

REGIONAL WEBINAR

# FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION, MEDIA AND LAW ENFORCEMENT IN LATIN AMERICA - PERSPECTIVES FOR A NEW RELATIONSHIP



14 DECEMBER 2021, VIA ZOOM

11:00 - 13:30 (MONTEVIDEO TIME)

SPANISH-ENGLISH INTERPRETATION

## OBJECTIVE:

This webinar will highlight the main challenges faced by security forces in Latin America in relation to the maintenance of public order and the defence of the fundamental rights to freedom of expression and access to information.

The objective of this debate is to uphold the right to freedom of expression and protection of journalists by fostering professional relations and creating a dialogue between police representatives and media professionals. The webinar will also share lessons learned on practices and policies that contribute to strengthening the role of law enforcement in upholding the right to freedom of expression and access to information, which will contribute to a greater respect for the rule of law.

The webinar will notably inform training institutes and networks for law enforcement agents on international and regional standards on freedom of expression and safety of journalists, as well as on good practices and other experiences around the world.

#### KEY QUESTIONS:

- What is the role of the police in protecting freedom of expression, access to information and the safety of journalists?
- What are the main challenges faced by police and law enforcement agents in Latin America in addressing violations of freedom of expression, especially during protests and electoral processes?
- What is the nature of the current relationship between the police and the media in Latin America?
- What are the existing mechanisms and protocols in investigations of threats, attacks and crimes against journalists?
- How can participants and stakeholders foster a better working relationship between the police and the media?
- What are some examples of good practices and procedures existing in other regions to establish more professional relations between law enforcement and the media?
- What are the experiences in strengthening the capacities of law enforcement agencies to establish better communication with journalists and ensure their safety?

#### PROGRAMME

<b>11:00 - 11:05</b>	<b>Opening remarks</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Rosa M. González</b>, Regional Adviser for Communication and Information for Latin America and the Caribbean, Regional Bureau for Science for Latin America and the Caribbean, <b>UNESCO</b> Montevideo</li> </ul>
<b>11:05 - 11:15</b>	<b>Introduction</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Mehdi Benchelah</b>, Senior Project Officer, Section for Freedom of Expression and Safety of Journalists, <b>UNESCO</b></li> </ul>
<b>11:15 -12:00</b>	<b>PANEL 1 - Law enforcement and journalism - Current challenges to preserving freedom of expression and the safety of journalists in Latin America</b>

	<p><u>Moderator:</u> <b>Amada Ponce</b>, Executive Director, C-Libre (Honduras), representing <b>Alianza Regional por la Libre Expresión e Información</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Dr. Eduardo Bertoni</b>, Representative of the Regional Office for South America at the Inter-American Institute of Human Rights (<b>IIDH</b>)</li> <li>• <b>Cristian Taboada</b>, Chief of the Security and Justice Section of the Department of Public Security (DSP) of the Organization of American States (<b>OAS</b>) - The Inter-American Network for Police Development and Professionalization (<b>REDPPOL</b>) of the Organization of American States</li> <li>• <b>Zuliana Lainez Otero</b>, President of the Federation of Journalists of Latin America and the Caribbean (<b>FEPALC</b>)</li> <li>• <b>Brigadier General Luis Ernesto García Hernández</b>, Head of the Planning Office of the <b>National Police of Colombia</b></li> <li>• <b>Oscar Javier Sosa Barrero</b>, Head of Strategic Communications Office, Executive Secretariat of the Americas Police Community (<b>AMERIPOL</b>)</li> </ul>
<b>12:00 - 12:15</b>	<b>Questions and debate</b>

<b>12:15 - 13:00</b>	<b>PANEL 2 - Perspectives for a new relationship between law enforcement and the media</b>
	<p><u>Moderator:</u> <b>Adriana León</b>, Head of the Press Freedom Area, Instituto Prensa y Sociedad (<b>IPYS</b>), Peru</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Martha C. Ramos Sosa</b>, Director General Editorial Organización Editorial Mexicana (<b>OEM</b>), Mexico</li> <li>• <b>João Mário Nunes de Goes</b>, Coordinator of the Press and Community Relations Office of the <b>Civil Police of Paraná (PCPR)</b>, Brazil</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Brigadier General Yackeline Navarro Ordoñez</b>, National Director of Schools (<b>DINAE</b>) of the National Police of Colombia and Executive Director of the Network of Police Educational Internalization (<b>RINEP</b>)</li> <li>• <b>Kriscia Rodriguez</b>, Communications and Protocol Coordinator at the International Law Enforcement Academy (<b>ILEA San Salvador</b>) - Ministry of Justice and Public Security of El Salvador</li> <li>• <b>André Leclerc</b>, Former Spokesperson and Media Relations Officer, <b>Montreal Police Service (SPVM)</b>, Canada</li> <li>• <b>Sarah Dean Kelly</b>, Communications Consultant and former Director of Communications, Government Communications Service, UK</li> </ul>
<b>13:00 - 13:15</b>	<b>Debate</b>
<b>13:15 - 13:25</b>	<b>Concluding remarks</b> <b>Ignacio Cano</b> , Professor of Research Methodology in the Department of Social Sciences at the <b>State University of Rio de Janeiro</b> , and Associate Expert <b>México Evalúa</b>
<b>13:25 - 13:30</b>	<b>Closing</b>

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