



# Gunning for Media

Journalists and Media Staff Killed in 2010

INCLUDES IFJ INTERNATIONAL SAFETY FUND REPORT

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Cover image: A man puts a pen on a notebook as other tools used by journalists, magazines, newspapers and pictures of slain and missing journalists are placed on a street after a march in Mexico City August 7, 2010. © REUTERS/Henry Romero

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# 21 Years of Tragedy, but IFJ Solidarity Has Made Journalism Safer

IN HIS LAST INTRODUCTION TO THE KILLED LIST AIDAN WHITE, WHO IS STANDING DOWN AS GENERAL SECRETARY IN 2011, SAYS UNION ACTION HAS HELPED BUILD A CULTURE OF SAFETY IN MEDIA.

**F**or 21 years the International Federation of Journalists has been issuing annual reports on the killing of journalists and media staff.

It is a poignant roll call of tragedy and loss recording the death of 2,271 colleagues, including 97 during 2010, the period covered by this report and the last that I shall deliver as General Secretary.

I will stand down in March 2011 after almost 24 years so this is a good moment to take stock of what has been achieved and what still needs to be done to combat the injustice that faces media workers across the globe. The greatest threat, of course, is that of violence. The figures in this year's report, compiled with the International News Safety Institute (INSI) speak for themselves. They illustrate how in an age when media are more powerful and when people have ever-expanding access to different sources of information, journalists determined to tell the truth face increasing risks.

This year 94 journalists and media staff were killed, victims of targeted killings, bomb attacks and cross-fire incidents. Three other journalists lost their lives in accidents at work.

The details of the losses are spelled out in the enclosed reports from the IFJ regional centres. They show how Pakistan tops the list of the most dangerous zones for journalists in 2010, ahead of Mexico, Honduras and Iraq.

Although the numbers are down from the 139 killings recorded a year earlier and are the lowest for eight years, they reveal that regional conflicts, drug wars and political unrest continue to create killing fields for journalists and people who work with them.

As ever, the shadow of impunity falls across much of the world of journalism. Despite many promises, governments continue to fail in their duty to hunt down the killers. Many deaths are recorded without serious investigation. The absence of the rule of law, whether due to police corruption, judicial incompetence or

political indifference not only endangers journalists, it imperils democracy and compromises hopes for peace and development.

The challenges today remain as formidable as they were when we began publishing this record in 1990. We have not, mercifully, seen a repeat of the worst of times – in 2006, the worst year, when 177 media staff were killed or 2007 when the numbers topped 100 by the mid-year.

Over time there has been dramatic loss of iconic figures in the fight for freedom and human rights – Anna Politkovskaya in Russia, Lasantha Wickrematunge in Sri Lanka, Tim Lopez in Brazil, for example. Hundreds of other equally worthy colleagues, less well known, have been honoured by the community of journalists in the regions in which they have served.

There has also been tragedy on a scale which has shocked even the most hardened of frontline reporters. The massacre of 31 journalists and media staff, their bodies mutilated and dumped in shallow graves, in Maguindanao Province of the Philippines in 2009 was the worst single atrocity recorded by the IFJ.

All of this is a reminder, if any were needed, that journalism remains among the world's most dangerous professions.

But despite all of this IFJ unions can reflect at the same time on 20 years of steady progress and no small success in bringing the world's attention to the crisis facing media staff.

The IFJ's role in helping to found the International Freedom of Expression eXchange (IFEX) in 1993 and the International News Safety Institute (INSI) in 2003 were landmarks in building coalitions within the industry and press freedom community that have put the crisis of safety in journalism firmly on the international policy agenda.

That policy agenda saw the adoption by the United Nations Security Council in December 2006 of an historic resolution calling on governments to protect



Soldiers and police detectives stand outside the offices of broadcaster Grupo Televisa in Monterrey August 15, 2010. © REUTERS/Tomas Bravo

journalists in conflict zones. This resolution emerged from a campaign launched by IFJ unions and the IFJ Executive Committee two years earlier.

Perhaps most significantly, IFJ unions have injected humanity and practical solidarity into the work of protecting media staff. Two key developments were the decision to launch an International Safety Fund and to include all media staff in the counting of the numbers of dead, a move that was soon followed by other monitoring groups.

Today the IFJ Safety Fund provides vital humanitarian assistance as it has done since 1992. Altogether almost three million Euro have been paid to journalists and their families who have been the victims of violence or who were forced to flee their homes because of threats. This money, from the pockets and purses of colleagues, represents the best of solidarity in our movement.

These days journalism is less secure, standards are falling and pluralism is suffering, but thanks to the work of IFJ unions it is marginally safer.

But there is still much to do. The IFJ has monitored profound changes over the last two decades. We have found that media employers are investing less in safety training and support for freelance staff and

stringers in the field. Newsroom budgets are being cut. There is less investment in investigative journalism and foreign coverage.

In many regions life is made harder by economic privation, social dislocation and the reality of bad government and poor democracy. All of this creates a working environment that makes it impossible for journalists to do their job. Tens of thousands of media staff around the world work in unsafe, poverty-stricken conditions that make a mockery of editorial independence and press freedom.

Whether it's safety of journalists, poverty at the newsroom door, or life in the shadow of a new and deeply unpleasant breed of media managers and owners, the challenge of decent work in journalism and creation of a culture of safety for all media staff remains one of the battlegrounds for defence of freedom and democracy.

It is a battle that has been fought well these last years, but it is a battle far from won. Journalism will never be 100 per cent safe, it never can be, but the IFJ will always be at the frontline of the struggle to make it safer.

— Aidan White

# TOTAL: 94 Killings and 3 Accidental Deaths

COUNTRY	NAME	POSITION	EMPLOYER	DATE
Afghanistan	Rupert Hamer	Correspondent	The Sunday Mirror	09.01.2010
Afghanistan	James P. Hunter	Army journalist	US Army/101st Airborne Division	18.06.2010
Afghanistan	Sayed Hamid Noori	TV Presenter	<i>Afghan Radio Television Broadcaster</i>	05.09.2010
Angola	Stanislas Ocloo	Sports Journalist	Télévision Togolaise (TVT)	09.01.2010
Angola	Alberto Graves Chakussanga	Radio Presenter	Radio Despertar	05.09.2010
Bangladesh	Foteh Osmani	Correspondent	Shaptahik 2000	03.05.2010
Brazil	Clóvis Silva Aguiar	Sports Journalist	Rede TV	24.06.2010
Brazil	Francisco Gomes de Medeiros	Journalist	Radio Caicó AM	18.10.2010
Bulgaria	Boris Nikolov Tsankov	Journalist		07.01.2010
Colombia	Clodomiro Castilla	Journalist	La Voz de Monteria Radio	19.03.2010
Colombia	Mauricio Medina Moreno	Director	CRIT 98.0	11.04.2010
Colombia	Rodolfo Maya Aricape	Journalist	Payumat Radio	14.10.2010
Dem. Republic of Congo	Patient Chibeya	Journalist	Radio Television Nationale Congolaise	05.04.2010
Ecuador	Jorge Santana Carbonell	Director	<i>Tribuna</i>	22.03.2010
Ecuador	Mayra Emilia Aguilar Dueñas	Manager	Milagro City TV	11.09.2010
Greece	Socrates Giolias	Director	Thema 9.89	19.07.2010
Guatemala	Aníbal Archila	Cameraman	Notisiete TV	27.05.2010
Guatemala	Victor Hugo Juarez	Media owner	Wanima News/Guatemala Impresarial	27.09.2010
Honduras	Joseph Hernández Ochoa	Journalist	<i>Canal 51 TV</i>	01.03.2010
Honduras	David Meza Montesinos	Journalist	<i>El Patio and Radio América</i>	11.03.2010
Honduras	Nahúm Palacios	Director	<i>Canal 5 del Aguán</i>	14.03.2010
Honduras	José Bayardo Mairena Ramírez	Journalist	Excelsior Radio and Channel 4 of R.Z TV	26.03.2010
Honduras	Manuel de Jesus Juarez	Journalist	Excelsior Radio and Channel 4 of R.Z TV	26.03.2010
Honduras	Luis Antonio Chévez Hernández	Radio Presenter	RadioW105	11.04.2010
Honduras	Jorge "Georgino" Orellana	Journalist	Honduras TVH	20.04.2010
Honduras	Luis Arturo Mondragón Morazán	Director	<i>Channel 19 TV</i>	14.06.2010
Honduras	Israel Zelaya Díaz	Journalist	<i>San Pedro Sula Radio</i>	24.08.2010
Honduras	Henry Suazo	Journalist	<i>Atlántico TV</i>	28.12.2010
India	Mukesh Kumar	Photojournalist	Aaj Tak television	06.03.2010
India	Ajay Tiwari	Journalist	<i>Noida-based TV channel</i>	05.05.2010
India	Hem Chandra Pandey	Journalist	Freelance	02.07.2010
India	Vijay Pratap Singh	Senior Journalist	<i>India Express</i>	20.07.2010
India	Sushil Pathak	Journalist	<i>Dainik Bhaskar</i>	20.12.2010
Indonesia	Muhammad Syaifullah	Bureau Chief	<i>Kompas newspaper</i>	26.07.2010
Indonesia	Ardiansyah Matra'is	TV reporter	Merauke TV	30.07.2010

COUNTRY	NAME	POSITION	EMPLOYER	DATE
Indonesia	Ridwan Salamun	Journalist	SUN-TV	21.08.2010
Iraq	Yasser	Driver	The Times of London Iraq bureau	26.01.2010
Iraq	Sardasht Osman	Journalist	<i>ASHTENAME magazine</i>	05.05.2010
Iraq	Riyadh al-Sarray	TV Presenter	al-Iraqiya TV	07.09.2010
Iraq	Safa al-Din Abdel Hamid	TV Presenter	Al-Mosuliya	08.09.2010
Iraq	Tahrir Kadhim Jawad	Cameraman	Freelance	04.10.2010
Iraq	Mazin al-Baghdadi	Journalist	al-Mousiliyya TV	17.11.2010
Latvia	Grigorijs Nėmcovs	Media owner	Million newspaper and Local TV station	16.04.2010
Lebanon	Assaf Abu Rahhal	Journalist	Al-Akhbar	03.08.2010
Mexico	Valentin Valdes Espinosa	Reporter	Zócalo of Saltillo	08.01.2010
Mexico	José Luis Romero	Radio Reporter	Radio Sistema del Noroeste.	16.01.2010
Mexico	Jorge Ochoa Martinez	Editor	El Oportuno and Despertar de la Costa Chica	29.01.2010
Mexico	Evaristo Pacheco Solís	Reporter	Visión Informativa	13.03.2010
Mexico	Enrique Villicaña Palomares	Columnist	<i>La Voz de Michoacán</i>	10.04.2010
Mexico	Hugo Alfredo Olivera Cartas	Reporter	El Dia de Michoacan	06.07.2010
Mexico	Marco Aurelio Martinez Tijerina	Radio Journalist	XEDD Radio La Tremenda,	10.07.2010
Mexico	Guillermo Alcaraz Trejo	Web producer	Chihuahua Human Rights Commission	10.07.2010
Mexico	Luis Carlos Santiago	Journalist	Diario de Juarez	16.09.2010
Mexico	Carlos Alberto Guajardo Romero	Journalist	<i>El Expreso</i>	05.11.2010
Nepal	Jamim Shah	TV Director	Spacetime Network Pvt. Ltd	07.02.2010
Nepal	Arun Simhaniya	Owner	<i>Today Group</i>	01.03.2010
Nepal	Devi Prasad Dhital	Director	Tulsipur FM radio	22.07.2010
Nigeria	Edo Sule Ugbagwu	Court Reporter	The Nation	24.04.2010
Nigeria	Nathan S. Dabak	Deputy editor	The Light Bearer	24.04.2010
Nigeria	Sunday Gyang Bwede	Reporter	The Light Bearer	24.04.2010
Nigeria	Augustine Sindy	Photojournalist	<i>Nigeria Standard</i>	28.12.2010
Pakistan	Hameed Marwat	Journalist	<i>Sariab Road</i>	17.02.2010
Pakistan	Ashiq Ali Mangi	Journalist	<i>Mehran TV</i>	17.02.2010
Pakistan	Malik Arif	Cameraman	Samaa TV	16.04.2010
Pakistan	Ghulam Rasool Birhamani	Journalist	<i>Sindhu Hyderabad</i>	10.05.2010
Pakistan	Azmat Ali Bangash	Reporter	Samaa TV	17.04.2010
Pakistan	Ejazul Haq	TV journalist	<i>City -42</i>	28.05.2010
Pakistan	Faiz Mohammad Khan Sasoli	Reporter	<i>Aaj Kal and Independent News</i>	27.06.2010
Pakistan	Mohammad Sarwar	Driver	<i>Aaj TV</i>	03.09.2010
Pakistan	Ali Raza	Reporter	<i>Yaum-e-Ali</i>	04.09.2010

COUNTRY	NAME	POSITION	EMPLOYER	DATE
Pakistan	Ejaz Ahmed Raisani	Cameraman	Samaa TV	06.09.2010
Pakistan	Mujeebur Rehman Saddiqui	Senior Journalist	Daily Pakistan	16.09.2010
Pakistan	Misri Khan	Journalist	<i>Daily Ausaf</i>	13.09.2010
Pakistan	Abdul Hameed Hayatan	Reporter	Daily Intekhab	18.11.2010
Pakistan	Altaf Chandio	Bureau Chief	Awaz Channel	04.12.2010
Pakistan	Abdul Wahab	Journalist	Express News TV	06.12.2010
Pakistan	Pervez Khan	Journalist	WAQT TV	06.12.2010
Philippines	Edwin Segues	Radio Reporter	dxSY	14.04.2010
Philippines	Desidario Camangyan	Journalist	Sunshine FM Radio	14.06.2010
Philippines	Joselito Agustin	Journalist	DZJC Radio station	15.06.2010
Philippines	Nestor Bedolido	Journalist	The Kastigador	19.06.2010
Philippines	Edison Flamenia Sr	Journalist	Mindanao Inquirer	10.12.2010
Russia	Said IBRAGIMOV	Director	TNT-Makhachkala TV	13.05.2010
Rwanda	Jean Leonard Rugambage	Deputy editor	<i>Umuvugizi newspaper</i>	25.06.2010
Somalia	Sheikh Nur Abkey	Journalist	Radio Mogadishu	04.05.2010
Somalia	Barkhad Awale Adan	Director	Hurma Radio	24.08.2010
Somalia	Abdullahi Omar Gedi	Journalist	Radio Daljir	31.08.2010
South Africa	Thabo Kgongoana	Editor	TaxiTimes	07.04.2010
Thailand	Hiro Muramoto	Cameraman	<i>Reuters</i>	10.04.2010
Thailand	Fabio Polenghi	Photojournalist	Freelance	19.05.2010
Togo	Faustin Yékini Radji	Journalist	<i>Golfe Info</i>	09.08.2010
Turkey	Metin Alatas	Journalist	<i>Azadiya Welat</i>	04.04.2010
Turkey	Cevdet Kiliçlar	Webmaster	<i>Humanitarian Relief Foundation (IHH)</i>	31.05.2010
Uganda	Stephen Tinka	Journalist	<i>Vision Voice Radio</i>	11.07.2010
Uganda	Paul Kiggundu	Radio Correspondent	<i>Top Radio</i>	11.09.2010
Uganda	Dickson Ssentongo	Radio Presenter	<i>Prime Radio</i>	13.09.2010
Yemen	Mohammed Shu'i Al-Rabu'i	Correspondent	<i>Al-Qahira</i>	13.02.2010



## KILLED BY REGION

<b>Africa</b>	<b>15</b>
Angola	2
Democratic Republic of Congo	1
Nigeria	4
Rwanda	1
Somalia	3
South Africa	1
Uganda	3
<b>Americas</b>	<b>28</b>
Brazil	2
Colombia	3
Ecuador	2
Guatemala	1
Honduras	10
Mexico	10
<b>Asia-Pacific</b>	<b>37</b>
Afghanistan	3
Bangladesh	1
India	4
Indonesia	3
Nepal	3
Pakistan	16
Philippines	5
Thailand	2
<b>Europe</b>	<b>6</b>
Bulgaria	1
Greece	1
Latvia	1
Russia	1
Turkey	2
<b>Middle East &amp; Arab World</b>	<b>8</b>
Iraq	6
Lebanon	1
Yemen	1



A woman protests against the murderers of journalists outside the National Congress in Tegucigalpa May 3, 2010. The poster's slogan reads as "Waiting for justice for the killed journalists". © REUTERS/Edgard Garrido

## ACCIDENTAL DEATHS BY REGION

<b>Africa</b>	<b>1</b>
Togo	1
<b>Americas</b>	<b>1</b>
Guatemala	1
<b>Asia-Pacific</b>	<b>2</b>
India	2



# AFRICA

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

**2** 010 has been another bloody year for **journalists** in Africa who continue to suffer from various forms of violent repression, including the threat of being killed in total impunity for practicing their profession. With a death toll of 16 journalists, 11 of whom were murdered in targeted attacks, the prospects of press freedom remain bleak on the continent.

There has also been a marked increase of media repression in a number of countries while others intensified their efforts to curtail the freedom of journalists. Targeted killing of journalists is the ultimate way of silencing them. Nigeria tops the list of countries with most journalists murdered, followed by Somalia and Uganda, where violence against media has reached unprecedented levels. More killings in Cameroon, Angola, the Democratic Republic of Congo and Rwanda have contributed to the grim picture.

The insecurity of journalists in 2010 was further exacerbated by the threats of danger from criminal litigation. Burundi became the second country in Africa to charge a journalist with treason simply for practising his profession. Jean-Claude Kavumbagu of online publication *Netpress* is facing treason charges in Bujumbura in a politically motivated case. Cameroonian journalists, including the leaders of the Syndicat National des Journalistes (SNJC) are facing wearisome legal action involving powerful personalities after

revealing secret government information of public interest nature. Senegal has not fared better after journalist Abdoulatif Coulibaly of the *Gazette* was sentenced and fined about \$40,000 in a law suit brought by the son of a minister. There are serious concerns for the wellbeing of detained Tunisian journalist Fahem Boukaddous, correspondent for *Tunisian Dialogue*, whose health has seriously deteriorated in prison where he is serving a four-year term.

Renewed violence, involving arbitrary arrests of journalists in Zimbabwe, including the President of the Union of Journalists Dumisani Sibanda, is a manifestation of intolerance on the part of security agents and political powers hostile towards the practice of independent journalism. Far-reaching media reforms proposed in Zimbabwe as part of an agreement between ZANU-PF and the MDC have not been implemented. Surprisingly, South Africa is proposing a widely criticised Protection of Information Bill and a much condemned media appeals tribunal.

The prevailing climate of impunity for crimes against journalists who report the truth, expose corruption and political instability constitute the major threat to the safety of journalists in Africa. Not one crime against a journalist was investigated or any perpetrators prosecuted on the continent. Eritrea still remains the biggest prison of African journalists.



Journalists hold copies of the May 15 issue of the al-Rai al-Shaab paper, the final issue before it was closed, as they take part in a protest against censorship in Khartoum in May 2010. ©REUTERS/Mohamed Nureldin Abdallah

Despite this brutal reality, the Federation of African Journalists notes that 2010 ends on a few positive developments. First, FAJ congratulates President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf of Liberia for signing into law the Freedom of Information Act, the most significant move of its kind in the history of Africa. Secondly, FAJ has scored some success in its drive to promote the creation of a safe environment for journalists by proactively lobbying the African Union Commission and its member states to adopt a continent-wide policy for the safety and

protection of journalists. Third, the first safety training for trainers from journalists' union members of the East African Journalists Association (EAJA) was organised in Djibouti, in partnership with the IFJ. The newly qualified trainers will spearhead the safety awareness in East African countries through forthcoming programmes to train more than 200 journalists.

Omar Faruk Osman  
*President of FAJ*

# 2010 IN FOCUS AFRICA



Stanislas Ocloo

## January 9 • Angola

**Stanislas Ocloo**, sports reporter at the Télévision Togolaise (TVT) and press officer of the Togolese Football Association was killed in the attack against the coach of the Togolese football team which was taking part in the African Cup finals in Angola which he was going to cover. The attack took place in the Cabinda enclave, north-west of Angola. As many as three people were killed and nine wounded in the attack, according to CNN.

## April 5 • Dem Republic of Congo

**Patient Chibeya**, a Congolese journalist and cameraman, was shot dead by men in military fatigues, in front of his house in the north-eastern town of Beni. Chibeya, 35, who worked for Radio Television Nationale Congolaise (RTVN), had just got off a motorcycle taxi in front of his home when as many as seven armed men in military uniform shot

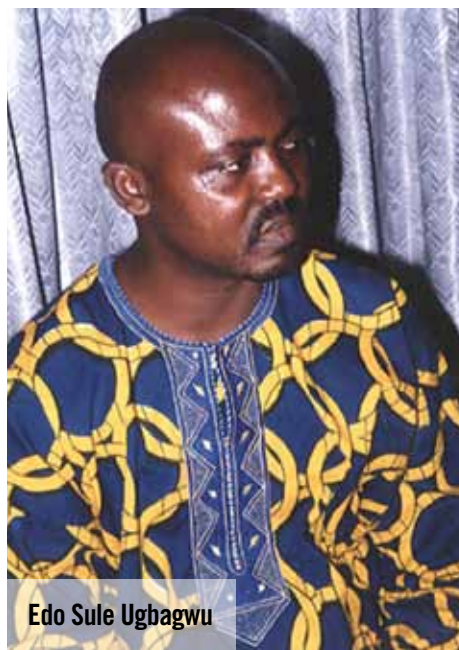
him six times in front of his wife, according to the AFP.

## April 7 • South Africa

**Thabo Kgongoana**, editor of Mafikeng-based TaxiTimes was shot dead during an armed robbery at a hotel and casino in Mafikeng, where he was covering a government function. According to police sources, the journalist was shot from close range with an AK-47 rifle. They say his killers might have realised he had a camera.

## April 24 • Nigeria

**Edo Sule Ugbagwu**, a court reporter for *The Nation* newspaper was killed in his Lagos home by two gunmen who shot him several times in the head. He was taken to hospital but was pronounced dead on arrival.



Edo Sule Ugbagwu



Togo players departing from Cabinda, Angola for home, where three days of mourning were declared following the death of assistant coach Amelete Abalo and press officer **Stanislas Ocloo**. © REUTERS/Julien Pretot

## April 24 • Nigeria

**Nathan S. Dabak**, 36, and **Sunday Gyang Bwede**, 39, deputy editor in chief and reporter respectively for The Light Bearer, a Christian newspaper, were hacked



to death in the town of Jo, in the restive central Plateau state which saw scenes of religious violence between Muslim and Christian communities. The journalists were riding a motorcycle on their way to interview a local politician, Member of Parliament Bitrus Kaze, when they were attacked by rioters reacting to the discovery of a body of a Muslim victim near a church.

## May 4 • Somalia

**Sheikh Nur Abkey**, a veteran journalist who worked for state-run Radio Mogadishu, was kidnapped by unidentified gunmen on his way home. His mutilated body was later dumped in a Mogadishu street, according to local reports, quoting his work colleagues who blamed militants for his murder because of Abkey's opposition to insurgents

## June 24 • Rwanda

**Jean Léonard Rugambage**, deputy editor of a private newspaper, Umuvugizi, was shot dead in front of his house in the Rwandan capital, Kigali. Witnesses say Jean Leonard Rugambage was killed by two men who then fled in a car. The authorities had suspended the paper, prompting it to start publishing online instead. The paper's exiled chief editor accused the government of the killing which he linked to an article published on the Umuvugizi's website relating to the failed attempt on the life of former army chief Lt Gen Faustin Kayumba Nyamwasa in South Africa. Rwandan authorities denied the accusation and the authorities said that one of the suspects arrested confessed to Rugambage's murder in revenge for his brother killed in the 1994 Tutsi genocide. Rugambage was acquitted in 2006

by a grassroots court, agacaca, of participating in the genocide.

## July 11 • Uganda

**Stephen Tinka**, a sport reporter for Radio Voice of the Vision Group, was killed in the terrorist bomb attacks which targeted the Ugandan capital, Kampala, during the screening of the 2010 World Cup final. Tinka was covering the match from the rugby stadium of Kyadondo where a huge crowd had gathered to watch the game on a giant TV screen. He was fatally injured in the blast and died a day later after spending the night in a critical condition. The militant group Al Shabaab in Somalia claimed responsibility for the attacks.

## August 24 • Somalia

**Barkhad Awale Adan**, a veteran radio journalist and director of the community radio station Hurma Radio, was killed in crossfire during fighting in the Somali capital, Mogadishu. Adan, 60, was on the roof of the station assisting a technician in fixing the station's transmitter when a stray bullet hit him in the stomach. His colleagues rushed him to Madina Hospital, where he was pronounced dead upon arrival. Awale had worked in the media for the last 30 years and was director of Hurma Radio for the past four, the National Union of Somali Journalists reported.



Stephen Tinka



Sudanese journalists carrying placards protest against the week-long arrest of Darfuri journalist Jaafer Al-Sibki outside the Press and Publications Council in Khartoum November 10, 2010. © REUTERS/Mohamed Nureldin Abdallah



Alberto Graves Chakussanga

### August 31 • Somalia

**Adbullahi Omar Gedi**, journalist for Radio Daljir based in Galkayo, in the Puntland region was attacked as he left the station in the village of Garsoor by unidentified knife wielding men who stabbed him in

the chest and legs at least six times. Gedi, 25, was taken to Galkayo hospital but died on the way.

### September 5 • Angola

**Alberto Graves Chakussanga**, presenter of the weekly Umundu language programme on Radio Despertar was shot dead by unidentified gunmen in his Luanda home. Chakussanga, a critic of the ruling party MPLA was found in his kitchen with gunshot wounds by family members.

### September 11 • Uganda

**Paul Kiggundu**, a journalist for the Masaka-based Top Radio, was beaten to death by a group of motor cyclists known as 'bodabodas' in Rakai district. The journalist was attacked when he began filming

the cyclists destroying a home of a man they suspected of having killed their fellow cyclist and robbed another. The journalists' best efforts to identify himself failed to halt their assault which left him in a coma. He died shortly afterwards.

### September 13 • Uganda

**Dickson Ssentongo**, presenter on privately owned Prime Radio, was severely beaten by unknown assailants and abandoned to die in a cassava plantation in the Mukono District some 35 km from the capital Kampala. According to information received from the Ugandan Journalists Union (UJU), an IFJ affiliate, Dickson Ssentongo was ambushed while on his way to work where he read the 7am news bulletin in Luganda. "Ssentongo was specifically targeted for murder, as

all his personal possessions including mobile phones were untouched by the assailants,” said the UJU in a statement.

### December 28 • Nigeria

**Augustine Sindyi**, a photojournalist with *The Nigeria Standard*, died in a bomb explosion in Jos, the capital of the Plateau state. According to the Nigeria Union of Journalists, Sindyi was at scene of the multiple bomb blasts at Kabong in Jos North Local Government Area of the state and was among the first casualties who died on the spot. Sindyi, an experienced photojournalist, is survived by a wife and children, NUJ said.

# ACCIDENTAL DEATHS AFRICA



### August 9 • Togo

**Faustin Yékini Radji**, journalist for *Golfe Info*, died in a road accident as he was returning from work on 6 August. He died three days later in hospital. There is no known cause for the accident and his colleagues did not rule out foul play as the crash

occurred at the time when the journalist was believed to be investigating controversial stories involving powerful forces in the country.



# ASIA-PACIFIC

JACQUI PARK, Director of IFJ Asia-Pacific Office

**P**lagued by complex conflicts, Asia-Pacific suffered another horror year, with 31 journalists and media workers confirmed killed during 2010. In many countries of Asia-Pacific, a culture of impunity prevails for the killings of media personnel. But it is also apparent that much of the risk is linked to vulnerability exacerbated by economic exploitation.

The relationship between exploitation and personal risk is brought into focus in **Pakistan**, where the toll of killed media personnel doubled to 16. The prevalence of conflict and financial hardship across Pakistan has a direct impact on the risks, whether media personnel work in designated conflict areas or report from the major cities. With some of the country's largest media houses not paying employees for months at a time, and those with jobs fearful of retrenchment, individuals are more prepared to take the dangerous jobs for which they might be paid.

Across in Southeast Asia, the **Philippines** also remains ensnared by a trend of media killings, with four broadcasters murdered in the six months before the inauguration of president Benigno Aquino in June. Meanwhile, local organisations and the international community despair at the slow process of bringing all the accused to trial in the case of the 2009 massacre of 32 media personnel in Mindanao. The abysmal safety situation is made worse by the efforts of media owners to undermine working

conditions and prevent employees acting collectively to defend their rights.

In **Indonesia**, one journalist was killed as he reported on a clash among villagers in Maluku. In East Kalimantan, a reporter known for his environmental and anti-corruption reporting was found dead. In West Papua, a journalist who had suffered threats due to his environmental reporting was found drowned. Neither of these latter two cases is confirmed as a killing, but police have failed to provide an autopsy report to either family.

In **Thailand**, two foreign media staff were killed as violence between security forces and anti-government protesters erupted in Bangkok mid-year. At least six other foreign media workers were reported injured. The risks were further highlighted when a sniper killed a protest leader as he was being interviewed by the media.

Two journalists died in **India** in separate assassination attempts on politicians, the third was shot dead as he left home from work while a fourth was killed as he reported on a fire in Delhi. Amid civil unrest in Jammu and Kashmir in June, journalists were assaulted and newspapers closed for about 30 days in all. In Manipur, media workers shut down newspapers in October to protest threats from underground armed groups. Widespread risks for India's media personnel underscore the need for a national media





Journalists run away from a squabble among Papuans at the funeral of Kelly Kwalik in Timika, Indonesia's Papua province December 21, 2009. © REUTERS/Muhammad Yamin

rights monitoring network, built on IFJ Asia-Pacific's successes in assisting to set up provincial networks.

In **Afghanistan**, two foreign journalists accompanying US forces were killed in separate IED blasts. In the third case, a former Afghan journalist who worked as spokesman for the speaker of the Afghan Parliament was murdered. As election-related conflict and allegations of corruption fuelled tensions, Afghan journalists contended with low wages, poor working conditions, inadequate training and little safety support from employers.

In **Nepal**, murders, assaults, occasional abductions and a trend of vandalism of media offices by "mobs" aligned to political factions continue to threaten journalists. Three chairmen of media conglomerates were killed in brazen attacks. In the year to April, the Federation of Nepali Journalists documented 28 attacks on journalists. Again, low wages and poor working conditions underlie many of the risks.

For the first time in years, no confirmed killings of journalists were reported in **Sri Lanka**. However,

cartoonist and columnist Prageeth Eknaligoda disappeared just before a bitterly contested presidential election in January, and is presumed dead. The absence of reported killings does not highlight a shift to a safe media environment, but the success of the administration in shutting down critical commentary.

The grim toll again underscores the extreme risks for media personnel in the region and, in many cases, the irresponsibility of media employers who do not provide adequate safety training and equipment, or fair wages. The link between personal safety and economic exploitation is more evident in some countries than in others, but factors into risks across the board. Journalists and photographers commonly see it as their job to enter dangerous territory or to expose abuses of power. But a journalist struggling to earn a living may be more likely to undertake perilous assignments. Where media companies fail to address meagre wages and do not provide secure and decent working conditions, they must be held accountable for this toll.

Jacqui Park  
*Director of IFJ Asia-Pacific Office*

# 2010 IN FOCUS ASIA-PACIFIC

## January 9 • Afghanistan

**Rupert Hamer**, the defence correspondent for the UK *Sunday Mirror* newspaper, died after a vehicle he was travelling in hit an IED while embedded with the US Marines in Helmand province, south Afghanistan. A US Marine and an Afghan soldier were also killed while Hamer's colleague, photographer Philip Cobern, was injured in the blast.

## February 7 • Nepal

**Jamim Shah**, Chairman of the Spacetime Network which ran a cable TV channel and former manager of several newspapers in Nepal, was shot and killed in the capital Kathmandu. The entrepreneur was killed by two gunmen on motorbikes who are alleged to have connections with Indian and Nepali police.

## February 17 • Pakistan

**Ashiq Ali Mangi**, a reporter for Mehran TV, was shot dead outside the Khairpur Press Club in Sindh province by an unidentified gunman. It is believed Mangi may have been

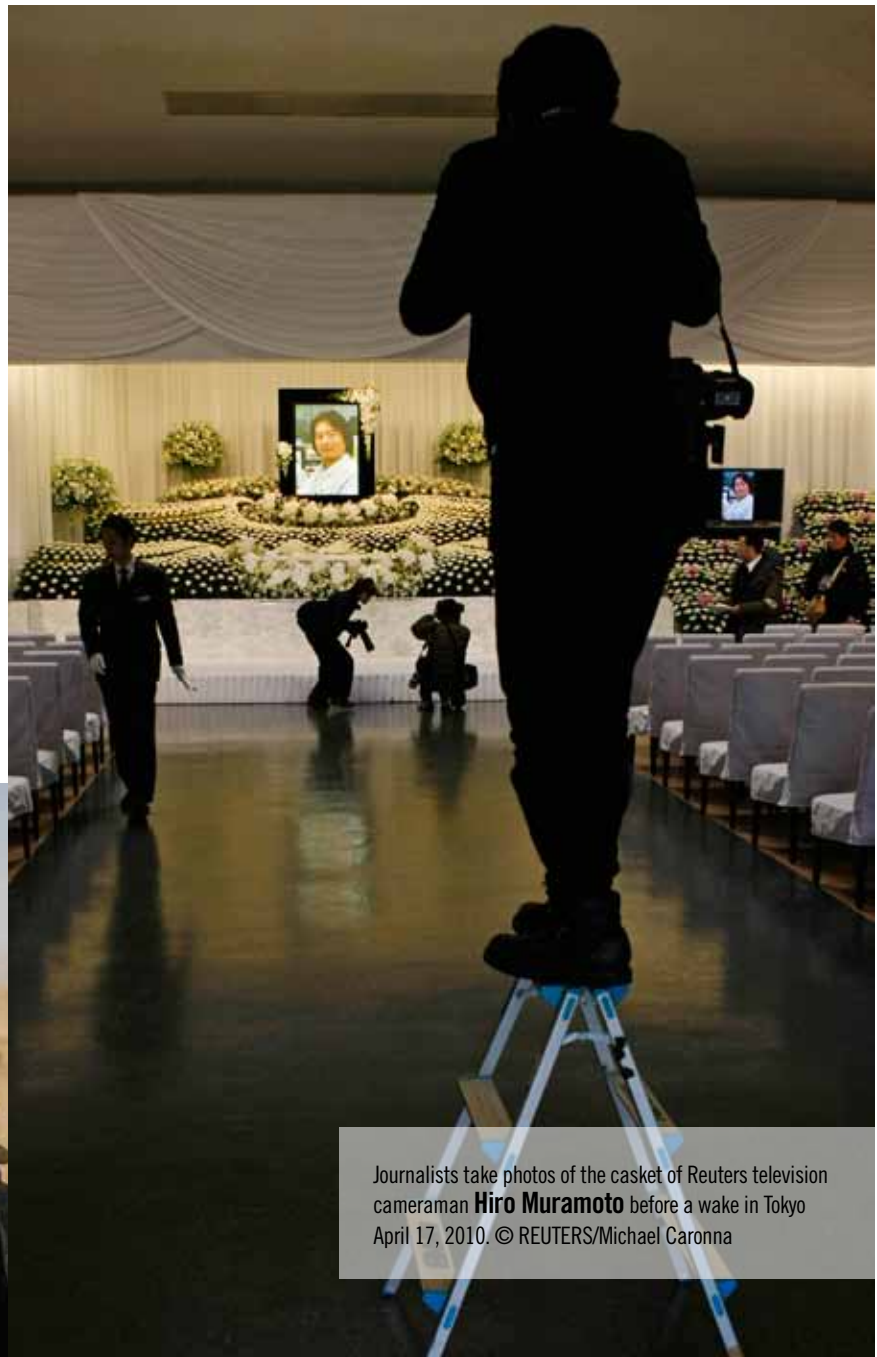
targeted for his professional work after airing footage of a feud between two local groups on the privately owned Mehran TV.

## February 17 • Pakistan

**Hameed Marwa**, a journalist at the Sariab Road in Quetta was shot dead by unidentified gunmen. Police said his attackers opened fire at him as he came out of his house.

## March 1 • Nepal

**Arun Singhaniya** became the second media proprietor to be killed within one month in Nepal when he was shot in the Bhanu Chowk district of Janakpur. Singhaniya was the Chairman of the Today Group, publisher of Janakpur Today and Radio Today, where slain journalist Uma Singh had worked before her death in January 2009.



Journalists take photos of the casket of Reuters television cameraman **Hiro Muramoto** before a wake in Tokyo April 17, 2010. © REUTERS/Michael Caronna



**Rupert Hamer**

### April 11 • Thailand

**Hiro Muramoto**, a Japanese cameraman with Reuters, was killed in crossfire between government troops and supporters of ousted Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra while covering the “Red Shirt” protests that besieged Bangkok for two months and claimed over 90 lives.

### April 14 • Philippines

**Edwin Segues**, a volunteer reporter with dxSY, was killed by two gunmen who shot him three times while on his way to work in Ozamiz City in the southern province of Mindanao in the Philippines.

### April 16 • Pakistan

**Malik Arif**, a cameraman with Samaa TV in Quetta, Balochistan province died in a suicide bombing attack as he was filming a gathering of friends of a local businessman who had himself escaped assassination and was being treated at the Quetta Civic Hospital. Five other journalists were injured in the attack, in which a total of nine people died.

### April 17 • Pakistan

**Azmat Ali Bangash**, a reporter with Samaa TV Associated Press of Pakistan (APP) and Pakistan Television Corporation (PTV) was killed after two blasts near a camp for internally displaced people in Kohat, north-west Frontier

Province (NWFP). It is believed he was targeted by militants, as he was well known for his reporting on the operations of security forces against militant groups in Pakistan’s Federally Administered Tribal Areas (FATA).

### May 10 • Pakistan

**Ghulam Rasool Birhamani**, a reporter with daily Sindhu Hyderabad and President of the Dadu Press Club, was discovered with torture wounds and fatal head injuries outside Dadu, in Sindh province, southern Pakistan. Birhamani was reportedly threatened by members of the Lashari tribe after publishing a story on under age marriage of girls in the tribe.

### May 19 • Thailand

**Fabio Polenghi**, an Italian freelance photojournalist, was the second journalist to be killed in the violent clashes in Bangkok, when he was shot during a skirmish between armed forces and protesters. Three other media workers were reportedly injured and several media outlets were evacuated after being targeted by protesters. A total of 14 people were killed in the protests that day alone.

### May 28 • Pakistan

**Ejazul “Ejaz” Haq**, a cameraman with City-42 in Lahore, died from gunshot wounds he sustained in crossfire while attempting to cover an attack on a place of worship in Lahore. He was not equipped with proper safety equipment, which could have saved his life.

### June 18 • Afghanistan

**James P. Hunter**, a US Army Staff Sergeant died when a patrol he was with was hit by an improvised explosive device (IED) in Kandahar. He was the first army journalist killed in the Afghan conflict, according to the International News Safety Institute (INSI). The 25-year-old from South Amherst, Ohio, was assigned to the 101st Airborne Division. In addition to his own reporting and photography, he also had public affairs duties to escort and assist other media outlets that covered the brigade. His stories ranged from detailing how the brigade trains prior to a deployment to features about accomplishments of individual soldiers. His reports from Iraq included how soldiers worked with the Sons of Iraq movement and about life returning to normal in a Baghdad neighbourhood in 2008.



Ejazul “Ejaz” Haq



A portrait of Italian journalist Fabio Polenghi who was killed during clashes between anti-government protesters and Thai army soldiers in May 2010. © REUTERS/Sukree Sukplang

## June 14 • Philippines

**Desidario "Jessie" Camangyan**, an anchor with Sunrise FM in Mati, Davao Oriental in the southern Philippines, was shot dead as he hosted a singing contest. Camangyan's critical comments in his broadcasts on mining and illegal logging issues are believed to be the motive for his murder.



Vijay Pratap Singh

## June 15 • Philippines

**Joselito Agustin**, a commentator for dzJC Aksyon Radyo-Laoag, was shot and killed on his way home in Bacarra town, Ilocos Norte in the northern Philippines. Like Camangyan, it is believed Agustin was killed for his anti-corruption stance.

## June 19 • Philippines

**Nestor Bedolido**, a journalist with weekly *The Kastigador* in Digos City, Davao del Sur, Mindanao, became the 140th media worker to be killed in the Philippines since the return of democracy in 1986, when he was shot six times on the street by a lone gunman.

## June 27 • Pakistan

**Faiz Mohammad Khan Sasoli**, correspondent for *Aaj Kal* and *Independent News of Pakistan*, died instantly after unidentified assailants opened fire on his car as he was driving near the Faisal Hotel in Khuzdar District, Balochistan province. Faiz was a former president of the Khuzdar Press Club and had previously received threats from the militant Baloch Musallah Difaah Tanzeem (BMdT).

## July 2 • India

**Hem Chandra Pandey**, a freelance journalist from Andhra Pradesh, was killed in a standoff between police and the leader of the banned Communist Party of India (Maoist),

Cherukuri Rajkumar. Pandey was believed to have been mistaken for a Maoist cadre in the shooting.

## July 20 • India

**Vijay Pratap Singh**, a senior reporter for the *Indian Express*, died from injuries sustained in an assassination attempt on a local politician he was visiting on July 12 in Allahabad city in Uttar Pradesh, in northern India.

## July 22 • Nepal

**Devi Prasad Dhital**, Chairman of the Tulsipur FM radio station, was killed by a group of five men who shot him as he emerged from the home of a school teacher and political associate in his home town Tulsipur, in Nepal's far-western district of Dang.

## July 26 • Indonesia

**Muhammad Syaifullah**, Borneo bureau chief with Indonesia's biggest daily newspaper *Kompas*, was found dead at his home in Balikpapan, East Kalimantan province. His uncompromising reporting on environmental issues led many of his colleagues to believe he was poisoned.

## July 30 • Indonesia

**Ardiansyah Matra'is**, a former stringer for the national broadcaster Anteve and reporter for Merauke TV,

was found dead in a river in southern Papua province, Indonesia, at a time when threats against journalists in the province were escalating ahead of local elections in August and September.

## August 21 • Indonesia

**Ridwan Salamun**, a contributor for SUN TV, died from injuries sustained while reporting on a clash between residents of Banda Eli and Mangun in Tual, southeast Maluku. He was assaulted by members of one of the groups, and taken to hospital with machete injuries to his neck and back, but died two hours later.

## September 3 • Pakistan

**Mohammad Sarwar**, a driver for Pakistan's Aaj TV, died in the Civil Hospital in Quetta, the capital of Balochistan, from gunshot injuries he suffered in the wake of a devastating suicide blast targeting the Al-Quds day rally, an international protest in support of Palestine sovereignty.

## September 4 • Pakistan

**Ali Raza**, a reporter for the local newspaper, was severely injured in the triple bomb blast that hit the city of Lahore. Raza was covering the Shia procession in connection with Yaum-e-Ali on 1 September when the bomb went off. He was taken to the Meo Hospital for medical care but died two days later.

## September 5 • Afghanistan

**Sayed Hamid Noori**, a former news anchor of Radio Television Afghanistan (RTA), and spokesman for the speaker of the Afghan parliament after leaving RTA was found dead with multiple stab wounds in the Mecroryan area of Kabul city.

# ACCIDENTAL DEATHS

# ASIA-PACIFIC

## March 6 • India

**Mukesh Kumar**, a photojournalist with Aaj Tak television channel, was killed when the car in which he was travelling in hit a roadside tree in Puri district of Orissa, police said. Kumar was rushed to a hospital where he succumbed to his injuries.

## May 5 • India

**Ajay Tiwari**, a reporter with Delhi-based TV channel Sahara Samay, died when a building collapsed on him near the site of a major fire in south-west Delhi. A cameraman from the India News network was also injured in the accident.

## September 6 • Pakistan

**Ejaz Ahmed Raisani**, a cameraman with Samaa TV, also died from injuries sustained in the Quetta Al-Quds day violence. Eight more media workers were injured in the blast which claimed the lives of at least 73 people.

## September 13 • Pakistan

**Misri Khan**, a senior journalist with Daily Ausaf and President of the Hangu Union of Journalists was gunned down in Hangu, Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa province as he left his office in the city's press club.

## September 16 • Pakistan

**Mujeebur Rehman Saddiqui**, a senior correspondent with Daily Pakistan, was shot dead in the Khyber Pakhtoonkhwa region, north-west Pakistan as he was leaving the mosque after evening prayers. Militants are suspected to be responsible for his murder as he had reportedly received death threats

from armed groups for his independent reporting.

## November 18 • Pakistan

**Abdul Hameed Hayatan**, a reporter with Daily Intekhab and founder of the Gwadar Press Club, was found dead near Turbat, Balochistan almost a month after he and a friend had disappeared from their home town Gwadar on October 25. Hayatan, also known as Lala Hameed Baloch and known for his support for Baloch nationalism was found with gunshots and torture wounds on his body.

## December 4 • Pakistan

**Altaf Chandio**, the president of the Mirpurkhas in Sindh and bureau chief of the private Sindhi language channel, AWAZ (voice), was gunned down outside his house by unidentified gunmen. They knocked at his door and shot him as he answered it. He was fatally wounded and died on the way to hospital.



Abdul Hameed Hayatan

## December 6 • Pakistan

**Abdul Wahab**, of Express News, and Pervez Khan, of WAQT TV, were among 50 people at a government building in Ghalanai, Mohmand Agency, in the Federally Administered Tribal Areas in the country's north-west who were killed in the double blast. The self-proclaimed leader of Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan claimed responsibility, Pakistan's Daily Times reported.

## December 10 • Philippines

**Edison Flamenia Sr**, a journalist for the Mindanao Inquirer, was shot dead in an attack in the troubled southern region of Mindanao as he was walking home in the village of Tabudok in Labangan town.

## December 20 • India

**Sushil Pathak**, a journalist with Dainik Bhaskar, was shot dead by unidentified people in the Bilaspur district of Chhattisgarh. The 35-year-old was returning home from work at around 2am and had parked his car in a nearby street when he was shot, according to local sources quoted by the International News Safety Institute (INSI). He was found by a fellow journalist lying in a pool of blood and taken to hospital where he died.



# EUROPE

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

**F**ive journalists and colleagues were killed in Europe in 2010. The killers did not want them to do their job, to report on what they saw or knew.

Said, Socrates, Grigorijs, Cevdet and Boris Nikolov are names probably not familiar to many of us. They were our colleagues who paid the ultimate price for journalism — they were killed. Now you know the names and we all know they must not be forgotten.

The Swedish media professor Stig Arne Nohrstedt is very clear in his research that journalists who are killed in modern times are targets. They are not killed as a result of collateral damage, they are targeted. The reason? If the journalists are in a war zone, the military does not want them to report the fact that in modern warfare the overwhelming majority of victims are civilians. In peace time, too, journalists are targeted to prevent them from reporting the truth.

The cases listed in this report are those where the European Federation of Journalists has established a link between the killings and the victims' work, but other journalists died or disappeared in suspicious circumstances.

Oleg Bebenin, another colleague and also a founder of Charter 97 in Belarus was found dead

in August. The authorities quickly concluded that his death was suicide, but his colleagues dispute this. Vasily Klimentyev, editor in chief of the Ukrainian newspaper, *Novy Stil* (New style) disappeared on 11 August whilst investigating a story about corruption in the building industry. His mobile phone was later found on a boat in the middle of a lake, but his body has not been found.

It is obvious that journalists in southern and central Europe are more at risk than in other parts of the region. It is also obvious that the media crisis is hitting this part of Europe hard. That is visible in terms of fewer proper jobs, and more unsecure poorly paid journalistic jobs. It is also shown in the new laws drafted to reduce journalists' rights where they are no longer valued as important contributors to democracy, but are rather seen as enemies of the political rulers. The European Federation must pay special attention to the southern and central parts of Europe and I hope we can work together with those employers in the media who share our concern for the safety of journalists.

In Russia, assaults on journalists occurred regularly throughout the year. Some were public clashes with police or private security. Over twenty were targeted attacks by unidentified individuals, and in two cases rated as life-threatening by the authorities. The manslaughter of Konstantin Popov in Tomsk in



Cristina Soler, (L), mother of Spanish journalist David Segarra onboard one of six ships bound for Gaza, gestures during an anti-Israel protest in Valencia May 31, 2010. © REUTERS/Heino Kalis

January after a vicious beating by a policeman was unrelated to his work but its sheer brutality shocked the nation. The murder of army conscript and would-be journalist Dayan Shakirov, who died in suspicious circumstances, was a striking and unsettling illustration of the intolerance of certain institutions towards criticism and investigation.

A database has been set up by Russian journalists in co-operation with the International Federation of Journalists, with detailed information on journalists who lost their lives due to their profession. In 2011 this will be complimented by a further database on non fatal attacks. This is particularly urgent following the vicious near-death beating of Oleg Kashin in the streets of Moscow this November. A few days later Mikhail Beketov, who was put in a coma and has yet to recover his speech following a brutal

attack two years ago, was fined 5000 Roubles for defamation of the local mayor of whom Beketov was a long time critic and is widely suspected of having ordered the assault. This is an important tool for state prosecutors who are going after the killers. It must be our common goal to make sure the killers of our colleagues are brought to justice.

As the international community steps up its efforts to bring more war criminals to court, this must also apply to killers of journalists.

In this way we will best honour the memory of our colleagues who have paid the ultimate price for their profession.

Arne König  
*President, The European Federation of Journalists*

# 2010 IN FOCUS EUROPE

## January 7 • Bulgaria

**Boris Nikolov Tsankov**, radio and TV host, was gunned down in the Bulgarian capital, Sofia. Tsankov was going to meet his lawyer in Sofia, accompanied by his two bodyguards, when the gunmen struck, shooting him in the heart. He died on the spot and his bodyguards were wounded. Tsankov, who had published a book a month earlier about the mafia in Bulgaria, in which he claimed that Sofia drugs boss Metodi Metodiev, who had disappeared in November 2003 was alive, reported receiving death threats following its publication and had requested police protection. He had survived a previous attempt to his life in 2004.

## April 4 • Latvia

**Grigorijs Nemčovs**, publisher of the regional newspaper *Million* and owner of a local TV station of the same name, was shot twice in the head at close range when he went to a meeting in a café. The *Million* newspaper, founded in 1995 and currently Latvia's biggest regional Russian-language newspaper, is renowned for its investigative coverage of political and local government corruption and mismanagement. Nemčovs had received death threats in 2007 and his house had been burned down.



The widow of **Bobi Tsankov**, a radio presenter who was shot dead, cries during his funeral in Sofia, January 10, 2010. © REUTERS/Stoyan Nenov





Mourners pray during Friday prayers behind the coffin of activist Cevdet Kiliclar, who was killed when Israel seized a Turkish aid ship bound for Gaza, during a funeral at Beyazit mosque in Istanbul June 4, 2010. © REUTERS/Osman Orsal

#### April 4 • Turkey

**Metin Alatas**, a journalist working for *Azadiya Welat* daily newspaper published in Kurdish, was found dead, hanged in a tree, in the Hadırlı district of Adana in the predominantly Kurdish region of south-eastern Turkey. He had failed to return since he had left the day before to distribute copies of the paper. The journalist had been victim of an assault four months earlier when five unidentified people approached him in a car as he was distributing the newspaper in front of the Peace and Democracy Party (BDP) building on 22 December 2009. Alatas was beaten and had to undergo medical treatment in hospital.

#### May 13 • Russia

**Said Ibragimov**, Director of the local TBS television channel, was killed on his way to restore a TV transmitter, damaged by militants the day before. According to the Glasnost Defence Foundation, his car carrying a team of repairmen and the accompanying police jeep were ambushed near the village of Ayazi by gunmen who set off a bomb in front of the vehicles and then opened fire. They killed five, among them Ibragimov, and wounded four others.

#### May 31 • Turkey

**Cevdet Kılıçlar**, a journalist who was working with the Humanitarian Relief Foundation, was one of the nine

people shot dead by Israeli soldiers who seized the Mavi Marmara ship along with the five other boats in the Gaza Aid Flotilla. Kılıçlar was killed by a shot in the head and Indonesian cameraman Sura Fachrizaz was shot in the chest and seriously injured.

#### July 19 • Greece

**Socratis Guiola**, a journalist who worked for Thema 9.89 radio station and wrote for the blog *Troktiko*, was shot several times by three armed men who called at his home in Athens. When he came out of his house, they fired a volley of shots, killing him instantly. They escaped in a car which was later found abandoned and torched, police sources say.

# LATIN AMERICA

**CELSO SCHRODER, President of La Federación de Periodistas de América Latina y el CARIBE ( FEPALC)**



**T**he year 2010 brought great challenges to Latin America and the Caribbean with an alarming number of 29 journalists killed, in a climate of astonishing levels of impunity, aggressions and persecution, dire working conditions, massive dismissals and the closure of media organisations.

This situation was much worse in Mexico and Honduras, countries with the highest numbers of journalists killed in the region (10 dead in each country). Mexico stands out as the most dangerous country where the drug trafficking cartel war has claimed at least 20.000 lives, including 67 reporters killed since 2000. Three journalists were reported missing this year in the climate of total absence of efficient mechanisms to protect the press.

Meanwhile, ten journalists became victims of the political violence in Honduras following the coup d'état which brought Porfirio Lobo to power on 27 January 27, overthrowing President Manuel Zelaya.

There were also killings of journalists in Ecuador and Brazil with two cases each and Guatemala with one. There is an ongoing concern over the failure of

governments in the region to take violence against media seriously. Instead, the authorities tend to consider these murders as common crimes, frequently citing “delinquency” — robbery or “personal issues” as reasons for the media killings.

From January to September 113 aggressions against the press were recorded in Venezuela while in Colombia, shocking evidence came to light showing illegal activities including telephone tapping, surveillance as well as systematic harassment of journalists and media organisations by the Colombian secret police, the Administrative Department of Security (DAS) which reports directly to the Presidency of the Republic.

Next year will bring greater challenges to strengthen unions, demand credible action by governments to stop crimes against journalists by combating the culture of impunity and build an environment for safe and free journalism at the service of society. In this complex landscape, the coordination of activities among press workers across the region is essential.

Celso Schroder  
*FEPALC President*

# 2010 IN FOCUS AMERICAS

## January 8 • Mexico

**Valentín Valdés Espinosa**, reporter for *Zócalo of Saltillo* newspaper, was kidnapped on 7 January and his body found a day later in the early hours, with visible signs of torture and shots. A message board had been left on his body with the following warning: "This is going to happen to all those who don't understand. The message is for all".

## January 16 • Mexico

**José Luis Romero**, a crime reporter for Radio Sistema del Noroeste, was kidnapped on 30 December 2009 by a group of armed men in the city of Los Mochis, Sinaloa (north west of Mexico), with ex military Eliud Lorenzo Patiño, whose whereabouts are still unknown. The body of Romero was found on Monday 16 January with bullet wounds on his head and chest and signs of having been savagely tortured. José

Luis Romero presented a news programme on police issues entitled *Línea Directa* at the radio station.

## January 29 • Mexico

**Jorge Ochoa Martínez**, editor-in-chief of two weekly titles, *El Oportuno* and *Despertar de la Costa Chica* newspapers, in the state of Guerrero was shot dead by hit men while driving his car in Ayutla de los Libres, a town of Guerrero State. Local sources said that his murder was in retaliation for his reporting.

## March 1 • Honduras

**Joseph Hernandez Ochoa**, a journalist at privately-owned Channel 51 TV was shot dead in Tegucigalpa, during an attack which apparently was directed at his colleague Karol Cabrera and journalist at Canal 8 TV and Radio Cadena Voces (RCV), who was gravely wounded. Cabrera

had openly supported the coup d'état against President Manuel Zelaya. In the previous months, he had survived an attempt on his life when he was shot by unknown gunmen while driving her car. His pregnant daughter died in the attack and Cabrera fled the country.

## March 11 • Honduras

**David Meza Montesinos**, a journalist for radio El Patio and a correspondent for Radio América was shot dead in the town of La Ceiba, Tocoa. Known for his controversial views, the victim had reported receiving threats three weeks ago after a report about drug trafficking, according to local sources. Montesinos also worked for a local TV news channel, *Abriendo Brecha* based in Tegucigalpa.

## March 13 • Mexico

**Evaristo Pacheco Solís** (33), a reporter of the weekly *Visión Informativa*, was murdered by gunmen who kidnapped him and later dumped his body on the Chichihualco-Chilpancingo road, in the state of Guerrero with five bullet wounds. His killers are believed to be involved in drug trafficking.

## March 14 • Honduras

**Nahúm Palacios**, director of Channel 5 TV station in Aguán was murdered in the coastal city of Tocoa, department of Colon. The victim was returning home in the suburb of Los Pinos de Tocoa, 400 km north of Tegucigalpa, when he was attacked with automatic AK-47



Students hold a banner with a picture of Mexican President Felipe Calderon during a protest against violence in front of "El Diario de Juarez" newspaper in Ciudad Juarez in October 2010. © REUTERS/Tomas Bravo



A friend of television journalist **Jorge Orellana** looks at his coffin in San Pedro Sula April 21, 2010. ©REUTERS/Edgard Garrido

rifles. Police said that Palacios was gunned down by a group of men aboard two vehicles who blocked his car before opening fire. His car was hit by over forty bullets. A woman travelling with him was also injured while another passenger, a cameraman, escaped unharmed.

### March 19 • Colombia

**Clodomiro Castilla** (50), journalist for radio *La Voz de Montería* where he was known for denouncing alliances between far-right militias and the business elite, was killed in the Córdoba area, a paramilitary stronghold. Castilla's employer said he had received threats and had been assigned bodyguards for two years until last year.

### March 22 • Ecuador

**Jorge Santana Carbonell**, director of weekly *Tribuna* and presenter at Channel CQ15 in the southern city of Pasaje, died after spending seven

days in a coma following a traffic accident of 16 March. Santana was hit by a car as he rode his motorbike and suffered serious head injuries. He told the ambulance crew that he had been chased, reports say. It is widely believed that he was killed because of an article published in the *Tribuna* about criminal groups. Before his death, he told colleagues that he was being followed.

### March 26 • Honduras

**José Bayardo Mairena Ramírez**, (52) and **Manuel Juárez**, (55), broadcast journalists, were murdered in an ambush while travelling from Catacamas to Juticalpa, after leaving the *Excelsior* radio station, where they had presented a news programme. They were shot from another car. The two victims presented *Así es Olancho* programme on Channel 4 of R.Z. Televisión, and worked at Radio *Excelsior*, where Bayardo Mairena, an opponent to the 2009 coup d'état, was the manager.

### April 10 • Mexico

**Enrique Villicaña Palomares**, a columnist for the daily newspaper, *La Voz de Michoacán*, was kidnaped and his body found a week later with bullet wounds. According to his family, he had written several columns about attacks against member of his Purepecha community. His family had reported him missing after he failed to return from the University of Michoacán de San Nicolás de Hidalgo of which he was General Secretary.

### April 11 • Colombia

**Mauricio Medina Moreno** (49), a journalist, leader and Indigenous Communicator of the Pijao people and founding member of a community radio station for the Pijao people, CRIT 98.0, was murdered in his house located in the Ortega area, Tolima, Colombia. He was the director of the Indigenous Broadcaster. He was stabbed about 15 times. He was a communicator



A police detective stands next to a window damaged by the explosion of a grenade outside the offices of broadcaster Grupo Televisa in Monterrey August 15, 2010. © REUTERS/Tomas Bravo

committed to democratic values and dialogue.

#### April 11 • Honduras

**Luis Antonio Chévez Hernández**, a presenter at Radio W105 was gunned down in San Pedro Sula, the country's business capital. Chevez (22) and his cousin were shot outside his house by unidentified gunmen who fled the scene. According to neighbours quoted in media reports, strangers had been spotted lurking near the house prior to the arrival of Chévez and his cousin.

#### April 20 • Honduras

**Jorge 'Georgino' Orellana**, editor of *En vivo con Georgino* programme on Honduras TV channel, TVH, was killed with a single shot in the head in the city of San Pedro Sula, in the north of Honduras. Orellana was shot at close range by a gunman who approached him as he was leaving the TVH building. The journalist

was a known critic of the coup d'état against President Manuel Zelaya.

#### June 14 • Honduras

**Luis Arturo Mondragón Morazán** (51), director of Channel 19 TV station and editor of *Teleprensa* news programme in El Paraíso, eastern Honduras, was killed after being shot four times by two men who shot him as he was leaving the TV studios. His colleagues reportedly said the journalist backed the overthrow of President Zelaya and was known in Danli for carrying a gun.

#### June 24 • Brazil

**Clóvis Silva Aguiar** (48), a sports journalist, was murdered in the city of Imperatriz, in the northeastern state of Maranhão. The reporter was standing at the door of his house when two men on a motorbike shot him three times. He was working on the programme *Espacio Abierto* (*Open Space*) of TV Capital, affiliated

to the chain Rede TV, in Imperatriz. The murder was a contract killing, according to the police who arrested a suspect.

#### July 6 • Mexico

**Hugo Alfredo Olivera Cartas**, a crime reporter for *El Día de Michoacán* newspaper published in the western state of Michoacan and director of news agency ADN, was found dead in his van with bullet wounds, a day after he had been kidnapped. Prior to his kidnapping, the offices of the newspaper he co-owned with his father had been raided and files where he stored information about his investigations stolen.

#### July 10 • Mexico

**Guillermo Alcaraz Trejo** (24), a video producer for the Web site of the Chihuahua human rights commission, was gunned down while leaving the Chihuahua offices of the newspaper *Omnia*, media reports



Journalists and their supporters hold placards as they take part in a march for journalists who were killed or are missing, in front of the Angel of Independence monument in Mexico City August 7, 2010. © REUTERS/Henry Romero

said. He was shot while sitting in the car outside the newspaper's building when his killers opened fire from another vehicle. The victim tried to start his car to escape but he lost control and crashed into a tree, according to local sources.

### July 10 • Mexico

**Marco Aurelio Martínez** (45), a radio producer and presenter of *Informativo 800* on Radio La Tremenda in Morelos, was found dead and his body dumped on a minor road. He had been shot in the head after having been kidnapped by armed men travelling in three vehicles. His murder was blamed on the criminals involved in drug trafficking.

### September 11 • Ecuador

The bodies of **Mayra Emilia Aguilar Dueñas**, manager of

Milagro City TV, and her husband, **Manuel Antonio Maridueña Alvarado**, who used to work for the municipal government of Yaguachi, were found in a river in the province of Guayas. They were both tortured before being killed. The attorney of Yaguachi did not discard the possibility that the crime could be related to Aguilar's work.

### September 17 • Mexico

**Luis Carlos Santiago Orozco**, a photojournalist for the local newspaper, the *Diario de Juarez*, and his colleague **Carlos Sanchez** were shot as they were leaving the offices of the newspaper located at the Rio Grande Mall. Santiago who had joined the newspaper only two weeks earlier was killed and Sanchez, an intern, seriously wounded. According to *El Diario's* management, the car they were travelling in was hit from behind

by another vehicle from which the attackers opened fire with rifles and pistols.

### September 25 – Honduras

**Israel Zelaya Díaz** (55), a veteran journalist of radio San Pedro Sula, was killed hours after being kidnapped by gunmen in the city of San Pedro Sula, the second biggest city



Police officers and forensic personnel stand around journalist **Israel Zelaya Díaz**, 55, who was shot three times in the head at Villanueva August 24, 2010. © REUTERS/Stringer

of Honduras. His body was found in a sugar cane plantation near the city of Villanueva. Three months earlier, the veteran journalist who presented the *Claro y Pelado* programme had reported to the authorities that a group of arsonists had set fire to his House. He had also survived several attempts on his life.

### September 28 • Guatemala

**Víctor Hugo Juárez** (50), editor of two online publications, *Wanima News* and *Guatemala Empresarial*, was killed by unidentified attackers in a residential sector of the Guatemalan capital city, together with **Byron Dávila Díaz**, (38), who ran a small company of graphic design. They were found inside a house in Dávila, in a graphic design studio, tied up to a bed with signs of torture. Juárez had received death threats prior to his murder, media reports said.

### October 14 • Colombia

**Rudolfo Maya Aricape**, a journalist for radio Payumat, a community radio station run by the Association of Indigenous Councils in Norte del Cauca (ACÍN), was killed in his home in rural Caloto in southwest Cauca province, according to FECELP. Two weeks before his murder, graffiti in Caloto accused Maya and other indigenous leaders of being members of the leftist guerrilla group Fuerzas Armadas Revolucionarias de Colombia (FARC), FECELP says.

### October 18 • Brazil

**Francisco Gomes de Medeiros** (46), a crime reporter of Radio Caicó AM, was killed in the state of Rio Grande do Norte by a gunman on a motor bike who shot him five times. De Medeiros was sitting by the sidewalk of his house of barrio Paraíba,

# ACCIDENTAL DEATHS AMERICAS

### May 27 • Guatemala

**Anibal Archila**, a cameraman for Notisiete TV, was killed while reporting on the eruption of the Pacaya volcano. His body was found by firefighters and another journalist near Cerro Chino, according to reports. Archila (32, had worked for 12 years as a journalist. His colleague Vinicio Fuentes was quoted as saying that Archilla couldn't escape from the volcanic stone rain and was hit several times by lava and hot rocks. Archilla was found lying in a foetal position, still holding his video camera, media reports say.



A woman pays her respects during the funeral of journalist **Anibal Archila** in Guatemala City May 28, 2010. © REUTERS/Doriam Morales

in Caicó. The police detained a suspect who confessed to the murder of the journalist as a reprisal for his denouncing drug trafficking. The victim presented the station's daily program *Comando Geral*. During 11 years, he wrote about politics and police issues for *Diário de Natal* and previously worked for *Tribuna do Norte* and *Gazeta do Oeste* newspapers.

### November 5 • Mexico

**Carlos Alberto Guajardo Romero**, a journalist for *El Expreso* newspaper was killed in

a shoot-out between marines and gunmen in the Mexican border city of Matamoros. Local media said Guajardo was leaving the scene of the shoot-out in his car when it was hit more than twenty times.

### December 28 • Honduras

**Henry Suazo**, a journalist for radio HRN and Cablevision del Atlantico TV was gunned down outside his home, according to police sources. Suazo, who became the tenth journalist to be killed in Honduras in 2010 was shot dead as he left his home in the coastal town of La Masica.



# MIDDLE EAST AND ARAB WORLD

MONIR ZAAROUR, IFJ Coordinator for Middle East and Arab World

**S**ix Iraqi journalists were killed during 2010 out of a total of eight in the region, continuing the trend of steady decline in the deaths and general violence that has marred Iraqi journalism during the last decade.

Most alarmingly, almost all the journalists were targeted for who they were or for what they were doing. Gone are the days when the deaths of Iraqi journalists could be attributed to accidents amid the general level of violence. Increasingly journalists are being killed for their work. There are two main probable causes:

- The political vacuum that existed through much of 2010 following the elections and the months of delays in forming a government,
- The persistent failure of the Iraqi leadership to make a serious effort to investigate the killings of journalists and to bring the culprits to account. Impunity breeds more violence.

In March UNESCO issued its report *The Safety of Journalists and the Danger of Impunity*, produced by the International Programme for the Development of Communication. The report highlights the responsiveness of governments to dealing with attacks on journalists and combating impunity. Of the 28 countries written to by

UNESCO 15 responded including the Lebanon and Palestine. Iraq, which boasted a third of the total numbers killed, failed to take any action. This resonates with the failure of the Iraqi government to make good on their promise to the Iraqi Journalists' Syndicate and the IFJ, as well as the Presidential Order issued to investigate the killings of journalists.

In Yemen, the atmosphere has remained tense through 2010 with journalists subjected to violence, intimidation, detention without charge and disappearances. The targeting of journalists is taking place at a time of increasing national instability where the government is anxious to limit critical coverage of the ongoing Sa'ada War in the North, to control dissent from secessionist movements in the South and to minimise the threat of instability posed by the presence of Al Qaida supported elements in the East.

In September, the IFJ mission to meet with the new leadership of the Palestinian Journalist Syndicate heard about the growing violence against photographers covering demonstrations against the confiscation of Palestinian lands and the Security wall. It appears that the Israeli army now systematically uses violence to remove photographers to prevent them bearing witness to the dispersal of Palestinian demonstrators.





A journalist is assisted by a colleague after he was injured during clashes between Israeli soldiers and demonstrators protesting against a nearby Israeli settlement near the West Bank village of Beit Umar. © REUTERS/Abed Omar Qusini

In May, the meeting of Mediterranean journalists' unions, hosted by the Italian Federation of Journalists (FNSI) in Sardinia, debated the conclusions of the IFJ's Gaza mission report of January 2009 on the targeting of media during the conflict and the general safety situation. The meeting condemned the restrictions on movement of journalists, called on all governments to respect their obligations under UN Security Council Resolution 1738 on protection of journalists and endorsed a regional safety programme.

The year ended on a more positive note as the IFJ secured funding to launch a comprehensive safety training programme for journalists in the Middle East. The programme will train new Arabic safety trainers, open safety offices in Palestine, Yemen, Iraq and the Lebanon, and greatly enhance the capacity of unions to provide concrete support to journalists facing threats and violence.

Monir Zaarour  
*IFJ Coordinator for Middle East and Arab World*

# 2010 IN FOCUS MIDDLE EAST AND ARAB WORLD

## January 26 • Iraq

**Yasser**, a driver at the bureau of The Times of London in Iraq, was killed in one of the bomb attacks on hotels in Baghdad. According to reports, Yasser had left Baghdad's Hamra hotel, where The Times' bureau is based, when a suicide bomber in a white minibus blew himself up outside the building. Yasser had worked for the paper for seven years, since the fall of Saddam Hussein.

## February 13 • Yemen

**Mohammed Shu'i Al-Rabu'i**, a correspondent for several news media including the opposition newspaper Al-Qahira, was gunned down in the district of Beni Qais, 120 km north-west of Sanaa. Al-Rabu'i, 34, was reportedly shot dead at his home by four or five individuals who had been arrested after attacking him in late 2009 but released later.

## May 5 • Iraq

**Sardasht Osman**, an Iraqi Kurdish journalist, was kidnapped on 4 May and found dead later in the city of Mosul. The journalist who wrote for *Ashtiname* newspaper in Erbil, capital of the Kurdistan Region of Iraq, was abducted by unidentified gunmen who bundled him in the car and drove away. Reports quoted family sources as saying that he had received death threats following the publication of an article in which he criticised a senior Kurdish politician.

## August 3 • Lebanon

**Assaf Abu Rahhal**, a journalist for Al-Akhbar newspaper, was killed

in clashes between the Israeli and Lebanese armies, according to the statement on the website Now Lebanon. It said the 55-year-old was reporting on the fighting from the southern Lebanese town of Aadiseh.

## September 7 • Iraq

**Riyadh al-Sarray**, a presenter on Al-Iraqiya TV, was killed when unidentified gunmen opened fire on his car. One of his colleagues reportedly said that the attack happened as the journalist was driving to the Iraqi International Fair when gunmen travelling in another car shot him dead in the Al-Harithiya district of Western Baghdad. The journalist had worked for Al-Iraqiya since 2005 and wrote columns for a number of local newspapers.

## September 8 • Iraq

**Safaa al-Din Abdel Hamid Khayat**, a presenter of religious programmes on Al-Mosuliyah satellite television, was killed by gunmen in the main northern city of Mosul. Media reports said that the victim was shot dead as he was leaving his house to work

at the television station where he presented programmes devoted to mosques and shrines.

## October 4 • Iraq

**Tahrir Kadhim Jawad**, a freelance cameraman, died instantly after a bomb attached to his car exploded in Garma, 50 miles west of Baghdad. Jawad was driving to the capital to deliver footage when the bomb exploded, media reports said. He had worked as a journalist for seven years, first as an editor with the weekly Al-Karma, and then as a freelance cameraman who supplied numerous television broadcasters with footage.

## November 17 • Iraq

**Mazin Mardan Al-Baghdadi**, a TV presenter at the Iraqi satellite channel Al-Mosuliyah, was shot dead on 17 November at his home in the district of Al-Seddiq, in the east of the city of Mosul. According to media reports, the police said unidentified gunmen raided the home of Al-Baghdadi and shot him several times, killing him on the spot.

Family and relatives of Assaf Abu Rahhal, a correspondent for al-Akhbar newspaper who was killed during yesterday's clashes between Israeli forces and the Lebanese army, carry his coffin during the funeral at Kfeir village. © REUTERS/Sharif Karim





**Lucy Ekadu**, President of the Uganda Union of Journalists (UJU) handing the IFJ Safety Fund Humanitarian Assistance to families of Ugandan killed journalists.

INTERNATIONAL

# safety

FUND

## 2010 REPORT

**I**n 2010, the IFJ Safety Fund continued to provide a lifeline to journalists around the world caught up in violent conflicts, political instability or media repression and needing to escape to safety, receive medical care or just a little help with acute financial hardship. The Safety Fund is made up of money raised by individual journalists and IFJ unions and has taken up cases all over the world and intervened to provide special support for the media victims of natural disasters and accidents

The Safety Fund has disbursed over 60.000 Euro of the IFJ Safety Fund in response to requests for humanitarian assistance resulting from crisis

situations which left many journalists in terrible conditions. As in previous years, the beneficiaries came from all over the world and show the scope of attacks on journalists — threats, lawsuits, detention and forced exile which remain unacceptably high.

For the first time in three years, the special agreement with the Vintu Foundation for Excellence in Education and Journalism to support financially families of killed journalists and media personnel was not renewed following the decision of the IFJ Executive Committee to suspend the partnership with the Foundation. The Executive Committee also agreed on the review of the Safety Fund

Rules, providing sufficient flexibility both in terms of size of grants and removed the 'one off' rule for cases of returning applicants in exceptional circumstances.

Furthermore, the IFJ contributed financial relief to the Association of Iranian Journalists inside the country and those who have been forced to go into exile following the media clamp-down unleashed by Tehran following the disputed presidential elections in 2009. The Fund also supported African journalists facing law suits in Cameroun and provided humanitarian assistance to their colleagues who left the country to escape arrests.

The Fund for Media Translators and Interpreters became operational and awarded its first grant to an Iraqi interpreter whose husband has been missing for years and feared dead, leaving his wife and her two young children destitute.

The IFJ, through its Safety Fund continued to help to pay the hospital bills of injured journalists, supported programmes of safe houses for journalists under serious danger and contributed to legal costs in court actions to defend journalists' rights in countries where often poverty and social conflict makes it impossible for journalists to have proper legal representation.

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 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 2005 the IFJ revised the Safety Fund rules. These are available on request from the IFJ headquarters.

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

Live News has been produced in Albanian, Arabic, Bulgarian, Chinese, English, French, Italian, Japanese, Macedonian, Romanian, Russian, Serbian and Spanish.

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. During 2010 we intend to make sure 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**

## Africa

**Ethiopia:** The Fund supported two Ethiopian journalists exiled in India and Yemen who needed medical treatment.

**Rwanda:** The Fund provided humanitarian assistance to three Rwanda journalists who had fled to Uganda, one in Tanzania and to the family of a journalist killed in Rwanda.

**Cameroon:** The IFJ Safety Fund helped with traveling costs to reunite a journalist who had sought refuge in North America with his family.

**Tunisia:** The Fund also provided financial support to the wife who needed to care for her sick husband, a leading Tunisian journalist detained for his work.

**Uganda:** The IFJ Safety Fund provided financial assistance to families of two journalists killed in violent incidents.

## Asia Pacific

**Sri Lanka:** The fund provided assistance to the family of prominent journalist who went missing, feared dead. Two other journalists who fled to Singapore and to the United States of America also received assistance from the Fund.

**Pakistan:** One journalist who was forced out of his home by death threats received assistance from the Fund to help him relocate to a temporary safe home.

**The Philippines:** Two journalists received assistance from the Safety Fund to help pay for medical treatment of a family member in one case and as a contribution to the protection cost in the second where the journalist was facing a serious death threat and needed to secure his home.

## Americas

**Colombia:** The Fund gave further financial support to one Colombian journalist who was forced into exile in Peru for their security.

**Peru:** The IFJ Safety Fund provided emergency assistance to a journalist in Peru.

## Europe

**Russia:** The Fund gave humanitarian assistance to a Russian journalist who fled to Croatia as a result of harassment she had suffered in connection to her reporting.

**Azerbaijan:** The Safety Fund awarded a grant to a journalist who needed to undergo medical treatment in Moscow.

## Arab World and Middle East

**Iran:** The Fund gave financial assistance to six Iranian journalists who had fled the media clampdown to Turkey and Belgium. Moreover, the Fund continued to support the Association of Iranian journalists.

**Iraq:** The Safety Fund contributed to the medical costs of an Iraqi media staff injured in a bomb attack who needed treatment abroad. Another journalist who fled to Turkey also received assistance.

**Palestine:** One journalist exiled in The Netherlands received humanitarian assistance from the Safety Fund after his former employers terminated his contract and stopped paying him while he was receiving medical treatment.

**Yemen:** The IFJ Safety Fund granted humanitarian assistance to families of detained journalists who were in a dire financial situation.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

## International Code of Practice for the Safe Conduct of Journalism

**T**he 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 conferences where someone thought of the Fund. People only dig in their pockets because they know it exists. Someone has to start the ball rolling. Will you start it next time? Keep the IFJ Safety Fund in mind whenever union members get together.

## How to Give

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

## The IFJ Safety Fund

**α/c BE64 2100 7857 0052**

SWIFT Code: GEBABEBB

Fortis Bank, Rond Point Schuman 10, 1040 Brussels

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

**α/c BE90 3630 4689 8732**

SWIFT Code: BBRU-BE-BB

ING Bank, Rond Point Schuman 8, 1040 Brussels

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**The IFJ is the world's largest organisation of journalists with members in more than 125 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 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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