



Office of the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media

MEDIA FREEDOM LITERACY ROUND TABLE 6 December 2022, Vienna

BIOGRAPHIC PROFILES OF SPEAKERS



Teresa Ribeiro, OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media

Teresa Ribeiro, of Portugal, is the fifth Representative on Freedom of the Media. She has vast political, diplomatic, human rights and media experience.

Prior to this position, she was Secretary of State of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Portugal, while serving as President of the National Commission for Human Rights.

She was also Secretary of State for European Affairs at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Portugal and Deputy Secretary General at the Union for the Mediterranean, positions that gave her extensive experience in dealing with the EU institutions and Member States, as well as with its close neighbourhood.

Throughout her career, Teresa Ribeiro has held different positions in media, both in Portugal and in multilateral organizations, such as President of the Institute of the Media of Portugal, Chairperson of the Steering Committee on Mass Media of the Council of Europe, as well as co-founder and first elected President of the Executive Board of Obercom – Media Observatory. She holds a degree in Philosophy from the University of Lisbon.



Ton van den Brandt is Senior Adviser at the Office of the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media. He holds a degree in Dutch law and (cum laude) in International Law, and in Journalism. Van den Brandt worked as a journalist for a national newspaper and a weekly magazine for many years, and is the published author of two journalistic books. After this, van den Brandt worked as an ad interim legal adviser with the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs and with the Netherlands Red Cross, before taking up a position as senior political adviser with Amnesty International. He chaired the Dutch branch of the International Commission of Jurists and was a member of the Supervisory Board of the Netherlands Helsinki Committee. Before moving to the OSCE, he led and managed the

Communications Department of the Amsterdam District Court of Law.



Mikko Salo is Founder of Faktabaari (FactBar) - Finnish fact-checking and digital information literacy service for fact-based public debate. Mikko is a recognized independent expert on media and information literacy, fact checking, and tackling information disorders in Finland and internationally. As Chair to transparency NGO enabling Faktabaari he is an advocate of transparency and accountability.

Mikko has served as an independent expert to the European Commission's High-Level Group on Fake News and Online disinformation and involved in developing digital information literacy toolkits to empower teachers and future voters. He contributes to European Digital Media Observatory (EDMO) and especially to NORDIS (Nordic Observatory for Digital Media and Information Disorder), a consortium of researchers and fact-checkers from Denmark, Norway, Sweden, and Finland and one of the national hubs of EDMO, advising expert groups on media literacy and tackling online information disorders.

Mikko holds degrees in international relations and European studies from University of Helsinki and College of Europe (Warsaw) and has lived or worked in seven European countries with experience in the public, private, university and NGO sectors. Faktabaari work has been cited by major news outlets and recognized e.g. by the Bonnier Prize for Journalism in 2014 and the Chydenius Medals in 2018 and again 2021 with NORDIS.



Martina Chapman, is an independent consultant specializing in media literacy policy and strategy development, research and project management. She is the national coordinator of [Media Literacy Ireland](#) and the Be Media Smart campaign on behalf of the Broadcasting Authority of Ireland.

Martina has worked with organisations such as the Council of Europe, the European Audiovisual Observatory, the European Platform of Regulatory Authorities, the European Digital Media Observatory, the European Broadcasting Union and the Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe, as well as a number of European regulatory bodies, Public Service Media and media institutes.

As a member of the Council of Europe Committee of Experts on quality journalism in the digital age ([MSI-JOQ](#)) she was one of the two researchers and rapporteurs for the report [Supporting quality journalism through media and information literacy](#) She was also lead consultant/author/ co-author on numerous reports and policy documents relating to MIL topics including the [Mapping of Media Literacy Practices and Action in EU 28](#), [Media Literacy for all. Supporting marginalised groups through community media](#) paper, and the [Media Literacy Project Design Manual](#) to name a few.

Martina is also an Associate of Wagner-Hatfield and Prior to setting up as a MIL consultant, she was the BBC's Editor for Media

Literacy and she previously held the staff position of Media Literacy Policy Executive for Ofcom.



Maria Donde works for the UK Office of Communications (Ofcom) as the Head of International Content Policy, covering media, content and broadcasting issues. She leads on Ofcom's engagement with other European media regulators, most particularly through EPRA (where is currently a Vice-Chair) as well as international bodies, and represents Ofcom on the full range of media policy questions including media literacy. She oversaw Ofcom's input into the negotiations on the AVMS Directive and oversees Ofcom's relationship with European and global institutions on questions of media and content policy. She recently served as Chair of the Council of Europe Committee of Experts on Media Environment and Reform.

Her regulatory background is in advertising, having spent four years at the Advertising Standards Authority before joining Ofcom's Broadcasting Standards department. Prior to that, she worked in media analysis, and before that as a radio producer for the BBC World Service. She has a Modern Languages degree from Cambridge University and a Masters degree in Literary Translation.



Alton Grizzle is a happily married husband, father, truth seeker and a person who loves and respect all peoples. He works at the UNESCO HQ in Paris as Programme Specialist in Communication and Information. He manages of UNESCO's global actions on media and information literacy (MIL) and was a focal point on gender and media. He has written on the topic of media and information literacy and presented at various conferences and meetings around the world. Alton has diverse education and experience in the fields of education, management, information systems and media and communication. He has conceptualized and spearheaded many initiatives and projects, authored articles, and co-authored and edited books relating to MIL, gender and media, media development, communication for development. Prior to UNESCO, he was an educator/principal at secondary school and adult vocational training levels of the education systems in Jamaica for ten years. He holds a Diploma in secondary education from the Mico University College, a Bsc. in management and economics at the University of the West Indies (UWI), an Msc in Computer-based Management Information Systems from the UWI, MA in Media and Communication from the University of Leicester, UK; and a Ph.D. in Communication and Journalism from the Autonomous University of Barcelona, Spain.



Radka Betcheva is the Head of Member Relations for Central & Eastern Europe in the Directorate of Member Relations and Communications at the EBU. She works on strategic, advisory and policy issues related to EBU members. She manages a programme for support of public service media in the EU accession countries.

From 2005 to 2012 Ms Betcheva worked as a Head of the Media Programme in the OSCE Mission to Montenegro, supporting media reforms in the host country. She worked also with the UNMIK/OSCE Mission in Kosovo in 2004-2005.

Ms Betcheva has 16 years of experience in Bulgarian public service broadcasting as a journalist, editor and executive producer and part time lecturer at the New Bulgarian University. She speaks English, German, Russian, French, Serbo-Croatian, and Bulgarian.

She holds a masters degree in International Relations and Diplomacy from Tufts University, Boston, a masters degree in Economics from the University of National and World Economy in Sofia, and a diploma in Journalism. In 2002-2003 she was awarded the prestigious Nieman Fellowship at Harvard University.



Minna Aslama Horowitz is a docent at the University of Helsinki, a researcher at Nordic Observatory for Digital Media and Information Disorder (NORDIS), a Fellow at St. John's University, New York, and an Expert on Advocacy and Digital Rights at the Central European University, Vienna/Budapest.

Horowitz also serves in the Think Tank of the Nordic Council of Ministers examining the impact of tech giants in the Nordics. She researches public media policies and strategies, digital rights, and media activism.



Maja Cappello joined the European Audiovisual Observatory, part of the Council of Europe in Strasbourg, as Head of the Department for Legal Information in 2014. Set up in 1992, the Observatory's mission is to gather and diffuse information on the audiovisual industry in its 41 member states.

She is member of the Italian Superior Council for Cinema and Audiovisual since 2017 and since 2020 she is also member of the Advisory Board of the European Digital Media Observatory (EDMO).

Before joining the Observatory, Maja Cappello worked for the Italian regulator AGCOM from 1998 and was Head of AGCOM's Digital Rights Unit of the Media Services Directorate. She was also Vice President of EPRA (European Platform of Regulatory Authorities) from 2011 to 2014.

Italian-Norwegian national, she is author of articles and speeches in the areas of audiovisual media services, media pluralism,

copyright and consumer protection and holds an LLM in EU law and a PhD in European social law after graduating in Law in 1994.



Marin Lessenski is Program Director of the European Policies Program of the Open Society Institute – Sofia. He holds an MA in Southeast European Studies from the Central European University - Budapest and an MA in History from the University of Sofia. Mr. Lessenski previously worked for the Institute for Regional and International Studies in Sofia, Bulgaria. He has been a Freedom House Visiting Fellow with the Hudson Institute's Center for European and Eurasian Studies and the Center of National Security Studies. He has also been a participant in the Transatlantic Young Leaders Program of the Aspen Institute - Berlin.

At OSI-Sofia he is also responsible for the Media Literacy Index, which assesses the resilience potential to 'fake news' and related phenomena in a selected number of European countries, using indicators for media freedom, education and trust in people. The index has been published since 2017 and can be found at www.osis.bg.



Shushan Doydoyan is the President of Freedom of Information Centre, Armenia. Ms. Doydoyan has 25 years of experience in promoting accountability, transparency and freedom of Information in the public and private sectors in Armenia. As a founder and director of [FOICA](#), she has promoted the adoption of FOI legislation and controls. Her work promoting government transparency includes conducting research/analysis, undertaking and coordinating strategic litigation, managing public education campaigns and training civil servants, CSOs and media representatives in FOI law, media and data protection. She was the first head of the Armenian Personal Data Protection Agency. Ms. Doydoyan serves as international organizations' FOI/FOE, communications and data protection consultant for many years. As a journalist, she serves as country representative of Reporters Without Borders since 2003. She has doctor's degree in Journalism and master's degree in law.

Dr. Doydoyan received the Freedom Defender award in June 2015 at the Universal Rights Awards Ceremony in recognition of her outstanding efforts pursuing freedom of information, transparency and accountability in public decision-making.



Vanja Ibrahimbegovic-Tihak has been a passionate media literacy educator and advocate for 12 years now. During that time, she has trained hundreds of citizens in basic media and digital literacy skills. She worked with different groups in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Serbia and Montenegro, mainly with youth: university and high school students, as well as with de-privileged youth in marginalised communities throughout BiH, but also with teachers, parents, civil society activists and public servants, journalists, representatives of religious communities and the doctors. She is an author of several publications on media and digital literacy, including two handbooks - sets of training

materials on how to teach media literacy, and an editor of a book on Digital media literacy in BiH.

For almost two decades she has been working in the field of media development and freedom of expression within either local and international NGO's, or international organisations. She started her career as a news reporter at the newsroom of BHT 1, Public TV broadcaster. Currently, within Council of Europe Office in Sarajevo, she runs "Freedom of media and freedom of expression in BiH" project. She holds an MA in Human Rights and Democracy and BA in Journalism.



Diana Okremova is a journalist, director and co- founder of the Legal Media Center, a non-profit organization in Kazakhstan that provides legal protection and advice to journalists, conducts media research, promotes international principles for protecting freedom of speech and access to information and analyzes the state media funding system. The organization also protects and promotes digital rights, participates in the development of media legislation, and cooperates with journalism departments at universities in Kazakhstan.

Member of parliament and ministry working groups on access to information, regulation of the media and the internet, and personal data protection. Member of the Human Rights Expert Council under the Commissioner for Human Rights in Kazakhstan, member of the National Council of Stakeholders of the Ministry for Investment and Development, OSCE human rights expert. Lecturer in the course "The professional ethics of a journalist" at Kazakh State Law University.

Ms. Okremova has extensive coaching experience in access to information, international standards for protecting freedom of speech, effective communications between government agencies and the media, and legal regulations governing the media sphere. Co-author of the manuals "Legal framework and practice of blocking internet content in Kazakhstan," "Hate speech in Kazakhstan: statistics, judicial practice, recommendations," "Competent coverage of the human rights situation in Kazakhstan," "Freedom of speech and intolerant vocabulary on the internet," "A journalist's legal security on the internet," "Modern media law: National practice and international standards," and "State funding for the press in Kazakhstan."