

Five-Point Test for Journalists

Region: World

Organisation responsible: Ethical Journalism Network

Period: 2017-2018



Activity: The five-point test of speech for journalism in context has been developed by EJN advisers and is based upon international standards. It highlights some questions to be asked in the gathering, preparation and dissemination of news and information that will help journalists and editors place what is said and who is saying it in an ethical context.

Objectives

Raising awareness among journalists and media professionals through education of the importance of ethics, human rights and good governance in the exercise of journalism and the administration of news media.

Strengthening through education the capacity of media professional groups in their promotion of ethical standards and good governance in the monitoring and supervision of journalism.

Description

The Five-Point Test helps journalists to determine what is hate speech taking into consideration the wider context in which people express themselves. They must focus not just on what is said, but what is intended. It's not just a matter of law or socially acceptable behaviour; it's a question of whether speech aims to do others harm, particularly at moments when there is the threat of immediate violence.

Beneficiaries

Journalists

GOAL 8: Raise alternative narratives in social media and traditional media

(127) Create coordination mechanisms between civil society and non-state stakeholders (journalists, social networks, etc.) to work on a declaration of principles to combat hate speech.