Save the Date

People's Tribunal on the Murder of Journalists

Syria Case Hearing on the Murder of Journalist Nabil Al-Sharbaji

May $16^{th}\,and\,17^{th},\,2022$

9:00 - 16:30 CET

The Hague Hearing Centre, the Hague - The Netherlands

A Safer World For The Truth

Since the turn of the century, more than 1000 journalists have lost their lives for uncovering the truth while the killers continue to escape justice In more than eight out of ten of these cases

In a major push towards justice, Free Press Unlimited, the <u>Committee to Protect Journalists</u> and <u>Reporters Sans Frontières</u> have established a <u>People's Tribunal on the Murder of Journalists</u> to indict states that fail their obligation to guarantee the safety of journalists. After <u>the opening hearing</u> on 2 November 2021, three case hearings and a close hearing are organized between April and June 2022. The Syria hearing is organized in collaboration with the <u>Syrian Center for Media and Freedom</u> of Expression.

People's Tribunals are organized by civil society to hold states accountable for systemic and severe violations of international law and peoples' rights. They are not formal courts and do not issue binding judgements, but foster accountability by activating public awareness and building legitimate evidence records.

For the <u>Syria case hearing</u>, the Tribunal's Lead Prosecutor, Almudena Bernabeu has investigated the conduct of the Syrian government in the case of the murder of journalist Nabil Al-Sharbaji. The <u>indictment</u> alleges the government's responsibility for violations of Nabil's right to freedom from torture, right to life and right to freedom of expression. The independent Permanent People's Tribunal has notified the Syrian Arab Republic of the Prosecution's indictment. The government may exercise its right of defense during the hearing.

You are cordially invited to attend the Syria case hearing of the People's Tribunal on the Murder of Journalists on 16 and 17 May in The Hague, the Netherlands.

During the first day, the Prosecutor will hear witnesses on the context of impunity for crimes against journalists in Syria since 2011. Witnesses will, among others, testify about their experiences with attacks on journalists and the role of the State and other actors in the perpetration, prevention and investigation of these crimes.

The second day is dedicated to the murder of Nabil Al-Sharbaji. The Prosecutor presents the evidence collected and hears witnesses, who will speak about Nabil Al-Sharbaji's life and work, the circumstances of his death and the investigation of the murder.

To secure a seat at the case hearing in The Hague, please RSVP via <u>this link</u>. Please note you are also welcome if you are only able to attend one of the two hearing days. If you have any questions about the Tribunal, please send an email to jdezeeuw@freepressunlimited.org.

