

PANELISTS



Magda Abu-Fadil is the director of Media Unlimited in Lebanon. She has founded and headed the Journalism Training Program at the American University of Beirut, and worked as a foreign correspondent and editor for international news organizations. She is also conducting seminars and workshops across the Arab world and writes about issues relating media and journalism education.



Nouri Lajmi is the president of HAICA (Independent High Authority for Audiovisual Communication) created in Tunisia in May 2013. He has conducted extensive research in the field of journalism, ethics and communication technology. He obtained his PhD in information sciences and was a professor in journalism for more than 20 years at the University of Manouba in Tunisia.



Iyad Kallas is a Syrian humanitarian and sociopolitical activist and peace-advocating citizen-journalist. He co-founded the community development NGO Vision and the independent grassroots radio Souriali. Currently, he coordinates activities with colleagues in Syria and in exile, fostering international awareness of the regional and geopolitical issues through media, public events, art and culture.



Michael Croft is the former UNESCO Representative and Head of Office in Libya, where he oversaw the reprogramming of the Organization's activities following the outbreak of conflict in mid-2014. He has worked extensively in the Middle East and Eastern African regions as well as at UNESCO Headquarters. Currently he is supporting the elaboration of new programming based on emerging priorities in the MENA region.



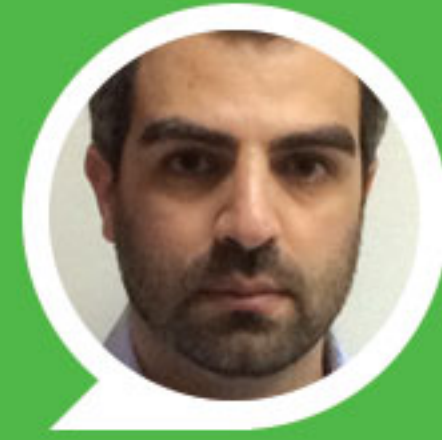
Mohamed Adel Ahmed Mohamed is a photojournalist in Egypt's capital city Cairo. He works for the Egyptian newspaper Al-Ahram, for which he covers the daily news concerning his country. Besides, he has been focusing on photographing and documenting the progress of the Revolution in Egypt from the very beginning.



Lina Chawaf is establishing the Association Radio Rozana, based in Paris. She has been working as a journalist for television, radio and print since 1992, and established two radio stations in Syria. She has also worked as media consulted for International Media Support and is giving trainings to journalists. Currently, she is working from Paris, GaziAntept and Syria.



Armand Hurault is the Executive Director of the Organization for the Support of Free Media in Syria (ASML). He has been working on issues in Syria and on the development of alternative Syrian media and civil society, supporting the development of 14 magazines and 4 radio stations. ASML has also set up the widest print and distribution network and (non-governmental) FM-broadcasting platform in Syria.



Bruno Atieh is the Director of Caritas Migrant Center, a center in Lebanon promoting and protecting the rights of migrants, refugees and asylum-seekers. Previously, he worked on several multi-country level initiatives in the Middle East, building civic engagement initiatives and platforms for human rights youth defenders.



Yahya Fares is Manager at the Mawared Center, which focuses on strengthening the ties between individuals and organizations in the Syrian media sphere, in order to work in synergy and to create, enhance and use the public space around them. The Mawared Center aims to contribute to the efficiency of a Syrian media sector that will benefit the good of all.



Mohammad Ali Massad is presenter of the show Sa'aa Suriya (the Syrian Hour) on Farah al Nas, a radio programme that serves as a bridge between refugees, the community and local organizations. As a media specialist, he is also a teacher and trainer in producing radio and other media, and he has written and directed several films, mainly in Jordan.



Norbert Oduor Otieno is the director of Good News Radio, in Rumbek in South Sudan. He has spearheaded the Youth and Women Radio Listener clubs. Recently, he has been elected as Chairman of the newly launched Community Media Network for South Sudan (COMNETSS) and the Radio for Peace Network (RaPNET), and is in charge of twenty radio stations across South Sudan.



Tarek Atia is CEO and founder of the Egypt Media Development Program (EMDP), and publisher of the Egyptian media brands Mantiqti (My Neighborhood) and Zahma Cairolive. As an experienced journalist, editor, and media development professional, he has designed and implemented many capacity building programmes, including extensive work with UNESCO on media self-regulation and codes of ethics within Egyptian media.



Rula Asad is Co-Founder of the Syrian Female Journalist Network (SFJN), based in the Netherlands, which is focusing on the integration of a gender justice approach in local Syrian media, empowering Syrian female media professionals, and training local citizen journalists. She started her career as a journalist in Syria, and later worked for Deutsche Welle and Radio Netherlands Worldwide.



Khadija Boujanoui is the Financial and Management Control Director at 2M TV, a national television channel in Morocco, and is the President of the Committee Parité Parité for the same channel. As such, she has also created the website Expertes.ma, the first digital platform for Moroccan experts, focusing on journalists and media professionals. Her work is mainly focused on diversity and gender balance in media.



Regina Salanova is the Anna Lindh Foundation's communication manager. She develops communication and media actions across 42 countries of the Union for the Mediterranean (UfM), including the Foundation's flag-ship journalist award for reporting across cultures. In her previous career, she worked for the United Nations. She has also worked as a journalist in Europe and South America, including reporting work in Brussels with the European Union institutions.



Public Seminar on UNESCO's
Impact in the Arab Region

Promoting Freedom of Expression

- Promoting an enabling and safe environment for quality journalism in transitional and post-conflict contexts
- Fostering a sustainable future for Arab media: placing youth and gender in the spotlight

4 May 2016



#WPF2016



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization



World Press
Freedom Day

SEMINAR AGENDA

UNESCO is the UN specialized agency with a mandate to defend the universal right to freedom of expression, instructed by its Constitution to promote 'the free flow of ideas by word and image'. Following the 2011 uprisings in the Arab region, and with the support of the Governments of Finland and Sweden, UNESCO has supported the democratic transitions in the region through promoting freedom of expression, freedom of information, and independent and pluralistic media. The deterioration of the conflict and of the human emergency situation in the region in the recent years exacerbates the saliency of matters related to freedom of expression, access to information and safety of media professionals in the region. In line with its mandate, and as a response to emerging needs, UNESCO's actions in this regard have resulted in greater awareness of freedom of expression and the safety of journalists, enhanced understanding of internet freedom, increased media and information literacy, and strengthened capacities of media institutions and professionals, as well as women and youth.

This seminar will provide a platform for discussion on the importance of freedom of expression for sustainable development, democratic governance and intercultural dialogue, particularly in post-conflict environments. Through an interactive discussion between various stakeholders from the region, international development partners and donors, beneficiaries including media and local partners, and UNESCO representatives, the event will highlight the impact of UNESCO's projects funded by the Governments of Finland and Sweden with a focus on the Arab region. Members of the public will have the opportunity to learn more about the state of freedom of expression as well as engage with speakers and participate in debates on ongoing and emerging needs and priorities.



PUBLIC STREAMING AVAILABLE VIA UNESCO WEBSITE

WEDNESDAY, MAY 4 2016 | FINLANDIA HALL

14:30 - 14:45	Opening with a film showcasing the tangible impact of activities carried out by UNESCO in the Arab region on matters of Freedom of Expression and Safety of Journalists with funding provided by the Governments of Finland and Sweden.
14:45 - 15:00	<p>Opening remarks by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Guy Berger, Director, Division of Freedom of Expression and Media Development, Communication and Information Sector, UNESCO • Kari Alanko, Deputy Director General, Department for Africa and the Middle East, Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland • Marie Ottosson, Assistant Director General and Head of Department for International Organizations and Policy Support of the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA) • Masha Macrae, Senior Evaluation Expert - Particip GmBH, presents key findings of the external evaluation on the impact of the projects funded by Finland and Sweden <p>Moderator: Maaly Hazzaz</p>
15:00 - 17:00	Two panels will be organized on key matters of freedom of expression. The aim of these is to showcase work carried out by UNESCO and its partners in the Arab Region, mainly under projects funded by the Governments of Finland and the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency, and highlight the impact through first-hand accounts of beneficiaries in an interactive and participatory manner.

PANEL A

Promoting an enabling and safe environment for quality journalism in transitional and post-conflict contexts

VENUE:
Finlandia Hall
TIME:
15:00 - 16:00

FORMAT:
30 minutes of debate among panelists
30 minutes' question and answer session with the public

MODERATOR:
Ma'aly Hazzaz

PANELISTS:

- **Magda Abu-Fadil**, Director, Media Unlimited, Lebanon
- **Nouri Lajmi**, President of the Independent Broadcasting Company HAICA, Tunisia
- **Iyad Kallas**, Syrian humanitarian and sociopolitical activist, peace-advocating citizen-journalist
- **Michael Croft**, former UNESCO Representative and Head of Office, Libya
- **Mohamed Adel**, photojournalist, Egypt
- **Lina Chawaf**, Executive Director, Association Radio Rozana, Paris
- **Armand Hurault**, Executive Director, Organization for the Support of Free Media in Syria (ASML)

PANEL B

Fostering a sustainable future for Arab media: placing youth and gender in the spotlight

VENUE:
Finlandia Hall
TIME:
16:00 - 17:00

FORMAT:
30 minutes of debate among panelists
30 minutes' question and answer session with the public

MODERATOR:
Ma'aly Hazzaz

PANELISTS:

- **Bruno Atieh**, Director of Caritas Migrant Center, Lebanon
- **Yahya Fares**, MA International Relations, Mawared Center Manager
- **Mohammad Massad**, Presenter of Sa'a Suriya (the Syrian Hour) Radio Programme
- **Norbert Oduor Otieno**, Director of Good News Radio, in Rumbek, South Sudan
- **Tarek Atia**, CEO and Founder of the Egypt Media Development Program (EMDP), and Publisher of Mantiqti and Zahma Cairolive
- **Rula Asad**, Co-founder & Executive Director of the Syrian Female Journalist Network (SFJN)
- **Khadija Boujanoui**, Financial and Management Control Director and 2M TV, Morocco
- **Regina Salanova**, Communication Manager, Anna Lindh Foundation