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United Kingdom
National Commission for UNESCO

PRESS
FREEDOM
NETWORK

frontline
club

World Press Freedom Day 2009 UK Debate

1 May 2009

Motion:

**‘Governments at war are winning the battle
of controlling the international media’**

10.00 am - 12.00 noon

Frontline Club, 13 Norfolk Place, London

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"Everyone has the right to freedom of opinion and expression; this right includes freedom to hold opinions without interference and to seek, receive and impart information and ideas through any media and regardless frontiers".

Article 19 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights

Welcome

Welcome to the annual debate organised by the UK National Commission for UNESCO and the Press Freedom Network to mark World Press Freedom Day (3 May).

We have assembled today a distinguished panel of speakers and an audience with a range of backgrounds and interests, to debate whether governments at war are winning the battle of controlling the international media.

Our understanding of conflict is shaped by the images and information we receive, making far-reaching and penetrating journalism crucially important. Yet in every conflict, from the recent war in Gaza to the protracted conflict in Sri Lanka, to the 'War on Terrorism', all sides seek to use the media as a weapon. The relative success of governments in controlling coverage of conflict and turbulence however, remains a point of discussion and debate.

From overt intimidation and violence to censorship justified by reference to national security, are governments winning the battle of controlling the international media? Do recent conflicts demonstrate that governments are becoming increasingly effective in dictating the terms of coverage? Or has the rise of new media and changing journalism practices kept the information flowing from behind the front lines?

As we debate these questions, it is fitting to recall the stated commitments the international community has made to protect journalists reporting from conflict. In 2006 the UN Security Council unanimously adopted Resolution 1738, affirming that journalists, media professionals and associated personnel engaged in dangerous professional missions in areas of armed conflict shall be considered civilians and be respected and protected as such. Yet with 24 journalists and media professionals killed already this year¹, it is clear that the commitments of 1738 have not yet been realised. The international community must redouble its commitment to

this critical Resolution and its underlying principals and work to ensure that its pledges do not ring hollow.

We hope today's discussion, chaired by William Horsley, will focus the attention of the UK public and media on this question and the issue of reporting on conflict more broadly.

2009 marks the eighth year that events have been organised in the UK by the UK National Commission for UNESCO and the Press Freedom Network to mark World Press Freedom Day. Some will remember the lively debate last year entitled "New Media is Killing Journalism".

Freedom of Expression and Freedom of the Press is at the heart of UNESCO's founding philosophy of building "peace in the minds of men". As a Specialized Agency in the UN system, UNESCO is the only UN body with a mandate to defend freedom of expression and press freedom, which it promotes as a basic human right.

We hope you find today's debate relevant, enjoyable and thought provoking. It is intended to be just one part of our engagement in the UK on the challenges of press and media freedom, encouraging a debate on the implications of reporting on conflict and what it means for press freedom today.

We would particularly like to thank the Frontline Club for supporting today's event and their ongoing commitment to championing independent journalism.



Tim Williams

Chair, 2009 World Press Freedom Day
Organising Committee

¹ International News Safety Institute (INSI) www.newssafety.org

Message from Mr Koïchiro Matsuura

Director-General of UNESCO, on the occasion of World Press Freedom Day – 3 May 2009



Every year, World Press Freedom Day provides an opportunity to affirm the importance of freedom of expression and press freedom – a fundamental human right enshrined in Article 19 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. On World Press Freedom Day 2009 UNESCO's international event is highlighting the potential of the media to foster dialogue, mutual understanding and reconciliation.

Communicating across cultural differences is a central challenge of the contemporary world where globalizing forces have accelerated interactions among peoples. The media, viewed as an arbitrator, has an important role to play in encouraging and facilitating this communication and in providing an open platform for debate among all parts of society.

Respecting cultural differences while preserving freedom of expression will always exist as a tension to be debated and negotiated in any democracy. UNESCO believes that frank, even harsh speech is our right unless it seeks to incite discrimination, hostility or violence. Any attempt to restrict the right to freedom of expression must be balanced against this criterion.

Strengthening the principles and practices of a free and professional media is the most sustainable way of encouraging a media culture that works towards building peace. Only a media that is vibrant, independent, pluralistic, inclusive and fair, editorially free and beyond censorship and influence from owners or interests can contribute to dialogue and reconciliation across divides.

By challenging prevailing attitudes and stereotypes about other cultures, religions and peoples, the media can help to strip away the ignorance that breeds mistrust and suspicion, thus promoting tolerance and an acceptance of difference that values diversity as an opportunity for understanding.

We must strengthen our efforts to build a media that is critical of inherited assumptions yet tolerant of alternative perspectives; a media that provides the information that enables people to make well-informed decisions; a media that brings competing narratives into a shared story of interdependence; a media that responds to diversity through dialogue.

On World Press Freedom Day 2009, let us all commit to furthering press freedom and freedom of expression worldwide. We have the principles and frameworks to measure our actions and those of others. The fuller implementation of these standards is something we should all be working towards. A free press is not a luxury that can wait until more peaceful times. It is, rather, part of the very process through which they may be achieved.

Statement by David Miliband MP

UK Foreign Secretary, on the occasion of World Press Freedom Day – 3 May 2009

“Freedom for the media to report and analyse what is going on in the world is of fundamental importance in holding governments to account. We must all increase our efforts to ensure that these values are protected at a time when the threat to the safety of journalists doing their jobs remains unacceptably high.

During the past year 60 journalists and media workers have been killed. The year also saw the first recorded fatality of a ‘citizen journalist’. These tragic deaths, along with over 900 attacks on media workers, 29 kidnappings of journalists and the closure of over 2,000 media outlets, harm our ability to understand the world.

Today I want to re-state Britain's commitment to promote, defend, and protect the right of journalists to do their jobs without fear of reprisal. We continue to support UN Security Council Resolution 1738, which calls for war journalists, media professionals and associated personnel to be respected and protected under the Geneva Conventions as civilians, and the need to bring to justice those who incite such violence.”

Data source - Reporters Sans Frontieres 2008 Report

Speakers & Chair

Panel Speakers & Chair

For the Motion



Jamie Shea

*Director of Policy
Planning in the Private
Office of the Secretary
General, NATO*



Andrew Gilligan

*Evening Standard
Columnist*



William Horsley

*Journalist and
Broadcaster;
Chair of the Association
of European
Journalists, UK*



Alan Fisher

*London Correspondent,
Al Jazeera English*



Jeremy Dear

*General Secretary,
National Union of
Journalists*

Chair

Against the Motion

Named Speakers



Norbert Mbu-Mputu

*Writer, Journalist &
former UN worker in the
Democratic Republic of
Congo*



Sharif Nashashibi

*Founding Director,
Arab Media Watch*

Speaker Biographies

Jeremy Dear, National Union of Journalists General Secretary

Jeremy Dear was elected General Secretary of the National Union of Journalists in 2001 and re-elected in 2006. He has served the union at all levels from President to workplace representative for 19 years. As a staff and freelance journalist, Jeremy was editor of The Big Issue in the Midlands, worked on business and public sector magazines, local newspapers and now regularly contributes as a media commentator to numerous publications.

Alan Fisher, Al Jazeera English correspondent

Alan Fisher is an experienced correspondent whose television career stretches back more than 25 years. In his role with Al Jazeera English, he has reported from regions across the world.

He was a frontline correspondent during Georgia's war with Russia in August 2008 and came under sustained fire while reporting on US army operations in Afghanistan. One of the first international journalists to arrive in Armenia after a state of emergency was declared, Alan also reported from Karachi in the aftermath of the assassination of Benazir Bhutto.

He also landed a string of exclusives while covering the arrest and subsequent extradition of Radovan Karadzic from Serbia. Alan reported in the run up to and the birth of the new nation of Kosovo, covered live the siege at the Nahr al-Bared refugee camp in northern Lebanon and brought the latest in the ongoing corruption charges against Ehud Olmert, the former Israeli prime minister to Al Jazeera's global audience. Based in London, he has reported from across the UK as well as Norway, Italy, France, Germany, Spain, The Netherlands, Belgium, Romania, Bosnia and Poland to name just a few. He also covered Barack Obama's historic election in the US.

Alan moved to Al Jazeera from the UK broadcaster GMTV, where he spent 13 years, the last six as chief correspondent. In that time he covered the war in Bosnia, the end of the siege of Sarajevo, and the humanitarian crisis caused by the bloody Rwandan civil war. He spent 10 weeks in Baghdad leading GMTV's coverage of the last Gulf War and covered the death of Princess Diana, the peace process in Northern Ireland, the Dunblane massacre in his native Scotland and fronted a three-part series on poverty in Africa.

He was recently awarded the Inveramsay Medal for his outstanding and continuing contribution to the Young UK Programme, a charity aimed at broadening the mind and expanding the horizons of young people across Britain. A keen cyclist, he also collects books on journalism.

Andrew Gilligan, Evening Standard columnist

Andrew Gilligan is a columnist for the London *Evening Standard* newspaper.

After reading History at Cambridge University, Gilligan began his career as a reporter for the Cambridge Evening News before working on the foreign news desk of the Sunday Telegraph. In 1999 he became the defence and diplomatic correspondent for BBC Radio 4's *Today Programme*. Whilst working for *Today*, Gilligan reported from over 40 countries and broke a number of stories highlighting deficiencies in the British military.

After leaving the BBC in 2004, Gilligan joined the *Evening Standard* where he exposed a series of financial irregularities at City Hall under previous London Mayor, Ken Livingston. This work earned him the title Journalist of the Year at the British Press Awards in 2008.

Gilligan is also a reporter for Channel 4's *Dispatches* where he has covered a range of topics including the treatment of British soldiers returning from Iraq, British airports and the privatised railways. He also presents *Forum*, a Question Time-style panel discussion show on Press TV, Iran's English-language news channel.

In October 2008, Gilligan started a new weekly column entitled *Gilligan's Greenwich*, for the website Greenwich.co.uk.

William Horsley, journalist and broadcaster; Chair of the Association of European Journalists, UK; International Director, Centre for Freedom of the Media (CFOM)

William Horsley is a journalist and writer on international affairs, the UK chairman of the Association of European Journalists (AEJ), which brings together journalists from over 20 countries, and the International Director of The Centre for Freedom of the Media (CFOM), an interdisciplinary research centre based at the Department of Journalism Studies, University of Sheffield. He worked for many years as a BBC foreign correspondent for TV and Radio News, covering events in Asia, Russia, Europe and the USA. Later, as a BBC World Affairs Correspondent based in London, he became a regular presenter of BBC World TV programmes including *Europe Direct*, and reported widely for BBC Radio, the World Service and BBC News Online.

He has written many articles and essays on foreign affairs and media issues for publications such as *International Herald Tribune*, *The Economist*, *The World Today*, *BBC World Agenda* and *Prospect*.

Mr Horsley has actively supported the cause of media freedom and independence for many years. He was chairman of the Foreign Press in Japan and has carried out media research projects for the British Council and Cardiff University School of Journalism as well as the German public broadcasting network, ARD. In 2007 he was appointed to be the AEJ's Media Freedom Representative and is an active member of the Press Freedom Network in the UK. For the past three years he has been active in the UK National Commission for UNESCO's World Press Freedom Day debate, through both planning and chairing the debate.

Jamie Shea, Director of Policy Planning in the Private Office of the Secretary General, NATO

Dr. Jamie Shea is Director of Policy Planning in the Private Office of the Secretary General, NATO. He was Director of the Office of Information and Press of NATO from 2000-2003, and in May 2003 was appointed to the position of Deputy Assistant Secretary General for External Relations in the new Public Diplomacy Division. He was also NATO Spokesman from 1993 to 2000.

In addition to his NATO responsibilities, Jamie Shea also holds a number of academic positions, most notably with the Collège d'Europe, Bruges, and the Brussels School of International Studies of the University of Kent, Canterbury.

Jamie Shea completed his doctoral studies in Philosophy at Oxford University in 1981. He also holds a Bachelor of Art from Sussex University in History and French.

Norbert Mbu-Mputu, former UN worker in DRC, writer and journalist

Norbert Mbu-Mputu is a writer, journalist and former UN worker in the Democratic Republic in Congo. He has worked as a correspondent for CongoVision, Radio Elikya, the Catholic Radio of Kinshasa and Radio Magembo FM. He is the former provincial director of Journal Kimpangi and Journal Salongo, which are based in Bandundu Province. Mbu-Mputu regularly writes for the Congolese Catholic Magazine and is frequently invited by organisations such as the BBC and RFI to give commentaries and analysis on the DRC.

He has had numerous works of fiction, poetry and research published, including "*Les grenouilles incirconcis*" (The Uncircumcised Frogs) – his account of the war atrocities he experienced whilst working on the frontline in the DRC. Whilst living in London, Mbu-Mputu edited the French-English Congo ya Skia Magazine. He now lives in Newport, South Wales, where he is the volunteer coordinator of the South People's Projects (SoPPPro) – a charity focusing on the rights of asylum seekers, refugees and migrants.

His life in asylum has been portrayed in two documentaries: *The Moralist*, made by the University of Newport and *Stuck in the System* made by Week in Week Out, BBC Wales.

Sharif Hikmat Nashashibi, co-founding Director, Arab Media Watch

Arab Media Watch (ARW) chairman Sharif Hikmat Nashashibi co-founded the organisation in 2000 after completing his MA in International Journalism at City University. Whilst at City, he had studied the way the media reported the Arab world and after seeing much need for improvement, decided to start his own organisation.

Sharif received the Breakaway Award from the International Media Council on 7 May 2008, "for both facilitating and producing consistently balanced reporting on the highly emotive and polarized arena that is the Middle East. The Council's purpose in presenting this award is to promote excellence in journalism in the conviction that such work will make a significant contribution to peace. In recognition of Mr Sharif Nashashibi's continuing efforts to sustain standards of journalism that would help reduce levels of misunderstanding. In acknowledgement of the way in which high standards of reporting are a means towards reaching a more harmonious and concordant world without its present plagues of fear and violence. Sharif Nashashibi has encouraged understanding with work in a number of arenas, particularly with regard to the many crises that have challenged the peace process between Palestine and Israel."

Born in Kuwait to a Palestinian-Jordanian-Lebanese Muslim father and a Syrian-Iraqi Christian mother, he has worked and trained at such organisations as Dow Jones Newswires, Reuters, the UN Development Programme in Palestine, the Middle East Broadcasting Centre, and the Middle East Economic Survey in Cyprus.

Sharif is a regular contributor to the Guardian's Comment is Free section, and presents the programme Middle East Today on Press TV every Saturday. His writings are published extensively, he is interviewed regularly on TV and radio, and he is often invited to speak and debate at universities and colleges.

World Press Freedom Day Student Journalism Competition

The John Ivinson Memorial Prize for Freedom of Expression

The Competition

In addition to today's debate, the UK National Commission for UNESCO ran its annual article and radio/podcast competition. The goal of the World Press Freedom Day Student Journalism Competition, which was open to all students at universities in the UK, was to encourage young people to look at the issues facing journalism and freedom of expression in other parts of the world, as well as in the UK.

The task put to entrants was to write a 1,000-word article or produce a 3-minute radio/podcast package on the question: **“Is the Western media impeding press freedom in those countries that need it most?”** Three articles and two radio/podcast entries were shortlisted for the final adjudication panel's review.

Be sure to read this year's winning article by **Annabel Symington**, on the UK National Commission for UNESCO website, www.unesco.org.uk.

The John Ivinson Memorial Prize for Freedom of Expression

John Ivinson, an active member of the UK National Commission for UNESCO Communication and Information Committee and past president of the British Computing Society, passed away on 11 July 2007. John was involved with the UK National Commission from its very first reformation in 2000. He remained involved and committed during the period when the National Commission was abolished in 2003, played an active part in the campaign for its re-instatement and had stayed a key member ever since. In addition to the Communication and Information Committee, John was also an active member of the UK National Commission's Peace and Security cross-sectoral Working Group and had contributed significantly to the development of its remits and work programme.

The Student Journalism Competition prize is subsequently given in his name to commemorate his indelible support for freedom of expression, peace and access to information.

2009 Competition Winner – Annabel Symington

Annabel is currently studying for an MA in International Journalism at City University. Annabel's article focuses on the press coverage of the Gaza conflict earlier this year. At the beginning of the war, Annabel spent several weeks at the Rafah Crossing, which inspired the article she wrote for the competition. Annabel is travelling to South America this summer to write an article about the Guarani Aquifer, a huge underground reservoir that lies beneath Argentina, Paraguay, Uruguay and Brazil, and contains enough water to sustain the world's population for 200 years. To research the article, Annabel will spend several weeks living with an indigenous population to explore how their access to the water of the aquifer is being affected by increased commercial interest in the region. Annabel is currently seeking commissions and sponsorship to help her fund this ambitious and interesting project. Annabel's blog can be found at <http://annabelsymington.wordpress.com>

Previous Winners

2008

Stuart James Ross, from the University of Westminster, for his podcast on the question, “Is new media killing journalism?”.

2007

Lydia Polzer, from London College of Communication, for her article on the question, “Is world media freedom in retreat?”.

World Press Freedom Day (3 May)



Every year, 3 May is a date which celebrates the fundamental principles of press freedom; to evaluate press freedom around the world, to defend the media from attacks on their independence and to pay tribute to journalists who have lost their lives in the exercise of their profession.

3 May was proclaimed World Press Freedom Day by the UN General Assembly in 1993 following a Recommendation adopted at the twenty-sixth session of UNESCO's General Conference in 1991.

It serves as an occasion to inform citizens of violations of press freedom - a reminder that in dozens of countries around the world, publications are censored, fined, suspended and closed down, while journalists, editors and publishers are harassed, attacked, detained and even murdered.

It is a date to encourage and develop initiatives in favour of press freedom, and to assess the state of press freedom worldwide.

It serves as a reminder to governments of the need to respect their commitment to press freedom and is also a day of reflection among media professionals about issues of press freedom and professional ethics. Just as importantly, World Press Freedom Day is a day of support for media which are targets for the restraint, or abolition, of press freedom.

UNESCO and World Press Freedom Day



The way the media influences thought and action and its capacity to foster dialogue, understanding and reconciliation will be the focus of discussions at the UNESCO international conference to mark World Press Freedom Day 2009, to be held in Doha (Qatar) on 2 and 3 May.

The role of Media in intercultural dialogue

Cultural references determine our identity and the ways in which we construct reality; they affect the perception of ourselves, the way we encounter others, and the way we interact with the world. The media greatly influences not only what we think, but also how we act.

Free Media Fosters Dialogue

Perhaps the best way a media can work towards building mutual understanding is by strengthening the media culture itself. A media that is vibrant, independent, pluralistic, inclusive and fair, editorial free and beyond censor and influence from interests, political, commercial, or otherwise – only a free media will innately contribute to the dialogue and understanding across divides. Moreover, a media that is free is essential for the provision of information and knowledge upon which informed democratic participation and good governance depend.

Empowering Citizenship: Media, Dialogue and Education

Media functions as a vehicle for the flow of a plurality of viewpoints and multiplicity of voices, thus permitting exercises of citizenship such as participation, criticism and voting. Informed citizens can better and more actively participate in their societies' decision making processes.

Press Freedom and UNESCO



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization

The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) is the only UN agency with a mandate to defend freedom of expression and press freedom.

The [United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization](http://www.unesco.org) (UNESCO; www.unesco.org) is a Specialized Agency within the UN system. Its overarching goal is to “contribute to peace and security by promoting collaboration among the nations through education, science and culture in order to further universal respect for justice, for the rule of law and for [...] human rights”.

It is with this principal in mind that UNESCO aims to foster international intellectual cooperation in the fields of education, science, culture and communication. Through its work, UNESCO seeks to create the conditions for dialogue among civilizations, cultures and peoples, based upon respect for commonly shared values.

UNESCO is headquartered in Paris and supports 58 field offices and several institutes and centres throughout the world. Member States establish Permanent Delegations to UNESCO, also based in UNESCO Headquarters, which ensure liaison between Governments and UNESCO’s Secretariat.

“Since wars begin in the minds of men, it is in the minds of men that the defences of peace must be constructed”

- In the Preamble, UNESCO Constitution

UNESCO and Freedom of Expression

UNESCO promotes freedom of expression and freedom of the press as a basic human right. It is the only UN agency with a mandate to defend freedom of expression and press freedom. Through sensitisation and monitoring activities, it fosters media independence and pluralism as prerequisites and major factors of democratisation by providing advisory services on media legislation; and sensitising governments, parliamentarians and other decision-makers. Programmes and activities are undertaken by UNESCO’s Communication & Information Sector.

World Press Freedom Day Global Celebration

At this year’s international World Press Freedom Day conference, UNESCO will explore the potential of media in fostering dialogue, mutual understanding and reconciliation. This year’s event is being held 2-3 May in Doha, Qatar.

UNESCO-Guillermo Cano Press Freedom Prize

Named in honour of the Colombian journalist Guillermo Cano, who was killed in 1986 for criticising the country's powerful drug lords, the US\$25,000 prize honours a person or organisation that has made a notable contribution to the defence and promotion of press freedom anywhere in the world. The murder of Guillermo Cano, director of the Colombian daily newspaper "El Espectador," is significant as regards unpunished crimes against journalists. Cano was a victim of drug trafficking mafias, which he fearlessly denounced and about whose harmful effects on Colombian society he cautioned. The life of Guillermo Cano, his courage, his commitment to independent journalism and the tenacity with which he fought for his country are an example for the rest of the world to follow.



Lasantha Wickrematunge
2009 Cano Press Freedom Prize recipient

The Sri Lankan journalist Lasantha Wickrematunge, who was assassinated on 8th January this year, has been posthumously named laureate of the 2009 UNESCO World Press Freedom Prize.

Mr Wickrematunge was the co-founder of the Sri Lankan Sunday Leader and used the publication to campaign vigorously against the war between Sri Lanka's army and the Tamil rebels. In 2000, he successfully led a campaign to abolish a law that allowed the government to curb the media. Mr Wickrematunge had often feared that he would be murdered as a consequence of his outspoken views. In an editorial intended for publication after his death, he voiced his commitment and readiness to die for press freedom: "[...] there is a calling that is yet above high office, fame, lucre and security. It is the call of conscience." It appeared in the Sunday Leader on 11 January 2009.

Previous recipients of the Prize have included: Lydia Cacho Ribeiro (Mexico, 2008), Anna Politkovskaya (Russia, 2007), May Chidiac (Lebanon, 2006), Cheng Yizhong, (China, 2005), Raúl Rivero (Cuba, 2004), Amira Hass (Israel, 2003), Geoffrey Nyarota (Zimbabwe, 2002), U Win Tin (Myanmar, 2001), Nizar Nayyounf (Syria, 2000), Jesus Blancornelas (Mexico, 1999), Christina Anyanwu (Nigeria, 1998), Gao Yu (China, 1997).

UN Resolution 1738

Deeply concerned at the frequency of acts of violence, including deliberate attacks, in many parts of the world against journalists, media professionals and associated personnel, in armed conflicts, the Security Council condemned such attacks and called on all parties to put an end to such practices. Resolution 1738 was unanimously adopted by the UN Security Council in December 2006.

The full text reads as follows:

“The Security Council,

“Bearing in mind its primary responsibility under the Charter of the United Nations for the maintenance of international peace and security, and underlining the importance of taking measures aimed at conflict prevention and resolution,

“Reaffirming its resolutions 1265 (1999), 1296 (2000) and 1674 (2006) on the protection of civilians in armed conflict and its resolution 1502 (2003) on protection of United Nations personnel, associated personnel and humanitarian personnel in conflict zones, as well as other relevant resolutions and presidential statements,

“Reaffirming its commitment to the Purposes of the Charter of the United Nations as set out in Article 1 (1-4) of the Charter, and to the Principles of the Charter as set out in Article 2 (1-7) of the Charter, including its commitment to the principles of the political independence, sovereign equality and territorial integrity of all States, and respect for the sovereignty of all States,

“Reaffirming that parties to an armed conflict bear the primary responsibility to take all feasible steps to ensure the protection of affected civilians,

“Recalling the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949, in particular the Third Geneva Convention of 12 August 1949 on the treatment of prisoners of war, and the Additional Protocols of 8 June 1977, in particular article 79 of the Additional Protocol I regarding the protection of journalists engaged in dangerous professional missions in areas of armed conflict,

“Emphasizing that there are existing prohibitions under international humanitarian law against attacks intentionally directed against civilians, as such, which in situations of armed conflict constitute war crimes, and *recalling* the need for States to end impunity for such criminal acts,

“Recalling that the States Parties to the Geneva Conventions have an obligation to search for persons alleged to have committed, or to have ordered to be committed a grave breach of these Conventions, and an obligation to try them before their own courts, regardless of their nationality, or may hand them over for trial to another concerned State provided this State has made out a prima facie case against the said persons,

“**Drawing** the attention of all States to the full range of justice and reconciliation mechanisms, including national, international and “mixed” criminal courts and tribunals and truth and reconciliation commissions, and *noting* that such mechanisms can promote not only individual responsibility for serious crimes, but also peace, truth, reconciliation and the rights of the victims,

“**Recognizing** the importance of a comprehensive, coherent and action-oriented approach, including in early planning, of protection of civilians in situations of armed conflict. *Stressing*, in this regard, the need to adopt a broad strategy of conflict prevention, which addresses the root causes of armed conflict in a comprehensive manner in order to enhance the protection of civilians on a long-term basis, including by promoting sustainable development, poverty eradication, national reconciliation, good governance, democracy, the rule of law and respect for and protection of human rights,

“**Deeply concerned** at the frequency of acts of violence in many parts of the world against journalists, media professionals and associated personnel in armed conflict, in particular deliberate attacks in violation of international humanitarian law,

“**Recognizing** that the consideration of the issue of protection of journalists in armed conflict by the Security Council is based on the urgency and importance of this issue, and recognizing the valuable role that the Secretary-General can play in providing more information on this issue,

“1. **Condemns** intentional attacks against journalists, media professionals and associated personnel, as such, in situations of armed conflict, and calls upon all parties to put an end to such practices;

“2. **Recalls** in this regard that journalists, media professionals and associated personnel engaged in dangerous professional missions in areas of armed conflict shall be considered as civilians and shall be respected and protected as such, provided that they take no action adversely affecting their status as civilians. This is without prejudice to the right of war correspondents accredited to the armed forces to the status of prisoners of war provided for in article 4.A.4 of the Third Geneva Convention;

“3. **Recalls** also that media equipment and installations constitute civilian objects, and in this respect shall not be the object of attack or of reprisals, unless they are military objectives;

“4. **Reaffirms** its condemnation of all incitements to violence against civilians in situations of armed conflict, further reaffirms the need to bring to justice, in accordance with applicable international law, individuals who incite such violence, and indicates its willingness, when authorizing missions, to consider, where appropriate, steps in response to media broadcast inciting genocide, crimes against humanity and serious violations of international humanitarian law;

“5. **Recalls** its demand that all parties to an armed conflict comply fully with the obligations applicable to them under international law related to the protection of civilians in armed conflict, including journalists, media professionals and associated personnel;

“6. **Urges** States and all other parties to an armed conflict to do their utmost to prevent violations of international humanitarian law against civilians, including journalists, media professionals and associated personnel;

“7. **Emphasizes** the responsibility of States to comply with the relevant obligations under international law to end impunity and to prosecute those responsible for serious violations of international humanitarian law;

“8. **Urges** all parties involved in situations of armed conflict to respect the professional independence and rights of journalists, media professionals and associated personnel as civilians;

“9. **Recalls** that the deliberate targeting of civilians and other protected persons, and the commission of systematic, flagrant and widespread violations of international humanitarian and human rights law in situations of armed conflict may constitute a threat to international peace and security, and *reaffirms in this regard its readiness* to consider such situations and, where necessary, to adopt appropriate steps;

“10. **Invites** States which have not yet done so to consider becoming parties to the Additional Protocols I and II of 1977 to the Geneva Conventions at the earliest possible date;

“11. **Affirms** that it will address the issue of protection of journalists in armed conflict strictly under the agenda item “protection of civilians in armed conflict;

“12. **Requests** the Secretary-General to include as a sub-item in his next reports on the protection of civilians in armed conflict the issue of the safety and security of journalists, media professionals and associated personnel.

UNESCO Remembers Assassinated Journalists & Media Workers

Since the last World Press Freedom Day, 3 May 2008, the following journalists and media workers have lost their lives whilst exercising their profession. Over the past decade no less than 1000 journalists and media staff have been killed while working.

Raja Assad Hameed (Pakistan)
Reporter for the daily Nation
and Waqt TV Channel
Killed on 26 March 2009 in Pakistan

Jawed Ahmad (Afghanistan)
Reporter for the Canadian media,
including CTV News.
Killed on 10 March 2009 in Afghanistan

Haider Hashim (Iraq)
Correspondent for the private
TV broadcaster Al-Baghdadia
Killed on 10 March 2009 in Iraq

Suhaib Adnan (Iraq)
Cameraman for the private TV
broadcaster Al-Baghdadia
Killed on 10 March 2009 in Iraq

Ernesto Rollin (Philippines)
Journalist for local radio DxsY-AM
Killed on 23 February 2009 in Philippines

Jean Paul Ibarra Ramírez (Mexico)
Photographer for El Correo newspaper
Killed on 13 February 2009 in Mexico

Ando Ratovonirina (Madagascar)
Reporter for the privately-owned
Radio et Télévision Analamanga (RTA)
Killed on 7 February 2009 in Madagascar

Said Tahlil Ahmed (Somalia)
Director of Horn Afrik Radio/TV
Killed on 4 February 2009 in Somalia

Bruno Ossébi (Republic of Congo)
Columnist for the online newspaper Mwinda
Killed on 2 February 2009 in Republic of Congo

Francis Nyaruri (Kenya)
Journalist for the independent Weekly Citizen
Killed on 29 January 2009 in Kenya

Shafiq Amrakhov (Russian Federation)
Owner and editor of the online regional
news agency RIA 51
Killed on 19 January 2009 in Russian Federation

Anastasia Baburova (Russian Federation)
Journalist for Novaya Gazeta
Killed on 19 January 2009 in Russian Federation

Orel Sambrano (Venezuela)
Editor of a weekly magazine ABC
Killed on 16 January 2009 in Venezuela

Uma Singh (Nepal)
Journalist for daily newspaper *Janakpur
Today* and Radio Today FM
Killed on 11 January 2009 in Nepal

Lasantha Wickrematunga (Sri Lanka)
Editor of the Sri Lankan newspaper
Sunday Leader
Killed on 8 January 2009 in Sri Lanka

Basel Faraj (Palestine)
Cameraman for the Algerian TV network
ENTV and for the Palestine Broadcast Production
Company
Killed on 6 January 2009 in Palestine

Vikas Ranjan (India)
Correspondent for daily newspaper Hindustan
Killed on 26 November 2008 in India

Jagajit Saikia (India)
Correspondent for Amar Asom
Killed on 22 November 2008 in India

Didace Namujimbo (Democratic Republic of Congo)
Journalist for Radio Okapi
Killed on 21 November 2008 in Democratic Republic
of Congo

Aresio Padrigao (Philippines)
dxRS Radyo Natin (Our Radio) journalist
Killed on 17 November 2008 in Philippines

Armando Rodriguez (Mexico)
Crime reporter for El Diario
Killed on 13 November 2008 in Mexico

Qari Mohammad Shoaib (Pakistan)
Journalist for Azadi and Khabar Kar newspapers
Killed on 8 November 2008 in Pakistan

Abdul Razzak Johra (Pakistan)
Journalist for Royal TV network
Killed on 3 November 2008 in Pakistan

Ivo Pukanic (Croatia)
Co-founder of the weekly Nacional and
1999 Journalist of the Year
Killed on 23 October 2008 in Croatia

Niko Franjic (Croatia)
Marketing director of the weekly newspaper
Nacional
Killed on 23 October 2008 in Croatia

Dyar bas Ahmed (Iraq)
Reporter for the independent online news site Eye Iraq
Killed on 10 October 2008 in Iraq

Rashmi Mohamed (Sri Lanka)
Correspondent of Sirasa TV
Killed on 6 October 2008 in Sri Lanka

Wallop Bounsampop (Thailand)
Editor of Den Siam
Killed on 5 October 2008 in Thailand

Jaruek Rangcharoen (Thailand)
Reporter for the Matichon newspaper
Killed on 27 September 2008 in Thailand

Alejandro Xenón Fonseca Estrada (Mexico)
Journalist for radio station EXA FM
Killed on 23 September 2008 in Mexico

Ahmed Salim (Iraq)
Cameraman for al-Sharqiya television
Killed on 13 September 2008 in Iraq

Ihab Mu'd (Iraq)
Cameraman for al-Sharqiya television
Killed on 13 September 2008 in Iraq

Qaydar Sulaiman (Iraq)
Media worker of al-Sharqiya television
Killed on 13 September 2008 in Iraq

Musab Mahmood al-Ezawi (Iraq)
Journalist for al-Sharqiya Television
Killed on 13 September 2008 in Iraq

Abdullah Alishaev (Russian Federation)
Reporter for local television station TV-Chirkei
Killed on 3 September 2008 in Russian Federation

Magomet Yevloev (Russian Federation)
Former editor in chief of www.ingushetiya.ru
Killed on 31 August 2008 in Russian Federation

Paul Abayomi Ogundeji (Nigeria)
Member of the editorial board,
newspaper Thisday
Killed on 17 August 2008 in Nigeria

Javed Ahmed Mir (India)
Local television cameraman
Killed on 13 August 2008 in India

Stan Storimans (Netherlands)
Cameraman, RTL television
Killed on 11 August 2008 in Georgia

Grigol Chikhladze (Georgia)
Journalist, Russian Newsweek
Killed on 10 August 2008 in Georgia

Alexander Klimchuk (Georgia)
Journalist, ITAR-TASS
Killed on 10 August 2008 in Georgia

Martin Roxas (Philippines)
Radio broadcaster and programme director,
dyKR-Radio Mindanao Network (RMN)
Killed on 7 August 2008 in Philippines

Soran Mama Hama (Iraq)
Journalist, Leven
Killed on 21 July 2008 in Iraq

Robert Sison (Philippines)
Correspondent, Regional Bulletin
Killed on 30 June 2008 in Philippines

Muhieddin Abdul Hamid (Iraq)
Presenter, Al-Iraqiya
Killed on 17 June 2008 in Iraq

Nasteh Dahir Farah (Somalia)
Reporter, BBC and Vice President of the
National Union of Somali Journalists
Killed on 7 June 2008 in Somalia

Abdul Samad Rohani (Afghanistan)
Reporter, BBC World Service
Killed on 7 June 2008 in Afghanistan

Mohammed Ibrahim (Pakistan)
Journalist, Express TV, Daily Express
Killed on 22 May 2008 in Pakistan

Haidar Hashem Al-Husseini (Iraq)
Reporter, Al-Sharq
Killed on 21 May 2008 in Iraq

Wissam Ali Ouda (Iraq)
Cameraman, Afaq TV
Killed on 21 May 2008 in Iraq

Ashok Sodhi (India)
Photojournalist, Daily Excelsior
Killed on 11 May 2008 in India

About the Organisers

The organisation of the 2009 World Press Freedom Day programme is led by Tim Williams (Projects-Direct.Net Ltd) as a member of the Freedom of Expression Working Group of the UK National Commission for UNESCO's Communication & Information Committee. The Press Freedom Network has been a partner since 2001.

United Kingdom National Commission for UNESCO (www.unesco.org.uk)



The UK National Commission for UNESCO is the focal point in the UK for UNESCO-related policies and activities. As an independent body, the UK National Commission brings together a network of nearly 250 experts from across the UK in the fields of education, culture, sciences and communication & information. Working closely in partnership with HM Government and UK civil society, the UK National Commission aims to provide expert advice to the

Government on UNESCO related matters, develop UK input into UNESCO policy-making, promote reforms within UNESCO, and encourage support in the UK for UNESCO's ideals and work.

Press Freedom Network



The Press Freedom Network is a loose grouping of organisations, publications and individuals who are sympathetic to or directly interested in the cause of media freedom. The Network contributes to the organisation of the annual World Press Freedom Day programme (usually including a student journalism competition and a debate) on 3 May, in addition to discussing other topical and relevant issues. The network operates mainly via an effective e-group with occasional meetings in London; and acts primarily as an information and debating forum rather than seeking to make policy decisions binding to any member.

Frontline Club (www.frontlineclub.com)



The Frontline Club is aimed at supporting independent journalism. The Frontline Club now have over 1200 members - mainly journalists and photojournalists specialising in foreign news - from all major international news media including the BBC, CNN, Al Jazeera, Channel 4, CBC, all British quality dailies, The Economist, The New Yorker, Newsweek, The New York Times, and the Washington

Post, to name but a few. Since it was established three years ago the Club has become a true hub for everyone involved with foreign news, people who cover it, comment on it, write reviews, or interview political leaders. It is the place where people meet to discuss things that matter and to have fun along the way (the Club houses two bars and a restaurant).

Press Freedom Resources

The following are some UK and international organisations and resources involved in press freedom. It is intended for reference and not as an exhaustive list.

Organisation	Overview
United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization www.unesco.org	UNESCO promotes freedom of expression and freedom of the press as a basic human right. It is the only UN agency with a mandate to defend freedom of expression and press freedom. Through sensitisation and monitoring activities, it fosters media independence and pluralism as prerequisites and major factors of democratisation by providing advisory services on media legislation; and sensitising governments, parliamentarians and other decision-makers. Programmes and activities are undertaken by the Communication & Information Sector.
Freedom House www.freedomhouse.org	Freedom House is an independent NGO that supports the expansion of freedom in the world. It compiles and publishes Freedom of the Press Annual Reports. These reports provide data on press freedom rankings accessible from 1980 to date. Details of the methodology used to create this are provided. The reports also consider government censorship of electronic communication and the Internet.
IFEX: International Freedom of Expression Exchange www.ifex.org	IFEX is a global network of more than 70 NGOs that work to defend and promote freedom of expression and press freedom. It operates an Alert network, which circulates alerts on free expression violations around the world on topics covering: press censorship worldwide, Internet censorship, anti-terrorism legislation and press freedom, journalism ethics, women and the media, attacks against journalists and journalist safety.
OSCE Representative on the Freedom of the Media www.osce.org/fom	The OSCE Representative on the Freedom of the Media is responsible for monitoring issues relating to media rights in OSCE (Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe) nations. This includes issues relating to free speech, censorship of the press, public service broadcasting, harassment of journalists, media coverage of conflicts/wars and racism in the media. The OSCE observes media developments in all 56 OSCE participating States and provides early warning on violations of freedom of expression and promotes full compliance with OSCE press freedom commitments.
Campaign for Press and Broadcasting Freedom www.cpbf.org.uk	CPBF is a UK based body which campaigns for press and media freedom of expression in the UK. This includes coverage of issues relating to the rights of journalists, press and newspaper freedom and public service broadcasting, censorship of the press, the future of the BBC and public service television in the UK and critical discussion of UK communications and media regulation.
Reporters sans Frontieres' Press Freedom Index www.rsf.org	RSF is an independent organisation which monitors and promotes press freedom worldwide. Issues include: press censorship, the ill treatment and imprisonment of journalists, freedom of information and state surveillance of the Internet. Its website also contains a professional section of advice for journalists on professional ethics, working in war zones and safety. The Press Freedom Index has been compiled annually since 2002. It provides a worldwide ranking of the freedom of the press and press ownership worldwide plus regional analyses of the data. It is possible to access all copies of the report from its website. Information on how the index is compiled is available.
Reporters sans Frontieres' Handbook for Bloggers and Cyber-Dissidents http://www.rsf.org/rubrique.php3?id_rubrique=542	The 2005 publication is designed to help journalists set up and use web blogs for political communication and activism in an ethical way while remaining anonymous and attempting to avoid Internet censorship. Chapters include: how to set up and run a blog, technical tools and case studies of successful blogs from the USA, UK and Germany.
The Frontline Club www.thefrontlineclub.com	The Club is a centre for a diverse group of people united by their passion for quality journalism and dedication to ensuring that stories that fade from headlines are kept in sharp focus. It exists to promote freedom of expression and support journalists, cameramen and photographers who risk their lives in the course of their work.
Committee to Protect Journalists' Attacks on the Press Reports www.cpj.org www.cpj.org/attacks05/pages05/aop05index.html	The Attacks on the Press reports are compiled by the Committee to Protect Journalists (CPJ) - a "non-partisan, non-profit organization founded in 1981 to monitor abuses against the press and promote press freedom around the world." They provide annual statistics on the number of journalists imprisoned and killed each year. They also compile case studies and essays on restrictions on the freedom of the press and press censorship in nations worldwide.

Organisation	Overview
International Federation of Journalists www.ifj.org	The International Federation of Journalists is the world's largest organisation of journalists, representing over 500,000 in more than 100 countries. It promotes international action to defend press freedom and social justice through strong, free and independent trade unions of journalists. It does not subscribe to any given political viewpoint, but promotes human rights, democracy and pluralism. It is opposed to discrimination of all kinds and condemns the use of media as propaganda or to promote intolerance and conflict. The IFJ believes in freedom of political and cultural expression and defends trade union and other basic human rights. It is the organisation that speaks for journalists within the United Nations system and within the international trade union movement.
Amnesty International UK's Irrepressible.info campaign http://irrepressible.info/	The Irrepressible.info campaign was launched in 2006 by Amnesty International UK. It is campaigning against Internet censorship worldwide, giving examples of Internet censorship by governments and other official institutions and other types of limits of freedom of expression such as surveillance of internet websites, blogs and bloggers.
The Rory Peck Trust www.rorypecktrust.org	The Rory Peck Trust has an ongoing commitment to the welfare and safety of freelance newsgatherers. The Trust subsidises training in hostile environments, provides financial and moral support to freelancers in need, and to the families of those killed, imprisoned or seriously injured during the course of their work. The Trust believes that by supporting the right of freelance newsgatherers to do their work freely and in safety, it is supporting the independent view, press freedom and democracy.
Article 19: Global Campaign For Free Expression www.article19.org	Article 19 is a campaign group which promotes free speech worldwide and opposes all forms of censorship. Its name is drawn from Article 19 of the United Nations Declaration of Human Rights. It reports on censorship and freedom of expression worldwide, with a particular focus on the interests of developing nations in Africa and Asia. Its website has a 'Virtual Freedom of Expression Handbook' which includes summaries of major cases decided in international courts since 1993. These cover a wide range of issues relating to human rights, civil liberties and freedom of expression- including issues relating to use of the Internet, national security, privacy, the rights of children and obligations of public service broadcasting.
Press Complaints Commission www.pcc.org.uk	The Press Complaints Commission (PCC) is an "independent body which deals with complaints from members of the public about the editorial content of newspapers and magazines" In the UK. Complaints are examined under the editors' Code of Practice, which "binds all national and regional newspapers and magazines". The Code "provides special protection to particularly vulnerable groups of people such as children, hospital patients and those at risk of discrimination."
NUJ (National Union of Journalists) www.nuj.org.uk	NUJ is among the biggest and best-established journalists' unions in the world, with 35,000 members, covering the whole range of editorial work – staff and freelance, writers and reporters, editors and sub-editors, photographers and illustrators, working in broadcasting, newspapers, magazines, books, on the internet and in public relations.
International PEN www.internationalpen.org.uk	International PEN, the worldwide association of writers has 144 Centres in 101 Countries. It exists to promote friendship and intellectual co-operation among writers everywhere, fights for freedom of expression and represents the conscience of world literature.
Index on Censorship www.indexonline.org	Index on Censorship is a leading repository of original, challenging, controversial and intelligent writing on free expression issues. Index on Censorship continues to log free expression abuses in scores of countries world wide in its Index section. Index reports on censorship issues from all over the world and has participated in debates on those issues.
Department for Culture, Media and Sport www.culture.gov.uk	DCMS is the UK government department responsible for all areas of policy relating to the arts, sport, recreation, libraries, museums, art galleries, freedom of the press and tourism.
International Press Institute www.freemedia.at	IPI is a global network of editors, media executives and leading journalists dedicated to the safeguarding of press freedom, the promotion of free flow of news and information, and the improvement of the practices of journalism.
International News Safety Institute (INSI) www.newssafety.com	<p>The International News Safety Institute is an NGO dedicated to the safety of journalists and media staff and committed to fighting the persecution of journalists everywhere. The Institute is a coalition of media organisations, press freedom groups, unions and humanitarian campaigners working to create a culture of safety in media in all corners of the world.</p> <p>The working programme of the Institute provides an information service covering all aspects of news safety and includes an extensive programme of risk-awareness training for media staff in poorer regions where news gatherers are routinely under pressure, but where economic and social conditions deny them access to basic safety services.</p> <p>The Institute is led and managed by media professionals. It supports and contributes to a global network of press freedom groups and promotes safety standards that will make journalism safer and more professional.</p>
Institute for War & Peace Reporting (IWPR) www.iwpr.net	IWPR builds democracy at the frontlines of conflict and change through the power of professional journalism. IWPR programs provide intensive hands-on training, extensive reporting and publishing, and ambitious initiatives to build the capacity of local media. Supporting peace-building, development and the rule of law, IWPR gives responsible local media a voice. The Institute is an international network for media development, with not-for-profit divisions in Europe, the US and Africa supporting training and capacity-building programs for local journalism, with field programs in more than two dozen countries.
The Commonwealth Press Union www.cpu.org.uk	<p>The Commonwealth Press Union is an association whose members are newspaper groups (some with several hundred newspapers), newspapers and news agencies in 49 countries of the Commonwealth.</p> <p>The CPU has carried out extensive research and monitored many legal problems faced by journalists across the Commonwealth. Its Legal Support Programme offers assistance and advice on matters of pre publication, libel, human rights and freedom of expression. Please note that the CPU withholds the right to decide if a case will be accepted or declined at their own discretion at any time. All cases are individually considered on a case-by-case basis. It publishes a Monthly Commonwealth Press Freedom Review which highlights all the major press freedom violations and victories.</p>

