



Permanent Mission of Lithuania
to the United Nations

INVITATION

PANEL DISCUSSION



Committee to Protect Journalists

Addressing the challenges to safety of journalists posed by terrorist threat

Monday, 27 June 2016, 11:00am

Venue: UN Headquarters, Conference Room 8

11:00 **Introductory remarks** by H.E. Mr. Linas Linkevičius, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Lithuania

11:10 **Panel discussion**, moderated by Mr. Robert Mahoney, Deputy Executive Director of Committee to Protect Journalists

Panelists:

- Ms. Judith Matloff, Professor at the Columbia Graduate School of Journalism
- Mr. David Rohde, National Security Investigations Editor at Reuters
- Ms. Anna Therese Day, Independent Journalist & Fulbright Fellow
- Ms. Quinn McKew, Deputy Executive Director of Article 19

12:00 **Q&A session**

Over the last decade the United Nations General Assembly and Security Council have contributed to developing a legal framework for the protection of journalists, media professionals and associated personnel and ensuring accountability for crimes against them. However the gap between the norms and their implementation remains wide. Journalists and local media workers continue to die in conflict-related situations, including from the hand of terrorists and radical extremists. UNESCO statistics is grim: on average one journalist per week gets killed in the world. Yet impunity for crimes against journalists, media professionals, and associated personnel remains rampant. In 95 per cent of the cases perpetrators of those crimes escape justice.

As UN Security Council resolution 2222 adopted on May 27 2015 specifically pointed out, the presence of radical extremist and terrorist groups in conflict areas add new threats for journalists and freelancers, especially local media workers operating in such zones, including abductions, beheadings and killings. While difficult to address because of the reign of total lawlessness in terrorist controlled areas, protection of journalists and media workers operating in such areas remains critical. Women journalists and freelancers face additional dangers for their safety and lives.

On June 27 the Permanent Mission of Lithuania to the United Nations, together with the Committee to Protect Journalists, is organizing a panel discussion on the safety of journalists in conflict zones, with a focus on the risks and challenges in areas near and under terrorist control. The participants of the event will share their views and discuss ways to improve the safety and security of journalists and associated personnel working in conflict zones, including in areas under terrorists and radical extremists. The panel discussion will be followed by a Q&A session.

All are invited. Please RSVP to lithuaniaun@gmail.com till June 23 to facilitate your entrance to the UN Headquarters.

About the panelists

Mr. Robert Mahoney joined CPJ in August 2005 as senior editor and became CPJ's deputy director in January 2007. He has worked as a journalist in Europe, Asia, Africa, and the Middle East. He reported on politics and economics for Reuters news agency from Brussels and Paris in the late 1970s, and from Southeast Asia in the early 1980s. Mahoney covered South Asia from Delhi for three years from 1985, reporting on the aftermath of Indira Gandhi's assassination, the civil war in Sri Lanka, and the fallout from the Soviet presence in Afghanistan. In 1988, he became Reuters bureau chief for West and Central Africa, based in the Ivory Coast and spending considerable time in Liberia covering the civil war. He served as Reuters Jerusalem bureau chief from 1990 to 1997, directing print and, later, and television coverage of the Palestinian intifada, the Iraqi missile attacks on Israel, the Oslo peace process, and the assassination of Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin. Mahoney worked as chief correspondent in Germany from 1997 to 1999 before moving to London to become news editor of politics and general news for Europe, Africa, and the Middle East. In 2004, he taught journalism for the Reuters Foundation in the Middle East, and worked as a consultant for Human Rights Watch.

Ms. Judith Matloff teaches conflict reporting at the Columbia Graduate School of Journalism and conducts safety training for media workers around the world. For 20 years Matloff worked for Reuters for 11 years and then headed the Africa and Moscow bureaus of The Christian Science Monitor. Her articles have appeared in numerous publications including The New York Times Magazine, The Economist and Financial Times. She has received fellowships from the MacArthur Foundation, the Fulbright Program, Harvard-Radcliffe, and the South Asian Journalists Association. She belongs to PEN and served as a media fellow at the Hoover Institution (Stanford University). Matloff's third non-fiction book, *No Friends But the Mountains*, will come out early next year.

Mr. David Rohde is the National Security Investigations Editor at Reuters. From 2011 to 2013, he was a Reuters foreign affairs columnist. He is a two-time Pulitzer Prize winner and a former reporter for the New York Times and Christian Science Monitor. His most recent book is "Beyond War: Reimagining America's Role and Ambitions in a New Middle East."

Ms. Anna Therese Day is an award-winning independent journalist and social media researcher. On the ground in the Middle East and around the world, her coverage focuses on American foreign policy, women's issues, and youth organizing. Her work has been featured in a variety of media outlets, including CNN, Al Jazeera English, CBS, and numerous print outlets, translated into Arabic, English, Hebrew, and Spanish. She is a 2013 Fulbright Fellow, a 2012 United Nations Press Fellow, and was named one of Google Zeitgeist's top 30 Great Young Minds of Our Time in 2011. The Shorty Awards for Social Media recognized her as one of the Top 10 journalists of the Year at their 2013 and 2014 awards. Recently, she was named a national finalist for Running Start's Emerging Young Leader Awards and selected as one of Mic.com's #Mic50 Millennial Leaders 2015 list. In 2015, Day became a global brand ambassador for Skype's "The Things We Can Do" English-language campaign. Day is a founding board member of The Frontline Freelance Register, a representative body for freelance conflict journalists organized by freelance conflict journalists.

Ms. Quinn McKew, Deputy Executive Director is responsible for global operations and governance at ARTICLE 19 including the integration of our 8 regional offices and 50+ regional partner organisations. Quinn has a Masters of Business Administration from Georgetown University focusing on global non-profit management and a BA in International Relations and the Environment from Stanford University. Prior to joining ARTICLE 19, she worked for the largest non-profit management consultancy in Europe, and was a campaign manager for leading environmental organisations in the United States.