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9 June 2015

REGIONAL CONFERENCE ON AWARENESS RAISING ABOUT THE SAFETY OF JOURNALISTS

hosted by the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine

and

organised by

the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe

Kyiv, 12 June 2015

DRAFT PROGRAMME

Programmatic Cooperation Framework for
Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Republic of Moldova, Ukraine and Belarus

Funded
by the European Union
and the Council of Europe



EUROPEAN UNION

COUNCIL OF EUROPE



CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

Implemented
by the Council of Europe

Background and rationale

This conference is part of the Council of Europe's action on safety of journalists as approved in the framework of the Eastern Partnership (EaP). Closely linked to recently adopted Assembly Resolutions, it shall evaluate strategies for ensuring the safety of journalists and, in particular, avoiding de facto impunity.

The conference aims to raise awareness of CoE standards, in particular Articles 2 and 10 ECHR. MPs will be informed of the scope of awareness-raising materials on the protection of journalists and on the means to combat impunity in accordance with the CoE standards and good practices. Parliamentary initiatives for the safety of journalists will be discussed and co-operation between media freedom NGOs and parliaments/governments will be facilitated.

1. Participants

National parliamentary delegations from Eastern Partnership member states of the Council of Europe (Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Republic of Moldova, Ukraine), members of the Parliamentary Assembly, in particular of the Sub-Committee on Media and Information Society of the Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media.

Representatives of media outlets and media freedom NGOs

Representatives of Council of Europe member states and international organisations

2. Languages

Working languages will be English, Russian and Ukrainian with simultaneous interpretation provided.

3. Background documents

[Resolution 2035 \(2015\)](#) on protection of the safety of journalists and of media freedom in Europe

[Recommendation 1706 \(2005\)](#) on media and terrorism

[Resolution 1438 \(2005\)](#) on freedom of the press and the working conditions of journalists in conflict zones

4. Date and Venue

The Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine will welcome all participants with a cultural programme and dinner on 11 June 2015 starting from 16h00 (see details below).

The conference will be held in the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine in Kyiv on 12 June 2015.

Practical details will be announced to participants in due course.

Thursday, 11 June 2015, 16h00

- 16h00 Departure from Natsionalny Hotel
- 16h20 St. Sophia's Cathedral tour (English)
<http://sophia.sophiakievaska.org/>
- 17h20 Departure from the Cathedral
- 17h40 Kyiv-Pechersk Lavra tour (English)
<http://www.lavra.ua>
- 18h40 Departure from the Lavra
- 19h00 Boat trip of the Dnipro river (buffet will be provided)

At the end of the Trip - departure to Natsionalny Hotel

Friday, 12 June 2015, 09h00 - 17h30

8h30 - 9h00 Registration of participants

Opening session (9h00 - 9h30)

Welcome by Ms Iryna Gerashchenko, Chairperson of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine Committee for European Integration

Session 1: Reports on current situations in EaP member states (9h30 – 10h45)

Chairperson: Sir Roger Gale, Chairperson of the PACE Sub-Committee on Media and Information Society

Statements by Chairpersons or representatives of the national parliamentary committees dealing with media issues from Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Republic of Moldova and Ukraine

Discussion

10h45 – 11h00 Coffee break

Session 2: The safety of journalists – the role of national parliaments (11h00 - 12h30)

Chairperson: Mr Volodymyr Ariev, PACE Rapporteur on media ethics and Member of the Verkhovna Rada

Speaker: Mr Oliver Money-Kyrle, Assistant General Secretary of the International Federation of Journalists

Discussion

12h30 - 14h30 Lunch

**Session 3: The role of law enforcement authorities
(14h30 - 16h00)**

Chairperson: Ms Adele Gambaro, Chairperson of the PACE Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media

Speakers: Ms Natalya Sevostyanova, First Deputy Minister of Justice of Ukraine
Mr Ihor Shashkin, Deputy Head of the Division, Department of Public Security,
Ministry of Internal Affairs of Ukraine

Discussion

16h00 – 16h15 Coffee break

**Session 4: Discussions with editorial staff of TV stations
(16h15 - 17h30)**

Chairperson: Ms Gudrun Gutt, Vice-President, News Group, European Broadcasting Union

Speaker: Ms Sara Halfpenny, BBC Bureau Chief in Moscow

Discussion

Conclusions