



RIGA CONFERENCE

# THE PEN IS MIGHTIER THAN THE SWORD?

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

5-6 October 2023



# JOURNALISTS MATTER

Council of Europe Campaign for the Safety of Journalists

## PROGRAMME



## **PROGRAMME**

**THURSDAY, 5 OCTOBER 2023**

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

**8.30 - 9.00 Registration / welcome coffee**

**9.00 – 9.50 OPENING REMARKS**

**General Moderators – Nicholas Karides**, Director of the Institute for Mass Media IMME at the Universitas Foundation and **Jodie Ginsberg**, President of the Committee to Protect Journalists

- **Krišjānis Kariņš**, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Latvia, Chair to the Council of Europe Committee of Ministers
- **Agnese Logina**, Minister of Culture of the Republic of Latvia
- **Hanne Juncher**, Director of Information Society and Action against Crime, Directorate General for Human Rights and Rule of Law, Council of Europe

\*\*\*

Statement delivered on behalf of **Dunja Mijatović**, Council of Europe Commissioner for Human Rights

Delivered by **Stefano Montanari**, Head of Communication Unit, Office of the Commissioner for Human Rights

\*\*\*

**9.50 - 10.10 Presentation of the Campaign for the Safety of Journalists**

- **Taavo Lumiste**, Chair of the Council of Europe Steering Committee on Media and Information Society
- **Artemiza-Tatiana Chișca**, Head of the Media and Internet Governance, Division Information Society Department, Council of Europe

**10.10-10.30 COFFEE BREAK**

**10.30 - 12.00 Performance of *They Blew Her Up* (Murder of Daphne Caruana Galizia)**



# RIGA2023CONFERENCE

## THE PEN IS MIGHTIER THAN THE SWORD?

12.00 - 12.15 Testimony of **Matthew Caruana Galizia** and **Herman Grech**, Editor in Chief, Times of Malta

### 12.15-13.30 LUNCH BREAK

### 13.30 - 14.30 CONFERENCE OPENING REMARKS

- **Agnese Logina**, Minister of Culture of the Republic of Latvia
- **Juris Jansons**, Ombudsman of the Republic of Latvia
- **Mogens Jensen**, General Rapporteur on media freedom, PACE
- **Ton van den Brandt**, Principal Adviser to OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media
- **Ricardo Gutiérrez**, Secretary General of the European Federation of Journalists (EFJ)

### 14.30 - 16.00 PANEL DISCUSSION 1

#### *Threats to the freedom of expression and safety of journalists*

**Moderator** - **Karmen Turk**, Chair of the Council of Europe Committee of Experts on Strategic Lawsuits against Public Participation; lecturer, University of Tartu, partner at the Law Firm TRINITY, Estonia

**Key-note speech:** **Inga Sprinģe**, Journalist, Baltic Centre for Investigative Journalism  
Re:Baltica

#### Panelists:

- **Mogens Jensen**, General Rapporteur on media freedom, PACE
- **Anda Rožukalne**, Public Service Media Ombudsperson
- **Sarah Clarke**, Director, Article 19 Europe
- **Carlos Perez Maestro**, Policy officer, Audiovisual and Media Policy, European Commission
- **Nicola Frank**, **Head of Institutional and International Relations**, European Broadcasting Union (EBU)
- **Q/A**

### 16.00 - 16.15 COFFEE BREAK

### 16.15 - 17:30 PANEL DISCUSSION 2

#### *Journalism in times of war and crisis*



# RIGA2023CONFERENCE

## THE PEN IS MIGHTIER THAN THE SWORD?

**Moderator:** **Andris Mellakauls**, Head of Information Space Integration Division, Ministry of Culture, Latvia

**Key-note speech:** **Olga Rudenko**, Editor-in-Chief, Kyiv Independent

**Panelists:**

- **Olha Herasymiuk**, Chairperson, Ukrainian National Council of Television and Radio Broadcasting
- **Sabīne Sīle**, Director, Media Hub Riga
- **Isabel Wiseler-Lima**, MEP (PPE), Rapporteur for the Report on the protection of journalists around the world and the European Union’s policy on the matter
- **Tom Gibson**, EU representative, Committee to Protect Journalists (CPJ)
- **Q/A**

**19.30 - 21.00 STANDING BUFFET DINNER**  
**Address: Pullman Riga Old Town, Jekaba street 24, Riga**

\*\*\*

**FRIDAY, 6 OCTOBER 2023**

**8.30 - 9.00 Registration and welcome coffee**

**9.00 - 10.45 PANEL DISCUSSION 3**

*Legal limitations of Freedom of expression in times of conflict and war*

**Moderator:** **Can Yeğinsu**, Barrister, Deputy Chair of the High-Level Panel of Legal Experts on Media Freedom

**Key-note speech:** **Mārtiņš Mits**, Judge of the European Court of Human Rights

**Panelists:**

- **Carlos Aguilar Paredes**, Vice-President ERGA 2023, board member, National Authority for Competition and Markets (CNMC), Spain
- **Yuliia Derkachenko**, Representative of the Ukrainian Parliament Commissioner for Human Rights
- **Eliska Pirkova**, Europe Senior Policy Analyst and Global Freedom of Expression Lead, Access Now
- **Kristīne Pakārkle**, Legal advisor of the Ombudsman of the Republic of Latvia-
- **Tuija Saresma**, Docent (Professor) at the University of Jyväskylä, Finland
- **Q/A**



# RIGA2023CONFERENCE

## THE PEN IS MIGHTIER THAN THE SWORD?

### 10.45-11.00 COFFEE BREAK

### 11.00 - 12.30 PANEL DISCUSSION 4

#### *Resilience to disinformation: What Stronger Independent Media Can Do*

**Moderator:** **Viktors Makarovs**, Special Envoy on Digital Issues at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Latvia, Vice Chair of the former Council of Europe Committee of Experts on Freedom of Expression and Digital Technologies

**Key-note speech:** **Jānis Sārts**, Director of the NATO Strategic Communications Centre of Excellence

#### Panelists:

- **Elmārs Sveķis**, Head of the Riga office, RFE/RL
- **Andrin Eichin**, Senior policy advisor, Federal Office of Communications (OFCOM), Switzerland, Chair of the Council of Europe Committee of Experts on the Integrity of Online Information
- **Andrew Moger**, Chief Executive, News Media Coalition
- **Iva Nenadic**, Research Fellow at the European University Institute – Centre for Media Pluralism and Media Freedom; European Digital Media Observatory
- **Mélanie Lepoutier**, France (L, ILDG), Council of Europe Congress Rapporteur on local and regional media and Mayor of Sommervieu
- **Q/A**

### 12.30-13.00 CLOSING REMARKS

- **Zanda Kalniņa-Lukaševica**, Deputy Speaker and Member of Parliament of Latvia, Head of Latvian delegation of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe
- **Bjørn Berge**, Deputy Secretary General, Council of Europe
- **Agnese Lāce**, Parliamentary Secretary of the Ministry of Culture

### 13.00 - 14.30 LUNCH BREAK

### 14.30 - 17.30

First meeting of the National Focal Points for the Council of Europe Campaign for the Safety of Journalists – *separate agenda*



# RIGA2023 CONFERENCE

THE PEN IS MIGHTIER THAN THE SWORD?

*The right to freedom of expression and information constitutes one of the essential foundations of democratic society. The role of the media is critical in providing the public with accurate and timely information, essential both for individual choices and informed and effective participation in public life.*

[www.coe.int/RIGA4freedom](http://www.coe.int/RIGA4freedom)

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



[www.coe.int](http://www.coe.int)

The **Council of Europe** is the continent's leading human rights organisation. It comprises 46 member states, including all members of the European Union. All Council of Europe member states have signed up to the European Convention on Human Rights, a treaty designed to protect human rights, democracy and the rule of law. The European Court of Human Rights oversees the implementation of the Convention in the member states.