



RIGA CONFERENCE

THE PEN IS MIGHTIER THAN THE SWORD?

5-6 October 2023

MEETING TODAY'S CHALLENGES
TO FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION
AND THE SAFETY OF JOURNALISTS



LAUNCH OF THE COUNCIL OF
EUROPE CAMPAIGN FOR THE
SAFETY OF JOURNALISTS

First Focal Points Meeting

6 October 2023, Riga, National Library of Latvia

Concept

The first Meeting of National Focal Points under the Council of Europe Campaign for the Safety of Journalists is a key step in the launch of the Campaign and subsequent efforts, at national and European level, towards effectively increasing the safety of journalists and other media actors on the European Continent.

This meeting aims to establish coordination and synergy among the participating member states and lay the groundwork for the successful implementation of the campaign. The meeting will provide an opportunity for national focal points to engage in dialogue with the campaign's secretariat and relevant counterparts, ensuring a collaborative approach to addressing the safety concerns faced by journalists.



Agenda

Moderators: *Rodica Ciochina and Giulia Lucchese, Campaign Secretariat*

14:30 - 14.50 Introduction

Welcoming remarks: Artemiza-Tatiana Chisca, Head of Media and Internet Governance Division, Secretary of the Steering Committee for Media and Information Society (CDMSI)

- **Presentation of the Campaign's roadmap:** Giulia Lucchese, Administrator, Secretary to the Committee of Experts on Strategic Lawsuits against Public Participation (MSI-SLP), Media and Internet Governance Division
- **Role of the National Focal Points and coordination mechanisms:** Rodica Ciochina, Administrator, Programme Specialist, Media and Internet Governance Division

14:50 - 16.00 Tour de Table by designated National Focal Points

- Introduction of National Focal Points, national measures aimed at the protection of the safety of journalists, ongoing challenges and expectations from the Campaign (3 minutes each)

16:00-16.15 Coffee Break

16:15 - 16:45 Examples of existing initiatives for the safety of journalists in member states

- Peter ter Velde, Security Coordinator at NOS, Persveilig, the Netherlands
- Milan Spirovski, Project Researcher, Association of Journalists of Macedonia
- Espen Brynsrud, Norwegian Union of Journalists, Head of Department

16:45 – 17:00 Presentation of the Implementation guide to Recommendation CM/Rec(2016)4 : Peter Noorlander, Expert, media law and human rights

17:00 – 17:10 Presentation of the Pocket Guide for key actions for improved safety of journalists : Giulia Lucchese, Administrator, Secretary to the MSI-SLP Committee, Media and Internet Governance Division

17.10 - 17:40 Q&A

17:40-18:00 Conclusions and forthcoming steps