

Spotlight on Human Rights - April 2016

Committee to Protect Journalists (CPJ)

<https://www.cpj.org>



The Committee to Protect Journalists (CPJ) is recognized as a leader in the global press freedom movement. Started 35 years ago, it is renowned for high quality reporting and political independence. Its staff includes international correspondents based around the world and regional experts who report daily on press freedom violations.

CPJ maintains a running total of journalists killed, jailed and exiled simply for doing their jobs in all forms of print and electronic media. It advocates on their behalf with governments and private interests and offers direct financial aid and safety to journalists facing risks.

Each year CPJ honors both professionals and the growing movement of citizen journalists reporting on human rights abuses at its International Press Freedom Awards <https://vimeo.com/147490534>. In 2015 awards were given to citizen journalists Zone 9 Bloggers from Kenya and Raqqa is Being Slaughtered Silently, a group based in Syria.

CPJ also shines the light on situations where journalists and free speech face great danger such as Turkey, Egypt and Nigeria as well as maintaining a focus on challenges in the European Union, the United States and elsewhere.

Along with the United Nations, CPJ will celebrate World Press Freedom Day on May 3 <http://www.un.org/en/events/pressfreedomday/>. Those interested in CPJ's work can stay connected by subscribing to its various email lists <https://www.cpj.org/about/email-lists.php>.

From the website:

Critics Are Not Criminals

Campaign Against the Criminalization of Speech

Freedom of expression in all its forms and manifestations is a fundamental and inalienable right of all individuals.

Additionally, it is an indispensable requirement for the very existence of a **democratic society**.

INTER-AMERICAN COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS, PRINCIPLES OF FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION
