

Ethical Journalism Network

**Building
Trust In the
New World
Of Information**



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Who we are



A coalition of media professional groups from around the world committed to building trust in media and promoting principles of ethical journalism, good governance and self-regulation in the digital age

www.ethicaljournalismnetwork.org

African Centre for Media Excellence
African Media Initiative
Alliance of Independent Press Councils of Europe
Article 19
Asia-Pacific Broadcasting Union
Association of Commercial Television in Europe
CASCFEN
Center for International Media Ethics
Center For Media Freedom & Responsibility
Editor-In-Chiefs Forum Hungary
European Broadcasting Union
European Federation of Journalists
European Journalism Centre
European Magazine Media Association
European Newspaper Publishers Association
European Publishers Council
Fundación Nuevo Periodismo Iberoamericano
Global Editors Network

Global Forum for Media Development
iMediaEthics
International Association of Women in Radio & Television
International Press Institute
Internews Europe
Media Diversity Institute
MediaWise
Online News Association
Organization of News Ombudsmen
Pakistan Coalition for Ethical Journalism
PANOS South Asia
Punto24
Religion News Service
Reynolds Journalism Institute
South East Europe Media Organisation
South East Europe Network for Media Professionalization
Tanzania Journalists Alliance
Thomson Foundation
World Association of Newspapers and News Publishers
World Press Freedom Committee

The Information Crisis

- Government: political bias, propaganda, and surveillance
- Economic controls: advertising and licensing
- Internet at the Limits of Free Expression
- A Flawed Culture of Communications: anonymity, plagiarism, “free” for all

What Makes Journalism Different?

- Journalism is not free speech, it is constrained expression.
- It works in a framework of values and ethics.
- It has purpose.
- It is other regarding.

Our Ethical Values

- **Truth, Accuracy and Fact-based Communication**
- **Independence**
- **Impartiality**
- **Humanity**
- **Accountable and Transparent**

Can Such Principles Apply on the Web?

The internet is **self-regarding**, not other-regarding.

Bias, prejudice and a lack of fairness are **acceptable**.

It is dominated by **special interests**

But There Are Viable and Common Values

Truth and accuracy: fact-based communications

Humanity: avoid malice and do no harm

Accountability: Transparency and self-correction

Turning the Page of Hate: Genocide and Terrorism



1994: 800,000 Killed. Hate media helped
organise slaughter

Hate Speech in the Media Focus

Islamaphobia
Anti-Semitism
Religion
Race relations
Migration
Gender equality
Homosexuality



Middle East Media Crisis

- **The Media Battles: A Region Divided**
- **Palestine: Fading into the Background**
- **Syria and Libya: Hidden From View**
- **Turkey: Kurdish Rights and a Media War**
- **Egypt: The Rise of Self-Censorship**
- **Iraq: Media Failures Home and Abroad**
- **New Propaganda, Old Dilemmas**

Should we show these pictures? Slick, Seductive Power of the Net



Hate speech and free expression

Propaganda is an important part of making war. **Bias** and **prejudice** are human traits.

People are **entitled to free speech**, even if they hold offensive and hurtful opinions.

But what are the limits? And who draws the red lines which define the frontiers of tolerance?

Prime Time For Tolerance: Journalism In Times of War

- **All codes of ethics promote non-discrimination**
- **Do no harm is not a cliché**
- **We Must Avoid Taking Sides**
- **Pluralism is Key to Journalism and Democracy**

A Five-Point Test for Hate

- **The Status of the Speaker**
- **The Reach of the Speech**
- **The Intention of the Speaker**
- **The Content and Form of Speech**
- **The Economic, Social and Political Climate**

Towards A Culture of Responsible Communications

- **Accuracy as a core principle**
- **Transparency and Privacy**
- **Moderation of all comments**
- **Accountability, Self-correction**
- **Avoid a Rush to Publish**

EJN at Work

Pakistan: Building ethical base; self-regulation.

Middle East: Turkey, Egypt, Palestine, Lebanon, challenging hate-speech, self-censorship, media solidarity, targeting young people

Indonesia, Myanmar: Press Councils for Asia

Africa: Turning Page of Hate, Rwanda 2015

Europe: Russia –Ukraine Dialogue in Conflict zones. Western Balkans

Surveys: Self-regulation, corruption, migration

Today Anyone Can Tell Their Story



But it's only Journalism if it's Ethical