



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

FIFTH MEETING: FREEDOM OF MEDIA IN ELECTIONS AND COUNTERACTING DISINFORMATION

29 April 2022, 14:00-16:30 (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.



Yves-Marie Doublet, Deputy Director of the financial department of the National Assembly

Yves-Marie Doublet is Deputy Director of the Financial department of the National Assembly.

Prior to this, he was Head of the Legal studies and monitoring department of the National Assembly, and before that Head of the Legal department of the French Constitutional Court.

He has served in various parliaments as a consultant on drafting laws, good governance and monitoring, and worked on electoral law and political finance for the EU, the Council of Europe, the OSCE, and USAID, as well as being an expert of the Group of States against Corruption (GRECO), a Council of Europe anti-corruption body. He has assessed the legal framework on party funding of eight member states of GRECO, and has worked for the Venice Commission on the topic of political finance.

In 2019, he wrote a report on disinformation in electoral campaigns; in 2020 took part in a report for the Council of Europe on Countering the misuse of administrative resources during electoral processes for the Council of Europe; and in 2021 a report on hate speech in electoral campaigns. In 2021, he published an article on Disinformation and electoral campaigns, for the German Institute on political parties at the University of Düsseldorf. He is the author of two reports on the third evaluation round on party funding by the GRECO (2010 and 2012), one report on Detection of irregular political finance for the Council of Europe in 2016, a report on Independent candidates in different member states of the Council of Europe in 2016, and a report on France in Financing democracy-Funding of political parties and electoral campaigns, for the OECD in 2016.

He holds a diploma from the Institut d'études politiques of Paris and a PhD on German law from the University of Paris II.

Brenda Santamaria leads and co-ordinates activities related to the deployment of OAS Electoral Observation Missions (EOMs).

In 2018, she served as Interim Director of the OAS Department of Electoral Cooperation and Observation (DECO) from February to July. Since she joined the team in 2007, Brenda has participated in more than 100 EOMs. She also monitored DECO's communication activities and co-



Brenda Santamaria, Chief of the Electoral Observation Section, Department of Electoral Cooperation and Observation at the Organization of American States (OAS)

ordinated the development of online courses, face-to-face training and meetings aimed at strengthening the capacities of electoral authorities in the region. She has more than 20 years of professional experience in journalism, institutional communications, elections and international relations.

She holds a Master's Degree in International Studies from Torcuato Di Tella University and a Bachelor's Degree in Journalism from the Universidad del Salvador in Buenos Aires.



Mikheil Benidze, Chief of Party, Georgia Information Integrity Program

Mikheil Benidze is the Chief of Party for USAID's Georgia Information Integrity Program implemented by the Zinc Network. The program is aimed at delivering a whole-of-society response to countering disinformation and strengthening societal resilience in the face of disinformation and propaganda campaigns in Georgia.

Benidze has a decade of experience working on promoting democracy, electoral integrity and human rights, and tackling disinformation, working with and co-ordinating a broad range of actors throughout Georgia, Europe and the United States.

He has spent a significant part of his career with the International Society for Fair Elections and Democracy (ISFED), including as Executive Director in 2016-2020. He has served as the Secretary General of the European Network of Election Monitoring Organizations (ENEMO) from November 2016 to April 2017. He was also a member of the State Constitutional Commission of Georgia in 2017. Mikheil has managed local and international election observation missions on behalf of

ISFED and ENEMO. As Executive Director at ISFED, Mikheil headed several election observation missions, was engaged in ISFED's monitoring and research, reforms and policy advocacy work. He spearheaded development and implementation of ISFED's pioneering methodology for social media monitoring in the context of elections. Mikheil also established and strengthened ISFED's policy research unit focused on European integration, human rights and democratic reforms.

Mikheil was a member of the EU-supported working group of experts and contributed in developing global guidelines for civil society on social media monitoring during elections. He has spoken on disinformation and elections at various fora across Europe and Asia (Brussels, Berlin, Bratislava, Kuala Lumpur, and Taipei). Mikheil has led successful advocacy efforts on transparency of political advertisement and other active measures by social media platforms to counter disinformation and worked with various interlocutors in Facebook.

Mikheil holds an MBA Degree in Business Administration from Porto Business School of University of Porto (Porto, Portugal) and a Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration from Tbilisi State University (Tbilisi, Georgia).



Jelena Surčulija Milojevic, Assistant Professor, Department of Journalism and Communication Studies, University of Belgrade

Jelena Surčulija Milojević is the Assistant Professor at the Faculty of Political Sciences, University of Belgrade, where she teaches "Media Law and Policy", "Media Ethics", "Media and Elections – Regulatory Aspects" and "Freedom of Expression on the Internet".

She has worked as an expert in Media, Telecommunications and Internet Law for the Council of Europe, the European Commission, the OSCE, Cullen International, BBC World Service Trust, UNDP, UNICEF, GIPI/Internews and other organizations in Belgrade (Serbia), Oxford (UK), Sofia (Bulgaria), Kyiv (Ukraine), Skopje (North Macedonia), Baku (Azerbaijan) and remotely. She was the Assistant Minister of Telecommunications responsible for International Relations and European Integration. She was also the member of the Advisory Group and a Visiting Lecturer at the Programme in Comparative Media Law and Policy (PCMLP); Centre for Socio-Legal Studies (CSLS), University of Oxford from 2006 to 2008. She was a Lead Researcher on the OSI project "Mapping Digital Media: Serbia" in 2011 and on the Centre for Media Pluralism and Media Freedom (CMPF) at European University Institute project "Media Pluralism Monitor Report:

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| | <p>Serbia” in 2017. She regularly publishes academic articles, expert/policy papers and provides trainings within her fields of expertise.</p> <p>Milojević is one of the founders and a member of the International Media Lawyers Association (IMLA).</p> <p>She holds a PhD in Media Law from the Faculty of Law, University of Belgrade and the LLM in Computer and Communications Law from Queen Mary, University of London.</p> |
|  <p>Giuseppe Milazzo, Research Associate and Senior Media Analyst of the Osservatorio di Pavia, a consultant of OSCE ODIHR on media and elections</p> | <p>Giuseppe Milazzo is a senior researcher at the Osservatorio di Pavia.</p> <p>He has over 25 years’ experience in media monitoring, media and elections, designing of research projects, methodologies of social research, quantitative and qualitative content analysis, data processing with statistical tools, multivariate analysis, textual analysis, media and gender, media and multiculturalism, hate speech and disinformation. He is involved in training activities on media studies both at the national and international level.</p> <p>As a media expert in capacity building and over 20 international election observation missions, he has assessed the role of the media during elections. The Osservatorio di Pavia is an independent non-profit research institute specialized in media analysis. Its main objective is the safeguard of social, cultural and political pluralism in the field of mass media.</p> |



**Vladimir Misev, Senior Adviser on
New Voting Technologies, OSCE
ODIHR**

Vladimir has a background in political science. He has been working as an Election Adviser in ODIHR since 2015 and as an election expert since 2004. Vladimir worked as a lecturer of political science and as a researcher in a several think-tanks in the Balkan region.

He has over 20 years' experience in the field of democratization, research and management, and elections. Vladimir has been part of more than 80 ODIHR missions different capacities.



**Bettina Ruigies, Senior Adviser at
the OSCE RFoM Office**

Bettina Ruigies joined the OSCE Office of the Representative on Freedom of the Media on 1 October 2021 as a Senior Media Advisor.

Prior to this position she was an Operations Officer at the Special Monitoring Mission in Ukraine and the Regional Coordinator for Europe at Deutsche Welle Akademie in Germany. Over the past 15 years, Bettina Ruigies worked with journalists, independent and public service media in Central Asia, Eastern Europe and South Caucasus. With a professional background in TV journalism and media management, her focus is the freedom of media and media development. Bettina Ruigies began her career at RTL German Television in Moscow in 1993, where she was part of a team that covered daily news topics from all over Russia and its neighbours.

She holds a Masters in Russian and English languages from University of Mainz and a MBA from NIMBAS Utrecht.



Andrey Rikhter, Senior Adviser at the OSCE RFoM Office

Andrey Rikhter is Senior Adviser at the OSCE Office of the Representative on Freedom of the Media.

Rikhter sits on the editorial boards of a number of international journals on communications and the media. He has authored more than 200 publications on media law which were translated into Russian, English, Armenian, Azeri, Bosnian, Croat, German, French, Serbian, Slovak, Tajik and Ukrainian, including the only standard media law textbook for journalism students in the Russian Federation (2002, 2009), 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).

Rikhter holds university degrees in law and foreign languages, and a doctorate and professorship in journalism studies. 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.