

Regional workshop
‘New Age Journalism for New Age Security Challenges’
Skopje, 3 March 2020
Venue: Hotel Marriott Skopje

DRAFT PROGRAMME

Day 1	
10:00-10:40	<p>Keynote impulses:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <i>1. Mr. Robert Popovski, Minister without Portfolio of the Republic of North Macedonia in charge of Communications, Accountability and Transparency</i> <i>2. Mr. Borce Petrevski, National CVE/CT coordinator, National Committee for CVE/CT of North Macedonia</i> <i>3. Mr. Amer Kapetanovic, Head of RCC Political Department</i> <i>4. Mr. Alex Melamed, Head of the Press and Communication team, EU Delegation to North Macedonia</i> <p><i>Moderator for all sessions: Mr. Lutfi Dervishi, Political Commentator</i></p>
10:40 – 11:30	<p>Journalists talk – experts listen</p> <p><i>Tour de table – participants reflect on keynote impulses, overall topic, and showcase their interest and knowledge, setting the tone for continuation of the dialogue. Focus to be put on issues of importance pertinent to unbiased and professional reporting on practical cases of violent extremism, terrorism, radicalisation and other related crimes.</i></p>
11:30 – 11:45	Coffee Break
11:45 – 13:00	<p>‘Combating Fake News and Disinformation’</p> <p><i>Recent studies have shown that citizens feel more threatened by the creation and spread of fake news and misinformation than terrorism itself. As for who</i></p>



	<p><i>creates the fake news, that's up for debates in this session.</i></p> <p><i>Digital platforms have brought about innovative journalistic practices that enable new forms of communication and greater reach than ever before. But on the other hand, disinformation and fake news are accelerating, greatly affecting the way individuals interpret daily developments. Fake news after all, has been used also by terrorists for some time. Organized campaigns could produce great effects on jihadist online propaganda. The focus of the session will be on how to address these issues without undermining the professional journalism and benefits of digital media.</i></p> <p><i>This session will try to answer the following questions: What comprehensive strategies may be drafted to adequately tackle fake news while preserving the freedom of expression? How can fake news assist the spread of terrorist propaganda? How can independent professional journalism based on principles such as fact-checking be further promoted? What would be the best role that media and professional journalism organisations can play in this regard?</i></p> <p><i>11:45 – 12:00 Katarina Bulatovic, Raskrinkavanje - Center for investigative journalism, Ostro.si (best practices from the EU Code of Practice on Disinformation)</i></p> <p><i>12:00 – 12:40 Representatives from Journalists' Association of Albania, BiH, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Serbia and Kosovo*</i></p> <p><i>12:40 – 13:00 Discussion</i></p>
<p>13:00 – 14:30</p>	<p>Lunch (Hotel Restaurant)</p>
<p>14:30 – 15:45</p>	<p>'Youth Online Radicalization - Effects of Social Media on the Violent Radicalization'</p> <p><i>This session will focus on the use of social media by terrorists, which has been dramatically increasing and becoming the most favourite communication tool for recruitment, training, operational cooperation and communication as the cheapest, easiest and the fastest way of communication. Examining the role of the Internet and social media with regards to exposure of youth to violence, the discussion during this second session should try to answer the following questions: what should be done to break the close relationship between the social media and terrorists? What should be considered to constitute vulnerability factors of youth radicalisation? How to prevent the spread of terrorist propaganda and online recruitment of supporters among youth? Where is the tipping point when hate speech and fake news are turned into radical extremism, cyber violence and real terrorist attack?</i></p> <p><i>14:30 – 14:50 Ms. Sheelagh Brady, Independent analyst, Dublin</i></p>

* This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSCR 1244 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo declaration of independence.

	<p><i>University</i></p> <p><i>14:50 – 15:10 Mr. Jasmin Ahic, Associate Professor at Faculty of Criminal Justice and Security, University of Sarajevo</i></p> <p><i>15:10 – 15:45 Discussion</i></p>
16:00– 16.15	Coffee Break
16:15 – 17:15	<p>“Ethical balance in reporting on terrorism”</p> <p><i>This session will look into the crucial role of the media in providing credible information on terrorism-related issues, whilst fully respecting the fundamental rights of the persons accused of such crimes. The public has a right – and need – to know what is happening, whilst the journalists should be aware of what messages they convey by making sure to remain objective and avoid adding to the atmosphere of fear that such news may create. In this respect, the issues of ethical, professional and independent reporting standards, the quality and responsibility for balanced and evidence based reporting, the unintended damage of excessive reporting, access to real information and cooperation with government security agencies will be discussed. The debate will also include perspectives on the role of the media in spreading the terrorist narrative, mood of fear and defeatism, and gaining new supporters.</i></p> <p><i>16:15 – 16:35 Ms. Katerina Sinadinovska, President of the Managing Board, Council of Media Ethics in North Macedonia</i></p> <p><i>16:35 – 16:55 Representative from OSCE mission to North Macedonia</i></p> <p><i>16:55 – 17:15 Discussion</i></p>
17:15 – 17:30	Wrap up – Conclusion and Remarks
19:30 – 21:00	Dinner (Hotel Restaurant)

