



PERMANENT MISSION OF THE REPUBLIC OF ARMENIA
TO THE OSCE

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STATEMENT

**by the delegation of Armenia on the occasion of World Press Freedom Day, observed on 3
May 2026, delivered at the 1563rd meeting of the Permanent Council**

7 May 2026

Mr. Chairperson,

Armenia reaffirms the profound role that free, independent and impartial media plays in creating resilient and sustainable societies and strengthening democratic principles. Freedom of expression and unimpeded access to information are not only fundamental democratic values but universally recognized human rights that are to be respected and fulfilled, with freedom of the press as an essential component for their realization

Independent and impartial media enables access to reliable information, supports informed decision-making and holds governments and institutions accountable while safeguarding citizens against corruption, abuse of power and dissemination of disinformation and misinformation.

Armenia as a country committed to ensuring free, independent and impartial media environment and protecting journalists is actively engaged in various international initiatives such as Forum on Information and Democracy, Open Government Partnership, Council of Europe Campaign on Safety of Journalists (Journalists matter) and a range of other endeavors aimed at protecting freedom of expression and the right to seek, receive and impart information online and offline.

Armenia also recently became a member of Freedom Online Coalition, a diverse cross regional group of states committed to protecting free speech and the rights to seek, receive and impart information online and offline, demonstrating its unwavering dedication, adherence and political commitment to promoting human rights in the digital sphere, advocacy for the principle of ensuring an open, secure, and inclusive internet for all.

Furthermore, Armenia has been a strong supporter and traditional co-sponsor of resolutions and mandates on freedom of expression and information in the UN General Assembly and Human Rights Council.

On the World Press Freedom Day, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Armenia reiterated the high priority of protecting access to reliable information and strengthening democratic resilience in a rapidly changing world.

Thank you.