

Trends in Media Freedom:

A stronger right to seek and receive information, but more restrictions on the right to impart.

Continued legal restrictions including criminal laws against defamation, insult, blasphemy and lèse-majesté.

Increased blocking and filtering of online content, with a rise in large-scale shutdowns of social media websites, mobile networks and internet access.

National security concerns, states of emergency and anti-terrorism laws have suspended or curtailed freedom of expression.

Digital media have raised new challenges to the right to privacy and journalistic sources.

Support for shared principles of internet governance around 'internet universality' and an internet that is Rights-based, Open, Accessible and Multi-stakeholder).

Increased recognition of the public's right to access information, with strong growth in freedom of information laws, especially in Africa and Asia-Pacific.



Visit:
en.unesco.org/world-media-trends-2017

Trends in Media Pluralism:

More plurality of information, but no change in gender inequality in and through the media.

Nearly half the world's population now has access to the internet.

The availability of media content has dramatically increased, largely through user-generated content on social media.

The practice of 'zero-rating' has increased pluralism in terms of access, but it has raised concerns about limiting net neutrality.

Newspaper circulation has fallen globally.

Women remain underrepresented in the media workforce, decision-making roles and in media content and sources.

Algorithm-ranked search results and social media news feeds have been seen to contribute to the creation of 'echo chambers' and 'filter bubbles' where people reinforce their beliefs rather than dialogue across differences.



Visit:
en.unesco.org/world-media-trends-2017

Trends in Media Independence:

Strains on business models mean more dependence on outside influence, although media institutions – as well as Internet companies – are giving greater attention to self-regulatory standards.

Rise in rhetoric against the media by political figures is encouraging self-censorship and undermining media's credibility.

increased dependence on government and corporate subsidies is linked to disruptions in business models.

Trust in news media is seen to have declined in some regions.

Broadcast licensing continues to be driven by political and commercial interests.

Self-regulatory bodies, which can support the exercise of professional standards while maintain editorial independence, have grown in post-conflict and developing countries.

Increased self-regulatory efforts by internet intermediaries are promoting media and information literacy, counteracting 'fake news' and tackling online abuse.



Visit:

en.unesco.org/world-media-trends-2017

Trends in the Safety of Journalists:

Growing attacks on journalists – A trend that may have been even worse if it were not for the UN Plan of Action on the Safety of Journalists and the Issue of Impunity.

Between 2012 and 2016, 530 journalists were killed, an average of two deaths per week.

Killings of women journalists doubled during the period, from five women journalists in 2012 to 10 journalists in 2016.

92% of journalists killed are local, 8% foreign.

Impunity for crimes against journalists has remained the norm, with justice in fewer than one in 10 cases.

Growing threats to digital safety include cyber-attacks, surveillance, hacking, intimidation and harassment, especially of women journalists.

Member States have become more responsive to the Director-General's request for information on the status of judicial inquiries into killings of journalists



Visit:

en.unesco.org/world-media-trends-2017