



**Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe
Office of the Representative on Freedom of the Media**

SIXTH MEETING: THE ROLE OF PUBLIC SERVICE MEDIA IN COUNTERING DISINFORMATION

20 June 2022, 14:00-16:00 (CET), online

PRESENTATION OF SPEAKERS AND MODERATORS



**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, President of the Steering Committee on Mass Media of the Council of Europe, and also Co-founder and first elected President of the Executive Board of Obercom – Media Observatory.



Marius Dragomir, Director of the Center for Media, Data and Society, School of Public Policy, Central European University, Budapest, Hungary

Marius Dragomir is the Director of the Center for Media, Data and Society. He previously worked for the Open Society Foundations (OSF) for over a decade. Since 2007, he has managed the research and policy portfolio of the Program on Independent Journalism (PIJ), formerly the Network Media Program (NMP), in London. He has also been one of the main editors for PIJ's flagship research and advocacy project, Mapping Digital Media, which covered 56 countries worldwide, and he was the main writer and editor of OSF's Television Across Europe, a comparative study of broadcast policies in 20 European countries.

Marius has spent the past decade in the media research field, specializing in media and communication regulation, digital media, governing structures of public service media and broadcasting, spectrum management, and ownership regulation. He has authored expert studies and articles on journalism and media policies that have been published and translated in more than 60 countries.



Minna Aslama Horowitz, Docent professor, senior researcher, University of Helsinki

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.



Ara Shirinyan, Chairman of the Council of Public Broadcaster of Armenia

Ara Shirinyan has been the Chairman of the Council of Public Broadcaster of Armenia since 2019. Prior to his current position, he was the Creative Director of Shoghakat TV Broadcasting Company for 15 years. As a director and filmmaker, he has produced more than 20 documentaries. Some of them have won awards, including from international film festivals.

Previously, in 1982-1996, Ara Shirinyan was the director of educational and cultural programs at State Television and radio Company (currently Public TV) of Armenia. In parallel, Ara Shirinyan was a lecturer at the Department of Journalism of the Yerevan State University and is frequently invited to hold master classes for young filmmakers at Internews Armenia and TUMO Center for Creative Technologies. In 2010, he was a jury member for the documentary competition at the Golden Apricot International Film Festival.



Nicola Frank, Head of Institutional and International Relations, European Broadcasting Union EBU

Since 2020 Nicola Frank is in charge of the EBU's institutional relationships with intergovernmental and international organizations, with regional or international broadcasting associations and civil society organizations.

From 2009 to 2020 she represented the EBU and Public Service Media at EU level, as Head of the EBU's Policy office in Brussels. She joined the European Broadcasting Union in 1998.

She started her career in the European Commission in 1990 where she was responsible for an Information and Communication Programme towards the Mediterranean and the Near and Middle East. In 1996 she joined Media and Entertainment International, the international federation of media and entertainment trade unions, as Deputy General Secretary.

Nicola took an M.A. in Islamic Studies, Modern History and French Literature.



Luc van Bakel, Editor-in-Chief at VRT NWS's Investigative Cell, the Public Broadcaster of the Flemish Community in Belgium

Luc van Bakel is editor-in-chief at VRT NWS's investigative cell that works on disinformation, factchecking and investigative journalism for radio, television and online on VRT (Belgian/Flemish public broadcast).

He has worked as a journalist for over 20 years, has written for several newspapers and magazines and has been working as a journalist for VRT since 2015. In 2018, he won the Belgian Belfius Press Prize.



Andrey Rikhter, Temporary Adviser at the OSCE RFoM Office

Andrey Rikhter is with the RFOM Office since 2011, he holds university degrees in law, journalism and foreign languages, a doctorate of philology in Russia and a habilitated professorship in media studies from Slovakia.

He has authored more than [250 publications on media law and policy](#) in Russian, English, Armenian, Azeri, Bosnian, Croat, German, French, Serbian, Slovak, Tajik and Ukrainian, including the standard [media law textbook](#) for journalism students in the Russian Federation (2002, 2009, 2016), a [textbook on international standards](#) of media regulation (2011), a [textbook on online media law](#) (2014), and a [book on censorship and freedom](#) of the media in post-Soviet countries, published by UNESCO (2007). Dr Richter sits on the editorial boards of a number of international journals on communications and the media.