**FORUM:** Special Conference 1 on Good Governance

**QUESTION OF:** Ensuring the impunity, safety, and freedom of journalism

**SUBMITTED BY**: France

**COSUBMITTED BY:** Republic of Finland, Senegal, Lebanon, El Salvador, International Monetary Fund, Sweden, Hungary, Republic of Korea, Japan, Egypt, Denmark, New Zealand, Bolivia, Nigeria, Honduras, South Africa, Ghana, Rwanda, Mauritius, Dominican Republic, Croatia, Spain, Australia, United Kingdom

*THE SPECIAL CONFERENCE 1 ON GOOD GOVERNANCE,*

*Alarmed* by the 360 deaths of active journalists in the years 2010-2014,

*Recognizing* Reporters Without Borders as a non-profit, non-governmental organization (NGO) located in France that focuses on matters such as censorship, the killing of journalists and freedom of speech,

*Disturbed* by the amount of monitoring and censorship some member nations place on their journalists and media, reminding nations that doing so violates Article 19 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,

*Noting with deep concern* the dangers that journalists must face to report timely and accurate news to the global community in war zone areas,

*Recalling* the “UN Plan of Action on the Safety of Journalists and the Issue of Impunity” intended to improve the situation of journalists,

*Affirming* that all parties in an armed conflict should still uphold the rights of journalists even if they are not shown in the best light,

*Noting with regret* the assault of journalists, especially female journalists online harming their safety and ability to report news online,

*Recognizing* the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) and their work to the protection of female journalists online,

*Disturbed* by the frequency of female journalists being raped in countries experiencing tumult

*Reminding* nations that journalists are not exempt from any legal legislation,

1. Urgesthat nations strive to protect the foreign journalists within their nations through means such as but not limited to:
   1. Strengthening law enforcement in heavily affected areas
   2. Strongly upholding the punishments set for the harm of foreign journalists;
   3. Increasing the training of police officers
2. Asksnations to educate their citizens about the rights that journalists hold and freedom of speech according to the United Nations (UN) and the nation in question by for example:
   1. Advertising in Pamphlets
   2. Advertising in TV and radio commercials especially in areas with low literacy
   3. Incorporation into school programs;
3. Encouragesmember states to review their legislation on the protection of journalism and the rights of free speech to ensure that they will be capable to uphold the UN’s and the nation in question’s beliefs, especially since article 19 of the Universal Declaration of human rights states that everyone has the right to freedom of opinion and expression;
4. Suggeststhat nations work with Reporters Without Borders to protect the journalists in their own nation and so that they will be able to uphold their existing legislation on free speech;
5. Requeststhat member nations acknowledge and uphold the impunity of journalists in areas around the globe;
6. Calls for the creation of a UN body that focuses on the protection of journalists in all countries, and work with Reporters Without Borders, this body will be focused on:
   1. The protection of female journalists
   2. The advancement of free speech
   3. The freeing/helping of currently imprisoned journalists
   4. Advise nations on how to best support free speech and journalism
7. Hopes that nations will work with organizations such as the OSCE in the protection of especially female journalists online by means such as but not limited to:
   1. Sending representatives to attend conferences organized by the OSCE, such as the conference on September 17th of this year in Vienna, to learn about the dangers of online harassment
   2. Educating the people of their nations on the issue through
      1. Asking national news teams to cover the issue
      2. Creating pamphlets highlighting the issue
      3. Punishing those who continuously and maliciously attack these female journalists online;
8. Urges nations to increase the security of female journalists to protect from sexual assault by means including but not limited to:
   1. Increasing punishments on such assaults to protect the journalists;
9. Calls for member states to respect and consider countries policies regarding censorship of media in regards to domestic laws and national security.