



# Trail of Violence

*Journalists & Media Staff Killed in 2014*

**INCLUDES:**  
IFJ INTERNATIONAL  
SAFETY FUND REPORT



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Cover image: Palestinian protesters and a photographer run from tear gas fired by Israeli soldiers during clashes in the West Bank village of Bilin near Ramallah August 29, 2014. REUTERS/Mohamad Torokma

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# BUILDING A UNITED FRONT TO DELIVER SAFETY IN JOURNALISM

BETH COSTA,  
IFJ GENERAL SECRETARY



If there was anyone who did not know how serious the safety crisis in journalism is today, or thought the situation has topped out and the only way to go was downwards, then 2014 must have provided a rude awakening. The International Federation of Journalists has been producing annual reports on journalists and media staff killed in work-related incidents, this one being the 24th.

Throughout all these years, violence against journalists has been on the increase and reached record levels in the last decade. They are targeted in order to control the flow of information and to silence independent witnesses of atrocities, abuse of power and crime.

Journalists and media staff are also killed in cross fire incidents as well as in accidents. In this regard, 2014 provided more of the same. The IFJ recorded 118 killings in targeted killings and cross fire incidents as well as 17 accidental deaths. Pakistan and Syria loomed large, with 14 and 12 killings respectively, ahead of Palestine and Afghanistan on the tally of nine dead each followed by Ukraine and Iraq with eight fatalities apiece.

However, there was much worse. The beheadings of American journalists James Foley and Steven Sotloff by the so-called Islamic State in Syria shocked even the most hardened risk-taker of media professionals. For the first time, journalists were used as pawns and publicly executed in furtherance of a depraved political agenda.

It is little wonder that some news organisations are now advocating against sending journalists to Syria and refusing to take the work of freelance journalists' intrepid enough to venture into the country. In times of crisis, it is good safety policy to discourage competition for scoops which can lead to daring assignments, likely to put media professionals' lives at risks.

But, the reverse position to systematically

refuse work of freelancers undermines the efforts of many who take the necessary precautions to report safely. This is the essence of the balancing act between ensuring the safety of media staff and independent reporting to overcome the smokescreen of propaganda, manipulation and misinformation on display during armed conflicts.

However, the inherent risks of covering armed conflicts can only account for some of the violence targeting journalists. Further and more frequent loss of life is caused by deliberate and reckless attacks on media and the detailed regional accounts of this report represent a damning indictment of such violence. They include wanton targeting of journalists, which we witnessed during the fighting between Israel and Hamas in the Gaza Strip last summer. Journalists have also come under attack in the Ukrainian crisis, victims of violence laced with a toxic mix of misguided nationalism and fanatical patriotism.

At the same time, the reign of terror and violence imposed by militants and organised groups continue to claim lives of journalists in many parts of the world, including in Pakistan, Somalia, the Philippines, Mexico and Colombia, among others.

In today's world full of anxiety and strife, peoples' fear of the uncertainty can turn to violence and journalists are likely to be among their prime targets. The case in point in 2014 was the mob lynching of three journalists in Guinea, murdered alongside health workers because of the public mistrust of the



government's campaign to detect and contain the deadly Ebola epidemic.

But, above all, the prevailing culture of impunity remains the single most important factor which fuels violence on journalists and media professionals. Cases of credible and successful prosecutions of journalists' killings are still few and far between. The IFJ believes that the safety of journalists cannot be properly addressed as long as the impunity for crime against them remains unchallenged.

In this regard, 2014 brought some good news and offered a glimmer of hope that justice can be achieved for journalists who lost their lives to violence. In Pakistan, the killer of journalist Wali Khan Babar was found guilty of his murder, the first ever conviction in a Pakistani journalist's killing.

In Africa, the Human Rights Court of West African countries (Ecowas) ordered the Government of The Gambia to reopen the investigation into the murder of Deyda Hydara, a prominent journalist murdered in 2004. The IFJ was a joint applicant with the journalist's family in the case brought in 2011 against the Gambian government for failing to investigate the journalist's killing.

There was another encouraging development in Sri Lanka, after the new government announced its decision to reopen the investigation into the murder of Lasantha Wickaramatunga. The former Sunday Leader's editor was killed in 2009 and went on to win posthumously the UNESCO/Guillermo Cane World Press Freedom Prize on the IFJ nomination.

But there is much more to do and the IFJ took new initiatives to boost the fight against impunity such as the first Thunderclap campaign which scored 250.000 social reach over three weeks in November. In another first, the IFJ took part at the World Forum on Human Rights in Morocco to argue the case for media protection at the global event which discusses the protection of people's rights and freedoms.

The Federation also conducted three missions; all focusing on the issue of impunity. The first mission was to Gaza in support of journalists and to investigate crimes on media after the fighting ended there in July. Then, in September, a joint FEPALC and IFJ delegation visited the state of Guerrero in

Mexico to urge accountability for violence on journalists. The third mission took place at the end of November in the Philippines, to mark the 5th anniversary of the Maguindanao massacre which claimed the lives of 32 journalists. There, too, justice for the victims and their families remains as elusive five years on.

Furthermore, in 2014, the IFJ also intensified its safety work, including training programmes for journalists from high risk countries, such as the Kurdistan region of Iraq, Afghanistan and Pakistan. It also joined partnership with the Council of Europe to establish an online safety platform for recording violations of journalists' rights and is currently testing new cutting edge safety tools to maintain contact with journalists while on assignments in dangerous zones.

Finally, the IFJ International Safety Fund continued to provide relief to journalists and their families throughout the year and this publication features a detailed report on the Funds' activities.

Journalists face serious safety challenges which require collective action and long term strategy to overcome them. The IFJ, working with its affiliated unions and partners, is committed to meeting these challenges in a united and resolute front with a view to delivering safety in journalism.

BETH COSTA,  
IFJ GENERAL SECRETARY

# CHALLENGES TO WOMEN

A SINGLE LOSS OF LIFE IS ONE TOO MANY

MINDY RAN,  
CO-CHAIR IFJ GENDER COUNCIL



*Photographer Maria Pirsch falls on the road after being hit by anti-riot policemen during a protest staged by state-run workers who were seeking to block a road in Buenos Aires August 27, 2014. REUTERS/Enrique Marcarian*

We have begun 2015 with a sense of true horror and senseless loss for the entire family of journalists and media workers, female and male, following the deadly attack on *Charlie Hebdo*, which left 12 dead, including Elsa Cayat, a female contributor to the French satirical magazine.

Looking back at 2014, the IFJ recorded killings of journalists indicate that twelve of our sisters have either been targeted and murdered, or lost their lives in other ways in the course of their work. They were two killings of female journalists in Afghanistan and the Central African Republic, one in Colombia, Egypt, Iraq, Libya, Paraguay and the Philippines, all due to targeted attacks or cross fire incidents. In addition, two female journalists died in work-related accidents in Bangladesh and Turkey.

Highlighting these deaths is not meant, in anyway, to be disrespectful or to demean the hugely larger numbers of male media workers who were also slain in the same period. It is important not to let any of these deaths go unnoticed.

In the past, keeping these statistics has taught us many things, such as the overwhelming risks to local media workers over international media workers or journalists, thus enabling us to

better target support and training. Yet, we also know from research on violence against women, in general, that much violence and death of women still goes unreported. Upcoming research into violence against women journalists will help us begin to get a truer picture.

In the meantime, the IFJ work to *End Impunity* - as it is still far too rare for those responsible to be brought to justice for these crimes - carries a clear message: female or male, a single loss of life is one too many.

MINDY RAN,  
CO-CHAIR IFJ GENDER COUNCIL

# IFJ LIST OF JOURNALISTS & MEDIA STAFF KILLED IN 2014

118 TARGETED KILLINGS & 17 ACCIDENTAL DEATHS

## TARGETED KILLINGS, BOMB ATTACKS AND CROSS-FIRE INCIDENTS

118

COUNTRY	NAME	POSITION	EMPLOYER	DATE
Afghanistan	Noor Ahmad Noori	Correspondent	New York Times	23/1/2014
	Mohammad Shahed Naeemi	Presenter	Nawa Radio	26/1/2014
	Nils Horner	Journalist	Sveriges Radio	11/3/2014
	Sardar Ahmad	Correspondent	AFP	22/3/2014
	Anja Niedringhaus	Photojournalist	AP	4/4/2014
	Mohammad Nasim Turak	Journalist		14/5/2014
	Khalid Agah Yaqubi	Radio Journalist		12/7/2014
	Palwasha Tokhi Meranzai	Journalist	Bayan Media Center	16/9/2014
	Zubair Hatami	Journalist	Bayan Media Center	21/12/2014
Bangladesh	Sadrul Alam Nipul	Reporter	Dainik Mathabhanga	23/5/2014
	Maolana Nurul Islam Farooqi	TV Host	Channel i	27/8/2014
Brazil	Santiago Ilídio Andrade	Cameraman	Bandeirantes TV	10/2/2014
	Pedro Palma	Editor	Panorama Regional	12/2/2014
	Geolino Lopes Xavier	TV Presenter	N3 TV	27/2/2014
Burma/ Myanmar	Aung Kyaw Naing	Freelance Journalist		4/10/2014
Cambodia	Suon Chan	Reporter	Meakea Kampuchea	31/1/2014
	Dave Walker	Journalist		14/2/2014
	Traing Try	Freelance Journalist		13/10/2014
Central African Republic	Désire Sayengan	Journalist	Le Démocrate	30/4/2014
	René Padou	Journalist	La Voix de la Grâce	5/5/2014
	Camille Lepage	Freelance Photojournalist		13/5/2014
	Elisabeth Olofio	Journalist	Bé-Okoko Radio	22/5/2014
Colombia	Luis Carlos Cervantes	Director	Morena FM	12/8/2014
	Yonni Steven Caicedo	Journalist	TV Noticias and Más Noticias	19/2/2014
	Mónica Andrea Rocha	Freelance Journalist		1/12/2014
Democratic Republic of Congo	Germain Kennedy Muliwavyo	Reporter	Radio Télé Muungano	16/2/2014
	Robert Shamwami Shalubuto	Journalist	RTNC	26/12/2014
Dominican Republic	Napoleón Rojas	Contributor	Color Visión and Canal 9	8/6/2014
	Newton González	Cameraman	Canal 25 TV	1/7/2014

COUNTRY	NAME	POSITION	EMPLOYER	DATE
Egypt	Mohamed Helmy	Freelance Photojournalist		28/1/2014
	Mayada Ashraf	Journalist	Al-Dustour	28/3/2014
Guinea	Facély Camara	Journalist	Liberté FM N'Zérékoré	16/9/2014
	Molou Chérif	Sound engineer	Liberté FM N'Zérékoré	16/9/2014
	SidikiSidibé	Sound engineer	Liberté FM N'Zérékoré	16/9/2014
Honduras	Carlos Mejía Orellana	Journalist	Radio Progreso	11/4/2014
	Hernán Cruz Barnica	Editor	Radio Opoa, La Voz de Esperanza	28/5/2014
	Luis Alonso Fúnez Duarte	Journalist	Radio Patria	23/6/2014
	Herlyn Espinal	Journalist	Canal 3 TV	22/7/2014
	Nery Francisco Soto Torres	Journalist	Channel 23 TV	15/8/2014
	Reynado Paz	Journalist	Canal 28 TV	15/12/2014
India	Tarun Kumar Acharya	Correspondent	Kanak TV and Sambad	27/5/2014
	MVN Shankar	Journalist	Andra Prabha	26/11/2014
Iraq	Firas Mohammed Attiyah	Reporter	Fallujah TV	20/1/2014
	Muthanna Abdul Hussein	Cameraman	Al-Iraqia TV	9/3/2014
	Khaleb Abdel Thamer	Cameraman	Al-Iraqia TV	9/3/2014
	Mohamed Bidaiwi	Bureau Chief	Radio Free Iraq	22/3/2014
	Khalid Hamada	Cameraman	Alhd TV	15/6/2014
	Leyla Yildizh aka Deniz Firat	Journalist	Firat News Agency	8/8/2014
	Fatima Omar Abdelkarim	Journalist		26/8/2014
	Raad Mohamed Ramadan Al- Azzaoui	Cameraman	Sama Salahhedine TV	10/10/2014
Libya	Meftah Bouzid	Editor	Burniq	26/5/2014
	Tawfiq Faraj Ben Saud	Presenter	Lyniana Hits	19/9/2014
	Naseeb Miloud Karfana	TV Producer	Libya Al-Wataniya	
Mexico	Gregorio "Goyo" Jimenez de la Cruz	Journalist	Notisur/Liberal del Sur	11/2/2014
	Jorge Torres Palacios	Columnist	El Dictatem	2/6/2014
	Octavio Rojas Hermandes	Journalist	El Bueno Tono	11/8/2014
	Atilano Roman Tirado	Presenter	Radio Fiesta Mexicana	11/10/2014
	Jose Antonio Gamboa Urias	Editor	Nueva Prensa	23/10/2014
Pakistan	Shan Dahar (Odhor)	Senior Reporter	Aaab Tak	1/1/2014
	Waqas Aziz Khan	Technician	Express TV	17/1/2014
	Khalid Khan	Driver	Express TV	17/1/2014
	Ashraf Arian	Security Officer	Express TV	17/1/2014
	Afzal Khawaja	Correspondent	Zamana Quetta and Balochistan Times	2/2/2014
	Abrar Tanoli	Photojournalist	Mahsib and Shamal	3/3/2014
	Mohammad Mustafa	Driver		28/3/2014
	Shahzad Iqbal	Correspondent	Samaa TV	23/4/2014
	Irshad Mustoi	Editor	ARY News	28/8/2014
	Mohammad Abdul Rasool	Trainee Reporter	ARY News	28/8/2014
	Mohammed Younas	Office worker	ARY News	28/8/2014
	Nadeem Hayder	Correspondent	Dunya News	3/10/2014
	Yaqoob Shehzad	Correspondent	Expres News TV	5/10/2014
	Jewan Arain	Journalist	Dharti TV	6/11/2014
Palestine	Hamed Abdallah Shihab	Media worker	Media 24	9/7/2014
	Mohammed Smeri	Journalist	Gaza Now	11/7/2014
	Khaled Hamed	Journalist	Ray News	20/7/2014
	Sameh Al-Aryan	Journalist	Al Aqsa TV	31/7/2014
	Rami Rayan	Photojournalist	Palestinian Media Network	31/7/2014
	Mohammed Aldeiri	Photojournalist	Palestinian Media Network	31/7/2014
	Ali Shehda Abu Afash	Correspondent	AFP	13/8/2014
	Abdullah Fadel Mortaja	Photojournalist	Alaqa and MBC TV	25/8/2014
	Kamili Simon	Photojournalist	AP	13/8/2014



COUNTRY	NAME	POSITION	EMPLOYER	DATE
Paraguay	Fausto Gabriel Alcaraz	Journalist	Amambay Radio	16/5/2014
	Edgar Pantaleón Fernández	Radio Host	Belén Comunicaciones Radio	19/6/2014
	Pablo Medina Velasquez	Correspondent	ABC Color	21/10/2014
	Antonia Maribel Almada	Media Assistant	ABC Color	21/10/2014
Peru	Donny Buchelli Cueva	Journalist	Más Radio	8/7/2014
	Fernando Raymondi Uribe	Journalist	Revista Caretas	9/11/2014
Philippines	Rubylita Garcia	Reporter	Remate and Block Timer dwAD Radio	7/4/2014
	Richard Nadjid	Journalist	DxNN Power MyxFM Radio	4/5/2014
	Samuel Oliverio	Journalist	Digos City radio	23/5/2014
	Nilo Baculo Sr	Radio Host	dwIM Radio	9/6/2014
Russian Federation	Timur Kuashev	Correspondent	Dosh	1/8/2014
Somalia	Mohammed Omar Mohamed	Media Staff	Radio Dalasn	21/4/2014
	Yusuf Ahmed Abukar Keynan	Journalist	Radio Mustaqbal	21/6/2014
	Abdirisak Ali Abdi	Journalist	Radio Daljir and Horn TV	18/11/2014
Syria	Omar Abdel Qader	Cameraman	Al-Mayadeen TV	8/3/2014
	Ali Mustafa	Freelance Photojournalist		10/3/2014
	Hamza Haj Hassan	Reporter	al-Manar TV	14/4/2014
	Mohammad Mantash	Cameraman	al-Manar TV	14/4/2014
	Halim Allaw	Technician	al-Manar TV	14/4/2014
	Ahmad Abu Rashad	Driver	Anadolu Agency	16/7/2014
	James Foley	Freelance Photojournalist		19/8/2014
	Steven Sotloff	Freelance Photojournalist		2/9/2014
	Abdul Rahman Abu Batra	Presenter	Al Shaab TV	5/12/2014
	Rami Asmi	Correspondent	Orient News TV	8/12/2014
	Yousef El-Dous	Correspondent	Orient News TV	8/12/2014
	Salem Khalil	Cameraman	Orient News TV	8/12/2014
Ukraine	Vyacheslav Veremiy	Journalist	Vesti	18/2/2014
	Andrea Rochelli	Journalist		24/5/2014
	Andrey Mironov	Interpreter		24/5/2014
	Igor Kornelyuk	TV Journalsit	Russia TV and Radio Company	17/6/2014
	Anton Voloshin	Sound engineer	Russia TV and Radio Company	17/6/2014
	Anatoly Klyan	Cameraman	Russia Channel One TV	30/6/2014
	Andrei Stenin	Photographer	RIA-Novosti	5/8/2014
	Oleksandr Kuchynsk	Journalist	Criminal Express	29/11/2014
United States of America	Bryce Dion	Sound engineer	Cops TV	28/8/2014
Yemen	Abdulrahman Hameed Aldin	Journalist	Sana'a Radio	15/8/2014
	Luke Somers	Freelance Journalist		6/12/2014

COUNTRY	NAME	POSITION	EMPLOYER	DATE
Algeria	Nadir Benseba	Editor	el Mihwar el Yawmi	8/8/2014
Argentina	Agustin Ignacio Mina	Freelance Journalist		9/1/2014
	Daniel Edouardo Diambrosio	Media Assistant		9/1/2014
Bangladesh	Zaglul Ahmed Chowdhury	Journalist	The Financial Express	29/11/2014
Brazil	Maria Soledad Fernandez	Journalist	DirecTV Sports	1/7/2014
El Salvador	David Diaz	Journalist	Radio Femenina	14/3/2014
India	Shafat Sidiq	Photojournalist	Dainik Jagran	7/9/2014
	Shivam Bhatt	Journalist	Zee News TV	20/11/2014
Indonesia	Rizal Syahputra	Deputy Editor	Zonasumut.com	1/2/2014
Nigeria	Alex Akinwale	Journalist	Nigerian Television Authority (NTA)	1/2/2014
Syria	Mahrn al Deiry	Correspondent	Al Jazeera.Net	10/12/2014
Turkey	Erkan Koyuncu	Photojournalist	Sabah	2/8/2014
	Serena Shim	Correspondent	Press TV	19/10/2014
Uganda	Matthew Power	Freelance Journalist		10/3/2014
Unites States of America	Sean M. Kelly	Journalist	Kush Radio and KWEM -TV 31	3/1/2014
	Bill Strothman	Photojournalist	Komo TV	18/3/2014
	Gary Phitzner	Helicopter Pilot	Komo TV	18/3/2014

## Journalists Killed by Region

<b>AFRICA KILLED</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>ASIA-PACIFIC KILLED</b>	<b>35</b>
Central African Republic	4	Afghanistan	9
Democratic Republic of Congo	2	Bangladesh	2
Egypt	2	Burma/Myanmar	1
Guinea	3	Cambodia	3
Libya	3	India	2
Somalia	3	Pakistan	14
		Philippines	4
<b>ACCIDENTAL DEATHS</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>ACCIDENTAL DEATHS</b>	<b>4</b>
Algeria	1	Bangladesh	1
Nigeria	1	India	2
Uganda	1	Indonesia	1
<b>AMERICAS KILLED</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>EUROPE KILLED</b>	<b>9</b>
Brazil	3	Russia Federation	1
Colombia	3	Ukraine	8
Dominican Republic	2		
Honduras	6	<b>ACCIDENTAL DEATHS</b>	<b>2</b>
Mexico	5	Turkey	2
Paraguay	4		
Peru	2	<b>MIDDLE EAST &amp; ARAB WORLD KILLED</b>	<b>31</b>
United States of America	1	Iraq	8
		Palestine	9
<b>ACCIDENTAL DEATHS</b>	<b>7</b>	Syria	12
Argentina	2	Yemen	2
Brazil	1		
El Salvador	1	<b>ACCIDENTAL DEATHS</b>	<b>1</b>
United States of America	3	Syria	1



# AFRICA

MOHAMMED GARBA,

PRESIDENT - FEDERATION OF AFRICAN JOURNALISTS (FAJ)

2014 has left African journalists with mixed feelings about their safety. On one hand, the number of killings slightly dropped to 17 from 22 last year. On the other, such a welcome trend does not raise much hope of seeing violence ebbing in a lasting way nor its causes disappearing.

On the contrary, violence against journalists broke out from its usual hotspots such as Somalia and spread further afield. In Central African Republic, media got caught up in the sectarian violence raging in the country as warring parties trained their weapons on journalists as the no-holds-barred power struggle took on religious undertones. Three journalists lost their lives and scores fled to escape the same fate. A French freelance photojournalist, Camille Lepage, was also killed in a firefight between rebel groups.

In Guinea, the grip of the deadly Ebola epidemic turned people's fear into violence as mistrust of the government's campaign to detect and contain the virus grew. In one incident, three journalists were hunted down and killed along with medical workers.

The outbreak of violence in West Africa added to killings in the Democratic Republic of Congo where two journalists were gunned down. Violence was also rampant in Somalia, with no end in sight to the media safety crisis. Three journalists were murdered in targeted attacks, including two deadly shootings and one incident of a booby-trapped car. Two more media professionals, cameraman **MOHAMED ISAQ** and freelance **ABDULKADIR AHMED**, were among the victims of a suicide bomb attack on a restaurant, in the town of Baidoa, South Central Somalia.

At the same time, the fallout from the popular uprisings in North Africa accounted for more killings of journalists. Two died in clashes caused by the political unrest in Egypt while three others were killed in Libya, a country which is increasingly in the grip of chaos and lawlessness since the ousting of its former leader, Kaddafi.

No doubt, the figures of killed journalists in Africa would have been at least one higher if it wasn't for the good fortune of an Ivorian colleague, **ANTOINE ASSALÉ TIÉMOKO**. The managing editor of *l'Elephant déchainé*, the only investigative newspaper in Ivory Coast and presenter of a radio programme entitled 'Allo Presse' survived a murder attempt in December when people in a car tried to run him over from behind as he was walking on a pavement. He was able to get out of danger at the very last minute, sustaining only a strained ankle.

All these cases provide a stark reminder of safety challenges African journalists are still facing around the continent and the hostile environment in which many continue to work.

However, for all the loss and battering suffered, the Federation of African Journalists saw positive results in its campaign for the safety and protection of journalists, especially the fight to end impunity for violence against them. In June, the FAJ, IFJ and the family of Deyda Hydara - the Gambian journalist killed in 2004- won a case brought in 2011 before the Ecowas Court against the Gambian government for failing to investigate the journalist's murder.

Despite the fact that the court found no evidence of the government's responsibility for Hydara's murder, it upheld all our other claims and ordered costs

and damages, noting that “The failure of a government to diligently seek and bring to account the persons responsible for the assassination of a journalist intimidates the media, has a chilling effect on free expression, violates the human rights of journalists, endangers truth and should not be allowed.”

The FAJ takes great pride in delivering such a powerful blow to impunity for crime targeting journalists and is determined to consider strategic litigation before regional jurisdictions when governments are either unable or unwilling to hold killers of journalists accountable.

Furthermore, in December, the African Court of Human Rights followed up with a landmark decision in the case brought by another journalist from Burkina Faso, supported by FAJ, who challenged his 12-month jail sentence for defamation. The Court ruled that the government had violated his right to freedom of expression and ordered the government of Burkina Faso to amend its law on defamation.

These recent rulings by African courts offer some hope that there is a light at the end of the tunnel. Hope for a turning point in our fight against impunity. Hope in our commitment to finally make journalism safer in Africa.

MOHAMMED GARBA,  
PRESIDENT – FEDERATION OF AFRICAN  
JOURNALISTS (FAJ)

## KILLED LIST AFRICA

### JANUARY 28 EGYPT

**MOHAMED HELMY**, the freelance photojournalist was killed while covering clashes between protesters and security forces which marred the third anniversary of the ousting of former President Hosni Mubarak. His colleague, Mohammed Fahmy, a photojournalist working for the centre-right Wafd party newspaper, was also shot in the face and underwent surgery to rebuild his mouth, according to reports.

### FEBRUARY 16

#### DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO

**GERMAIN KENNEDY MULIWAVYO**, the reporter for Radio Télé Muungano was killed during clashes between the Congolese army and rebels of the Uganda Liberation Army (ADF-Nalu) in Beni, northern Kivu, the AFP reported. The journalist, who was embedded with the DRC army during their offensive against the rebels, was shot while sitting with two colleagues in a military supply vehicle which came under attack. He was fatally injured and died later of his wounds.

### MARCH 28 EGYPT

**MAYADA ASHRAF**, the female journalist for *Al-Dustour* newspaper, was killed while covering clashes between Muslim Brotherhood supporters and Egyptian security forces in eastern Cairo, according to her employer. She was among three people killed in the clashes which followed the decision by Egyptian army chief, Abdel Fattah El-Sisi, to resign from the military and run for president. It was unclear which side was responsible for her death, but the two rival groups - those supporting the army, and those supportive of the Muslim Brotherhood - have blamed each other for the killing.

*R: Funeral of Germain Kennedy Muliwabyo  
/ADF NALU*





## 21 APRIL SOMALIA

**MOHAMED OMAR MOHAMED**, the staff member of radio Dalasn, also known as ‘Camaar’, was killed by unidentified gunmen who shot him several times in the head and the chest at Mogadishu’s Bakaaro market, the National Union of Somali Journalists (NUSOJ) said, quoting Dalsan sources. According to radio Dalsan management, Mohamed Omar had worked for the radio for two weeks in the Marketing Department. He had gone to Bakaaro market on duty.

## APRIL 30

### CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC (CAR)

**DÉSIRÉ SAYENGA**, a journalist for *Le Démocrate* newspaper, was attacked and critically shot and stabbed by armed youths on 29 April. He died of his injuries the following day.

## MAY 5 CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

**RENÉ PADOU**, a radio journalist for La Voix de la Grâce station, was also attacked and critically injured in the same incident. He passed away on 5 May.

## MAY 13 CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

**CAMILLE LEPAGE**, the 26-year-old French freelance photojournalist, was killed while on a reporting assignment in the Central African Republic. Her death was announced in a statement by the French President Francois Hollande who pledged to make every effort to identify her killers.

Camille’s body was discovered by French troops in CAR while they were checking a vehicle driven by anti-balaka militia in the region of Bouar, in the west of the country, the statement added. Ms Lepage worked for Hans Lucas, a Paris-based studio, and contributed to other publications such as *Libération* and *Le Monde Diplomatique*.

## MAY 26 LIBYA

**MEFTAH BOUZID**, the editor of *Burniq* newspaper and a critic of jihadists in Libya was shot dead in the eastern city of Benghazi, an Islamist stronghold, according to medical sources. A friend of the journalist reportedly said that Bouzid had received death threats from Islamic extremists whom he often criticised on television.

## **MAY 29 LIBYA**

**NASEEB MILOUD KARFANA**, the body of the female journalist working for state TV Al-Wataniya in the southern city of Sabha was found together with her fiancé's in the city's northern Al-Hay Al-Jadida district. Her throat had been cut and she appeared to have been tortured.

According to sources quoted by Reporters without Borders (RSF), Karfana left the TV station at about 7 p.m. with her fiancé to attend a friend's wedding. When she failed to arrive home, her mother contacted the TV station, where an employee confirmed that Karfana had left. Relatives said Karfana and her fiancé had recently received repeated threats from an unidentified person.

## **JUNE 22 CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC**

**ELISABETH OLOFIO**, the female journalist who worked for Bé-Okò, a community radio station based in the central Bambari region, died of the wounds she sustained in an attack by the Seleka rebels. According to independent sources and the Union des Journalistes de l'Afrique Centrale (USY-PAC), Elisabeth Olofio was badly beaten by the Seleka rebels when they raided the radio station on 6 January. She was hit on the head and in the back, leaving her seriously injured. She never fully recovered and passed away from her injuries.

## **JUNE 21 SOMALIA**

**YUSUF AHMED ABUKAR KEYNAN**, the journalist who worked for Radio Mustaqbal, a Mogadishu-based private station was killed when an explosive device ripped through his vehicle at Eel Gaab junction in Hamarweyne District in Mogadishu, according to the National Union of Somali Journalists (NUSOJ). The IFJ affiliate quoted witnesses as saying that the device exploded with a loud bang which left a completely burned out vehicle. Police who immediately reached the scene were unable to put the fire out. A colleague reportedly said that the device had been attached to Keynan's car and described the attack as murder targeting the journalist.

## **SEPTEMBER 16 GUINEA**

**FACÉLY CAMARA**, a journalist at Liberté FM N'Zérékoré, Molou Chérif et Sidiki Sidibé, both technicians for radio N'Zérékoré were killed during a mob attack in Womey, near N'Zérékoré, a city near Guinea's southern tip, media reports said. Three health workers were also murdered in the incident.

The journalists had gone to report on a visit by a group of doctors to the Ebola-stricken area to raise awareness about the virus which has claimed over 2600 lives in the region. They went missing for a few days before their bodies were discovered in the septic tank of a primary school in the village.

The Government spokesman Damantang Albert Camara told Reuters that the workers and journalists were brutally beaten to death. "The eight bodies were found in the village latrine. Three of them had their throats slit," he said.

Correspondents say that many people in the region did not trust health officials and refused to co-operate, fearing that a diagnosis meant certain death.

## **SEPTEMBER 19 LIBYA**

**TAWFIQ FARAJ BEN SAUD**, the 18-year-old journalist was fatally wounded when gunmen opened fire on his car as he was driving home with friends, one of whom was also killed in the attack, according to the statement by the UNESCO General Director who condemned the killing. The victim presented a programme called "Ishah bi Jawuha" (Live your Life) on Lyniana Hits, a privately-owned radio station. He was also one of the founders of a local human rights organization, Al-Rahma (Mercy Foundation), the statement added.

## **NOVEMBER 18 SOMALIA**

**ABDIRISAK ALI ABDI**, the journalist who worked for Radio Daljir in Puntland and London-based Horn TV was shot dead by unidentified attackers in the town of Galkayo, according to the National Union of Somali Journalists (NUSOJ),

an IFJ affiliate. Police sources confirmed the shooting and were quoted as saying that “The assailants have escaped after the shooting but the police are still in pursuit of the perpetrators.” His colleagues Nuh Muse said: “Armed men opened fire on him. I don't know why they targeted him. He was a brilliant guy who loved his work,” the AFP quoted him as saying.



*Robert Shamwami Shalubuto*

## **DECEMBER 26** **DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO**

**ROBERT SHAMWAMI SHALUBUTO**, the 42-year-old journalist, who worked for the Radio Télévision Nationale du Congo (RTNC) in the eastern city of Goma since 1997, was shot as he was having a drink with friends in a café. Media reports said two armed men entered and made directly to the table where Shalubuto was and shot him at close range. He was rushed to hospital by died shortly afterwards.

## **FEBRUARY 1 NIGERIA**

**ALEX AKINWALE**, the journalist for the Nigerian Television Authority (NTA), was among four people killed in a road accident involving the convoy of the Deputy Governor of Ondo State, Alhaji Ali Olanusi. The crash happened in Ondo State on the Akure-Ondo road when the vehicle of the Deputy Governor hit another car and the driver lost control, colliding with the NTA van in which Akinwale was travelling.

## **MARCH 10 UGANDA**

**MATTHEW POWER**, the freelance journalist and travel writer, died while reporting in Uganda. He was working with British explorer Levison Wood, who was attempting to walk the length of the Nile, according to Men's Journal, for which Power was covering the story. Heatstroke is believed to be the cause of death. A contributing editor to Harper's Magazine, Power had also written stories for Outside, Wired, GQ, The New York Times, National Geographic, The Atavist, Slate and others.

## **AUGUST 8 ALGERIA**

**NADIR BENSEBA**, the 44-year-old worked for five years as coordinator for the International Federation of Journalists at its regional office in Algiers before launching his own newspaper, *el Mihwar el Yawmi*. He died in a road accident in Zeralda, Algiers as he was returning home.



*Nadir Benseba*





# AMERICAS

CELSO SCHRODER, FEPALC PRESIDENT

The Latin America and the Caribbean region is still marked by historical contradictions, the result of the colonial legacy, brutal civil wars and a recent period of dictatorships and illegitimate regimes which emerged from the Cold War.

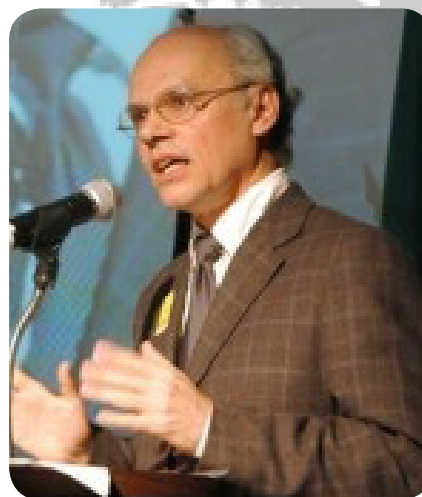
The relatively recent process of democratization on the continent - albeit uneven with economic growth and similar levels of wealth distribution in some countries - faces a number of challenges. They include authoritarianism, self-serving social elites, endemic corruption and partisan media which serve mainly these groups' interest of preserving their privileges.

Democratic governments share the political space with populist regimes and those under the control of the mafia and organized crime.

This environment contributes to the crisis in journalism for various reasons. In North America, there is a structural crisis as a result of the severe economic downturn which is only now showing signs of recovery. The situation on the rest of the continent is one of a strong private monopoly, with rare exceptions, which uses the crisis as an excuse to instill a climate of fear in newsrooms and cut wages even more.

At the same time, there is widespread violence from segments of society opposed to professional journalism. As a result, Latin American and Caribbean journalists suffer from the worst pressure and harassment at workplaces. Thus, murders, threats, kidnappings and assaults while on assignment add to challenging work conditions.

By far, physical violence remains the biggest threat to journalists' safety in the region. In this regard, Mexico once again recorded one of the



highest levels of violence with work-related killings in 2014, with five murders of journalists. Some of the most dangerous states for journalists are Oaxaca, Guerrero, Veracruz, Zacatecas, Sinaloa and Tamaulipas.

The country was only second to Honduras where six journalists were murdered. In 2014, the Federation of Journalists of Latin America and the Caribbean (FEPALC) particularly monitored the situation in Honduras, where the media safety crisis is making the country a journalists' killing field. While levels of violence in Colombia have drastically decreased, the country remains dangerous for media professionals and three journalists were murdered in 2014.

There were also other killings of journalists in Paraguay (4), Brazil (3), Dominican Republic (2) and Peru (2).

The FEPALC is determined to address this serious situation and continues its campaign against impunity for killings of journalists. In this regard, it organised a joint mission with the IFJ last September to the Mexican state of Guerrero and met officials, journalists and civil society to mobilise support for ending impunity.

It is only through organisation and mobilisation that the lives of the journalists can be saved, and that free speech for people in our Americas can become a reality.

CELSO SCHRODER,  
FEPALC PRESIDENT

*R: A relative of slain television journalist Herlyn Espinal mourns over his coffin during a wake at his home in Santa Rita municipality, in the outskirts of San Pedro Sula July 22, 2014. REUTERS/Stringer*





## KILLED LIST AMERICAS

### FEBRUARY 10 BRAZIL

**SANTIAGO ILÍDIO ANDRADE**, the cameraman who worked for the Bandeirantes television network was declared brain dead by doctors, according to media reports. He had been in a coma after being hit in the head by an explosive device while filming clashes between protesters and police in Rio de Janeiro. Reports added that police arrested a protester in connection with the incident, who admitted to holding the explosive device, but denied throwing it.

### FEBRUARY 11 MEXICO

**GREGORIO “GOYO” JIMENEZ DE LA CRUZ**, the 42-year-old crime reporter for *Notisur* and *Liberal del Sur* was kidnapped at his home in Coatzacoalcas, Veracruz by masked men. His body was found six days later in a shallow grave together with that of Ernesto Ruiz Guillen, a local union leader, and that of an unidentified taxi driver. Ruiz Guillen, a personal friend of Jimenez, stood up to organized crime and Jimenez wrote about his struggle in the past and used to work as photographer for events organized by the union, reports said. According to family sources quoted by *The Huffington Post*, Jimenez was identified as “the photographer” by the kidnappers.

### FEBRUARY 13 BRAZIL

**PEDRO PALMA**, the owner of *Panorama Regional* newspaper, was shot dead by two unidentified men on a motorcycle outside his home in Miguel Pereira, a suburb to the south of Rio de Janeiro. The local weekly newspaper, which was circulated in several nearby municipalities, had frequently

alleged corruption in the local government. According to the Committee to Protect Journalists (CPJ), a friend of Palma’s told the daily *O Globo* that the publisher had received threats but had not taken them seriously.

### FEBRUARY 19 COLOMBIA

**YONNI STEVEN CAICEDO**, the cameraman for TV Noticias and Más Noticias, was shot dead after reportedly receiving death threats from a criminal organisation called **Los Urabeños**, active in the Caldas neighbourhood, located in the coastal town of Buenaventura, in western Colombia, human rights and press freedom groups reported.

The 21-year-old had left the city on the police advice after an incident in which a group of men threatened him when he tried to film a murder scene. According to reports from the Fundación para la Libertad de Prensa (FLIP), Caicedo waited seven months before returning to Buenaventura, in the department of Valle del Cauca. He was gunned down shortly after he arrived back in town. Some Colombian human rights NGOs reportedly criticised the police for failing to protect Caicedo.

### FEBRUARY 27 BRAZIL

**GEOLINO LOPES XAVIER**, the presenter for N3 TV was shot dead in Teixeira de Freitas, north east of Bahia state. Lopes was driving a car owned by the TV station and had just dropped off a colleague, Djalma Ferreira, at her home when he was fatally shot by two men in another car. Lopes, who was co-manager of N3 TV, also anchored the news programme called *A Tarde*.

## **APRIL 11 HONDURAS**

**CARLOS MEJÍA ORELLANA**, the journalist for Radio Progreso was reportedly murdered at his home by unknown attackers who stabbed him several times. Orellana had been at the station for three years and was among the fifteen employees who had been receiving death threats since 2009, according to reports quoting the radio's director, Ismail Moreno. The threats followed the Radio Progreso's opposition to the 2009 coup which ousted the government in Honduras.

Reporters without Borders (RSF) quoted Moreno as saying that the Inter-American Commission for Human Rights had on three occasions requested the authorities to protect Orellana in 2009, 2010 and 2011. He accused the government of ignoring his appeals and the threats he had received, thus putting his life in danger.

## **MAY 16 PARAGUAY**

**FAUSTO GABRIEL ALCARAZ**, the 28-year-old journalist for Radio Amambay was shot dead in the crime-ridden city of Pedro Juan Caballero bordering Brazil, reports said. According to police sources, the journalist was shot 2 times by unidentified gunmen who opened fire on him as he returned home, before fleeing on a motorcycle.

The Journalists' Syndicate of Paraguay (SPP), an IFJ affiliate, organised a protest in front of the Interior Ministry in Asuncion, demanding that the government solve the murder of Alcaraz, who was known for his reports on drug trafficking. The SPP General Secretary Vicente Paez said that Alcaraz had made several reports on drug-trafficking rings and their connections with institutions of the provincial administration. Paez and other SPP leaders met with Javier Ibarra, deputy minister of Internal Security at the Interior Ministry and later told the Spanish news agency, EFE, that "We asked him to see to it that the crime against our colleague is solved and he assured us that the ministry has designated a special team of police to find out what happened."

## **MAY 28 HONDURAS**

**HERNÁN CRUZ BARNICA**, the director of Otro Nivel, a programme broadcast on La Voz de la Esperanza, a community radio dedicated to human Rights in the region, was shot dead in the department of Dulce Nombre de Copán, western Honduras. The victim was shot three times in the head by unidentified gunmen, Reporters without Borders said.

## **JUNE 2 MEXICO**

**JORGE TORRES PALACIOS**, the columnist for *El Dictatam* newspaper was found dead and his body decapitated in a garden on the outskirts of the tourist city of Acapulco, according to media reports. Palacios, who wrote a column entitled Nada Personal (Nothing Personal), was kidnapped on 29 May after arriving home, reports added. He was an outspoken critic of figures in authority. According to *The Global Journalist* magazine, his newspaper published his last comments hours before he went missing, in which he denounced corruption in the police and the political establishment.

## **JUNE 8 DOMINICAN REPUBLIC**

**NAPOLÉON ROJAS**, the 52-year-old journalist died of injuries he had sustained during an attack on his office in which he was allegedly shot by former members of the police forces. According to family sources, Rojas suffered internal bleeding and underwent surgery but did not survive. Two people have been arrested in connection with the attack and are now on remand. The IFJ's Latin America and Caribbean group (FEPALC) issued a statement calling on the authorities to investigate the attack on Rojas and bring his killers to justice. Rojas had worked for several media, including Color Visión and Canal 9.

## **JUNE 19 PARAGUAY**

**EDGAR PANTALEÓN FERNÁNDEZ PLEITAS**, the presenter at Belén Comunicaciones radio was killed in his own home located in Concepción. Media reports said that unidentified attackers entered the house and shot him. He was a critic of local courts which he accused of corruption and links to drug trafficking. While the authorities vowed to find



his killers, investigations appeared to have led nowhere and no one has been held accountable for his murder.

## **JUNE 23 HONDURAS**

**LUIS ALONSO FÚNEZ DUARTE**, the 47-year-old journalist was gunned down by unidentified armed men outside his house in the town of Catacamas, 200 km east from the country's capital, according to media reports quoting eye witnesses. Fúnez Duarte presented a political show on Radio Patria in Catacamas, in the Olancho department.



*Newton González*

## **JULY 1 DOMINICAN REPUBLIC**

**NEWTON GONZÁLEZ**, the cameraman for Canal 25 TV was gunned down by two armed men who shot him in broad day light in central Santiago before fleeing the scene. Reports said that police ruled out robbery as a motive for the murder which took place at a time of heightened violence targeting journalists. Three days prior to the killing, another journalist Pedro Fernandez of El Nacional newspaper had escaped a murder attempt, according to Reporters without Borders (RSF).

## **JULY 8 PERU**

**DONNY BUCHELLI CUEVA**, the journalist who presented the programme 'Más Noticias' (More news), on Más Radio (More Radio), was murdered at his home in the province of Pacasmayo, department La Libertad, Peru, according to media reports. Investigators indicated that Cueva, whose

body was found in his bedroom with his hands and feet tied, had suffered a blow to the head. They believed that his killers dragged him to his bedroom after suffocating him, reports added. The journalist had criticised on his programme ethics and standing of candidates running for mayor of Pacasmayo, which suggests that his murder might have been linked to his public views as a journalist.



*Relatives of slain television journalist Herlyn Espinal lower his coffin during his funeral service in Santa Rita municipality, in the outskirts of San Pedro Sula July 22, 2014. REUTERS/Stringer*

## **JULY 22 HONDURAS**

**HERLYN IVÁN ESPINAL MARTÍNEZ**, the 32-year-old TV journalist went missing and his half naked body was found a day later on the side of a highway with gunshot wounds, according to media reports. Espinal presented a programme entitled 'Hoy Mismo' on Channel 3 Television based in San Pedro Sula, the second largest city of Honduras and one of the worst crime-stricken in the country. Media reports said the he went missing after a meal with a friend

at a restaurant and went to his mother's house. He was last seen alive getting into another vehicle with three individuals inside. A suspect was reportedly arrested in connection the journalist's killing.

## **AUGUST 11 MEXICO**

**OCTAVIO ROJAS HERNÁNDEZ**, the Journalist for the daily *El Bueno Tono* (The Good Tone) was shot dead outside his home in San José Cosolapa, Oaxaca, Mexico. According to police sources, Hernández was talking to a young man who had come to his house, claiming to be interested in buying his vehicle when he was shot four times and killed. Rojas was a crime reporter, focusing on organized crime. Media reported that, a few days before his murder, Rojas had published an article about the busting by the Mexican security forces of a criminal cell that was siphoning gas from Mexico's state-owned oil company Pemex.

## **AUGUST 12 COLOMBIA**

**LUIS CARLOS CERVANTES**, the journalist and director of Morena FM radio station based in the municipality of Taraza was killed when two unidentified gunmen stopped the car he was travelling in and shot him nine times in the head. He died on the spot.

The IFJ affiliate, Felcoper, said that Cervantes had received death threats since 2010, some of them reportedly related to his denunciations of criminal organisations, dealing in drugs. He was given protection (a car and two bodyguards) until July 2014, when the authorities withdrew the protection, claiming that the level of threat to his life was ordinary. His wife complained that his protection withdrawal was not gradually phased out as provided for in law and left him vulnerable.

The same month, following the publication in *Buenos Dias Tarazá*, a magazine which he also edited of an article about a former Mayor of Taraza who was jailed for corruption and links with paramilitary groups, a man called at Cervantes' home, requesting that the journalist publish information about criminal gangs. When he refused, the caller threatened him, saying that "We are tired of seeing

you in Taraza." The journalist said that he subsequently received the following day a text message giving him two hours to leave the city.

## **AUGUST 15 HONDURAS**

**NERY FRANCISCO SOTO TORRES**, the 32-year-old journalist for Canal 23 and producer for Radio Full FM was shot dead in the district of La Conquista, Olanchito municipality, department of Yoro. Reports said that unidentified gunmen opened fire several times on Soto as he was parking his motorbike at home. Both the police and Soto's colleagues dismissed the claim that Soto was murdered in an armed robbery attempt, saying that he had no valuables on him at the time of his death. One colleague told reporters that Soto was held in high esteem by fellow journalists because of his professionalism and fairness. However, the journalist also covered corruption among public administration.

## **AUGUST 28 UNITED STATES**

**BRYCE DION**, the sound engineer with "Cops", a reality TV show in Omaha, was accidentally shot dead by police in Omaha. The victim was a member of COPS TV crew filming a police operation when officers responded to a robbery incident. The city's police chief said the robber, who also died in the incident, fired at the officers with a pellet gun that looked like a real pistol and officers returned fire. In the confusion during the shootout, soundman Bryce Dion was hit with a single bullet and died. The police chief defended the decision to invite the TV crew to film the operation, saying it was intended to garner the public support for the force.

## **OCTOBER 11 MEXICO**

**ATILANO ROMÁN TIRADO**, the host on a local radio was shot dead while he was broadcasting live his programme entitled 'Asi es mi Terra' (Such is my land) on radio Fiesta Mexicana in the Pacific city of Mazatlan. Media reports said that listeners heard the shots being fired after gunmen burst into the studio and shot Tirado in the head. The journalist was a strong supporter of families who had been displaced by the construction of a dam which



flooded their land. Tirado, an outspoken opponent of the dam, had led the campaign to secure compensation for the families and his programme focused on the issue. Before his murder, he had reportedly received threats along with other leaders of the campaign.

## **OCTOBER 21 PARAGUAY**

**PABLO MEDINA VELASQUEZ**, the 53-year-old regional correspondent for Paraguay's largest independent newspaper *ABC Color*, was returning from a reporting trip outside the eastern city of Curuguaty, when his vehicle was stopped by two gunmen on a motorcycle. He was shot four times and died at the scene. His assistant **Antonia Mari-bel Almada**, 19, was also killed in the attack. Four suspects are said to have been detained.

## **OCTOBER 23 MEXICO**

**JOSE ANTONIO GAMBOA URIAS**, the 39-year-old editor of *Nueva Prensa* magazine went missing on 10 October and his body was found days later with gunshot wounds, according to state authorities in Sinaloa in north-western Mexico, quoted in media. Two people have been arrested in connection with the killing, they added. Urias' magazine covered corruption and regional politics.

## **NOVEMBER 9 PERU**

**FERNANDO RAYMONDI URIBE**, the investigative journalist who worked revista *Caretas*, was shot dead while visiting family in his father's dry goods store in Cañete, south of Lima. Reports said that two gunmen entered, shot Uribe and left without stealing anything from the shop. At the time of his death, Uribe was investigating multiple stories concerning dangerous crime and corruption. In particular, he had been investigating murderous gangs that extorted money from construction companies in Cañete. In the past, he had also worked on stories about the relationship between a Mexican drug trafficker and Congressman Jose Leon and also on the violent eviction that eventually led to the death of a man in Cajamarca by a police squad.



*Pablo Medina Velasquez REUTERS/Jorge Adorno*



*Mónica Andrea Rocha*

## **DECEMBER 1 COLOMBIA**

**MÓNICA ANDREA ROCHA**, the 42-year-old who worked for Bucaramana-based Television Ciudadana, was killed after being attacked by unidentified individuals. Her body was found in El Porvenir district, south of Bucaramana. In recent years, Rosha who also practiced as a lawyer, had been very critical of the judicial system.

## **DECEMBER 15 HONDURAS**

**REYNALDO PAZ**, the 48-year-old editor of Canal 28 Television was gunned down by armed men who attacked him at a sports centre in the town of Comayagua. Reports said that unidentified attackers moved in on him as he was working out and shot him several times as he ran to his vehicle to escape. According to police sources quoted by the local newspaper *El Tiempo*, Paz was believed to have been killed "for having used his media outlet to make statements about the current situation in the country."

**JANUARY 3 UNITED STATES**

**SEAN M. KELLY**, the 53-year-old general manager of Kush Radio and a presenter at KWEM-TV 31, died after his vehicle collided with a dump truck near Cushing in Oklahoma. According to the Oklahoma State Medical Examiner's Office, Kelly suffered head injuries and internal bleeding. His family reportedly said that Kelly was driving on the two-lane State Highway 33 about 2 miles west of Cushing on his way to report live on grassfires when the crash occurred. The Oklahoma Highway Patrol said that an eastbound dump truck attempted to overtake Kelly as he was turning left, hitting his Chevrolet by the driver's door.

**JANUARY 9 ARGENTINA**

**AGUSTÍN IGNACIO MINA**, the 19-year-old journalist was killed in northwestern Argentina while on assignment covering the Rally Dakar Sudamérica auto race. Mina died after the vehicle in which he was travelling careered off a curve on a dangerous section of the road. A technician working with Mina, **DANIEL EDUARDO DIAMBROSIO**, was also killed. Two other passengers, Peruvian photographer Rodrigo de Quesada and his Argentinian colleague Martín Delgado survived. The event's organisers said that the journalists were not accredited to cover the full race, according to The International News Safety Institute (INSI).

**MARCH 14 EL SALVADOR**

**DAVID DIAZ**, the journalist for Radio Femenina, died in a helicopter crash while covering the five-day Vuelta El Salvador stage race. According to reports, Diaz was on board the helicopter belonging to the race's organisers, Ruben Contreras, which came down in a jungle area, close to the race's finish line. He was pinned between a piece of wreckage and a tree. He had reportedly been "reluctant to get on the chopper but eventually was convinced it would be a fun way to spend the day and see the race from a new vantage point," media reports said.



*The news helicopter crashed and burst into flames in downtown Seattle, killing KOMO News photographer **Bill Strothman** and pilot **Gary Fitzner** on board, and setting cars on fire in a popular tourist area near the Space Needle. REUTERS/David Ryder*

**MARCH 18 UNITED STATES**

**BILL STROTHMAN**, a photojournalist and **GARY PHITZNER**, a helicopter pilot both working for Komo TV in Seattle died when the station's helicopter crashed near the Space Needle, reports said. The chopper appeared to have fallen to the street as it attempted to take off from a helipad at the top of a television news station, Seattle Fire Department spokesman Kyle Moore told reporters. It crashed and burst into the flames, killing the two passengers onboard and setting three cars on fire in the popular tourist area, officials said.

Bill and Gary were found dead in the wreckage of the helicopter when emergency responders arrived at the scene, while the occupants of three vehicles that caught fire managed to escape, Moore said. One person was in critical condition. KOMO TV, an ABC affiliate, confirmed they owned the helicopters, according to Reuters news agency.

## **JULY 1 BRAZIL**

**MARIA SOLEDAD FERNANDEZ**, the 26-year-old TV reporter for DirecTV Sports who was covering the World cup in Brazil died in a car crash on her way back from Sao Palo to Belo Horizonte, where the Argentina's team was based. Two of her colleagues, Juan Daniel Berazegueti and Fernando Javier Bruno, were injured in the accident. Local authorities said the car lost control after a collision with another vehicle and fell off a cliff on the BR-391 road near the town of Oliveira, with Fernandez thrown out of the vehicle when it crashed.



*Members of the media take part in a minute's silence in memory of the daughter of Argentinian journalist Miguel "Titi" Fernandez, Maria Soledad Fernandez, at the team's training center in Belo Horizonte city, July 2, 2014. REUTERS/Ivan Alvarado*





## ASIA-PACIFIC

JANE WORTHINGTON,  
ACTING DIRECTOR OF IFJ ASIA-PACIFIC OFFICE

No country should aspire to hold the title of the most deadly for journalists, but sadly too many governments have allowed the targeting of media workers to remain a low priority.

In Asia-Pacific, impunity for crimes against journalists is a scourge that few leaders have a handle on and, while they turn a blind eye or fail to adequately act, the killings continue unabated. It is safe to say these murderers pursue their crimes brazenly confident that little will be done to properly investigate their actions. Sadly, our experience in this region shows they are right.

The region is now the world's deadliest with 39 journalists killed this year. Of these, 35 were directly targeted for their work. These grim statistics account for nearly a third of all journalists killed around the world in 2014.

Pakistan's ongoing war on the media is being waged on too many fronts as the entire country has descended into chaos. It now tops the list of the most dangerous countries for journalists in the world, with 14 journalists killed this year. Almost all were directly targeted in shooting assassinations.

Journalists face attacks not only from underworld mafias and militants but also from the military and Pakistan's intelligence service – particularly in the areas of Punjab and Balochistan. The volatile political environment has also seen media turn on itself with rival news outlets inflaming divisions.

However, there was a breakthrough in the country's shameful record of impunity with the suc-

cessful prosecution of the killers of journalist Wali Khan Babar on March 2. It was the first conviction in history of murderers of a Pakistani journalist – though the mastermind is yet to be identified.

After a relative calm, 2014 proved deadly for Afghanistan's media in the lead up to the Presidential election. Among the nine killings was the tragic shooting of AFP reporter Sardar Ahmad, when gunmen attacked Kabul's Serena Hotel. But there was a glimmer of hope for justice from the case of German photojournalist Anja Niedringhaus, shot at close range by a police officer, with the conviction and life term sentence of her killer in July.

Myanmar recorded its first journalist killing since 2007 with the murder of Aung Kyaw Naing, who was shot by the Burmese military in dubious circumstances and his body buried in a makeshift grave. On the orders of President Thein Sein, it was subsequently exhumed and the investigation continues.

The IFJ Asia-Pacific remains concerned for the deteriorating safety situation in Cambodia with three journalists killed for their reporting on environment and corruption. In at least two cases, the killers have been charged.

Meanwhile in India, the tragic death of veteran photojournalist Shafat Sidiq highlighted the need for decent working conditions and a secure employment. The 40-year-old stringer failed to return from covering the devastating Kashmir floods and his body was found five days later, with his cameras still hanging around his neck. The IFJ and its affiliates are continuing to campaign for compensation





in this case. Lastly, with not a single prosecution secured in the murder of 58 people, including 32 journalists, in the Ampatuan Massacre in Maguindanao five years ago, a murderous climate is maintained in the Philippines. Four more media workers – all broadcasters – were assassinated in 2014, taking the country’s tally to 33 journalists murdered during the term of President Aquino.

What is brutally clear - journalists continue to die where governments cannot guarantee the rule of law and fundamental human rights. That is the most shameful indictment for any country and a very sorry situation for the Asia-Pacific.

JANE WORTHINGTON,  
ACTING DIRECTOR OF  
IFJ ASIA-PACIFIC OFFICE

*Pakistani journalists hold placards and pictures of Associated Press photographer Anja Niedringhaus, who was killed April 4, 2014 in Afghanistan, during a demonstration to condemn attacks against journalists in Islamabad April 7, 2014. REUTERS/Faisal Mahmood*

## JANUARY 1 PAKISTAN

**SHAN DAHAR**, the 40-year-old senior reporter with Aaab Tak News was shot by unidentified assailants as he returned home from work in Larkanan, in Pakistan’s southern province of Sindh on 31 December. He died in hospital from his injuries the following day on January 1.

## JANUARY 17 PAKISTAN

**WAQAS AZIZ KHAN**, the 31-year-old technician for Express News technician and his colleagues, 25-year-old driver **KHALID KHAN** and 30-year-old security guard **ASHRAF ARIAN**, were fired upon as they sat in an Express News TV van in Nazimabad in Karachi, the capital of Sindh. Four gunmen on two motorbikes approached their vehicle and opened fire through the window. Waqas, Khalid and Ashrafs were shot multiple times at close range and died soon after. Police found at least 17 shell casings from 9mm and 32-bore pistols at the crime scene. The Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) claimed responsibility for the attack.

## JANUARY 24 AFGHANISTAN

**NOOR AHMED NOORI**, the 29-year-old reporter with Radio Busd was found dead in Lashkargah in Helmand province in southern Afghanistan. His body was found burnt and mutilated in a plastic bag behind a car salesman’s yard. He had been missing for 11 hours.

## JANUARY 26 AFGHANISTAN

**MOHAMMAD SHAHED NAEEMI**, the 22-year-old presenter of programs on Nawa Radio was killed in a suicide bomb attack in Kabul, Afghanistan. He was one of four victims who lost their lives in the incident. Naeemi was waiting in a car when the suicide bomber targeted a bus carrying Afghan Army personnel.



*Shan Dahar (Odhor)*



*Waqas Aziz Khan*

## FEBRUARY 2 PAKISTAN

**AFZAL KHAWAJA**, the 45-year-old correspondent for the daily Zamana Quetta and the Daily Balochistan Times in Quetta in Ussta Muhhamad, a district of Jafferabad, was travelling home in a taxi with his son when their car came under fire. Afzal Khawaja died at the scene while the taxi driver died later en route to hospital.



*Khalid Khan*



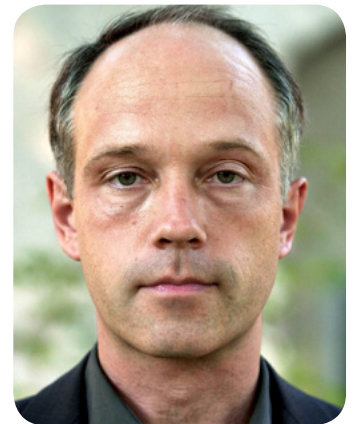
*Ashraf Arian*

## FEBRUARY 2 CAMBODIA

**SUON CHAN**, the 44-year-old reporter for the Khmer language *Meakea Kampuchea* newspaper, was attacked by a mob of six fishermen in Cholkiri district's Peam Chhkork commune. Chan was returning home when he was attacked by the group bearing stones and bamboo sticks and the violent onslaught was witnessed by his son. Suon Chan later died from his injuries after being transferred to Phnom Penh hospital. He had previously published a report on illegal fishing in the local commune where some fishermen used large electric rods to kill fish in conservation areas. On October 7, the trial of Chan's murder opened at Kampong Chang provincial court. All six attackers were charged with 'attempted murder' by the prosecution.



*Suon Chan*



*Nils Horner RUETERS  
/Claudio Bresciani/TT Agency*

## FEBRUARY 14 CAMBODIA

**DAVE WALKER**, the 58-year-old was last seen leaving the Green Village Angkor Guest House in Siem Reap, on February 14th. The Canadian film-maker's body was discovered by a Cambodian child on May 1 outside Angkor Thom's 'Death Gate'. Local police said that Dave Walker had died "several weeks" earlier. The severe state of decomposition hampered immediate determination of the cause of death. Walker was in the process of making a film about the charitable works of a former Khmer Rouge soldier at the time of his disappearance.



*Dave Walker*



### MARCH 3 PAKISTAN

**ABRAR TANOLI**, the photographer for Reuters and a reporter for local newspapers, *Daily Mahsib* and *Daily Shamal*, was shot in the neck by unidentified gunmen while travelling with his family at Abbotabad, in the Hazara region of the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province in Pakistan. He had received threats for his reporting and had been provided police protection for a two month period.

### MARCH 11 AFGHANISTAN

**NILS HORNER**, the 51-year-old Swedish radio journalist for Sveriges Radio was shot dead in a broad daylight attack in the capital, Kabul, by an Taliban suicide attacker. Horner was shot in the head by two armed men while conducting an interview on the street. He was interviewing local security guards following an attack on a Lebanese restaurant. The Taliban splinter group Fedey-e-Mahaz claimed responsibility for the killing, accusing Horner of working as a UK spy and not a journalist.

### MARCH 20 AFGHANISTAN

**SARDAR AHMAD**, the 40-year-old staff reporter for Agence France-Presse, was shot dead along with his wife and two of his three children when gunmen attacked the Serena Hotel in Kabul. Ahmad, a veteran journalist with the AFP, also ran the Kabul Pressistan media company. The assault came on the eve of Nawroz, the Persian New Year where Serena Hotel was hosting special celebrations. The gunmen penetrated several layers of security to attack the hotel. Sadar's youngest child, two-year-old Abuzar Ahmad, survived the attack but was injured, needing medical treatment. He has since moved to Canada to live with his extended family.

### MARCH 28 PAKISTAN

**MOHAMMAD MUSTAFA**, the driver of TV presenter Raza Rumi was killed when their car came under heavy fire from unidentified gunmen as the media personality was returning home after his weekly show in the city of Lahore. Rumi was believed to have been the target in the attack, as he had received threats warning him he was on the Taliban's hit-list.



*Sardar Ahmad*

He survived the attempt assassination with minor injuries but his bodyguard, Anwar Hussain, was hit several times and left paralysed.



Anja Niedringhaus REUTERS/STAFF

## APRIL 4 AFGHANISTAN

**ANJA NIEDRINGHAUS**, the 49-year-old German female photojournalist for Associated Press (AP), was gunned down at a police station in Afghanistan's eastern province of Khost. She was shot by a police commander who opened fire on the car in which Anja was travelling with another female journalist, Kathy Gannon, a Canadian reporter. Kathy was also injured in the attack and needed medical treatment. The police commander surrendered to the authorities after the incident and was arrested. On July 22, a Kabul court convicted and sentenced the police officer to death for the murder.

## APRIL 7 THE PHILIPPINES

**RUBYLITA GARCIA**, the 52-year-old reporter for the tabloid *Remate* and a block timer of dwAD radio station in Cavite, on Luzon Island in the northern Philippines was shot by a number of gunmen who barged into her home in Barangay Talaba, Baco on 7 March. She was shot repeatedly in front of her son and 10-year-old granddaughter and sustained four gunshot wounds. Garcia, who regularly reported abuses by the Cavite police force, underwent surgery at St Dominic Hospital in Cavite but died on 7 April.

## 22 APRIL PAKISTAN

**SHAHZAD IQBAL**, the 28-year-old correspondent for SAMAA TV and editor of a local newspaper, was travelling to his office with his brother on a motorcycle when unidentified armed men inter-

cepted them and opened fire, in Mianwali in the southern province of Punjab. Iqbal was shot multiple times and died on the way to hospital but his brother survived. Iqbal had been working in journalism for more than seven years for various media outlets.

## MAY 4 THE PHILIPPINES

**RICHARD NADJID**, the 35-year-old community-based journalist in Bongao, Tawi-Tawi in the southern Philippines, was gunned down by unidentified attackers. 'DJ Troy' known as Nadjid had worked for DxNN Power Myx FM Station as the station manager and managed the station's regular morning news and public affairs programme. He was shot on his way home from a basketball game.

## MAY 14 AFGHANISTAN

**MOHAMMAD NASIM TURAK**, the journalist was killed by an unknown assailant in Kandi Rijae village, in the Alingar district of the eastern Laghman province, according to the Afghanistan Independent Journalists' Association (AIJA), an IFJ affiliate. The AIJA says the journalist was fatally stabbed and his body was left outside the village where he was killed. It strongly condemned what it calls a "dreadful incident" and called on local officials to find the murderers and prove their commitment to freedom of speech.

## MAY 20 BANGLADESH

**SADRUL ALAM NIPUL**, the 28-year-old staff reporter of the popular local newspaper *The Daily Mathabhangra*, was found dead on a railway line. According to his family, he left his home at 9pm on Tuesday, May 20, after receiving a work call on his mobile. He did not return home. His severed body was discovered the following morning. Despite local police stating that the death may have been the result of a rail incident, Nipul's family claimed that he was killed for his work.

## MAY 23 THE PHILIPPINES

**SAMUEL OLIVERIO**, the 54-year-old journalists for Digos City radio, was shot and killed by two gunmen on his way home from the public market in Digos City on the island of Mindanao. The gunmen



were reportedly unmasked. Colleagues in Digos said Oliverio was known for his scathing commentaries on local politics and that he used to deliver strong views on his program against the proliferation of illegal gambling and illegal drugs in the city.

## **MAY 27 INDIA**

**TARUN KUMAR ACHARYA**, the lifeless body of the stringer for Kanak TV, a local Oriya-language TV channel and reporter for *Sambad*, a local Oriya-language newspaper in the eastern Indian state of Odisha, was found with his throat slit and wounds to his chest.

Acharya had been attacked in a desolate area of Khallikote town in Odisha on his way home from work. Prior to his death, Acharya had been threatened following his reports of child labour practices at a local cashew processing plant. On June 8, two suspects in the murder were arrested and one was identified as the owner of the cashew plant who had reportedly ordered Acharya's murder, offering 50,000 rupees (650USD) to the accomplices.

## **JUNE 9 THE PHILIPPINES**

**NILO BACULO SR**, the 67-year-old host of *Isum-bong Mo kay Ka Nilo*, a news talk and public service program at radio station dwIM in Calapan City, was shot at close range outside his home by a gunman riding a motorcycle. In 2008, Baculo learnt of a plot to kill him and petitioned for court protection. The protection order was granted, and continued by the Court of Appeals. However a few months later, the appellate court denied the broadcaster's petition, stating that the supposed threat on his life was "unsubstantiated".

## **JULY 12 AFGHANISTAN**

**KHALID AGAH YAQUBI**, the 27-year-old radio producer and presenter on Lahza FM, a local radio station in Mazar-i-Sharif, the capital of Balkh province, was shot dead by unidentified assailant who called at his home. When one of Yaqubi's children opened the family home door, the gunman opened fire, hitting the journalist in the head and neck. Prior to his death, Yaqubi had been reporting on social issues in his city.



*Rubylita Garcia*



*Richard Nadjid /NUJP*



*Sadrul Alam Nipul /BMSF*



*Samuel Oliverio /NUJP*



*Nilo Baculo Sr /NUJP*



*Khalid Agah Yaqubi /Lahza FM*

## AUGUST 27 BANGLADESH

**MAOLANA NURUL ISLAM FAROOQI**, the TV host at 'Channel i' where he presented two programmes 'Shantir Pothe' and 'Kafela', was killed in his own home in East Razabazar, Dhaka.

According to the Bangladesh Manobadhikar Sangbadik Forum (BMSF), more than half-a-dozen youths allegedly entered the house on the pretext of talking about Hajj pilgrimage, but then proceeded to tie up all members of his family. Farooqi, who was also the Khatib of the High Court Mazar mosque, was murdered in his bedroom. Reports quoted Farooqi's supporters as saying that he had received death threats before for opposing militancy in Bangladesh.

## AUGUST 28 PAKISTAN

**IRSHAD MUSTOI**, the 35-year-old assignment editor of ARY News in Quetta in the southern province of Balochistan and bureau chief Online News, was shot dead by unknown assailants in his office along with trainee reporter **MUHAMMAD ABDUL RASOOL** and media staffer **MUHAMMAD YOUNAS**. The assailants fled and the victims' bodies were taken to the hospital where initial examinations stated that all three died of bullet injuries to their chest and heads. Mustoi was also the General Secretary of Balochistan Union of Journalist (BUJ).

## SEPTEMBER 17 AFGHANISTAN

**PALWASHA TOKHI MIRANZAI**, the journalist who worked for the Bayan-e-Shamal news network, an

International Security Assistance Force-sponsored media outlet with a TV and radio station that reported on variety of local issues from 2008 to 2012 was repeatedly stabbed by an unidentified man in the northern Afghan province of Balkh. She was killed by an unknown attacker in her home and was taken to hospital but died on arrival.

Miranzai had returned to Afghanistan after completing her Master's Degree in Thailand and was planning a return to journalism this year. Prior to her death, she had received a death threat from an unknown source. According to her former employer, Miranzai was "most likely killed because she had worked with Bayan, which is supported by NATO troops."

## SEPTEMBER 27 MYANMAR

**AUNG KYAW NAING**, the 49-year-old freelance journalist, commonly known as Par Gyi, was killed in suspicious circumstances by the Burmese military. Aung Kyaw Naing was arrested by the army in late September so that they could interrogate him about whereabouts of DKBA (Democratic Karen Benevolent Army) units. He was returning from DKBA-controlled area when he was detained by an unnamed 'roving battalion' looking for DKBA rebels. It was alleged he tried to 'seize a gun from a guard and run away when he was shot dead. Par Gyi regularly worked with reporters in Mon State in southern Myanmar, about ethical issues along the Burma-Thai border. When the body was exhumed from the shallow grave upon orders of the Burmese President, his body showed signs of torture.

## OCTOBER 3 PAKISTAN

**NADEEM HYDER**, the correspondent for Dunya News, was shot dead by two unknown assailants in the town of Hafizabad, in Punjab province. The killers fled the scene.

## OCTOBER 5 PAKISTAN

**YAQOOB SHEHZAD**, the correspondent of TV channel *Express News*, was shot dead while visiting the office of a friend in Hafizabad's busiest neighbourhood on Sagar Road. He was shot in the head

*Palwasha Tokhi Miranzai /AIJA*





three times and was pronounced dead upon arrival at a hospital. The gunmen arrived at the office and opened indiscriminate fire, which injured an office assistant. The assailants fled from the scene. Shehzad had been working with Express News since the channel was launched in 2008. He was also the chairperson of the Hafizabad Press Club.

## OCTOBER 12 CAMBODIA

**TRAING TRY**, the 49-year-old journalist who specialized in covering the illegal timber trade industry was shot dead on a dirt road near the Cambodia-Vietnam border in Mondulkiri province. Try was with seven other journalists going to investigate illegal logging when they came upon several ox carts loaded with timber and led by an alleged timber trader, named Heing. After their car became stuck in mud on the dirt road, a confrontation with the timber trader ensued. As other journalists fled the scene, Heing is alleged to have shot Try in the head. His body was later found several hours later next to his vehicle. A few meters away, the assailant's vehicle was found overturned in a ditch. Three men were arrested in connection to the murder - a commune police chief, a military police officer and a Royal Cambodian Armed Forces (RCAF) soldier.



*Aung Kyaw Naing*



*Nadeem Hyder*



*Yaqoob Shehzad*



*Traing Try*

## NOVEMBER 5 PAKISTAN

**JEWAN ARAIN**, the journalist of Dharti TV, was killed in Ghambat Khurha, Sindh, in Pakistan's Southeast. According to reports, a group of people opened fire on him when he was on the way to his office at about 3pm. He died at the scene as a result of his injuries. The motive behind the killing has not been established, however, other journalists in Sindh believed it was related to his profession.



*Jewan Arain /PFUJ*



*MVN Shankar*

## NOVEMBER 26 INDIA

**MVN SHANKAR**, the 53-year-old reporter for the Telugu daily, Andra Pradesh was attacked by three unidentified assailants with iron rods and sticks late in front of his residence in Chilakaluripet, Andra Pradesh, in central India. He later died in hospital from his injuries. Prior to his death Shankar had written a number of stories revealing several scams in the public distribution system and had lodged a complaint to the Guntur police.

## DECEMBER 21 AFGHANISTAN

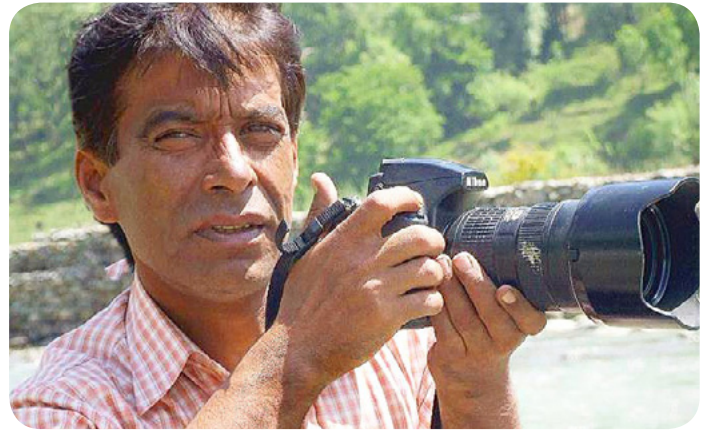
**ZUBAIR HATAMI**, the journalist and cameraman with a local channel Mitra TV, died on December 21, after he was severely injured in a suicide bomb attack. Hatami was at the Estiqlal High School in Kabul, for a theatre show, which he was covering when a suicide bomb exploded, severely injuring him. He was taken to hospital and placed in a coma however he died 10 days later. Shortly after the attack the Taliban claimed responsibility.

## FEBRUARY 1 INDONESIA

**RIZAL SYAHPUTRA**, the deputy editor of Zonasumut.com, an online media outlet based in Medan, north Sumatra, Indonesia, was among 14 people killed in the eruption of Mount Sinabung volcano.

## SEPTEMBER 23 INDIA

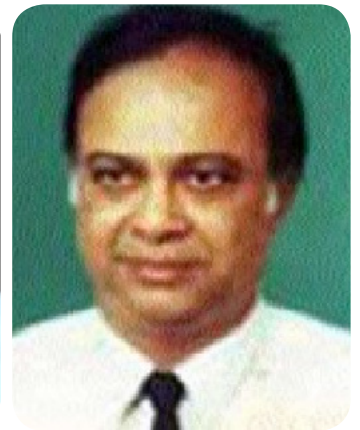
**SHAFAT SIDIQ**, the 40-year-old veteran photo-journalist on assignment for Hindi daily *Dainik Jagran*, went missing in the floods in Kashmir on September 7. His body, with his cameras still hanging around his neck, was found five days later. During his 20-year career in journalism, Sidiq also worked with Sringagar daily *Aftab*, the Jammu-based Kashmir Times and the daily *Amar Ujala*. He also worked for the Pacific News Agency and many of his images were picked up by global photographic agency *Getty Images*.



*Shafat Sidiq*



*Shivan Bhatt*



*Zaglul Ahmed Chowdhury /BMSF*

## NOVEMBER 20 INDIA

**SHIVAN BHATT**, the 24-year-old journalist with India's Zee News TV was killed in a car accident on the Kaithal-Ambala highway near Haryana, in northern India on his way to film the arrest of Indian preacher, Rampal. He died when the car he was travelling in, along with four colleagues collided with cattle and veered off the road.

## NOVEMBER 29 BANGLADESH

**ZAGLUL AHMED CHOWDHURY**, the 66-year-old veteran journalist renowned in Bangladesh died on November 29, after being hit by a bus as he arrived at Dhaka's Karwan Bazaar. Chowdhury was a well-known journalist currently working as a consulting editor for the *Financial Express*. He was declared dead upon arrival at hospital.





## EUROPE

**MOGENS BLICHER BJERREGÅRD,  
PRESIDENT OF THE EUROPEAN FEDERATION  
OF JOURNALISTS (EFJ)**

The news of the attack on the French satirical magazine *Charlie Hebdo* broke when this introduction was being finalised, making it simply impossible to discuss the safety of journalists in 2014 without mentioning that horrific massacre which decimated the newsroom of *Charlie Hebdo* on January 7, 2015. Ten journalists and media staff were murdered in that single attack, the worst ever recorded in Europe. That is more than were killed in violent incidents on the continent during 2014. Two more lost their lives in work-related accidents in Turkey.

The attack in Paris has shattered the sense of security many journalists in Western Europe have long taken for granted. Violence is now a harsh reality we all need to face and after the ten murders in France so early this year, the death toll in journalism for 2015 is set to reach unprecedented levels.

The worsening of the safety crisis in media is in part due to conflicting priorities of today's troubled world and the way in which journalists seek to cover them. More than ever before, journalists need to guard against those who seek to manipulate media in furtherance of their own interests, based on prejudice and hatred. At the same, there has to be a united push back against knee-jerk reactions by the authorities to curtail democratic space for debate and to restrict media freedom and undermine its role.

The EFJ and its French affiliates, SNJ, SNJ-CGT and CFDT-Journalists, have repeatedly said in the wake of the Paris shooting that the challenges now are to prevent the escalation of anti-terror laws, to confront fear, and to avoid hate speech in media. Our society needs clear-minded, courageous and responsible journalists.

As Robert Badinter, who is credited with the abolition of the death penalty in France, so aptly said during the Freedom March on 11 January in Paris: "Tomorrow, journalists will resume the fight against hatred again."

The EFJ does not want a society where journalists could only work under police protection, but we must require of the authorities to provide protection. In particular, we – all stakeholders in the media industry – must emphasize the need for the journalists' safety in conflict areas. The only political response which is worthy of the Freedom March is to consolidate our freedoms and democracy.

In practice, much remains to be done to improve media protection on the European continent. The figures of 2014 serve as a reminder that Europe, usually spared such levels of violence, is no longer immune. It has recorded one of the highest death tolls of journalists this year, with: eight killed in Ukraine and one in Russia, three times more than in 2013, when only three journalists' killings were recorded in Russia.

The cause of violence on journalists in 2014 was the war in Eastern Ukraine. Five Russian colleagues (Andrey Mironov, Igor Kornelyuk, Anton Voloshin, Anatoly Klyan and Andrei Stenin) and one Italian (Andrea Rochelli) lost their lives, in the space of just over two months, from the end of May to early August.

On 18 February, during the incidents in Maidan Square in Kiev, Vyacheslav Veremiy, a young Ukrainian journalist employed by a Russian-language media, became the first journalist killed in the Ukrainian crisis.

But, it is not all doom and gloom. The issue of safety of journalists is now firmly on the agenda of European institutions. In this regard, the cooperation initiated by the IFJ and the EFJ with the Council of Europe, UNESCO, the OSCE and the European Commission to ensure better security of journalists is only the first step towards greater media protection. Everyone now has the responsibility to step up their efforts in building safer working conditions for journalists.

MOGENS BLICHER BJERREGÅRD,  
PRESIDENT OF THE EUROPEAN  
FEDERATION OF JOURNALISTS (EFJ)

## KILLED LIST EUROPE

### FEBRUARY 18 UKRAINE

**VIACHESLAV VEREMII**, the journalist for *Vesti* newspaper died of wounds he sustained in an attack allegedly perpetrated by the “tityshki”, a group of youths suspected of working with the security forces under the former regime in Ukraine, according to the Independent Media Trade Union of Ukraine, an IFJ affiliate. The Union said that Veremii was shot and fatally wounded in the stomach. He was admitted to hospital where he later died.

### MAY 24 UKRAINE

**ANDREA ROCHELLI**, the Italian freelance photojournalist and his Russian interpreter **ANDREY MIRONOV** were killed in Slavyansk, east-



*Viacheslav Veremii by Kyiv Post*

ern Ukraine, while covering fighting between government forces and pro-Russian insurgents. Another French photographer, William Roguelon, who was travelling with them, was also wounded in the incident. He reportedly said that they were hit by mortar fire as they were taking shelter in a roadside ditch.

### JUNE 17 UKRAINE

**IGOR KORNELYUK**, the Russian TV journalist was killed in a mortar attack near Lugansk, Eastern Ukraine. Igor, who worked for All Russian State TV and Radio Company, was covering clashes between pro-Russian insurgents and government forces when he was hit during an attack on a separatists' check point. He was taken to hospital but died shortly afterwards. His sound engineer **ANTON VOLOSHIN** was also killed on the spot while another crew member, cameraman Viktor Denisov, survived.

### JUNE 30 UKRAINE

**ANATOLY KLYAN**, the cameraman for the Russian public television, Channel One, was fatally wounded in the stomach when the convoy he was travelling in came under fire, reportedly from Ukrainian forces in Donetsk. Klyan became the 6th journalist to lose his life in Ukraine since the political crisis began in the country.



*R: A woman places flowers near a coffin during a funeral ceremony before the burial of sound engineer Anton Voloshin in Moscow, June 26, 2014. REUTERS/Maxim Zmeyev*

## **AUGUST 1 RUSSIAN FEDERATION**

**TIMUR KUASHEV**, the correspondent of *Dosh*, a magazine which covers mainly the Russian Caucasus went missing from his home on 31 July and his body was discovered the following day in a suburb of Nalchik, the capital of the autonomous Kabardino-Balkar Republic, according to reports.

Kuashev was known for his investigations into abuses by the security forces in the course of anti-terrorism operations. He had received threats for years and wrote about them in an open letter he published in April 2013, saying he was concerned for his life.

The Russian Union of Journalists (RUJ), an IFJ affiliate, said that the journalists had also reported death threats from users of the LiveJournal blog platform. Some were explicit, according to Reporters without Borders. “As a provocateur, aren’t you afraid of being swept away by the wave you create,” one wrote, suggesting that Kuashev was on a hit-list. “Don’t play with fire... reflect for once (...) on what you are doing and where it is leading you. That’s my advice.” Another wrote: “You will die at an astonishingly young age.”

## **AUGUST 5 UKRAINE**

**ANDREI STENIN**, the 33-year-old photographer for Ria-Novosti news agency, who went missing in early August 2015, was found dead in Ukraine. His employer reportedly said that, contrary to initial reports of his detention, Stenin had actually been killed when his car was hit by bullets and burnt on the road close to Donetsk, a rebel stronghold in eastern Ukraine. The Russian government had opened a probe in mid-August into the disappearance of the photographer, in the belief that he had been taken by Ukrainian authorities.

## **NOVEMBER 29 UKRAINE**

**OLEKSANDR KUCHYNSKY**, the 57-year-old senior journalist editor of *Criminal Express*, a newspaper in Donetsk covering crime, was killed along with his wife in the village of Bogorodychne near Sloviansk in war-torn Donetsk Oblast, according to police sources. Officials of the Interior Ministry were quoted as saying that the couple was stabbed to death. Media reports added that Kuchynsky had gained a reputation from his investigations into the Donbass mafia.





*Top: People walk past a coffin with the body of Russian photojournalist Andrei Stenin during a memorial service in Moscow, September 5, 2014. REUTERS/Sergei Karpukhin*

*R: Mourners pay their respects at the coffin of Russian television journalist Anatoly Klyan during his funeral in Moscow July 2, 2014. REUTERS/Sergei Karpukhin*



## EUROPE ACCIDENTAL DEATHS

### AUGUST 2 TURKEY

**ERKAN KOYUNCU**, the photojournalist for the daily newspaper, *Sabah*, died at the training facility of the Galatasaray professional football club in Istanbul. According to reports, Koyuncu was on assignment, when his head was accidentally caught in the facility's front door. He sustained severe injuries and was taken to a hospital, but could not be revived.

### OCTOBER 19 TURKEY

**SERENA SHIM**, the female correspondent for Press TV in Turkey was killed in a car accident on the Turkish-Syrian border. She was returning from an

assignment in Suruç, a rural district of anliurfa Province of Turkey when her car collided with a truck. Ms. Shim, a US national of Lebanese origin and mother of two who covered conflicts for Press TV in Lebanon, Iraq and Ukraine, was covering the fighting in Kobane, a city near the Turkish border.

In a statement, Press TV said that Serena Shim had told the channel that the "Turkish intelligence agency accused her of spying, probably due to some of the stories she had covered about Turkey's stance on the ISIL terrorists in Kobani and its surroundings, adding that she feared being arrested."





# MIDDLE EAST & ARAB WORLD

**YOUNES M'JAHED, IFJ SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT**

The abiding memory of 2014 for journalists will always be the macabre videos showing the beheadings of American journalists James Foley and Steve Sotloff by the so-called Islamic State in Syria. This display of sheer violence was met with unanimous condemnation, rarely seen when journalists are attacked. However, tough words even at the highest levels of world governance bodies are yet to be translated into concrete action, something the International Federation (IFJ) has long called for.

Despite these killings' hitherto level of depravity, they were not the only acts of sheer violence on the dwindling numbers of mainly freelance journalists who are brave enough to cover the Syrian four-year civil war. Ten more colleagues were killed in targeted killings and cross fire incidents in the country, where at least 12 are believed to be held hostages after being kidnapped by militant groups.

The media safety crisis is so serious in Syria that some news organisations are now advocating against sending journalists to the area and refusing to take the work of freelance journalists.

Elsewhere in the region, there was no letup in the blood bath in Iraq where terrorist groups took control of large parts of the country and trained their guns on journalists, killing eight of them. Other groups, including the government's forces were also responsible for attacks on journalist, including one Presidential guard who shot dead journalist Mohamed Bidaiwi outside the offices of the Iraqi President in Baghdad. The incident led to a rare public and swift action when former Prime Minister Nuri al-Maliki personally attended the scene of the shooting and ordered the arrest of the soldier.

In Palestine, nine journalists were killed while covering last summer fighting between Hamas and Israel in the Gaza Strip. In some cases, media installations were again targeted in missile attacks, leading to the destruction or serious damage to offices and equipment. Despite allegations of crimes targeting journalists, the Israeli government has systematically failed to conduct serious investigations against those responsible. The IFJ together, with the Federation of Arab Journalists, organised a fact-finding and solidarity mission to support journalists in Gaza, immediately after the end of hostilities.

Two killings were also recorded in Yemen, a country where journalists came under sustained attack in 2014 during the bitter fighting between government forces and rebels who have captured most of the country at the time of finalising this report. In fact, one of the victims, Luke Somers was killed during the US operation to rescue him after he had been kidnapped and held hostage by militants in September 2013.

There was further violence in Libya and Egypt, two North African countries which also form part of the Arab World, where three and two journalists were killed respectively. The situation in these countries is dealt with in detail under the African section of this report.

Through the publication of this report, the IFJ seeks to make the protection of journalists a priority in order to promote press freedom and the public's right to receive information, including photographs and footage, compiled and checked by professional journalists. This requires that their physical safety, as a fundamental right, be ensured. It is a collective duty of governments, society and media alike.

**YOUNES M'JAHED,  
IFJ SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT**



## KILLED LIST ARAB WORLD & MIDDLE EAST

*Iraqi journalists carry a mock coffin at a symbolic funeral for Mohammed Badawi, the Baghdad bureau chief of Radio Free Iraq, in Baghdad's Jadriyah district March 23 2014. Iraqi journalists took to the streets of Baghdad on Sunday to protest the killing of a colleague by Kurdish officer over a verbal quarrel at a checkpoint, calling for a punishment of the perpetrators. REUTERS/Thaier al-Sudani*

### **JANUARY 20 IRAQ**

**FIRAS MOHAMMED ATIYAH**, the 28-year old reporter for Fallujah TV was killed in a bomb attack on a police patrol near the part of the city partly held by gunmen in west of Baghdad, according to AFP quoting security and medical officials. Another journalist for Al-Anbr TV, Muayad Ibrahim, was injured. Two policemen were killed and two more wounded in the blast.

### **MARCH 8 SYRIA**

**OMAR ABDEL QADER**, the cameraman for Al-Mayadeen, a Beirut-based satellite television channel, was killed while covering the fighting between the Syrian army and rebels in the Deir Ezzor province, according to the channel quoted by AFP. A Syrian army officer reportedly said that the cameraman was shot in the neck by a sniper and died in hospital.

### **MARCH 9 IRAQ**

**MUTHANNA ABDUL HUSSEIN** and **KHALED ABDEL THAMER**, two cameramen working for Al-Iraqia channel were killed in a bomb blast which targeted al Athar check point located in the northern entrance of the city of Hilla, according to the Iraqi Journalists' Syndicate (IJS), an IFJ affiliate. The IJS says that a suicide bomber blew himself up near a tank which exploded. The cameramen were covering the distribution of voting cards from the police electoral center in Hilla.

### **MARCH 10 SYRIA**

**ALI MUSTAFA**, the Canadian national and freelance photographer was killed in the Syrian city of Aleppo by a barrel bomb, according to the French Press Agency, AFP. Reports said that the photographer, who reportedly supplied pictures to SIPA and EPA agencies, was taking photographs of the





*Top: Mother of Hamza Haj Hassan, a reporter of Hezbollah's al-Manar television, holds his picture as she mourns his death in his home village in Shaath April 15, 2014. REUTERS/Ahmad Shalha*

*L: Mourners carry the coffin of Mohammad Mantash, a cameraman for Hezbollah's al-Manar television, as they march while gesturing during his funeral procession in Kfar Sir village, southern Lebanon April 15, 2014. REUTERS/Sharif Karim*

damage caused by an earlier bomb launched from helicopters of the Syrian army at a roundabout in Haydariyeh when an unexploded barrel bomb went off, killing him. Mustafa had worked in Syria periodically since early 2013, as well as in Israel, the Palestinian territories, Egypt and Brazil.

## **MARCH 22 IRAQ**

**MOHAMED BIDAIWI**, the Baghdad bureau chief of Radio Free Iraq was shot dead by the Kurdish officer guarding the presidential complex in the upper market Jadriyah neighbourhood of Baghdad, according to the Iraqi Journalists' Syndicate (IJS) and the AFP.

The shooting followed an argument between Bidaiwi and the officer in the Peshmerga forces guarding the compound, media reports added. The journalist who was believed to be on his way to work inside the compound died on the scene and the officer responsible was later arrested on the orders of former Prime Minister Nuri al-Maliki.

The incident provoked protests by other journalists. Following a call from the IJS, Iraqi newspapers working in Baghdad didn't go to print on Sunday in protest, demanding immediate action from the government.

## **APRIL 14 SYRIA**

According to media reports, reporter **HAMZA HAJ HASSAN**, cameraman **MOHAMAD MANTASH** and technician **HALIM ALLAW**, who worked for Hezbollah's al-Manar television station, were shot while covering fighting between government forces and insurgents. Al-Manar aired footage of a bullet-riddled car in which it is said the crew was travelling when they were attacked. Two other members of the crew were also wounded in the attack, but were said to be in a stable condition.

## **JUNE 15 IRAQ**

**KHALID HAMADA**, the cameraman for Alahd TV, was killed in the Aladhem district in Iraq's Dyal province, while covering fighting between government forces and Islamist groups, according to the Iraqi Journalists' Syndicate (IJS). His colleague, Mutaz Hassan, was severely wounded in the same incident.

## **JULY 9 PALESTINE**

**HAMID SHIBAB**, who worked as a driver for Media 24 agency, was killed by an Israeli rocket that hit his car when he was driving in the Gaza Strip area, according to the Palestinian Journalists' Syndicate (PJS), an IFJ affiliate.

## **JULY 11 PALESTINE**

**MOHAMMED SMERI**, the journalist who worked for Gaza Now website was killed in an Israeli war jet bombardment on Deir Albalah town, south of the Gaza Strip while he was covering the fighting, according to the Palestinian Journalists' Syndicate (PJS).

## **JULY 20 PALESTINE**

**KHALED HAMED**, the 25-year-old, who worked for Ray News Agency, was shot dead while covering Israeli military operations in the Shochaeyah Gaza neighbourhood, according to the IFJ affiliate, Palestinian Journalists' Syndicate.

## **JULY 31 PALESTINE**

**SAMEH AL-ARYAN**, **RAMI RAYAN** and **MOHAMMED ALDEIRI**, the three journalists were killed in the Israeli artillery shelling of Shojayah market which also seriously injured several journalists, according to the Palestinian Journalists' Syndicate. The incident happened when they were reporting from the scene of an initial shelling of the market when they were caught up in a second bombing.

26-year-old Sameh Al-Aryan, who worked for the Al-Aqsa TV Channel, died of the wounds he sustained in the attack which also killed 25-year-old photojournalist Rami Rayan who worked for the Palestinian Media Network. Mohammed Aldeiri, a photojournalist for the Palestinian Media

Network, was also killed during the shelling but his body was only pulled from the rubble days later on 2 August.

## **AUGUST 8 IRAQ**

**LEYLA YILDIZH**, the female journalist for the Firat News Agency, who used the pseudonym Deniz Firat, lost her life in an attack while reporting from the Maxmur refugee camp north of Mosul.

## **AUGUST 13 PALESTINE**

**KAMILI SIMON**, the 37-year-old Italian photographer, who worked for Associated Press, and 38-year-old Palestinian photographer **ALI ABUAFASH** who worked for AFP, were killed in Beit Lahya, north of the Gaza Strip. The Palestinian Journalists' Syndicate said that they were filming as Palestinian bomb disposal experts tried to dismantle an Israeli bomb when it exploded. Another Palestinian photographer, Hatem Musa, who also works for Associated Press, was seriously injured in the incident.

## **AUGUST 15 YEMEN**

**ABDULRAHMAN HAMEED ALDIN**, who worked for Sana'a Radio, was shot in the head by armed assailants in Yemen's capital city, Sana'a, the Yemeni Journalists' Syndicate (YJS), said. He was taken to hospital where he passed away the following day.

## **AUGUST 19 SYRIA**

**JAMES FOLEY**, the American freelance journalist was killed by the Islamic State (IS) militants who posted online a video footage showing his gruesome beheading. The IS said that Foley was murdered in retaliation for the US airstrikes against the jihadi group in Iraq. He had covered the conflict in Libya where he was also detained. After his release, he moved to report on the fighting in Syria for various media organisations, including the *GlobalPost* and the AFP.

## **AUGUST 25 PALESTINE**

**ADBALLAH FADEL MORTAJA**, who worked as a journalist for Al-Aqsa TV, was killed by artillery shelling while covering fighting in Shojaeyah area.





## AUGUST 26 IRAQ

**FATIMA OMAR ABDELKARIM**, the female Iraqi journalist and a member of the Iraqi Journalists' Syndicate (IJS), was killed in a terrorist blast in Baghdad, the IJS said.

## SEPTEMBER 2 SYRIA

**STEVEN SOTLOFF**, the 31-year-old seasoned reporter was killed by the so-called Islamic State (IS) which posted a video showing his murder by beheading. Sotloff was very familiar with the Middle East, having covered conflicts there for over the past decade. A native of Miami (USA), he was a highly respected freelance journalist who worked for Time magazine, *Foreign Policy* and *World Affairs*. He was seized in Syria in 2013.



*A man holds up a sign in memory of U.S. journalist James Foley during a protest against the Assad regime in Syria in Times Square in New York August 22, 2014. REUTERS/Carlo Allegri*

## OCTOBER 10 IRAQ

**RAAD MOHAMED RAMADAN AL-AZZAOUI**, the cameraman for Sama Salaheddin, a local TV channel based in Samra, east of the city of Tikrit, was killed by militants of the so-called Islamic State (IS). The Iraqi Journalists Syndicate condemned the murder of Raad who was kidnapped by the group in September 2014. AFP quoted local sources as saying that Raad was targeted because he worked for a government media and the 'jihadists' had been tipped off by local people. He was killed along with his brother and two other civilians, the sources added.

## DECEMBER 5 SYRIA

**ABDUL RAHMAN ABU BATRA**, the journalist for Syrian Al Shaab TV. was killed by the so-called IS in the city of Lattakia, North-West Syria, according to media reports.

## DECEMBER 6 YEMEN

**LUKE SOMERS**, the American photojournalist was killed in a rescue attempt by US special forces in Yemen. Somers, who worked as a journalist and photographer for Yemeni news organisations and contributed material to international news outlets, including the BBC news website, was kidnapped outside a supermarket in the Yemeni capital Sanaa in September 2013. Another hostage, South African charity worker Pierre Korkie, was also



*Students light candles during a vigil honoring U.S. journalist Steven Sotloff at the Reflection Pool on the campus of the University of Central Florida in Orlando, Florida, September 3, 2014. REUTERS/David Manning*

killed in the same incident. Reports said that both hostages were badly injured in the firefight between American soldiers and militants. Somers reportedly died while being treated on a US navy ship.

## **DECEMBER 8 SYRIA**

**RAMI ASMI** and **YUSEF EL-DOUS**, both correspondents for the Syrian opposition TV channel OrientNews, were killed along with their cameraman **SALEM KHALIL** in the south west of Syria. The channel reportedly said that the crew members were on their way to Sheikh Miskeen to report on rebel advances when their vehicle was hit by a guided missile. They had just driven past government forces in the locality of Qarfa, the channel's statement added, noting that the van "was not marked as a press vehicle but was identifiable because it was carrying a satellite dish almost 1.8m in diameter," according to media reports.

## **ACCIDENTAL DEATHS**

## **DECEMBER 10 SYRIA**

**MAHRAN AL DEIRY**, the reporter for Al Jazeera. Net was killed in the Syrian south western province of Daraa. According to Al Jazeera, al Deiry was travelling with the lights of his car off to avoid being targeted when he collided with another vehicle belonging to Syrian rebels operating in the area. Before joining Al Jazeera, al Deiry had worked for the official Syrian news agency.

*R: Journalists raise slogans during a token hunger strike outside Hyderabad Press Club against the killing of mediapersons. /PFUJ.JPG*





# INTERNATIONAL **safety** FUND

## 2014 REPORT

2014 has been another year in which solidarity with journalists and their families around the world was very much in need and the IFJ International Safety Fund provided relief to many who faced hardship. From Ukraine to Uganda, Guinea to Gaza through the Gambia, Iran to India and Colombia to the Democratic Republic of Congo, requests for assistance reflected the deepening crisis in journalism with its lot of forced exile, intimidating litigation and medical treatment following attacks or accidents.

In many of these cases, the IFJ International Safety Fund provided a lifeline to journalists by enabling them to feed their families, securing legal representation, relocating to safety and settling down in their place of refuge. In order to meet these needs, the Fund paid out over 80.000 euro during 2014, which made a real difference in the lives of beneficiaries.

In addition, the Safety Fund raised over 10.000 Euro from its affiliates who responded generously to the IFJ emergency appeal for jour-



nalists in the Gaza Strip who were affected by the war between Israel and Hamas in the summer of 2014.

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

The IFJ International Safety Fund covers the following areas of assistance:

- The IFJ Safety Fund is designed primarily to provide assistance for journalists and media staff who are injured in the line of duty, often in the so-called “hot-spots” of the world 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 case by-case limited basis to assist in legal fees for journalists/media staff that again cannot find sufficient support from their employer.
- Finally, the Safety Fund can provide immediate assistance for the families of journalists and media staff whose ‘bread-winner’ has been killed and who have no means to sustain themselves.

Whenever the IFJ gives assistance there is a monitoring and reporting process to ensure that 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 secretariat.

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 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 which may occur, and what measures

journalists can take to minimise risks. They are distributed to journalists free of charge.

When a journalist is attacked, everyone in journalism is 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 source of aid and comfort; it is also a symbol of international goodwill that encourages journalists to carry on even in times of struggle and distress.

The type of relief provided by the IFJ Safety Fund, the speed with which it can be used, and the flexibility built into the system means that it is a unique source of solidarity for journalists.

The IFJ does not try to duplicate work that is being done by others. We are in regular contact with other organisations working in the field of 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 more than one source.

Nonetheless, without the IFJ Fund, many would have gone unaided. Some may have suffered unnecessarily, others might have died.

The IFJ Safety Fund can only continue to assist journalists if its future is secured. In order to go out, money must come in. But, most importantly, it is a Fund that must provide help to those who need it most. Since the launch of the IFJ safety dedicated website, it is now possible to make secure online donations.

*Please visit <http://ifj-safety.org/en> and donate to ensure that we get the message out to those who have suffered and face a bleak future: you are not alone – the IFJ Safety fund is there to help.*

# SOLIDARITY IN ACTION

## ASIA & PACIFIC

**Cambodia:** A journalist received grant for medical treatment after he was severely beaten up by police forces while he covered protests.

**India:** The IFJ International Safety Fund supported financially the widow of a veteran journalist who died while covering floods.

## AMERICAS

**Chili:** Two Journalists who had lost all their homes in a massive fire in Valparaiso City received humanitarian assistance to help with temporary accommodation.

**Colombia:** The International Safety Fund gave financial help to the widow of a killed journalist for living expenses.

## AFRICA

**Burundi:** The Fund provided assistance for subsistence expenses to a female journalist who fled her homeland because of threats related to her work.

**Gambia:** Three journalists who escaped arrest and fled their homeland were given financial help for living expenses in exile.

### **Democratic Republic of Congo:**

The International Safety Fund provided assistance to three journalists who sought refuge in Uganda.

**Guinea Conakry:** The IFJ Safety Fund gave financial support to a journalist who found refuge in a foreign country, fearing arrest over programmes broadcast on his radio station.

**Rwanda:** The Safety Fund gave financial assistance to a woman journalist who needed help to

find her feet again after being released from jail following conviction in relation to the publications in her newspaper. Another who escaped for fear of arrest was also given financial support for living expenses in exile.

**Senegal:** Two journalists received help with living expenses while the Safety Fund contributed to cost of medical treatment for another.

**Somalia:** The IFJ International Safety Fund provided financial assistance to a journalist who needed to relocate for safety reasons. Another was given support towards medical treatment after being injured in a suicide attack from the Al-Shahab militants.

## EUROPE

**Macedonia:** The IFJ Safety Fund gave financial support to a journalist held under house arrest on a court's decision because of his investigation into a murder case, after he refused to reveal his sources.

**Ukraine:** The Fund contributed to a relief effort in favour of journalists who were caught up in the political crisis and were victims of police violence during the pro-Europe protests in Kiev.

## MIDDLE EAST

**Iran:** The Fund provided humanitarian assistance to the families of two Iranian journalists who were arrested in Tehran.

**Iraq:** A female interpreter and a widow of an Iraqi journalist received help from the Interpreters' Fund to seek safety for herself and two young children from sectarian violence in Baghdad.

**Lebanon:** The Safety Fund assisted a journalist with legal fees to defend a criminal case based on his reporting on arms smuggling in Syria.

**Yemen:** Two journalists received financial support for living expenses, after they served their jail terms in relation to the work.

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 risk awareness 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**

**W**hen people think of the **IFJ Safety Fund**, they remember to raise money for it. Hats only go round at conference 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

There are three ways to make a donation:

- Please donate to the Safety Fund on the IFJ Safety website <http://ifj-safety.org/en>
- Please send donations to the IFJ member union in your country; the money will be forwarded in a lump sum and cut the administration costs of the Fund. If there is no IFJ member,
- Please send your donation to:

## The Safety Fund

α/c BE64 2100 7857 0052

SWIFT CODE: GEBABEBB

BNP PARIBAS FORTIS BANK, Rond Point Schuman 10, 1040 Brussels

## The Safety Fund for Media Translators and Interpreters (SFMI)

α/c BE90 3630 4689 8732

SWIFT CODE: BBRU-BE-BB

ING Bank, Rond Point Schuman 8, 1040 Brussels

## For more information, please contact:

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**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:



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