

10th Anniversary of the Safety of Female Journalists Online (SOFJO) Project

Testimonials and Film Screening

Vienna, 26 November 2025

Draft list of biographies



Ambassador Jan Braathu

Ambassador Jan Braathu is the sixth OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media, appointed in December 2024. Prior to his appointment, Braathu served as Head of the OSCE Mission to Serbia from January 2021 to December 2024 and Head of the OSCE Mission in Kosovo from October 2016 until December 2020. Previously, he was Norway's Ambassador to Kosovo and Albania, and Ambassador to Bosnia and Herzegovina.

His other assignments have included serving as Deputy Director General and Head of the Division for Western Balkan Affairs (2000-2006). Braathu served as an Adviser on Balkan Affairs (1996-2000), and was also working with the Norwegian Foreign Ministry's OSCE Chairpersonship-in-Office Section from 1998 to 2000 on Western Balkan issues. He held the role of First Secretary and Acting Counsellor for Economic Affairs at the Royal Norwegian Embassy to the Court of St. James's from 1993 to 1996. He was also First Secretary at the Royal Norwegian Embassies in Kuwait and Saudi Arabia from 1990 to 1993.



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Pere Joan Pons Sampietro

Pere Joan Pons Sampietro is the President of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly. With a background in law and journalism, Pons was elected to the Congress of Deputies in 2016 as a member of the Socialist Party. In parliament, he serves on the Foreign Affairs, EU, Development and Economy Committees.

Prior to being elected to parliament, Pons worked at the Paris-based think tank Droit International 90, European broadcaster EuroNews, and Médecins Sans Frontières. In 2007 he started to work for the Balearic Islands' Regional Government, and from 2011 to 2015 he served as Gabriel Alomar's Political Foundation Director.

He also worked as a Senior Political Advisor for the Socialist Party in the Parliament of the Balearic Islands. He has taught several courses on International Cooperation and Humanitarian assistance at the University of the Balearic Islands and since 2012, he has been a Member of the Executive Board of the Socialist Party in the Balearic Islands. In 2015, he was appointed as Chief of Staff of the President of Balearic Regional Government.

Pere Joan Pons Sampietro previously has served as OSCE PA Special Representative on Climate Change and Special Representative on South Caucasus, as well as Chair of the OSCE PA General Committee on Economic Affairs, Science, Technology and Environment.



Ambassador Vesa Häkkinen

Ambassador Vesa Häkkinen is the Permanent Representative of Finland to the OSCE, the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe, since September 2021.

Before his current position, he served as Ambassador of Finland to Iraq, in Baghdad (2019–2021). He has also served in Poland, Sweden and Russia. He was the Director for Current Affairs Communications in the MFA 2014–2019. Häkkinen has worked for the Finnish Foreign Ministry since 1999.

Before joining the Foreign Service, he worked as Secretary General in Finnish Alliance of Estonian Friendship NGOs and as a freelance journalist.

Häkkinen was born in Lohja, Finland, in 1969. He graduated from the University of Helsinki in 1996 with a Master's in Political Science (Political History). His military rank is sergeant.



Barbara Trionfi

Barbara Trionfi is Principal Adviser to the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media. She previously served as Executive Director of the Vienna-based International Press Institute (IPI), a global network of editors, journalists and media executives dedicated to promoting media freedom and independent journalism. With an academic background in international relations and human rights, Barbara has taught courses at Webster University, Vienna in Media Ethics, Media Literacy and Cultural Diversity and the Media.

She recently carried out research in the field of climate and environmental journalism. Barbara was awarded a Decoration of Merit in Gold by the Republic of Austria in 2022 for her efforts in defence of freedom of expression and safety of journalists.



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Paloma Madrigal

Paloma Madrigal is Associate Project Officer at the Office of the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media, where she leads the Safety of Female Journalists Online (SOFJO) project. She also serves as Gender Focal Point and received the OSCE Gender Award in 2025. With extensive experience across Europe, Asia and Latin America, before joining the OSCE, Paloma, worked with UN agencies such as IAEA and UNDP, international NGOs and foundations, specializing in gender mainstreaming, targeted initiatives and results-based project management. She holds a Master's Degree in Gender and Development from the Complutense University of Madrid and is an IPDET-certified evaluator.



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Salla Nazarenko

Dr. Salla Nazarenko works at the Union of Journalists in Finland as the International Affairs Specialist, in charge of international affairs, media policy and ethics. She holds a PhD in journalism from Tampere University in Finland. She is also a Journalism Fellow from the Reuters Institute for the study of journalism at the University of Oxford, UK, and a Rotary Peace Fellow from Chulalongkorn University in Bangkok, Thailand. Dr. Nazarenko is a member of multiple national and international expert groups in the field of media freedom and transparency, and a renowned expert in the fields of media ethics, anti-corruption, disinformation and media development. She is also author of several books, both fiction and non-fiction.



Corinne Vella

Corinne Vella is the sister of Daphne Caruana Galizia. She leads the Daphne Caruana Galizia Foundation's media relations and edited Taste & Flair, the monthly magazine, which Daphne founded in 2014 and which the Foundation continued to publish until December 2024. She previously spent many years working in media and communications.



Julie Posetti

Julie Posetti (PhD) is Professor of Journalism and Chair of the Centre for Journalism and Democracy at City St George's, University of London. She is the lead author of the OSCE-published "Guidelines for Monitoring Online Violence Against Women Journalists" (2023). Prof. Posetti has led several major UN-commissioned studies focused on information integrity, the safety of journalists, and media viability. Among these are UNESCO's "The Chilling" (2021), a groundbreaking global study of online violence against women journalists, and "Journalism, Fake News and Disinformation" (2018). Prof. Posetti also serves on the board of the International Fund for Public Interest Media (IFPIM). Additionally, she is a member of the World Economic Forum's (WEF) Global Futures Council on Information Integrity.

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Previously, Prof. Posetti was Global Director of Research at ICFJ. Her journalism has been published by The Washington Post, Foreign Policy, The Atlantic, the BBC, the ABC, The Guardian, and the Sydney Morning Herald, among others.



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Emilia Șercan

Emilia Șercan is a Romanian investigative journalist, author and senior lecturer at the Faculty of Journalism and Communication Studies, University of Bucharest. With more than 25 years of experience in investigative reporting, she has spent the last decade systematically exposing academic fraud and imposture in Romania's academic system. She revealed dozens of plagiarism cases involving top politicians and senior state officials in the judiciary, law enforcement, the military and the intelligence community. Her work has unveiled a vast and deeply rooted mechanism through which political power and influence have been traded via plagiarism and academic fraud.

She has been awarded multiple international scholarships and fellowships, including: the U.S. Department of State SUSI Fellowship at Ohio University (2016); the French Government Doctoral Scholarship at University Stendhal Grenoble 3 (2012–2013); Erasmus scholarships at Panteion University in Athens (2017) and Complutense University of Madrid (2014); and the Freedom House Fellowship (2004). Throughout her career, she has received numerous professional and academic awards. She holds a BA in Journalism, an MA in Sociology and a PhD in Communication Studies. Emilia Șercan is the author of three books: *The Cult of Secrecy. Censorship Mechanisms in the Communist Press* (2015); *Doctorates Factory. How to Destroy a Nation's Fundamentals* (2017); and *The Ponta Case. Reconstructing the Most Notorious Plagiarism in Romania's History* (2022).



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Arzu Geybulla

Arzu Geybulla is an Azerbaijani journalist, writer and human rights advocate. Arzu has contributed to numerous international outlets, including Al Jazeera, Foreign Policy and Open Democracy, where her writing has covered topics ranging from challenges and rights violations in Azerbaijan to regional geopolitics. She is the regional editor for South Caucasus and Turkey at Global Voices and a researcher on Azerbaijan at Human Rights Watch.

She has also served as a speaker and panelist at international conferences and forums, sharing insights on media freedom, technology's impact on civil liberties and conflict resolution. In 2024, she co-founded Free Voices Collective, an initiative by exiled Azerbaijani journalists, activists and rights defenders to lead international advocacy efforts focusing on the declining environment of rights and freedoms in Azerbaijan. She continues to manage Azerbaijan Internet Watch, a platform she launched in 2018 that documents and monitors digital information controls and their impact on civil society in Azerbaijan.

Arzu also continues her collaboration and affiliation with various international organizations and initiatives focusing on Azerbaijan and beyond on issues such as transnational digital repression, the safety of women journalists online and platform accountability, to name a few.



Anora Sodiq

Anora Sodiq is an independent journalist and the founder of Uzdiplomat.uz. Her work focuses on government accountability, women's rights and freedom of expression in Uzbekistan. Over the past decade, she has documented cases of abuse of power, corruption and pressure on civil society. Her investigations and public advocacy have helped open discussions on issues that are often silenced.

She trains emerging journalists in critical thinking and conflict-sensitive reporting. She believes that journalism is a public service — and that free speech is essential for a just and democratic society.



Elira Turdubaeva

Dr. Elira Turdubaeva holds a PhD in Communication and has served as Department Chair of Journalism and Mass Communications at multiple Central Asian universities. She was a Fulbright Scholar at the School of Communication, University of Miami, USA. Currently she is a Marie Curie Skldowska Researcher at University of Bremen in Germany. Dr. Turdubaeva's research focuses on media freedom, gender and digital rights in Central Asia. She conducted pioneering research for OSCE on "Online Violence Against Women Journalists in Central Asia" (2022) and led UNESCO's "Media Development Indicators" study in Kyrgyzstan (2021-2022). Her work has been published in leading international journals and her co-edited book, "Mapping the Media and Communication Landscape of Central Asia," was published by Lexington Books in 2023.

She is the Founder and President of the Association of Communicators of Kyrgyzstan, Vice-President in Asia of the World Communication Association, and has trained over 250 journalists across Central Asia on gender-sensitive journalism, fact-checking, and media literacy. Dr. Turdubaeva previously served as TV Host and Producer of “Sisterhood,” a program on gender equality for Radio Liberty/Free Europe.



Nektaria Stamouli

Nektaria Stamouli is the Eastern Mediterranean correspondent for POLITICO Europe. Based in Athens, she is covering Greece, Turkey, Cyprus and the broader region. She is also the deputy editor-in-chief in the English edition of Greece’s daily Kathimerini newspaper. Since 2021, she is the president of Greece’s Foreign Press Association.

She was previously the region's correspondent for the Wall Street Journal and Dow Jones Newswires, covering the decades long Greek financial crisis, as well the Cypriot debt crisis and Europe’s migration crisis.

Before joining the WSJ, Nektaria worked as both a business and general news reporter for Greek media -print, online and TV. She studied Communications, Media and Culture at Panteion University in Athens and holds a Master’s degree in International Journalism from City University, London.



Jelena L. Petković

Jelena L. Petković has worked as a professional journalist since 2003. Her experience includes 14 years as a journalist and editor at Vesti/Nidda Verlag (Germany), with bylines in Cenzolovka, Danas, France 24, Novosti (Croatia), Radar, Newsweek Serbia, CorD, as well as editor-in-chief of the Radio Belgrade Student magazine. Petković has contributed articles to the IFJ and IPI and has been a member of the Press Council of Serbia Complaints Commission since 2021.

A winner of several awards, including two “Laza Kostić” awards of the Journalists’ Association of Serbia, she now works as a freelance journalist. Throughout her career she has conducted investigative journalism on the safety of journalists and combating impunity, and she works as a trainer and consultant on journalist safety, hate speech, ethnic bias and ethical standards.

Her research includes extensive work on missing and killed journalists in Kosovo (1998–2005), which led to EFJ motions and the first conference on this issue in 2019, as well as studies on disinformation, ethical reporting on the 2023 mass shootings in Serbia, two major studies on language rights in Kosovo, and articles referenced in UNMIK reports.

In 2024 and 2025, she presented on journalist safety and ethics at international conferences and OSCE training programs.



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Javier Luque

Javier Luque is the Head of Digital Media and Online Safety at the International Press Institute (IPI) in Austria. Javier oversees IPI's digital media output and leads its efforts to counter online harassment and disinformation targeting journalists and media organizations. His work spans analysis, training, research and investigative projects, and has been cited by outlets including The Guardian, The British Journalism Review, and Bloomberg News, among others.

In 2018, he directed "A Dark Place", his third documentary film. Before joining IPI, Javier worked as a broadcast and multimedia journalist for local and international news organizations.