



## EXPERT CONFERENCE

### *Strengthening media freedom and pluralism in Ukraine during times of conflict in and around the country*

26 June 2018

## **BIOGRAPHIES OF SPEAKERS AND MODERATORS**

### OPENING PLENARY

Moderator:

#### **Thijs Berman**

Principal Adviser, Office of the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media

Thijs Berman has been Principal Adviser at the Office of the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media since September 2016. Before joining the OSCE, he led an EU election support project in the Central African Republic (Bangui). Prior to that, from 2004 until 2014 Berman was a member of the European Parliament, focusing on development cooperation and the EU budget, and chairing the Dutch social-democratic delegation. Berman has headed EU election observation missions in Ethiopia, Senegal and Afghanistan. He started his career as a journalist and radio/television presenter for various Dutch media outlets, where he worked from 1985-2004, and has been a radio correspondent based in Paris and Moscow.

*Follow on Twitter: @thijsberman*

Speakers:

#### **Harlem Désir**

OSCE Representative of Freedom of the Media

Harlem Désir was appointed as the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media in July 2017 for a period of three years. Prior to holding this position, Mr. Désir was French Minister of State for European Affairs from April 2014. Mr. Désir was a Member of the European Parliament for three consecutive terms from 1999 to 2014. Mr. 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. Mr. 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).

*Follow on Twitter: @OSCE\_RFoM, @harlemdesir*

**Jeffrey Erlich**

Senior Project Officer, OSCE Project Co-ordinator in Ukraine

Jeff Erlich has been the Senior Project Officer for the OSCE Project Co-ordinator in Ukraine since 2014, overseeing all programming for the mission, including on media freedom. Jeff began his career as a journalist, covering international security and other topics for 10 years. In other assignments, he was the president of the Eurasia Foundation of Central Asia, launching a range of media-development projects in that region. Jeff holds a master's in international affair from the Fletcher School, an MBA from the University of Massachusetts and a bachelor's in journalism from The American University.

**SESSION 1: ENSURING MEDIA DIVERSITY AND PLURALISM**

Moderator:

**Nataliya Gumenyuk**

Head, Hromadske.ua

Nataliya Gumenyuk is a Ukrainian journalist specializing in conflict reporting and foreign affairs. She is head of independent TV-channels Hromadske, a Ukrainian public broadcasting platform, and Hromadske International, which reaches both an English and Russian-speaking audience. Gumenyuk has reported from the field during the Euromaidan Revolution of 2013-14, the annexation of Crimea and the conflict in eastern Ukraine (Donbas). As an independent, international correspondent, she has covered major political and social events in nearly 50 countries. She is the author of the book "Maidan Tahrir: In Search Of The Lost Revolution" and has also worked as freelance specialist and commentator for Ukrainian and international publications such as: Ukrainian Week, Ukrainska Pravda, Esquire Ukraine, OpenDemocracy Russia (UK), Radio Monocle 24 (UK). In 2017, she was selected by Res Publica, the Warsaw-based journal; Google; Visegrad Fund; and the Financial Times as one of New Europe's 100 Top Leaders, an annual list of Central and Eastern Europe's brightest citizens changing their region.

*Follow on Twitter: @ngumenyuk*

Panelists:

**Marius Lukošiusas**

Programme Specialist, Division of Freedom of Expression and Media Development, UNESCO

Marius Lukošiusas is a Programme Specialist at UNESCO Headquarters in the Division of Freedom of Expression and Media Development. Before that he served as an Advisor to the Communication and Information Program at the UNESCO Moscow (2005-2010) and Cairo offices (2010-2014). Mr. Lukošiusas started his career as a journalist with Lithuanian TV in 1987 and became Director of the Institute of Journalism of Vilnius University in 1992. In

1997 and from 2000-2004 he worked as a Media and Political Affairs officer for two peacekeeping missions—the OSCE Mission in Bosnia & Herzegovina and the UN Mission in Kosovo. In between the two peacekeeping jobs in the Balkans, he managed EU enlargement-related media projects at the European Journalism Center in Maastricht. Before joining UNESCO, he served as the Head of the Press Service and Advisor to the President of the Republic of Lithuania from 2004-2005.

### **Nataliia Ligachova**

Chairperson, Detector Media NGO

Natalia Ligachova, a veteran media watcher in Ukraine, is founder and chairperson of the Detector Media NGO, and chief editor of the Detector Media website. She has won several media awards Ukraine, including an award for “leadership in mass media”, presented by the international NGO Internews Network in 2008. She also won the Gerd Bucerius press prize for “free press in Eastern Europe” in 2011. Ms. Ligachova serves as chairperson of the independent Mass Media Council in Ukraine. She is one of the most cited experts in media sphere by TV channels and business press.

### **Sergiy Tomilenko**

Chairman, National Union of Journalists of Ukraine (NUJU)

Sergiy Tomilenko has been working with the journalistic community since 2006 when he served as Chairman of the Cherkassy Regional branch of the NUJU. The NUJU is an independent, non-governmental, non-partisan organization that brings together journalists and other media professionals who are engaged in journalism and journalistic activities. In May 2012, he was appointed the First Secretary (Deputy Chairman) of the NUJU, and was elected as President by the Congress of NUJU in April 2017. Mr. Tomilenko is also the founder of the news agency Procherk.in, was an editor for the Cherkasy regional newspaper “New Day” (1998- 2010), and worked as deputy editor of the newspaper “Youth of Cherkassy”. He graduated from the School of Modern Journalism (IREX ProMedia Ukraine), previously worked as an Assistant Professor of Journalism in Cherkassy National University, and now teaches at Kyiv State University.

*Follow on Twitter: @Stommedia*

### **Maksym Savanevsky**

Managing partner, PlusOne DA agency of digital communications

Maksym Savanevsky is an expert in the field of online communications and a media trainer. He has been Managing partner at PlusOne DA agency of digital communications since 2011. He is also the founder and editor-in-chief of *Watcher*, a Ukrainian web publication that offers digital marketing and technology news.

Mr. Savanevsky has worked in journalism and public relations since 2007. He is one of the founders of the Ukrainian Crisis Media Center established in 2014. He is a lecturer at Lviv Business School and at the Ukrainian Catholic University.

*Follow on Twitter: @maksym*

## **SESSION 2: COUNTERING DISINFORMATION AND PROPAGANDA**

### Moderator:

#### **Dieter Loraine**

Director, Albany Associates

Dieter Loraine is co-founder and Managing Director of Albany Associates—an international comprehensive communications and media development company, established in 2004. He has over 20 years' experience in strategic communications, institution building, media and regulatory development. Mr. Dieter has worked with communications and media regulatory authorities in Kosovo, UAE, Jordan, Rwanda, Bulgaria, Iraq, Afghanistan, Somalia and Romania advising on media and communications policy and regulation. Prior to forming Albany he was Senior Consultant for Media Regulation with the UK Foreign and Commonwealth Office's Media Development and Regulation Advisory Team in Iraq which, in 2004, set up the converged broadcast and telecommunications regulatory authority. Between 2001 and 2003 he was Acting Deputy Director General and Director of Communications for the Communications Regulatory Agency in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

*Follow on Twitter: @dieterloraine*

### Panelists:

#### **Andrey Rikhter**

Senior Adviser, Office of the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media.

Andrey Rikhter sits on the editorial board of a number of international journals covering communications and the media. He has authored more than 200 publications on media law which have been published 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), 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.

*Follow on Twitter: @BoogieWoogieKha*

#### **Ludmila Andronic**

Member, Media Self-Regulatory Organizations Network.

Ludmila Andronic is one of the most well-known communication experts in the Republic of Moldova. Currently, she is chairman of the Press Council—recently elected for a second term—and Corporate Affairs Director of Efes. She is also a professor at the Faculty of Journalism and Communication Sciences of the State University of Moldova. Ms. Andronic has had a 22-year career in communication and PR. Over the years she has been a Press Officer at the Ministry of Economy, the chief editor of Business Class Magazine, and a PR Manager at Le Bridge Corporation Limited. She has advised on projects for the World Bank,

UNDP Moldova, USAID and the European Union. Ms. Andronic is co-author of two books – “Social communication in crisis situations” and “Statistics in communication”. She is also an instructor in journalism and communication.

**Olexandr Horokhovskiy,**

Founder and chief editor, *FactCheck-Ukraine* media platform

Olexandr Horokhovskiy has over 22 years of journalism experience. Since 2016, Horokhovskiy has been managing projects at the Ukrainian fact-checking media platform – “BezBrekhni”. He has developed strategies for promoting fact-checking in Ukraine and has developed educational courses on fact-checking for journalists and students. He also authored the first fact-checking workbook in Ukraine. On a voluntary basis Mr. Horokhovskiy works as a Chairman of the Board and Executive Director of the Center of Analytics Investigations. Horokhovskiy received a second position award on the nationwide UN-UNICEF Ukraine contest for the best article on social issues (1998) and a commemorative medal honoring “15 years of withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan” for a series of thematic articles on Afghan events (2004).

**Martina Chapman**

Director, Mercury Insights Limited

Martina Chapman is an experienced communications professional specialising in media literacy and digital engagement. In 2013 she established Mercury Insights Ltd to provide advice and support to a range of cross-sector organisations. She also delivers master-classes in digital media literacy strategy and implementation for Public Service Media organisations. Prior to setting up her own business, Ms. Chapman was the BBC’s Editor for Media Literacy where she developed and authored the BBC Media Literacy Strategy 2013 - 2015. Previously, she held the post of Media Literacy Policy Executive for Ofcom and was the principal author of two national reports for UK Government. Ms. Chapman is regular contributor to international conferences and seminars on the topic of media literacy. She holds an MA in Film and Television Management and Policy.

**Johann Bihr**

Head of Eastern Europe & Central Asia Desk, Reporters Without Borders

After two years working for humanitarian and development agencies in Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan, Mr. Bihr joined Reporters Without Borders (RSF) in 2011 as the head of its Eastern Europe & Central Asia desk. He has conducted many fact-finding and advocacy visits across the region and maintains close cooperation with local journalists and human rights defenders. He is the author of numerous reports, articles and analyses on press freedom issues.

*Follow on Twitter: @RSF\_Europe*

**SESSION 3a: SAFETY OF JOURNALISTS**

Moderator:

**Nouneh Sarkissian**

Executive Director, Media Initiatives Center in Yerevan

Nouneh Sarkissian has been working in media development for over 20 years, and has experience as a broadcast journalist, producer and script writer. In her current job as a Managing Director of Media Initiatives Center (former Internews Armenia), Ms. Sarkissian, with her team of 35 people, designs and implements media development projects which include various journalism training, as well as TV, radio and documentary production, grants for the media, civil society organizations, journalists. Projects she works on include: media literacy projects; media criticism and analysis; multi-media and convergent newsroom projects; projects related to media and conflict transformation; journalists' safety and protection, awareness-raising on different political and social problems. Ms. Sarkissian is a member of the Union of Journalists of Armenia and a Board Member of the Yerevan Press Club, and for more than a decade she worked as a practical journalism invited teacher in the journalism department in Russian-Slavonic University.

Panelists:

**Oksana Romaniuk**

Executive Director, Institute of Mass Information (IMI)

Oksana Romaniuk has been working with the Kyiv-based Institute of Mass Information since August 2013. The IMI is a leading Ukrainian NGO that researches the effects of mass information on 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 for 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.

*Follow on Twitter: @Sanatja*

**Oleksandr Kovtun**

Deputy Chief of the Main Investigation Department, National Police of Ukraine

Oleksandr Kovtun has served as the Deputy Head of the Main Investigation Department of the National Police of Ukraine since 2016. He is responsible for, among other activities, investigating crimes that impede the professional activities of journalists. Prior to that, he worked in the Main Investigation Department of the Ministry of Internal Affairs, beginning in 2009. He is also a member of the Council on the Protection of the Professional Activity of Journalists and Freedom of Speech, established by the Decree of the President of Ukraine in 2016. The Council works to ensure compliance with the constitutional right to freedom of speech and to create an effective mechanism for interaction between state bodies and the media, as well as other civil society institutions, on media freedom issues. The Council works in particular to prevent the obstruction of the legitimate professional activities of journalists.

**Ricardo Gutiérrez**

General Secretary, European Federation of Journalists (EFJ)

Ricardo Gutiérrez is the General Secretary of the largest journalists' organisation in Europe, representing over 320,000 journalists in 44 countries. He is senior lecturer at Université Libre de Bruxelles and was previously a journalist for the Belgian daily newspaper *Le Soir*. He is also a member of the Belgian Press Council and the Executive Committee of the European Trade Union Confederation. Mr. Gutiérrez has conducted trainings for journalists on hate speech, ethical journalism and reporting on ethnicity and religion.

*Follow on Twitter: @Molenews1*

### **Valeriy Makeiev**

Secretary, National Union of Journalists of Ukraine

Valeriy Makeiev is a Ukrainian journalist and writer, a human rights activist and the secretary of the National Union of Journalists of Ukraine. Mr. Makeiev is the author of the autobiographical book "100 days of captivity" in which he describes the real events of being in captivity in the Lugansk region during the military operations of 2014. After returning from captivity, he worked to advocate for the safety of journalists, the release of prisoners, and assistance for other families in captivity.

In 2017, Mr. Makeiev was awarded the national prize for the protection of freedom of expression in memory of I. Lubchenko. He is the author of hundreds of publications on the safety of journalists, the strengthening of media freedom and pluralism in Ukraine during the conflict.

## **SESSION 3b: COMBATTING “HATE SPEECH”**

Moderator:

### **Thijs Berman**

Principal Adviser, Office of the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media

Thijs Berman has been Principal Adviser at the Office of the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media since September 2016. Before joining the OSCE, he led an EU election support project in the Central African Republic (Bangui). Prior to that, from 2004 until 2014 Berman was a member of the European Parliament, focusing on development cooperation and the EU budget, and chairing the Dutch social-democratic delegation. Mr. Berman has headed EU election observation missions in Ethiopia, Senegal and Afghanistan. He started his career as a journalist and radio/television presenter for various Dutch media outlets, where he worked from 1985-2004, and has been a radio correspondent based in Paris and Moscow.

*Follow on Twitter: @thijsberman*

Panelists:

### **Katie Morris**

Head of the Europe and Central Asia Programme, Article 19

Katie Morris works for Article 19, a British human rights organization with a specific mandate and focus on the defense and promotion of freedom of expression and freedom of

information. She oversees a number of projects across the EU, Eurasia and Turkey, focused on media freedom and pluralism, access to information, hate speech and freedom of expression online. Prior to joining Article 19 in 2015, Ms. Morris worked as Conflict and Security Advisor for Europe and Central Asia, and as a Project Coordinator at Saferworld, a conflict-prevention and peacebuilding organisation. She speaks Russian, English and French and has degrees from University College London and the College of Europe in Natolin, Poland.

*Follow on Twitter: @katiekatia*

### **Emir Powlakić**

Head of Division for Licensing, Digitalization and Broadcasting Coordination, Communications Regulatory Agency of Bosnia and Herzegovina

Emir Powlakić has worked at the Communications Regulatory Agency of Bosnia and Herzegovina since 1999. He is also a permanent member of the working group on regulation and assisted in drafting the strategy for the digital switchover at the DTT Forum in Bosnia and Herzegovina. For many years, Mr. Powlakić served as Bosnia and Herzegovina's representative to the Council of Europe's Steering Committee on the Media and New Communication Services. Since 2016 he has also served as Vice-chair of the Steering Committee on Media and Information Society. He is also one of the founders of B&H Internet Governance Forum, and occasionally represents Bosnia and Herzegovina as part of the European Platform of Regulatory Authorities.

### **Oleksiy Matsuka**

Head of the Board, Donetsk Institute of Information.

Currently Head of the Board at the Donetsk Institute of Information, Oleksiy Matsuka has worked as the editor of the regional news website Novosti Donbassa, which charts politics, corruption, and abuses of authority, for the past 10 years. In 2013, Mr. Matsuka launched *Donetskaya Pravda*, which focuses on investigating public officials. He has also reported on Donetsk for Hromadske.TV and for Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty's Ukrainian Service. In 2011, Matsuka's apartment was set on fire after he published a series of articles on the embezzlement of public funds. In April 2014, his car was set on fire after he wrote an article titled "Russia's deep ties to Donetsk's Kremlin collaborators." In April 2014, Reporters Without Borders named Matsuka in its list of 100 Information Heroes. In December 2014, the Canadian Journalists for Free Expression presented him with its International Press Freedom Award.

*Follow on Twitter: @alexmazuka*

### **Maksym Butkevych**

Project Coordinator, No Borders Project

Maksym Butkevych has worked in media since 1999 (international news correspondent at Ukrainian TV channels; producer at the BBC World Service – Ukrainian Section; journalist and presenter at the “Public Radio”). From 2007-2010 he was guest lecturer at Kyiv Mohyla School of journalism, and was Regional Public Information officer at UNHCR Regional Representation in Kyiv from 2010-2011.



Mr. Butkevych participates in many human rights initiatives, including the International Documentary Human Rights Film Festival “Docudays UA”, and coordinates the “No Borders” Project – a non-governmental initiative which assists refugees and asylum seekers in Ukraine, monitors and combats xenophobia and discrimination, and assists internally displaced persons. Mr. Butkevych is an expert and a trainer in the field of hate speech in media, and takes an active role in an informal collective “Solidarity Committee” dedicated to the case of Ukrainian political prisoners in Russia.

## **SESSION 4: FREEDOM OF ARTISTIC EXPRESSION**

### Moderator:

#### **Sébastien Gobert**

Press correspondent

Sébastien Gobert is an independent journalist. He works as a press correspondent for various French-speaking media, i.e. Radio France Internationale, Libération, Le Monde Diplomatique, La Libre Belgique, La Tribune de Genève and more. Mr. Gobert specialises in politics and post-communist economic and social transformations. As a press correspondent in Ukraine, he extensively covered the EuroMaidan Revolution and Russia’s war against Ukraine. He is the co-founder of the [Daleko-Blisko](#) Collective of independent journalists (follow on Facebook and Twitter @CollectifDB)

*Follow on Facebook and Twitter: @sebagobert*

### Panelists:

#### **Vladimir Kazanevsky**

Writer/cartoonist

Vladimir Kazanevsky is a Ukrainian cartoonist and writer based in Kyiv. Mr. Kazanevsky’s art has been exhibited worldwide and has won more than 400 prizes at international cartoon contests in 51 countries. His cartoons have been published in many newspapers and magazines in the world: “Yomiuri Shimbun” in Japan; “Nebelspalter” in Switzerland; “Witty World” in the US, “Ogonyek” in Russia; “Eulenspiegel” in Germany; “Courier International” in France; and many others. His own cartoon books “Heads”, “Revelation of Elderly Cupid”, “Homo Gibber”, “Neck” and “Vladimir Kazanevsky: Modern World Cartoonist” have been published in Switzerland, China, Belgium and Ukraine. Mr. Kazanevsky is also lecturer on the theory of Cartoon Art and has given the lectures in numerous countries.

#### **Oleh Smal**

Cartoonist/architect/journalist

Oleh Smal is a cartoonist, architect and journalist based in Kyiv. Since 1992 he has collaborated with various Ukrainian and foreign periodicals as a cartoonist, specializing in politics, and as a journalist specializing in culture, art and history. He has been the editorial cartoonist of the Dzerkalo Tyzhnia (1995-2011). Now he is an editorial cartoonist for the Ukrainian Reporter. He has published more than 15,000 cartoons, as well as several hundred

articles. Mr. Smal has won cartoon contests in Iran, Italy, China, Republic of Korea, Russia, Ukraine, France and Japan.

### **Roman Vintoniv**

TV journalist

Roman Vintoniv is a TV journalist, actor, screenwriter and musician, also known as “Michael Shchur”. He’s a member of the board of the Public Broadcasting Company of Ukraine. He has worked at K1, Inter, 1+1 channels, and the BBC (Ukrainian Service). In 2012, he created the persona of “Michael Schur” a ‘Canadian journalist’ and started making ‘TV Toronto’ programmes for YouTube. “Michael Schur” was sent to Ukraine before the parliamentary elections in 2012 to interview local politicians.

Leading up to the 2014 Presidential elections in Ukraine, Mr. Vintoniv launched the programme ‘To the Throne!’ in which he analyzed presidential candidates, after which he produced the series ‘Already on the throne’. Since October 2017 he’s presenting the late-night talk show "Chereshchur" with Michael Schur on UA: Pershy, the first channel of the Public Broadcasting Company of Ukraine.