



The Representative on  
Freedom of the Media

## 20<sup>th</sup> CENTRAL ASIA MEDIA CONFERENCE

### *The future of journalism*

7-8 November 2018, Astana, Kazakhstan

Venue: [Astana Marriott Hotel](#) (2 Dostyq street)

### **ANNOTATED AGENDA (25/10/2018)**

<b>Day 1: Wednesday, 7 November</b>	
<b>09.00 – 09.30</b>	<b>REGISTRATION OF PARTICIPANTS (3<sup>rd</sup> floor)</b>
<b>09.30 – 10.00</b>	<b>OPENING SESSION</b>  <u>Introduction:</u> Elena Cherniavska, Senior Adviser, Office of the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media  <b>Welcoming remarks</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Harlem Désir, OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media</li><li>• Kairat Abdrakhmanov, Minister of Foreign Affairs / Dauren Abaev, Kazakhstan/Minister of Information and Communication - TBC</li><li>• Gyorgy Szabó, Head of the OSCE Programme Office in Astana</li></ul>
<b>10.00 – 11.30</b>	<b>SESSION I: Quality of information and future of journalism in the age of digital transformation, “fake news” and disinformation</b>  <i>The rolling dynamics of 24/7 news, journalism and media production mean that the news is constantly being reported, commented on and distributed across the globe. The new and still-evolving media eco-system is much more complex than anything we have seen before. Internet, social media and mobile telephony have enabled millions to express themselves and potentially reach the whole connected world with their individual messages. The downside of the omnipresent communication is the pervasive presence of salacious, harmful and illegal content online. The experts will share their experience in dealing with the new media reality and assess the future of quality journalism in the complex environment.</i>  <u>Moderator:</u> Matthijs Berman, Principal Adviser, Office of the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media  <u>Panellists:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Representative of the Ministry of Information, Kazakhstan</li><li>- Marek Bekerman, Programme Leader in MA International Journalism, University of Salford, United Kingdom</li><li>- Daniil Kislov, Chief Editor, Ferghana news agency</li><li>- Representative of a State agency, Tajikistan</li><li>- Representative of a media outlet, Turkmenistan</li><li>- Discussion</li></ul>
<b>11.30 – 12.00</b>	<b>GROUP PHOTO &amp; COFFEE BREAK</b>
<b>12.00 – 13.30</b>	<b>SESSION II: How is disinformation growing and how to counter it?</b>  <i>A growing number of states in the OSCE area decided to regulate and penalise online content, particularly, such content on social networks which is perceived as threatening the democratic institutions and provoking</i>

	<p><i>unrest. Yet, journalists as gate-keepers of democracy have long been professionally dealing with false information, tainted sources and biased narratives. Among participating States there is increased attention to media literacy for citizens and a growing number of fake-busting online resources. Would their tools be enough to inoculate the society against dangerous messages?</i></p> <p><u>Moderator:</u> Adil Jalilov, Director, MediaNet International Center for Journalism, Kazakhstan</p> <p><u>Panellists:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Tore Bergsaker, Journalist, Faktisk., Norway</li> <li>- Gulnara Babadjanova, Director, In-service Training Centre for Journalists, Uzbekistan</li> <li>- Nuriddin Karshiboev, Chairperson, National Association of Independent Mass-Media, Tajikistan</li> <li>- Tamir Ukhnaa, Deputy Head of the Board of Directors, Media Council of Mongolia</li> </ul> <p>- Discussion</p>	
13.30 – 15.00	<b>LUNCH (room “Aroma”)</b>	
14.30 – 15.00	<b>SIDE EVENTS</b>	
	<p><b>Side event 1 (room “Zaysan”): User generated content: response, risk, responsibility</b></p> <p><u>Organizer:</u> School of Peacemaking and Media Technology in Central Asia  <u>Presenter:</u> Inga Sikorskaya  <u>Language:</u> Russian</p> <p><i>According to media monitoring, about 25% of Kyrgyzstan’s Internet users have contributed to the production of news, provided comments on news topics, and shared news through social media. The latest trends show a growing user participation in the news process. Professional media make heavy use of user-generated content. In fact, this phenomenon has challenged long-standing journalistic values and changed journalism itself. There are new risks and a need for increased responsibility. What should be an optimal relationship between journalist- and user-generated content? What are the obstacles, and challenges to achieving it? The presenter will raise these questions at the side event.</i></p>	<p><b>Side event 2 (room “Balkhash”): "Fact-checking and media literacy as necessary and universal tools"</b></p> <p><u>Organizer:</u> MediaNet International Center for Journalism/Factcheck.kz  <u>Presenters:</u> Pavel Bannikov/Marek Bekerman  <u>Language:</u> Russian</p> <p><i>Fact-checking and media literacy in the context of post-truth era and more hi-tech disinformation become strategically important. At the same time fact-checking has gone beyond being simply a genre of journalism and is now an integral ingredient of media and information literacy which needs to be included in the education system. Following, for instance, the appearance of "deep-fakes", it became obvious that public authorities are more and more interested in fact-checking and media literacy of citizens and want to have strong, professional media in their countries to tell the difference between fakes and factual news. Another important issue is a need to respect the principles of freedom of expression as governments sometimes use the need to combat disinformation as a pretext to stamp down dissent and opposition.</i></p>
15.15 – 16.15	<b>GROUP DISCUSSIONS</b>	
	<p><b>Working group 1 (room “Balkhash”): Countering challenges to freedom of the media in the digital age: regulation or self-regulation?</b></p> <p><i>The discussion will focus on tendencies of countering illegal content online, but also instances of hate speech in the mainstream media. While OSCE participating States increasingly introduce legislative tools, journalists’ association and CSOs offer other ways of countering dangerous messages.</i></p> <p><u>Moderator/Rapporteur:</u> Gulmira Birzhanova, Lawyer, Legal Media-Center, Kazakhstan</p> <p><u>Keynote speaker:</u> Pierre François Docquir, Head of Media freedom programme, Article 19</p>	<p><b>Working group 2 (room “Zaysan”): Freedom of expression online and hate speech</b></p> <p><i>The discussion will focus on the existing regulatory framework in the region and issues of its application, a joint search of proportionate measures countering a variety of forms of expression comprised in the term ‘hate speech’. It will also consider introducing elements of international norms in national legislation.</i></p> <p><u>Moderator/Rapporteur:</u> Begaim Usenova, Director, Media Policy Institute, Kyrgyzstan</p> <p><u>Keynote speaker:</u> Ikbalzhan Mirsaiitov, Regional Manager on Conflict Prevention, Internews</p>

	<u>Presentation:</u> Media self-regulation in Tajikistan Zinatullo Ismoilzoda, Chairman of the Union of Journalists of Tajikistan	
<b>16.15 – 16.45</b>	<b>COFFEE BREAK</b>	
<b>16.45 – 17.45</b>	<b>GROUP DISCUSSIONS (continued)</b>	
	<p><b>Working group 1 (room “Balkhash”): Countering challenges to freedom of the media in the digital age: regulation or self-regulation?</b></p> <p><u>Moderator/Rapporteur:</u> Gulmira Birzhanova, Lawyer, Legal Media Center, Kazakhstan</p>	<p><b>Working group 2 (room “Ural”): Freedom of expression online and hate speech</b></p> <p><u>Moderator/Rapporteur:</u> Begaim Usenova, Director, Media Policy Institute, Kyrgyzstan</p>
<b>18.30</b>	<b>RECEPTION (Astana Marriott Hotel, Vista Restaurant, 27<sup>th</sup> floor) Hosted by the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media</b>	

**Day 2: Thursday, 8 November**

<p><b>09.15 – 10.45</b></p>	<p><b>SESSION III: Overview of media freedom developments in the region since the 2010 Astana Summit</b></p> <p><i>This session aims to discuss media freedom developments since the 2010 OSCE Summit in Astana, including legislative initiatives and framework, current case law, safety of journalists, media transparency, professional standards, and other pertinent issues and challenges to media freedom.</i></p> <p><u>Moderator:</u> Elena Cherniavska, Senior Adviser, Office of the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Tamara Kaleyeva, President, International Foundation for Protection of Freedom of Speech Adil Soz, Kazakhstan</li> <li>- Representative of government/State institution, Kazakhstan</li> <li>- Nurgul Abdykerimova, Director, Media Development Center, Kyrgyzstan</li> <li>- Ainura Temirbekova, Deputy Minister of Culture, Information and Tourism of the Kyrgyz Republic</li> <li>- Shahlo Akobirova, Tajik Media Council, Tajikistan</li> <li>- Representative of government/State institution, Tajikistan</li> </ul> <p>- Q&amp;A, comments from the audience</p>
<p><b>10.45 – 11.15</b></p>	<p><b>COFFEE BREAK (Distribution of the draft recommendations from the conference)</b></p>
<p><b>11.15 – 12.15</b></p>	<p><b>SESSION III (cont'd): Overview of media freedom developments in the region since the 2010 Astana Summit</b></p> <p><i>This session aims to discuss media freedom developments since the 2010 OSCE Summit in Astana, including legislative initiatives and framework, current case law, safety of journalists, media transparency, professional standards, and other pertinent issues and challenges to media freedom.</i></p> <p><u>Moderator:</u> Elena Cherniavska, Senior Adviser, Office of the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Aleksey Volosevich, Freelance Journalist, Uzbekistan</li> <li>- Representative of government/State institution, Uzbekistan</li> <li>- Farruh Yusupov, Director of the Turkmen Service, Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty</li> <li>- Representative of government/State institution, Turkmenistan</li> <li>- Naranjargal Khashkhuu, President and Board Chairman, Globe International NGO, Mongolia</li> </ul> <p>- Q&amp;A, comments from the audience</p>
<p><b>12.15 – 13.30</b></p>	<p><b>CLOSING SESSION</b></p> <p><u>Moderator:</u> Matthijs Berman, Principal Adviser, Office of the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Reports from working groups discussions</li> <li>- Discussion of the draft recommendations from the conference</li> <li>- Reflection on 20 years of Central Asia Media Conference</li> </ul> <p><b>Closing remarks</b> Harlem Désir, OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media</p>
<p><b>13.30 – 14.30</b></p>	<p><b>LUNCH (Vista Restaurant, 27th floor)</b></p>