

Invitation to a Virtual Talk

No lockdown for press freedom: Misuse of Corona crisis to silence journalism in Europe

The Covid-19 pandemic has brought the world to a lockdown and revealed just how important independent media and the free flow of information are at times like this. The crisis has unveiled the many factors that can converge to repress media freedom. A freedom that is already under fire from different directions, private and public alike.

On the occasion of **2020 World Press Freedom Day**, the partners of the **Media Freedom Rapid Response (MFRR)** invite you to a [virtual discussion](#) on how to counter the abusive strategies used by governments to limit press freedom in the current Coronavirus pandemic.

When: Monday 4 May at 18:30-20:00 CEST

Language: English

Register and join via [GoToWebinar](#)

Hashtags: #WPF2020 #MediaFreedomRR

About the talk

We present case studies of European countries where governments have taken emergency measures or issued decrees that misuse disinformation laws, limit access to information, allow or increase surveillance, and that lead to direct or indirect censorship.

This discussion has been informed by reports, observations and data collected from around Europe, on both the negative and positive responses that have been used to limit or allow media to continue their work at a difficult time of crisis. Besides worst and best practises, the EU's responsibility to respond will also be addressed.

Our speakers include press and media freedom experts, policy makers and journalists: **Meera Selva**, Oxford's Reuters Institute for the Study of Journalism; **Ramona Strugariu**, MEP Renew Europe; **Márton Gergely**, HVG Hungary; **Virginia Pérez Alonso**, PDLI Spain. Interventions: **Attila Biró**, RISE Romania; **Branko Čečen**, Serbian Investigative Center (CINS).

Nora Wehofsits (ECPMF) and **Scott Griffen** (IPI) will co-host the event.

We look forward to meeting you all online. **How?** Register [here](#) for FREE in advance to join the talk.