



PRESENTATION OF SPEAKERS AND MODERATORS

OPENING SESSION



@OSCE_RFoM

Harlem Désir

OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media

Harlem Désir is the fourth OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media since the establishment of the Institution in 1997. He was appointed in July 2017 for a period of three years. Previously, he was the French Secretary of State for European Affairs. Before joining the government, he was a Member of the European Parliament for 15 years. The Representative on Freedom of the Media has a mandate to intervene on all media freedom issues in the 57 OSCE participating States, including on individual cases, safety of journalists, imprisonment, but also on legislation and promotion of media pluralism.



@MFA_Kyrgyzstan

Chingiz Aidarbekov

Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Kyrgyzstan

Minister Aidarbekov began his diplomatic career as Attaché of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Kyrgyzstan. In addition, he served as the 1st, 2nd and 3rd secretary of the Commonwealth of Independent States Department within the Kyrgyz Ministry of Foreign Affairs until 2005. Before taking up his post as the Minister of Foreign Affairs on 17 October 2018, he held various posts in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, including Counselor at the Embassy of Kyrgyzstan in Turkmenistan and the Ambassador of the Kyrgyz Republic to Japan. Minister Aidarbekov holds degrees in international relations and international law from the International University of Kyrgyzstan.



Azamat Zhamankulov

Minister of Culture, Information and Tourism of the Republic of Kyrgyzstan

Azamat Zhamankulov joined the Department of Tourism of the Ministry of Culture in 2015 as Director and in 2018 was appointed Minister of Culture, Information and Tourism. Between 2011 and 2014 he worked as a specialist in attracting investment, was deputy Head of the Secretariat for the preparation and holding of the World Nomad Games, and Vice-President of the World Ethno-Games public foundation



@oscebishkek

Ambassador Pierre von Arx

Head of the OSCE Programme Office in Bishkek

Ambassador Dr. Pierre von Arx was appointed Head of the OSCE Programme Office in Bishkek in 2016. He also acts as Chair of the Board of Trustees of the OSCE Academy in Bishkek. Ambassador von Arx possesses 16 years of experience with the OSCE. He studied biochemistry at the University of Geneva, earning his doctorate in natural sciences in the field of molecular biology at the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology of Zurich. He is a retired general-staff colonel, and has also a master in military sciences. Ambassador von Arx is fluent in French, German, English and Spanish and holds a basic knowledge of Russian.

SESSION I



 [@BDzhusupov](https://twitter.com/BDzhusupov)

Ambassador Bakyt Dzhusupov

Permanent Representative of the Kyrgyz Republic to the OSCE

Ambassador Bakyt Dzhusupov entered the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Kyrgyz Republic in 2008 as Attaché at the Department of Eastern Countries. In 2010-2017 he held various posts in the Presidential Administration, Government administration and Office of the President. In 2017 he was appointed Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary and Permanent Representative of the Kyrgyz Republic to the Republic of Austria, Permanent Representative of the Kyrgyz Republic to the OSCE and other international organizations in Vienna.



Elena Cherniavska

Senior Adviser, Office of the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media.

Elena Cherniavska joined the Office in 2015, previously co-founded and chaired the Institute for Democracy, Media and Cultural Exchange (Germany) and served as head of department at the European Institute for the Media (Germany).

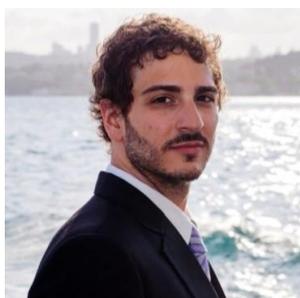


 [@timkarr](https://twitter.com/timkarr)

Timothy Karr

Senior Director of Strategy and Communications, Free Press

Timothy Karr builds on the organization's grassroots and policy work to promote universal access to open networks, defend acts of journalism and protect free speech everywhere. Before joining Free Press, Karr served as the vice president of business development for Globalvision New Media and the executive director of MediaChannel. He worked throughout Southeast Asia as an editor, reporter and photojournalist for the Associated Press, The New York Times, Time, Inc., Australia Consolidated Press and many others.



 [@MikeOghia](https://twitter.com/MikeOghia)

Michael Oghia

Advocacy & Engagement Manager, Global Forum for Media Development

Michael Oghia is a consultant, researcher, and editor working within the Internet governance and media development ecosystems, specifically focusing on access, capacity building, digital rights, infrastructure, and sustainability. He is a third culture kid (TCK) with professional experience in conflict resolution, journalism and media, civil society, and academia across five countries: the United States, Lebanon, India, Turkey, and Serbia. Michael has lectured on Internet governance at the Media and Digital Literacy Academy of Beirut (MDLAB), and frequently writes about development, digital rights, and the relationship between the Internet, the environment, and sustainability.



Bota Ayazbayeva

Programs Director, Soros Foundation Kazakhstan (SFK)

Bota Ayazbayeva is currently Public Policy Initiative Director of the Soros Foundation – Kazakhstan. Before joining the Foundation in 2005 Bota had worked in a multinational business company, as well as in international charity organizations. Bota joined SFK as NGO support program administrator. From 2007 until 2010 she was director of the Foundation’s Budget Transparency and Public Accountability Program. From 2010 until 2012 she was advocacy and government relations director of SFK’s communications department. In 2012-2013 she was civil society initiatives director, co-ordinating a special initiative on CSO capacity building, as well as East-East beyond borders projects in Kazakhstan.



Bokhadir Sultanov

Head of the Information Security Department, Ministry for Development of Information Technologies and Communications of the Republic of Uzbekistan

Bokhadir Sultanov worked in the State Institution "Centre for Information Security" of the Ministry for the Development of Information Technologies and Communications of the Republic of Uzbekistan from 2015 to 2017. Since 2017 as Head of the Department he develops laws and regulations in the field of communications, telecommunications, information security and cyber security.

SESSION II



Pierre François Docquir

Head of Media Freedom Programme, ARTICLE 19

Pierre François Docquir is a researcher and expert in the fields of Human Rights Law, Internet and Media Law and Regulation. He previously served as vice-president of the Conseil Supérieur de l’Audiovisuel in French-speaking Belgium and was a researcher at the Université Libre de Bruxelles. Docquir was a lawyer (‘avocat’) at the Brussel’s Bar. He wrote on the evolution of media regulation in the age of convergence, comparative free speech law (US-ECHR), and on the protection of human rights in the digital context. His experience also includes the development of strategy and activity recommendations for local media actors and regulators, and advocacy with members of parliament, ministers and high-level civil servants.



Charles Bradley

Executive Director, Global Partners Digital (GDP), United Kingdom

Charles Bradley leads GDP’s engagement with the private sector, including its pioneering work with tech small and medium enterprises on privacy, security and free expression, and global engagement on key business and human rights issues. He represents GDP in the Global Network Initiative, a multi-stakeholder platform working to protect and advance freedom of expression and privacy in the information and telecommunications sector. In addition, Charles provides practical support to the Freedom Online Coalition (FOC) as a member of the FOC Support Unit.



[@CBradleyTweets](https://twitter.com/CBradleyTweets)



Gulmira Birzhanova

Lawyer, Legal Media Center, Kazakhstan

Gulmira Birzhanova is an expert in national and international media law. Before joining the Legal Media Public Foundation, Gulmira was a lecturer in the fundamentals of law and a lawyer in Kazakhstan's Kostanay branch of the International Foundation for Protection of Freedom of Speech "Adil soz". Her main areas of work include providing legal training and counselling for journalists and NGOs, conducting media research, introducing international principles to protect freedom of speech, studying the system of state financing of the media, participating in the development of media legislation. Gulmira also organises information campaigns on international standards of freedom of speech and covers human rights and media legislation.

Marat Torobekov

Lawyer, Civil Initiative on Internet Policy, Kyrgyzstan

Marat Torobekov is an independent security consultant. He has extensive experience in law enforcement, law, politics and public administration. From 2015 to 2018, he worked in the Secretariat of the Security Council of the Kyrgyz Republic, where he was engaged in legal and political issues in the field of law enforcement, countering violent extremism, illegal migration, information and telecommunication technologies, including E-government, information and cybersecurity, privacy, Internet regulation and telecommunication, Internet freedom, digital rights and anti-corruption.

Nikita Makarenko

Columnist, Gazeta.uz, Uzbekistan



Nikita Makarenko joined one of the leading Uzbek online media "Gazeta.uz" as a columnist and special reporter in 2017. He covers controversial social issues, politics, environmental and urban topics. Since 2019, Nikita has been a visiting lecturer on propaganda issues at the Oberlin College, as well as a reporter for OZY Media (USA). From 2012 to 2015, he led the Central Asian arts'n'culture citizen-journalism project NewEurasia.net as managing editor. Makarenko authored a textbook "The Standards of Western Journalism for Arts Journalists" and converted it into free online courses.



Naranjargal Khashkhuu

President and Board Chairman, Globe International NGO, Mongolia

Naranjargal Khashkhuu is President of the Globe International Center, a Mongolian NGO promoting freedom of expression and media. She was an Executive Committee member of the International Federation of Journalists from 1998 to 2007 and former Vice Chair of the UNESCO International Programme for the Development of Communication Bureau (IPDC). She is also board member of the Mongolian Media Council. She has conducted a number of training workshops in the country and Kyrgyzstan and Kazakhstan and her major fields are independent, ethical and accountable journalism, media and elections, public service and community broadcasting, human rights and gender reporting, investigative journalism, access to information, and legal rights of journalists.

 @globeinternat

Suhrob Pulotov

Lawyer, National Association of Independent Mass-Media in Tajikistan



Suhrob Pulotov has been working as a lawyer at the National Association of Independent Mass-Media in Tajikistan since 2014 and since 2015 has been a legal consultant to the Council on Media of the Republic of Tajikistan. Pulotov contributed to several regional projects conducted by ARTICLE 19 (Protecting the rights to freedom of expression in Central Asia; and Protection of civil space and freedom of expression in Tajikistan), IMS (Digital Security for Tajik Journalists), Reporters Without Borders (From emergency to parallel Internet: Promotion of access to independent information and protection of news content producers) and many others.

GROUP DISCUSSIONS



Inga Sikorskaya

Director, School of Peacemaking and Media Technology in Central Asia

Inga Sikorskaya is a journalist, media expert and trainer on freedom of expression, countering hate speech and extremist propaganda and conflict-sensitive journalism. She is the Director of the School of Peacemaking and Media Technology, which she founded in 2010, when reporting from southern Kyrgyzstan. She initiated the media monitoring for hate speech and adopted research methodology based on international standards. Inga has international experience in media, conflict transformation and peacemaking journalism, and led several workshops on countering online hate speech with the support of the OSCE Programme Office in Nur-Sultan.



Begaiym Adzhikeeva

Project Coordinator, Institute for War & Peace Reporting



Diana Okremova

Director, Legal Media Center, Kazakhstan

Diana Okremova is a journalist with many years of experience. She worked as a correspondent and editor at the Kostanay weekly *Nasha Gazeta* and a special correspondent for the newspaper *Vzglyad*. For over a decade, she has been developing media legislation and monitoring state financing of the press, as well as working on the issues of access to information, effective communications of NGOs, government agencies and the media. She has experience in coaching media and non-governmental organisations, organization of media outreach, *etc.*

SESSION III



Tamara Kaleyeva

President, International Foundation for Protection of Freedom of Speech Adil Soz, Kazakhstan

Tamara Kaleyeva worked as a journalist of the youth programme of Kazakh radio and in newspapers "Argumenty & Fakty", and "Kazakhstanskaya Pravda". In 1999 she founded and became the director of the International Foundation for Protection of Freedom of Speech "Adil Soz". It is a non-governmental organization, which protects the right to freedom of expression and free distribution of information. "Adil Soz" actively participates in reforming Kazakhstan's media legislation, as well as in international and national campaigns on protection of journalists. She was charged twice with insult to human honour and dignity, and both times the charges were dropped.



Nazik Chekirova

Business Adviser, Internews in Kyrgyzstan

Nazik Chekirova is Business Advisor to Internews Kyrgyzstan, where she oversees the unit for interaction with media associations and development of the advertising potential of the media. Her previous experience includes advertising, as well as drafting of legislation in the field of media. She took an active part in the transition of Kyrgyzstan to digital broadcasting.



Zebo Tadjibaeva

Executive Director, Asia Plus news agency, Tajikistan

Zebo Tadjibaeva has been working in journalism for over 17 years and as executive director of Asia Plus for the last 10 years. She worked as a radio host, then a political observer and anchor of Asia-Plus's radio program "Your Position". Later, Tadjibaeva worked for the Avesta news agency as a news editor and executive director. She is also an expert in managing projects related to media and social media marketing (SMM), as well as organising business training on PR and media.



Ruslan Myatiev

Editor, Alternative Turkmenistan News

Ruslan Myatiev established the project Alternative News of Turkmenistan in 2010. Myatiev is a graduate of the OSCE Academy in Bishkek, with an MA in Political Science. He worked as English editor of the news department at the 24.kg news agency and as a regional public relations specialist at a Dutch public health NGO AFEW East-West Foundation that encompassed Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan.



Kerim Jumayev

Journalism Instructor, International University for the Humanities and Development, Turkmenistan

From 2015 to 2018 Kerim Jumayev worked as a teacher at the Faculty of Journalism at the International University of Humanitarian Sciences and Developments in Ashgabat. Since 2019 he has been working as a journalist for the Ashgabat-based information site "turkmenportal.com".



Sergey Ejkov

Editor-in-Chief, UzMetronom.com independent Internet newspaper, Uzbekistan

Sergey Ejkov, a proud denizen of Tashkent in fourth generation, began his journalistic career in official publications. In 2006 he founded the information and analytical website Uzmtronom.com, which remained accessible in Uzbekistan for 45 days before being blocked. Access to the website was reinstated only in 2019, along with several other media outlets.

Lyutsia Zaynullina

Leading Specialist, Media Development Department, Information and Mass Communications Agency under the Administration of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan

Previously, Lyutsia Zaynullina worked at an independent institute for monitoring the formation of a civil society, where she monitored and analysed the activities of civil society institutions, including media, problems they faced and solutions in this area. At the same time, she was engaged in the development of proposals and recommendations for enhancing the effectiveness of the dialogue between media and state authorities.



Narantuya Dangaasuren

Board Member, Media Council of Mongolia

Narantuya Dangaasuren worked as a journalist at the "Mongoliin sport", "Unuudur", "Khudulmur" newspapers and MONTSAME news agency. Since 2004 she has been working as Deputy Editor of "Arдын Erkh" daily newspaper and Vice Director of NEWS Agency.