



EJN 2015 Programme: Events in Paris and Denmark Put Focus on Action to Reduce Hate

1. The EJN programme for the year will continue to consolidate our programme with the core objectives to strengthen the craft of journalism and to build public trust in media. These aspirations become ever more important following the events in January 2015 in Paris when terrorists attacked the satirical magazine *Charlie Hebdo* and further violence in Copenhagen in February. These were targeted killings of media people and members of the Jewish community.
2. These attacks, coming almost ten years after the publication of cartoons of the Prophet Mohammed by the Danish newspaper *Jyllands Posten*, which led to violent protests and a divisive debate over free expression, poses new challenges for journalists and media.
3. In 2015, therefore, the EJN will follow up its work particularly on actions to combat hate speech, as well as strengthening newsroom ethics, self-regulation and actions to combat internal and external threats to good media governance.
4. The EJN proposes to **prepare a report** on how media around the world, and particularly those serving Muslim communities in Pakistan, Egypt, Indonesia, Malaysia, India and across the Middle East and North Africa, have reported the Paris events.
5. This report will form the basis for a continuing discussion among journalists and media leaders on the ethical challenges in reporting acts of terrorism and particularly where values of free expression are themselves put at risk. A number of **specific actions in Europe, the Middle East and Asia** will be organised on this theme involving EJN supporters.
6. The programme will also include a second conference on hate speech to be organised in co-operation with the government of **Rwanda** in April 2015. This regional event for countries of the Great Lakes region of Africa will focus on hate speech at election time and the promotion of the EJN 5-point text for hate-speech in journalism. The EJN will use this event to help update and strengthen materials related to promotion of media standards around elections and political reporting.
7. The EJN will also assist in launching a new global network for reporters and media covering religious affairs across all religious and secular communities. The aim will be to promote ethical journalism and to reduce religious speech which is divisive and hateful. Part of this will be dealing with the problem of hate-speech from within faith-based institutions.

8. The 2015 programme will also include specific events in partnership with EJNI supporters to launch the conclusions of the 2014 multi-country surveys on self-regulation and paid journalism.
9. The EJNI will also launch a multi-country survey of media coverage of **migration issues** as part of new co-operation with the International Organisation of Migration to assist media coverage in this area (see project proposal). Part of this work will include an international conference to be organised in Singapore in July 2015.
10. EJNI will further expand its work in the Western Balkans with UNESCO in a three-year project to **promote self-regulation** in the region. The work will also follow-up the initiative to promote actions to counter self-censorship in **Turkey**.
11. As part of the EJNI programme to raise awareness within journalism and media on the importance of ethics, good governance and self-regulation the EJNI will lead a session at the world congress of the IPI to be held in **Myanmar** in April 2015.
12. The EJNI will also use this moment, in co-operation with IPI and the multi-faith dialogue group KAIICD, to launch a new media and journalism network for ethical reporting of religious affairs.
13. The EJNI will continue work in **Pakistan** in co-operation with International Media Support to strengthen the ethics and good programme launched in 2013.
14. Further the EJNI will co-operate with the **All China Journalists Association** in activities to promote a national ethics code and regional ethics councils for Chinese journalism.
15. The EJNI will also continue to develop its co-operation with journalists and media in the Middle East and fresh activities are planned for **Palestine, Egypt and Lebanon**. The EJNI works closely with the Norwegian Institute of Journalism in this work and we plan during 2015 to expand our co-operation in the region. The EJNI will carry out a mission to Palestine to promote co-operation between all the universities carrying out journalism education on a common programme on ethics of journalism. The EJNI will also look at developing dialogues on combating hate-speech with media, and religion and political communities in Palestine and **Israel**.
16. The EJNI is also working with the OSCE to promote dialogues between journalists in **Ukraine** and **Russia** and will seek to organise an event in **Serbia** which takes over the role of Chair of the OSCE in January 2015. The EJNI will take part in a meeting organized by the OSCE on this dialogue process in February 2015.
17. As part of its work, the EJNI will develop proposals for new dialogues within journalism on how media can work more effectively to promote responsibility in the open information landscape in line with the conclusions of the Bali Media

Forum 2014, particularly regarding all forms of user generated content. The EJM is considering how the structure of the Bali media Forum can in 2015 be used as a springboard for fresh actions to promote ethical journalism and dialogue between different media communities in particular to combat hate speech following the Paris events.

This work will be carried out through the organisation of partnerships and country-based activities. For 2015 the EJM has agreed a number of partnerships and activities:

EJM Partnerships 2015

In addition to the work set out above, the EJM will continue to strengthen links with its supporters.

The proposals set out here include participation in activities being organised by the Online News Association, World Association of Newspapers, Organisation of News Ombudsmen, Association of Commercial television in Europe, International Press Institute, Global Editors Network, European Federation of Journalists, Thomson Foundation, Religion News Service, Investigative Reporters and Editors, UNESCO.

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