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Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe The Representative on Freedom of the Media Jan Braathu

ANNEX Regular Report to the Permanent Council For the period from 10 April 2025 – 27 November 2025

VISITS

The OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media makes country visits to meet with authorities, discuss media legislation, and address challenges to press freedom. These visits are often part of broader efforts to monitor media freedom developments and offer assistance in line with OSCE commitments.

European Union, 6 – 8 May

On 6-8 May, on the occasion of UNESCO's World Press Freedom Day Conference, I conducted a first visit to European Institutions. The visit included meeting with the Commission of the European Union (EU), the Presidency of the Council of the EU (held by Poland at that point in time), the European External Actions Service (EEAS), and several representatives of civil society. As I have announced in my first PC report, in challenging times, it becomes more crucial to work together in coordination and complementary, to build on one another's initiatives and learn from one another's lessons.

Over the past years, the EU has developed comprehensive regulatory frameworks aimed at addressing some of the challenges we see in the media and information landscape. Their effective implementation is crucial to ensure that measures around transparency, accountability, and human rights due diligence strengthen information integrity and media pluralism.

Bosnia and Herzegovina, 26 - 28 May

During my first official visit to Bosnia and Herzegovina, I held three-days of bilateral meetings with State- and entity-level ministers and officials, opposition politicians from Republika Srpska, and representatives of the media and civil society. My discussions focused on the need to improve the safety of journalists in light of the increasing threats, legal harassment and violence targeting individual journalists and media outlets, alongside the growing anti-media rhetoric. While I acknowledged positive steps toward

greater transparency in media ownership at the State level, I also expressed concern over restrictive legislative initiatives at the entity level – particularly the "foreign agent" law in Republika Srpska and draft laws in several cantons of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina related to public peace and order, as well as public information. I emphasized the importance of aligning these laws with OSCE commitments through inclusive and transparent legislative processes. I was pleased to note that, following my bilateral meetings, and the Constitutional Court of Bosnia and Herzegovina decision on 29 May, the RS entity authorities decided to repeal the "foreign agent" law in Republika Srpska.

In my discussions with the authorities, I also addressed the role and functionality of the public service broadcasting system and the regulatory authority, as well as the issue of access to public information. I underscored that these institutions must operate independently, professionally, and in the public interest to foster a pluralistic and resilient media environment. I concluded my visit encouraged by the openness of the discussions and reaffirmed my readiness to support inclusive, rights-based reforms that safeguard free, independent and safe journalism throughout the country.

Hungary, 2 – 3 June

On 2-3 June, on the occasion of the General Meeting of the European Federation of Journalists, where I delivered a keynote address, I conducted my first official visit to Hungary. I held bilateral meetings with government officials, media representatives, and civil society organizations. During my meetings, discussions focused on the proposed legislation "On the Transparency of Public Life," which, while presented as enhancing transparency, could adversely affect independent media and civil society. I urged alignment of the proposal with OSCE commitments. I also raised concerns about political influence over public service media, concentration of ownership, and misuse of state advertising, emphasizing the need for transparency and independent oversight. Highlighting the role of independent regulators as vital to media freedom, I reaffirmed the Office's readiness to support Hungary in advancing reforms consistent with OSCE principles.

Malta, 17 – 18 September

On 17–18 September, I conducted a visit to Malta, to participate in a Council of Europe Presidency High-Level Conference on Building Democratic Resilience to Disinformation. I also met with representatives of the journalists' union (IGM), the Daphne Caruana Galizia Foundation, and the Malta Police to discuss media freedom and the safety of journalists. I was encouraged to learn that Malta is taking steps to establish a Press Council. This initiative represents an important opportunity to strengthen journalistic standards, promote accountability, and enhance media freedom. I look forward to following these efforts closely and to supporting the Maltese authorities and media community in fostering a more independent and pluralistic media environment.

Serbia, 19 June – 31 October

Between 19 June and 31 October, I undertook six visits to Serbia, during which I engaged with the Speaker of the National Assembly, Ms. Ana Brnabić, the Parliamentary Committee for Culture and Information, the OSCE Mission to Serbia, the EU Delegation to Serbia, representatives of the Quint and other diplomatic missions, as well as journalists and civil society organizations. At the official invitation of Speaker Brnabić, my engagement aimed to support the integrity, transparency, and legality of the selection process for the new nine-member Council of the Regulatory Authority for Electronic Media (REM). These efforts sought to foster a constructive and inclusive dialogue among the Serbian authorities, media representatives, and civil society stakeholders. Throughout this period, I facilitated meetings between Serbian authorities and media stakeholders, contributing to the renewed participation of stakeholders who had previously withdrawn from the preceding round of the selection process.

My Office also provided independent legal expertise, including the preparation of a detailed Memorandum clarifying eligibility questions related to two nominator categories – (i) associations of film, stage, and dramatic artists and associations of composers, and (ii) associations aimed at the protection of children – based on Serbia's Law on Electronic Media and relevant international standards. This legal guidance served to enhance coherence, transparency, and confidence in the process, while responding to questions raised by civil society stakeholders and the corresponding responses of the Parliamentary Committee. As a result, the Committee was able to finalize the list of authorized nominators and eligible candidates, leading to the public hearing of 18 shortlisted candidates and the subsequent deliberations in Parliament on 10 November. Following the hearing, on 12 November Parliament voted on the candidates for 8 categories, while there was no majority for the candidates proposed in the 9th category. At this moment the process appears to be stalled, with both the Parliamentary Committee and civil society insisting on their respective approaches.

Greece, 22 – 24 September

On 22-24 September, I conducted my first official visit to Greece, where I met with government officials, journalists, and media representatives to discuss media freedom and the safety of journalists. I was encouraged by the significant progress made since 2022, including initiatives to strengthen journalist protection and ongoing work on legislation to counter SLAPPs. I welcomed steps such as the decriminalization of defamation and the adoption of collective labor agreements in public media, and I hope similar measures will extend to the private sector. I remain committed to supporting the Greek authorities in implementing their Action Plan for media freedom and ensuring a safe and pluralistic media environment. I welcomed the efforts of the press community to establish a Press Council and offered assistance.

Uzbekistan, 12 - 14 November

On 12–14 November, I conducted an official visit to the Republic of Uzbekistan, which included high-level meetings in Tashkent and participation in OSCE RFoM 25th Central Asia Media Conference. During my stay, I met with senior officials from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Legislative Chamber Committee on Innovative Development and Information Technologies, the Communications Department of the Presidential Administration, Uzkomnazorat, the Centre for Content Preparation for Mass Media, and the Public Foundation for the Support and Development of National Mass Media. These meetings focused on ongoing media reforms, the development of the digital information sphere, and practical avenues for cooperation with the OSCE.

I welcomed Uzbekistan's practice of public consultations and constructive engagement with my Office on draft laws, including the Information Code (2024) and the draft law on the protection of users of online platforms and websites (2025). Throughout the visit, the safety of journalists remained a central theme, reflecting the obligations under the 2018 OSCE Ministerial Council Decision on the Safety of Journalists. I emphasized the importance of strengthened mechanisms for prevention, response, and institutional coordination to safeguard journalists and protect the public's right to information.

In addition, I highlighted areas for practical cooperation, including digital safety training, workshops on police–media relations, initiatives addressing online attacks against women journalists, and media literacy programmes. The visit concluded with the OSCE RFoM 25th Central Asia Media Conference and field meetings in Bukhara and Samarkand, reinforcing dialogue with regional stakeholders and media professionals to support a pluralistic, resilient media environment.

INTERVENTIONS

Interventions by the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media are actions, ranging from public statements to confidential diplomatic engagement, aimed at addressing violations, promoting compliance, and supporting participating States in upholding their media freedom commitments.

Diplomatic Interventions

During the reporting period, I have written **128** letters on issues related to media freedom to **46** participating States. I have also received **24** letters from **16** participating States.

Public Interventions

During the reporting period, I have issued **127** public interventions. These are circulated to all OSCE participating States on a weekly basis, through the internal documents distribution system.

Meetings

During the reporting period, I discussed media freedom issues and engaged in **91** official meetings with representatives from **34** OSCE participating States. Furthermore, I held **36** individual meetings with more than **100** representatives from various media outlets and civil society organizations across the OSCE area.

LEGAL REVIEWS

To help the participating States conform to their media freedom commitments, the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media provides legal reviews on proposed media legislation, which include thorough analyses and recommendations of how the legislation might be amended to comply with international standards.

Mongolia: Draft Law On Freedom of the Media.

Uzbekistan: Draft law On the Protection of the Rights of Users of Online Platforms and Websites.¹

Serbia: On the Process for Selecting Members of the Council of the Regulatory Authority for Electronic Media (REM).

Peer reviewed, in cooperation with ODIHR:

ODIHR Legal Opinion on the Draft Foreign Agents Registration Act of Bulgaria.

ODIHR Comparative Note on the Application of Freedom of Expression Standards in Proceedings Related to Breaches of Codes of Conduct by State Officials.

ODIHR Note on the Exercise of Freedom of Peaceful Assembly in Online Spaces.

PUBLICATIONS

Media and Big Tech: In October, my Office published a Policy Manual on Safeguarding Media Freedom in the Age of Big Tech and AI, developed with input from over 150 experts. The Manual provides detailed, human rights—based policy recommendations and practical tools to help States promote media viability, visibility, and vigilance, strengthen pluralism and independence, and ensure transparency, accountability, and human rights due diligence in digital information ecosystems.

Journalism in Exile: In September, my Office published a Report on Enhancing Protection of Journalists Under Severe Political Pressure, which particularly focuses on journalists in exile and aims at raising awareness of the participating States about the matter by offering a comprehensive analysis of the challenges faced by affected journalists and proposing actionable recommendations for their protection and support.

¹ Undergoing finalization on date of report publication.

Safety of Journalists: Between March and June, my Office developed seven audio podcasts – each dedicated to a specific thematic issue affecting journalists' safety today. These podcasts raise awareness on the critical situation of journalists' safety, in light of the commitments outlined in the landmark OSCE Ministerial Council Decision No. 3/2018 on Safety of Journalists (SoJ). The podcasts follow the logic of the thematic roundtables within the SoJ Project, bringing to the forefront various aspects, including data collection, working conditions, conflict situations and journalism in exile, digital safety, legal harassment, police prevention, and the fight against impunity.

Reporting the Environment: Practical Manual for Journalists: Developed by my Office in cooperation with UNESCO, this handbook offers an accessible, global resource for journalists covering one of the defining stories of our time. It helps journalists connect global challenges with local realities; navigate disinformation, polarization, and risk; and report safely, accurately and inclusively. This is the first of two publications on this topic that my Office has been working on. The second one, a handbook for environmental journalism trainers, will be published at the beginning of 2026.

Outcomes Report for the South East Europe Media Freedom Conference: In November, my Office released the Outcomes Report from the 10th regional South East Europe Media Conference (SEEMC), held in Sarajevo on 29-30 May 2025. This report distils key conclusions and recommendations drawn from discussions among a broad spectrum of experts from journalism and beyond. It sets out concrete ways to strengthen media viability and safeguard public interest journalism for resilient and informed societies.

EXTRA-BUDGETARY PROJECTS

Repository Programme: This fund allows contributing participating States to allocate funding to the RFoM flexibly, whereby the exact allocation of funds will be determined according to needs within the six extra-budgetary projects below that are part of it.

Regional Conferences: This project aims to assist the participating States in Central Asia and South East Europe in their implementation of OSCE media freedom commitments. The project offers annual media conferences in both regions in 2025-2027, as well as the development and publication of conference outcomes with actionable recommendations stemming from these flagship regional events.

FoM Dialogues – No Security without Media Freedom: This project seeks to bridge the gap between media freedom and the security sector by developing guidance for a Public Interest Framework (PIF) that promotes healthy, pluralistic information ecosystems supporting peace and security. In the context of rising geopolitical tensions and hybrid

threats, it examines how free, independent, and pluralistic media underpins societal resilience and comprehensive security. It's flagship events - the Media and Security Dialogues - aim to identify policy frameworks and cooperative strategies to integrate media freedom into broader national and international security agendas.

Safety of Journalists: This project is designed to provide guidance to the participating States on how to strengthen implementation of relevant OSCE principles and commitments, with particular reference to the pledges outlined in MC Decision 3/18 on the Safety of Journalists. Against this backdrop, the Office has launched the Safety of Journalists Toolbox, a user-friendly platform that highlights existing safety measures from across the OSCE region and encourages further action. A major component of the project is the regular updating of the Toolbox with national instruments, best practices, legislative developments, and mechanisms that enhance journalists' safety. Furthermore, the project has established a Network of National Focal Points to promote and update the Toolbox and facilitate the continuous exchange of national initiatives.

SOFJO: This project supports women journalists in freely practicing their profession and engaging in the public sphere without fear of online violence. Over the years, SOFJO has empowered women in journalism through tailored support mechanisms, awareness campaigns, and advocacy for stronger protections. Additionally, it has highlighted the farreaching impact of widespread online violence against women journalists on the information landscape. The development of specific indicators has enhanced the systematic monitoring of online violence, revealing that violence against women journalists in digital spaces can escalate into offline intimidation and physical harm. These initiatives have been instrumental in promoting a safer and more inclusive online space.

Healthy Online Information Spaces – SAIFE Renewed: This project develops and advances policy guidance on free expression and media freedom within an algorithmic information environment, seeking to address existing and emerging challenges at the intersection of technology, governance, and human rights. In particular, it explores the evolving relationship between media and Big Tech, as well as issues of digital authoritarianism, surveillance, and information operations, while fostering networks in view of leveraging technology in support of media freedom and the OSCE's broader peace and security agenda.

Journalism Under Severe Political Pressure: This project focuses on raising political-level awareness of specific needs and challenges faced by journalists under severe political pressure, including journalists in exile, and advocating for provision of protection responses to facilitate more secure and sustainable continuation of professional activities of journalists concerned.

EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

- **16 April**: My Office took part in an online Roundtable on "Online Harms: Addressing Violence Against Women and Girls" organized by the International Strategy, Engagement and Devolution Directorate, Home Office, United Kingdom.
- **22-23 April:** My Office participated as judge at the Oxford University's Media Law Moot Court, in Oxford, United Kingdom.
- **23-27 April:** I delivered opening remarks and my Office participated at the seminar "Media Self-Regulation: Rules for a New Reality' in Poltava, Ukraine, organised by SPU together with the Ukrainian Commission on Journalism Ethics.
- **24 April:** My Office organized Media & Big Tech stakeholder consultations at the Oxford Internet Institute, followed by a Steering Committee meeting ahead of the drafting of the Policy Manual on Safeguarding Media Freedom in the Age of Big Tech Platforms and AI, in Oxford, United Kingdom.
- **30 April:** I spoke at an event organized by the Diplomatic Academy on Press Freedom in the Age of Al: Safeguarding Journalism in a Changing World, in Vienna, Austria.
- **2 May:** I addressed, through video message, the World Press Freedom Day Conference in Helsinki organized by the Finnish Journalists Union, Foundation for Media and Development, International Press Institute in Helsinki and Reporters Without Borders Finland.
- **5-7 May**: My Office and I participated in the World Press Freedom Day Conference 2025 where I launched, jointly with the other international free expression mandate holders, a Joint Statement on AI and Freedom of Expression and took part in a plenary discussion on it. I also participated in panel discussions on "Access to Information and Media Pluralism in the face of Artificial Intelligence and Power Concentration" co-organized by my Office and the UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), and "Supporting Journalism under Severe Political Pressure: The Challenges and Opportunities", co-organized by my Office and the European Federation of Journalists. My Office also held a consultation on media viability, media visibility and media vigilance in the age of Big Tech as part of our Media & Big Tech initiative, in Brussels, Belgium.
- **6 May**: I spoke at a High-Level OSCE Panel in the Chairpersonship Conference *on Gender Equality Building resilience through inclusion and empowerment*, held in Vienna, Austria.
- **8-9 May:** I concluded my first visit to European Institutions and met with the Commission of the European Union (EU), the Presidency of the Council of the EU (held by Poland at that time), the European External Actions Service (EEAS), and several representatives of civil society, in Brussels, Belgium.
- **12-17 May**: My Office co-organized a 5 day long Hostile Environment Awareness Training (HEAT) for journalists with the Austrian MFA and MoD, in co-operation with IPI at Kaserne Wallenstein, near Vienna, Austria.

- **13 May**: I gave a keynote speech at an event organized by the Permanent Mission of the Czech Republic to the United Nations, OSCE and other International Organizations in Vienna, together with the Permanent Mission of Ukraine to the International Organizations in Vienna, held on the occasion of the screening of the documentary film War Correspondent (2025), in Vienna, Austria.
- **14–16 May:** My Office participated in the 61st European Platform of Regulatory Authorities (EPRA) Meeting and presented "A Public Interest Framework for the Future of Media" in Chişinău, Moldova.
- **15-16 May:** My Office was invited to speak at one of the sessions and participate in the Conference "The Future of Democracy in the Digital Era" which was organized by the University of Oxford, University of Florence, and University of Helsinki in Florence, Italy.
- **19 May**: I spoke at an OSCE Security Committee Side Event on "Addressing the (Comprehensive) Security Threat of Disinformation," organized by my Office, with the support of the OSCE Security Committee and the European Centre of Excellence for Countering Hybrid Threats in Vienna, Austria.
- **19 May**: My Office took part in the expert roundtable on "Promoting Media Viability" organized by the Austrian UNESCO Commission, in Vienna, Austria.
- **20 May**: Upon invitation from the United Kingdom Delegation to the OSCE, as Chair of the OSCE Security Committee, I gave opening remarks in their Security Committee Meeting on 'Security implications of information manipulation and interference in the OSCE region'.
- **21 May**: My Office spoke at the conference "25 years of UNSC Resolution 1325 New challenges, renewed commitment and the future of the Women Peace and Security Agenda" organized by the Delegation of Poland to the OSCE, UN Women and the European Union.
- **23 May:** My Office took part in the Women, Peace and Security Informal Network Meeting, presenting the Safety of Female journalists Online (SOFJO) project in connection with the protection pillar of the 1325 UNSC Resolution, in Vienna, Austria.
- **27–28 May**: My Office presented in a workshop on "Effective communication in the digital age: media interaction and communication tools" in Ashgabat, Turkmenistan.
- **29-30 May:** I spoke and participated at the 10th edition of our OSCE RFoM South East Europe Media Conference, under the theme "Actioning Media Viability for Informed, Resilient Societies" in Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina.
- **2 June**: I delivered keynote remarks at the General Meeting of the European Federation of Journalists, held in Budapest, Hungary.

4 June: My Office took part in the Austrian Presidency Conference of the Council of Europe Audiovisual Observatory on the EU Audiovisual Media Services Directive (AVMSD), in Vienna, Austria.

5 June: My Office led an online session at the Summer School on media law organized by the University of Split, Croatia.

6 June: My Office presented at and took part in a panel discussion on Al and disinformation at the International Digital Security Forum in Vienna, Austria.

9-13 June: My Office co-organized the OSCE/DCAF Summer School, holding several sessions on media freedom and the safety of journalists, including online safety of female journalists, Bishkek/Issyk Kul, Kyrgyzstan.

11 June: My Office spoke at the CiO Conference on Climate and Security in Helsinki on a session about "Environmental and Climate Defenders".

12-13 June: I spoke at the 50th anniversary event of the Helsinki Final Act, organized by the Norwegian Helsinki Committee in Oslo, Norway.

13–14 June: My Office participated in a panel on "Advancing Journalist Safety: National Policies, Legislative Efforts, and International Cooperation" at the Conference "A Multidisciplinary Approach to Global Journalist Safety" in Thessaloniki, Greece.

16 June: I spoke online at the "High-Level Editorial Forum on Geopolitics, Security, and Information Chaos", organized by the Norwegian Centre for Security and Resilience in cooperation with Radio and Television of Montenegro (RTCG) in Podgorica, Montenegro.

17 June: I delivered an online keynote speech at the OSCE Regional Heads of Mission Meeting in South-Eastern Europe on "Media literacy and freedom in SEE – Evolving trends and potential regional work," organized by the CPC in Skopje, North Macedonia.

17 June: Along with the OSCE HCNM, UN Special Adviser on the Prevention of Genocide and the Representative of the OSCE CiO, I spoke online at a Side Event to the High-Level Event to Mark the 4th International Day for Countering Hate Speech.

21 June: I participated in the conference entitled "Between Pressure and Resistance: Media Freedoms Through the Lens of the NUNS Report," organized by the Independent Journalists Association of Serbia (NUNS) in Belgrade, Serbia.

24 June: My Office participated at the Internet Governance Forum (IGF) in Lillestrøm, Norway, and co-organized a session on "Information integrity through journalism and alternative platforms", together with the International Media Support (IMS) and the Deutsche Welle Akademie.

25–27 June: My Office participated in the Countering Foreign Interference (CFI) Dialogues 2025 – "Detecting and Exposing Foreign Interference: Building the EU's Capability and

Active Defence," held at the European University Institute, Florence School of Transnational Governance in Florence, Italy.

30 June – 2 July: My Office participated in the Austrian Forum for Peace 2025 and engaged in a closed workshop on PeaceTech.

1–2 July: I delivered opening remarks at a media event, 'Ensuring Media Freedom and the Safety of Journalists during Wartime', which was held at Ukrinform on 1 July, as part of the OSCE Chairpersonship and the OSCE Project Coordinator in Ukraine's visit to Kyiv, in which my Office took part.

10 July: My Office co-organized a youth event with the 2025 Finland Chairpersonship, the OSCE Secretariat, and the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly, and with the support of ODIHR and the HCNM, in cooperation with the Regional Academy on the United Nations (RAUN), highlighting young scholars' research on OSCE-related topics and freedom of expression, in Vienna, Austria.

21–23 July: My Office presented at the OSCE School in Tbilisi and organised a workshop on media literacy, in Tbilisi, Georgia.

22 July: Upon the invitation of the Delegation of Sweden to the OSCE, as Chair of the Human Dimension Committee, I delivered a keynote speech at the Human Dimension Committee meeting on the Role of Media Freedom in Strengthening Democracy and Security, in Vienna, Austria.

29-30 July: My Office attended the OSCE Chairpersonship Youth Forum 2025, providing specific recommendations to the OSCE-wide YPS Roadmap, in Helsinki, Finland.

31 July – 1 August: On the invitation of the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Finland and 2025 OSCE Chairperson-in-Office Elina Valtonen, I spoke at the Helsinki +50 high level conference where Helsinki+50 Fund was also launched. During this visit, I also met with the Helsingin Sanomat (HS) editorial team, in Helsinki, Finland, to discuss the conviction of HS journalists for revealing state secrets.

8 July: On the margins of the 18th Global Media Forum hosted by Deutsche Welle, my Office organized a roundtable on "Guarding the Truth: How Free Media Supports Global Stability" in Bonn, Germany.

27 August: My Office signed a 12-month cooperation agreement with the International Center for Journalists to develop an e-learning course aimed at strengthening the capacity of key stakeholders to effectively implement the *Guidelines for Monitoring Online Violence Against Female Journalists*.

8–10 September: My Office organized a workshop "Media for Democracy, Not Division: Co-Creating a Public Interest Framework for the Digital Age" at the Global Gathering 2025 in Estoril, Portugal.

- **15 September:** In a video message, I celebrated the 10th anniversary of the Journalism Award for Tolerance, featured in a documentary produced by the OSCE Mission to Serbia, highlighting the award's impact over the past decade, in Belgrade, Serbia.
- **16 September**: I spoke online at a conference on "Belarusian Journalism: Where Tomorrow Begins", organized by the Belarusian Association of Journalists in Vilnius. My Office also took part in a panel session "What can be done for journalists and media in exile?", co-organized by my Office and the Belarusian Association of Journalists, in Vilnius, Lithuania.
- **17 September**: I spoke at a high-level Conference organized by the Council of Europe, "Building Democratic Resilience to Disinformation", held under the Maltese Presidency of the Committee of Ministers.
- **19 September**: My Office participated online, in the biannual meeting of the Advisory Committee to the Council of Europe Audiovisual Observatory.
- **25 September**: My Office organized an online structured dialogue on "Foreign Agents Laws and Media Freedom" in partnership with the High-Level Panel of Legal Experts on Media Freedom.
- **26 September:** I launched my Office's report on enhancing protection of journalists under severe political pressure, in Vienna, Austria.
- **1 October**: My Office participated in the OSCE Chairperson-in-Office CyberSecurity/ICT Conference in Helsinki, Finland and took part in a session on "Preparing for the future: Seizing opportunities and responding to the challenges posed by AI and disruptive technologies".
- **2 October**: In its sixth Gender Champions Award, the OSCE awarded my Office's staff member, Paloma Madrigal with a *Gender Champions Award* for her outstanding contributions to promoting gender equality and empowering women across the Organization as a Gender Focal Point.
- **6–9 October:** I spoke at the plenary session on media freedom and the safety of journalists at the 2025 Warsaw Human Dimension Conference. This session highlighted implementation gaps in Ministerial Council Decision 3/18 and promoted stronger national safety mechanisms. Additionally, I spoke at four side events, organised by my Office, that addressed critical media freedom issues, such as information integrity and combatting disinformation, police–media relations, gender-based violence, safeguarding women journalists, and the impact of exiled media on strengthening democratic resilience.
- **11 October**: My Office participated online at the SEEDIG, the South East Europe Internet Governance Forum, to present the key outcomes of the Media & Big Tech initiative.

- **13–15 October:** My Office presented our work focusing in particular on the Safety of Journalists Project at the Regional Academy on the United Nations' first session in Barcelona, Spain.
- **15-16 October**: My Office participated in the "The Future of Democracy: Speech, Thought, Sovereignty, and Power in the Age of Platforms and Al" Conference, organized by the Open Markets Institute and ARTICLE 19, in Brussels, Belgium.
- **16-17 October:** My Office gave a keynote speech on "New Challenges to the Profession of Journalism" and held a presentation on the digital safety and security of journalists at the 21st Austrian Rundfunk Forum 2025 in Vienna, Austria.
- **17 October:** I contributed to a documentary on the Safety of Journalists in Kosovo, produced by the OSCE Mission in Kosovo.
- **17–18 October**: My Office presented the OSCE RFoM's SOFJO project and our activities to enhance the safety of female journalists at the International Festival for Gender Equality in Perugia, Italy.
- **20 October:** I spoke at an event dedicated to *Safety of Journalists in Conflict Times:* Protecting Independence and Supporting Recovery of Ukrainian media, which addressed the current and emerging threats faced by journalists, particularly in conflict and post-conflict environments, co-organized by my Office, together with the OSCE Delegations of Italy and Ukraine an in Vienna, Austria.
- **22 October**: I spoke at our OSCE RFoM Conference on "Healthy Online Information Spaces: From Policy Guidance to Pathways Forward". At the Conference, organized by my Office hosted several interactive workshops on pressing challenges and opportunities posed by emerging technologies for freedom of expression and media freedom, and our Policy Manual on Safeguarding Media Freedom in the Age of Big Tech Platforms and Al was officially launched and presented.
- **23–24 October**: My Office participated in the 62nd meeting of the European Platform of Regulatory Authorities in Yerevan, Armenia.
- **24 October**: My Office supported the IPI World Congress in Vienna by hosting sessions on "Across Borders: Digital Threats to Exiled Media" and "Taming Big Tech: Power, Platforms and Press Freedom", and moderated a session about "The Future of Press Freedom Advocacy".
- **24 October**: I launched, together with the other international freedom of expression mandate holders, the Joint Declaration on "AI, Freedom of Expression and Media Freedom" at the IPI World Congress in Vienna, Austria.
- **24 October**: My Office convened a High-Level Roundtable on Media Freedom, Resilience and Security, organized in cooperation with the Media Freedom Coalition, in Vienna, Austria.

- **28-29 October**: My Office presented the Safety of Journalists Project and Toolbox during a special session at the University of Milan, Italy.
- **29 October:** In a video message, I addressed the 11th Media Development Forum on "Fostering reforms in media ownership and strengthening RTSH's independence for meaningful media pluralism in Albania", organized by the OSCE Presence in Albania, in Tirana, Albania.
- **31 October:** I spoke at an event entitled "Impunity is a Crime Let's Prevent It," organized by the Association of Independent Electronic Media (ANEM) in Belgrade, Serbia.
- **31 October**: My Office facilitated discussions at an Expert Consultation Workshop organized jointly by the three OSCE autonomous institutions on developing Guidelines for providing balanced, accurate and responsible coverage of Roma and Sinti in the media.
- **3 November**: My Office, together with the OSCE Transnational Threats Department/Action against Terrorism Unit (TNTD/ATU), organized a roundtable on "Disinformation and its Impact on P/CVERLT and Counter-Terrorism" in Vienna, Austria.
- **4 November**: I spoke online at the 7th Exile Media Forum, organized by Körber-Stiftung. The Forum is part of the Hamburg Week of Press Freedom, in Hamburg, Germany.
- **7–8 November**: My Office participated in the Conference "Unveil the Truth" to talk about the strengthening of democratic resilience against information manipulation through media literacy, in Chisinau, Moldova.
- **13–14 November**: I spoke at our OSCE RFoM's 25th Central Asia Media Conference, which my Office organized, under the theme "Actioning Media Viability for Informed, Resilient Societies" in Tashkent, Uzbekistan.
- **16-17 November**: My Office organized a side event at the OSCE PA Autumn Meeting on *Truth Under Threat: The Role of Parliamentarians in Upholding Safety of Journalists*, to examine the impact of targeted campaigns against journalists on democratic debate, and delivered a presentation at the Meeting of the OSCE PA Network of Young Parliamentarians (NYP) "Youth in the Digital Era: Bridging Technology, Education and Responsibility", in Istanbul, Türkiye.
- **24 November**: I met with the Director of the European Union's Fundamental Rights Agency (FRA), Sirpa Rautio, to discuss main challenges to media freedom and how to strengthen synergies on human rights within the 27 EU Member States who are also OSCE participating States.
- **26 November**: I participated and spoke at my Office's event marking the 10th Anniversary of the Safety of Female Journalists Online (SOFJO) Project: "Testimonials and Film Screening"