

ON THE PATH TO A **FREE MEDIA**

IPI World Congress 2015
and 64th General Assembly
CONGRESS HANDBOOK

#IPIWoCo

27-29 March / Yangon
2015.ipiworldcongress.com

Friday, 27 March 2015

9:00 Opening Ceremony

Welcome Remarks

Galina Sidorova, IPI Executive Board Chair

Soe Myint, Editor-in-Chief and Managing Director, Mizzima Media Group, Myanmar

Barbara Trionfi, IPI Interim Executive Director

Ye Htut, Minister of Information, Republic of the Union of Myanmar



9:45 *Short Break*

10:00 Session I

Upholding Media Freedom Through Laws and Practice

Some very significant developments have taken place in Myanmar since 2011 that have contributed to an enabling legal environment for a free and independent media. For the first time in nearly 50 years, private newspapers have been allowed to publish and pre-publication censorship has been abolished. New press laws have been adopted and broadcasting and public service media laws are moving forward in parliament. At the same time, many older, repressive laws remain on the books and represent a threat to press freedom. In this panel, we will discuss how ongoing changes in Myanmar can lead to an atmosphere that promotes, rather than limits, press freedom.

Moderator:

Barbara Trionfi, IPI Interim Executive Director

Panellists:

Ye Htut, Minister of Information, Republic of the Union of Myanmar

David Kaye, U.N. Special Rapporteur on Freedom of Expression

Toby Mendel, Executive Director, Centre for Law and Democracy, Canada



11:15 *Coffee Break*

11:45 Session II

Lessons on Conflict-Sensitive Reporting

As long as conflicts continue to arise around the world, journalists will continue to cover them. But how many are fully equipped to do so effectively? In such an environment, when good journalism is most important to the communities they serve, how can journalists cut through the propaganda that seems to be playing an increasingly important role in conflict outcomes? And how do they address the increased risk that they will be seen as combatants, with their pens (or cameras) viewed as weapons?

Moderator:

Daoud Kuttub, Director General, Community Media Network, Jordan

Panellists:

Al Anstey, Managing Director, Al Jazeera English, Qatar

Nan Pawt Gay, Executive Director and Spokesperson, Burma News International (BNI), Myanmar

Anat Saragusti, Director, B'Tselem; Founder, Israel's Channel 2 News, USA



13:00 *Lunch*

14:00 Session III

Religious Sensitivity in Breaking News Coverage

Many people's only window on the "Other" is through the media, so portrayals of religious communities play an incredibly important role in shaping perceptions of those communities. Media outlets cover religious issues in features or documentaries, but what about in breaking news? There, often only the loudest and most controversial voices are heard – feeding conflict and stereotypes. Is there a way for journalists to maintain accuracy and produce representative coverage of religious communities even in high-intensity news situations? Can journalists be objective in reporting about faith when it comes to a crisis? How can "average" religious leaders, whose teachings may not be "news", still seek to make their voices heard?

Moderator:

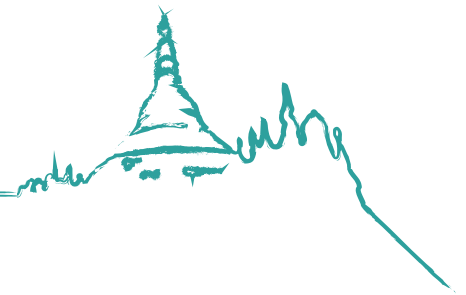
Naomi Hunt, Media Programme Officer, KAICIID, Austria

Panellists:

Swami Agnivesh, President Emeritus, World Council of Arya Samaj, India

The Reverend Kosho Niwano, President Designate, Rishso Kosei-kai, Japan

Programme



Debra Mason, Director, Center on Religion & the Professions, University of Missouri, USA

Kadri Gürsel, Columnist, *Milliyet*; Chair, IPI Turkish National Committee, Turkey

Roxana Saberi, Reporter, Al Jazeera America, USA



15:15 *Coffee Break*

15:45 **Session IV**

A Conversation with Nobel Peace Prize Laureate Mohammad Yunus, Founder of Grameen Bank and Chairman of Yunus Centre, Bangladesh



"We got rid of colonialism, we got rid of slavery, and we got rid of apartheid. Everyone thought each one of them was impossible. Let's take the next impossible, do it with joy and get it finished with and create a world free from poverty. Let us create the world of our choice."



Hosted by Jim Clancy, Former Correspondent and Anchor, CNN International, USA

16:15 **Session V**

Revenue, Content and Credibility: Navigating the Newspaper Crisis

Tensions between the editorial and financial departments of media houses are common, and identifying the best policies and practices to maximise revenue without affecting credibility is a challenge. As media outlets have redefined their business models to meet the requirements of a growing digital environment and the expectation of greater reader participation, how has content been affected? What lessons have we learned?

Keynote Speaker:

Austin Beutner, Publisher and CEO, *Los Angeles Times*, USA

Moderator:

George Brock, Professor of Journalism, City University London, UK

Panellists:

Thaung Su Nyein, Editor-in-Chief, *7 Day Daily*; CEO and Managing Director, Information Matrix, Myanmar

Fred M'membe, Managing Director and Editor in Chief, Post Newspapers Limited, Zambia



19:00 **Opening Dinner**

Venue: **Belmond Governor's Residence**

Keynote Speaker:



Steve Killelea A.M., Founder & Executive Chairman, Integrated Research Ltd; The Charitable Foundation; Institute for Economics and Peace, Australia

Saturday, 28 March 2015

9:00 **Session VI**

Advancing Peace: Effective Strategies to Address Hate Speech

Both the media and society at large in Myanmar presently face many challenges. However, the apparent rise in incidents of hate speech is of particular concern. Is this a phenomenon that only affects discourse in social media or has such speech begun to infect coverage in the news media? What initiatives have proven successful in terms of addressing or limiting hate speech? Can journalists avoid giving a platform to hate speech while still respecting freedom of expression, and what is the overall role of the news media in this process?

Moderator:

Theo Dolan, Director, PeaceTech Lab Africa, Kenya

Panellists:

Jahanzaib Haque, Chief Digital Strategist/Editor, Dawn.com, Dawn Media Group, Pakistan

Linus Kaikai, Acting Managing Director and Managing Editor, Broadcasting Division, Nation Media Group; Chairman, Kenya Editors Guild, Kenya

Manori Kalugampitiya, Human Rights Activist; Editor, Samabima newspaper; Manager Publications, Rights Now Collective for Democracy, Sri Lanka

Thiha Saw, Editorial Director, *Myanmar Times*, Myanmar



10:15 *Short Break*

10:30 Session VII

Straight Talk: Ethical Coverage of Crises and Emergencies

Journalists who cover crises and emergencies face tremendous pressure to obtain timely, accurate information from government agencies. At the same time, representatives of those agencies are often under pressure to release information selectively. How do journalists uphold the responsibility of delivering vital information without exacerbating a crisis or spreading panic? What steps can they take to ensure that attempts to control the flow of information do not serve merely to protect those in power? Panellists will look at two recent examples of crisis coverage.

Moderator:

Aidan White, Director, Ethical Journalism Network, UK

Panellists:

Puruesh Chaudhary, Founder and President, AGAHI, Pakistan

Sorious Samura, Director of Insight News TV, Producer of "Liberia: Living with Ebola", UK/Sierra Leone

Atsushi Yamazaki, Fukushima Correspondent, *Kahoku Shimpō*, Japan



11:45 Coffee Break

12:15 Session VIII

The Need for Investigative Journalism in Free Society

Journalists in Asia who investigate sensitive issues often face threats and intimidation. At the same time, their role in uncovering and fighting crime and corruption is essential. This panel will explore the relevance of investigative journalism to creating a free society, and how it can be supported.

Moderator:

Irene Liu Jay, Reporter, Enterprise Team, Thomson Reuters, Hong Kong

Panellists:

Yolanda Jinxin Ma, Co-Founder and Editor, Data Journalism China, Thailand

Umar Cheema, Correspondent, *The News*, Pakistan

Syed Nazakat, Editor-in-Chief, Centre for Investigative Journalism, India

May Thingyan Hein, Investigative Journalist, CEO, Myintmakha News Agency, Myanmar



13:30 Lunch

14:30 Session IX

Journalism, a Dangerous Profession: How Do We Stop the Killing of the Messenger?

As many states fail in their responsibility to ensure a safe environment for journalists, what can editors do to promote the highest safety standards for staff who may find themselves in harm's way? What practices have worked and can they be replicated? What responsibility do international news organisations have for staff working in dangerous environments, and how far does that responsibility extend when they accept content from freelancers or 'citizen journalists'?

Moderator:

Robert Meeds, Head of Mass Communication Department, Qatar University, Qatar

Panellists:

Jane Arraf, Freelance Correspondent, Al Jazeera English, Iraq

Rasheeda Bhagat, Editor, Rotary News, India

Ibraheem Saber, Reporting Risk Expert, DCMF; Reuters Producer, Qatar

Charles M. Sennott, Vice President, Editor-at-Large and Co-Founder, *Global Post*; Head, The GroundTruth Project, USA



15:45 Coffee Break

16:00 **IPI General Assembly** (for IPI members only)

19:00 **Gala Dinner**

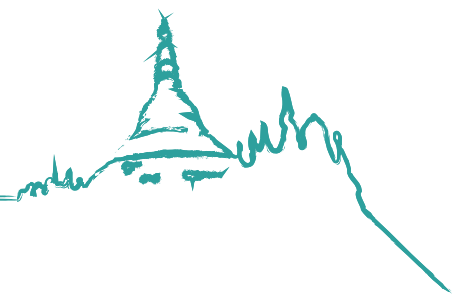
Awards Ceremony & Presentation of the IPI World Congress 2016

Venue: **Chatrium Hotel, Pool Garden**

21:30 **North American Committee "Jam for Press Freedom"**

Venue: **Chatrium Hotel, Club Rizzoli**

Programme



Sunday, 29 March 2015

9:40-17:00 Media Tours

Guided tours, led by senior media professionals from *Democratic Voice of Burma*, *Mizzima* and *7 Day Daily*, are your chance to learn first-hand about the rapidly changing Burmese media landscape, its past, its transformation and the challenges it faces.

NOTE:

Programme correct at time of print. For the latest updates, please visit the IPI World Congress website, 2015.ipiworldcongress.com, or use our **IPI WOCO** mobile App.

9:45-17:00 Workshop on Election Coverage

10:30-12:30 Gender & Media Network Discussion

This programme is supported by the following organisations





Swami Agnivesh President Emeritus, World Council of Arya Samaj, India

Swami Agnivesh finds that values common to all religions have been neglected and that, in order to bring united action among different people, emphasis should be placed on finding the common ground of diverse religions. He works for the liberation of child slaves and bonded labourers and has enjoyed tremendous successes through initiating the process of dialogue. Agnivesh is the founder coordinator of the Parliament of All Faiths and in 2004 won the Right Livelihood Award, the Alternative Nobel Peace Prize. From 1994 to 2004, he was the chairperson of the U.N. Trust Fund on Contemporary Forms of Slavery, in Geneva. Before that, he served as a member of the Haryana Legislative Assembly from 1977 to 1982, including as minister of education in 1979. He is also the 1994 recipient of the Freedom and Human Rights Award.



Al Anstey Managing Director, Al Jazeera English, Qatar

Al Anstey is the Managing Director of international news and current affairs channel Al Jazeera English (AJE), which broadcasts to 250 million households in more than 130 countries. Responsible for leading the channel into its next stage of evolution, Anstey oversees AJE's day-to-day operations across its international bureaus, broadcast centres and programming. He previously was a director of media development, overseeing the Al Jazeera Network's New Media and Distribution department, and served as director of news for AJE and a key member of the start-up team that designed its editorial vision, recruited its editorial staff and set up its worldwide bureau network. Anstey – who has lived and worked in Asia, America, Europe and the Middle East – started his career as a producer at CBS News. He later joined the start-up of Reuters GMTV in the UK and then the start-up of Associated Press Television News, based in New Delhi and Sydney. Before joining Al Jazeera in 2005 he was head of foreign news at ITN in the UK after many years as senior foreign editor. He also previously served as Asia Editor for APTN with responsibility for bureaus and coverage across Asia.



Jane Arraf Freelance Correspondent, Al Jazeera English, USA

Jane Arraf has covered conflict zones for more than two decades from Iraq to Bosnia to Haiti to Afghanistan. She first reported from Iraq in 1991 as a Reuters correspondent and in 1998 opened CNN's first permanent Baghdad bureau. In the late 1990s she was the only Western correspondent permanently based in Baghdad. She covered the war in Iraq from the front lines for CNN, both as a unilateral reporter in northern Iraq and embedded with

the US Army and Marines in Fallujah and most of the other major battles of the war. Arraf was the 2005 to 2006 Edward R Murrow press fellow at the Council on Foreign Relations in New York.



Raheeda Bhagat Editor, Rotary News, India

Rasheeda Bhagat has been a journalist in India for 36 years. At present, she is the editor of *Rotary News*, with a circulation of 1.15 million across India. She has written extensively on social and gender issues, education, politics, the environment, and peace and conflict resolution. She has travelled several times to Pakistan and Indian Kashmir to look at the Indo-Pak conflict, and to Sri Lanka many times to cover its ethnic conflict. In 2003 and 2011, Bhagat travelled to Iraq to examine the impact that the conflict initiated by the U.S.-led invasion had on the lives of ordinary Iraqis. In 2005, she travelled to Afghanistan to write many articles on the war, the Taliban's torture of women and India's role in rebuilding Afghanistan.



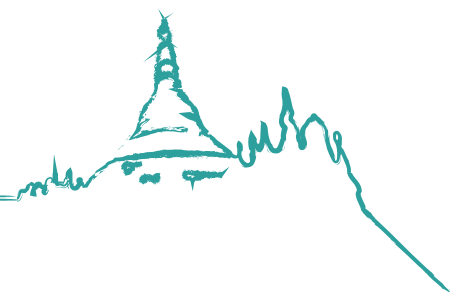
George Brock Professor of Journalism, City University London, UK

George Brock became professor and head of Journalism at City University London in September 2009. He began his reporting career at the *Yorkshire Evening Press* and *The Observer*, joining *The Times* in 1981. After starting at *The Times* as a feature writer, he became a features editor and, in 1984, op-ed page editor. He was foreign editor, Brussels bureau chief, European editor, managing editor, Saturday editor and, most recently, international editor in a 28-year career at the newspaper.



Puruesh Chaudhary Founder & President, AGAHI, Pakistan

Puruesh Chaudhary is a development and strategic communication professional whose work involves conceptual frameworks, research and development, knowledge-collaborations and content intelligence. She is the founder and president of AGAHI, a non-governmental organisation that works extensively on creating interactive platforms based on knowledge collaboration and information sharing initiatives. Working under the slogan "shaping the future of journalism", Chaudhary co-founded Pakistan's annual journalism awards (The Agahi Awards), produced a content analysis framework (Media Credibility Index and Ethical Media Audit), created research fellowship opportunities and developed academic-industry linkages. The Center of International Media Ethics appointed her as its ambassador to Pakistan to campaign for quality journalism in the country. Chaudhary holds a master's degree in International Negotiation and Policymaking from The Graduate Institute of International and Development



Studies in Geneva. She is the youngest alumna of the National Defence University in Pakistan and has also been recognised as a Global Shaper by the World Economic Forum. She is an ASPEN Alumni, a member of the World Futures Society and is on the Planning Committee of the Millennium Project (Global Futures Studies and Research). Chaudhary is also director at Mishal Pakistan and the co-founder of Media Development Trust



Umar Cheema

Investigative Correspondent, *The News*, Pakistan

Umar Cheema is a co-founder of the Center for Investigative Reporting in Pakistan and an investigative reporter with *The News*. He has set a high standard for quality journalism in a country where reporters are routinely attacked and murdered. In 2010, he was kidnapped and tortured for writing stories critical of the government. Since then, he has continued to write hard-hitting reports; his series exposing tax evasion by MPs forced the government to publicise tax records of lawmakers and other citizens. His work has helped expedite the introduction of a right to information law by a provincial government. Cheema has received numerous awards for his reporting, including the Knight International Journalism Award, the International Press Freedom Award, the Missouri Honor Medal for Distinguished Services in Journalism, the Tully Free Speech Award and the Martha Gellhorn Prize for Journalism.



Jim Clancy

Former Anchor and Correspondent, CNN International, USA

Jim Clancy has been a journalist covering the United States and the world for some 40 years. His reporting on conflicts in Europe, the Middle East and Africa has earned him numerous recognitions for excellence. He is perhaps best known for the time he spent anchoring CNN newscasts such as "Your World Today" and "The Brief". His reporting includes award-winning coverage of the genocide in Rwanda, the international intervention in Somalia, the civil war in Bosnia and the fall of the Berlin Wall. He also covered the 1982 Falkland/Malvinas war and reported from Beirut on the conflict between Israel and the PLO before serving as a correspondent and bureau chief in the Lebanese capital. He later moved to Frankfurt and went on to report international news in Rome and London. Clancy was instrumental in founding "Inside Africa", which looks beyond the headlines of famines or conflicts to report on innovation and progress, and remains CNN's longest running feature news programme.



Theo Dolan

Director, PeaceTech Lab Africa, Kenya

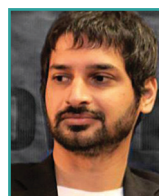
Since he joined the United States Institute of Peace (USIP) – the founder of the PeaceTech Lab – in 2008, Theo Dolan has worked with local partners in Iraq, Afghanistan, Pakistan, Myanmar and South Sudan to develop innovative ways to use media to help resolve conflict. His expertise includes producing curriculum-based peace media programmes, such as the Salam Shabab TV show in Iraq, as well as promoting conflict-sensitive reporting and effective regulation to limit media incitement to violence. Prior to joining USIP, he served for two years as a media specialist for the Public Sector Governance team at the World Bank Institute (WBI), where he focused on promoting access to public information and strengthening the role that the media plays in establishing accountability and governance. Dolan spent the previous five years working on media development projects at the International Research & Exchanges Board (IREX), a Washington D.C.-based NGO. While there, he managed projects designed to strengthen independent media in Europe, Eurasia and the Middle East/North Africa through training and business management assistance. Dolan holds a master's degree from Georgetown University's School of Foreign Service and a bachelor's degree from Middlebury College.



Kadri Gürsel

Columnist, *Milliyet*; Chair, IPI Turkish National Committee, Turkey

Kadri Gürsel has written a column for the Turkish daily *Milliyet* since 2007. His writing focuses on foreign policy, international affairs, Turkey's Kurdish question and Turkey's evolving political Islam. He joined the *Milliyet* publishing group in 1997 as vice editor-in-chief of the then-newly launched weekly news magazine *Artı-Haber*, and was *Milliyet*'s foreign news editor from 1999 until 2008. He was a correspondent for Agence France-Presse from 1993 to 1997 and was kidnapped in 1995 by the PKK (Kurdistan Workers' Party), an experience he recounted in his book "Dagdakiler" ("Those of the Mountains") published in 1996. Gürsel is a contributing writer for news website AlMonitor.com's "Turkey Pulse" and is also chairman of IPI's Turkish National Committee.



Jahanzaib Haque

Editor, Dawn.com and DawnNews.tv, Pakistan

Jahanzaib Haque is a career journalist and researcher who has been associated with the top media groups in Pakistan. Specialising in online journalism, Haque is currently editor of Dawn.com and DawnNews.tv as well as chief digital strategist for the Dawn Media Group, Pakistan's oldest and most diversified media conglomerate. His work spans the production of online content and the development and implementation of the group's

digital strategy and convergence. Haque also writes regularly – in the form of news reports, analysis, research and policy documents – on local media, the Internet and human rights in relation to cyberspace, with a focus on hate speech.



May Thingyan Hein

Investigative Journalist, CEO, Myit Makha News Agency, Myanmar

May Thingyan Hein is the eldest daughter of an advocate father and a university professor mother. She is now a Central Executive

Committee member and Central Committee member of National League for Democracy party. May started her career as a journalist in 1993. She was the chief editor of the *Shwe Pazun* magazine from 1997 until 2004, when her penname was placed on a blacklist and the magazine's publication ended by the government. That year, she became a freelance journalist using various pennames and in 2007 she was awarded the Knight International Journalism Award by the Washington, D.C.-based International Center for Journalists (ICFJ). The following January, May established the Myit Makha Media Group. Together with four reporters, she provided news stories to Voice of America's Burmese program and to *Irrawaddy*. Myit Makha was first officially registered as a news agency in June 2011 and, with its production of 15 stories a day, it is now recognised as a successful news agency among Burmese print media.



Ye Htut

Minister of Information, Myanmar

Ye Htut served in the military from 1997 to 2005. In 2005, he retired from military with the rank of Lieutenant Colonel and joined the Ministry of Information. Within the ministry, he

progressively assumed the duties of Deputy Director General, Director General and Deputy Minister between 2005 and 2014. Currently, he is serving as Minister of Information as well as presidential spokesperson, a post to which he was appointed on Jan. 8th, 2013. He has actively participated in media reform in Myanmar since 2008. As Minister, he actively participates and implements Myanmar media development activities and programmes.



Naomi Hunt

Media Programme Officer, KAICIID Dialogue Centre, Austria

Naomi Hunt manages projects aimed at strengthening reporting about religion and religious communities. She previously spent five

years at IPI, where she was a senior press freedom adviser, covering Africa and the Middle East. While at IPI, she was the editor of "Use with Care: A Reporter's Glossary of Loaded Language in the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict", a guide writ-

ten by six Israeli and Palestinian journalists to help navigate appropriate language to use when reporting on the conflict. Hunt has a master's degree in Advanced International Studies from the Diplomatic Academy of Vienna/University of Vienna, and a bachelor's degree in International Relations and German Language and Literature from Boston University.



Linus Kaikai

Acting Managing Director and Managing Editor, Broadcasting Division, Nation Media Group, Kenya

Linus Kaikai is the acting managing director and managing editor of the Broadcasting

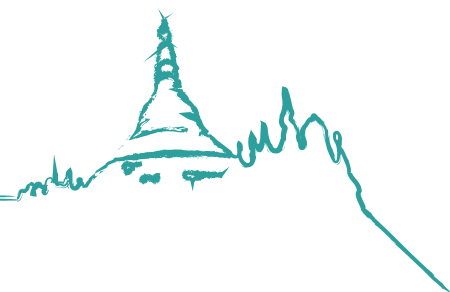
Division of the Nation Media Group and the chairman of the Kenya Editors Guild (KEG). Over the last 15 years, he has risen from an award-winning reporter to an experienced television journalist, skilled interviewer, seasoned moderator and a respected editor in Kenya. He has travelled extensively on assignment across the African continent, covering civil strife in the Congo, Darfur and Somalia, and the peace process in Burundi, among other milestones. In Kenya, Kaikai has carved out a niche as a vigorous interviewer and hard-hitting talk show host. He is also producer of several highly rated documentaries, including "The Rift in the Valley", "The Making of a Constitution", "Meet Jomo Kenyatta", "Amani Room Whispers", "Across 18 Holes" and the "Moi, Mwai & Muigai" series on the history of power struggles in post-colonial Kenya. Kaikai holds an MA in International Journalism from the University of Westminster, UK. He has worked for Kenyan and international media organisations, including stints with the BBC and CNN.



Manori Kalugampitiya

Human Rights Activist; Editor, Samabima newspaper; Manager, Publications, Rights Now Collective for Democracy, Sri Lanka

Manori Kalugampitiya is a human rights activist and the editor of *Samabima* newspaper in Sri Lanka. She earned a bachelor's degree in criminology and criminal justice in 2007 from the University of Sri Jayewardenepura. That year, she also joined Rights Now Collective for Democracy, a local organisation working for the promotion of human rights and democracy and that has been engaged in building a broad democratic movement – called "Platform for Freedom" – among political parties, trade unions, media organisations and public-spirited citizens. For the last four years, Kalugampitiya has edited *Samabima*, a monthly journal on democracy and human rights issues. She also provides training on media and human rights to young undergraduate students who participate in human rights training programmes conducted by Rights Now.



Steve Killelea A.M.

Founder & Executive Chairman, Integrated Research Ltd; The Charitable Foundation; Institute for Economics and Peace, Australia

Steve Killelea is an accomplished entrepreneur and philanthropist. He is the founder and executive chairman of the Institute for Economics and Peace, an independent research institute dedicated to better understanding the social and economic factors that develop a more peaceful society. Steve currently serves on a number of influential company boards, advisory boards and president councils. In 2010 he was honoured as Member of the Order of Australia for his service to the global peace movement and the provision of humanitarian aid to the developing world. In 2013 Steve was nominated as one of the "Top 100 Most Influential People in Armed Violence Reduction".



David Kaye

UN Special Rapporteur on Freedom of Expression

David Kaye is the U.N. Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of the right to freedom of opinion and expression, a post to which the U.N. Human Rights Council appointed him in June 2014. He also currently teaches a clinic in international justice, international human rights law and international humanitarian law at UC Irvine School of Law. He joined the school in 2012 after several years as the founding director of the UCLA School of Law's international human rights program. Kaye served as a lawyer in the U.S. State Department from 1995 to 2005 – where he was, among other things, a principal staff attorney urging the application of the Geneva Conventions after the attacks of Sept. 11, 2001 – and as a legal counsellor at the American Embassy in The Hague. His research and writing have focused on accountability for serious human rights abuses, international humanitarian law, and the international law governing use of force, and he has taught at Georgetown University, Whittier Law School, and summer courses at the Universities of Toulouse and Amsterdam.



Daoud Kuttab

Director General, Community Media Network; Founder, AmmanNet, Jordan

An award-winning Palestinian journalist and media activist, Daoud Kuttab is the director-general of Community Media Network (CMN), a non-profit dedicated to advancing independent media in the Middle East. CMN is registered in both Jordan and Palestine and administers AmmanNet and Radio Al Balad. AmmanNet, which Kuttab established in 2000, was the Arab world's first Internet radio station. His career in journalism began in 1980, when he started working in Palestinian print media, as well as in the audiovisual field as a documentary producer. In 1995, he co-founded the Arabic Media Internet Network

(Amin.org) as a censorship-free Arab website. He founded and headed the Institute of Modern Media at Al Quds University (Jerusalem) from 1996 until 2007. Kuttab is a regular columnist for The Huffington Post, Palestine News Network, Al Arabiya.net and *The Jordan Times*. He has been detained by both Palestinian and Israeli authorities because of his press freedom activities and has received a number of international awards, including the IPI World Press Freedom Hero Award in 2000.



Irene Liu Jay

Reporter, Enterprise Team, Thomson Reuters, Hong Kong

Irene Jay Liu is a reporter on the enterprise team at Thomson Reuters, based in Hong Kong. She led the development of Reuters'

Connected China, an award-winning news app that tracks and visualizes the people and institutions that make up China's power structure. Previously, she was senior reporter and special projects team leader at the *South China Morning Post* in Hong Kong and a political reporter in Albany, New York, where she multi-tasked as print reporter, blogger and on-air correspondent for the *Times Union* and PBS' *New York Now*. Liu has been a contributor to National Public Radio and an adjunct professor at the Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism. Irene has a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science from Yale University and a Master of Science in Journalism from the Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism. Irene Jay Liu is the Honorary Lecturer at the University of Hong Kong (Journalism and Media Studies Centre).



Yolanda Ma

Co-founder and Editor, Data Journalism China, Thailand

Yolanda Ma is the co-founder and editor of Data Journalism China, an independent website that promotes and educates on data journalism in Chinese. She has trained hundreds of professional journalists in China on data analysis and visualisation skills since 2012. She also serves the U.N. on innovation and communications. She previously worked for Reuters and the *South China Morning Post* in Hong Kong, and is currently based in Bangkok.



Debra Mason

Director, Center on Religion & the Professions, University of Missouri, USA

Debra Mason is one of the leading professionals and scholars on how the news media cover religion and she has played key roles in entrepreneurial efforts to create local, online and sustainable models of professional religion news. For the last 20 years she has directed Religion Newswriters, the world's oldest and largest association for professional journalists writing about

religion. She also directs the Center on Religion & the Professions at the Missouri School of Journalism, where she works to improve the religious literacy of professionals. Until June 2014, she also served as publisher of Religion News Service, where she led a multi-million dollar expansion that converted RNS from a for-profit to non-profit business model, quadrupled monthly online traffic, created five local niche religion sites, garnered an unprecedented number of industry awards for RNS and oversaw the rebuilding of ReligionNews.com's online presence. She remains CEO to the parent organisation of the 80-year-old RNS and sits on its board. RNS' clients include The Huffington Post, *The Washington Post*, *USA Today*, *Christianity Today*, the *Chicago Tribune* and dozens more.



Robert Meeds

Associate Professor and Department Head, Department of Mass Communication, College of Arts and Sciences, Qatar University, Qatar

Dr. Robert Meeds is an associate professor and the Head of the Department of Mass Communication at Qatar University. Previously, he held faculty positions at Kansas State University (USA) and Texas Tech University (USA). He has a PhD in journalism from the University of Missouri (USA). Dr. Meeds' research focuses on applying psycholinguistic models of language comprehension to advertising copy and persuasive texts and how changes in semantic and syntactic components of texts affect consumer comprehension, memory and persuasion. He has authored or co-authored more than 50 refereed publications and conference papers. His research has appeared in the *Journal of Consumer Psychology*, *Psychology and Marketing*, *International Journal of Advertising*, *Journal of Computer-Mediated Communication* and *Newspaper Research Journal*, among others.



Toby Mendel

Executive Director, Centre for Law and Democracy, Canada

Toby Mendel is the executive director of the Canada-based Centre for Law and Democracy, an international human rights NGO that provides legal and capacity-building expertise regarding foundational rights for democracy. He previously served for more than 12 years as senior director for Law at ARTICLE 19, a human rights NGO focusing on freedom of expression and the right to information. He has collaborated extensively with inter-governmental actors working in these areas – including the World Bank, the U.N. and other special rapporteurs on freedom of expression, UNESCO, the OSCE and the Council of Europe – as well as numerous governments and NGOs in countries all over the world. His work spans a range of areas, including legal reform and analysis, training, advocacy and capacity building. He has also published extensively on a range of freedom of expression, right to information, communication rights and refugee issues. Before joining ARTICLE 19, he worked as a senior human rights consultant with Oxfam

Canada and as a human rights policy analyst at the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA).



Fred M'membe

Managing Director/Editor-in-Chief, Post Newspapers Limited, Zambia

Fred M'membe is a Zambian journalist and editor-in-chief of *The Post*. In 1991, together with Malawi-born journalist Mike

Hall, M'membe founded *The Post* in response to the lack of independent news sources in Zambia. Modelled after South Africa's *Weekly Mail* and Portugal's *Público*, *The Post* quickly proved a financial success, despite Zambia's anemic economy and a modest circulation of 40,000. As the only independent newspaper in Zambia, *The Post* has frequently come into conflict with the government and in the first ten years of its existence alone was the target of more than fifty criminal and civil suits. In 1995, M'membe received the International Press Freedom Award from the Committee to Protect Journalists (CPJ). In 2000, IPI named him one of its 50 inaugural World Press Freedom Heroes.



Soe Myint

Editor-in-Chief and Managing Director, Mizzima Media Group, Myanmar

Soe Myint studied at Rangoon University, majoring in International Relations and International Administration, until 1988, when the

people's uprising against the one party-ruled government broke out in Burma. Soe Myint participated in the uprising as a member of the All Burma Federation of Student Unions (ABSFU), which had been banned but was again founded by students during the uprising. After the military coup in September 1988, he left for the Thai-Burma border region and lived in exile for 24 years. During his exile, he was actively involved in the Burmese students' movement in Thailand and India for democracy and human rights in Burma before becoming a journalist. For several years, he worked for Democratic Voice of Burma (DVB), Radio Free Asia (Burmese Service) and Voice of America (Burmese Department) as their India-based stringer. In August 1998, he established Mizzima News as a Burma-focused news agency. His book *"Burma File: A Question of Democracy"* was published in 2003. He specialises on India-Burma (Myanmar) relations and is currently editor-in-chief of Mizzima News.

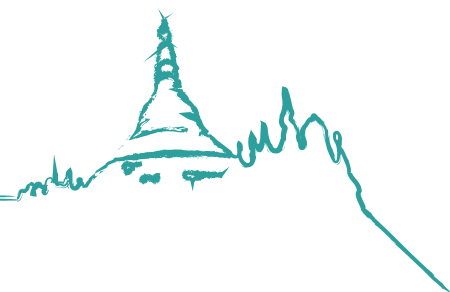


Syed Nazakat

Editor-in-Chief, Centre for Investigative Journalism, India

Syed Nazakat is editor-in-chief of the Centre for Investigative Journalism, India, and has reported from over 20 countries as a

broadcast, print and online journalist. He has covered war in Afghanistan, political turmoil in Nepal, developmental issues



in Laos and Cambodia, unrest in Thailand, telecom revolution in Hong Kong, arms smuggling in Bangladesh, India-Pakistan ties and civil war in South Sudan. He was the first Indian journalist granted access to the U.S. military detention facility at Guantanamo Bay, and in 2011 Saudi Arabia gave him unprecedented access to the Al-Qaeda rehab camp in Riyadh. He has worked with *The Week* in India and was previously based in Bangkok, where he was an assistant news editor with Asia News Network (ANN). His work has also appeared in *TIME* magazine, the *Jakarta Post*, *China Daily*, *Malaysiakini* and *The Daily Star*. He currently writes for the *Christian Science Monitor*. A recipient of India's Ramnath Goenka Excellence in Journalism Award, Nazakat holds a master's degree from the Konrad Adenauer Asian Center of Journalism in the Philippines.



Kosho Niwano

President-Designate, Rissho Kosei-kai, Japan

Reverend Kosho Niwano devotes herself to sharing the teachings of the Lotus Sutra with leaders across the globe and those who visit international Buddhist organisation Rissho Kosei-kai's Great Sacred Hall in Tokyo for worship services and special events. She focuses on creating interreligious cooperation and has participated in several interfaith congresses, including the Religions for Peace Assembly and the Asian Conference of Religions for Peace. Reverend Niwano studied law at Gakushuin University in Tokyo and completed her seminary studies at Rissho Kosei-kai's Gakurin seminary. She is the granddaughter of Rissho Kosei-kai founder, Nikkyo Niwano, and the daughter of Rissho Kosei-kai's current president, Nichiko Niwano.



Nan Pawt Gay

Executive Director and Spokesperson, Burma News International (BNI), Myanmar

Nan Paw Gay is the editor-in-chief of Karen Information Center/Karen News Now. Born in Hpa-an, Karen State, Burma, she completed her studies at Mawlamyine University, Mon State in 1995. She began work as a reporter in the Karen ethnic media and has worked for 15 years covering conflict and human rights near the Thai-Burmese border for both national and international audiences. Her media outlet consist of an online news site as well as a monthly newspaper in two languages (Karen and Burmese). She has also worked with Burma News International since 2009 and has supported other ethnic media in Burma.



Thaung Su Nyein

Editor-in-Chief, 7 Day Daily, Myanmar

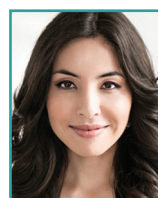
Thaung Su Nyein is a 38-year old technology and media entrepreneur in Myanmar. He is the CEO & managing director of Information Matrix, which has 450 employees and several business divisions. Information Matrix is a leading company in most of the sectors it has chosen to enter since 2000, which include printed media publications, web design, e-government, applications development, system integration, publishing business, video production, exhibition management and services. Currently, he works with a very capable, young and energetic team, dedicated to the company's vision of doing everything in an innovative way for the future.



Ibrahim Saber

Reporting Risk Expert, DCMF; Reuters Producer, Qatar

Ibrahim Saber is a producer for Reuters in Qatar. Previously he worked as a lecturer in filmmaking at Virginia Commonwealth University in Qatar and as a professional media trainer at the Qatar News Agency. From 2001 – 2004 he was Middle East Producer for the Norwegian Broadcasting Corporation and the Scandinavian Broadcast Corporation, covering conflict zones in Palestine, Afghanistan and Iraq in addition to producing political, social and entertainment news, features and documentaries. Saber has a diploma in TV production from Jordan. He is the author of two books, *The Influence of New Media on the Public* and *Reporting Risk*.



Roxana Saberi

Reporter, Al Jazeera America, USA

Roxana Saberi is a New-York based journalist for Al Jazeera America. From 2003 to 2009, she lived and worked in Iran, where she filed reports for Feature Story News, NPR, BBC and ABC Radio, among others. She was writing a book about Iran in 2009 when she was arrested in Tehran and held for 100 days. After returning to the United States, Saberi wrote "Between Two Worlds: My Life and Captivity in Iran". She also worked as a freelance journalist, with articles appearing in *The Washington Post*, *The Wall Street Journal* and *The New York Times*. Saberi was awarded the Medill Medal of Courage, the Ilaria Alpi Freedom of the Press Award, the NCAA Award of Valor, a Project for Middle East Democracy Award and an East-West Freedom Award from the Levantine Cultural Center. She was also named one of Jaycees' 2011 Ten Outstanding Young Americans and was honoured by the Japanese American Citizens League as an "Outstanding Woman". Saberi grew up in Fargo, North Dakota and holds bachelor's degrees in French and communications at Concordia College in Moorhead, Minnesota. She also holds masters degrees, respectively, in journalism from Northwestern University and in international relations from the University of Cambridge.



Sorious Samura **Investigative Journalist, Co-Director,** **Insight TWI: The World Investigates** **(TWI), Sierra Leone**

Emmy, BAFTA, and Peabody winner Sorious Samura is a widely respected African film and television journalist. Since his debut on the international stage with Insight TWI's Emmy-winning "Cry Freetown" (2000), the Sierra Leone native has produced and presented more than a dozen powerful and innovative documentaries for major international broadcasters. "Cry Freetown" was followed by another Emmy-winning film, "Exodus from Africa" (2001), a story of young Africans migrating to Europe across the Sahara desert. From 2004 to 2007, Sorious presented the ground-breaking and Emmy-nominated "Living With" series. In 2010 and 2011, he helped produce the One World Media Award-winning "Africa Investigates" series, featuring undercover investigations spearheaded by local investigative journalists across the African continent. In 2012, he embedded with Ugandan commandos in the Central African Republic to present a documentary for the BBC about the hunt for Lord's Resistance Army leader Joseph Kony.



Anat Saragusti **Director, B'Tselem; Founder, Israel's** **Channel 2 News, USA**

Anat Saragusti is the director of B'Tselem – the Israeli Information Center for Human Rights in the Occupied Territories – which works to document and educate the public and policymakers on human rights violations. Upon graduation from studies in photography, she joined weekly news magazine *Ha'olam Hazeh (This World)*. With the magazine's closing in 1993, she joined the group that established TV Channel 2 News and was appointed a reporter in Gaza. In the mid-1990s, she became editor of news and current affairs for Channel 2 News and was chief editor of its daily evening news edition and Friday night magazine. She also studied law at the time and attained a master's degree from Tel Aviv University, in addition to a diploma in conflict resolution. In 2001, Saragusti lived in the U.S. for a year, where she covered the events of Sept. 11. Upon returning to Israel she focused on directing documentaries and served as executive director of Agenda, a non-profit organisation working to reprioritise and reframe social change issues within the Israeli public debate and media.



Thiha Saw **Editorial Director, Myanmar Times,** **Myanmar**

U Thiha Saw started working as a journalist for the state-owned English-language daily in 1979. In 1988, he was among the editors who were sacked because of their activities in the pro-democratic uprising. He has been working for private media ever since.

He founded the *Myanma Dana* business magazine, a monthly, in 1990 and founded a weekly newspaper called the *Open News Journal* in 2008. He published and edited the only private English language daily newspaper, the *Myanma Freedom Daily*, after the newly elected government started allowing dailies in Myanmar in 2013. In 2014, he joined the *Myanmar Times* as the editorial director. He was one of the founding members of the Myanmar Journalist Association in 2012 and is currently the vice-president of the MJA. He is also a member of the Myanmar Press Council, founded in 2012, and helped it draft the News Media Law. He also helped found the first private journalism training institute in Myanmar, the Myanmar Journalism Institute (MJI), in July 2014. He is currently the chairman of the board of directors of the MJI. He was a graduate of the Rangoon Arts and Science University and studied journalism in West Germany (1986) and in the United States (1997-98).



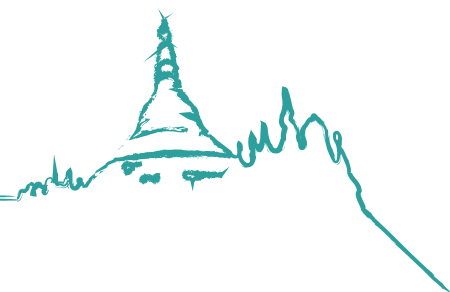
Charles M. Sennott **Co-founder, GlobalPost, USA**

Charles M. Sennott is the founder and executive director of The GroundTruth Project and a co-founder of *GlobalPost*. An award-winning foreign correspondent, author and editor with 30 years of experience in journalism, Sennott has reported from the front lines in at least 15 countries, including Afghanistan, Iraq and Egypt, where he served recently as lead correspondent on award-winning documentaries for PBS FRONTLINE. Sennott's experience led him to launch The GroundTruth Project, dedicated to training the next generation of international journalists for the digital age. GroundTruth works with editorial partners *GlobalPost*, PBS FRONTLINE, PRI The World and PBS station WGBH in Boston, where GroundTruth is based. At *GlobalPost*, Sennott built the editorial team and its global network of award-winning correspondents. He served as the *Boston Globe's* Middle East bureau chief in Jerusalem from 1997 to 2001 and Europe bureau chief in London from 2001 to 2005. Sennott serves on the Board of the Overseas Press Club Foundation and as a Trustee of the Frontline Club, London. He was a Nieman Fellow at Harvard University, and holds a master's degree from Columbia University's Graduate School of Journalism.



Galina Sidorova **IPI Executive Board Chairperson,** **Russia**

Galina Sidorova is a co-founder of Foundation 19/29, Russia's first NGO dedicated to defending the interests of investigative journalists. She graduated from the journalism faculty of the Moscow Institute for International Relations in 1978 and began working at the *Novoje Vremia (New Times)* newsweekly, where she worked for 13 years as a staff writer, political analyst, diplomatic correspondent and member of the editorial board. She has also worked as a political advisor to the Russian foreign



minister (1991-1995), coordinator for Russia with the Commission on Greater Europe (1992-1996) and advisor to the general secretariat of the Russian Foreign Ministry (1995-2000). In 2000, she was named vice president of the Sovvershenno Secretno Information & Publishing Group and served as editor-in-chief of the investigative journalism monthly *Sovershenno Secretno (Top Secret)* from 2001-2010. In 2007, Sidorova was awarded the Russian national annual award for best investigative journalism. She was elected Chair of the IPI Executive Board in 2012 and is only the second woman to hold the position in IPI's 65-year history.



Barbara Trionfi

IPI Interim Executive Director, Austria

Barbara Trionfi graduated in Chinese Studies from Ca' Foscari University in Venice with a thesis on freedom of opinion in the People's Republic of China. After living and working in China for a number of years, she received a masters degree in International Relations from Webster University in Vienna with a focus on international human rights mechanisms. Trionfi also specialised in Chinese contemporary literature at Shanghai's Tongji University and at Shandong University in 1991 and 1993. Parallel to her study, she researched China's censorship system during Mao Zedong's and Deng Xiaoping's leaderships. Trionfi joined IPI in 1999 as Press Freedom Advisor for the Asia-Pacific region, and later became Press Freedom Manager, where she oversaw IPI's press freedom activities and led its press freedom team. Today, as Interim Executive Director, she manages IPI operations in line with the overall strategy defined by the IPI Executive Board. Her field of expertise covers different areas related to press freedom and freedom of expression, including media ethics and self-regulatory media accountability systems, journalists' safety, and international mechanisms to protect press freedom. Trionfi has taught undergraduate courses in media ethics, media literacy, and cultural diversity and the media at Webster University Vienna since 2005.



Aidan White

Director, Ethical Journalism Network (EJN), UK

Aidan White heads the Ethical Journalism Network, a global coalition of media professional groups campaigning for ethics, good governance and self-regulation across all platforms of media. He is the former general secretary of the International Federation of Journalists (IFJ), which he led for 24 years until March 2011. He is one of the founders of the International News Safety Institute (INSI) and the International Freedom of Expression Exchange (IFEX), and he formerly worked for *The Guardian* in London.



Atsushi Yamazaki

Fukushima Correspondent, Kahoku Shimpō, Japan

Atsushi Yamazaki was born in 1967 and raised in Iwaki City, Fukushima Prefecture in Japan. His hometown is located about 50 kilometres south of the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power plants. In 1993, he became a staff reporter for *Kahoku Shimpō*, a daily newspaper in Tohoku area. The morning paper's daily circulation is 450,000. Prior to this, he received an MA in sociology from Southern Illinois University at Carbondale. His publications include: "*Troubling Children: Studies of Children and Social Problems*", "*Cultivating Japan - A Message from Mesomountainous Region*" and "*Vanishing Fishing Grounds*". Together with his colleagues he has won the Agriculture Journalist Award of Japan three times.



Muhammad Yunus

Nobel Peace Laureate, Chairman of Yunus Centre and Founder of Grameen Bank, Bangladesh

Nobel Laureate Professor Muhammad Yunus is the father of microcredit, the father of "social business" and the founder of Grameen Bank and more than 50 other companies in Bangladesh. For his constant innovation and enterprise, *Fortune* magazine named him in March 2012 "one of 12 greatest entrepreneurs of our time". Yunus was born in Bangladesh in 1940. After receiving his Ph.D. in economics in 1969 in the United States, he returned to Bangladesh in 1972 to join the Department of Economics at the University of Chittagong. In 1976, Yunus started to experiment with providing collateral free loans to the poor, a project that would later develop into Grameen Bank. In 2006, Yunus and Grameen Bank were jointly awarded the Nobel Peace Prize. He is also a recipient of the U.S. Presidential Medal of Freedom and of more than 50 honorary degrees from universities across 20 countries, among numerous other awards and honours. Yunus is the author of the books "*Banker to the Poor: Micro-Lending and the Battle against World Poverty*", "*Creating a World without Poverty: Social Business and the Future of Capitalism*", and, most recently, "*Building Social Business: The New Kind of Capitalism that Serves Humanity's Most Pressing Needs*".