

Regional consultations on the freedom of expression and self-regulation on the internet

AGENDA

Kotor, Montenegro, 25 - 26 October 2013

DAY 1(24 October)

20:00	Evening gathering @ Restaurant Dojmi
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DAY2 (25 October)

9:15 – 9:45	Registration of participants
9:45 – 10:00	<p><u>Opening speeches:</u> Sanja Stanković, OSCE Mission to Serbia Vladan Joler, SHARE Foundation</p> <p>Moderator: Miroslav Janković, OSCE Mission to Serbia</p>
10:00 – 11:30	<p><u>Session I: Perspectives of online media ecosystem</u></p> <p>Keynote speaker: Lenart Kučič, Delo, Ljubljana Hana Marku, Kosovo 2.0, Pristina Aleksandar Trifunović, 6yka.com, Banjaluka</p> <p>Moderator: Mahir Šahinović, Center for Investigative Reporting, Sarajevo</p>
11:30 – 12:00	Coffee break
12:00 – 13:30	<p><u>Session II: Is there a freedom of speech with self-regulation?</u></p> <p>Keynote speaker: Joe McNamee, European Digital Rights, Brussels Miloš Stojković, Law office Živković&Samardžić, Belgrade Alban Zeneli, Kosovo Union of Journalists, Pristina</p> <p>Moderator: Petrit Saraćini, Macedonian Institute for Media, Skopje</p>
13:30 – 15:00	Lunch @ Restaurant Dojmi
15:00 – 17:00	Kotor's Stari grad walking tour
	<p><u>Session III: Cyber Power Struggle: State vs Private Actors vs Netizens</u></p> <p>Keynote speaker: Amy Brouillette, Center for Media and Communication</p>

19:00 – 20:30	<p>Studies, Central European University, Budapest Vesna Alaburić, lawyer, Zagreb Petrit Saracini, Macedonian Institute for Media, Skopje</p> <p>Moderator: Bojana Barlovac, Balkan Investigative Reporting Network, Belgrade</p>
21:00	Dinner Reception @ Restaurant Gallion

DAY 3 (26 October)

09:00 – 10:00	Morning coffee
10:00 – 11:30	<p><u>Session IV: Legitimate use of Anonymity</u></p> <p>Keynote speaker: Edin Omanović, Privacy International, London Nevena Ružić, the Office of the Commissioner for Information of Public Importance and Personal Data Protection Serbia, Belgrade Mahir Šahinović, Center for Investigative Reporting, Sarajevo</p> <p>Moderator: Marijana Bojanić, TV Vijesti, Podgorica</p>
12:00 – 13:00	<p><u>Wrap up session: Defining the conclusions</u></p> <p>Đorđe Krivokapić, SHARE Foundation</p>
13:15	Lunch @ Hotel Cattaro

Session I: Perspectives of Online Media Ecosystem

This session will be dedicated to a perspectives on new media ecosystem and the role of online media within it. Special attention should be paid to the changes in ecosystem imposed by Internet as a open and decentralized distribution channel of online media and positive examples/case studies to which we should take a look before shaping regulatory models for the future. Further discussion should cover definitions and categorizations of online media. Participants will also take a look at ways to include online media into the existing media landscape and at the issues relating to registration requirements. In addition, regulatory models and regimes applicable to online media will be considered.

Session II: Is there a freedom with self-regulation?

The focus of this session will be a discussion on ethical standards in the online environment and on concrete examples which will illustrate how self-regulation mechanisms could contribute to the protection of freedom of expression in the digital era. This session will also

examine current and future self-regulation approaches, such as Press Council in the online era, the role of internet intermediaries and internet users, online arbitration, Cyber Ombudsperson, etc. Special attention will be given to the “notice and takedown system” whose influence on the freedom of expression on the internet has been questioned by many relevant experts in this field, as well as to a newly proposed “notice-to-notice system”. A discussion on the possibility of drafting an online Code of Ethics will also take place as part of this session.

Session III: Cyber Power Struggle: State vs. Private Actors vs. Netizens

The internet, as an important tool for exercising the freedom of expression, must stay comprehensive and free. However, when it comes to the role of national governments in regulating the internet we are witnessing increasing efforts by states in the region to limit internet freedom through the adoption of varying legislation which is not directly related to the internet (i.e. copyright law). The starting point should be the notion that all human rights enjoyed offline must also be protected online, as stipulated in the UN Human Rights Council's Resolution on the promotion, protection and enjoyment of human rights on the internet. Where are the boundaries of state involvement in the regulation of the internet? What are the related trends in the region? What are the international standards in this area?

Session IV: Whistleblowing platforms and confidentiality of journalists' electronic communication - Legitimate use of Anonymity

This session will be dedicated to the online whistle-blowing platforms as well as to cases of jeopardizing confidentiality of whistle-blowers and journalists' sources of information through unlawful surveillance of their electronic communication. One of the issues that should be considered during the course of this session is the way(s) in which to use leaked data in journalism, as well as the ways to collect, analyse and disseminate it in order to protect the public interest. The discussion will also touch on the latest leaks published by WikiLeaks, detailing the presence of employees of companies which sell surveillance software in some of the states in the region, and the related circumstances. The participants should also touch upon the protection of whistle-blowers in an online environment.

Wrap-up session

As part of this concluding session, participants will attempt to come to an agreement on the text of the consultations' conclusions on the freedom of expression and self-regulation on the Internet in the region. They will be assisted by the moderator who will prepare the draft of the conclusions in advance. Draft conclusions will also consist of guidelines on the subsequent steps which need to be taken in order to prepare the final document. Participants will also be encouraged to bring forward proposals for follow up activities.