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Supplementary Human Dimension Meeting

**THE ROLE OF THE FREE MEDIA IN THE
COMPREHENSIVE APPROACH TO SECURITY**

**2-3 November 2017
Hofburg, Vienna**

FINAL REPORT



TABLE OF CONTENTS

OVERVIEW4
I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY4
II. SYNOPSIS OF THE SESSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS4
OPENING SESSION5
SESSION I:7
SESSION II:9
SESSION III: 10
ANNEXES 13
ANNEX I: SHORT AGENDA 13
ANNEX II: BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION: Keynote Speaker, Introducers and
Moderators 15

OVERVIEW

I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The second Supplementary Human Dimension Meeting (SHDM) on “The Role of Free Media in the Comprehensive Approach to Security” was held in Vienna on 2-3 November 2017. It was co-organized by the Austrian OSCE Chairmanship-in-Office, the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights and the Office of the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media.

The meeting was attended by 145 participants, among them 71 participants from 34 participating States, and two representatives from two international organizations: the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe and UN Women Ethiopian Country Office. 27 representatives of 17 NGOs, altogether from nine participating States, also attended the meeting as well as twelve representatives of media. Moreover, 24 representatives from the OSCE and the Institutions also participated (OSCE Secretariat, OSCE Action against Terrorism Unit, the Office of the Representative on Freedom of the Media, the Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights, OSCE Parliamentary Assembly and OSCE Parliamentary Liaison Office), as well as nine representatives of three OSCE Missions/Field Operations (the OSCE Office of the OSCE Project Co-ordinator in Ukraine, OSCE Programme Office in Bishkek, OSCE Mission to Bosnia and Herzegovina, OSCE Programme Office in Dushanbe, OSCE Mission to Montenegro and Office of the OSCE Project Co-ordinator in Uzbekistan).

The meeting was organized in three sessions:

1. Free Media as a Basis for European Security;
2. The Role of Media in Peacebuilding and Conflict Prevention;
3. The Role of Media in Counteracting of Disinformation, “Hate Speech” and Radicalization.

II. SYNOPSIS OF THE SESSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The following section summarizes the discussions that took place during the opening session, the three thematic sessions and the closing session, and presents recommendations made by participants. The recommendations were directed at a variety of actors, including OSCE participating States, OSCE executive structures, civil society actors and representatives of international organizations. These recommendations have no official status and are not based on consensus among the 57 OSCE participating States. The inclusion of recommendations in this report does not suggest that it reflects the views or policies of the OSCE. Nevertheless, the recommendations serve as useful indicators for the OSCE to reflect on how participating States are meeting their commitments related to freedom of expression and media freedom, as well as their views on OSCE follow-up activities in this area.

OPENING SESSION

Opening remarks:

Ambassador Clemens Koja, Chairperson of the OSCE Permanent Council, Permanent Representative of Austria to the OSCE

Mr. Harlem Désir, OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media

Ms. Elizabeth Abela-Hampel, Deputy Head of Action against Terrorism Unit, Transnational Threats Department, OSCE Secretariat

Ms. Ingibjörg Sólrún Gísladóttir, Director of the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (OSCE/ODIHR)

Keynote speech:

Mr. Everette E. Dennis, Chief Executive Officer and Dean, Northwestern University – Qatar; Fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences

In his opening remarks, Ambassador Clemens Koja emphasized the importance of maintaining freedom of expression while countering radicalisation and violent extremism. He noted that societies were strong enough to withstand hatred and terror, without needing excessive measures against free speech or free and independent media. He emphasized that free and pluralistic media can in fact play an essential, influential and positive role, including on the Internet, in countering intolerance and promoting dialogue, respect and mutual understanding. The right to freedom of expression should therefore not be pitched against legitimate security concerns.

He further recalled that a vibrant media environment allowed for voices to be heard provided for public debate, government transparency and accountability, thus helping to sustain peace and stability. Ambassador Koja therefore called to focus on the positive role that a free and pluralistic media can play in fostering security in the OSCE region, in order for the interest of security and the right to freedom of expression to become truly and mutually reinforcing.

Representative Désir started his remarks by noting that freedom of the media is too often submitted to restrictions presented as justified by security concerns. Therefore protecting media freedom in the new security context is one of the four priorities of his mandate. Freedom and security are values that do not oppose but indeed can strengthen each other.

He recalled the killings of Daphne Caruana Galizia in Malta and of Pavel Sheremet in Ukraine on the International Day to End Impunity for crimes committed against journalists. He reminded that ninety percent of the perpetrators and masterminds behind these attacks are never brought to justice. Impunity and any attempts to undermine the safety of journalists are not acceptable.

Désir also emphasized that in 1999, when the participating States adopted the OSCE Istanbul Charter for European Security, they committed themselves not to weaken freedom at the expense of improving security. He noted those governments' efforts in fighting

terrorism and hate speech should be carried out in the spirit of the pertinent international treaties, in a strictly necessary and proportionate manner. National security should not be used as a pretext to suppress dissenting voices or to control public discourse.

Deputy Head Abela-Hampel addressed the participants by emphasizing that countering terrorism is high on the OSCE's agenda. She reminded that the challenge is to guarantee freedom while countering violent extremism and radicalisation that lead to terrorism. Internet is exploited by terrorists to recruit and to collect funds. After the attacks on the French satirical media outlet Charlie Hebdo, the idea, that sensationalist media coverage of terrorism triggers further terror attacks,

She continued by evoking the outcomes and recommendations of the OSCE Expert Workshops related to the topics of media freedom and security that took place in Bucharest and Sarajevo in the last years. She further emphasized that while state actors bear the prime responsibility, private actors should be also involved. She also noted that while intermediaries could be used to spread hate speech and terrorism, they also provide platforms for countering them. She mentioned the OSCE UnitedCVE campaign as an example of a successful counter narrative campaign that had reached more than 14 million people.

Director Sólrún Gísladóttir reiterated that freedom of expression and freedom of media are cornerstones of democratic processes, adding that intolerance is spreading worldwide. She recalled the Budapest Document adopted in 1994, stating that fermenting hatred, including ethnic hatred, is an early warning of violence. She highlighted that strong media structures are able to counter false information and hatred.

Director Gísladóttir informed the participants, that ODIHR, together with the Ethical Journalism Centre and EU FRA, is currently implementing a project that is addressing the issue of the media coverage of Muslims with an aim to promote more diverse and balanced reporting by encouraging stronger interaction and co-operation of Muslim communities with journalists and other media practitioners. The two main outputs of the project will be a study on media coverage of migrants (with a special focus on Muslim migrants) and a "building bridges" workshop model to be used at national and regional levels. She concluded by reminding participants that the right to free speech comes with responsibilities.

Keynote speaker professor Everett Dennis addressed the event by emphasizing that decriminalization of defamation is a vital precondition for robust and unconstrained freedom of expression. It is important to acknowledge all pillars of national and regional security - the political, economic, environmental as well as the human dimensions of the comprehensive approach to security, because one set of priorities can encroach on others, and the human dimension is most often overlooked or abandoned in the face of urgent military or economic demands.

Dennis noted that it is simply dangerous not to be informed. The ancient conflict between secrecy and publicity, between full disclosure and withholding information, comes into full view; the struggle is all about intelligence, a commodity once held secretly and securely by governments or private interests, which is now more accessible to the public. He reminded

that the digital age of high speed of communication brings new challenges to the interplay between secrecy and publicity. Attacks on the news media are rampant and growing, including from governments, and free expression warrants continuous attention even in advanced societies.

In order to improve the current situation, Dennis emphasized the importance of media literacy training for citizens everywhere; the need for the media to have clear protocols regarding security; the need for the media to fight for their freedom using all appropriate means including advocacy. Media should police their own house, Dennis noted, and social media platforms and their leaders need to accept responsibility for enforcing ethical standards; and the dialogue on security and publicity must continue and must involve all stakeholders.

SESSION I: Free Media as a Basis for European Security

Moderator: **Mr. Thijs Berman**, Principal Adviser to the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media (RFOM)

Introducers:

Ms. Brankica Petkovic, Head of the Center for Media Policy at the Peace Institute in Ljubljana

Mr. Petr Fedorov, Deputy Director General, Head of Foreign Relations Department, All-Russian State Television and Radio Broadcasting Company

Following up on what had already been stated in the course of the introductory remarks, panelists of session 1 agreed that media freedom is a condition for lasting security. Free media expose security threats and ensure public debates about anti-terrorism policies.

Panellists and many speakers noted the growing trends to limit free speech in the entire OSCE region. Some speakers spoke about the dangers that media activists face, noting that in some cases the support of the international community could even increase these dangers. Independent media activists are perceived by some governments as foreign agents. Many are women, often threatened and attacked, mostly with impunity.

The importance of electronic media regulators in limiting hate speech and incitement to conflict in parts of the OSCE region was also highlighted, adding that the independence of these bodies has been increasingly challenged. Many participants at the session stressed that independent media is needed to strengthen security, and we need independent regulators to ensure that the media coverage remains independent. Concerns were raised that the same actors who have an interest in limiting media independence will also seek to influence the decisions of the regulators. A growing trend in this direction was noted in the OSCE region.

Concerns were also raised about “politics of organized lying” (propaganda), which is not new, but its revival is highly worrisome. Even free media can find itself in the situation by which they disseminate information that is misleading. One participant noted that media freedom is in itself not a sufficient condition and not a guarantee for good journalism, while others noted that freedom and independence of the media is a precondition to quality journalism.

Some participants expressed criticism towards mainstream media. Mainstream was referred to as a unified news agenda which is framing the news, divides information between truth and lies, and seldom presents different opinions and different points of view on a certain issue. Mainstream media feels it has the right to determine what is true, whereas it should be acknowledged, that other views might also be true. Some media outlets are being demonized just because they present a different point of view and thus in fact talk about inaccuracy in the mainstream media.

This point was countered by other speakers including in another panel, stating that facts need to be reported as facts, not as one of many possible opinions or one side of the story. Once journalists through accurate journalistic investigation and research based on authoritative and credible sources established something as a fact, they should continue reporting that as such.

Examples of restrictions on media coverage, travel bans on journalists, use of registration as a form of censorship as well as administrative obstacles to visa and travel documents, were mentioned several times throughout the two-days conference as examples of negative practices that limit media independence. While there was disagreement about the legitimacy of specific restrictions, there was nevertheless overall agreement on the principle that journalists should be allowed to work freely, independently and without fear of retaliation.

The day ended with a call on all OSCE participating states to double their efforts to protect media freedom. Participants referred to freedom of the media as a basis for security. OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media was mentioned as an important resource for all participating States.

The following specific recommendations were made in Session I:

Recommendations for the OSCE participating States:

- Urgently address concerns about the practice of accreditation of journalists and the (ab)use of accreditation to restrict journalists’ access; Increase or establish media literacy trainings as they are of crucial importance to strengthen media freedom and freedom of expression.
- The media should increase efforts to defend its freedom and independence.
- Independent self-regulation of the media is necessary and can positively affect quality journalism.
- Discussions on the role and responsibilities of internet intermediaries should continue.
- Universities and think tanks should continue to study, document and assess the role

of the media in understanding and challenging unwarranted security constraints.

Recommendations for the OSCE institutions and field operations:

- The OSCE should exercise pressure on participating States where detailed media coverage of the trials of media workers is not available.
- RFoM should consider preparing guidelines on rules of engagement and disengagement in information wars.

SESSION II: The Role of Media in Peacebuilding and Conflict Prevention

Moderator: **Mr. Thijs Berman**, Principal Adviser to the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media

Introducers:

Ms. Helen Yosef Hailu, Program Specialist – Advocacy, Strategic Partnership and Communication, UN Women

Mr. Jake Lynch, Associate Professor, the University of Sydney, Australia

All panellists agreed on the need to engage the media in peace-building and conflict prevention. Furthermore, the need to engage women's peace agenda was also emphasized. Media has a crucial role in changing existing narratives on women. Some participants noted that conflict reporting has been gender-blind. Examples of the work of UN Women were presented, highlighting the close collaboration with the media as a key ally in advancing women's rights.

Participants noted that quality journalism should be gender sensitive, and it should resist the dissemination of propaganda messages that can serve as the foundation of war journalism. Different international treaties and studies were mentioned which have highlighted the importance of gender-sensitive reporting, including the emphasis on the voices of women in strengthening conflict resolution and peace-keeping efforts.

Solutions-oriented peace journalism was also described as an antidote to the prevailing form of the victory-oriented war journalism. Peace journalism prompts readers to consider non-violent responses to conflict, while war journalism prepares readers to regard violence as the most appropriate response. Peace journalism presumes that editors and journalists can make choices. Its existence depends on press freedom. It is truth orientated, while war journalism is propaganda orientated.

It was noted that this new approach is not easily accepted by all journalists. Civil society organizations put forward recommendations to journalists, and seek to inspire their journalistic practices and strengthen their ability to counter existing agency standards,

standards of the news organisation they operate within. Some expressed their views that the media can contribute to conflicts rather than to peace.

All panelists stressed the need to investigate the elements that encourage a certain type of coverage by the media. Some noted that journalism moves parallel with the agenda of governments - when governments are interested in peace negotiations, peace journalism is more likely to take place. The session ended by commending the work of the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media on raising attention to the increasing digital attacks against women journalists.

The following specific recommendations were made in Session II:

Recommendations for the OSCE participating States:

- Promote gender-responsive reporting on conflict resolution and post-conflict resolution.
- Carry out content analysis of media in peace journalism.
- Implement global standards for conflict reporting.

Recommendations for the OSCE institutions and field operations:

- Dialogue should be activated on the adaptation and implementation of international standards on war journalists.
- RFoM should collect the existing discussions and recommendations and consider developing them into guidelines for journalists.

SESSION III: The Role of the Media in Counteracting of Disinformation, “Hate Speech” and Radicalization

Moderator: **Mr. Andrey Rikhter**, Senior Adviser to the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media

Introducers:

Mr. Jeremy Dear, Deputy Secretary General, International Federation of Journalists

Ms. Sejal Parmar, Senior Adviser to the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media

The participants emphasized that journalism “is not a crime” and that journalists are more likely to come under pressure in countries where an appropriate legal framework does not exist to protect freedom of expression and media freedom. However, they also noted that excessive laws are sometimes used to prohibit unwanted points of view.

The participants further emphasized that media acting in the public interest helps counter hate and propaganda, and expose policies implemented in the pursuit of anti-democratic

agendas. Journalism is often criticized and blamed, but journalism is not propaganda, journalism is not the problem. The session noted the need to support a value-based journalism, which is in the public interest.

Several participants emphasized that journalists should be accountable when they don't meet journalistic standards. Many noted that self-censorship of journalists can create a vacuum where criminals may step in. It was noted that self-regulatory mechanisms work best when they are inclusive, independent and transparent. The discussion mentioned the core principles of self-regulation as following: 1) Codes of practice are required; 2) Self-regulation mechanisms need to be representative and independent; 3) Complaints must be handled in a transparent manner.

The importance of proper conditions for journalistic work was emphasized by many participants. Some noted that journalists' unions and labour unions should be improved. If journalists feel insecure, or are low-paid, they are more likely to compromise their journalistic standards for fear of losing their job or for hope to receive additional payments. The session also discussed hate speech, violent extremism, and "fake news" as three forms of harmful speech. The discussion emphasized that the types of harmful speech are often confused in policy discussions, even though they attract different approaches under relevant provisions and interpretations of international law. The session presented examples of the Council of Europe campaign aimed at Countering Hate Speech Targeting Refugees, and the OSCE United in Countering Violent Extremism" (#UnitedCVE) campaign, as successful initiatives in countering harmful speech.

Participants raised the issue of the absence of internationally agreed definition of hate speech and "fake news", which could lead to the abuse of this term and could demonize any dissenting or differing information. Today hate speech refers to a broad spectrum, from incitement to genocide (criminalized) to intolerance (not criminalized). Hate speech, as violent extremism, if left unchecked, can lead to human rights violations.

Some participants noted that the real threat posed by "fake news" is that it affects the credibility of the media and promotes a perception that journalistic facts are only one of many possible opinions.

The session also emphasized that reporting on violent extremism is not violent extremism in itself. The session recalled the Joint Declaration on Freedom of Expression and Countering Violent Extremism and the Joint Declaration on Freedom of Expression and "Fake News", Disinformation and Propaganda, by noting that there is no general prohibition on fake news. Many noted that states should refrain from making statements which show a disregard for truth and facts.

The following specific recommendations were made in Session III:

Recommendations for the OSCE participating States:

- Actively support independent and free public service media.

- Acknowledge and support the public purpose of journalism.
- Create an environment conducive to investigative reporting.
- Strengthen or establish a legal and regulatory framework that guarantees media freedom and free expression.
- Strengthen the rights of media workers to carry out their work freely and under safe conditions.

Recommendations for the OSCE institutions and field operations:

- ODIHR and the Office of RFoM should consider an internal definition of hate speech.

ANNEXES

ANNEX I: SHORT AGENDA

AGENDA

Day 1

2 November 2017

15:00 – 16:00

OPENING SESSION

Opening remarks

Ambassador Clemens Koja, Chairperson of the OSCE Permanent Council, Permanent Representative of Austria to the OSCE

Mr. Harlem Désir, OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media

Ms. Elizabeth Abela-Hampel, Deputy Head of Action against Terrorism Unit, Transnational Threats Department, OSCE Secretariat

Ms. Ingibjörg Sólrún Gísladóttir, Director of the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (OSCE/ODIHR)

Keynote speech

Mr. Everette E. Dennis, Chief Executive Officer and Dean, Northwestern University – Qatar; Fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences

Technical information

16:00 – 18:00

SESSION I: Free Media as a Basis for European Security

Ms. Brankica Petkovic, Head of the Center for Media Policy at the Peace Institute in Ljubljana

Mr. Petr Fedorov, Deputy Director General, Head of Foreign Relations Department, All-Russian State Television and Radio Broadcasting Company

Moderator

Mr. Thijs Berman, Principal Adviser to the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media

18:00 – 20:00

Reception hosted by the Austrian OSCE Chairmanship (*venue: Petersplatz 7, Vienna 1010 – 5 minutes walk from Hofburg*)

Day 2

3 November 2017

09:00 – 11:00

SESSION II: The Role of Media in Peacebuilding and Conflict Prevention

Ms. Helen Yosef Hailu, Program Specialist – Advocacy, Strategic Partnership and Communication, UN Women

Mr. Jake Lynch, Associate Professor, the University of Sydney, Australia

Moderator

Mr. Thijs Berman, Principal Adviser to the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media

11:00 – 13:00

Side Events

13:00 – 14:00

Lunch (*hosted by the Austrian Chairmanship, Vorsaal Hofburg*)

14:00 – 16:00

SESSION III: The Role of Media in Counteracting of Disinformation, “Hate Speech” and Radicalization

Mr. Jeremy Dear, Deputy Secretary General, International Federation of Journalists

Ms. Sejal Parmar, Senior Adviser to the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media

Moderator

Mr. Andrey Rikhter, Senior Adviser to the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media

16:00 – 17:00

CLOSING SESSION

Reports from the Working Sessions

Rapporteur

Ms. Barbara Trionfi, Executive Director, International Press Institute

Comments from the floor

Closing remarks

Ambassador Clemens Koja, Chairperson of the OSCE Permanent Council, Permanent Representative of Austria to the OSCE

Ms. Katarzyna Gardapkhadze, First Deputy Director of the OSCE/ODIHR

Mr. Andrey Rikhter, Senior Adviser to the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media

ANNEX II: BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION: Keynote Speaker, Introducers and Moderators

Day 1: Thursday, 2 November 2017

15.00 – 16.00: OPENING SESSION

*Opening remarks: **Ambassador Clemens Koja***

Ambassador Clemens Koja was born on 19 July 1960 in Vienna. Raised and educated in Vienna and later in Salzburg, where he finished a classical gymnasium in 1978, he served in the Austrian army as a reserve officer. From 1979 -1983 Koja studied law at the Universities of Salzburg and Vienna, obtaining a Dr.iur. In the following years he studied Catholic theology in Rome and Salzburg, obtaining a Master's degree in 1993. In 1989 he joined the Austrian Foreign Service; his first postings abroad were at the Austrian Embassies in Warsaw, Rome and the Vatican. In the Foreign Ministry he worked mostly in the Southern European Department, of which he was the Director between 2003 and 2008. Later he served as Deputy Head of Mission in Madrid and as Ambassador in Belgrade (2008-12) and Ljubljana (2012-16). Since 6 July 2016 he is the Permanent Representative of Austria to the OSCE.

*Opening remarks: **Mr. Harlem Désir***

Harlem Désir (France) was appointed as the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media on 18 July 2017 for a period of three years. Prior to this position, Désir was French Minister of State for European Affairs, attached to the French Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Development, since April 2014.

Harlem Désir was a Member of the European Parliament for three consecutive terms from 1999 to 2014. He was a member of the Committee on Industry, Energy and Research, the Employment and Social Affairs and the Committee on Development. He was also Vice-President of the Delegation for relations with the United States (2002-2004), member of the Joint ACP-EU Parliamentary Assembly (2002-2009) and member of the Delegation for relations with India (2009-2014). Désir served as Vice-President of the Socialist Group of the European Parliament from 2004 to 2009 and as First Secretary of the French Socialist Party from 2012 to 2014.

In October 1984, Harlem Désir co-founded the French not-for-profit association “SOS Racisme”, whose objective is to fight against racism, anti-Semitism and all other forms of discrimination. In 1989, he also co-founded the international federation of “SOS Racisme”. Désir was President of both “SOS Racisme” France and of the eponymous international federation.

Harlem Désir holds a Bachelor's Degree in Philosophy from the Paris I Sorbonne University. He has been awarded the Olof Palme Prize (Sweden, 1990) and the Grand Cross of the Order of the Phoenix (Greece, 2016).

Opening remarks: Ms. Elizabeth Abela-Hampel

Elizabeth Abela Hampel is Deputy Head, Action against Terrorism Unit, at the OSCE Secretariat's Transnational Threats Department. Previously, as External Relations Officer at the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization (CTBTO), she promoted the entry into force of the Treaty, while coordinating capacity-building projects in the non-proliferation and disarmament field. She has accumulated considerable experience in OSCE affairs having formerly served at the Organization as Senior External Co-operation Officer and as Special Assistant to the Permanent Representative of Malta.

Elizabeth holds a Master's degree in Communication and Political Science from the University of Vienna. She has published papers related to the OSCE Mediterranean Partners, regional co-operation and conflict prevention.

Opening remarks: Ms. Ingibjörg Sólrún Gísladóttir

Ingibjörg Sólrún Gísladóttir (Iceland) was appointed as Director of the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights on 18 July 2017. Gísladóttir has 35 years of leadership experience working on human rights, democratic governance and the rule of law at the international, national and local levels. Before taking up the position of ODIHR Director, she served from 2014 as Regional Director for Europe and Central Asia and Country Representative to Turkey for UN Women. From 2011 to 2014 she was Country Representative of UN Women to Afghanistan.

From 2007 to 2009, Gísladóttir served as Minister for Foreign Affairs of Iceland. She was previously a Member of Parliament and Chairperson and Leader of the Social Democratic Alliance (2005 – 2009) and Mayor of the City of Reykjavik (1994 – 2003). Throughout her career, she has been involved in policy and development work in conflict and non-conflict countries, aimed at strengthening democratic institutions and human rights.

In the early years of her political career, in 1982, Gísladóttir was one of the founders of the Women's Party, laying the ground for Iceland's remarkable progress in gender equality.

Gísladóttir holds a Bachelor's degree in history and literature from the University of Iceland (1979), and pursued Post-graduate studies in history at the University of Copenhagen (1979-1981). In 2004 she was a Visiting Scholar at the European Institute, London School of Economics (LSE). She speaks English, French and Danish.

Key Note Speaker: Mr. Everette E. Dennis

Dr. Everette E. Dennis is the Dean and Chief Executive of Northwestern University in Qatar and a professor in Northwestern University's Medill School of Journalism, since 2011. He was recently inducted as a fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. His career as an institution-builder, scholar and researcher includes service as founding president for the American Academy in Berlin, founding director of the Media Studies Center at Columbia University and other academic and policy center appointments. He is an elected life member of the Council on Foreign Relations and author of numerous studies and some 45 books on international relations, media law and regulation, media management and other topics. His global studies monographs include assessments of the media in Eastern Europe,

East Asia and Latin America. He is lead principal investigator for a massive longitudinal study of Media Use in the Middle East, now in its fifth year.

16:00-18:00 SESSION I: FREE MEDIA AS A BASIS FOR EUROPEAN SECURITY

Panellist: Ms. Brankica Petkovic

Ms. Brankica Petković is a researcher at the Peace Institute – Institute for Contemporary Social and Political Studies, Ljubljana. Since mid-1990s she has been leading dozens of national and regional research, advocacy and publishing projects in the fields of media freedom and accountability, communication rights of citizens and minority groups, media ownership and media pluralism. She was member of European research teams conducting comparative research on various media policy issues, including indicators of media pluralism and independence of media regulators as well as representation of women in media industries. She has been member of expert bodies on media legislation in Slovenia, and is currently a member of the Programming Council of Radio-Television Slovenia. She is also a member of the Scientific Committee of the Centre for Media Pluralism and Media Freedom at the European University Institute in Florence. In 2005, she was awarded with the Award for Better Understanding in South East Europe. In 2017, the Government of Slovenia has nominated her for OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media. She graduated in South Slavic languages and literature from the University of Osijek, Croatia, in 1989. She holds MA in Sociology of Culture at the Faculty of Arts, University of Ljubljana, and is concluding PhD at the same faculty on the subject of post-socialist media system transformations in the countries of former Yugoslavia.

Panellist: Mr. Petr Fedorov

Mr. Fedorov was born on 6 March 1953 in Moscow. In 1977 he graduated from the Moscow State University Journalism Department. Petr Fedorov first worked for the International News Section of Mayak (Lighthouse), one of the Soviet Union's main radio stations. During 1988-1993 he served as a TV and Radio correspondent in Canberra, Australia.

Later in Moscow he joined the NTV Channel, first as a correspondent, then as an anchor-man in the Today news program. Mr. Fedorov was also a co-author of the show The Art to Live.

In 1994 he launched his own production company to make a number of shows including "Who is Who? XX Century" and "Golden Collection" for the Ostankino channel.

In 1995 Mr. Fedorov started working with the Business Russia TV channel as an Editor-in-Chief and Presenter in the "Finances and Market"s program. During 1996-2000 he was an anchor-man in the "Renommée" show on foreign media coverage of Russia on the REN-TV channel.

In 2000 Mr. Fedorov was invited to become an anchor-man in the "Panorama" show on the TV channel "Russia".

Since 2001 till October 2009 he had been heading the Russian section of Euronews in Lyon. In October 2009 Mr. Fedorov was appointed RTR Director of Foreign Affairs/ He is in charge of international relations and contacts with Euronews - in June 2014 at the Euronews General Assembly in Lyon Petr Fedorov was re-elected to the post of the Vice-President of the Euronews Supervising Board, since 2015 he is an RTR Representative at the Board.

In July 2010 at the EBU General Assembly in Baku he was elected, in 2012, 2014 and December 2016 re-elected to the Executive Board.

As an RTR representative, Mr Fedorov takes part in OSCE meetings and sessions.

Moderator: Mr. Thijs Berman

Thijs Berman started his professional career as a journalist for almost 20 years, and has been posted in Paris and Moscow as a correspondent for various Dutch public media. He was a member of the European parliament from 2004 till 2014, and now serves as the Principal Adviser of the RFOM.

Day 2: Friday, 3 November

10:00 – 13:00 SESSION II: THE ROLE OF MEDIA IN PEACEBUILDING AND CONFLICT PREVENTION

Panellist: Ms. Helen Yosef Hailu

Helen Yosef Hailu works as advocacy, strategic partnership and communication specialist at UN Women Ethiopia, where she manages the Austrian Development Cooperation (ADC) funded project, African Women Changing the Narrative: Our Story. She has extensive experience in journalism, communication, media, and peace and Security in Africa. She also taught courses in gender and peace building, media, peace and conflict in Somaliland and Rwanda through which she has contributed to the debate on the issues of the role of media in peace and security in Africa. She is active at the grassroots levels of media engagement. She also serves as the board president of the Ethiopian Media Women Association. Helen holds MA in Media, Peace and Conflict Studies, and currently a PHD candidate in Global and Area studies, with special emphasis on Peace and Security in Africa.

Panellist: Mr. Jake Lynch

Associate Professor Jake Lynch chairs the Department of Peace and Conflict Studies at the University of Sydney. Before taking up an academic post, he enjoyed a 20-year career in professional journalism, including spells as a Political Correspondent for Sky News at Westminster, and the Sydney Correspondent for the Independent newspaper; culminating in a role as an on-air presenter for BBC World Television News. He is the most published author in the field of Peace Journalism, and has led training courses for professional editors and reporters in many countries, for all the world's leading aid agencies. He is the holder of the 2017 Luxembourg Peace Prize.

Moderator: Mr. Thijs Berman

Thijs Berman started his professional career as a journalist for almost 20 years, and has been posted in Paris and Moscow as a correspondent for various Dutch public media. He was a

member of the European parliament from 2004 till 2014, and now serves as the Principal Adviser of the RFOM.

14:00-16:00 SESSION III: THE ROLE OF MEDIA IN COUNTERACTING OF DISINFORMATION, "HATE SPEECH" AND RADICALIZATION

Panellist: **Mr. Jeremy Dear**, Deputy Secretary General, International Federation of Journalists

Jeremy Dear is Deputy General Secretary of the International Federation of Journalists. He spent 14 years as President and General Secretary of the National Union of Journalists in the UK and Ireland and has worked as a staff and freelance newspaper and magazine journalist in Europe and Latin America specialising in labour rights and media freedom.

Panellist: **Ms. Sejal Parmar**, Senior Adviser to the Representative on Freedom of the Media, OSCE

Sejal Parmar is Assistant Professor of Law at the Department of Legal Studies and a core faculty member of the Center for Media, Data and Society (CMDs) at the School of Public Policy at CEU. She is currently on leave from CEU while serving as Senior Adviser to the Organisation for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) Representative on Freedom of the Media. Her main field of expertise and research is international and European human rights law, particularly on freedom of expression.

Parmar is researching and writing a monograph entitled Freedom of Expression Under Pressure which looks at the significance of the UN human rights bodies' approaches to the most pressing contemporary sources of pressure on freedom of expression. This monograph builds on her previous publications and her experience of international advocacy, practice and policy advice in the field of freedom of expression. Parmar has published on a range of other human rights issues. She is an Associate Editor of the International Journal of Human Rights and represents CEU's Department of Legal Studies at the Association of Human Rights Institutes (AHRI). Alongside her academic work, she regularly acts as an expert for intergovernmental organisations, including the Council of Europe, and has been appointed to the Academic Advisory Board of the Community of Democracies. She is also a member of the Advisory Committee of Universal Rights Group, the Geneva-based human rights think tank, and has acted as a consultant for numerous NGOs. She has previously interned at the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights at the UN headquarters in New York.

Prior to coming to CEU, Parmar worked as Senior Legal Officer at ARTICLE 19, the leading international human rights NGO on freedom of expression. Before that, she was the Human Rights Coordinator at Doughty Street Chambers in London. She has also been a visiting lecturer at Queen Mary, University of London and the University of Edinburgh, an EU-US Fulbright Scholar and Emile Noel Fellow at New York University Law School, a Marie Curie Fellow at the Amsterdam Centre for International Law and a visiting scholar at the University of Wisconsin, Madison. She was awarded her LLB in Law (honours) from

the London School of Economics and Political Science, her PhD in Law from the European University Institute in Florence and has been called to the Bar of England and Wales.

Moderator: **Mr. Andrey Rikhter**, Senior Adviser to the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media

Andrey Rikhter (Andrei Richter) is Senior Adviser at the OSCE Office of the Representative on Freedom of the Media. Richter holds university degrees in law, journalism and foreign languages, a doctorate in Russia and a professorship in media studies from Slovakia.

He has authored more than 200 publications on media law and policy in 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, 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.

Andrei Richter was a long-time professor at the School of Journalism, Lomonosov Moscow State University, where he chaired a department in media law and history. He also served as a commissioner at the International Commission of Jurists and the Chair of the Law Section of the International Association for Media and Communication Research.

16.30 – 17.30: CLOSING SESSION

Rapporteur: **Ms. Barbara Trionfi**

With an academic background in international relations and human rights, Barbara Trionfi joined the International Press Institute (IPI) in 2000 as a press freedom adviser for the Asia-Pacific region, where she had studied and worked for over two years, carrying out research in the field of human rights and freedom of expression.

Later, as press freedom manager, she oversaw IPI's global press freedom activities. Today, as executive director, she manages IPI's operations in line with the overall strategy defined by the IPI executive board.

Barbara has taught courses at Webster University – Vienna in Media Ethics, Media Literacy and Cultural Diversity and the Media.

Her field of expertise covers different areas related to press freedom and freedom of expression, including self-regulatory media accountability systems, safety of journalists, and international mechanisms to protect press freedom.

Closing remarks: **Ambassador Clemens Koja**, Chairperson of the OSCE Permanent Council, Permanent Representative of Austria to the OSCE

Ambassador Clemens Koja was born on 19 July 1960 in Vienna. Raised and educated in Vienna and later in Salzburg, where he finished a classical gymnasium in 1978, he served in the Austrian army as a reserve officer. From 1979 -1983 Koja studied law at the Universities of Salzburg and Vienna, obtaining a Dr.iur. In the following years he studied Catholic theology in Rome and Salzburg, obtaining a Master's degree in 1993. In 1989 he joined the Austrian Foreign Service; his first postings abroad were at the Austrian Embassies in Warsaw, Rome and the Vatican. In the Foreign Ministry he worked mostly in the Southern European Department, of which he was the Director between 2003 and 2008. Later he served as Deputy Head of Mission in Madrid and as Ambassador in Belgrade (2008-12) and Ljubljana (2012-16). Since 6 July 2016 he is the Permanent Representative of Austria to the OSCE.

Closing remarks: Ms. Katarzyna Gardapkhadze, the First Deputy Director of ODIHR

Ms. Katarzyna Gardapkhadze, the First Deputy Director of ODIHR is responsible for managing the operations of the ODIHR, overseeing the preparation, co-ordination and implementation of the activities of the Election, Democratization, Human Rights, Tolerance and Non-Discrimination Programmes and of the Contact Point for Roma and Sinti Issues, as well as formulation of the ODIHR public message. Ms. Gardapkhadze is an expert in management, strategic planning and capacity-building, with thematic expertise in human and children rights and social welfare, and more than 20 years of professional experience from Poland, the United States, Western Balkans, South Caucasus and Central Asia. Prior to her current appointment, she was the Head of ODIHR's Human Rights Department, and had earlier supported setting up ODIHR civil society program in Ukraine and developing and institutionalizing a system of project monitoring and evaluation in the Office. Trained in conflict resolution and mediation, in 2003-2011, Ms. Gardapkhadze served as the director of conflict resolution, human rights and child/social welfare reform programs in the South Caucasus, with advisory and capacity-building roles in similar programs in Central Asia. In 2000 – 2002, she led programs focused on human rights, minorities and inter-ethnic dialogue in Western Balkans. Fluent in Polish, English and Russian, Ms. Gardapkhadze holds a Master's Degree in social sciences.