



#fome18
THE SILENT TAKEOVER
MEDIA CAPTURE IN THE 21ST CENTURY

2018 SYMPOSIUM OF THE
FORUM MEDIA AND DEVELOPMENT (FoME)
22 – 23 NOVEMBER

SETTING THE SCENE

#fome18

Imagine that you own a media house.

You meet us at a cocktail reception at a charity event. You know us. We all went to the same private school.

You mention that your media house is struggling. The advertising market in our fictional country is fiercely competitive and the number of private media houses exceeds the demand. We are in the 21st century. Traditional media businesses are facing many challenges; the online market has changed the game. In fact, you are glad that you do not have to pay for your cocktails here.

We are rich and we have rich friends. We have an excellent network. We suggest that one of our friends – who also happens to be a member of the ruling party – could invest in your media house. You would keep the majority of the shares. We tell you that he has been looking for such an opportunity for quite a while, and the investment fits his business plan. He also owns several banks and can open a lot of doors for you and your company. In order to avoid public concerns, we ask you not to mention our names should someone enquire about the ownership structure of your media house. You agree.

One day, you get a call from us. Someone has offered you inside information on a corruption scandal in the government. If you publish the leaked information, it could cost us our political reputation. It might also cost you your business partner. What will you do?

The 2018 FoME Symposium puts the complex triangle of “Politics – Private Interests – Media” at the centre of debate. In many cases, people in power no longer need to openly exert their power over media through censorship or force. Instead, supportive and subtle – rather than repressive – forms of political and business-related intervention in the media sector seem to have become the method of choice. During the symposium, we will discuss the factors that foster what is referred to in academic literature as “Media Capture”; the extent to which this expanding strategy influences democracy, pluralism, and freedom of the press; and strategies to prevent “the silent takeover” of the free media.

The silent takeover can have many different faces: media can be founded, owned, financed, supported and/or operated by actors with political interests. These interests often go along with economic benefits, and it is sometimes difficult to grasp where political interests end and economic interests begin.

The triangle mentioned above appears to exist everywhere. Whilst the forms and degree of Media Capture observed in countries in transition and fragile states may seem more severe, even democratic countries with pluralistic media markets appear to face similar issues. One aspect remains the same: Media Capture is a problem, because it risks affecting and changing political and social dynamics.

At the 2018 FoME Symposium, we will look at various forms of Media Capture from different perspectives. During the two-day programme, we will analyse the different shapes this insidious process can take, assess its apparent consequences, and discuss solutions in a number of sessions that range from panel discussions to hands-on workshops.

For media development experts, one focus has to be on how to critique existing networks, raise awareness for potential threats for free media, and offer solutions through media development cooperation tools without taking the moral high ground.

Although Media Capture is not an entirely new phenomenon, it is more topical than ever. The current global crisis of traditional financing models for media and the need to find new business models open doors for investors who may have hidden agendas. At the same time, media outlets are under pressure as heterogeneous actors, who contest traditional reporting, provide alternative interpretations, and capture discourses on social media – which manifests as “Social Media Capture”.

FoME is a network of institutions and individuals active in the field of media development cooperation. With our annual flagship event, we bring together media development experts from around the world to discuss a topical issue. Because many of us are practitioners, we are also able to contribute to the implementation of some of the symposium’s outcomes.

FoME 2018 will be hosted by the Division for International Cooperation of the Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (FES). In more than 100 country offices, the FES provides advice and support on the establishment and consolidation of structures in civil society and politics to promote democracy and social justice. The symposium is co-organised by Reporters Without Borders (RSF Germany) and Media in Cooperation and Transition (MiCT).

The organisers would like to warmly welcome you to Berlin. We look forward to two days of fruitful and interesting debates. We are excited to gather an impressive number of media development experts!

ANJA WOLLENBERG (Media in Cooperation and Transition, MiCT), **LISA KRETSCHMER** (Reporters Without Borders, RSF Germany), **CHRISTOPHER FORST** (Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung)
Curators of the 2018 FoME Symposium



PROGRAMME

THURSDAY, 22 NOVEMBER – FRIDAY, 23 NOVEMBER
FRIEDRICH-EBERT-STIFTUNG, HIROSHIMSTR. 17, BERLIN
(CONFERENCE HALL)

DAY 1 (THURSDAY)

08:30 — REGISTRATION OPENS

09:00 — WELCOME

CHRISTIANE KESPER (Head of Division for International Cooperation, FES)

09:15 — KEYNOTE

ANYA SCHIFFRIN (Director of Technology, Media, & Communications, Columbia University – School of International and Public Affairs)

10:00 — Q&A WITH ANYA SCHIFFRIN

FACILITATOR: EDITH KIMANI (Deutsche Welle)

10:30 — COFFEE BREAK

10:45 — LOCAL FLAVOURS AND GLOBAL PATTERNS:
CAN OWNERSHIP CONCENTRATION AND OLIGARCHISATION
BE SEEN AND ADDRESSED AS A WORLDWIDE TREND?

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Around the world, the trend in media concentration seems to be inescapable. The patterns appear similar: more and more precarious, vulnerable media outlets become prey to investors and their interests, which are connected to politics and backed by historical family bonds. A lack of financial transparency – including public spending and state advertising – prevails, whilst legislation falls short of addressing the issue. At the same time, media markets differ in both structural and cultural terms – for example, not only with regard to the distinct relations between the political class and mass media, but also the impact of digital technology in each setting – all of which has implications for how media is captured and by whom. This session explores contextual characteristics, in order to propose categories of capture that might deepen our understanding of this trend. With the objective to discover and analyse overarching similarities, our speakers will discuss how media ownership and concentration affect their public spheres at home on three different continents:

- How is the Latin American legacy of colonial land ownership manifested in Brazilian media?
- Can media literacy and ownership transparency help to combat online disinformation in Sri Lanka?
- What role does the state play after the liberalisation of the Moroccan television and radio markets? Do old cliques still play a role?

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FACILITATOR: OLAF STEENFADT (RSF Germany)

SPEAKERS: ANDRÉ PASTI (Intervezes, MOM Brazil), **DEEPANJALIE ABEYWARDANA** (Verité Research, MOM Sri Lanka), **ALI AMAR** (Le Desk, Morocco)

HOSTED BY: RSF Germany / Friedrich-Naumann-Stiftung für die Freiheit

12:00 — LUNCH BREAK

13:15 — SHORT PRESENTATION: THE COMMUNITY MEDIA ARCHIVE IN WEST AND CENTRAL AFRICA (CMA)

Did you know that in Sierra Leone, European and Chinese companies are competing for access to one of the most valuable resources on earth – fertile land? This land is often sold for next to nothing, leaving communities dispossessed and without the means to sustain their livelihood. Community media in Sierra Leone play a significant role in enabling affected communities to claim their demands and hold governments and investors accountable. Community media houses in Sierra Leone recently joined forces to engage in a nationwide campaign to foster transparency in large-scale land deals and provide information about the protection of community land rights, reaching out to more than a million people in the country. Have you heard about the escalating violence in Cameroon? The armed conflicts with Boko Haram in the Lake Chad Basin and violence by anglophone separatists in the West Region of Cameroon have put the country's stability at risk. Cameroonian community media are regularly reporting on the developments, working together with civil society to provide information to the 300,000 internally displaced people and through their collaboration programmes mitigate the effects of the escalating conflicts on the local population. If you have never heard about these events, we have to assume that you are a consumer of mainstream media, which were »taken over« a long time ago. Thus, we want to present the *Community Media Archive West and Central Africa* (CMA), an online community media platform. Community-based media production has always been an attempt to »recapture« the media and communication processes from the grass-roots level. With over 120 members, the Community Media Network Sierra Leone (COMNET SL) and the Cameroon Community Media Network (CCMN) have developed an open-source software to make the efforts of local media organisations visible. The CMA is an open and participatory online documentation and exchange platform for community media and civil society actors. This presentation explores the potential of community media, as a counter-initiative against the pressure of economic and political elites on the media system.

PRESENTERS: SEBASTIAN LASINGER (COMNET SL), ALEXANDER VOJVODA (CBS Radio 95.3 MHz Buea/Cameroon, CCMN)

13:30 — PARTISAN MEDIA LANDSCAPES AND HOW TO DISTINGUISH BETWEEN GOOD AND BAD PLURALISM

In many countries in the MENA region, the level of political parallelism in the media sector tends to be very high. In war-torn countries – such as Syria and Libya – it is mostly conflict parties that use media to impose their narratives on public discourses and hence strengthen their position in the conflict. However, in transitional countries – such as Iraq, Lebanon, and Tunisia – it is political parties that try to influence public opinion in their favour by supporting, owning, or running media.

In both cases, the media are used to pursue political interests, which goes against the concept of democratic media that is supposed to serve public interests. At the same time, parties and movements have helped to spread media pluralism in post-authoritarian countries. Even though withstanding the concept of democratic media and hence challenging established paradigms in media assistance, political parallelism allows for a diversity of political camps, minorities, and all strands of society to have a voice in the public sphere.

In this session, the media pluralism found in MENA countries – such as Tunisia, Libya, and Iraq – will be compared and discussed in regard to questions such as: What impact does polarised media pluralism/political parallelism have on societal cohesion? Does this kind of media pluralism allow for the control and critique of powerful political and economic elites? How does political parallelism impact the quality of political competition?

FACILITATOR: AIDA KAISY (SOAS University London)

SPEAKERS: ANJA WOLLENBERG (MiCT), FATIMA EL-ISSAWI (University of Essex),

CAROLA RICHTER (Free University Berlin)

HOSTED BY: MiCT

14:45 — COFFEE BREAK & OPEN SPACE

16:00 — MANIPULATION OF PUBLIC OPINION IN SOCIAL MEDIA: ACTORS, TRENDS, COUNTER STRATEGIES

The manipulation of public opinion through social media platforms is not only a growing threat to democracy and freedom of expression, but it can also play a direct role in intensifying conflict. Political leaders and parties are spreading disinformation during elections; government agencies exercise Internet censorship and control; artificial intelligence and big data analytics are being used to undermine trust in the media and public institutions. In many countries around the world, divisive social media campaigns heighten ethnic tensions and intensify political conflict and violence. Trolls, fake accounts, and political bots amplify hate speech and suppress minority opinions.

What is the scope and impact of social media conflict influencers and computational propaganda in the Global South? How can media development address the challenges? How successful are digital literacy programmes that link social media training with verification technologies and the establishment of independent mobile platforms? The panel brings together researchers, media practitioners, and Internet activists to discuss current trends and strategies to support the free flow of information and counter incitement to violence using social media platforms.

FACILITATOR: ISABEL RODDE (Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit – GIZ)

SPEAKERS: LISA-MARIA NEUDERT (Computational Propaganda Project, Oxford Internet Institute), SUZAN KIM OTOR (#defyhatenow, South Sudan), AMBER MACINTYRE (Tactical Technology Collective)

HOSTED BY: GIZ / icebauhaus / r0g_agency

17:15 — YOUR OPINION MATTERS! FoME 2018 OPINION BAROMETER

FACILITATOR: EDITH KIMANI (Deutsche Welle)

19:00 — EVENING RECEPTION & GUIDED TOUR AT MUSEUM FOR COMMUNICATION | PRESENTATION OF NEW CIMA PUBLICATION

See logistical note on page 30.

DAY 2 (FRIDAY)

09:00 — REGISTRATION

09:30 — BREAK THE CHAINS: A COMPARISON OF MEDIA CAPTURE IN THE EU

The enlargement of the EU more than a decade ago did not have solely positive effects on media markets and press freedom in post-socialist Europe. Today, a few entrepreneurs with close connections to authorities own a majority of the media outlets, and aim to exploit them to their own political and economic advantage. These interdependencies between politics, economics, and the media can also be observed in Western European countries.

Media Capture concerns many EU member states. This is demonstrated not only in the latest Media Pluralism Monitor, but also in examples of Media Capture in recent journalistic practices various EU countries. All of this raises the question of how to free media in the EU from these political and economic chains. In this session, we highlight European cases and discuss constructive measures to defend journalism against political and private interferences in the media market. How does “the silent takeover” occur in EU countries? What is the impact of Media Capture across Europe? And which (EU) policy approaches are most effective for restoring editorial independence and press freedom?

FACILITATOR: ANDREAS BOCK (Network for Reporting on Eastern Europe – n-ost)

SPEAKERS: SALLA VUORIKOSKI (Suomen Kuvalehti (formerly: YLE), Finland),

MARIUS DRAGOMIR (CEU/CMDS, Hungary/Romania), MAGDALENA SODOMKOVA (DenikN, Czechia)

HOSTED BY: ECPMF / n-ost

10:45 — STRATEGIES AGAINST MEDIA CAPTURE: STRENGTHENING MEDIA VIABILITY

Media Capture often works along economic mechanisms: control over advertising budgets, ownership concentration, or bribes. Governments funnel public ad spending to complaisant media outlets. Oligarchs buy news media in order to avoid critical coverage. And both collude in order to weaken regulation, resulting in less transparency and more ownership concentration. As media outlets face enormous difficulties in delivering quality reporting while staying financially afloat, they become more vulnerable to Media Capture. Strengthening media viability means improving their defences.

This session puts media viability in the spotlight: What are the main challenges that weaken the independence and viability of media outlets? Which aspects of media viability are key to strengthen media in order to avoid capture or manipulation? How can information environments be fostered that allow independent, quality news media to thrive?

It is time to consider media viability from a broader perspective. DW Akademie uses a model that looks beyond the money aspect and takes into account five dimensions: economics, politics, technology, content, and community.

On the panel, DW Akademie brings together experts on media viability with different perspectives – a media practitioner, an entrepreneur, and a media development practitioner. They discuss approaches to foster media viability in different world regions as possible strategies against Media Capture.

FACILITATOR: EDITH KIMANI (Deutsche Welle)

SPEAKERS: JANINE WARNER (SembraMedia), ROULA MIKHAEL (Maharat Foundation Lebanon), LAURA SCHNEIDER (DW Akademie)

HOSTED BY: DW Akademie

11:45 — COFFEE BREAK

12:00 — THE SUSTAINABILITY OF LOCAL JOURNALISM: A DISCUSSION BETWEEN AN OPTIMIST, PESSIMIST, AND JOURNALIST IN THE MIDDLE

This GFMD panel will focus on the sustainability and viability of local journalism, and how it is being captured by governments, businesses, and organised crime.

A lack of public access to high-quality information, a loss of diverse voices and viewpoints, and the evisceration of public service journalism is an everyday reality for the majority of local communities around the world. For most commercial news outlets, the basic assumption of the news business model – the subsidy that advertisers have long provided to news content – is now gone. At the same time, government budget allocations are among the leading sources of revenue for local news outlets in many countries.

By favouring docile journalism, or by cutting subsidies to critical media voices, many governments are distorting media markets to their advantage. According to a 2014 report on the future of digital journalism by the Open Society Foundations, governments used financial pressure to manipulate news organisations in more than half of the 56 markets examined, and this proportion has only increased in the past four years. This financial squeeze also makes news organisations more vulnerable to capture by corporate backers.

In response to such a climate, GFMD's session examines challenges and solutions to Media Capture, especially with regard to independent sources of financing and sustainable models for local news. It presents present three case studies on the problems encountered in "less-than democratic states" and best practices to overcome the obstacles in the way of professional journalism.

FACILITATOR: MIRA MILOSEVIC (Global Forum for Media Development – GFMD)

SPEAKERS: FATEMAH FARAG (Welad Elbalad Media Services LTD, Egypt),

VITOMIR OGNJANOVIC (online portal "Južne vesti" (Southern News), Serbia),

TARAS YATSENKO (Lviv media hub "Tvoe misto" (Your city), Ukraine)

HOSTED BY: GFMD

13:00 — LUNCH BREAK

**OPTION 1: REFLECTIONS ON DONOR INFLUENCE IN THE MEDIA:
NEW FUNDING, NEW CAPTURE? (CONFERENCE HALL)**

Journalism's financial crisis is often argued to be exacerbating systems of media ownership concentration, and capture. In the face of reduced advertising revenues and online competition, the future of independent media is called into doubt, especially in developing country contexts. To fill this funding space, many donors and philanthropists have taken on the cause of identifying new financing models or outright funding media initiatives. However, such funds are not free from interests and – despite being “good” interests – might be just as distorting to a free media in the long run. The first study so far on philanthropy journalism found a positive overall case, while noting that, “donor power and journalistic and donor field logics can interact in both complimentary and contradictory ways” (Scott, Bunce, and Wright 2017). In an environment where perceived bias and trust in the media are becoming more important than ever, a new discussion of journalistic values and mechanisms for their protection must be held. For this to happen, the possibility of capture through donors and philanthropists has to be seriously examined to identify risks and strategies to counter influence. This participatory discussion round will open a space to reflect on current practices and new funding strategies employed by donors and their implications for media independence and capture opportunities. Questions of perception and trust in media, potential long-term dependencies, and how to shape projects sensitive to the possibility of unintentional capture will be raised.

FACILITATOR: ALI ASLAN (International Presenter, Journalist)

SPEAKERS: VERAH OKEYO (Daily Nation, Kenya), CHRIS PATERSON (Leeds University)

HOSTED BY: KAS

OPTION 2: SIMULATION GAME: DIGITAL PARTICIPATION (BISTRO)

Digital participation is a precondition for freedom of speech and freedom of information in a digital age, because the Internet has become a worldwide universal platform for communication and information. However, negative interventions in free digital communication are common: Internet shutdowns, censorship, and digital attacks against journalists exist in many countries around the world. People are excluded and cannot exercise their rights to freedom of expression and free access to information. In this context, the goal of the presentation is to make the concept and relevance of digital participation more tangible by holding the participants' discussion within the framework of a simulation game. We want to invite participants to a fictional country, where they will be slipping into the role of a stakeholders in the digital ecosystem – for example, as “government”, “journalist”, or “citizen”. By confronting them with disruptions – such as Internet shutdowns, new laws, or the silencing of critical voices – participants are confronted with the repercussions of these challenges.

FACILITATORS: JULIUS ENDERT and LENA NITSCHKE (DW Akademie)

HOSTED BY: DW Akademie

**OPTION 1: THE FUTURE OF PUBLIC BROADCASTING:
HOW TO WIN BACK OUR HEARTS? (FISH BOWL DISCUSSION)
(CONFERENCE HALL)**

Donald Trump does it. Italy's new government does it. Austria, Switzerland, and many other countries face similar debates. Public broadcasters are criticised by many. Financing models are central to this discourse, but they are by far not the only issue at hand here. New arguments against publicly-financed broadcasting are put on the table every day. One argument is that it all follows a political agenda and is nothing but "state broadcasting" anyway; others include transparency issues, low-quality entertainment programmes that cannot compete with private competitors, and a failure to actually contribute to the population's education. Digitisation poses a further challenge.

For years, European media development organisations have considered public broadcasting to be a system worth sharing and spreading, because they considered it to be a feasible way to avoid Media Capture and secure a – largely – free media. Transforming state broadcasters in the Global South into truly public broadcasters has been a difficult challenge from the beginning. Not only the lack of political will and capacity issues speak against a proper transformation, but so do postcolonial transformation processes and the dominant, neoliberal market orientation of the communications industry.

Nevertheless, many experts consider public broadcasting to be a, theoretically, effective counter-measure to Media Capture. Thus, the concept is highly relevant in the framework of the FoME Symposium 2018. However, in order for existing public broadcasters to live up to their potential and to inspire other countries – even those with much more difficult preconditions – to transform broadcasting in a manner suited to their specific needs, they may have to find ways to "win back our hearts".

How can we make public broadcasting attractive again? Where are accusations false and where do we simply need to expose the populist agenda? What steps need to be taken to make public broadcasting more attractive and increase both its outreach and its quality? What can we learn from the status quo? Where do we need to adjust solutions to specific country cases? Can public broadcasting truly contribute to avoiding Media Capture? What role can FoME members play in all of this?

Our experts will exchange their views on such questions with the audience in a fishbowl discussion.

FACILITATOR: TBD

SPEAKERS: DES FREEDMAN (Goldsmith University of London), **MARTIN BECERRA** (University of Quilmes), **VIOLA MILTON** (University of South Africa)

HOSTED BY: FES

OPTION 2: THE MILITARY MEDIA (ROOM 119)

In national or multinational military deployments, information and communication spaces are gaining importance. The activities of military actors in this area are no longer limited to informing their own troops or the families at home, but increasingly include activities that can be described as media development. As a result, the military – with its own goals and strategies – is competing with other actors as a media provider and promoter. What is the nature of the relationship with civilian local and international providers and what are the consequences for media development? Together with a leading expert and responsible communications actor from the Bundeswehr (German Federal Armed Forces), we describe the details and objectives of their media work and discuss scenarios for future cooperation.

FACILITATOR: FRIEDERIKE VON FRANQUÉ

SPEAKER: LIEUTENANT COLONEL CHRISTIAN BELL (Bundeswehr)

HOSTED BY: FRIEDERIKE VON FRANQUÉ

16:00 — ALL EYES ON US: MESSAGES FROM OUR RAPPORTEURS

16:15 — CONCLUSION

CHRISTIAN MIHR (RSF Germany)

SPEAKERS

— DEEPANJALIE ABEYWARDANA

Head Media Research, Verité Research, Sri Lanka
Deepanjalie Abeywardana heads the media research team at Verité Research in Colombo, Sri Lanka. She has extensive experience in media ethics, media behaviour as well as media and women. She also trains journalists on media ethics and has taken part in several fellowships and programs on media studies abroad. Additionally, she has experience in conflict resolution and human rights through her studies at University of Oslo, Norway and the University of Fribourg, Switzerland. Deepanjalie received a BA in International Relations from the University of Colombo and a MA in South Asian Studies from Pondicherry University, India where she was selected as one of the first two Sri Lankans to undertake the MA on a Madanjeet Singh Scholarship. Deepanjalie has worked with a wide range of local and international stakeholders and media practitioners on understanding the Sri Lankan media, media ownership and media's role in fostering reconciliation.

— ALI AMAR

Co-founder and Director, Le Desk, Morocco
Ali Amar, 51, is a veteran Moroccan journalist who is the co-founder and current editor in chief of the online news outlet Le Desk based in Casablanca. He earned a degree in Journalism from the City University London (MA International journalism) and an executive degree from LSE. Ali Amar was the co-founder in

1997 of Le Journal Hebdo, the Moroccan iconic weekly magazine until its court-mandated shut-down in January 2010. He faced an impressive number of court cases due in large part to his investigations on the monarchy. Following the closing down of the outlet and foreclosure, Amar left the country to live in Spain, France, Slovenia and Belgium as Senior Fellow and Guest Writer of International Cities of Refuge Network, an NGO based in Norway. He returned back to Morocco in 2015 to launch Le Desk. Amar published several essays. Among them, the best-selling "Mohammed VI, the great misunderstanding" (Calmann-Lévy, 2009). He regularly publishes articles for international media, such as Mediapart in France. He also covered the Arab Spring in Morocco for The New York Times.

— ALI ASLAN

International Presenter, Journalist, TV Host
Ali Aslan is an international presenter, journalist and television host who has worked worldwide for global news networks such as CNN, ABC News, Channel News Asia and Deutsche Welle TV. An internationally known presenter, Aslan regularly moderates at major conferences around the world and has shared the stage, among others with Angela Merkel, Emmanuel Macron, Justin Trudeau, John McCain, Sergey Lavrov, Christine Lagarde, Madeleine Albright and Bill Clinton. Aslan holds masters degrees in Journalism and International Affairs from Columbia University and has received his bachelor's degree in International Politics from Georgetown University. Aslan is a United Nations Fellow and a member of the Körber Network

Foreign Policy as well as the Global Diplomacy Lab. He has been named a Young Leader by the American Council on Germany, the BMW Foundation, the German Marshall Fund, the Bertelsmann Foundation, the Munich Security Conference and the Atlantik-Brücke.

— MARTIN BECERRA

Professor, National University of Quilmes, University of Buenos Aires, Argentina
Martin Becerra is Professor at the National University of Quilmes and University of Buenos Aires (Argentina) in communications policy and media regulation. He is also member of the CONICET (Consejo Nacional de Investigaciones Científicas y Tecnológicas, Argentina). He is postgraduate Professor at several Universities in Latin America and Spain. Becerra is member of IAMCR Publication Committee. He holds a PhD and a MA. in Communication Sciences at the Autonomous University of Barcelona (Spain), where he was UNESCO Chair in Communications Sciences in 2005. Becerra is author of a number of books and articles on media policy. including: *La concentración infocomunicacional en América Latina* (2000-2015): *nuevos medios y tecnologías, menos actores* (ed. Universidad Nacional de Quilmes, 2017); *De la concentración a la convergencia. Medios, políticas y redes* (ed. Paidós, 2015); *Cajas mágicas: el renacimiento de la TV pública en América Latina with Ángel García Castillejo, Óscar Santamaría y Luis Arroyo* (Tecnos, Madrid, 2013); and *Wiki Media Leaks: La relación entre medios y gobiernos de América Latina bajo el prisma de WikiLeaks, with Sebastián Lacunza* (Ediciones B, Buenos Aires, 2012).

He was Academic Secretary (2003-2007) and Dean of the Social Sciences Department (2008-2010) at the National University of Quilmes. Becerra has been part of numerous public debates on media regulation in Latin American countries. Member of Observacom, he is also editor of Quipu blog where he publishes frequent journalistic collaborations on topics of media and communication technologies. On Twitter is @aracalacana.

— CHRISTIAN BELL

Lieutenant Colonel, German Bundeswehr
Operational Communication Centre
Lieutenant Colonel Christian Bell was born in 1968 in small town Germany. He returned to the same address following 17 moves, including a total of 6 years in the United States and more than 25 years of practicing the "dark art" of Psychological Operations. His military career included various positions: from being a commander of the world's one and only Loudspeaker Company to working as a PSY-OPS officer for the 4th PSYOP Group (A) in Fort Bragg. For the last ten years he has been spending his time implementing Strategic Communications within NATO, first based at NATO Supreme Allied Command Transformation in Norfolk, VA, and now from the German Bundeswehr Operational Communication Centre close to his home. Currently he builds up a new capability for creating awareness towards propaganda and disinformation. Besides that, he tries to entertain his 1500+ followers on Twitter with an inside view from the German Bundeswehr and closely follows the latest developments in Sunday evening's police drama "Tatort" (a German thing).

— NICHOLAS BENEQUISTA

Research Manager, Center for International Media Assistance (CIMA)

Nicholas Benequista is the Research Manager at the Center for International Media Assistance (CIMA), a think-tank housed at the National Endowment for Democracy in Washington, DC. Nicholas began his professional career as a journalist in Latin America, eventually leading Bloomberg News' Mexico City Bureau. He later completed an Mphil in International Development at the Institute for Development Studies in Brighton, England and spent the subsequent 10 years doing a mix of research and advocacy work on issues of citizenship, transparency and accountability. In 2016, Nicholas completed his PhD in media and communications at the London School of Economics and Political Science with an action-research project that explored how Kenyan journalists contend with the challenges of ethnic and partisan divisions in their country and in their newsrooms. He joined CIMA shortly after and has worked to strengthen CIMA's role as a global thought leader on issues of media and democracy.

— ANDREAS BOCK

Head, Editorial Department, International Online Press Review [euro|topics](#), n-ost

Andreas is a journalist and head of the editorial department of the international online press review [euro|topics](#) at the journalist network n-ost. [euro|topics](#) takes a daily look at the European press in 32 countries and quotes important voices in English, German, French, Russian and Turkish. Andreas works and speaks on issues like access to information, press free-

dom and a (digital) European public sphere. Prior to joining n-ost Andreas developed projects and events in Hungary for the German Institute for Foreign Cultural Relations.

— MARIUS DRAGOMIR

Director of the Center for Media, Data and Society (CMDS)

Marius Dragomir is the Director of the Center for Media, Data and Society (CMDS). Dragomir has spent the past decade in the media research field, specializing in media and communication regulation, digital media, governing structures of public service media and broadcasting, spectrum management, and ownership regulation. Dragomir started his career as a journalist some 25 years ago in his native Romania. He co-founded [Mediapowermonitor.com](#), a community of experts in media policy. At CMDS, Dragomir launched the Media Influence Matrix Project to investigate the influence that rapid shifts in policy, sources of funding and technology companies in the public sphere are having on journalism today.

— FATIMA EL ISSAWI

Senior Lecturer in Journalism, University of Essex

Dr. Fatima el Issawi is Senior Lecturer in Journalism at the University of Essex and Senior Visiting Fellow at the Department of International Development at the London School of Economics. She has significant expertise in the media industry with a focus on Middle East and North Africa (MENA), crossing journalism, public communication, policy and academia. Since 2012, she has led externally funded research projects looking at the interplay bet-

ween media and the political change in the context of the Arab uprisings. She was recently awarded a grant from the British Academy Sustainable Development Programme for the project 'Media and Transitions to Democracy: Journalistic Practices in Communicating Conflicts: The Arab Spring'. Between 2014 and 2017, she led the project 'Arab National Media and Politics: Democracy Revisited,' looking at the intricate links between media and political reforms in Morocco and Algeria, funded by the Middle East Centre (LSE). From 2012 to 2014, she led the project "Arab Revolutions: Media Revolutions" funded by the Open Society Foundation and based at the LSE Media and Communications looking at media transformation post uprisings in Egypt, Libya and Tunisia.

— JULIUS ENDERT

Project Manager, DW Akademie

Julius is a digital media professional currently working for DW Akademie in the field of freedom of expression and access to information. At DW Akademie he works in the digital department specializing in the topics of digital rights, digital innovation and media viability. As a DW Akademie digital consultant he is involved in projects in Myanmar and Nigeria. Julius has been working as a journalist since 1995. He has written for various German newspapers and also has done extensive television work for ZDF (German public service broadcasting) mainly on topics of digital change and internet culture.

— FATEMAH FARAG

Director of Welad Elbalad Media LTD, Egypt

Fatemah Farag is the Founder and Director of Welad Elbalad Media LTD, a company dedicated to community media development and media excellence in Egypt. She is also the MENA Director for WAN IFRA's Women in News Program, a World Editors Forum (WEF) Board Member and a Neiman Fellow. Before establishing Welad Elbalad Media Services, Fatemah was the founding chief editor of the English Edition of Al Masry Al Youm. Before 2009, she divided her professional time between the newsroom and journalism training and education. She was Assistant Chief Editor, responsible for the features and life-style sections and senior staff reporter at Al-Ahram Weekly.

— CHRISTOPHER FORST

Media Coordinator, Division for International Cooperation, Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung

Christopher Forst is Media Coordinator of the Division for International Development Cooperation of Friedrich Ebert Foundation in Berlin and the main organizer of the 2018 FoME Symposium. He is also the responsible desk officer for [fesmedia africa](#), the African media project of FES based in Windhoek, Namibia. For the Africa Department of FES, Christopher coordinates the foundation's offices in Namibia, Tanzania and Rwanda as well as the work of the Economic Policy Competence Centre (EPCC) in Ghana. Before taking over his current position, he worked for FES Ghana in Accra. He holds a Master of Arts in Social Sciences (EU-Russia Studies) from the University of Tartu in Estonia and a Bachelor of Arts in Regional

Studies East and Central Europe from the University of Cologne.

— DES FREEDMAN

Professor of Media and Communications at Goldsmiths, University of London

Des Freedman is Professor of Media and Communications at Goldsmiths, University of London. He is the author of *The Contradictions of Media Power* (Bloomsbury 2014) and *The Politics of Media Policy* (Polity 2008) and co-author (with James Curran and Natalie Fenton) of *Misunderstanding the Internet* (2nd edn, Routledge 2016). His is co-editor of many volumes including *After Charlie Hebdo: Terror, Racism and Free Speech* (2017), *Liberalism in Neoliberal Times* (2017), *Strategies for Media Reform: International Perspectives* (2016), *Media and Terrorism* (2012) and *The Assault on Universities* (2011). He is a founder and former Chair of the Media Reform Coalition that campaigns for media accountability and democracy in the UK. He was project lead for the 2016 Inquiry into the Future Of Public Service Television chaired by the filmmaker and Labour peer, David Puttnam, and has provided evidence to many parliamentary inquiries and committees. He is a former editor of the journal *Global Media and Communication* and is the vice president of the Goldsmiths branch of the University and College Union.

— AIDA KAISY

School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London

Aida Kaisy is a Media Reform Advisor and has worked extensively on media development projects across the MENA region including

in Iraq, Palestine and Tunisia. She is currently working on a number of projects, focusing on issues related to youth engagement in media, media in conflict, social cohesion and the media and the development of independent media platforms in MENA amongst other things. She is completing a PhD at the School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London, where she also teaches on a part-time basis, on the performance of the media in conflict, using Iraq as a case study. She is currently working on a research project for the LSE Conflict Research Programme the aim of which is to help explore positive examples of civic action and content in the public sphere.

— EDITH KIMANI

DW News Anchor

At the beginning of 2017, Edith Kimani left for Germany to start a new life and career in Berlin as a DW News anchor. She was leaving behind many fans in Kenya but she was bringing along seven years of experience as a reporter and anchor with one of Kenya's largest broadcasters, KTN. In 2009, Edith began her career after winning a KTN reality show contest seeking out Kenya's most talented young news anchor. She then hosted her own show, *On the Record*, and earned a name for herself as one of Kenya's top young journalists. With a passion for environmental issues, she moderated the DW debate at the World Economic Forum for Africa on renewable energy. Before coming to Germany, she was DW's East Africa correspondent and host of DW's *Eco@Africa*.

— LISA-MARIA KRETSCHMER

Head of Research MOM, Reporters Without Borders Germany

Lisa-Maria Kretschmer works as Head of Research for Reporters Without Borders Germany (RSF), and in that position has implemented and supervised media transparency projects worldwide. Prior to RSF, she has worked in the field of human rights and resilience as well as on the role of media in conflict transformation, amongst others for the German Development Agency (giz), a Member of the German Parliament, and at the Ludwig-Maximilians-University of Munich. She studied Political Communication, Journalism and Economics in Germany, The Netherlands, Denmark and Israel.

— SEBASTIAN LASINGER

Advisor for Community Media and Human Rights, Culture Radio FM 104.5/Sierra Leone, Community Media Network Sierra Leone (COMNET SL)

Sebastian Lasinger is a media activist and development worker. Within the Civil Peace Service (CPS) programme he is currently supporting the Community Media Network Sierra Leone (COMNET SL) in its struggle against land grabbing in Sierra Leone. He previously worked in Afghanistan for the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ), promoting journalistic networks for conflict sensitive reporting and election monitoring. Before that, he was a program manager and editor at the Austrian community radio station, Radio FRO 105.0. During this time, he also spent a year in Colombia, doing research on the impact of media campaigns on the Colombian peace process. Sebastian Lasinger is a graduate of the

Johannes Kepler University Linz and the London School of Economics and Political Science.

— AMBER MACINTYRE

Researcher, Tactical Technology Collective

Amber Macintyre is a researcher at Tactical Tech currently working on the data and elections project. The project examines how personal data is being used by political parties across the world. She is also carrying out research for her PhD at Royal Holloway, University of London, on the use of personal data by charities and NGOs. She previously worked at Amnesty International in London delivering capacity building on digital communications. She then went on to study a Masters in International Law at UN mandated University of Peace, Costa Rica, where she focused on international courts and technology.

— CHRISTIAN MIHR

Executive Director, Reporters Without Borders Germany

Christian Mihr is a journalist, international media policy expert and human rights professional. He has been the Executive Director of Reporters Without Borders Germany (RSF) since 2012. At RSF Germany, he's especially dealing with questions of cyber-censorship, online-safety and press freedom in the digital age. Regionally he's especially interested in Colombia, Ecuador, Chile, Belarus and Russia. He is a member of the Board of Trustees of the German Institute for Human Rights in Berlin and a board member of Access Info Europe in Berlin.

— ROULA MIKHAEL

Executive Director, Maharat Foundation, Lebanon

Roula is the Executive Director of Maharat Foundation, which operates Maharat News, an independent, online, multimedia platform whose model of in-depth journalism on key issues of government accountability amplifies policy news. Its mission is to defend, catalyse, and advance democratic values of freedom of expression, access to information, and respect for human rights. Maharat Foundation and its news outlet are influencing the regional debate on misinformation, fostering media literacy via platforms and channels by sharing knowledge and best practices with independent media startups, and educating journalists and the public on the importance of a professional, responsible media sector. Roula is the convenor of IFEX, a global network to defend and promote freedom of expression, and is committed to her country's longstanding tradition of free and open journalism.

— MIRA MILOSEVIC

Director, Global Forum for Media Development (GFMD)

Mira is the Director of the Brussels-based Global Forum for Media Development (GFMD) since March 2017. She was the author of the World Press Trends reports, the most authoritative global source of data in the international newspaper industry, published by WAN-IFRA. Mira managed Media Development Programmes at WAN-IFRA (World Association of Newspapers and News Publishers), has served as Chief Platform Officer at Indie Voices

and as a Director of the Belgrade based Media Center. She holds a Master's degree in Communications from Westminster University in London and is researching and writing about journalism sustainability and media economics.

— VIOLA MILTON

Professor, Department of Communication Science at the University of South Africa

Viola Candice Milton is a professor in media studies in the Department of Communication Science at the University of South Africa. Her research focuses on the negotiation of media policy in South Africa as well as issues of media, citizenship and identity. Viola spearheads "The Media Policy and Democracy Project's" focus on *Media Policy in the Public Interest* which focusses primarily on public service broadcasting (PSB) in South Africa. She is a management committee member of the Support Public Broadcasting Coalition (SOS). The Coalition is committed to, and campaigns for, broadcasting in the public interest. In addition, Viola runs a project with Dr Winston Mano (Director of the Africa Media Centre at the University of Westminster), that theorises the practice of PSB in the Southern African region from an Africanist perspective. Viola most recently co-authored *New Voices Over the Air: The Transformation of the South African Broadcasting Corporation in a Changing South Africa* with P. Eric Louw and has two forthcoming co-authored books focusing on PSB in South(ern) Africa. With Eric Louw, a book entitled *Becoming South African: The Role of Television, Race and Class in the Construction of South African Identity* will be submitted for publication in 2019 and with

Winston Mano, a book provisionally entitled *Public Service Broadcasting and Afrokology: Beyond a familiar model?* will be submitted for publication in 2020. Viola is also the Editor-in-chief of *Communication: South African Journal for Communication Theory and Research*. Twitter: @vvtweets

— LISA-MARIE NEUDERT

Computational Propaganda Project, Oxford Internet Institute

Lisa-Maria is a DPhil candidate at the Oxford Internet Institute and a researcher with the Computational Propaganda project, where her work is located at the nexus of political communication, technology studies, and governance. Lisa-Maria holds an MSc in Social Science of the Internet from the University of Oxford, and a BA in Communication Science from the Ludwig-Maximilians-University in Munich. Selected as a Fulbright scholar, she previously studied at the Georgetown University in Washington DC and the National University of Singapore. Her work has been featured in the MIT Tech Review, Washington Post, The Economist and has been cited during the US Senate tech hearings. She has presented her research at the European Commission, The Council of Europe and The World Economic Forum in Davos. Lisa-Maria is on Twitter @lmneudert.

— LENA NIETSCHE

Project Manager, DW Akademie

Lena is a digital media professional currently working for DW Akademie in the field of freedom of expression and access to information.

At DW Akademie she works in the digital department specializing in the topics of digital rights, digital innovation and digital literacy. Next to her work for DW Akademie she is an active member and editor for Global Voices, an international community of writers, translators and digital activists. Lena completed her master's degree in Digital Media and Society at Uppsala University (Sweden).

— VITOMIR OGNJANOVIĆ

Co-Founder, online portal "Južne vesti", Serbia
Vitomir is the co-founder of Južne vesti, Serbian online media outlet best known for its investigative journalism, as well as the co-founder of Simplicity, an online business solutions company. Vitomir and his team have been working with other media on the development of overall sustainable business models in "hostile" environment, drawing on their experience within Južne vesti and Simplicity. Together with his team, Vitomir successfully cooperates with more than 50 media, local and international organizations and institutions. Južne vesti and Simplicity have been recognized as a valuable regional partner by BBC, IREX, OSCE, USAID, FCO, SIDA, BIRN and several other institutions.

— VERAH OKEYO

Reporter, Daily Nation, Kenya

Verah Okeyo is a global health reporter from East Africa's Daily Nation newspaper, published by the media conglomerate Nation Media Group. While she reports generally on health, her journalism leans more towards reproductive, maternal and child health, health systems in the developing

world, infectious diseases; neglected tropical diseases; agriculture and climate change. Verah holds an undergraduate degree in media technology and communication from Kenya's Maseno University and an MSC in Global Media and Communications from the London School of Economic (LSE) in the United Kingdom. Her dissertation 'The impact of foundation funded journalism on science reporting in Kenya' is an indication of her research interest on the political economy of science journalism and communication and the reflection on funding influence in journalism in East Africa.

— SUZAN KIM OTOR

Programme manager, #defyhatenow, South Sudan
Suzan Kim Otor is a South Sudanese peace advocate, journalist, and conflict mitigation trainer. She holds a Bachelor Degree in Journalism, earned in 2013 at United States International University – Africa (USIU) in Nairobi Kenya. She has previously worked for Journalists for Human Rights (JHR) as a National Trainer, where she trained journalists on how to report effectively and ethically on human right stories. She is currently the South Sudan program manager of #defyhatenow, an initiative to mitigate hate speech and online incitement to violence in the South Sudan conflict. Working specifically as a key Hate Speech Mitigation trainer she is leading the implementation of the #defyhatenow Social Media Hate Speech Mitigation Field Guide. Tweet her @defyhatenow <https://defyhatenow.net/field-guide/>

— ANDRÉ PASTI

Researcher, Intervozes, Brazil

André Pasti is a researcher on communication policies and political geography of media in Latin America. He is a member of the Intervozes board of directors. Intervozes is a Brazilian organisation that works for safeguarding freedom of expression and human rights in all forms of communication. He was the head of the Media Ownership Monitor (MOM) Brazil. Currently he is a professor at the University of Campinas (Unicamp). He is a PhD candidate from the University of São Paulo (USP) and holds a Master's degree from Unicamp.

— CAROLA RICHTER

Professor for international communication, department for political and social science, Freie Universität Berlin

Carola Richter is professor for international communication at the department for political and social science at Freie Universität Berlin. Her research focuses on media systems and communication cultures in the non-Western countries, particular the Middle East, communication strategies of social movements and media and political transformation. She is co-founder of the Arab-European Association of Media and Communication Researchers (AREACORE) and member of the Arab-German Young Academy of Sciences and Humanities (AGAYA).

— ISABEL RODDE

Adviser, Human Rights Programme, GIZ

Isabel Rodde is a governance and human rights adviser at Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ), focusing on digital rights and digital security, freedom of expression and access to information. Before joining GIZ's Human Rights Programme, she worked as a research associate at the media department of the University of Flensburg. From 2005 to 2008 and from 2011 to 2013 she worked as a journalism trainer, media adviser and researcher with the Royal University of Phnom Penh in Cambodia and the Media Council in Kenya. Prior to that, she worked as an online-editor and freelance journalist for Heinrich-Böll-Foundation, Frankfurter Rundschau and several German broadcasting stations. She holds an MA in Cultural and Media Sciences and is a trained journalist and video cutter.

— ANYA SCHIFFRIN

Director of the Technology, Media, and Communications specialization, School of International and Public Affairs, Columbia University

Anya Schiffrin is the director of the Technology, Media, and Communications specialization at Columbia University's School of International and Public Affairs. Her research includes investigative journalism in the Global South, African reporting on oil and mining, business sustainability for media startups in the Global South, and media trust and online disinformation. Schiffrin spent 10 years working overseas as a journalist in Europe and Asia and was a Knight-Bagehot Fellow at Columbia University's Graduate School of Journalism in 1999–2000. Schiffrin is

on the Global Board of the Open Society Foundations and the advisory board of the Natural Resource Governance Institute and the American Assembly. Her most recent books are African Muckraking: 75 Years of African Investigative Journalism (Jacana 2017) and Global Muckraking: 100 Years of Investigative Reporting from Around the World (New Press, 2014).

— LAURA SCHNEIDER

Project Manager, DW Akademie

Laura Schneider's work has focused on different aspects of media viability: Investigating the main challenges and possible solutions for media outlets particularly in Africa and Latin America, and developing indicators to measure media viability internationally. Another area of Schneider's expertise is international media freedom measurement. In various publications she has critically analyzed the existing press freedom rankings. In her PhD thesis she developed a new index for global media freedom. Schneider has been a consultant for UNESCO, an analyst for Freedom House, and project coordinator at the International Media Center in Hamburg. She has worked as a journalist for several German media outlets such as Spiegel Online and the German press agency dpa, and was a radio and newspaper reporter in Mexico.

— OLAF STEENFADT

Global Project Director MOM, Reporters Without Borders Germany

Olaf Steenfadt heads the "Media Ownership Monitor" project for Reporters Without Borders Germany. For many years, he has been involved as a consultant and coach for media pluralism,

especially in development cooperation. Mandates of international organizations and NGOs lead him primarily to Southeast Europe and in the Arab world. He previously worked for ARD and ZDF in various roles, including as radio and TV presenter, investigative author, domestic and foreign correspondent, as well as in format development and program marketing. He teaches media history, media policy and regulation at universities in Germany and Europe.

— ALEXANDER VOJVODA

Seconded Personnel Ziviler Friedensdienst Cameroon and Community Media Activist
Alexander Vojvoda is community media activist and journalism trainer. He holds a MSc in Sociology and a MA in Political Communications. He is currently seconded personnel within the Ziviler Friedensdienst Programme in Cameroon. He consults the Cameroonian community radio CBS Radio 95.3 MHz and the CCMN – Cameroon Community Media Network (www.community-media.com) on community-based journalism, community development and conflict-sensitive journalism.

— FRIEDERIKE VON FRANQUÉ

Freelance Consultant, Founder of Institute for Democracy, Media and Cultural Exchange
Dr. Friederike von Franqué works as freelance consultant. Her expertise concerns human rights protection, violent extremism and cybersecurity. She founded the Institute for Democracy, Media and Cultural Exchange (IDEM e.V.), a media development organisation and served at the Board of Trustees. With a PhD in Political Sciences from the Institute for Security

and Peace Research at the University of Hamburg (IFSH), she focused on external effects on democratisation processes, particularly the role of media development and media structures on democratic stability, peace and conflict. Currently, she works on Data Science for Media Development evaluation.

— SALLA VUORIKOSKI

Journalist, Suomen Kuvalehti magazine, Finland
Salla Vuorikoski is a Finnish investigative journalist working for Suomen Kuvalehti magazine. She is specialized in stories related to money and power in the society. Vuorikoski previously worked for YLE (YLEisradio Oy), Finland's national public broadcasting company, and resigned citing restrictions on her work after publishing a story involving Prime Minister Juha Sipilä. Vuorikoski has won different prizes for her work and is a well known figure in the Finnish media. In 2017 she and her colleagues were nominated for the Prix Europa award as Best European Journalist of the Year.

— JANINE WARNER

Co-founder of SembraMedia; International Center for Journalists Knight Fellow
Janine Warner is the executive director and co-founder of SembraMedia, nonprofit organization dedicated to increasing the diversity of voices in Spanish by helping digital media entrepreneurs become more sustainable. Janine began her career as a reporter and editor in Northern California. In 1998, her experience on the internet, combined with her fluency in Spanish, took her to The Miami Herald, as the Online Managing Editor. A year later, she

was promoted to Director of New Media. She also served as Director of Latin American Operations for CNET Networks. A pioneer in online learning, she has worked with many of the top online training companies in the US and taught MOOCs for the University of Texas. She's been an adjunct faculty member at the University of Miami and the University of Southern California, and a guest lecturer at more than 30 universities in the U.S., Latin America, and Europe. Janine is a member of the TV Academy's Interactive Media Peer Group and has served as a judge in the Interactive Emmy Awards, the Knight News Challenge, the Arroba de Oro Internet Awards, and the WSA Mobile & Content awards.

— ANJA WOLLENBERG

Head, Department of Research and Evaluation, Media in Cooperation and Transition (MiCT)
Anja Wollenberg is one of the founders of Media in Cooperation and Transition (MiCT), a media assistance organization with headquarters in Berlin. Since 2004 she has conceptualized, managed and monitored numerous media development projects mainly in the Middle East and North Africa focusing on training of journalists and supporting media outlets in their struggle with the challenges of transformation. Today, Anja Wollenberg is heading the department of research and evaluation at MiCT. Her main field of research and expertise is media development in post-conflict and transitional countries; in particular, she has studied issues of media pluralism and media literacy as well as media impact on conflict development in the MENA region.

Anja Wollenberg is holding a PhD in communication science from the Erfurt University. Her PhD research was dedicated to media development in Iraq after 2003.

— TARAS YATSENKO

Co-Founder/Head of Lviv media hub "Tvoe misto" ("Your city"), Ukraine
Taras is the co-founder and head of Lviv media hub "Tvoe misto" ("Your city"). The Lviv project "3 in 1" (an Internet-platform, TV station and production company), is becoming a community-run organisation, financed by dozens of people, mainly Lviv entrepreneurs. Now, "Tvoe Misto" is the leader among Lviv media in terms of Facebook audience numbers; it also conducts offline discussions to address local problems. Taras believes that his organisation's major successes are potentially ahead of them. Tvoe misto has a strong mission and ambitious goals and wants to change the rules of Ukrainian media: Shifting media control from the hands of politicians to that of the audience.

EVENING RECEPTION

22 NOVEMBER, 19:00

The evening reception starts with a guided tour through the museum at 19:00, will be followed by a presentation of CIMA's new publication and ends with drinks and snacks in the museum's café at 20:00.

Museum für Kommunikation

Leipziger Str. 16 • 10777 Berlin

HOW TO REACH THE MUSEUM:

— via Shuttle service:

A shuttle service will be provided departing from Riu Plaza Hotel (Martin-Luther-Str. 1) at 18:15 and from Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung at 18:30.

— via public transport:



Please go to the bus station **Hiroshimasteg** (walking distance 200 m) and take the **bus M29** (Direction: U Hermannplatz). 5 minutes (4 stops), get off at **U Mendelssohn-Bartholdy-Park**. Please change for **subway U2** (Direction: U Pankow).



5 minutes (2 stops), get off at **U Mohrenstr.** and walk to the Museum (250 m)

For information about tickets and itineraries please visit <https://www.bvg.de/en> or download the BVG app to receive live information on arrivals and departures of public transport. Buses, subways and trains operate approx. every 5 to 10 minutes. Price for a single ticket is 2,80 Euro ("zone AB"). This ticket can be used for the entire trip, but only for one direction. Tickets can be purchased at a ticket machine at the station or in buses, please validate if necessary.

THE FORUM MEDIA AND DEVELOPMENT

FORUM MEDIEN UND ENTWICKLUNG – FoME

- Is the German platform for international media development initiatives. As of October 2018, the network includes 24 organisations working towards strengthening independent media in developing and transitioning countries.
- Organises annual symposiums.
- Maintains the FoME mailing list, addressing German-speaking readers, and currently reaching 1200 experts in journalism, communication research and development cooperation.
- Contact: Sofie Jannusch, FoME Coordinator, tel. 0241-70131212, sofie.jannusch@cameco.org

The German “Forum Media and Development” (Forum Medien und Entwicklung) is a network of institutions and individuals active in the field of media development cooperation. It serves as a platform for the exchange of experiences, fostering research and further elaboration of concepts. It facilitates the dialogue between media practitioners, development politics and the scientific community.

Members of the German “Forum Media and Development” advocate the human right to freedom of expression. They are convinced that free and independent media are essential for the development of democracies. Free and independent media ensure that all groups of society can participate in public opinion forming. At the same time they demand transparency and accountability from political, social and economic players. This is also of particular importance with regard to poverty reduction and the promotion of sustainable development. Therefore, the German “Forum Media and Development” endeavours to strengthen the importance of media in the context of development cooperation.

<http://fome.info>

FRIEDRICH-EBERT-STIFTUNG (FES) FOUNDATION FOR SOCIAL DEMOCRACY!

ABOUT US

The Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (FES) is the oldest political foundation in Germany with a rich tradition in social democracy dating back to its foundation in 1925. The foundation owes its formation and its mission to the political legacy of its namesake Friedrich Ebert, the first democratically elected German President.

The work of our political foundation focuses on the core ideas and values of social democracy – freedom, justice and solidarity. This connects us to social democracy and free trade unions. As a non-profit institution, we organise our work autonomously and independently.

FES PROMOTES THE ADVANCEMENT OF SOCIAL DEMOCRACY, IN PARTICULAR BY

- Political educational work to strengthen civil society
- Think Tanks
- International cooperation with our international network of offices in more than 100 countries
- Support for talented young people
- Maintaining the collective memory of social democracy with archives, libraries and more.

www.fes.de



MEDIA IN COOPERATION AND TRANSITION (MICT)

Media in Cooperation and Transition (MiCT) is a German non-profit media assistance organization supporting media development in crisis regions and transitional countries. Projects are mainly focused on capacity building for media outlets and journalists that have to cope with the complex interplay between democratic transition, media, conflict and reconciliation on a daily basis. Activities further comprise audience research and media monitoring, innovative publishing and business development for small local media. MiCT is mostly engaged in Middle East and North Africa as well as parts of Asia.

Through its media assistance, MiCT aims to (1) foster the transformation of conflict towards reconciliation, encourage dialogue among conflicting factions within society and (2) strengthen the role of pluralistic media and accountable journalism in transitional democracies.

www.mict-international.org



REPORTERS WITHOUT BORDERS GERMANY (RSF GERMANY)

REPORTERS WITHOUT BORDERS, FOR FREEDOM OF INFORMATION

Since 1994, the German section of Reporters Without Borders has an office in Berlin. It is part of the international organization Reporters sans frontières (RSF) which was founded in 1985 in France. RSF Germany is organizationally and financially independent. In cooperation with the international office in Paris, RSF Germany investigates and records violations of the freedom of media worldwide and coordinates national and international campaigns. The activities of RSF Germany are carried out on five continents through its network of over 150 correspondents, its national sections, and its close collaboration with local and regional press freedom groups.

Every year, some 500 journalists are arrested, 1.000 assaulted or threatened, and over 500 media outlets censored. All of these violations have serious consequences which need to be tracked in order to better counteract them.

OUR MISSIONS ARE

- To continuously monitor attacks on freedom of information worldwide;
- To denounce any such attacks in the media;
- To act in cooperation with governments to fight censorship and laws aimed at restricting freedom of information;
- To morally and financially assist persecuted journalists, as well as their families;
- To offer material assistance to war correspondents in order to enhance their safety.

www.reporter-ohne-grenzen.de

