



Questionnaire for compiling the 2011-2012 Press Freedom Index

The period runs from 1 December 2010 to 30 November 2011

Give as many examples as possible. Answers must be limited to events that took place during this period.

VIOLENCE AND OTHER ABUSIVE TREATMENT OF JOURNALISTS

Kinds of violence and abusive treatment

*Answer **Yes** or **No** to questions 1 to 6. During this period, were there any cases of:*

1. Journalists being tortured or mistreated during detention? (yes/no)
2. Journalists being kidnapped or disappearing? (yes/no)
3. Journalists fleeing the country as a result of threats? (yes/no)
4. Journalists or media assistants (either local or foreign ones resident in the country) having to use bodyguards or take security measures (such as wearing bullet-proof vests, using armour-plated vehicles, changing their place of residence or modifying their habits)? *Do not include visiting foreign journalists.* (yes/no)
5. Journalists having to stop working because of political pressure or threats, or being unfairly dismissed? (yes/no)
6. Journalists being prevented from working because of their gender, origin, sexual orientation or religion, or similar reason? (yes/no)

(Answer questions 7 to 11 with a figure)

During this period, how many journalists, media assistants or press freedom activists:

7. Were killed in connection with their work?
8. Were briefly detained or taken into in police custody?
9. Were imprisoned without trial (or are still imprisoned without trial)?
10. Were given a prison sentence for a media offence and/or in connection with their work?
11. Were physically attacked or injured?

State responsibility in abuses against the media

(Answer Yes or No to questions 12 to 16)

12. Did the authorities place any journalists under surveillance (tap their phones, follow them and so on)? (yes/no)
13. Was there any serious difficulty in accessing state-held or official information (such as a refusal by officials to provide information, information being provided selectively, according to the media's editorial position, imposition of intermediaries or request for payment in return for the information)? (yes/no)
14. Were there restrictions on access to or coverage of any region or regions in the country (including an outright ban, strict government control or refusal to issue a visa)? (yes/no)
15. Were foreign journalists deported or prevented from entering the country? (yes/no)
16. Were there cases of violence against media personnel by:
 - state groups? yes/no

- non-state groups? yes/no
(Strike out what does not apply)

Specify the state or non-state groups involved. Put a cross beside any of the following categories that apply in your country:

<p><i>State groups:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - police auxiliaries - army - paramilitary groups - president's security service - other (identify) 	<p><i>Non-state groups:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - clandestine organizations - separatist groups - private militias - criminal organizations, drug cartels - other (identify)
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17. During this period, what percentage of cases of physical harassment and violence against journalists were by state agents? Give a rough estimate by putting a cross beside the statement that best matches the situation in your country:

There were no cases of physical harassment and violence against journalists by state agents.	
Up to 25% of the cases of physical harassment and violence against journalists were by state agents.	
Up to 50% of the cases of physical harassment and violence against journalists were by state agents.	
Up to 75% of the cases of physical harassment and violence against journalists were by state agents.	
All of the cases of physical harassment and violence against journalists were by state agents.	

THE STATE’S ROLE IN COMBATING IMPUNITY FOR THOSE RESPONSIBLE FOR VIOLENCE AND ABUSES

18. Did the authorities try to punish those responsible for murders of journalists? Put a cross beside the statement that best matches the situation in your country:

The authorities obstructed justice (by blocking an investigation, delaying a trial, or in some other way).	
The authorities did nothing to punish the perpetrators or their response was very unsatisfactory.	
The authorities tried to advance judicial proceedings in one or more cases involving journalists or news media.	
The efforts of the authorities to bring perpetrators to justice was generally satisfactory / or there were no murders of journalists to which the authorities had to respond.	

19. As regards cases of arrests, detention, imprisonment or physical attacks against journalists, did the authorities try to punish those responsible or to improve the relevant legislation and its implementation? Put a cross beside the statement that best matches the situation in your country:

The authorities blocked all efforts.	
The authorities did respond, but overall their response was unsatisfactory.	
The authorities made determined efforts to tackle these problems.	
The responses from the authorities to these problems were satisfactory / or there were no problems of this kind that needed to be addressed by the authorities.	

CENSORSHIP AND SELF-CENSORSHIP

20. Are all the media subjected to systematic censorship before publication? And if so, identify the government entity or level of government that exercises this prior censorship function:

21. How many media (reply with a figure)
- a. had at least one issue seized or confiscated?
 - b. were suspended in any way (such as having their signal disconnected or their premises shut down on the orders of the authorities)?
 - c. Had their equipment, material or premises ransacked or vandalized?

22. Do the media censor themselves? Put a cross beside the statement that best matches the situation in your country:

No self-censorship	
A bit of self-censorship that is limited to highly sensitive subjects	
Frequent self-censorship. Many journalists have learned which subjects should not be tackled because they would anger the authorities.	
Almost all of the media censor themselves for fear of reprisals.	

23. Do the media do regular investigative reporting on sensitive subjects (such as environmental degradation, human rights violations, corruption, political opposition and minorities)? (yes/no)

MEDIA OVERVIEW

*(Answer **Yes** or **No** to questions 24, 25, 26 and 28)*

24. Does the government control the state-owned media's editorial policies? (yes/no)
25. a) Are there privately-owned TV stations in your country? (yes/no)
b) If so, are they free to determine their own editorial policies? (yes/no)
26. a) Are there privately-owned radio stations in your country? (yes/no)
b) If so, are they free to determine their own editorial policies? (yes/no)
27. Give an estimate of the number of independent media operating in your country (not counting foreign media)
- 0
 - 0 to 5
 - 6 to 50
 - more than 50
28. Are there privately-owned printing and distribution companies? (yes/no)

MEDIA LEGISLATION

*(Answer **Yes** or **No** to the following questions)*

29. Is there a freedom of information law and, if so, does it seem to be effective, does it make it easier for journalists to gain access to information? (yes/no)
30. Are there legal provisions that provide the media with specific protection and do they effectively protect journalists and media against seizures, searches and interrogations? (yes/no)

JUDICIAL, BUSINESS AND ADMINISTRATIVE PRESSURE

(Answer *Yes* or *No* to questions 32 to 36 and 38)

During this period, was there or were there:

31. Opposition access to the state-owned media? Put a cross beside the statement that best matches the situation in your country:

Opposition parties had no access to the media.	
Opposition parties encountered frequent problems in their attempts to have access to the media.	
Opposition parties encountered occasional problems in having access to the media.	
Opposition parties had free and full access to the media.	

32. Repeated unjustified use of fines, summonses or legal action against journalists or media outlets? (yes/no)

33. Violations of the confidentiality of journalists' sources (by such means as complaints, investigation or identification of the source)? (yes/no)

34. A requirement to obtain a government licence in order to start up a newspaper or news websites? (yes/no)

35. A transparent and fair process for allocating broadcast frequencies? (yes/no)

36. Use of the withdrawal of advertising to pressure media (in which the government or state agencies stop buying advertising space or the authorities pressure private firms into doing this)? (yes/no)

37. Serious threats to media diversity, above all as a result of media ownership being concentrated in few hands? Which of the following statements applies best to your country? Put a cross beside the statement that best matches the situation in your country:

Media pluralism is not in danger.	
There are some threats or limitations to media pluralism.	
Media pluralism exists but is seriously threatened.	

Media ownership is concentrated in very few hands and there is no pluralism.	
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38. A government takeover of any privately-owned media during this period, either directly or through government-controlled firms? (yes/no)

INTERNET AND NEW MEDIA

39. How do you rate the government's political will to develop Internet access and the quality of Internet infrastructure? Put a cross beside the statement that best matches the situation in your country:

This will is non-existent.	
The authorities cannot envisage such a policy because of a clear lack of economic and technical resources.	
There is a general satisfactory Internet development policy.	
The authorities have pursued or are pursuing a sustained programme of Internet improvement.	

If the authorities have adopted measures to improve the Internet, specify what those measures are:

40. Have the authorities exercised direct or indirect control over Internet service providers or mobile phone operators with the aim of disconnecting the Internet or slowing it down? (yes/no)

During this period, were there:

41. Cases of access to websites being blocked by filtering or websites being closed down by the authorities? Rate the level of this censorship by putting a cross beside the statement that best matches the situation in your country:

No censorship	
Low-level censorship	
Widespread and oppressive censorship	
Total censorship	

42. Cases of cyber-dissidents, bloggers or netizens being detained for more than a day for expressing their views freely online or for disseminating information? How many cases? (Reply with a figure)
43. Cases of independent websites and or social networks being the target of cyber-attacks or counter-information campaigns? (yes/no)
44. Cases of the authorities conducting online surveillance or obtaining online personal data? (yes/no)

Are there any points not included in this questionnaire that might be relevant for assessing the media freedom situation in your country? Please mention them.

If there are questions that give rise to doubts on your part (about their applicability to your country or the accuracy of your answer), please list them and give the reason for your doubts (for example, lack of data, wording that seems ambiguous or wording that does not correspond to the situation in your country).