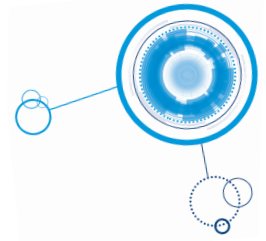


Historical Changes and **Political Transitions** **Media & Journalism** Key Actors



PALAU DE PEDRALBES - BARCELONA
17-18 September 2015

IEMed.
European Institute of the Mediterranean


مركز الجزيرة للدراسات
ALJAZEERA CENTRE FOR STUDIES

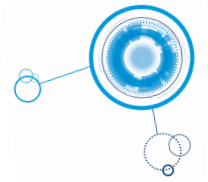
NEW NARRATIVES FOR NEW TIMES

Since the late 18th Century, the major changes experienced by humanity have had someone to witness and immediately report them through printed word. From the gazettes of the first “journalists” during the French Revolution we have evolved to the 21st Century “citizen journalists” of the Arab Spring, armed with a multimedia language of much greater impact.

The two events share a common denominator in all the major turning points of our recent history. The testimony of the media is endowed with an enormous capacity to spread the news in audiovisual and written form throughout a wide range of outlets within the reach of broad layers of the population. Media inform citizens about the events and their consequences but they do much more: at their best they offer elements to contribute to building a critical citizenship and act as a watcher of governments, authorities and the powerful; hence the so-called fourth power.

With the rapid and sudden changes, media had to give a voice to new actors in their countries to narrate unforeseen events. In short, to create a new narrative which offers its readers the keys to navigate the new historic period in which they are living and recognize themselves in new values.

Over the last 100 years we have experienced two World Wars, the decolonization processes, the overthrow of dictatorships and the emergence of democracies, the fall of the Berlin Wall, the 11-S and the Iraq War. All such events, and many others, have been reported from the frontline by journalism and communications professionals who have helped explain what was happening and therefore, influence the outcome. The accumulated experiences and knowledge of these excellent journalists provide a solid basis for dialogue on the role of journalists and the media in the new era which the Arab world has entered after the so-called Arab Spring.



17th SEPTEMBER 2015

9.00-9.30 am **Registration**

9.30-10.30 am **Opening ceremony**

Welcome remarks

Senén Florensa, executive president, European Institute of the Mediterranean, IEMed

Salah Eddin Elzein Mohammed, director, Al Jazeera Center for Studies

Keynote address

Fathallah Sijilmassi, secretary general, Union for the Mediterranean

Bichara Khader, senior research associate, IEMed and president of the EuroMeSCo General Assembly

10.30-11.00 am **Coffee break**

11.00 am-1.00 pm **Media and transitions**

What lessons can we extract from the experience of the media in the democratic processes in South America, Eastern countries and Spain? What would have changed without journalists ready to cover events? How far were they able to influence the outcome of those transitions? What difficulties did they face and how did they overcome them? Is it possible to transfer some good practices to the Arab world?

Chair

Moez Sinaoui, spokesperson for the Presidency of the Republic of Tunisia and former director of communication at *Nessma TV*

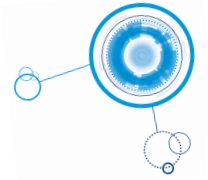
Speakers

Ilhem Allagui, associate professor, Northwestern University in Qatar

Marwan Bishara, Al Jazeera senior political analyst, Al Jazeera Media Network

Maciej Stasinski, journalist at *Gazeta Wyborcza* and correspondent of *La Vanguardia* in Poland

Xavier Vidal-Folch, former deputy director of *El País*



Discussants

Josep Maria Martí i Font, journalist and writer, president of the Association of European Journalists in Catalonia

Rosa Massagué, columnist at *El Periódico de Catalunya*

1.00-3.00 pm **Lunch**

3.00-4.30 pm **New media for a new era**

The achievement of greater freedom of expression has hastened the emergence of new media. How can the new private media develop and win audiences if public media has traditionally been pre-eminent? What changes must the public media face to recover its credibility and reputation? How does the fragmentation of audiences and advertising investment affect the emergence of new media? What new economically sustainable model is needed in the Arab world for the emergence of new professional media?

Chair

Themبisa Fakude, head of research relations, Al Jazeera Center for Studies

Speakers

François Bonnet, co-founder and editorial director of *Mediapart*

Fatima El Issawi, senior lecturer in Journalism, Essex University, and research fellow at the Middle East Centre, London School of Economics

Ridha Kéfi, editor-in-chief of *Kapitalis*

Cristina Manzano, director of *esglobal*

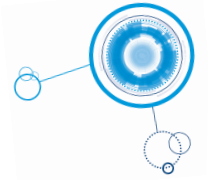
Iñigo Sáenz de Ugarte, deputy director of *Diario.es* and author of the blog "Guerra eterna"

Discussants

Ihsane El Kadi, director of *Maghreb Emergent*

Federico Palomera, secretary general, Spanish Commission for Cooperation with UNESCO

4.30-5.00 pm **Coffee break**



5.00-6.30 pm

Government, from control to the guarantee of free information

What legal changes favour the expansion of the media and journalism panorama? What measures must the authorities take to guarantee rights linked to freedom of expression and freedom of information? What progress has been made in terms of transparency and accountability? Reform, constitution and new legislative frameworks.

Chair

Lurdes Vidal, editor-in-Chief of *afkar/ideas* and head of the Arab and Mediterranean Department, IEMed

Speakers

Shaimaa Abulkhair, Avocats sans Frontières and former Middle East consultant for the Committee to Protect Journalists

Larbi Chouikha, professor in communication, Institute for Press and Information Sciences, Université de La Manouba

Beata Klimkiewicz, assistant professor at the Institute of Journalism and Social Communication, Jagiellonian University

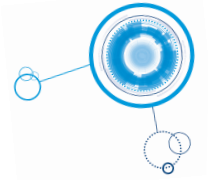
Maâti Monjib, political analyst, human rights activist and professor at the Mohamed V University

Naomi Sakr, professor of Media Policy, University of Westminster and former journalist, editor and country analyst with *The Economist*

Discussants

Albert Sáez, deputy director of *El Periódico de Catalunya*

Ali Lmrabet, journalist, founder of *Demain Magazine* and *demainonline.com*



18th SEPTEMBER 2015

9.30-11.00 am

Journalism that can meet the new challenges

Citizen demands for information in the light of the changes are becoming more pressing. How to meet the challenges of reporting from a country undergoing change? How to cover new and far more plural parliamentary and political activity? How to develop new forms of investigative journalism? How to incorporate revealing and rigorous news through data journalism and fact-checking?

Chair

Daoud Kuttab, director general at Community Media Network and chairman of Arab Reporters for Investigative Journalism

Speakers

Abigail Fielding-Smith, reporter, The Bureau of Investigative Journalism, head of editorial development at *Coda Story* and former *Financial Times* Beirut correspondent

Alain Gresh, journalist specialized on Middle East, at *Le Monde diplomatique* and *Orient XXI*

Zahera Harb, senior lecturer in International Journalism at City University London

Eduardo Martín de Pozuelo, investigative journalist with *La Vanguardia*

Discussants

Carne Colomina, columnist on International Affairs at *ARA*

Ricard González, former correspondent of *El País* and *ARA* in Egypt

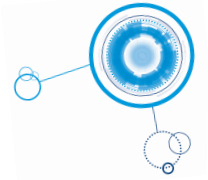
11.00-11.30 am

Coffee break

11.30 am-1.00 pm

Relevance in the midst of the noise of global communications

How to select truthful and relevant news faced with the daily avalanche from endless sources? What is the scope of the non-professional media that emerged through the new communication technologies promoted by citizen journalists? What is the reach and influence of bloggers? What is the future role of the media and international news agencies?



Chair

Noha Mellor, Professor of Media at University of Bedfordshire

Speakers

Donatella Della Ratta, postdoctoral fellow at University of Copenhagen

Leila Nachawati, communications officer for *APC.org*, professor of Communications at Carlos III University and co-founder of *Syria Untold*

Sana Sbouai, former writer of *Nawaat.org* and editor-in-chief of *Inkyfada*

Mohamed Zayani, associate professor at Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in Qatar

Discussants

Medir Plandolit, head content, *Vice News - Spain*

Carla Fibla, former Maghreb and Middle East correspondent for *La Vanguardia* and *Cadena SER*

1.00-1.30 pm

Closing remarks

Salah Eddin Elzein Mohammed, director, Al Jazeera Center for Studies

Senén Florensa, executive president, European Institute of the Mediterranean, IEMed