



**AMERICAN INFORMATION
RESOURCE CENTER
Ankara, Turkey**

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April 2010 – Issue 6
Special Issue: World Press
Freedom Day – May 3, 2010**

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DEFENDING PRESS FREEDOM (America.gov page)

Articles, map and links

<http://www.america.gov/journalism-siege.html>

WORLD PRESS FREEDOM DAY WEBCHATS

<http://www.america.gov/multimedia/askamerica.html>

On May 3, 2010, journalists, citizens, and governments around the globe will commemorate World Press Freedom Day. On this important day, designated by the U.N. General Assembly, we celebrate Article 19 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and mark the anniversary of the Declaration of Windhoek.

The U.S. Department of State invites you to join the discussion in live webchats with journalist and Columbia Graduate School of Journalism professor Judith Matloff (in English, on May 3 at 14:00 GMT) and journalist, trainer and former Radio France Internationale (RFI) producer Diane Seligsohn (in French, May 3 at 10:00 GMT). We welcome your questions and thoughts on the struggle for freedom of expression and independent media in countries worldwide.

<http://www.america.gov/multimedia/askamerica.html>

Judith Matloff is a professor at Columbia University and a journalist. She worked as a staff foreign correspondent for 20 years, specializing in areas of turmoil. She covered a total of 62 countries, heading the Africa and Moscow bureaus of the Christian Science Monitor. Previously, she spent a decade at Reuters in various positions in Europe and Africa. She has reported on major world matters, including apartheid's demise, genocide, EU expansion and OPEC. Matloff has written for the New York Times, The Economist, the Dallas Morning News and Newsweek. Her various awards include a Fulbright fellowship to Mexico and the Monitor's highest prize, the Godsell, for stories about Congo's conflict. She won a MacArthur grant to write a book about Angola's civil war (Fragments of a Forgotten War, Penguin, 1997).

Diane Seligsohn is an American journalist and university lecturer who has lived in Paris for the past three decades. As head of information for the International Federation of Newspaper Publishers for two years, she gained knowledge of and insight into press freedom issues. She first visited Africa in 1997, when as head of media relations for the French doctors' group

Médecins du Monde, she led a press trip to visit the organization's AIDS prevention and care programs in Uganda and Tanzania. Her work as a reporter for Radio France Internationale and a freelance journalism trainer has since taken her to 17 countries across the African continent. She currently teaches master's-level courses on the images of Africa in the Western media at the Sorbonne's journalism school, CELSA, and at Sciences Po, the social sciences university in the heart of Paris. The pilot episode of her educational documentary film series, *The African Slave Trades: Across the Indian Ocean*, was shown at the New York African Film Festival in 2008.

If you would like to participate in these webchats, please go to <https://statedept.connectsolutions.com/pressfreedom>. No registration is needed. Simply choose "Enter as a Guest," type in your preferred screen name, and join the discussion. We accept questions and comments before and at any time during the programs.

SIGNIFICANT E-DOCUMENTS

World Press Freedom Day

2009 PRISON CENSUS: 136 JOURNALISTS JAILED WORLDWIDE. Committee to Protect Journalists. December 1, 2009.

Freelancers now make up nearly 45 percent of all journalists jailed worldwide, a dramatic recent increase that reflects the evolution of the global news business, the Committee to Protect Journalists said today. In its annual census of imprisoned journalists, CPJ found a total of 136 reporters, editors, and photojournalists behind bars on December 1, an increase of 11 from the 2008 tally. A massive crackdown in Iran, where 23 journalists are now in jail, fueled the worldwide increase. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

<http://www.cpj.org/imprisoned/2009.php> [HTML format, various paging].

ACCESS TO INFORMATION LAWS: PIECES OF THE PUZZLE AN ANALYSIS OF THE INTERNATIONAL NORMS. The Carter Center, Emory University. Laura Neuman. 2010.

According to the author, each access to information law will be unique, depending upon the context in which it will function. For example, in countries in which there is a long tradition of authoritarianism and secrecy, more explicit legal provisions related to roles and responsibilities of the civil servants and procedures for providing information may be necessary. Likewise, in places where there is a less developed system of archiving and record keeping there may be greater focus on these areas within the law and/or regulations. To design, implement and enforce an information regime that will lead to a strengthened democracy is akin to completing a puzzle: for the picture to emerge all of the pieces must be identified, utilized, and placed together within the puzzle's distinct framework. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.cartercenter.org/resources/pdfs/peace/americas/ati_pieces_of_puzzle.pdf In English [PDF format, 11 pages].

http://www.cartercenter.org/resources/pdfs/peace/americas/ati_pieces_of_puzzle_spanish.pdf In Spanish [PDF format, 11 pages].

ATTACKS ON THE PRESS IN 2009. Committee to Protect Journalists. 2010.

Does "name and shame" still work in the Internet age? After all, the massacre of 31 journalists and media workers in the Philippines pushed the 2009 media death toll to the highest level ever recorded by Committee to Protect Journalists. The number of journalists in prison also rose, fueled by the fierce crackdown in Iran. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

<http://cpj.org/AOP09.pdf> In English [PDF format, 181 pages].

<http://cpj.org/es/2010/02/en-las-americas-gran-hermano-observa-a-los-reporte.php> In Spanish [HTML format, various paging].
<http://cpj.org/fr/2010/02/attaques-contre-la-presse-en-2009-analyse.php> In French [HTML format, various paging].
<http://cpj.org/ar/2010/02/014250.php> In Arabic [HTML format, various paging].
http://cpj.org/China_summary_CHINESE.pdf In Chinese [PDF format, 25 pages].

40 IFEX Members Reject Defamation of Religions Resolutions. International Freedom of Expression eXchange. March 30, 2010.

In a joint submission to the U.N. Human Rights Council, 40 IFeX members protest resolutions on defamation of religion and the proposed elaboration of complementary standards to the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (ICERD). Many governments and non-governmental organizations, including the IFEX members who signed the statement, campaigned against the resolution on the basis that it violates international human rights law on freedom of expression and other rights. [Note: contains copyrighted material].
<http://www.wan-press.org/pfreesom/articles.php?id=5483> [HTML format, various paging].

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION AS A TOOL FOR EMPOWERMENT: GOOD INSTITUTIONS, THE PUBLIC SPHERE AND MEDIA LITERACY. U.N. Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and University of Gothenburg. Ulla Carlsson. April 2010.

The paper focuses on the importance of access to information and the ability to share information for empowerment, in the current context characterized by the emergence of a new media and communication society that has transformed the social functions of media and communication. It addresses the links between freedom of information and other rights, and highlights the centrality of good institutions, education and an independent and pluralistic media within a human rights-based approach to the topic. [Note: contains copyrighted material].
<http://portal.unesco.org/ci/en/files/30155/12723791613ullacarlssonpaperBrisbane100423.pdf>
[ulla carlssonpaperBrisbane100423.pdf](http://portal.unesco.org/ci/en/files/30155/12723791613ullacarlssonpaperBrisbane100423.pdf) [PDF format, 11 pages].

WORLD PRESS FREEDOM DAY 2010: MESSAGE FROM UNESCO DIRECTOR-GENERAL. U.N. Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization. Irina Bokova. April 2010.

“This World Press Freedom Day, whose theme is Freedom of Information, offers us an occasion to remember the importance of our right to know. Freedom of Information is the principle that organisations and governments have a duty to share or provide ready access to information they hold, to anyone who wants it, based on the public’s right to be informed.” – Irina Bokova [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://portal.unesco.org/ci/en/ev.php-URL_ID=29294&URL_DO=DO_TOPIC&URL_SECTION=201.html In English [HTML format, various paging].
http://portal.unesco.org/ci/fr/ev.php-URL_ID=29294&URL_DO=DO_TOPIC&URL_SECTION=201.html In French [HTML format, various paging].
http://portal.unesco.org/ci/fr/files/29783/12713368167DG-message_ES.pdf
[DG-message_ES.pdf](http://portal.unesco.org/ci/fr/files/29783/12713368167DG-message_ES.pdf) In Spanish [PDF format, 2 pages].
http://portal.unesco.org/ci/fr/files/29783/12713368169DG-message_RU.pdf
[DG-message_RU.pdf](http://portal.unesco.org/ci/fr/files/29783/12713368169DG-message_RU.pdf) In Russian [PDF format, 2 pages].
http://portal.unesco.org/ci/fr/files/29783/127133681611DG-message_AR.pdf
[DG-message_AR.pdf](http://portal.unesco.org/ci/fr/files/29783/127133681611DG-message_AR.pdf) In Arabic [PDF format, 2 pages].
http://portal.unesco.org/ci/fr/files/29783/127133681613DG-message_CH.pdf
[DG-message_CH.pdf](http://portal.unesco.org/ci/fr/files/29783/127133681613DG-message_CH.pdf) In Chinese [PDF format, 2 pages].

WORLD PRESS FREEDOM REVIEW 2010. International Press Institute. February 2010.

The annual IPI World Press Freedom Review examines the state of the media around the world, documenting press freedom violations and major media developments. Divided into specific regions, each report provides a comprehensive overview of the year's events and may be contrasted with the events of previous years. [Note: contains copyrighted material].
<http://www.freemedia.at/publications/world-press-freedom-review/> [HTML format with links].

SLEIGHT OF HAND: REPRESSION OF THE MEDIA AND THE ILLUSION OF REFORM IN ZIMBABWE. Human Rights Watch. April 20, 2010.

The report says that the Zimbabwe Africa National Union-Patriotic Front (ZANU-PF), the former sole ruling party, still holds the balance of power in the coalition government forged with the Movement for Democratic Change (MDC), the former opposition movement, in February 2009. ZANU-PF promotes political propaganda and restricts independent reporting through repressive laws that remain unchanged, and it retains its control of security forces and key resources, according to the author. [Note: contains copyrighted material].
<http://www.hrw.org/en/reports/2010/04/20/sleight-hand-0> [HTML format, various paging].

SHIFTING SANDS: THE IMPACT OF SATELLITE TV ON MEDIA IN THE ARAB WORLD. Center for International Media Assistance and National Endowment for Democracy. Deborah Horan. Web posted April 2010.

The report is by Deborah Horan, a veteran journalist with extensive experience reporting from the Middle East. Today, media in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) are freer than they were a decade ago, with a proliferation of satellite television news channels leading the way. This report examines the positive effects satellite coverage has had on the media environment and the reasons why the region still lacks overall media freedom. [Note: contains copyrighted material].
http://cima.ned.org/wp-content/uploads/2010/03/CIMA-Arab_Satellite_TV-Report.pdf [PDF format, 34 pages].

If you have any questions or want to reach the full text, please contact the American Information Resource Center at 312-4577277.
