

PANEL DISCUSSION

Legal Threats to Safety of Journalists

 Thursday, 2 November 2023, 10:00 – 12:00 CET

 Palais des Nations, Room XIX, Geneva, Switzerland
and remote participation via Zoom

Journalists and media workers could play a role in scrutinizing governments, report on political or social issues perceived sensitive or disturbing by the government, and draw attention to the most marginalised groups. However, at times, this has come at a significant cost. Laws have long been used to punish journalists and suppress media freedom.

On the occasion of the International Day to End Impunity For Crimes Against Journalists, the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, is organizing a panel discussion to bring visibility to a new Study on the impact of counter-terrorism and other criminal laws on media freedom and safety of journalists. Panellists will explore legal challenges faced by journalists and the increasing practice of resorting to restrictive legal frameworks to unduly interfere with the work of journalists.

Opening remarks by **Mr. Ioannis Ghikas**, Greece Ambassador and Permanent Representative; **Ms. Riia Salsa-Audiffren**, Estonia Ambassador and Permanent Representative; **Mr. Lars Tummers**, Netherlands Ambassador and Deputy Permanent Representative; **Mr. Tawfik Jelassi**, Assistant Director-General, UNESCO; and **Ms. Peggy Hicks**, Director, OHCHR.

REGISTRATION

<https://indico.un.org/event/1007867>

PANELLISTS:



Simon Walker
Chief of Section, OHCHR



Rawan Damen
Director General, Arab Reporters
for Investigative Journalism



Fionnuala Ni Aolain
Outgoing Special Rapporteur on
the promotion and protection of
human rights and fundamental
freedoms while countering terrorism



Tabani Moyo
Regional Director at Media Institute
of Southern Africa



Paula Martins
Human Rights Policy Advocacy
Lead, APC

WITH THE ONLINE PARTICIPATION OF:



Maria Ressa
Co-Founder, CEO and President
of Rappler, and Nobel Peace
Prize Laureate (2021)