 20TH ANNIVERSARY SINCE ITS INCEPTION IN 1992. DURING THESE INTERVENING YEARS, CONTRIBUTIONS FROM IFJ UNIONS MADE THE SAFETY FUND A LIFELINE TO THEIR COLLEAGUES IN NEED. THEN, AT THE FIRST IFJ SAFETY SUMMIT HELD IN NUREMBERG, GERMANY ON 26 OCTOBER 2012, THE FEDERATION'S LEADERSHIP DECIDED TO RE-LAUNCH THE SAFETY WITH A VIEW TO EXPANDING ITS REACH AMONG JOURNALISTS WHO FUND AND BENEFIT FROM IT.

It was also another year in which solidarity was called to provide emergency aid to journalists across the globe who were victims of conflict and political instability and required assistance funding security, medical care and legal representation.

The IFJ Safety Fund is made up of money raised by individual journalists and member unions and has taken up cases all over the world and intervened to provide special support for the media victims of natural disasters and accidents.

The Fund paid out a record amount of more than €85.000 in 2012 in response to requests for humanitarian assistance by journalists and media staff in crisis situations. As in previous years, beneficiaries came from all over the world, demonstrating the wide scope of attacks on journalists — threats, lawsuits, detention and cases of forced exile which remain unacceptably high.

The IFJ, through its Safety Fund, continued to help pay hospital bills for injured journalists, supported journalists in exile and contributed to legal costs defending journalists in court actions in countries where proper legal representation is unaffordable or difficult to obtain.

Furthermore, the Fund provided assistance to families of journalists murdered in Somalia and of their colleagues detained in Iranian prisons.

The IFJ International Safety Fund covers the following areas:

- The IFJ Safety Fund was primarily set up to provide assistance to journalists and media staff who are injured in the line of duty, often in conflict “hot-spots” and in cases where the media employing the journalist/media staffer are unable to cover such costs. This assistance can be in the form of travel, medical or subsistence costs.
- The Safety Fund can also be used on a limited case by-case basis to assist with legal fees for journalists/media staff who cannot obtain sufficient support from their employer.
- Finally, the Safety Fund can provide immediate emergency assistance to families of journalists and media staff who have been killed, leaving the survivors no means to support themselves.

Whenever the IFJ gives assistance there is a monitoring and reporting process to ensure the money goes to where it is intended. In 2010 the IFJ revised the Safety Fund rules.

These are available on request from the IFJ headquarters.

Over the years the IFJ Safety Fund has been used to produce publications as part of the IFJ Safety Programme. These have included the IFJ Safety Fund brochures produced in English, French Japanese and Spanish and the IFJ Safety Manual, *Live News* (see Press Freedom and Safety at www.ifj.org) for journalists travelling to conflict areas.

Live News has been produced in Albanian, Arabic, Bulgarian, Chinese, English, French, Italian, Japanese, Macedonian, Romanian, Russian, Serbian and Spanish. A new and up to date version of *Live News* will be published in 2013.

These publications provide basic guidelines on the dangers journalists face in the field and the measures they can take to minimise risk. They are distributed free of charge.

When a journalist is attacked, we are all affected. When a journalist is helped to overcome intimidation and violence it strikes a blow for press freedom and our rights which are of benefit to the whole community.

The Safety Fund is not just a practical means of support, but also a symbol of international solidarity which can boost morale and encourage journalists to carry on even in times of struggle.

The IFJ tries not to replicate work done elsewhere and maintains contact with organisations working on journalists’ safety and freedom of expression. These include the Committee to Protect Journalists, the International Press Institute, Reporters Without Borders, the Canadian Journalists for Free Expression, the Writers in Prison Committee, the Rory Peck Trust and the World Association of Newspapers. Information is exchanged, and where necessary, an individual may receive coordinated assistance from multiple sources.

Nonetheless, without the IFJ Safety Fund, many would go unaided. The Safety Fund can only continue this work if its future is secured. In order for money to go out to those in need, it must first be raised through donations. The more money we raise, the more people we can help.

In 2013 we will continue to spread the message to journalists in need... You are not alone – the IFJ Safety Fund is there to help.

Solidarity in Action

ASIA AND PACIFIC

Bangladesh: A journalist exiled in Sweden received assistance for living and medical expenses.

Nepal: The IFJ Safety Fund provided assistance to the Federation of Nepali Journalists (FNJ) to cover the cost of airlift of a journalist who had died in an accident.

AMERICAS

Colombia: A journalist who had fled the country for his security and was given assistance to pay for his return flight.

Cuba: Three Cuban journalists who were freed from prisons and settled in Spain received assistance for living expenses.

Argentina: The Safety Fund provided assistance to a journalist who needed to pay for his medical treatment.

AFRICA

Burundi: The Safety Fund helped provide legal representation to a journalist who was arrested on terror-related charges. Another exiled journalist was awarded a grant to help him reunite with his family.

Cameroun: The Safety Fund provided assistance to two journalists in exile for medical and living expenses.

The Gambia: The Safety Fund continued financial contributions towards the protection of the leader of the Gambian Press Union who lives in exile and is still facing threats.

Rwanda: Journalists who fled the country for their security were awarded grants to help with living expenses in exile.

Somalia: The Safety Fund provided assistance to families of journalists who were killed in a string of deadly violence. Journalists who were forced to relocate inside and outside the country also received assistance with living expenses.

Sierra Leone: A journalist living in exile received financial help for living and medical expenses

Togo: A journalist received assistance for medical expenses.

Zimbabwe: The Safety Fund contributed to the efforts of the Zimbabwe Union of Journalists (ZUJ) to help one of its members who had an accident and needed assistance in paying for medical treatment and support.

EUROPE

Georgia: The Safety Fund provided assistance to a journalist who needed emergency help as he settled in a host country where he had sought refuge.

MIDDLE EAST

Palestine: The Safety Fund provided emergency assistance to a Palestinian cameraman who was detained in Syria and fled to Turkey after his release. Another Palestinian journalist was given financial help to pay for medical treatment.

Iran: The Fund continued to support of families of Iranian journalists who are in jail. It also supported more Iranian journalists in exile and facing financial hardship.

Iraq Kurdistan: The Safety Fund supported an journalist from Iraq Kurdistan who was forced into exile by threats to his safety.



Rights activists and journalists chant slogans during a protest to show solidarity with a Yemeni journalist jailed over alleged links with al-Qaeda. ©REUTERS/Mohamed al-Sayaghi

With these considerations in mind, the IFJ calls on journalists groups, media organisations and all relevant public authorities to respect the following International Code of Practice for the Safe Conduct of Journalism:

1 Journalists and other media staff shall be properly equipped for all assignments including the provision of first-aid materials, communication tools, adequate transport facilities and, where necessary, protective clothing;

2 Media organisations and, where appropriate, state authorities shall provide riskawareness training for those journalists and media workers who are likely to be involved in assignments where dangerous conditions prevail or may be reasonably expected;

3 Public authorities shall inform their personnel of the need to respect the rights of journalists and shall instruct them to respect the physical integrity of journalists and media staff while at work.

4 Media organisations shall provide social protection for all staff engaged in journalistic activity outside the normal place of work, including life insurance;

5 Media organisations shall provide, free of charge, medical treatment and health care, including costs of recuperation and convalescence, for journalists and media workers who are the victims of injury or illness as a result of their work outside the normal place of work;

6 Media organisations shall protect freelance or part-time employees. They must receive, on an equal basis, the same social protection and access to training and equipment as that made available to fully employed staff.

INTERNATIONAL CODE OF PRACTICE FOR THE SAFE CONDUCT OF JOURNALISM

The dangers posed to journalists and media staff working in dangerous situations and conflict zones are the subject of extensive record. The IFJ has recorded the deaths of more than 1000 journalists and media staff over the past ten years.

Many journalists are killed, injured or harassed in war zones, either targeted by one side or another or caught in the crossfire of violence. Others are the victims of premeditated assault and intimidation either by criminals, terrorists or by agencies of the state — the police, the military or the security forces — acting secretly and illegally.

Very often there is little that journalists or media organisations can do to avoid casualties. There will, inevitably, be accidents, no matter how much care is taken to provide protection and there is little one can do when those targeting media use ruthless and brutal methods to crush journalistic inquiry.

However, there are steps that journalists and media organisations should take to minimise the risks to staff. In particular, the following are vital considerations in providing protection:

- **Adequate preparation, training and social protection.** It is essential that journalists and media staff be in a state of readiness when difficulties arise. There should be a framework for providing individuals with health care and social protection.
- **Media professionals must be informed and inform themselves** about the political, physical, and social terrain in which they are working. They must not contribute to the uncertainty and insecurity of their conditions through ignorance or reckless behaviour.
- **Media organisations must guard against risk-taking for competitive advantage,** and should promote co-operation among journalists whenever conditions exist which are potentially hazardous.
- **Governments must remove obstacles to journalism.** They must not restrict unnecessarily the freedom of movement of journalists or compromise the right of news media to gather, produce and disseminate information in secure and safe conditions.
- **People Must Keep Their Hands Off Media.** Everyone should respect the physical integrity of journalists and media staff at work. Physical interference with filming or other journalistic work must be prohibited.

INTERNATIONAL

safety

FUND

It's the thought that counts

When people think of the **IFJ Safety Fund**, they remember to raise money for it. Hats only go round at conferences where someone thought of the Fund. People only dig in their pockets because they know it exists. Someone has to start the ball rolling. Will you start it next time? Keep the IFJ Safety Fund in mind whenever union members get together.

How to Give

Please send donations to the IFJ member union in your country; the money will be forwarded in a lump sum and will cut the administrative costs of the Fund. If there is no IFJ member, send the money to:

The IFJ Safety Fund

a/c BE64 2100 7857 0052

SWIFT Code: GEBABEBB

Fortis Bank, Rond Point Schuman 10, 1040 Brussels

The Safety Fund for Media Translators and Interpreters (SFMI)

a/c BE90 3630 4689 8732

SWIFT Code: BBRU-BE-BB

ING Bank, Rond Point Schuman 8, 1040 Brussels

For more information contact:

Ernest Sagaga

tel: +32 2 2352207

email: safety@ifj.org

web: <http://www.ifj.org>

The IFJ is the world's largest organisation of journalists with members in more than 130 countries. Today the IFJ spans the world with a range of programmes and solidarity activities that help to strengthen journalists' trade unions. IFJ Offices around the world highlight the need for safety of journalists. The Federation has in the past opened offices in Afghanistan, Algeria, Colombia, the Philippines and Sri Lanka to provide local support for journalists most in need.

Find out more and about what you can do to help:



The International Federation of Journalists

Residence Palace, Block C, 155 Rue de la Loi

B-1040 Brussels, Belgium

tel. +32 2 2352207 fax. +32 2 2352219

safety@ifj.org <http://www.ifj.org>

Published by the International Federation of Journalists