

IFJ list of journalists & media staff killed in 2016

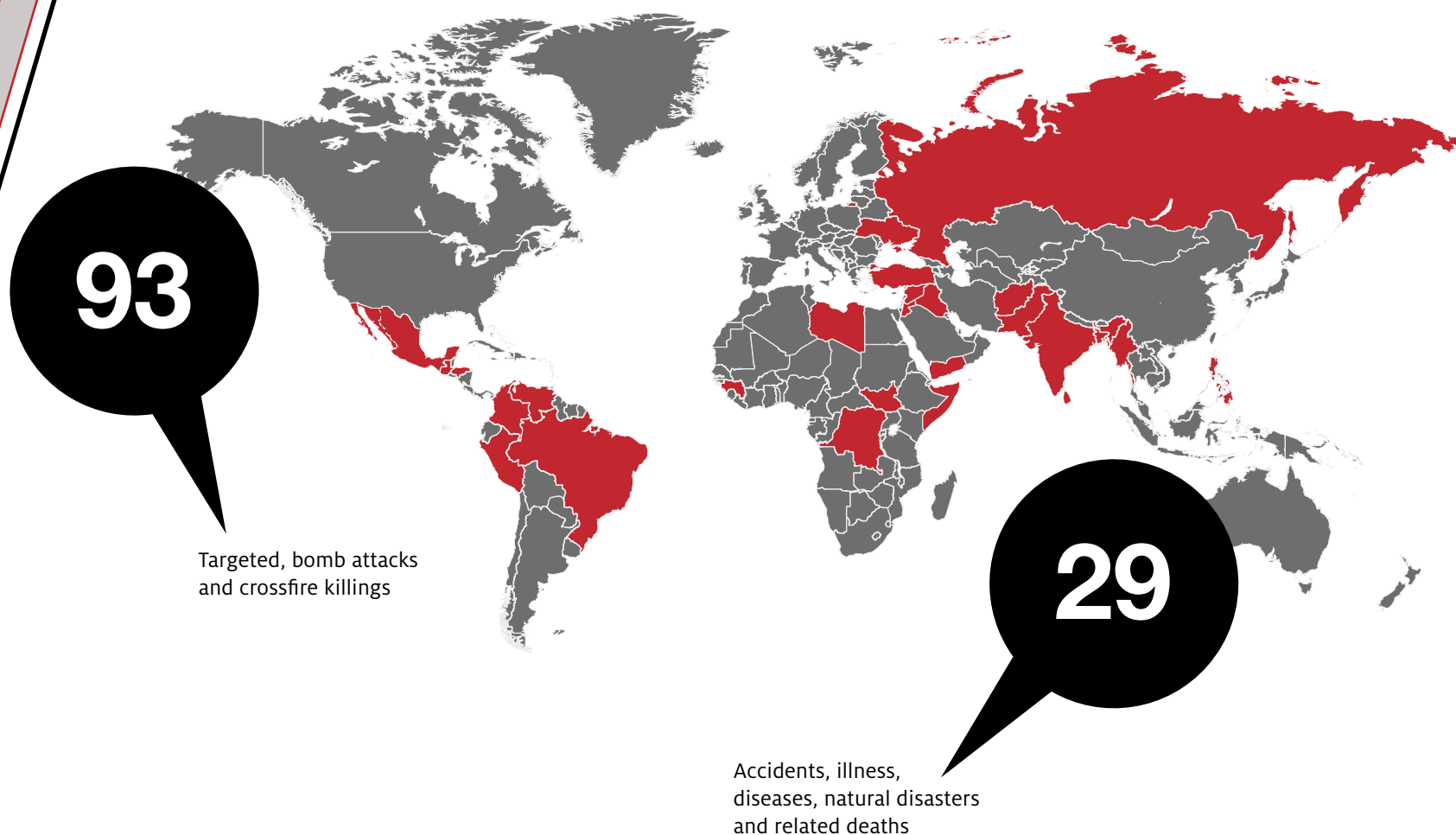
16

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CONTENTS

122 Total journalists & media staff killed in 2016





CONTENTS

General Secretary Report



ANTHONY BELLANGER
IFJ GENERAL SECRETARY

Every time a journalist is killed the IFJ publishes a story. Every story requires a quote.

Sometimes it can be hard to find the words to adequately express the horror and pain we feel at the killing of each of our colleagues. Imagine how the families and colleagues are left feeling when their loved one dies simply doing their job.

But our feelings of sympathy, of sadness are just a part of it. Too often the story ends there. Investigations don't happen. Evidence is misplaced, cover-ups and official obstruction prevent justice being done. In too many cases the killers get away with it.

The fine words of the international community or governments rarely lead to real justice being done.

We will continue to tell the stories and gather the statistic of all our fallen colleagues – those who risked their lives so that the world would be better informed.

But we won't rest there. Alongside the work of our Safety Fund in providing direct support to threatened journalists and our safety campaign which provides much needed training and advocacy work, this year we launched our *Tackling Impunity: Turning Words into Action* campaign to bring pressure to bear on the international community to tackle the impunity crisis.

The international community will point to the reduction in the number of journalists killed over the past 12 months as a sign of their success in protecting journalists. It is not. We welcome every fall in the number of our colleagues killed. But the reality is, in the absence of official action, many have resorted to self-censorship to protect their lives. The numbers of journalists threatened and jailed continues to rise.

So there is no room for complacency.

This publication should serve as both a tribute to our colleagues and all those who take the risks to shine the light in the world's darkest and most dangerous corners and a call to action for the international community and all those who care about press freedom.



CONTENTS

Lest We Forget:



MINDY RAN
CO-CHAIR, IFJ GENDER COUNCIL

A Tribute to Female Journalists and Media Staff Killed in 2016

It is our responsibility each year to bear witness, to mourn and to remember those journalists who have been slain for doing their jobs. While numbers of killings have reduced slightly in 2016, the threats to press freedom – and, therefore – to journalists' lives appear to be on the rise again. Nowhere is this more obvious than in the horrific numbers of journalists imprisoned and attacked with impunity, including female journalists.

Lest we forget, our reporting mechanisms and research on violence and attacks on women journalists are improving. We have not added this focus to demean or belittle attacks against male journalists, but simply because data on female journalists has only just been collected for the past few years. It is important to remember and to work tirelessly against these needless deaths, violence and imprisonment.

Let us never forget those sisters lost in 2016:

ZAINAB MIRZAE and **MARIAM IBRAHIMI**, dubbing artists for TOLO TV, who were killed (along with 5 other colleagues) on a bus targeted by a suicide bomber on January 20 in Afghanistan.

ANABEL FLORES SALAZAR was a reporter for *El Sol de Orizaba y El Buen Tono* in Mexico. She had been held captive in her home by armed men on 8 February, and found dead the following day, her hands tied and her body showing signs of torture. According to the Spanish News Agency EFE, she had received death threats from Los Zetas, a crime cartel, as a result of investigations against them in the newspaper.

SAGAL SALAD OSMAN, worked for the state broadcaster, Radio Mogadishu as a presenter and producer. She was shot dead in the Somalia capital Mogadishu on 5 June. The AFP quoted colleagues as saying that she was gunned down near a university by unidentified gunmen who fled.

ZAMIRA ESTHER BAUTISTA, a reporter for *El Mercurio* and *La Verdad* newspapers in the Mexican city of Victoria, was gunned down on 20 June as she was driving to work.



CONTENTS

Total 93: Targeted killings, bomb attacks and crossfire incidents

COUNTRY	NAME	POSITION	EMPLOYER	DATE
Afghanistan	Muhammad Jawad Hussaini	Video Editor	TOLO TV	20/01/16
	Zainab Mirzaee	Dubbing Artist	TOLO TV	20/01/16
	Mehri Azizi	Graphic Designer	TOLO TV	20/01/16
	Mariam Ibrahim	Dubbing Artist	TOLO TV	20/01/16
	Mohammad Ali Mohammadi	Dubbing Artist	TOLO TV	20/01/16
	Hussain Amiri		TOLO TV	20/01/16
	Mohammad Hussain	Driver	TOLO TV	20/01/16
	Haji Mohammad Zubair Khaksar	Correspondent	Nangarhar TV	29/01/16
	David Gilkey	Journalist	National Public Radio	05/06/16
	Zabihullah Tamanna	Translator		05/06/16
	Yaqub Sharafat	Reporter	Radio Television Afghanistan (RTA)	16/10/16
	Nematullah Zahir	Reporter	Ariana TV	04/11/16
	Mohammad Nasir Mudasir	Station Manager	Afghan Radio	16/12/16
Bangladesh	Zulhaz Mannan	Editor	Roopbaan	25/04/16
Brazil	Joao Valdecir de Borba	Presenter	Radio Difusora AM	10/03/16
	João Miranda do Carmo	Editor	SAD Sin Censura	24/07/16
	Maurício Campos Rosa	Photojournalist	O Grito	17/08/16
Democratic Republic of Congo	Marcel Lubala	Journalist	Radiotélévision Nationale Congolaise (RTNC)	15/11/16
Guatemala	Mario Roberto Salazar Barahona	Director	Radio Estéreo Azúcar	17/03/16
	Diego Salomón Esteban Gaspar	Staff	Radio Sembrador	30/04/16
	Víctor Hugo Valdés Cardona	TV Presenter	Chiquimula de Visión	07/06/16
	Álvaro Alfredo Aceituno López	Director	'Illusion' Radio	26/06/16
	Felipe David Munguía Jiménez	Cameraman	Canal 21	04/09/16
	Hamilton Hernández	TV Presenter	Canal 5	06/11/16
Guinea	El Hadj Mohamed Diallo	Reporter	Guinée7 and Afrik	05/02/16
Honduras	Elmer Cruz	Journalist	Tele Morazan and Max TV 22	19/06/16
	Marlon David Martínez	Radio Host	TopMusic	06/02/16



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CONTENTS

COUNTRY	NAME	POSITION	EMPLOYER	DATE
India	Tarun Mishra	Bureau Chief	Jan Sandesh Times	14/02/16
	Indradev Yadav	Journalist	Taaza TV	16/05/16
	Rajdeo Ranjan	Bureau Chief	Dainik Hindustan	13/05/16
	Kishore Dave	Bureau Chief	Jai Hind	22/08/16
	Dharmendra Singh	Correspondent	Dainik Bhaskar	12/11/16
Iraq	Saif Tallal	Correspondent	Sharqiya TV	12/01/16
	Hassan al-Anbagi	Cameraman	Sharqiya TV	12/01/16
	Wathek Abdel Wahab	Correspondent	Al Mosulia	08/02/16
	Talal Abu Iman	Technician	Iraqi Media Network	30/05/16
	Fadil al-Garaawi	Photojournalist	Freelance	15/06/16
	Ali Mahmud	Cameraman	Al-Ghadeer TV	13/07/16
	Ahmed Mohamed Al Jbouri	Freelance Journalist		13/07/16
	Wedat Hussein Ali	Reporter	Roj News Agency	13/08/16
	Mustafa Said	Cameraman	Kurdistan TV	14/08/16
	Ali Ghani	Sound Engineer	Alahad TV	20/08/16
	Nabil Mohamed	Cameraman	Mosulia TV	09/10/16
	Ahmed Al Hadidi	Sound Engineer	Mosulia TV	09/10/16
	Ahmed Hajr Oglo	Journalist	Turkmen Eli TV	21/10/16
	Ali Resan	Cameraman	Alsoumariya TV	22/10/16
	Mohammed Thabet al-Obeidi	Station Manager	Baba Gurgur	07/12/16
Jordan	Nahed Hattar	Journalist	Al-Akhbar	25/09/16
Libya	Abdelqadir Fassouk	Correspondent	Arraed television	21/07/16
	Jeroen Oerlemans	Photojournalist	Knack Magazine	02/10/16
Mayanmar	Soe Moe Tun	Reporter	Daily Eleven	13/12/16
Mexico	Marcos Hernández Bautista	Journalist	Noticias Voz	21/01/16
	Reinel Martínez Cerqueda	Journalist	El Manantial	22/01/16
	Anabel Flores Salazar	Reporter	El Sol de Orizaba y El Buen Tono	09/02/16
	Moisés Dagdug Lutzow	Director	Radial XEVX	20/02/16
	Francisco Pacheco Beltrán	Correspondent	El Sol de Acapulco and El Foro de Taxco	25/04/16
	Manuel Torres	Editor	Noticias MT	14/05/16
	Elidio Ramos Zárate	Reporter	El Sur	19/06/16
	Zamira Esther Bautista	Journalist	El Mercurioand and La Verdad	20/06/16
	Pedro Tamayo Rosas	Journalist	El Piñero de la Cuenca	20/07/16
	Aurelio Cabrera Campos	Director	El Gráfico de la Sierra	14/09/16
	Jesús Adrián Rodríguez Samaniego	Journalist	Antena 102.5	10/12/16



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CONTENTS

COUNTRY	NAME	POSITION	EMPLOYER	DATE
Pakistan	Muhammad Umar	Correspondent		16/01/16
	Mehboob Shah Afridi	Journalist	Aaj TV	19/01/16
	Khurram Zaki	Editor	Let Us Build Pakistan Website	07/05/16
	Shahzad Ahmed	Cameraman	Aaj TV	23/08/16
	Mehmood Khan	Cameraman	Dawn News	23/08/16
Peru	Hernán Choquepata Ordonez	Presenter	La Ribereña	20/11/16
Philippines	Elvis Ordaniza	Reporter	dxWO Power99 FM	16/02/16
	Alex Balcoba	Reporter	People's Brigada	27/05/16
	Larry Que	Publisher	Catadunanes News Now	19/12/16
Somalia	Sagal Salad Osman	Journalist	Radio Mogadishu	05/06/16
	Abdiasis Mohamed Ali	Journalist	Radio Shabelle	27/09/16
	Mahad Ali Mohamed	Journalist	Radio Codka Mudug	06/11/16
South Sudan	Issac Vuni	Journalist		27/09/16
Syria	Majid Diran	Photojournalist	Freelance	19/02/16
	Mohammed Zaher al-Shurqat	Journalist		12/04/16
	Khaled Issa	Photojournalist		24/06/16
	Ibrahim al-Omar	Journalist	Freelance	11/07/16
	Mustafa Mehemed	Journalist	Ronahi TV	18/07/16
	Mohsen Khazaei	Journalist	Iran's state television (IRIB)	12/11/16
Turkey	Rohat Aktaş	Editor	Azadiya Welat	24/02/16
	Mustafa Cambaz	Photojournalist	Yeni Şafak	16/07/16
Ukraine	Pavel Sheremet	Journalist	Ukrainska Pravda	20/07/16
Venezuela	Ricardo Durán	Director	Venezuela TV	19/01/16
Yemen	Almigidad Mojalli	Freelance		17/01/16
	Hashem Al Hamran	Cameraman	Al Masirah TV	22/01/16
	Ahmed Shaibani	Cameraman	Shabab TV	16/02/16
	Mohammed al-Yemeni	Cameraman	Freelance	21/03/16
	Abdullah Azizan	Journalist	Mareb Press	29/05/16
	Abdelkarim Al-Jarbani	Photojournalist	Ma'reb Press and Yemen	21/07/16
			Al-Aan	
	Mubarak al-Abadi	Correspondent	Suhail TV	05/08/16
	Awaab al Zubayrei	Journalist	Taiz News Network	18/11/16



CONTENTS

Total 29: Accidents, illness, diseases, natural disasters and related deaths

COUNTRY	NAME	POSITION	EMPLOYER	DATE
Colombia	Victorino Chermont	Journalist	Fox Sports Brasil	30/11/16
	Rodrigo Santana Gonçalves	Journalist	Fox Sports Brasil	30/11/16
	Devair Paschoalon	Journalist	Fox Sports Brasil	30/11/16
	Lilacio Pereira Jr.	Journalist	Fox Sports Brasil	30/11/16
	Paulo Clement	Journalist	Fox Sports Brasil	30/11/16
	Mario Sérgio	Journalist	Fox Sports Brasil	30/11/16
	Guilherme Marques	Journalist	Globo	30/11/16
	Ari de Araújo Jr.	Journalist	Globo	30/11/16
	Guilherme Laars	Journalist	Globo	30/11/16
	Giovane Klein Victória	Journalist	RBS	30/11/16
	Bruno Mauri da Silva	Journalist	RBS	30/11/16
	Djalma Araújo Neto	Journalist	RBS	30/11/16
	André Podiacki	Journalist	RBS	30/11/16
	Laion Espíndola	Journalist	Globo Esporte	30/11/16
	Renan Agnolin	Journalist	Radio West Capital	30/11/16
	Gelson Galiotto	Journalist	Radio Super Conda	30/11/16
	Douglas Dorneles	Journalist	Radio de Chapecó	30/11/16
	Fernando Schardong	Journalist	Rádio Chapecó	30/11/16
	Edson Ebeliny	Journalist	Rádio Super Condá	30/11/16
	Jacir Biavatti	Journalist	Rádio Vang FM	30/11/16
Russian Federation	Dmitry Runkov	Correspondent	Channel One	25/12/16
	Vadim Denisov	Cameraman	Channel One	25/12/16
	Alexander Soydov	Sound engineer	Channel One	25/12/16
	Michael Luzhetsky	Correspondent	NTV Channel	25/12/16
	Oleg Pestov	Operator	NTV Channel	25/12/16
	Eugene Tolstov	Sound engineer	NTV Channel	25/12/16
	Pavel Obukhov	Correspondent	Zvezda TV Channel	25/12/16
	Alexander Suranov	Cameraman	Zvezda TV Channel	25/12/16
	Valery Rzhevsky	Assistant Cameraman	Zvezda TV Channel	25/12/16



This list is an Interactive PDF.
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CONTENTS

Africa

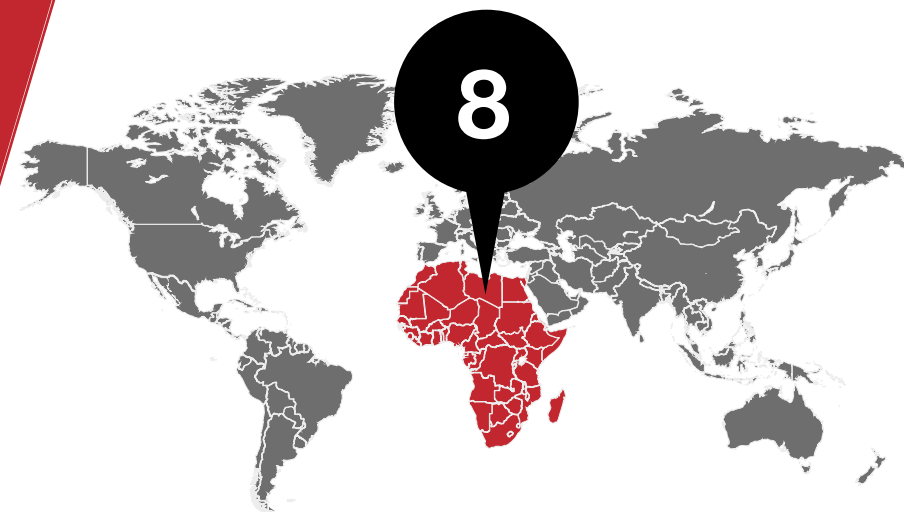


Relatives and journalists pray during the funeral of Abdiasis Ali Haji, a Somali radio journalist who was killed by unknown gunmen in Somalia's capital Mogadishu, September 28, 2016. REUTERS/Feisal Omar



CONTENTS

Africa



The Africa region witnessed a marked reduction in recorded killings of journalists and media staff, from 22 in 2015 to eight fatalities in 2016.

Somalia again tops the continent's list of the most dangerous countries for journalists with three killings, followed by Libya where two media professionals lost their lives. The other victims were from the Democratic Republic of Congo, Guinea and South Sudan.

However, this figure does not tell the whole story as there remain threats to media safety in several hot spots across Africa from political repression and violent extremism. They include forced disappearances such as that of Burundi journalist Jean Bigirimana who has been missing for months and is now widely feared killed at the hands of the regime's operatives. Many of his Burundi and South Sudanese colleagues were forced to flee their homelands out of fear of meeting the same fate.

The year was also marked by violent clampdowns on media during the elections in Uganda and Gambia, as well as serious attacks on media professionals in Kenya, while political demonstrations also resulted in attacks on journalists in the region.

Therefore, despite the single digit number of journalists and media staff killed during 2016, journalism on the African continent remains in the grip of violence, in part fuelled by the failure on the part of governments to tackle the issue of impunity. There is an urgent need to continue mobilising African journalists and their organisations with a view to engaging their governments and parliaments on redressing the situation.



CONTENTS

In this regard, there are some welcome signs of political engagement at the continental level. In its statement of 2 November 2016 to mark the UN Day against impunity for crimes targeting journalists and media staff, the African Union Commission (AUC) expressed its commitment to the safety of journalists and called on its member states to protect them, and to investigate crimes against journalists.

The African Court of Human and Peoples' Rights and the regional courts have also engaged in the fight against impunity, and shown a willingness to foster the respect of freedom of expression, safety of journalists and to end impunity.

These initiatives provide opportunities for media professionals to address the media safety crisis and the issue of impunity for violence in journalism. The IFJ and its African affiliates stand ready to continue their advocacy work on these issues and take the lead in promoting media protection in Africa.

Targeted killings, bomb attacks and crossfire incidents

FEBRUARY 5 - GUINEA

EL HADJ MOHAMED DIALLO, The reporter who worked for the news websites *Guinée7* and *Afrik* was shot and killed during clashes between rival factions of the West African nation's main opposition party, according to witnesses and the government quoted in media reports.

"He was shot at point-blank range. I'm here next to the body at the morgue right now," said Ibrahima Sory Traoré, publishing director of *Guinée7.com* for which Diallo worked. Reports said El Hadj Mohamed Diallo was killed at the headquarters of the Union of Democratic Forces of Guinea (UFDG) in the capital Conakry during violence which broke out after one member, who had been excluded from the party, attempted to force his way in with his supporters to attend a leadership meeting.

It was not immediately clear who killed Diallo, though some witnesses said the shot was fired by a UFDG member involved in the clashes, reports added. In a statement later, the government confirmed it was opening an investigation for voluntary homicide.

JUNE 5 - SOMALIA

SAGAL SALAD OSMAN, the female journalist who worked for the state broadcaster, Radio Mogadishu, was shot dead in the Somali capital, the French news agency AFP, reported quoting the victim's colleagues.

AFP quoted colleagues of Sagal Salad Osman, a presenter and producer at Radio Mogadishu, as saying that she was gunned down near a university in Hodon district by unidentified gunmen who then fled afterwards.

JULY 21 - LIBYA

ABDELQADIR FASSOUK, the 28-year-old correspondent for Arraed television was killed whilst filming forces allied with the government as they circled Islamic State bases on the outskirts of the Libyan coastal city of Sirte, according to media reports. He was shot in the head and died instantly.



CONTENTS

SEPTEMBER 27 - SOMALIA

ABDIASIS MOHAMED ALI, the reporter with Radio Shabelle, was shot five times in the chest and the neck by two gunmen in the capital Mogadishu, according to the National Union of Somali Journalists (NUSOJ), an IFJ affiliate. The attack took place in the Jiiro-garoob neighbourhood of Yaqshid district in northern Mogadishu as the journalist left the radio station.

SEPTEMBER 27 - SOUTH SUDAN

ISSAC VUNI, the veteran South Sudanese journalist who went missing with his brother in June, after unknown gunmen took them from his home, was found dead in a neighbour's farm in his village.

According to reports published by the *Sudan Tribune*, Vuni's wife confirmed that "he was kidnapped in June at gunpoint and never returned home."

OCTOBER 2 - LIBYA

JEROEN OERLEMANS, the Dutch photographer was killed by sniper fire after being shot in the chest while covering clashes in the Libyan coastal city of Sirte between the so-called Islamic State (IS) and government forces.

According to media reports, the photographer was working for a number of news organisations, including the Belgian weekly *Knack* magazine.

NOVEMBER 6 - SOMALIA

MAHAD ALI MOHAMED, the journalist for Radio Codka Mudug (Voice of Mudug Radio) was seriously wounded in the head after a stray bullet hit him as he was leaving his house for work, according to NUSOJ. He was rushed to Galkayo Hospital where he was pronounced dead.

NOVEMBER 15 - DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO

MARCEL LUBALA, the reporter for the state-TV, Radiotélévision Nationale Congolaise (RTNC) was killed in Mbuji-Mayi, the third largest city of the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). Reports said that armed men forced their way into his home in the early hours of the morning as he slept with his family. He was shot several times as he tried to escape. His murder was believed to have been a targeted killing as his killers first called out his name before breaking down his hosedoor. They also reportedly shouted "we finally got him", after killing him.

Marcel, who presented a programme on hygiene and environment, had worked at the RTNC for 15 years. The authorities announced an investigation into his killing and five people had been arrested in relation to the murder.



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Navigate using your mouse.

CONTENTS

Americas

A woman takes photos of images of murdered journalists during a demonstration against the murder of a journalist, Anabel Flores outside the Government of Veracruz building in Mexico City, 11 February, 2016. A Mexican journalist was kidnapped in the violent state of Veracruz and found dead on 9 February, 2016, the prosecutors' office in neighboring Puebla state said, the latest victim of a wave of attacks on reporters in the country. Anabel Flores had been violently dragged from her home in Veracruz early on Monday morning by a group of armed men. Her body was found on a highway in Puebla and later identified by her family, Veracruz prosecutors said. REUTERS/Edgard Garrido TPX IMAGES OF THE DAY



CONTENTS

Americas



With the tally of 44 journalists killed in 2016, the situation of journalists' safety in the Americas is a story of two tales.

The death toll is bloated by the 20 Brazilian media professionals who lost their lives in the tragic plane crash near the town of Medellin in Colombia. But the fact that even more journalists and media staff died in violent incidents speaks to the prevailing media safety crisis in the region.

While there was a decrease in killings of journalists from last year in countries like Colombia and Honduras, the levels of violence rose in others such as Mexico and Guatemala. Furthermore, the spectre of deadly violence in journalism spread to Peru and Venezuela, raising new fears for the safety of our colleagues in more parts of the region.

Most of the killings occurred in countries with an environment characterized by systematic abuse of power blamed on security forces as well as by the criminal gangs and drug traffickers' entrenched reign of violence in Latin America and the Caribbean. Indeed, the decrease in attacks on journalists and media staff is only due to the fact that journalists in some countries resort to self-censorship and are forced into exile to stay out of trouble and spare their lives.

These phenomena take place within an environment of exclusion, inequality and the consequent rupture of the social fabric.



CONTENTS

This panorama, in addition to the lack of political will to prevent, investigate and punish attacks on journalists and other media staff, conjures up a gloomy picture for independent and safe journalism in the region. It creates the perfect storm where impunity holds sway and contributes to further violence and severely threatens the right to freedom of expression and access to the information of society as a whole.

Faced with this desperate situation, journalists and other media staff in the Americas look to the International Federation of Journalists and its affiliates in the region, to lead the fight against impunity for crimes against media professionals.

Targeted killings, bomb attacks and crossfire incidents

JANUARY 20 - VENEZUELA

RICARDO DURÁN, the Director of Venezuela TV and a member of the journalists' organisation in Venezuela the Sindicato Nacional de Trabajadores de la Prensa (SNTP), was killed outside his home by people who have not been identified.

JANUARY 21 - MEXICO

MARCOS HERNÁNDEZ BAUTISTA, the journalist who worked for *Noticias Voz* in Oaxaca, was found dead near his car with a gunshot wound in the town of San Andrés Huaxpaltepec.

Bautista reported on the precarious situations of community and indigenous radio stations in the region. In particular, he had covered the closing down of a cultural radio station for the indigenous community, XEJAM by the National Commission for the development of indigenous people. Furthermore, the journalist had spoken of fear in his newsroom as a result of their reporting on local and national politics.

JANUARY 22 - MEXICO

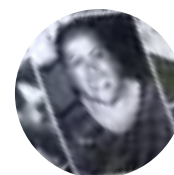
REINEL MARTÍNEZ CERQUEDA, the 43-year-old media worker for the community radio El Manantial was shot dead by unidentified gunmen in the municipality of Santiago Laollaga, Oaxaca state. According to media reports, the journalist's colleague said that the killing was in connection with the victim's professional activity.

FEBRUARY 06 - HONDURAS

MARLON DAVID MARTÍNEZ, the host at TopMusic, part of of Invosa Group which also owns Radio Cadena Voices (RCV) and Love 98 Radio, was shot dead alongside three friends by unidentified gunmen in San Pedro Sula. Martinez, also known as El Socio was known for his comments and strong views about local politics. On the day of the shooting, Martinez had spoken out against the appointment of a Supreme Court judge following a secret vote, demanding transparency in the process to appoint judges to ensure the independence of the judiciary, according to the RCV news Director.

FEBRUARY 09 - MEXICO

ANABEL FLORES SALAZAR, the reporter for *El Sol de Orizaba y El Buen Tono* who was held captive in her home by armed men on 8 February, was found dead the following day with her hands tied and her body showing signs of torture. According to the Spanish News Agency EFE, staff at the El Bueno Tono had reported death threats from the crime cartel called Los Zetas because of the investigations reported in the newspaper. *Credit: REUTERS/Edgard Garrido*



FEBRUARY 20 - MEXICO

MOISÉS DAGDUG LUTZOW, the Director of the radio programme La Grande de Tabasco on Radio XEVX since 1980, was gunned down at his home by unidentified attackers. The 65-year-old media executive and former Member of Parliament had reported receiving death threats over his criticism of the federal government in the state of Tabasco.

MARCH 10 - BRAZIL

JOAO VALDECIR DE BORBA, the 51-year-old presenter at Radio Difusora AM in Sao Jorge do Oeste, a town in the southern state of Parana around 140 kilometers (87 miles) from the border with Argentina, was shot dead by gunmen live on air. In a statement, the station said that the attackers had knocked on the door and been allowed in before shooting Joao Valdecir de Borba in the abdomen after locking one of the presenter's colleagues in the restroom. The suspects subsequently fled in a dark-colored Fiat Strada, according to witnesses quoted in the local daily Gazeta do Povo. The journalist had worked at Radio Difusora AM for a decade, where he hosted several music programs, according to the station's statement.



CONTENTS

MARCH 17 - GUATEMALA

MARIO ROBERTO SALAZAR BARAHONA, the 32-year-old Director of Radio Estéreo Azúcar was shot dead in Asunción Mita, located in southern Jutiapa Department. Gunmen on a motorbike opened fire on the journalist as he was sitting in his car.

APRIL 25 - MEXICO

FRANCISCO PACHECO BELTRÁN, the correspondent of *El Sol de Acapulco* and columnist of *El Foro de Taxco* newspapers was shot dead outside his home in Taxco, a town of Guerrero state, one of the most dangerous areas in Mexico. While he had not reported any threats in recent days, it is believed that Beltrán was investigating corruption and insecurity in his city.

APRIL 30 - GUATEMALA

DIEGO SALOMÓN ESTEBAN GASPAR, the 22-year-old staff of Radio Sembrador, a community radio in Playa Grande, was murdered by gunmen as he was riding his motorbike. The radio station had been receiving threats since 2015.

MAY 14 - MEXICO

MANUEL TORRES, the editor and founder of the web site *Noticias MT* was killed by a single gunshot in the head in Poza Rica, located in the state of Veracruz. Reports said that Torres had previously contributed to Azteca Veracruz TV, the local newspaper *Noreste* as well as to another news website Radiover de Xalapa.

JUNE 07 - GUATEMALA

VÍCTOR HUGO VALDÉS CARDONA, the 65-year-old veteran TV presenter at Chiquimula de Visión was shot and killed by people on a motorbike near his home in the municipality of Chiquimula, in the east of the country while he was out exercising.

JUNE 19 - MEXICO

ELIDIO RAMOS ZÁRATE, the reporter for *El Sur* newspaper was murdered in the state of Oaxaca while covering teachers' protests against the education reform in the state, according to the Federation of Journalists in Latin America and Caribbean (FEPALC).

The journalist had reportedly received threats, warning him against reporting on violent incidents during days of mobilisation in Oaxaca state, Fepalc added, quoting the *El Sur's* Managing Editor.

JUNE 19 - HONDURAS

ELMER CRUZ, the body of the journalist who worked as a presenter for Tele Morazan 10 and Max TV 22 was found in the municipality of Morazan in the north of country. His belongings were left intact, removing robbery as a motive.

JUNE 20 - MEXICO

ZAMIRA ESTHER BAUTISTA, the female reporter for *El Mercurio* and *La Verdad* newspapers in the Mexican city of Victoria, Tamaulipas state, was gunned down in the morning as she was driving to work. She became the second Mexican journalist killed in as many days following the murder of journalist Elido Ramos Zárate on 19 June.

According to the Federation of Journalists in Latin America and Caribbean (FEPALC), 15 journalists have been killed and 17 others disappeared in the state of Tamaulipas since 2010.

JUNE 26 - GUATEMALA

ÁLVARO ALFREDO ACEITUNO LÓPEZ, the Director of a local radio 'Illusion' was gunned down in the municipality of Coatepeque located in the Department of Quetzaltenango. According to media reports quoting eye witnesses, the journalist was shot dead by unidentified gunmen on a motorbike who opened fire on him a few meters from his home as he was waiting for a bus. He was hit in the head and taken to hospital where he was pronounced dead.

Media organisations in Guatemala condemned the targeted killing of López, who also presented a programme called "Acontecer Coatepecano" which discussed various issues including health, security, education and justice.

JULY 20 - MEXICO

PEDRO TAMAYO ROSAS, the journalist for *El Piñero de la Cuenca* newspaper and *Al Calor Político* website was gunned down on the doorstep of his home at night as he was with his family. Since January 2016, Rosas who was known for his reporting on violence in the locality of Tierra Blanca in his native state of Veracruz, had received numerous threats from drug lords and was granted police protection.



CONTENTS

JULY 24 - BRAZIL

JOÃO MIRANDA DO CARMO, the editor of *SAD Sin Censura*, an online media outlet, was shot dead in Santo Antônio do Descoberto in an attack colleagues believed was linked to his reporting on local administration. The authorities subsequently arrested a suspect named Rooney da Silva Moraes who is accused of having shot the journalist several times.

AUGUST 17 - BRAZIL

MAURÍCIO CAMPOS ROSA, the 64-year-old veteran photo-journalist who had worked for various news outlets in Brazil and published in *O Grito* magazine for the last two decades, was shot five times in the back as he was walking to his car after leaving a friend's house in Santa Luzia, a district of Belo Horizonte, the capital city of the Minas Gerais state. He was taken to hospital that evening but died shortly before midnight.

SEPTEMBER 04 - GUATEMALA

FELIPE DAVID MUNGUÍA JIMÉNEZ, the 35-year-old cameraman for Canal 21 was gunned down in the municipality of Santa Maria Xalapán, Jalapa Department. The victim was shot near a community assembly where he was a participant.

Jiménez had received death threats one day before the shooting. The police arrested Raúl Antonio Jiménez Cruz, who had been released from prison after serving ten years for another murder, as a suspect in the media worker's killing.

SEPTEMBER 14 - MEXICO

AURELIO CABRERA CAMPOS, the Director of *El Gráfico de la Sierra*, a regional weekly, was killed in the municipality of Huauchinango, Puebla State after being shot several times while he was driving his car. He was taken to hospital for treatment but died shortly afterwards. The 56-year-old covered crime in La Sierra Norte, focusing on abductions and homicides.

The authorities claimed the killing may be linked to personal problems but the General Secretary of the Sindicato Nacional de Redactores de Prensa (SNRP), an IFJ affiliate, accused the federal, state and local officials of trying to dismiss the journalistic activity of the victim as the prime motive for the crime.

NOVEMBER 06 - GUATEMALA

HAMILTON HERNÁNDEZ, the 28-year-old TV presenter at Canal 5 of the show called Punto Rojo, was shot dead with his wife in the city of Coatepeque, south west of Guatemala. Unidentified gunmen opened fire on the couple who were riding a motorbike.

NOVEMBER 20 - PERU

HERNÁN CHOQUEPATA ORDONEZ, the radio presented for La Ribereña, also known by his pseudonym 'Randy' was attacked by unidentified assailants during the show he hosted called "Hablan los pueblos" (The villages speak) in the province of Camana, Peru. He suffered severe head injuries and was taken to hospital but died before arriving there. The journalist and his colleagues, who were often critical of the local authorities, had been receiving threats for more than a month and had reported them to the security authorities.

DECEMBER 10 - MEXICO

JESÚS ADRIÁN RODRÍGUEZ SAMANIEGO, the journalist for a local radio was shot dead outside his home in the Mexican district of Chihuahua. According to media reports, Samaniego worked in his station's political service and at times was a crime reporter, investigating drug trafficking. His last investigations on record concerned the alleged torture of two indigenous brothers who were accused of attacking a governmental caravan in 2009.



CONTENTS

Accidents

November 30 - COLOMBIA

20 sport journalists from Brazil were among the 75 victims of the ill-fated plane carrying the players of the Brazilian football team Chapecoense which crashed near the Colombian city of Medellin. Chapecoense was flying to Colombia to play the final match of Copa Sur Americana against Atlético Nacional de Colombia. The plane took off in Sao Paulo, stopped in Bolivia on the way to its final destination in Medellin. The journalists who died in the plane crash are:

VICTORINO CHERMONT (Fox Sports Brasil), RODRIGO SANTANA GONÇALVES (Fox Sports Brasil), DEVAIR PASCHOALON (Fox Sports Brasil), LILACIO PEREIRA JR. (Fox Sports Brasil), PAULO CLEMENT (Fox Sports Brasil), MARIO SERGIO (Fox Sports Brasil), GUILHERME MARQUES (Globo), ARI DE ARAÚJO JR. (Globo), GUILHERME LAARS (Globo), GIOVANE KLEIN VICTÓRIA (RBS), BRUNO MAURI DA SILVA (RBS), DJALMA ARAÚJO NETO (RBS), ANDRÉ PODIACKI (RBS), LAION ESPÍNDOLA (Globo Esporte), RENAN AGNOLIN (Radio West Capital), GELSON GALIOTTO (Radio Super Conda), DOUGLAS DORNELES (Radio de Chapecó), FERNANDO SCHARDONG (Rádio Chapecó), EDSON EBELINY (Rádio Super Condá) and JACIR BIAVATTI (Rádio Vang FM).

According to reports, there were six survivors, journalist Rafael Henzel of Radio Oeste, three football players and two members of the crew.

Credits: (top to bottom)

Football Soccer - 2017 Copa Libertadores draw - CONMEBOL headquarters, Luque, Paraguay - 21/12/2016. Video showing journalist Guilherme van der Laars, one of the victims of the plane crash that killed members of Brazil's Chapecoense team, is screened before the draw. REUTERS/Jorge Adorno

Relatives of Brazilian journalist Guilherme Marques, who died in a plane accident that crashed into Colombian jungle with Brazilian soccer team Chapecoense onboard near Medellin, mourn during a mass in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, November 29, 2016. REUTERS/Pilar Olivares

Funeral workers place ribbons with names on the coffins holding the remains of the victims who died in an accident of the plane that crashed into the Colombian jungle with Brazilian soccer team Chapecoense onboard, in Medellin, Colombia December 1, 2016. REUTERS/Jaime Saldarriaga





This list is an Interactive PDF.
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CONTENTS

Asia-Pacific

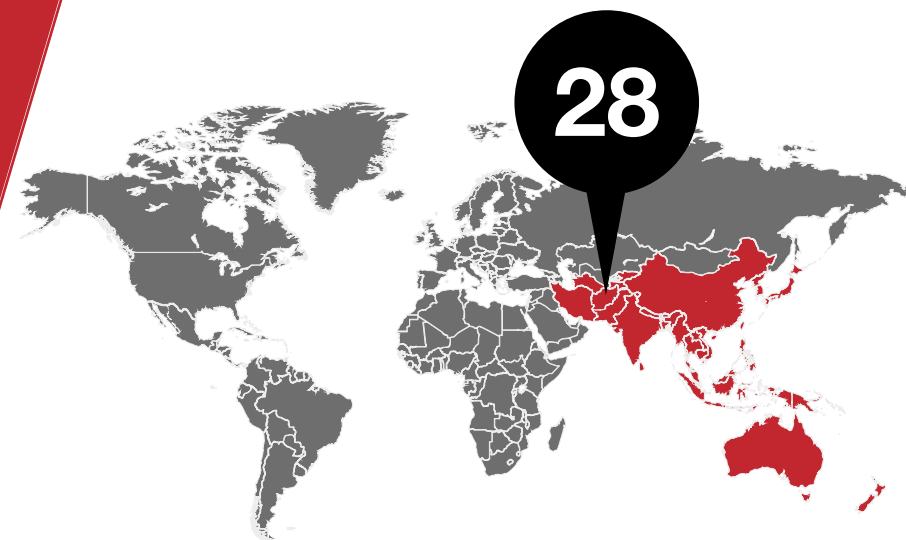


Afghans take part in a burial ceremony of Afghan journalist Zabihullah Tamanna, in Kabul, Afghanistan June 7, 2016. REUTERS/Omar Sobhani



CONTENTS

Asia-Pacific



A look across the IFJ's map of media workers killed around the world in 2016 shows a deadly pall over South Asia – barely a country in this challenged sub-region remains untouched from the loss of one of our own by targeted attacks or suicide bombs.

In the last two years, the IFJ Asia-Pacific cautiously noted a marked reduction in media killings in Pakistan where all too many people have lost their lives covering “breaking news” bombing scenarios and for simply doing their jobs. But while actions in Pakistan to tackle journalist fatalities and shocking impunity levels finally seem to be making some difference to stem the tide, the situation in neighbouring Afghanistan and India shows a worrying trajectory.

In Afghanistan, it was a brutal year from the outset which began with the loss of seven media workers from Tolo TV in a grisly suicide bomb attack on their transport van as they left work on January 20. The incident followed sustained threats by the Taliban on the news outlet for its media coverage of the Taliban takeover of Kunduz the year before. Another 25 civilians were wounded in the same attack.

Sadly, more deaths followed: Afghanistan is now our region's frontline. By the year's end, 13 journalists and media workers were dead and the country is now ranked second in the IFJ figures as the most dangerous for journalists globally, after Iraq.



CONTENTS

Across the Asia Pacific region, 28 journalists and media workers lost their lives to their profession in 2016 – accounting for a quarter of all media deaths recorded by the IFJ globally in the year. Most were gunned down in direct attacks. Many of them were reporting on the toughest issues: illegal mining and forestry, corruption, black market activities, political and criminal mafia operations.

What is becoming clear in the case of India is that despite being the world's biggest democracy, freedom of expression and critical reporting increasingly has a murderous price. Five more media killings were recorded in 2016, taking the total death count to 40 in the last five years alone – most of them murders.

In November, the Asia-Pacific affiliates issued a statement to the Indian government, calling for the immediate enactment of a Journalists' Protection Act at the national level and other mechanisms to address the suffering of families of slain and attacked journalists.

The reopening of investigations into murdered Sri Lankan editor Lasantha Wikremetunge and convictions in the murders of Ayub Khattak in Pakistan and Desiderio Camangyan in the Philippines were hard-fought wins achieved in 2016 and should not go without mention.

But as long as these are the exception rather than the rule and we continue to lose a journalist to murder every 13 days, then we still have the greatest challenges before us.



Photo: Tolo Employees

Targeted killings, bomb attacks and crossfire incidents

JANUARY 16 - PAKISTAN

MUHAMMAD UMAR, the correspondent for a local newspaper was shot dead by unidentified gunmen near Niazi Chowk, Dera Ismail Khan, a town in Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa province. Umar sustained critical injuries and died on arrival at the District Headquarters Hospital.

JANUARY 19 - PAKISTAN

MEHBOOB SHAH AFRIDI, the 33-year-old Aaj TV journalist was killed in a suicide bomb attack on the outskirts of Peshawar at the Jamrud Check Point, in Khyber area. The blast also killed at least a dozen others at the scene. *Credit: PFUJ*



JANUARY 20 - AFGHANISTAN

According to reports, seven members of Kaboora Production, which produces content for TOLO TV, Lemar TV, Arman FM, Arakozia FM and TOLO News of the MOBY Media Group, were killed when their bus was targeted in a bomb attack in south western Kabul. Reports said that a suicide bomber rammed a motorcycle into the bus before detonating a bomb. The victims included: **MOHAMMAD JAWAD HUSSAINI**, video editor, **ZAINAB MIRZAE**, dubbing artist, **MEHRI AZIZI**, graphic designer, **MARIAM IBRAHIMI**, dubbing artist, **MOHAMMAD ALI MOHAMMADI**, dubbing artist, **HUSSAIN AMIRI**, and **MOHAMMAD HUSSAIN**, who was driving the vehicle. 25 civilians were also reportedly wounded in the attack.

The Taliban claimed responsibility for the attack. They had previously threatened TOLO TV in October 2015 saying they no longer considered TOLO TV as a media outlet but a military target. "No employee, anchor, office, news team and reporter of these TV channels holds any immunity," the group said.

JANUARY 19 - AFGHANISTAN

Haji Mohammad Zubair Khaksar, the correspondent for the government-run Nangarhar TV and Radio network, in the Afghan district of Surkhrod, was shot dead by unidentified assailants as he was returning home from a private gathering. According to reports, Khaksar had received threats from Daesh.



CONTENTS

FEBRUARY 14 - INDIA

TARUN MISHRA, the bureau chief of the *Jan Sandesh Times*, a Hindi newspaper in Sultanpur, in eastern Uttar Pradesh, was driving to Sultanpur with his uncle when two unidentified people on a motorcycle stopped the car and opened fire. Mishra was rushed to hospital but died on the way. According to the Uttar Pradesh journalists' union, Mishra was potentially targeted for his writings about illegal market activities in Uttar Pradesh, sometimes referred to as the 'mud mafia'.

FEBRUARY 16 - PHILIPPINES

ELVIS ORDANIZA, the 49-year-old reporter for radio station dxWO Power99 FM was killed when he was shot twice in the chest at his home in Zamboanga del Sur as he was preparing dinner. He was rushed to hospital but died on arrival. According to Ordaniza's colleagues, he had been reporting about the problem of illegal drugs and gambling in the town of Pitogo where he worked. *Credit: NUJP*



APRIL 25 - BANGLADESH

ZULHAZ MANNAN, the 40 year-old editor of Bangladesh's first LGBTIQ magazine *Roopbaan* and local staffer of USAID, was hacked to death along with his friend, Tanay Fahim, at his residence in Dhaka's Kalabagan area. Both victims were well-known LGBTIQ activists in Bangladesh. Mannan and Fahim were attacked by a gang of six men posing as couriers. Mannan had received a number of threats online from radical Islamists in the lead up to the third annual Rainbow Rally, which was to be held on Bengali New Year.

MAY 07 - PAKISTAN

KHURRAM ZAKI, the 40-year-old editor of the website *Let Us Build Pakistan* was gunned down in a restaurant in Karachi by four unidentified gunmen riding motorcycles. Zaki's friend, who he was having dinner with, and an innocent bystander were also injured in the attack.



The website *Let Us Build Pakistan* promotes "a progressive, inclusive and democratic Pakistan." Previously, Zaki had worked as current affairs editor for News One TV and was responsible for infotainment and religious programming. *Credit: Zaki_Twitter*

MAY 12 - INDIA

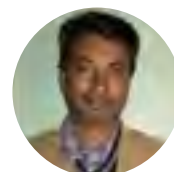
INDRADEV YADAV, the 35-year-old television journalist based in Chatra of Jharkhand state was shot dead by unidentified people near his home while he was on his motorcycle. The assailants fired at least five shots, two of which hit him killing him immediately.



Yadav, also known as Akhilesh Pratap Yadav, was the local correspondent for Taaza TV, a Hindi news channel based in Kolkata. Originally from Bihar state, Yadav had settled down in Jharkhand working as a journalist for five years and was known for his critical reporting on corruption. He is survived by his wife and two children. *Credit: IUJ*

MAY 15 - INDIA

RAJDEO RANJAN, the Bureau Chief of *Dainik Hindustan* was gunned down in Siwan, Bihar. The Indian Journalists Union (IJU), an IFJ affiliate, said that the journalist was killed as a result of his work exposing corruption and criminal activities of "political and criminal" mafia groups.



Rajdeo Ranjan was vice-president of the Siwan District Unit of the Bihar Working Journalists Union (BWJU) which is affiliated to the IJU. He had previously been attacked in 2005 in an assault on his newsroom. The shootings took the toll of murders of journalists in India to eight in the past year and to more than 100 in the last two decades. *Credit: IUJ*

MAY 27 - PHILIPPINES

ALEX BALCOBA, the 56-year-old reporter for the *People's Brigada* was shot dead outside a watch repair shop owned by his family in Manilla. According to reports, the gunmen walked towards Balcoba and shot him in the head before fleeing on a waiting motorcycle. Balcoba was rushed to a local hospital, but was declared dead on arrival.



Balcoba was a veteran journalist, who had covered the local crime and police beat since the 1990s. According to IFJ figures, he was the second journalist to be killed in that year, and the 42nd journalist killed under former President Benigno Aquino's six-year presidency. The NUJP said Aquino's presidency had been the deadliest period for journalists in the Philippines' history. *Credit: REUTERS/Romeo Ranoco*



CONTENTS

JUNE 05 - AFGHANISTAN

DAVID GILKEY, ZABIHULLAH TAMANNA, the award-winning American journalist and his 38-year-old Afghan translator Zabihullah Tamanna were killed while traveling with an Afghan army unit that came under fire in southern Helmand province.



The National Public Radio (NPR) for which Gilkey worked said that the vehicle the journalist and his translator were traveling in was struck by shellfire near the town of Marjah, according to AFP. Two other National Public Radio journalists traveling with Gilkey in a separate vehicle, reporter Tom Bowman and producer Monika Evstatieva, were unharmed.
DG - Credit: Phillips_The Wall Street Journal / ZT - Credit: Monika Evstatieva / NPR via AP

AUGUST 22 - INDIA

KISHORE DAVE, the bureau chief of *Jai Hind*, a local vernacular daily at Junagadh in Gujarat, eastern India, was murdered in his office by unidentified assailants. Dave was attacked as he was filing a report, stabbed multiple times in the chest. He was alone at the time of the murder and was found later by an office assistant. Police arrested three people in connection with the murder which was the fourth media killing in India during 2016. *Credit: IUJ*



AUGUST 23 - PAKISTAN

MEHMOOD KHAN and **SHEHZAD AHMED**, both cameramen, were among at least 70 people killed in a bomb blast at a civil hospital in Quetta, the capital of Balochistan province of Pakistan.

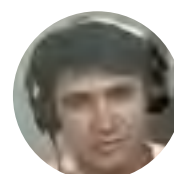


The blast went off at the gate of the hospital during the mourning of Bilal Anwar Kasi, the President of the Baluchistan Bar Association, who had been shot dead earlier in the day. 30-year-old Shahzad Ahmed, a cameraman with Aaj TV and 26-year-old year old Dawn News cameraman Mahmood Khan were at the hospital to cover the event. Another reporter for Dunya News, Fareed Ullah, was seriously injured. *Credit: PFUJ*



OCTOBER 16 - AFGHANISTAN

YAQUB SHARAFAT, the senior provincial reporter for the state-run Radio Television Afghanistan (RTA) was shot dead by unknown armed men in Rasala area of the provincial capital Qalat, Zabul province. He sustained serious gunshot injuries and died on the way to the hospital. The police began investigations but is yet to arrest anyone. No group has claimed responsibility for the killing. *Credit: AIJA*



NOVEMBER 04 - AFGHANISTAN

NEMATULLAH ZAHIR, the local reporter for Kabul-based Ariana TV, was killed in a bomb blast when he was on a reporting trip with two other colleagues near Lashkargah city. AIJA Helmand president Zainullah Stanekzai and a reporter of Zwandon TV survived the explosion.



Stanikzai reportedly said: "We were on our way to the 2nd police district where fighting was underway when the vehicle we were traveling in hit a roadside bomb. One reporter was killed another wounded and the blast left an impact on me as well." *Credit: AIJA*

NOVEMBER 12 - INDIA

DHARMENDRA SINGH, the 35-year-old correspondent from Hindi daily *Dainik Bhaskar* at Rohtas in Bihar was shot by three unidentified gunmen on motorbikes who opened fire on him at point-blank range while he was drinking tea at a stall near his home in Sasaram. He was hit in the stomach and died on the way to hospital. His colleagues believe the incident may be linked to his reporting on illegal stone mining. His murder, six months after the killing of Rajdeo Ranjan in May which is being investigated by the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI), throws a spotlight on the abysmal law and order situation in Bihar.

DECEMBER 13 - BURMA (MYANMAR)

SOE MOE TUN, the 35-year-old crime reporter with *Daily Eleven* was found dead on the side of the road in Monywa, in northwestern Sagaing. The journalist was found with facial and head injuries, indicating murder. Soe was reporting on illegal logging in Sagaing at the time of his death.



CONTENTS

DECEMBER 19 - PHILIPPINES

LARRY QUE, the publisher of Catadunanes News Now was shot in the head as he was entering his offices, in Virac, Catadunanes, in central Philippines. He died from his injuries the following day in hospital. Que's murder came after he published his column, which criticised local officials over their alleged negligence in allowing the setting up on the island-province of a recently raided shabu laboratory that authorities claimed was the "biggest" so far discovered in the country.



According to the NUJP, a second journalist, broadcaster Jinky Tabor, who was a witness to the raids that discovered the lab also received death threats. *Credit: NUJP*

DECEMBER 16 - AFGHANISTAN

MOHAMMAD NASIR MUDASI, the 53-year-old station manager and senior program organiser for Mili Payam (National Message) Afghan radio station in MuhammedAgha District of Logar Province in southern Kabul, was gunned down by two unidentified gun men as he was leaving his workplace. Mudasir, founding member of the Afghan Independent Journalists Association (AIJA), died on the spot. According to the AIJA, Mudasir and other workers at the station had received persistent threats over the past two years. *Photo: Funeral of Madasi*

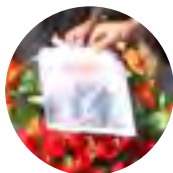
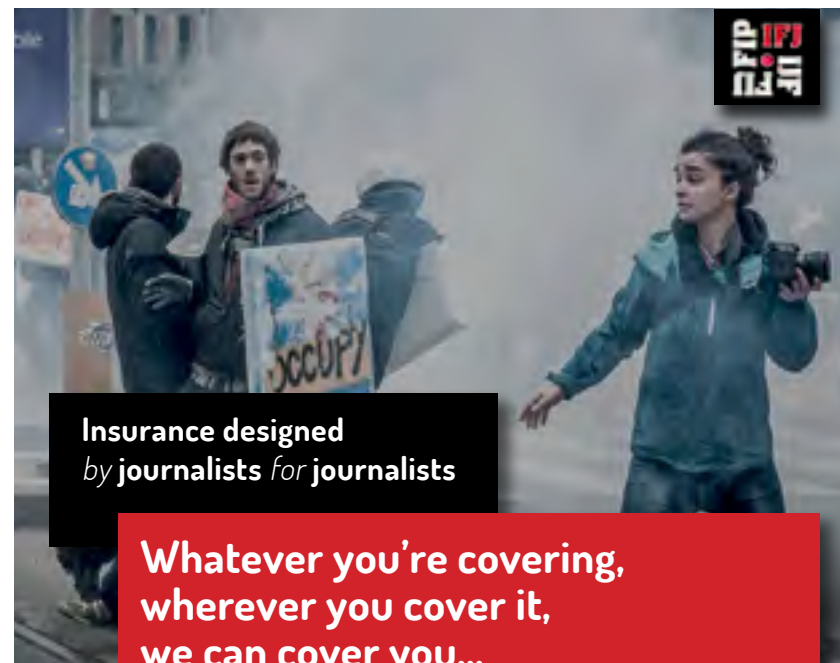


Photo: Funeral of Madasi



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CONTENTS

Europe

People place candles in memory of passengers and crew members of Russian military Tu-154 plane, which crashed into the Black Sea, at the Russian embassy in Minsk, Belarus December 25, 2016. REUTERS/Vasily Fedosenko



CONTENTS

Europe



European journalists are still reeling from the carnage which decimated the newsroom of the satirical weekly *“Charlie Hebdo”* in 2015.

Many are still haunted by the trauma of that dark year in which 16 journalists lost their lives in the exercise of their profession. Fortunately, 2016 proved to be much less deadly: only three journalists were killed on the European continent.

Rohat Aktas was killed in Turkey while covering fighting between the Turkish army and Kurdish separatists in south-eastern Anatolia. Press photographer Mustafa Cambaz, was a victim of the violence which followed the failed military putsch in Istanbul. Prominent Belarusian journalist Pavel Sheremet was murdered in a cowardly way in a car bomb explosion in Ukraine.

At the European level, the fight against impunity for crimes committed against journalists remains a priority. Thanks to new initiatives, we are now able to keep a record of all forms of violence targeting journalists and to engage the relevant authorities on measures needed to ensure media protection. Since April 2015, the International and European Federations of Journalists (IFJ and EFJ) have been partners of the Council of Europe’s Online Platform for the Promotion of Journalism and the Safety of Journalists.

The database, which is updated in real time, lists, in particular, all journalists killed and enables the Secretary General of the Council of Europe to both officially inform the highest authorities of



CONTENTS

governments in relevant countries about these killings and inquire about the measures they intend to take against the perpetrators.

While this partnership represents a step in the right direction, it does not provide a magic wand to eradicate impunity for violence in journalism. Unfortunately, states consider that killings of journalists are bad for the countries' image and often fail to take them seriously. To date, neither Turkey nor Ukraine has responded to alerts about the killings of Pavel Sheremet, Rohat Aktaş and Mustafa Cambaz.

Targeted killings, bomb attacks and crossfire incidents

FEBRUARY 24 - TURKEY

ROHAT AKTAŞ, the body of the editor and reporter from *Azadiya Welat* Newspaper was among bodies recovered from the scene of a massacre in the Turkish southeastern town of Cizre. Rohat Aktaş went missing in the city where he had been injured on the arm while covering the relief effort to help victims of clashes between Kurdish separatists and Turkish forces. He was identified from DNA samples provided by his family.

JULY 16 - TURKEY

MUSTAFA CAMBAZ, the photojournalist with the Turkish daily newspaper *Yeni Şafak* was killed during the failed coup in Turkey. According to his newspaper, he died of a gunshot to the head when soldiers opened fire on the crowds in the Çengelköy neighborhood of Istanbul.

JULY 20 - UKRAINE

PAVEL SHEREMET, the 44-year-old journalist who worked for *Ukrainska Pravda*, an independent news site, was killed in car explosion in central Kiev. Media reports quoted Ukrainian officials as saying that the explosion was set off remotely. Sheremet, a Russian national but originally from Belarus, worked for several years at *Ukrainska Pravda*, whose founder Georgiy Gongadze was also killed in 2000. The newspaper's editor told the French news agency AFP that he thought Sheremet was killed for his "professional activity."



He had also worked for Russia's state Obshestvennoye Televideniye, or Public Television, a channel set up in 2013, but resigned in 2014 in protest at Russia's stance towards Ukraine, AFP added. *Credit: REUTERS/Valentyn Ogirenko*

Accidents

DECEMBER 25 - RUSSIAN FEDERATION

Nine members of the Russian media were aboard the jet which crashed into the Black Sea on 25 December, killing 92 people. The victims included journalists and media staff from Channel One (correspondent **DMITRY RUNKOV**, cameraman **VADIM DENISOV** and sound engineer **ALEXANDRE SOYDOV**), NTV Channel (**CORRESPONDENT MICHAEL LUZHETSKY**, operator **OLEG PESTOV** and sound engineer **EUGENE TOLSTOV**) and Zvezda TV (correspondent **PAVEL OBUKHOV**, cameraman **ALEXANDER SURANOV** and assistant cameraman **VALERY RZHEVSKY**).



Flowers are placed on a pier as a boat of Russian Emergencies Ministry sails near the crash site of a Russian military Tu-154 plane, which crashed into the Black Sea on its way to Syria on Sunday, in the Black Sea resort city of Sochi, Russia, December 26, 2016. REUTERS/Maxim Shemetov



This list is an Interactive PDF.
Navigate using your mouse.

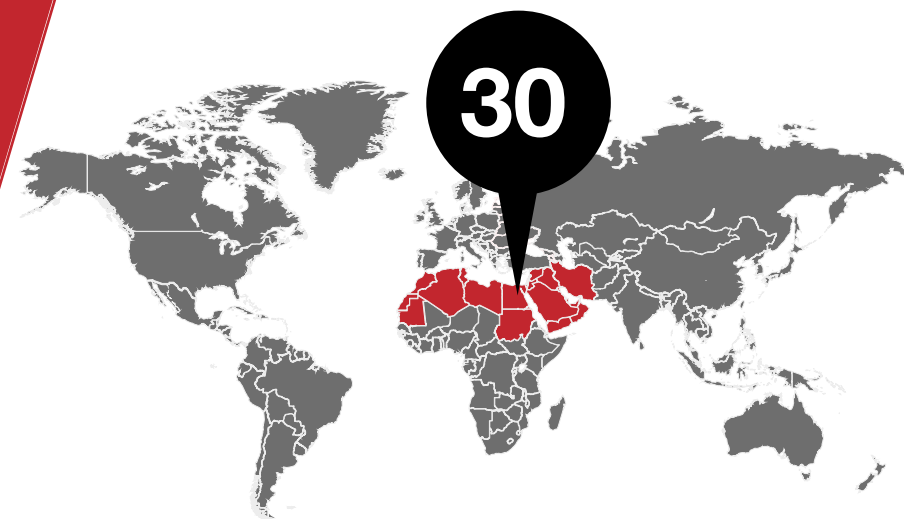
CONTENTS

Middle East & Arab World



CONTENTS

Middle East & Arab World



2016 has been yet another year of pain and suffering for the journalists' community in the Arab World and the Middle East.

The IFJ recorded 30 journalists and media workers killed in the region during the year. However, with the raging wars in Iraq, Yemen and Syria, there may have been incidents we had no knowledge about in which other colleagues lost their lives.

There are several factors contributing to increasing risks to the safety of journalists in the region and the fragility of their working conditions. First, wars in Iraq, Syria and Yemen account for almost all killings this year. What make these deaths more tragic is that most of those killed are under thirty years old, some of them as young as nineteen years old working as freelancers with no work contracts, no protective equipment nor adequate safety training. They risked everything to tell the story or launch their career. The financial crisis in the traditional media is another factor, where reporters are poorly trained and equipped. Employers and owners rarely ensure their staff have a proper safety plan before sending them into war zones. The last important factor is the murderers who target journalists for their work and views. Most often, these crimes come on the back of a wave of incitement against journalism and independent thinking.

The responses to the crises need to be multi-layered. Safety training and promoting the culture of safety within journalism to make journalists become more conscious of their personal safety remain of the utmost importance. The issue of safety has to be mainstreamed through all other aspects of union work and media development support. The IFJ unions this year made progress on different fronts; the right



CONTENTS

of journalists to work in a safe environment has included our work to promote the Declaration on Media Freedom in the Arab World adopted in May 2016, which has been signed by three countries so far while several others are considering following suit. Many journalists are discussing with the relevant authorities to introduce a media safety curriculum into journalism schools, and the duty of care of the employer to staff has been recognised by the collective agreement signed this year between the journalists' union and the public media in Palestine.

Targeted killings, bomb attacks and crossfire incidents

JANUARY 12 - IRAQ

SAIF TALLAL, the correspondent Sharqiya of TV and his cameraman **HASSAN AL-ANBAGI** was shot dead by gunmen in Diyala north-east of Baghdad, according to channel quoted by AFP. Sharqiya TV is a Sunni-owned TV channel viewed as sympathetic to the country's Sunni minority, reports say.

According to the TV channel, the journalists were killed while returning to Baquba from a reporting trip on the attack on a mosque in Muq-dadiya town, 69 miles north-east of Baghdad, with the head of security command responsible for the province, Staff Lieutenant General Mizher al-Azzawi.

Minas al-Suhail, a colleague from the channel, told AFP that the two journalists were driving some distance behind the commander's convoy when asked militiamen in three SUVs stopped their vehicle in the village of Abu Saida. They ordered the journalists out of the car and executed them with Kalashnikov assault rifles, Suhail said. Sharqiya TV added that Mr Talal had survived an assassination attempt two years ago. He was badly injured but decided to keep on reporting the events taking place in Diyala province.

JANUARY 17 - YEMEN

ALMIGDAD MOJALLI, the freelance journalist was killed in a raid by the Saudi-led coalition on the capital city, Sanaa, under Houthis rebels' control. Mojalli was hit by shrapnel as a missile slammed into the capital's southern Jaref suburb while he was covering air strikes, according to AFP quoting the victim's colleague, photojournalist Bahir Hameed.

"Planes were hovering above when we were struck," Hameed said. According to his Twitter account, Mojalli reported for Voice of America and the IRIN humanitarian news agency. IRIN said it was "shocked by this terrible loss".

JANUARY 22 - YEMEN

HASHEM AL HAMRAN, the cameraman for Al Masirah, a Houthi-owned television channel, was filming bombing raids on 21 January when he was severely injured by an air-strike. He died from his wounds the following day, according to the Yemeni Journalists' Syndicate, an IFJ affiliate.

FEBRUARY 08 - IRAQ

WATHEK ABDEL WAHAB, the correspondent for Al Mosulia in Hadba' was killed by the so-called Islamic State (IS) after they had kidnapped him, according to the Iraqi Journalists' Syndicate (IJS), an IFJ affiliate.

FEBRUARY 16 - YEMEN

AHMED SHAIBANI, the cameraman for Yemen's Shabab in Taiz was killed by a sniper while covering events in Alhasb city, according to the Yemeni Journalists' Syndicate (YJS), an IFJ affiliate. The YJS blamed the al Houthi group for the killing, saying the shooting was part of a long series of attacks by the rebels on the press and journalists in Yemen.

FEBRUARY 19 - SYRIA

MAJID DIRAN, the 21-year-old freelance photojournalist was killed while covering fighting in the Damascus suburb of Daraya, according to media reports quoting the Anadolu Agency, one of the news outlets he contributed to.

A colleague working for Anadolu Agency said that Dirani was killed while photographing the shelling and aerial bombardments of Daraya, which had been under siege by the Syrian army since 2012. He worked as a freelance journalist for Anadolu Agency since December, the media house said, and was also a contributor to a local media group dedicated to reporting news from the district, Darayya Media Center.



CONTENTS

MARCH 21 - YEMEN

MOHAMMED AL-YEMENI, the freelance cameraman who contributed to several media outlets in Yemen was killed by a sniper in Taiz, the country's second most populated city, according to the IFJ affiliated Yemeni Journalists' Syndicate (YJS). Three other cameramen, Naef Wafi, Haikal al-Uraiki and Abdulqawi al-Azani, were also wounded in the incident, the YJS added.

APRIL 12 - SYRIA

MOHAMMED ZAHER AL-SHURQAT, the 36-year-old journalist was shot and wounded in the Turkish city of Gaziantep on Sunday by a masked gunman, according to reports. He later died from his wounds.

The shooting incident was filmed by security cameras which show the attacker approaching Al-Shurqat from behind before firing at him and escaping, Turkish News Agency Anadolu said. The journalist, who had reportedly received several threats from the so-called Islamic State, was hit in the head and critically injured. He died two days later in hospital.

The militant group claimed responsibility for the attack, accusing the journalist of hosting programmes opposing the IS. According to media reports and pressure groups, Al-Shurqat presented a programme called "Lines of Fire" focusing on the fighting in the Syrian city of Aleppo and had produced reports for another programme *'From the trenches: the concept of jihad'*.

MAY 29 - YEMEN

ABDULLAH AZIZAN, the correspondent of *Mareb Press* in Shabwa was killed while covering fighting in Bayhan area, according to the Yemeni Journalists' Syndicate (YJS), an IFJ affiliate.

MAY 30 - IRAQ

TALAL ABU IMAN, a technician working at the Iraqi Media Network in Ninawa was killed by the so-called Islamic State (IS) in the city of Mosul and his beheaded body was handed over to his family. He had been missing for months after his abduction, according to media reports in Iraq.

JUNE 15 - IRAQ

FADIL AL-GARAAWI, the 45-year-old photographer who was employed by Iraq's Interior Ministry elite forces and contributed to other news outlets, was killed by a mortar round during fighting in Fallujah in the Iraqi province of Al Anbar.

He was killed when a mortar round landed near a group of journalists and members of the security forces in Fallujah, according to media reports. Three armed members of the security forces were also killed.

JUNE 24 - SYRIA

KHALED ISSA, the 25-year-old photojournalist died in a hospital in Turkey of wounds he sustained in a bomb attack on a house in Aleppo he was sharing with another journalist Hadi Al-Abdullah when an explosive device was set off targeting them on 17 June. Abdullah was also injured and taken to hospital in Antakya, Turkey.

Media reports some activists as blaming Al-Qaeda's affiliate Nusra Front for the targeted killing. According to them, the Nusra Front killed Abdullah for his increased criticism of the group. Both reporters documented crimes against Syrian civilians by the different warring parties in the country. Issa had sustained previous injuries reporting from dangerous conflict zones during the past five years working as a photojournalist.

JULY 11 - SYRIA

IBRAHIM AL-OMAR, the freelance journalist who contributed to the Al-Jazeera Mubasher live channel was killed in air strikes on the town of Termanin in northern Idlib, according to an Al-Jazeera statement quoted by the French news agency AFP. The Doha-based cable news channel added that the air strikes which killed their contributor were launched by Russian forces, supporting Syrian President Bashar.

JULY 13 - IRAQ

ALI MAHMUD, the cameraman for Al-Ghadeer TV was killed in the Qayyarah area to the north of Baghdad when a roadside bomb hit the car he was travelling in with other journalist, media reports said. Two other journalists Ali Jawad and Ali Muftin of Iraqiya state television were wounded in the incident.



CONTENTS

JULY 13 - IRAQ

AHMED MOHAMED AL JBOURI, the freelance journalist was killed while covering the battle in Al Shirqat, according to the Iraqi Journalists' Syndicate, an IFJ affiliate.

JULY 18 - SYRIA

MUSTAFA MEHEMED, the Kurdish TV reporter for Ronahi TV was fatally injured in a landmine explosion in the Syrian locality of Manjib where he was covering fighting between the so-called Islamic State and the coalition. He was taken to hospital in Kobané for treatment but died of his wounds on 18 July 2016.

JULY 21 - YEMEN

ABDELKARIM AL-JARBANI, the 25-year-old photographer killed while covering fighting in northwest Yemen between pro-government forces and Houthi rebels. Al-Jarbani, who worked for online media outlets Ma'reb Press and Yemen Al-Aan, was reportedly embedded with pro-government forces when he was shot by a sniper, according to the International News Safety Institute (INSI) quoting media reports.

AUGUST 05 - YEMEN

MUBARAK AL-ABADI, the correspondent for Suhail TV was killed by the Houthi group while covering clashes in Yemeni province of Al-Jawf. Abadi was also the head of Al Nabaa Media in Al-Jawf province. He was the main source for news and images from the area. The Yemeni Journalists Syndicate (YJS), an IFJ affiliate, said that Abadi was well known for his journalistic work and his dedication.

AUGUST 13 - IRAQ

WEDAT HUSSEIN ALI, the reporter for Roj News Agency was kidnapped in the Malta neighbourhood of Duhok and his body was found a few hours later dumped on the Semel-Duhok road. According to the news agency, preliminary investigations showed Ali had been tortured.

AUGUST 14 - IRAQ

MUSTAFA SAID, the cameraman for Kurdistan TV was killed in a mortar attack on the village near the Iraqi city of Mosul which had been retaken by the Peshmerga forces from the so-called Islamic State. Said was following the forces involved in the assault with his colleague Hayman Nangli, a correspondent for the satellite channel, who was also injured, according to the station's statement.

AUGUST 20 - IRAQ

ALI GHANI, the sound engineer for Alahad TV was killed while covering the operation of the Iraqi army to liberate the city of Khalidiya city in the north of al Anbar province.

SEPTEMBER 25 - JORDAN

NAHED HATTAR, the 56-year-old journalist who wrote for the Lebanese newspaper Al-Akhbar was gunned down on the steps of the court in Amman's central Abdali district, where he was summoned over anti-Islam cartoon. He was hit three times and was pronounced dead on arrival at hospital.



The gunman, reportedly bearded and dressed as a conservative Muslim, gave himself up to police in Amman where he was arrested and remanded in custody. Hattar's family said that he had no protection despite having asked for it after receiving death threats on Facebook and by phone.



Credits: REUTERS/Muhammad Hamed

OCTOBER 09 - IRAQ

NABIL MOHAMED, the cameraman and his colleague sound engineer **AHMED AL HADIDI** both working for Mosulia TV were kidnaped by the so-called Islamic State (IS). They were later executed reportedly after being accused of revealing information about the terrorist group.



CONTENTS

OCTOBER 21 - IRAQ

AHMED HAJR OGLO, the journalist working for Turkmen Eli TV channel was killed by a gunshot to the chest from a sniper during the raid of the so-called Islamic State (IS) on the city of Kirkuk in Northern Iraq.

OCTOBER 22 - IRAQ

Ali Resan, the cameraman for Alsoumariya TV, was killed in the south of Mosul while covering the military offensive to take back control of the city from the IS.

NOVEMBER 12 - SYRIA

MOHSEN KHAZAEI

The reporter for Iran's state television (IRIB) was killed in a mortar attack in the Syrian battlefield city of Aleppo, the broadcaster said. In a statement, the station said Mohsen Khazaei died in the village of Minyan outside the northern city, one of two areas which Syrian government forces had recaptured from rebel fighters. A cameraman was also wounded in the incident, IRIB added.

NOVEMBER 18 - YEMEN

AWAAB AL ZUBAYREI, the Yemeni Journalists' Syndicate (YJS), and an IFJ affiliate said that the cameraman for Taiz News Network was killed in a mine explosion in the Askary neighbourhood, east of Taiz. Awaab was covering clashes, particularly the destruction of the houses in the area.

DECEMBER 07 - IRAQ

MOHANMED THABET AL-OBEIDI, the 38-year-old al-Obeidi was gunned down by unidentified men driving a car, while on his way to work in the city centre. The station he managed, Baba Gurgur, broadcasts in Arabic, Kurdish and Turkmen, and is part of the Iraqi Media Network, according to media reports.



CONTENTS

INTERNATIONAL **safety** **FUND**

In 2016, the IFJ's International Safety Fund continued to provide relief to journalists and media staff as well as to their family members from the four corners of the globe in their hour of need.

Following the trend from previous years, there were many journalists and media support staff, victims of violence or facing threats of violence because of exposing crime, corruption and abuse of power. The IFJ International Safety Fund paid out more than **75.000 Euros** in relief to help them relocate to safety, receive medical treatment or pay for secure accommodation.

This has been the case ever since the inception of the IFJ Safety Fund in 1992 and, over the years, it has proved a vital lifeline for journalists, spending **over three million euros** in humanitarian and emergency assistance.

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.



CONTENTS

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. 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 here to help.



CONTENTS

Solidarity in Action

Africa

Burundi

The IFJ Safety Fund supported journalists and their families who were caught up in the media clampdown which followed the outbreak of the political crisis in the country. The assistance helped many to survive life in exile and to meet other humanitarian needs.

Democratic Republic of Congo

The Safety Fund gave financial help to a journalist who was brutally attacked by security forces for his work and left needing long term medical care in a neighbouring country. Two other exiled journalists received financial support for living expenses.

Eritrea

The Fund also provided assistance to a journalist who fled into exile where he remained under threat from his government's operatives, needing relocating to safer accommodation.

Gambia

A grant was awarded for living expenses to a journalist who fled persecution and went into exile.

Guinea

A journalist who fled into exile, fearing arrest for his work received assistance with living expenses.

Kenya

The Safety Fund provided humanitarian assistance to the family of a journalist killed for his reporting.

Senegal

The widow of a journalist who was left destitute was awarded a humanitarian grant for living expenses and medical care for the family members.

Somalia

The Fund provided emergency assistance to two journalists in exile who lacked means for winter clothing. Two more journalists in exile also received assistance with living expenses while the Fund also contributed to the funeral cost of another journalist who was killed in the capital Mogadishu.



CONTENTS

Sudan

The Safety Fund also contributed to the family reunification of a journalist from Sudan who was granted political asylum abroad.

South Sudan

An exiled journalist received assistance with family support.

Uganda

The Safety Fund provided financial help for medical treatment to a journalist who had been left paralysed because of the severe beating at the hands of police.

Americas

Colombia

A journalist who was defending a case for personal and family protection measures was granted assistance to attend sessions considering her request.

Paraguay

The IFJ Safety Fund provided assistance to a journalist who had been injured and needed medical care.

Asia Pacific

Pakistan

The Fund helped a journalist who had to relocate for safety following threats to his life.

Europe

Azerbaijan

The IFJ Safety Fund provided relief to two journalists who fled into exile as a result of harassment due to their reporting.

Croatia

The IFJ Safety Fund awarded a humanitarian grant to a journalist who escaped persecution and threats for his reporting on war crimes committed by powerful individuals during the civil war.

Russia

The local fixer who was attacked and had his van torched as he was working with foreign reporters was given financial assistance for medical treatment.

Turkey

The Fund also contributed to a solidarity mission to observe the trial of Turkish journalists who are persecuted for their professional activities. Moreover, the Fund provided assistance for temporary accommodation to a Turkish journalist who fled to Greece and contributed to legal costs of two journalists on trial after being caught up in the major crackdown on media in the country.

Middle East

Bahrain

A journalist who had fled into exile to escape arrest for allegations of working without a permit was awarded a grant for humanitarian assistance for living expenses, while defending her right to work.

Yemen

A journalist who was shot and injured received assistance for medical treatment outside Yemen. The Safety Fund also supported another journalist who was shot and injured and needed medical treatment outside Yemen. Another journalist was granted emergency humanitarian help in France in June where he is seeking political asylum.

Account Number for Safety Fund for Media Translators and Interpreters (SFMI)

*(to be put under the details of the IFJ Account
Number, please)*

a/c BE90 3630 4689 8732

Swift Code: BBRU-BE-BB



CONTENTS

International Code of Practice for the Safe Conduct of Journalism

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.

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.



CONTENTS

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.

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CONTENTS

INTERNATIONAL **safety** FUND

It's the thought that counts

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

a/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)

a/c BE90 3630 4689 8732
SWIFT CODE: BBRU-BE-BB
ING Bank
Rond Point Schuman 8, 1040 Brussels

For more information, please contact:

Ernest Sagaga

Tel: +32 2 235 2207
Email: ernest.sagaga@ifj.org
<http://ifj-safety.org/en>

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.

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© 2017 International Federation of Journalists
International Press Centre, Résidence Palace, Block C
155 rue de la Loi, B-1040 Brussels, Belgium

tel. +32 2 2352207 | fax. +32 2 2352219
safety@ifj.org | <http://www.ifj.org>

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16

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