

The United Nations Department of Public Information (DPI), in cooperation with the United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), invites you to a briefing in commemoration of

World Press Freedom Day 2016

“Access to Information and Fundamental Freedoms: This Is Your Right!”

Achieving the 2030 Agenda through Freedom of Information and Safety for Journalists

Thursday, 5 May, 2016, 10 a.m.—1p.m.

Conference Room 4, United Nations Headquarters, New York

[RSVP](#)

In 1993, the UN General Assembly proclaimed 3 May as World Press Freedom Day following a recommendation adopted at the twenty-sixth session of UNESCO’s General Conference in 1991. It serves as an occasion to inform citizens of the violations of press freedom. It is a reminder that publications and social media are censored, fined, suspended, while journalists, editors and publishers are harassed, attacked and even killed worldwide.

The International Day is a time to encourage and develop initiatives in favour of press freedom, and to assess the state of press freedom worldwide.

In 2016, the World Press Freedom Day event at the UN Headquarters will examine press freedom from two perspectives as they relate to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development: freedom of information as a human right and the safety of journalists online and offline.

For more information: www.unesco.org/new/en/wpfd

OPENING SESSION

Moderator

Cristina Gallach, Under-Secretary-General for Communications and Public Information

Opening Remarks

Ban Ki-moon, United Nations Secretary-General *via Video Message*

H.E. Mr. Mogens Lykketoft, President, United Nations General Assembly *via Video Message*

H.E. Mr. Kaha Imnadze, Permanent Representative of Georgia to the United Nations and

Chairman of the General Assembly Committee on Information

Frank LaRue, Assistant Director-General for Communication and Information, UNESCO

Said Essoulami, Executive Director, Centre for Media Freedom in the Middle East and North Africa

PANEL DISCUSSION

Moderator

Maher Nasser, Director, Outreach Division, Department of Public Information

Panellists

H.E. Mr. Kai Sauer, Permanent Representative of Finland to the United Nations

Kevin Bleyer, Emmy Award-Winning Writer

Field Journalist *via Video Conference*

Janine di Giovanni, Multi Award-Winning Journalist and Author

George Packer, Award-Winning Author and Journalist, Board, Institute on War and Peace Reporting

Youth Journalist

Special Guest: Diane Foley, Founder, President, James W. Foley Legacy Foundation

Film Clip: HBO documentary, “Jim: The James Foley Story”