



## **Dunja Mijatović OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media**

Dunja Mijatović was appointed in 2010 by the Ministerial Council of the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) as the Representative on Freedom of the Media. The Council gave her a political mandate to protect and promote freedom of expression and freedom of the media in the 57 OSCE participating States.

For more than two decades she worked on human rights, media law and regulation, institution building in transition states and ways to deal with hate speech and dangerous speech in complex post-war societies. During this time she acquired extensive experience in promoting respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms through international dialogue and cooperation, media law and policy and Internet governance. She has in-depth knowledge of new technologies with the emphasis on digitalisation, convergence and the Internet.

As one of the founders of the Communications Regulatory Agency of Bosnia and Herzegovina in 1998 she helped to create a legal, regulatory and policy framework for the media in a complex post-war society. She was also involved in establishing a self-regulatory Press Council and the first Free Media Helpline in South East Europe. In 2007 she was elected President of the European Platform of Regulatory Agencies, the largest media regulators' network in the world.

She held this post until her appointment to the OSCE. She has chaired the Council of Europe's Group of Specialists on freedom of expression and information in times of crisis, during which its Committee of Ministers adopted a Declaration on the protection and promotion of investigative journalism and Guidelines on protecting freedom of expression and information in times of crisis. Mijatović has also written extensively on "new media" topics. She has worked as a consultant on projects relating to media regulation and new technologies in Europe, North Africa and the Middle East.

She holds a Master's degree in European Studies from the University of Bologna, the London School of Economics, University of Sarajevo and Sussex University.

Mijatović was awarded the Médaille Charlemagne in 2015. Since 2000 the Médaille Charlemagne is awarded to a European personality who has made an outstanding contribution to the process of European integration and the development of a European identity. She is also the recipient of the City of Geneva PEC AWARD 2015 for her work on the issue of the safety of journalists and media freedom in Ukraine during the crisis and her "exceptional personal commitment for the promotion of freedom of information in the whole region."

The International Peace Center in Sarajevo awarded her the "FREEDOM" prize in 2010 for her work and activities on the struggle for freedom, peace and development in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Europe and the world.



**Johanna Suurpää**  
**Director, Unit for Democracy, Language Affairs and**  
**Fundamental Rights, Ministry of Justice of Finland**

Johanna Suurpää is the Director of the Finish Ministry of Justice's Unit for Democracy, Language Affairs and Fundamental Rights.

She holds a Master of Law from Helsinki University and has previously worked in the Ministry for Foreign Affairs as the Director for Human Rights Policy, and as a Senior Program Officer for the World Bank in Washington D.C. She also served as Ombudsman for Minorities from 2007-2010. She is also an expert on immigration and has provided her expertise to events and organizations in Vienna and Tallinn.



**Johan Hirschfeldt**  
**Expert on Constitutional Law, Substitute**  
**Member of the Venice Commission,**  
**Former Chancellor of Justice, Sweden**

Johan Hirschfeldt was born in 1942 and is a Swedish lawyer and expert in constitutional law including freedom of expression and freedom of information. He has studied how these freedoms have developed since their emergence in 1766.

He is a former Chancellor of Justice and has also been president of an appeals court. He is now the Swedish substitute member of the Venice Commission of the Council of Europe. He also serves as the chairman of Journalistfonden, a foundation for the further training of journalists.



**David Goldberg**  
**Academic and Right to Information Activist**

David Goldberg is an internationally experienced academic lecturer and information rights advocate and activist based in Glasgow.

Since 1984, he has worked as a volunteer for the Campaign for Freedom of Information (UK); recently he has become the Vice Chair of the International Advisory Board of Access Info Europe. He is Senior Visiting Fellow, Institute of Computers and Communications Law, Queen Mary College, University of London and an adjunct associate Professor of Law, Southwestern Law School, Los Angeles.

His previous appointments have included Associate Research Fellow, Centre for Socio-Legal Studies, Programme for Comparative Media Law and Policy, Faculty of Law, University of Oxford (2007-13),

as well as Lecturer for Communication Law course in Glasgow Caledonian University, Law Division (2004-13). David Goldberg is an ad-hoc expert for the Council of Europe; Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe; and UNESCO. He gained his LL.B in 1970 from the University of Glasgow and his PhD in 2012 from Glasgow Caledonian University.



**Dirk Voorhoof**  
**Professor, Human Rights Centre, Ghent University**

Dirk Voorhoof is prof. em. at Ghent University, Belgium. He is a member of the Executive Board of the European Centre for Press and Media Freedom (ECPMF), the Human Rights Centre at the Law Faculty of Ghent University and the Global FOE&I @Columbia experts network, Columbia University, New York.

Since 2005 he has taught Media Law at the University of Copenhagen (UCPH) and from 1995 to 2005 he was a member of the Federal Commission for Access to Administrative Documents in Belgium.

Among his recent publications are: “Freedom of Expression, Media and Journalism under the European Human Rights System: Characteristics, Developments, and Challenges”, in P. MOLNÁR (ed.), *Free Speech and Censorship Around the Globe*, Central European University Press, Budapest - New York, 2015, 59-104 and “Freedom of Journalistic Newsgathering, Access to Information and Protection of Whistle-blowers under Article 10 ECHR and the standards of the Council of Europe”, in Council of Europe, *Journalism at Risk. Threats, challenges and perspectives*, Council of Europe, Strasbourg, 2015, 105-143.

For more information see <https://biblio.ugent.be/person/801000461819>.



**Toby Mendel**  
**Executive Director, Centre for Law and Democracy**

Toby Mendel is the Executive Director of the Centre for Law and Democracy, a Canadian-based international human rights NGO that provides legal and capacity building expertise regarding foundational rights for democracy, including the right to information, freedom of expression, the right to participate and the rights to assembly and association.

Prior to that, he was, for over 12 years, Senior Director for Law at ARTICLE 19, a human rights NGO focusing on freedom of expression and the right to information. He has collaborated extensively with inter-governmental actors working in these areas – including the World Bank, the UN and other special international rapporteurs on freedom of expression, UNESCO, the OSCE and the Council of Europe – as well as numerous governments and NGOs in countries all over the world.

His work spans a range of areas, including legal reform and analysis, training, advocacy and capacity building. He has also published extensively on a range of freedom of expression, right to information, communication rights and refugee issues.

Before joining ARTICLE 19, he worked as a senior human rights consultant with Oxfam Canada and as a human rights policy analyst at the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA).



**Nadezhda Azhgikhina**  
**Vice President, European Federation of Journalists**

Nadezhda Azhgikhina is a journalist, literary critic and Vice President of the European Federation of Journalists and a member of the Union of Russian Writers, Russian PEN, and of the Gender Council of International Federation of Journalists. She writes a personal column

in the national weekly *Delovoy Vtorik* and teaches at Moscow State University in the faculty of journalism.

She graduated from the Faculty of Journalism at Moscow State University in 1982 and began her career in the same year as a reporter for the national daily *Komsomolskaya Pravda*. In 1989, she received an advanced degree in literature from Moscow University and began to work for the magazine *Ogonyek*, the leading intellectual journal of that time. In 1992, she co-founded the Association of Russian Women Journalists.

Between 1995 and 2001, she was a staff journalist on the daily *Nezavisimaya Gazeta*, where she inaugurated the first women's page in a Russian newspaper. She has written and edited 18 books on journalism, culture, human rights and gender equality.



**Thijs Berman**  
**Principal Adviser, Office of the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media**

Thijs Berman is the Principal Adviser in the Office of the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media.

He was previously an independent consultant based in Brussels, Belgium. Between 2004 and 2014, he was a Dutch politician and served as a Member of the European Parliament. He was also a journalist for many years, working for various Dutch media outlets in Paris and Moscow.





**Helen Darbishire**  
**Executive Director, Access Info Europe**

Helen Darbishire is a human rights activist specialising in the public's right of access to information (freedom of information), and the development of open and democratic societies with participatory and accountable governments.

Helen is founder and Executive Director of the Madrid-based NGO Access Info Europe, established in 2006 to promote the right of access to information in Europe and globally. Helen has worked for over 20 years as a human rights professional, focusing on issues of freedom of expression and information, media freedom, civil society development, and democratisation.

Prior to setting up Access Info Europe, Helen worked as a campaigner and project manager at Article 19 (1989 to 1998) based in London and Paris, and for the Open Society Institute (1999-2005) where she directed programmes on freedom of expression and freedom of information, based in Budapest and New York.

Helen has provided expertise to a wide range of non-governmental and inter-governmental organisations, including UNESCO, the Council of Europe, the OSCE, and the World Bank. She is a founder of the global Freedom of Information Advocates Network and served two terms as its chair (2004-2010). She holds a degree in History and Philosophy of Science and Psychology from Durham University, UK



**Máté Szabó**  
**Director of Programs, Hungarian Civil Liberties Union**

Máté Szabó, Ph.D, is a lawyer specializing in the protection of fundamental freedoms and informational rights (informational privacy and data protection as well as freedom of information law). His main field of interest focuses on the constitutional borders of the rights for informational self-determination.

Currently he works as the Director of Programs at Hungarian Civil Liberties Union (HCLU). Previously he was the Director of Eötvös Károly Policy Institute (Budapest, Hungary). He has also held the position of senior lecturer at University of Miskolc's Department of Informational and Media Law.

At HCLU he is responsible for the supervision of various strategic litigation cases by the organization, before domestic, lower and higher, in addition to international courts.



**Dave Banisar**  
**Senior Legal Counsel, Article 19**

Dave Banisar has worked in the field of information policy for nearly 20 years and was previously Director of the Freedom of Information Project at Privacy International.

He has authored books, studies and articles on freedom of information, freedom of expression, media policy, whistleblowing, communications security and privacy. He has also served as an advisor and consultant to numerous organisations, including the

Council of Europe, the Organisation for Security and Co-operation in Europe, the UN Development Programme and the Open Society Institute.

He was a research fellow at the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University and Policy Director of the Electronic Privacy Information Center in Washington, DC. He has a Juris Doctor in law and public policy from The Columbus School of Law, at The Catholic University of America in Washington, DC.



**Andrey Rikhter**  
**Senior Adviser, Office of the OSCE**  
**Representative on Freedom of the Media**

Andrey Rikhter is Senior Adviser at the OSCE Office of the Representative on Freedom of the Media. He holds university degrees in law, journalism and foreign languages, a doctorate in Russia and a professorship in media studies from Slovakia.

He has authored more than 200 publications on media law and policy in Russian, English, Armenian, Azeri, Bosnian, Croat, German, French, Serbian, Slovak, Tajik and Ukrainian, including the only standard media law textbook for journalism students in the Russian Federation (2002, 2009, 2016), a textbook on international standards of media regulation (2011), a textbook on online media law (2014), and a book on censorship and freedom of the media in post-Soviet countries, published by UNESCO (2007). He also sits on the editorial boards of a number of international journals on communications and the media.

He was a long-time professor at the School of Journalism, Lomonosov Moscow State University, where he chaired a department in media law and history. He also served as a commissioner at the International Commission of Jurists and the Chair of the Law Section of the International Association for Media and Communication Research.

From 2004-2012 he worked on a number of the draft resolutions for the Supreme Court of the Russian Federation that dealt with the issues of defamation, media law and court transparency.