



JOURNALISTS'  
SAFETY,  
MEDIA FREEDOM  
AND PLURALISM  
IN TIMES OF CONFLICT

15-16 JUNE  
HOFBURG  
CONFERENCE CENTRE  
VIENNA  
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# Biographies of Speakers and Moderators

DAY 1 - MONDAY, 15<sup>TH</sup> JUNE

## Session 1 - Opening Plenary

### Moderator:

#### Ambassador Sanja Milinković

currently holds the post of the Deputy Permanent Representative of Serbia to the OSCE, United Nations and other international organizations based in Vienna.



Ambassador Milinković, a career diplomat since 1988, over the years has held a number of senior posts both in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA) and Embassies of the former Yugoslavia, respectively Serbia where her work was focused on international legal issues, but also multilateral and bilateral relations. She has headed numerous negotiating teams both in bilateral and multilateral contexts and has participated in various international conferences relating to international law and meetings of MFA Chief Legal Advisers.

Ambassador holds degrees in Law from the University of Belgrade.

### Keynote speaker:

**Roy Gutman** is the Europe Bureau Chief for McClatchy Newspapers, based in Istanbul. Previously, he served as McClatchy's Baghdad Bureau Chief and, before that, as Foreign



Editor. He was employed by the Reuters news agency, serving in Bonn, Vienna, Belgrade, London and Washington. At Reuters, he acted as Bureau Chief for Europe, State Department Correspondent, and Chief Capitol Hill Reporter. While Bureau Chief for Europe, from late 1989 to 1994, he reported on the downfall of the Polish, East German, and Czechoslovak regimes, the opening of the Berlin Wall, the unification of Germany, the first democratic elections in the former Eastern Bloc, and the violent disintegration of Yugoslavia.

Mr. Gutman's honours include the Pulitzer Prize for International Reporting, for his coverage of the 1993 war in Bosnia-Herzegovina; the George Polk Award for foreign reporting; the Selden Ring Award for investigative reporting; and a special Human Rights in Media Award from the International League for Human Rights.

Mr. Gutman is the chairman of the Crimes of War Project, an attempt to bring together reporters and legal scholars to increase awareness of the laws of war. His pocket guide to war crimes, *Crimes of War: What the Public Should Know*, co-edited with David Rieff, was published by W.W. Norton in 1999 with a second edition in 2007.

In 1988, Simon & Schuster published his *Banana Diplomacy: The Making of American Policy in Nicaragua 1981-1987*. Macmillan published *A Witness to Genocide in 1993*, and the U.S. Institute of Peace published *How We Missed the Story: Osama bin Laden, the Taliban, and the Hijacking of Afghanistan* in 2008.

Mr. Gutman graduated from Haverford College with a major in History. He holds a MSc in International Relations from the London School of Economics. He has been a Jennings Randolph senior fellow at the





United States Institute of Peace.

## Session 2 - Safety of Journalists

### Moderator:

**Frank Smyth** is the founder and executive director of Global Journalist Security, a forward-looking, technology-oriented, hostile environments training and consulting firm for journalist security & NGO safety. He is also Senior Advisor for Journalist Security at the New York-based Committee to Protect Journalists (CPJ).



Mr. Smyth has been awarded for both his investigative journalism and his service to the journalism community. He has covered armed conflicts, organized crime, and human rights abuses in a dozen countries. Mr. Smyth has reported for CBS News and written for outlets including *The Nation*, *The Village Voice*, *New Republic*, *The Washington Post*, *The New York Times*, *The Wall Street Journal* and *Foreign Affairs*.

Through the 1990s, Mr. Smyth was an arms trafficking investigator for Human Rights Watch. He served for seven years, until 2010, on the board of the European-based International News Safety Institute. Smyth is a graduate of the Johns Hopkins University School of Advanced International Studies and Boston College. He is a former Frank Ochberg Fellow at the Columbia University-based Dart Center for Journalism and Trauma and the main author of CPJ's Journalist Security Guide, released in 2012.

### Speakers:

**Tarlach McGonagle** is a senior researcher at the Institute for Information Law, Faculty of Law, University of Amsterdam. He regularly writes expert reports for various branches of the Council of Europe, OSCE, as well as other intergovernmental organizations and NGOs.



Dr. McGonagle is currently Rapporteur of the Council of Europe's Committee of Experts on protection of journalism and safety of journalists. He was awarded a Ph.D. by the University of Amsterdam (2008) for his thesis examining the interface between freedom of

expression and minority rights under international law.

In spring 2013, Dr. Mc Gonagle was a Visiting Scholar at the Center for Global Communication Studies, Annenberg School for Communication, University of Pennsylvania and at the Rutgers Institute for Information Policy and Law, Rutgers School of Law-Camden, New Jersey. He is member of the Euromedia Research Group and a senior researcher at the School of Human Rights Research (Netherlands). He is also a member of the Editorial Board of the European Audiovisual Observatory.

**Mikhail Zygar** is the editor-in-chief of the independent Russian TV channel Dozhd, based in Moscow. Mr. Zygar was appointed to the editorship of Dozhd in 2010, the same year the channel was founded. He was a lecturer at the International Journalism Department of MGIMO, Moscow State Institute of Foreign Relations. He is also a columnist at various Russian internet and print publications.



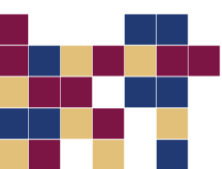
Mr. Zygar studied international journalism at the State Moscow Institute of Foreign Relations and at Cairo University. In 2000, he joined Kommersant, Russia's leading newspaper and covered military conflicts in such countries as Palestine, Lebanon, Iraq, Serbia, Kosovo and Kyrgyzstan. From 2009 to 2010, he was deputy editor-in-chief and head of the national desk at Newsweek Russia.

Mr. Zygar is the author of *War and Myth* (collection of his selected feature stories) published in 2007. He is co-author of the book *Gazprom: Russia's New Weapon* (2008). His new book, *Imaginary War of Vladimir Putin*, an historical look at what has led to the Russian president's domestic and foreign policy choices, is scheduled for release this autumn.

**Oksana Romaniuk** is the Executive Director of the Kyiv-based Institute of Mass Information (IMI) since August 2013. The IMI is a leading Ukrainian NGO that researches mass information in modern society. Its objectives include defending freedom of speech, supporting Ukrainian mass media, training Ukrainian journalists, drafting and lobbying media-reforms, and monitoring the rights of journalists and media.



Prior to leading the IMI, Ms. Romaniuk coordinated projects of the International Federation of Journalists in seven different countries of the former





Soviet Union. Previously, she worked at the UNIAN news agency, where she founded its English-language service and served as a correspondent. Ms. Romaniuk is active in the *Stop Censorship!* movement in Ukraine, and has served as the Ukraine representative of Reporters Without Borders since 2010.

## Session 3a - Ethics of Journalism in Conflict Reporting

### Moderator:

**Aidan White** is an international media specialist in human rights and media policy, self-regulation, ethical journalism, and media development. He is currently the Director of the Ethical Journalism Network (EJN), a coalition of media professionals and support groups committed to supporting the craft of journalism and building trust in media. The EJN carries out journalism programmes in Pakistan, Egypt, Hungary and South East Europe, and is engaged in developing tools and materials on ethical journalism -- codes for reporting elections, action on hate-speech and manuals for self-regulation.



Mr. White spent 24 years as General Secretary of the International Federation of Journalists and was an activist with the National Union of Journalists (UK and Ireland). During his journalistic career he worked for the *Birmingham Post and Mail*, and wrote for national titles, including *The Guardian*.

Mr. White's written contributions on the subject of ethical media include: *Journalism, Civil Liberties and the War on Terrorism* (2006), *Making a World of Difference: Global Unions at Work* (2006), and *To Tell You the TRUTH: the Ethical Journalism Initiative* (2008).

### Speakers:

**Boris Navasardian** is the President of the Yerevan Press Club (YPC) since 1995. The YPC is the first professional association of journalists in Armenia and an NGO that unites journalists, publishers, media leaders and experts, irrespective of their political ideas. Its mission is to support and develop independent and professional



media, help strengthen democratic institutions and establish civil society in Armenia.

Since 2000, Mr. Navasardian has also been the co-president of International Association of Journalists "South Caucasus". Prior to 1995, he was Chief Editor of the Armenian newspaper *Zerkalo* and the Armenfax news agency. He has an extensive career as a journalist for numerous media outlets.

Mr. Navasardian has been managing dozens of projects on media and freedom of information issues, strengthening civil society, European and sub-regional integration and conflict resolution. He is a graduate of the journalism department of Rostov State University.

**Boro Kontić** is the Director of the Mediacentar in Sarajevo since 1995. The Mediacentar supports the development of independent and professional journalism in Bosnia and Herzegovina through training and other activities.



Mr. Kontić is the author of *Years Eaten by Lions*, a well-known documentary about journalism and hate speech in ex-Yugoslavia between 1991 and 2010. The film was screened at Sarajevo, Göteborg, Florence, Belgrade, Zurich and Zagreb film festivals. Kontić has also authored several documentaries including *Untitled* (2011), *Exhibition* (2012) that were screened at documentary film festivals in the region.

Mr. Kontić started journalism at Radio Sarajevo in the late 1970s as a reporter and editor. During the Bosnian war (1992-1995), he was a reporter for BH Radio and Voice of America in Sarajevo. He continues to write regularly for Bosnian Internet portals and newspapers. Kontić holds a "Jug Grizelj" award for investigative journalism, as well as the Prix Futura and Prix Italia awards.

**Nadezhda Azhgikhina** is a journalist, literary critic and the Executive Secretary of the Russian Union of Journalists since 2001. She is Vice President of the European Federation of Journalists and a member of the Union of Russian Writers, Russian PEN, and of the Gender Council of International Federation of Journalists. She writes a personal column in the national weekly *Delovoy Vtornik* and teaches at Moscow State University in the faculty of journalism.



Ms. Azhgikhina graduated from the Faculty of Journalism at Moscow State University in 1982 and





began her career in the same year as a reporter for the national daily *Komsomolskaya Pravda*. In 1989, she received an advanced degree in literature from Moscow University and began to work for the magazine *Ogonyek*, the leading intellectual journal of that time. In 1992, she co-founded the Association of Russian Women Journalists.

Between 1995 and 2001, Ms. Azhgikhina was a staff journalist on the daily *Nezavisimaya Gazeta*, where she inaugurated the first women's page in a Russian newspaper. She has written and edited 18 books on journalism, culture, human rights and gender equality.

**Frank La Rue** is the Executive Director of the Robert F. Kennedy Human Rights Europe since November 2014. Between 2008 and 2014, Mr. La Rue held the position of Special Rapporteur for the promotion and protection of the right to the freedom of opinion and expression at the United Nations. In this capacity, he authored ten reports on the state of freedom of expression, addressing crucial topics like the Internet's potential as a tool for human rights, the protection of journalists, and state surveillance.



From 2004-2008, Mr. La Rue served in the Guatemalan Cabinet as the Presidential Secretary for Human Rights. He successfully negotiated with the United Nations to establish an office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights in Guatemala. In 1990, He founded the Center for Human Rights Legal Action in Washington, D.C., establishing its operations in Guatemala when he returned in 1993.

Mr. La Rue is also an accomplished journalist, writing a weekly column for *Prensa Libre* and producing a number of radio and television programs about human rights. He holds a law degree from San Carlos University in Guatemala and has studied at Johns Hopkins University and American University's Washington College of Law.

## Session 3b: Media Regulation in Times of Conflict

### Moderator:

**Douglas Griffin** is the Director of Albany Associates, a UK-based company providing full-spectrum comprehensive communications services around the world. He is an expert in communications and media strategy, law and policy, particularly in conflict, post-conflict and transitional environments.



Mr. Griffin is a lawyer with expertise in drafting important legal documents and assisting with the development of communications and media law and policy. He has significant experience communicating effectively with stakeholders, including the public, government officials and the international community, about key law and policy issues.

Mr. Griffin lead projects like drafting a media development strategy for Somalia with input from ministries, other stakeholders, the United Nations and UN agencies and donors; drafting key legislation and regulations concerning media and telecommunications in Iraq; training senior management of national regulators of broadcasting and communications and government officials; and providing comprehensive broadcast and other regulatory advice to communications regulators and government ministries in Jordan, the United Arab Emirates, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Kosovo, Afghanistan, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Ukraine.

### Speakers:

**Helena Mandić** is the Vice-Chair of the European Platform of Regulatory Authorities (EPRA) and Director of Broadcasting at the Communications Regulatory Agency of Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH). She has worked in the Agency since its inception in 1998, where she has performed various duties, including that of Head of Legal Department and Head of Division of Programme Standards, Complaints and Broadcasting Regulation.



Ms. Mandić participated in the work of expert groups drafting BiH Press Code, as well as laws on





defamation, freedom of information and communications. She has also been a member of the team representing BiH in cases before the Human Rights Chamber of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

She represented BiH in the work of the Standing Committee for Transfrontier Television and chaired the meetings of the Executive Council of the European Audiovisual Observatory, during the BiH Presidency. Currently, Ms. Mandić represents the Agency at the meetings of European and Mediterranean networks of regulatory authorities, as well as on various other international fora. She has been active in the EPRA Board since May 2013.

Ms. Mandić is a co-author of the Media Law in BiH, a comprehensive overview of the media law framework. She graduated from the University of Sarajevo Faculty of Law.

**Krister Thelin** is a Judge and former member of the UN Human Rights Committee and Judge at the International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia (ICTY). He is also the Former Director of the Independent Media Commission of Bosnia and Herzegovina. He combines longstanding professional experience with a personal commitment to general principles of law such as fairness, due process and judicial impartiality. He is also deeply committed to efficient trial management.



In Sweden, Mr. Thelin has served as chairman of various law commissions relating to international private law, border security law and extradition law. As a judge at the ICTY, between 2003 and 2008, he handled cases relating to serious crimes under international criminal law.

In 2008-2012, Mr. Thelin contributed to the UN Human Rights Committee's work by monitoring the human rights situation in various states and contributing to general comments on important articles in the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights. In addition, he has practical experience in the field of institution building, promotion of human rights and the rule of law, which he gained during his assignments for the European Union in the Balkans.

**Eve Salomon** is the Director, Salomon Whittle Ltd (UK) and Chair of the Regulatory Board of the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors, responsible for regulating some 200,000 Chartered Surveyors in 146 countries. She is a former Press Complaints Commissioner, Gambling



Commissioner, and she chaired the Internet Watch Foundation until January 2012.

A solicitor by background, Ms. Salomon is an international legal expert for the Council of Europe and the author of the UNESCO Guidelines for Broadcasting Regulation. She has advised numerous NGOs, governments, regulatory authorities and international organisations (UNESCO, European Commission, World Bank, Council of Europe) on human rights and media-related issues in dozens of different countries.

Ms. Salomon's previous positions included Deputy Secretary of the UK's Independent Television Commission, Director of Legal Services at the Radio Authority, and Interim Secretary of Ofcom. She continues to undertake advisory work for UK government departments and agencies in the field of better regulation.

## DAY 2 - TUESDAY, 16<sup>TH</sup> JUNE

### Session 4: Propaganda and the Information War

#### Moderator:

**Katrin Nyman-Metcalf** is Head of the Chair of Law and Technology at Tallinn University of Technology in Estonia. Her main areas of interest include communications law in a wide sense (telecommunications, Internet including e-governance and media law), especially in post-conflict and developing nations and she has published about 30 scientific books and articles in these areas.



Apart from her academic work, Dr. Nyman-Metcalf works as an international consultant with communications related projects. She has worked in more than 40 countries, including on e-governance as well as communications regulatory issues in Albania, Afghanistan, Jordan, Palestine and Tajikistan; on setting up communications regulators in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo and Iraq; and on digitalisation of broadcasting in Armenia and Moldova. She regularly provides legal reviews for the OSCE Representative of Freedom of the Media.

Dr. Nyman-Metcalf's PhD in Public International Law (1999) and her Master's degree (1986) were both awarded by the University of Uppsala in Sweden. She's Head of Research of the Estonian e-Governance Academy.





## Speakers:

**Andrey Rikhter** is the Director of the OSCE Office of the Representative on Freedom of the Media and a professor at the School of Journalism, Lomonosov Moscow State University, where he teaches media law.



Dr. Rikhter sits on editorial boards of a number of international journals on communications and the media. He has authored more than 200 publications on media law in Russian, English, Armenian, Azeri, Bosnian, Croat, German, French, Serbian, Slovak, Tajik and Ukrainian, including the only standard media law textbook for journalism students of Russian colleges and universities (2002, 2009); a textbook on international standards of media regulation (2011); and a book on censorship and freedom of the media in post-Soviet countries, published by UNESCO in English (2007).

Dr. Rikhter holds university degrees in law and foreign languages, and a doctorate in journalism. He was a commissioner at the International Commission of Jurists and the chair of the Law Section of the International Association for Media and Communication Research.

**Georgii Pocheptsov** is a professor at the National Academy of Public Administration in Kyiv and at the Mariupol State University in Ukraine. He founded and was the first head of the Department of International Communications and Public Relations at the Institute of International Relations at the Kiev Taras Shevchenko University. Subsequently he founded and headed the Information Policy Department at the National Academy of Public Administration.



Between 2002 and 2005, Dr. Pocheptsov has served as the head of the Office of Strategic Initiatives at the Administration of the President of Ukraine. After 2005, he was involved in developing of educational programs in communication theory and public relations engineering at several institutions of higher education.

During his career Dr. Pocheptsov has authored over 50 books (used extensively as textbooks) in fields of communication theory, strategy, information warfare, and public relations. In addition, he is also a member of the Writers Union (of the former USSR and Ukraine). Dr. Pocheptsov graduated from the Department of Cybernetics of

the Kiev Taras Shevchenko University, Ukraine in 1971. He received a Ph.D. in journalism in 1974 and a Doctorate of Sciences in journalism in 1989.

**Valery Solovey** is professor and Chair of Public Relations department at the Moscow State Institute of International Relations (MGIMO) in Russia. He is the academic supervisor of the International Master's Program in International Relations "Governance and Global Affairs" launched by MGIMO in 2012.



Dr. Solovey has authored and co-authored four monographs, several dozen scientific articles on Russia's history and politics, and several hundred newspaper publications. He previously worked at the Russian Academy of Sciences and the International Foundation for Socio-Economic and Political Studies (The Gorbachev Foundation).

Dr. Solovey holds a Doctor of Philosophy from Moscow State University and was a visiting fellow at the London School of Economics and Political Science.

