



STATEMENT

We, participants of permanent dialogue between professional journalists' organizations of Russia and Ukraine (the Russian Union of Journalists, the National Union of the Journalists of Ukraine and the Independent Media Trade Union of Ukraine):

- Deeply saddened by all journalists and media who died in 2014 – 2015, express condolences to their families and friends, and will demand full investigations of these crimes and other cases involving attacks, threats and the violation of journalists' rights;
- Consider inadmissible any attempt to use deaths and journalists' rights violation as a tool to propagandize and incite hatred;
- Will continue to advocate the principles of honest and responsible journalism and will confront aggression and propaganda emanating from the media of our countries;
- Reaffirm our adherence for a continuation of dialogue and facilitation of co-operation, considering professional solidarity a foremost weapon against attempts to divide journalists and to make them tools in a political and ideological rivalry;
- Are convinced that only a professional dialogue, open discussions and exchanges of experience including a dialogue among journalists of different generations will help to preserve the main values and dignity of our profession, and will therefore do our utmost to widen our dialogue and to overcome misunderstanding and prejudices; that is why we will continue to work on facilitating dialogue and creating new platforms for regular professional discussions and courses for increasing journalists' skills;
- Are ready to provide practical support to regional journalists in Russia and Ukraine for exchange visits;
- Believe that the journalism of the future depends on our efforts and on the efforts of our colleagues.

Vienna, 23 April 2015