

Addressing Attempts to Silence Women Journalists Online

We are pleased to invite you to an event on the Safety of Female Journalists Online (SOFJO) on Monday, **11 October 2021, 15.15-16.45** (CEST) in the margins of the 2021 South East Europe Media Conference (SEEMC).

Women journalists are targeted online more often, and in a more personal and sexualized nature than their male peers, with the clear aim to harm their reputation and silence them as well as women's voices more generally. Gender-based online abuse undermines all perspectives of media freedom discussed at this year's South East Europe Media Conference, it is frequently part of disinformation campaigns, and regularly realized offline. Understanding how to mitigate online attacks benefits all journalists in all spaces.

This year's SEEMC will hold a special side event to launch several language versions of the [#SOFJO Resource Guide](#). This Guide provides a series of proposed actions for ten key stakeholder groups to address gender-based online abuse of journalists. It identifies a concrete way forward, and provides a list of useful resources and good practice examples. The Guide is now available in Albanian, Macedonian, Serbian, English and Russian.

The side event will engage experts from the field and link to each of the four themes of the SEEMC to discuss concrete actions needed in the context of disinformation and journalists' working conditions, to empower women journalists and to ensure their legal safety. All aspects will be discussed from an intersectional and youth perspective and elaborate actions as proposed in the #SOFJO Resource Guide. For any questions, please contact Julia.Haas@osce.org.

We are looking forward to seeing you at the side event on the online safety of women journalists!

Speakers

- **Aleksandra Bogdani**, Investigative Journalist, Balkan Insight, Balkan Investigative Reporting Network/BIRN
- **Ricardo Gutierrez**, Secretary General, EFJ
- **Veljko Milić**, Lawyer, Independent Association of Journalists of Vojvodina
- **Borka Rudić**, General Secretary of the BiH Journalists' Association
- **Milka Tadić-Mijović**, Director, Center for Investigative Reporting

Moderator

- **Julia Haas**, Office of the OSCE RFoM

