Third OSCE South East Europe Media Conference
18 - 20 September 2013, Tirana

Annotated Agenda

Wednesday, 18 September

19.00 – 22.00   **Kick-Off Event**

Keynote Speaker: **Andreas Ernst,** Correspondent for Neue Zürcher Zeitung

Ernst will give a keynote speech on the most pertinent issues related to media freedom we face today, in order to set the scene for the coming days.

Andreas Ernst is a correspondent and collaborator for NZZ am Sonntag and Neue Zürcher Zeitung covering the Western Balkans based in Belgrade. He holds a Ph.D. in Modern European History (University of Zürich).

Thursday, 19 September

9:30 – 10:15   **Registration with Coffee**

10:15 – 12:45   **Opening Plenary Session on Broadcasting:**
                 Public Service Broadcasters (PSBs), Regulators and the Digital Switchover

The main themes of this year's conference are the current state of PSB's including financial, political and editorial independence and independence of regulatory bodies.

Digitalization can play a key role in increasing media pluralism. This will be a key issue discussed in the master-class, the first of its kind in the region.

Moderator:	**Robert Wilton**, Acting Head of Presence in Albania
Welcoming Remarks:	**Ditmir Bushati,** Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Albania
	Dunja Mijatović, OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media

Moderator:	**Douglas Griffin**, Director, Albany Associates, Paris
Speakers:	**Mirela Oktrova**, Director, TVSH, Tirana
	Jadranka Vojvodić, Deputy Director, Agency for Electronic Media, Podgorica
	Katrin Nyman-Metcalf, Professor of Law and Technology and Head of the Chair of Law and Technology at Tallinn Law School, Tallinn University of Technology, Tallinn
	Mark Thompson, Consultant, Open Society Foundation, London

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12:45 – 14:00   Lunch break

14:00 – 15:30   SESSION 1 Legislation – Paper and Practice

Well drafted legislation can safeguard media independence, create a positive media environment and ensure pluralism.

Best legal practices from the OSCE region, ways to make drafting of the legislation inclusive and transparent and how to ensure effective implementation will be discussed during this session.

Moderator: **Andrey Rikhter**, Director, OSCE Office of the Representative on Freedom of the Media, Vienna
Speakers: **Remzi Lani**, Albanian Media Institute, Tirana
    Helena Mandić, Director of Broadcasting, the Communications Regulatory Agency, Sarajevo
    Zoran Sekulić, President of the Association of Media, FoNet News Agency Director, Belgrade
    Sandra Bašić Hrvatin, Professor, University of Ljubljana, Ljubljana

14:00 – 15:30   SESSION 2 Internet Freedom

Social media, open journalism, online news portals all redefine the way people share and receive information. Freedom of the media and freedom of expression continue to be challenged also online.

In this session, the Internet and new media regulation, blocking and filtering and self-regulatory mechanisms will be discussed.

Moderator: **Loreta Vioiu**, Administrator, Information Society Unit, Directorate General Human Rights
    and Rule of Law, Council of Europe, Brussels
Speakers: **Gjergj Erebara**, Deputy Editor-in-Chief, Shqip Newspaper, Tirana
    Lejla Turčilo, Professor and Researcher, University of Sarajevo, Sarajevo
    Đorđe Krivokapić, Legal and Policy Director, Share Foundation, Belgrade

15:30 – 16:00   Coffee Break

16:00 – 17:30   SESSION 3 Media Transparency

Transparency of media ownership is an important element of democracy and media pluralism. Ability to determine ownership is essential when dealing with potential media monopolies or concentration, it is can be important to determine possible influence on the media.

This session will address issues of transparency of media ownership, editorial independence, limitation of monopolies and competition laws.

Moderator: **Brankica Petković**, Head of the Center for Media Policy, Peace Institute, Ljubljana
Speakers: **Mark Thompson**, Consultant, Open Society Foundation, London
    Tamara Causidis, President, Trade Union of Journalists, Skopje
    Oliver Vujović, Secretary General, SEEMO, Vienna
    Olaf Steenfadt, International Media Expert, Wiesbaden

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16:00 – 17:30   SESSION 4 Safety of Journalists

Throughout the region there are regular attacks on and harassment of journalists, social media activists and bloggers. Not enough is done to prevent these attacks or to investigate and prosecute the culprits and masterminds.

What can be done by the authorities on all levels, judiciary, police, international and non-governmental organizations and journalists themselves will be the key issues of this session.

Moderator: **Aleksander Çipa**, President, Union of Albanian Journalists, Tirana
Speakers: **Petrit Saracini**, Project Manager, Macedonian Institute for Media, Skopje
                  Željko Raljić, Editor, News Portal Istinito, Banja Luka
                  Blaž Zgaga, Investigative Journalist, Ljubljana

18:30   Dinner Reception, hosted by the OSCE Presence in Albania

Friday, 20 September

9:00 – 10:30   SESSION 5 Self-Regulation

Self-regulation mechanisms can protect and preserve media freedom and not endanger or destroy it.

This session will address the ways to protect media freedom and independence through online and offline self-regulation and the role of independent regulators.

Moderator: **Dieter Loraine**, Managing Director, Albany Associates, London
Speakers: **Diana Kalaja**, Independent Media Expert, Tirana
                 Ljiljana Zurovac, Executive Director, Press Council, Sarajevo
                 Dragoljub Duško Vuković, Independent Media Expert, Podgorica

9:00 – 10:30   SESSION 6 Future of Investigative Journalism

Challenges faced by investigative journalists are increasing. They face issues of personal to safety, restrictive editorial guidelines, protection of sources, access to information and the lack of financial resources.

The theme of this session will be how tackled these issues and support investigative journalism.

Moderator: **Agron Bajrami**, Editor-in-Chief, Koha Ditore, Pristina
Speakers: **Saša Leković**, Investigative Journalist, Zagreb
                 Boro Kontić, Director, Media Centre Sarajevo, Sarajevo
                 Blaž Zgaga, Investigative Journalist, Ljubljana

10:30 – 11:00 Coffee Break

11:00 – 12:30   SESSION 7 Advertising as Editorial Leverage

Financial independence is another pillar of independent media. In many countries state-owned companies or businesses that are close to political parties use advertising revenue as tool to gain influence into the editorial policy of the media.

This can erode editorial independence or even endanger the existence of media outlets. Issues to be discussed in this session will also include what can be done to identify and address some of these practices, issues relating to the privatisation of media and over-involvement of the state.

Moderator: **Snježana Milivojević**, Professor, University of Belgrade, Belgrade
Speakers: **Naser Selmani**, President, Macedonian Association of Journalists, Skopje
    Samra Lučkin, Director, BORAM Agency, Sarajevo
    Ilda Londo, Researcher, Albania Media Institute, Tirana

11:00 – 12:30   SESSION 8 Access to Information

Public access to official information enhances transparency and accountability of authorities and is an indispensable element to protect and advance freedom of the media.

This session will address implementation of existing legislation, best practices, legal tools, classification and other restrictions defined in law, appeal mechanisms and independent oversight bodies.

Moderator: **David Goldberg**, Legal and Regulatory Specialist, Glasgow
Speakers: **Ilva Tare**, Journalist, Ora News TV, Tirana
    Mehmed Halilović, Media Law Expert, Internews, Sarajevo
    Lutfi Dervishi, Director of Information, Vizion Plus TV, Tirana

12:30 – 13:00   Closing Plenary Session

    Key Recommendations to be presented by
    Dunja Mijatović, OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media

13:00   Farewell Lunch