



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

and

OSCE Office in Tajikistan

13<sup>th</sup> Central Asia Media Conference

Pluralism and Internet Governance

Dushanbe, Tajikistan  
29-30 November 2011

## Agenda

**Day 1, Tuesday, 29 November 2011**

**09.30 – 10.00 REGISTRATION**

**10.00 – 10.30 OPENING SESSION**

Moderator: Andrey Rikhter, Director, Office of the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media

**Welcoming remarks** Ambassador Ivar Vikki, Head of OSCE Office in Tajikistan

**Opening remarks** Mahmudjon Sobirov, First Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Tajikistan

**Keynote address** Dunja Mijatović, OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media

**10.30 - 13.00 SESSION I. Role of the Internet in promoting pluralism. International standards and practices**

Moderator: Andrey Rikhter, Director, Office of the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media

Keynote speaker: Roland Bless, Principal Adviser, Office of the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media

**Internet governance in the OSCE region: Challenges and best practices**

The presentation will provide an overview of:

- The OSCE RFOM report on freedom of expression on the Internet in the OSCE region (2011).
- Important aspects that constitute freedom of expression on the Internet.
- Key indicators of pluralism on the Internet.
- New trends in Internet regulation related to access, content regulation, licensing and liability.
- Comparison of established international practices (legal provisions, restrictive state policies, lack of infrastructure and other) of Internet governance in the OSCE region.

- How new or revised laws aimed at regulating Internet affect freedom of expression and the free flow of information on the Internet.
- Possible actions and policies that could be taken by the relevant players, including governments, international organizations, NGOs, journalists' associations and media to support a free Internet.

Keynote speaker: David Goldberg, Associate Research Fellow, Centre for Socio-Legal Studies, University of Oxford

### **The Internet: evolving policy, principles, law and self-regulation at the international and national levels**

The presentation will provide an overview of:

- General developments in Internet law and policy.
- How the Internet fits into the international media law framework.
- International legal provisions related to Internet regulation.
- Internet legal regulations - possible benefits and likely pitfalls.

#### **11.30 - 12.00 Coffee break**

Keynote speaker: Erik Albrecht, Central Asia Project Co-ordinator, Deutsche Welle AKADEMIE

### **Offline or off track? The effect of the rise of online media on traditional media**

The presentation will provide an overview of:

How online media affects journalism in print media, radio and television.  
 How pluralism may be affected if a few online media dominate the media landscape.  
 Traditional media outlets and their reaction to online competitors.  
 Breaking news vs. in-depth reporting – the media's role in society.

Keynote speaker: Dainius Radzevičius, Chairman of Lithuanian Journalists Union

### **The Internet - not just technology: Opportunities for all**

The presentation will provide an overview of:

- Public sector and e-services: convenient for people and the state.
- Online journalism and online media – an unlimited range of opportunities.
- Technology vs. content of the web. Maybe a win-win situation.

#### **13.00 Group photo**

#### **13.30 – 14.30 Lunch**

#### **14.30 – 17.00 SESSION II. Internet governance in Central Asia**

Experts from Central Asia will make presentations on Internet regulation in their respective countries. Presentations will describe the situation regarding access to and free expression on the Internet. They will discuss opportunities for and threats to the Internet, as well as problems and obstacles in achieving

a balanced regulatory environment. An overview of the existing laws and regulatory practices used to regulate online content will be presented.

**15.30 - 16.00            Coffee break**

Moderator:            Andrey Rikhter, Director, Office of the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media

**Internet Mis-regulation threat to the Silk Road 2.0.**

Asomuddin Atoev, Director, ICT4D Academy of Tajikistan

**Internet regulation in Kazakhstan**

Makazhan Shaiken, Head of Division, Department on State Policy on Media, Ministry of Communication and Information

Adilzhan Nurmakov, Director of the Centre for Competitiveness Research

**Situation with legal regulation of Internet in Kyrgyzstan**

Begaim Usenova, Director, Media Policy Institute

**19.00                        Reception hosted by the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media**

<b>Day 2, Wednesday, 30 November 2011</b>
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**10.30 – 12.30            SESSION III. Developments in the field of media freedom in Central Asia**

Key experts from Central Asia will present reports on media developments since last conference, including current cases, legislative initiatives, issues and challenges.

**11.30 – 12.00            Coffee break**

Moderator:            Ana Karlsreiter, Senior Adviser, Office of the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media

**New media legislation and its practical implementation in media regulation in Kazakhstan**

Tamara Kaleyeva, President of the International foundation for the protection of freedom of speech "Adil Soz"

**Mass media of Kyrgyzstan: unbridled word as a precursor of censorship**

Aleksandr Kulinskiy, independent media expert

**Tajik press in 2011: main tendencies**

Marat Mamadmashoev, Chief Editor, independent weekly *Asia Plus*

**12.30 – 13.30            CLOSING SESSION. Discussion and adoption of the Conference Declaration**

Moderator:            Roland Bless, Principal Adviser, Office of the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media

**Closing remarks**        Dunja Mijatović, OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media

The session will provide an opportunity to:

- Discuss the draft of the Conference Declaration.
- Provide feedback and additional recommendations to be included in the Declaration.
- Highlight the main messages of the Conference.
- Adopt Conference Declaration.
- Discuss potential follow-up activities.

**13.30 – 15.00            Lunch**

**15.00 – 17.00            SIDE-EVENT. Digitalization of broadcasting and its implications for media freedom**

Keynote speaker:        Andrey Rikhter, Director, Office of the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media

The side-event will provide an opportunity to:

- Discuss the switch-over process in Europe and Central Asia.
- Provide information on legislation, licensing, infrastructure, spectrum use and other issues related to digitalization.
- Discuss benefits and pitfalls of digitalization for content pluralism.

**19.00                      Dinner**