Committee: United Nations General Assembly (GA)
Topic B: Measures to ensure the protection of Journalism in Conflict countries

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Introduction

The United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) was established in 1945 by the Charter of the United Nations. It is the main policy organ in the organization. The committee counts with a multilateral discussion forum to cover the entire spectrum of international issues where the 193 member States of the United Nations have equal votes. The General Assembly meets annually at the United Nations Headquarters in New York. The UNGA is also part of critical decision-making, such as approving the UN budget, electing non-permanent members of the Security Council, and designating the Secretary-General based on the recommendation of the Security Council. Its primary purpose is to make coherent suggestions and recommendations to States regarding international matters. (United Nations, 2024, par. 1)

Journalism involves investigating, gathering, and presenting information to the public; however, it must be based on strict responsibilities and obligations. A journalist's priority should be veracity; before information is released, it should be tested to prove its integrity. Neutrality is also essential to let the reader develop independence to analyze

and create their own beliefs. Without these core values, journalism is at risk of corruption, which can lead to the broadcasting of false information. (Rosenstiel, 2024)

Journalism is crucial in hostile situations to change public perception and knowledge. Michelle Betz (2018) states that the media can significantly impact peace efforts by allowing two parties to communicate transparently without violence. Despite this, the lives of journalists are in extreme danger in conflict countries due to the influence information can have over people. "They are hostile environments for journalists who are faced with risks and dangers including death, injury, harassment, and imprisonment." (Şahin, 2022).

A journalist is best defined as "all news-media personnel who have editorial responsibility for the preparation or transmission of news stories or other basic information units." (Thomas Hanitzsch & Abit Hoxha, 2016). On the other hand, a reporter is defined as "a person whose job is to discover information about news events and describe them for a newspaper or magazine or for radio or television." (Cambridge Dictionary, 2024). Due to the risks and attacks these groups have suffered, the UN has a Plan of Action for the Safety of Journalists, which was started in 2010 by UNESCO's Council of the International Programme for the Development of Communication.

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Aggression against journalists has increased rapidly. The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization's (UNESCO) Observatory of Killed Journalists (2024) has said that there have been more than 1600 murdered journalists since 1993. According to UNESCO's investigation, in 2023, more than 50% of the journalist casualties happened in conflict zones, a statistic that raises significant concerns. In these places, journalists can suffer both physical and psychological damage, such as assaults, kidnapping, apprehension, threats, and intimidation, which could lead to severe physical injuries or even post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD). PTSD is a psychiatric disorder that affects people who have witnessed a set of violent circumstances or have experienced a traumatic event. Some symptoms may be involuntary thoughts, avoiding places or people that might trigger distressing memories, distorted mood, amnesia of the traumatic event, and alterations in reactivity. This disorder can be treated by therapy or antidepressant medication. (American Psychiatric Association, 2024)

Censorship is the suppression of ideas, words, or images to manipulate public opinion, limit expression, and control information. This practice directly impacts the ethics of journalism. Although censorship is considered immoral and, in some countries, unconstitutional, governments can use it by creating propaganda, regulating media, or

influencing the dissemination of information to withhold data from the public or create biases on specific topics (ACLU, 2006).
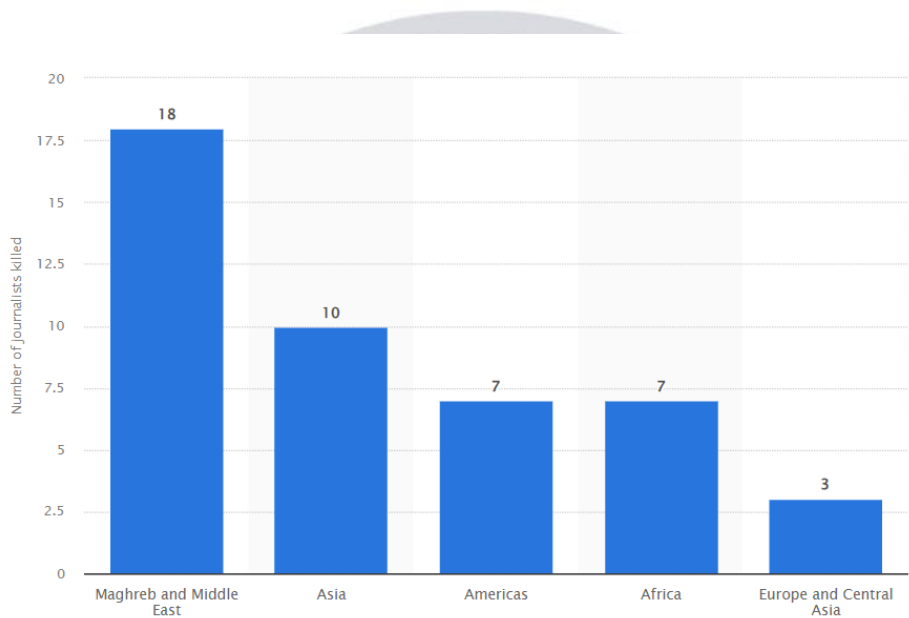
The Committee to Protect Journalists (2023) participated in an investigation to find which countries have the highest rates of unpunished journalist murders. They made a list called "By the numbers: CPJ's global impunity index." Syria stands in the first position with 14 unsolved murders in 2023, followed by Somalia with 11 murders, Haiti with 6, South Sudan with 5, and Afghanistan with 18, all of them in the top 5. Other countries like Iraq, Mexico, the Philippines, Myanmar, Brazil, Pakistan, and India also count with concerning numbers. It is crucial to note that in 2022, more than 100 journalists were victims of murder while covering the military conflict in Ukraine, meaning that the number of unpunished journalist casualties is increasing in conflict countries such as Russia and Ukraine (Reporters without Borders, n.d).

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Figure 1. World regions with the highest number of journalists murdered worldwide in 2023

(Statista, 2024).

As a consequence, countries with a high number of unpunished journalist murders have an increase of corruption and censorship as well as a lack of law reinforcement and political interest; this could also affect the international community by creating impunity (Committee to Protect Journalists, 2023). According to the Cambridge Dictionary (2024), impunity is the freedom from punishment or the unpleasant consequences of actions.
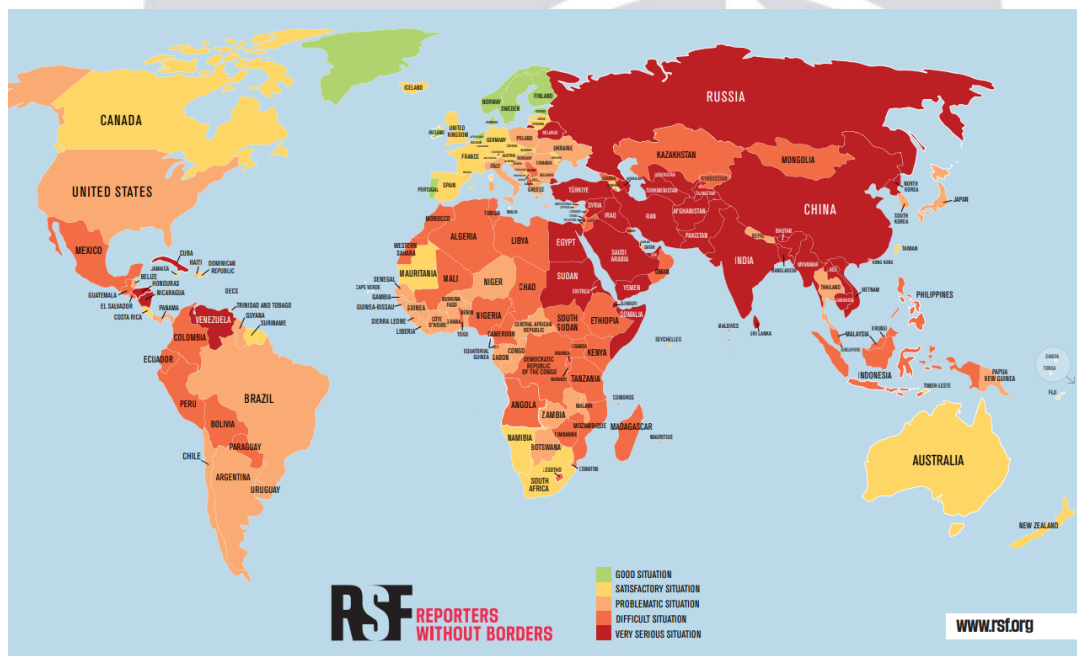
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"The widespread feeling of impunity fosters distrust in the ability of civilian authorities to guarantee public security and access to justice, leading to punitive and militaristic perspectives on justice" (Lopez, 2023). Impunity causes the rise of crimes against journalists, leading to self-censorship and fear (Şahin, 2022).

The media has a crucial role in democracy, creating a free area of expression and participation. However, threats can undermine these democratic principles (The Constitution Unit, 2024).

Figure 2. Freedom of the Press Worldwide 2024

(Reporters Without Borders, 2024)

Historical Background

By the beginning of World War I, technology such as TV, computers, and radio did not exist; the most common way to spread the news about the conflict was by letters, stories from other people, and mainly newspapers. According to the National Museum of the Marine Corps, Americans considered newspapers the most reliable way of information because using a word-of-mouth method was sometimes wildly exaggerated and mainly consisted of fake information. Newspapers also served as a way of threatening because they were often used to warn other countries about possible attacks. (National Museum of the Marine Corps, n.d.)

Communication was affected in all of Europe as Great Britain destroyed the telegraph communication lines that belonged to the Germans; those lines were functional to allow Germany to communicate with the United States, which ended up with the British telegraph line being the only one left. For the information to be transmitted to the United States, it had to go through Britain first, which only caused the British to modify the information and create a negative perception of the Germans. Because of this incident, the American citizens started to call Germany the nickname of "bully of Europe" because of its invasions in Belgium. (USMC Museum, n.d.)

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When the conflict began, journalists were prohibited from being side by side with the troops on the front lines; it was not until 1917 that 80 American journalists were allowed to join the first line to publish information focusing on military censors. The information journalists published had to be carefully picked as they could not publish any harmful pictures that could damage the reputation of the military forces, causing people not to want to join the army; another restriction was the strict rule of not publishing the location of where each unit was at, this rule to keep military information private. (USMC Museum, n.d.)

By the year 1939, when World War II was beginning, one of the most widely utilized methods of information, unlike World War I, was the radio, which facilitated the flow of information and made the news transmitted very reliable because they were recordings of actual speeches that were given. When the conflict started, the low prices of radio equipment led to the recruitment of people into the armed forces. Television has also become popular as it can be seen and heard from home. However, the service was shut down on September 1st, 1939, and did not come back until June 7th, 1946; this shutdown caused people to rely on the radio and other methods used in previous occasions, like newspapers. (Science and Media Museum, 2022). Journalist recordings are kept nowadays, like a 35mm sound-on-film camera belonging to Paul Wyand; this

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camera records a huge filming archive of the actual events being lived back then on the

front lines of the troops, showing the perspective of a journalist during WWII. (Science

and Media Museum, 2022)

Nevertheless, censorship was present so that the military and civilians would not

give away any information that could be used against their own will. Some services, such

as mail, were limited to civilians or the military. Countries implied strict censorship of

the letters traveling and marked each one to show that it had already been examined.

Propaganda played an important role; the media could influence other people, causing

the military conflict to take a particular course over time, either in their favor or against

other countries, creating a bad image of it. (Smithsonian National Postal Museum, n.d.)

In 1945, the United States aimed to prevent the newly established nation of

Vietnam from becoming communist. The conflict escalated or grew, spawning many

guerrillas between the south and the north of the country; this could only be translated

into a pile of reports and papers from reporters telling their versions of the story and each

side of the conflict. The reporters had plenty of access to the ground soldiers. Journalists

relied mainly on real testimonies during this time, doing interviews and reviewing each

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person's records, bringing to the news fresh and accurate information about the thoughts and feelings of the soldiers. (Journalism in Action, n.d.)

Many books were published during the time of the Vietnam conflict; among them stands out "The Best and the Brightest", written by David Halberstam, an American journalist well known for publishing books and reports during the time of the Vietnam military conflict, and published it in 1972, the book talks about how Kennedy's administration was responsible for the United States getting involved with Vietnam and creating a disaster; this caused Americans to feel morally wrong about the principles of armed conflicts and even opposed the issue with Vietnam. (Halberstam, 1972)

Journalists were taking a lot more action for civilization since it was a way to have a voice towards the great heads and leaders of the countries, "Journalism is what we need to make democracy work." (Cronkite, n.d.) Years later, digital advances were noticeable during the Bosnian conflict in 1992, and the way information traveled was faster and better.

However, this conflict was a challenge for all the journalists as it got risky to share the information, and being in the spotlight to report became dangerous like never before. During Bosnia's Conflict, there existed physical attacks directed at journalists, which

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soon turned into abductions and car-bombing incidents; a new press code was applied, in which 206 radio stations and 76 television stations were affected only in the Muslim-Croat Federation, and as in Republika Srpska 84 radio stations and 28 television stations were affected. (Cronkite, n.d.)

Current Relevance

Journalists began having issues at the end of the 19th century; international conflicts were also happening. The news was centered on territorial, historical, and religious rights over Jerusalem and the self-determination of Palestine. In 1947, the United Nations adopted Resolution 181, known as the Partition Plan, which divides the British Mandate of Palestine into Arab and Jewish states. In May 1948, Israel was created, but Israel considered that the Arab developed countries wanted to destroy the newly created state. In 1948, Israel won the first Arab-Israeli conflict. 750,000 Palestinians were displaced, and the territory was divided into three parts: the State of Israel, The West Bank, and the Gaza Strip. Years later, in 1967, after the Six-Day War, Israel occupied Gaza and the "West Bank" in their totality. This military conflict was the

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beginning of colonization through illegal settlements of the Palestinian territories that

lasted more than 50 years. (Council on Foreign Relations, 2024)

Figure 3. United Nations Partition Plan for Palestine

(United Nations, 1947)

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On October 7, 2023, Hamas, an armed group organization that controls Gaza, launched a deadly attack on Israel, pushing this country to employ aerial campaigns and ground operations. Almost two million people in Gaza have been displaced from their homes since this event. The Gazan Health Ministry (AJLabs, 2024) says there are an estimated 34,000 casualties, "though such numbers are challenging to verify due to limited international access to the strip" (Global Conflict Tracker, n. d.). Meanwhile, neither Hamas nor Israel have agreed with the terms laid out by the US president, Joe Biden. (Council on Foreign Relations, 2024)

Both Israel and Palestine face food insecurity issues, particularly in the Gaza Strip. Israel's restriction of humanitarian access into the Gaza Strip is impeding the delivery of food aid, which is worsening food insecurity; this puts them at a high risk of death from starvation and the rise in the number of children dying from malnutrition, hunger, dehydration and other related diseases.According to the Euro-Mediterranean Human Rights Monitor by April of 2024, 28 children have died from hunger and malnutrition as a direct consequence of the conflict. (UNFPA, 2024)

Journalists are in no better situation; according to the Committee to Protect Journalists, "108 journalists and media workers were confirmed murdered: 103

Palestinian, two Israeli, and three Lebanese. Thirty-two journalists were reported injured, two journalists were reported missing, and 51 journalists were reported. (Committee to Protect Journalists, 2024)

Journalism that speaks about armed conflicts aims to raise the voice of the people suffering in the zones in which the armed conflicts are taking place, especially the civilian population and participants in the conflict. When the information spreads around the world, there are more state actors and non-state actors that can contribute to help with humanitarian aid to the conflict zones; besides, many crimes of conflicts, like the abuse of power and human rights abuses, can be exposed and condemned. (University Of Navarra, n.d.).

Some ethical values that need to be considered for journalism in conflict situations for journalists are accuracy, balance, protection of sources, security, safety, and transparency. Other important values for this topic are minimizing harm, ensuring freedom of movement, and allowing journalists access to information and the media; member states should also guarantee freedom of expression, and accreditation to journalists should be considered. (Relevant Council of Europe and other international standards, 2022).

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As it is known, the people who have the responsibility of obtaining the information and publishing it, such as carrying some severe consequences for speaking about volatile topics, are reporters, who seem to put themselves at high risk when they are in conflict zones, some of this risks include threatening their lives and their families, confronting specialized weapons, damaged infrastructure, and decease as well. (Committee to Protect Journalists, 2023).

Journalists, especially in conflict zones, expose human rights violations and mainly conflict crimes, bringing essential information to the public; this is critical for a functioning democracy and ensuring that people in capacity are held accountable to the citizens. Besides, journalists establish transparency by reporting human rights abuses, which pressures authorities to uphold humanitarian laws, and governments and organizations will be informed about affected populations so that the humanitarian aid they need can be provided. Journalists' information about the situation on the ground ensures the security that the public has access to truthfully documented events. Finally, the protection of journalists not only helps to avoid fake propaganda, censorship of information, and misinformation, but the protection of journalism around the world also can promote a free press that can use democracy over corruption to increase the safety and well-being of journalists. (Committee to Protect Journalists, 2024)

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The military conflict in Iraq arose when a coalition force, primarily led by the United States, aimed to confront the regime of Saddam Hussein. This coalition comprised troops from several countries and was formed to address various concerns about the regime's actions and policies (National Archives, n.d.). Iraq's constitution explicitly guarantees the rights of freedom of expression, the press, and peaceful demonstrations. "Article 38 of the current Iraqi constitution guarantees 'freedom of expression' and 'freedom of press''(Al Tamimi & Co. 2020). However, the state regulates these freedoms in a way that does not violate morality, thereby outlining legal protections for journalists and citizens.

Additionally, there are existing laws to protect journalists' rights. Despite constitutional guarantees, Iraq faces significant challenges in applying these freedoms. According to self-censorship among journalists, laws governing media expression have had a concerning effect on free speech. Furthermore, various draft laws that have been reintroduced to the Iraqi Parliament pose threats to freedom of expression, leading to concerns about government repression (National Archives, n.d.).

The situation of freedom of expression in Iraq faces challenges. Reports indicate intimidation and violence against journalists; many journalists face threats of violence

and legal repercussions for their work, especially when they report on sensitive topics such as corruption. (Committee to Protect Journalists, 2024)

Afrah Shawqi is a 43-year-old Iraqi journalist known for her critical and polemical articles. Afrah was kidnapped from her home in Baghdad, the capital of Iraq, by armed people acting as members of security forces; this happened on Monday at approximately 10 pm. Authorities say the gunmen stole all mobile phones and even tied up her son. The prime minister, Haider Al-Abadi, although he is said to have made the command of the kidnap, ordered to do everything possible to find her. RSF pressured the government to find her and the responsible. Afrah was found and released; she is still living in Baghdad. (The Guardian, 2016)

Amira is an Israeli journalist and author recognized for reporting on the Occupied Territories; she is the only reporter who has spent time living and reporting from Gaza and the West Bank. Amira reporting sensitive topics placed her at high risk, particularly during severe rises of violence in her natal region. Amira Hass survived the attack on October 2023. She declares that Palestinians have warned Israel that oppression over them is only going to cause a harmful explosion and suffering that may not be tolerable. (*Hammerandhope.*, s. f.)

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Finally, Abdul Rahman was a Palestinian journalist, camera operator, and photographer of the "Hamas-affiliated Shehab News Agency." Abdul was shot and injured by an IDF agent while on duty covering the Masirah Al Awdah Kubro (The Great Return March) campaign on the eastern border of the Gaza Strip. The 23-year-old said: "I am shocked because from what I can see, it seems there was a competition between the soldiers to target me at the same time." (Asad, 2019)
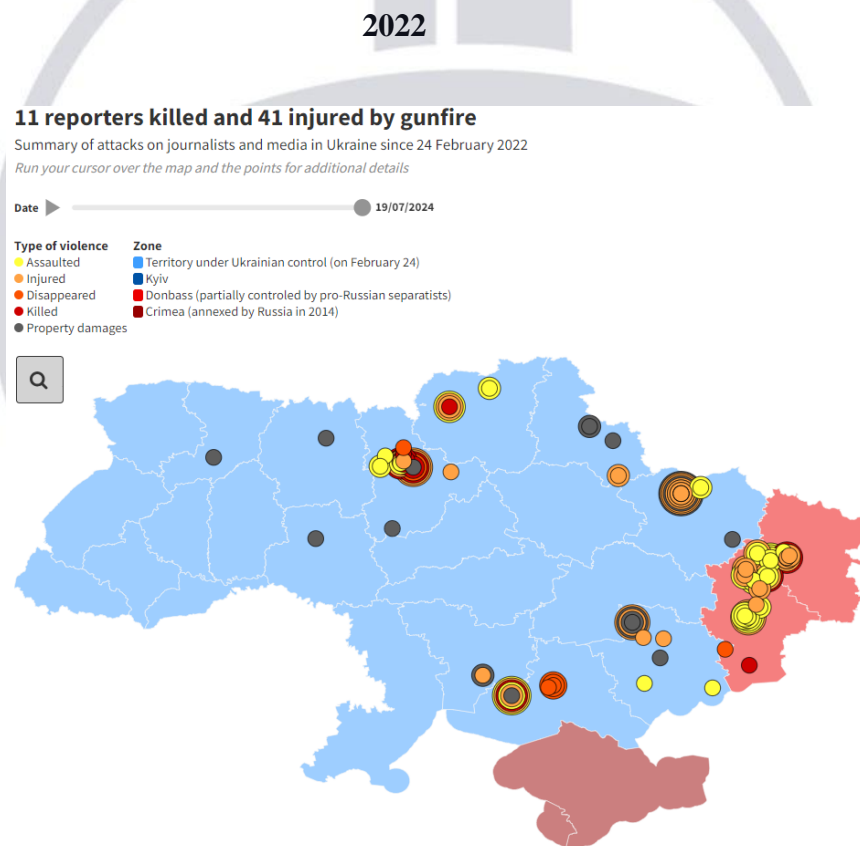
The aggression against journalists in other conflict countries, such as Ukraine and Russia, continues to escalate; since the beginning of the military conflict between these two countries, more than 100 media workers have experienced acts of violence against them, approximately 11 reporters have faced acts of violence while fulfilling their duties as journalists. As many journalists continue covering the Russian Federation's invasion of Ukraine, censorship has rapidly increased; during this conflict, 12 journalists have been detained for being uncooperative, and at least 233 media cases have been unfairly restrained. (RSF, 2024)

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Figure 4. Report of Attacks on journalists in Ukraine since the 24th of February

2022

(RSF, 2024)

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Countless reporters have faced severe consequences in Ukrainian territory. One such case is the one of Maksym Levin, a photojournalist for LB.ua, a Ukrainian digital newspaper, and various other publication sites. Levin went missing in March 2022, and later, his body was found in April 2022; after an investigation led by Reporters Without Borders, the information gathered showed that he had been tortured before his murder. Another similar story is the one of filmmaker Mantas Kvedaravicius, a Lithuanian who had been documenting Mariupol for several years, who was murdered while trying to leave the city in 2022 (NUJU, 2024).

In March 2022, a massive casualty incident occurred in Bucha, Ukraine (Murray, 2024). The role of journalism in this conflict was crucial, as reporters spread evidence of human rights violations. "The world cannot be tricked anymore" (Dale, 2022). As a result of the visibility journalists provided, the Bucha incident turned into a global focus, and international actions to resolve it were especially encouraged. The media's presence in conflict areas can be an important tool to raise awareness and reach peace accords, making journalism essential for problem-solving. (Mirovalev, 2022)

"The media have been the direct victims of the Russian invasion of Ukraine. In 2023, as in 2022, journalists have unfortunately

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paid with their lives for their reporting in the field," (Cavelier,

2023).

International regulations have been established in response to efforts to safeguard human well-being, including the risk of journalism, including the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR). The UDHR is a landmark document in the history of human rights, drafted by a group of ambassadors representing various legal systems and cultural perspectives from around the world. The United Nations General Assembly officially adopted it on December 10, 1948, in Paris. The document was designed to set universal standards for fundamental human rights, applicable to everyone regardless of nationality, background, or legal jurisdiction. The UDHR laid the foundation for modern human rights law and continues to serve as a guiding framework for global efforts to protect individual freedoms, including the rights to freedom of expression and press. (United Nations, 1948)

There are 30 articles, of which six are fundamental for promoting peace. Article 3 states, "Everyone has the right to life, liberty, and security." Article 5 also focuses on the security of the population, stating that "Nobody shall be tortured or to inhuman treatment or punishment." Article 9 stands up for the retention of people, and Article 11

states two things; the first says that "People charged with penal offenses have the right to be innocent until proven guilty in a public trial." and the second says that "Nobody shall be guilty of penal offense on account of any act that did not constitute a penal offense. Nor shall a heavier penalty be imposed than the one applicable when the offense was committed." Article 12 also stands out for the protection of being retained: "Nobody shall be subjected to arbitrary interference with their privacy, family, home, or correlation. Everyone has the right to protection against such attacks." Finally, Article 19 states that "People have the right to freedom of expression; this includes holding opinions and receiving and imparting information and ideas through any media." (United Nations, 1948)

Respect for the 19th article of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which states that "everyone has the right of freedom of expression and opinion" (Universal Declaration Of Human Rights At 70: 30 Articles On 30 Articles—Article 19, 2018), should also be considered.

The government has been involved in this problem to aim for a better condition. There are laws and legislations, such as the 1949 Geneva Conventions, the Additional Protocol I (1977), and the UN Security Council Resolution 1738. In 2006, there was also

a draft called the "Preliminary draft contribution for the 7th European Ministerial Conference on Mass Media Policy" (Council of Europe, 2003), although there is no final draft.

Impunity, which is the immunity from punishment for severe crimes, is crucial to eradicate. That is the exact reason why the International Criminal Court (ICC) helps to fight against it by ensuring that crimes that are really serious do not go unpunished and promoting respect for international law (United Nations, n.d.).

Promoting peace hinges on the respectful application of crucial articles during conflicts. To achieve this, it is vital to take proactive measures such as defusing tension, which can serve as the first step. Understanding the media environment is essential for effective action, including acknowledging reporters' challenges when covering the Israel-Gaza conflict. Embracing diverse opinions on sensitive subjects like this conflict will raise awareness and galvanize community support. Additionally, humanizing victims is imperative for fostering peace. Recognizing the humanity of journalists and understanding their emotions and experiences is essential for addressing issues related to violence and suffering. An organization that helps Journalists is the Committee to Protect Journalists (CPJ). Their mission is "To Protect Journalists, promote press freedom

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worldwide, and defend the right of journalists to report the news and world events safely and without fear of reprisal. CPJ is an independent organization that protects the free flow of news and commentary by taking action wherever journalists are under threat".(CPJ.2021). CPJ has offices In Mexico City, San Francisco, Bogota, Washington D.C, London, São Paulo, Brussels, Istanbul, Beirut, Nairobi, Bangkok, Abuja and New York City. (Committee to Protect Journalists, n.d.)

CPJ researches deeply all situations that occur before publishing anything. In their research documents, it is said that hundreds of attacks on the press are made known each year. They denounce these violations, meet with heads of state, make diplomatic efforts, and work with other organizations to ensure justice triumphs when journalists are attacked; this organization also supports journalists with rapid assistance and support for their security. (Committee to Protect Journalists, n.d.)

Another important organization is Reporters Without Borders (RSF). Their mission is to "act for the freedom, pluralism, and independence of journalism and defend those who embody these ideals." Their annual World Press Freedom Index includes 180 countries (RSF, n.d.).

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One of the main projects RSF has made is the Creation of the Commission on Information and Democracy in 2018; this Commission is a partnership with 43 countries. Operation Collateral Freedom in 2015 is one of the most extensive censorship avoidance operations; it currently provides access to more than 100 censored media outlets worldwide. The International Press Institute (IPI) aims to defend media freedom and the free flow of news threatened worldwide. Their primary actions are conducting advocacy with governments, raising awareness, leading campaigns, cooperating, networking, exchanging skills through platforms, developing best practices for independent journalism, and providing opportunities for dialogue with journalism communities. (RSF, n.d.)

International Actions

Many international organizations, including governmental and intergovernmental institutions not directly associated with the United Nations, have been involved in addressing this issue. These organizations have implemented multiple projects and protocols to provide security for journalism in conflict countries. For example, The United Kingdom National Plan for the Safety of Journalists aims at "ensuring justice for

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journalists subjected to criminal offenses in carrying out their role." (National Action Plan for the Safety of Journalists, 2023)

Their steps to follow are:

Increasing the understanding of the issues journalism faces; intensifying the criminal justice system's response to eradicating crimes against journalists; supporting journalists and their employers to form the funds they need to protect individual safety; providing help to platforms online to eliminate abuse online; and finally, improving public recognition of the value journalists have.

The United States of America Shield law aims to " protect journalists against the compelled disclosure of confidential information." (The Editors of Encyclopaedia Britannica, 2014, p.1). however, despite the periodic attempts in Congress to pass, one has no corresponding federal statute; Shield laws exist in more than 30 States and the District of Columbia.

The European Union Media Freedom Act, however, has critical elements of main points, which are:

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"An independent public service media with a stable source of funding; transparency of media ownership; protection of editorial independence; safeguards to ensure media pluralism and prevent media concentration; the European board for media services, a new watchdog for media freedom"

(Media Freedom in EU, n.d.)

The European Union Media Freedom Act is the first legislation to protect media independence within the EU. Previously, the European Union did not have a legal framework or act on media freedom, despite other Member States addressing independence and pluralism for media. Until September 2022, the European Commission proposed "establishing a common act for media services in the internal market." The Global Forum for Media Development provided a joint statement with journalists, media freedom, and organizations for welcoming the European Media Freedom Act. This Act has identified the main issues where the EU must urgently protect media freedoms. In 2023, the EU opened the feedback period, and in March 2024, the European Parliament adopted the EMFA, receiving 464 votes in favor, 92 against, and 65 abstentions. (Global Forum for Media Development, 2024)

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UN Actions

The United Nations has made multiple efforts to confront the increase of journalism insecurity in conflict areas. In 1993, UNESCO established the "Observatory of Killed Journalists" to provide public data on the murder of journalists and monitor the safety of journalists worldwide (UNESCO, n.d). On April 25, 2023, the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) held a seminar discussing the legal and economic threats to journalists' safety and exploring tangible actions to create a safer environment for journalism (United Nations, 2023).

Similarly, the United Nations General Assembly has sought multiple resolutions to address the issue. On August 16, 2019, resolution A/74/314 was submitted, providing a detailed overview of the current situation regarding the safety of journalists. The report outlined international, regional, and national actions to be taken and offered recommendations for Member States and other organizations (United Nations, 2019).

The General Assembly also proclaimed November 2nd the "International Day to end Impunity for Crimes against Journalists." This date was chosen to commemorate the

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assassination of two French reporters in Mali in 2013. The purpose of this day is to condemn acts of violence against media workers, encourage Member States to implement measures to ensure journalists' safety, and prosecute the crimes against journalism to bring justice (United Nations, n.d.).

The United Nations Plan for Action on the Safety of Journalists, initiated in 2010 and launched in 2012, aims to create a risk-free environment for journalists. This plan marks the UN's first global strategy, focusing on prevention, protection, and prosecution. "Thousands of activities at the global and country level have taken place to implement this Plan, as reflected in the dedicated newsletters" (United Nations, n.d.).

Points to Discuss

1. **Context**

   a. Journalism

      i. What is the purpose of journalism of armed conflicts?

      ii. What are the ethical values that need to be considered?

      iii. What risks do reporters in conflict zones have to face?

   b. Government involvement

      i. Laws and legislations

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ii.   Reduction of impunity

iii.   Respect the article 19 of the Universal Declaration of

Human Rights

2. Development

a. Measures to ensure the protection of journalists

i.   Clear definition of reporters and journalist

ii.   Specific legislation on attacks on this group

iii.   International and National programs to ensure justice in

cases of attacks or threats

b. Preventive measures

i.   Offering national and international protection to journalists

in case of threats

ii.   Awareness of the importance of journalism and media

freedom

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