COUNTER-CENSORSHIP

Challenge threats and exercise your rights as a journalist in Europe

WORKSHOP

Tuesday 10 February 2015 | 6pm
Threats and challenges to journalists in Europe

Index on Censorship’s Mapping Media Freedom project has found that journalists and media workers are confronting relentless pressure as they do their jobs.
REPORTING AND MAPPING TOOL

- Violations, threats and limitations faced by media professionals
- Regional correspondents + voluntary submissions
- EU & candidate countries
Some of the violations against media reported between May and December 2014 at mediafreedom.ushahidi.com

- 31 cases of trolling and online bullying against journalists
- 17 media websites attacked
- 108 incidents involving legal measures taken against journalists
- 61 violent attacks on journalists
- 32 journalists arrested
- 31 pieces of work censored before publication
- 53 pieces banned from being published at all
Turkey: Journalist Erol Ozkoray was sentenced to 11 months and 20 days in prison for defaming President Recep Tayyip Erdogan by referring to anti-Erdogan slogans and graffiti in his book about the 2013 Gezi Park protests.

Hungary: Three journalists were chased with a hydraulic shovel by an employee of a rubbish dump after they tried to verify information regarding a possible leak from the EU-funded dump.

Albania: A masked attacker tried to shoot Artur Cani, an investigative journalist for TV News 24, near his home in Tirana.

Netherlands: Freelance photographer John van Ieperen was beaten by a security guard when covering the aftermath of an explosion in an apartment building that killed two residents.

Serbia: Dusan Dragisic, a local businessman, threatened to cut off the nose and ears of Nenad Tomic, owner and editor-in-chief of the website Ruma.

Italy: Pino Maniaci, head of Sicilian TV station Telejato who is known for reporting on the Sicilian mafia, found his pet dogs hanged from a metal post in a yard near his office.

Germany: Blogger Su Yutong was fired by Deutsche Welle’s Chinese service after tweeting about employee meetings, where staff were told to use restraint in their coverage of China.

France: Far-right party Front National sued and called for the resignation of journalist Guy Lagache after his TV show aired an undercover documentary about one of their municipal campaigns.

Kosovo: Milot Hasimja, a journalist with the Pristina-based TV Klan, was knifed at his desk by a man apparently unhappy with a feature Hasimja did on him.

United Kingdom: Blogger Michael Abberton who broadcast “fact checks” about the UK Independence Party said he was advised to delete a tweet about the party’s policies after being visited at home by two police officers.

Bosnia: Professor Slavo Kukic, a prominent writer and columnist, was severely beaten with a baseball bat in his office at the University of Mostar.

Bulgaria: The company car of bTV political journalist Genka Shikerova was set on fire outside her home in Sofia.
Do you feel free and safe to investigate, report, publish as a journalist in Europe?

WHAT ARE THE LIMITATIONS TO YOUR JOURNALISM WORK?

Sharing stories and experience of censorship, financial pressure and constraints, fear to offend, harassment and intimidation (including on social media), concern over protection of sources, ...
Sharing tips and best practices

JESSICA ELGOT
(@jessicaelgot)
Journalist, Assistant News Editor, Huffington Post UK

AMIE FERRIS-ROTMAN
(@Amie_FR)
Journalist, formerly Reuters senior correspondent in Kabul, Afghanistan, and Moscow, Russia

BEN WHITELAW
(@benwhitelaw)
Journalist, Head of Community and Digital Development, The Times, The Sunday Times
Introduction to digital security
Lots of resources available

Surveillance Self-Defence
(Electronic Frontier Foundation)

https://ssd.eff.org/en

Security-in-a-box
(Tactical Tech, Frontline Defenders)

https://securityinabox.org
Assessing threats and risks

Five main questions for threat modeling assessment

1. What do you want to protect?
2. Who do you want to protect it from?
3. How likely is it that you will need to protect it?
4. How bad are the consequences if you fail?
5. How much trouble are you willing to go through in order to try to prevent those?
Safe internet browsing

Digital anonymity and censorship circumvention

- HTTPS
- Web-based proxy
- VPN (Virtual Private Network)
- Tor

https://www/torproject.org/projects/torbrowser.html.en
Communicating with others

VoIP

Video chat

PGP

Instant messages

Voice calls

https

End-to-end encryption

email

Off-the-Record (OTR)
Thanks! And don’t forget your counter-censorship bag!
With thanks to:

Any question?
melody@indexoncensorship.org