مــنتدى
الإعلام ودوره في تأجيج الكراهية والعنف

Media International Forum:
The Role of Media in Inciting Hatred and Violence

رابطة العالم الإسلامي
MUSLIM WORLD LEAGUE

The Media International Forum Program:

The Role of Media in Inciting Hatred and Violence

"Risks of Misinformation and Bias "

Organized by:

Union of OIC News Agencies (UNA)

in collaboration with

Auxiliary Secretariat for Corporate Communication at the Muslim World League

Jeddah - Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

Sunday, November 26, 2023 corresponding to 12 Jumada-alawwal 1445H

Forum Program

The forum's agenda includes an opening session, four discussion sessions, and a closing session for the final communique, all scheduled within a single day (November 26, 2023), as outlined below

Time	Topic of the session	Speakers
	Plenary session	
11:00-12:00	Presenting the ceremony	**His Excellency Mr. Malik Alruqi**
	Recitation of verses from the Holy Quran	**His Eminence Dr. Ahmad Abdul Qayyum**
	Documentary on the Forum	
	The participants remarks in the opening session	**Remarks by His Excellency Sheikh Dr. Mohammed bin Abdulkarim Al-Issa, Secretary-General of the Muslim World League, and Chairman of the Organization of Muslim Scholars**
		Remarks by His Excellency Minister Ahmad Assaf, General Supervisor of Official Media in Palestine and Chairman of the Board of Directors of the News and Information Agency in Palestine
	Participation from the Palestinian territories with several journalists and correspondents	
	Welcoming Remarks by Mr. Mohammed bin Abed Rabbo Al-Yami, Director General of the Union of News Agencies of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (UNA)	
	A short film about the role of media in creating public opinion and shaping the awareness of societies negatively and positively	

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Time	Topic of the session	Speakers
	First Discussion Session: The Role of Religious Institutions and Leaderships in Combating Hate Speech and Violence on Media Platforms **Chaired by:** Mr. Ali Yusuf Al Saad (Deputy Director-General of the Emirates News Agency) Mr. Ibrahem Hadeia Almajabri, Director of Libyan News Agency (LANA)	
12:15 -1:15	The session will discuss how religious institutions and leaders can contribute to countering misinformed or biased media and engage in addressing discourses that incite hatred and stir up violence, especially in times of conflict or when handling issues with a religious aspect or those related to sanctities. This session brings together religious leaders to present those insights from a religious perspective. Media leaders are participating to highlight their views on how institutions and religious leaders can effectively participate in countering misleading or biased media, and what are the most important roles to consider in media discourses.	**His Eminence Monsignor Khaled Akasheh, Secretary of the Commission for Religious Relations with Muslims at the Pontifical Council for Inter-Religious Dialogue - Vatican.** **His Excellency Mr. Sadhguru Brahmeshanandcharya Swamiji, founder and president of International Sadhguru Institution and Ambassador for Peace - India** **Mr. Asim Muhammad, Director of Pakistani Press Agency** **Mr. Juan Manuel Fonrouge, Director - Argentine** **Mr. Ali Naderi Boldaji, Director and Chief Executive - Iran** **His Eminence Father Nabil Haddad, Executive Director of The Jordanian Interfaith Coexistence Research Center - Jordan** **Ms. Fairouz Saleh Muflih Mubaideen, Director of the Jordan News Agency - Jordan** **Mr. Salimgaraev Aidar Saitgaraevich, President of the Republic Agency, or Press and Media** **Mr. Thierno Ahmadou SY, Director of Senegalese Press Agency**
1:15 – 1:30	Signing of a memorandum of cooperation between the Auxiliary Secretariat for Corporate Communication of the Muslim World League and the Union of OIC News Agencies.	
1:30 – 2:30	Dhuhr Prayer and Lunch Break	

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Time	Topic of the session	Speakers
2:30-3:30	**Second Session: Bias and Misinformation in International Media (The Palestinian Issue as a Case Study)** **Chaired by:** His Excellency Pastor Daniil Matrusov, President of the Patriarchal Council for Islamic Relations and President of the Board of Experts in the Orthodox Church for relations with the Islamic World – Russia H.E. Minister Ahmad Assaf, General Supervisor of Official Media in Palestine and Chairman of the Board of Directors of the News and Information Agency in Palestine This session will explore the phenomenon of bias and misinformation in international issue reporting, with a focus on the Palestinian issue as a case study. It will examine how media bias in this context has led to the distortion of facts and the incitement of hatred. Additionally, the session will address the mechanisms of misinformation employed in covering events in Palestine, including how some media outlets violate ethical and professional standards. The session aims to propose strategies for combating bias and misinformation by fostering awareness and enhancing credibility. Representatives from media organizations, human rights groups, and specialized researchers will participate in this session to illuminate the various dimensions of this problem and propose potential solutions.	His Excellency Ambassador Mukhtar Omar (Senior Advisor to the Secretary-General of Inter-Parliamentary Union – Switzerland) Mr. Ali Hassan Muhammad Abdel-Baqi, The Chairman and Editor-in-Chief of the Middle East News Agency - Egypt His Excellency Sir Iqbal Sacranie Senior Advisor to the Muslim Council of Britain - Britain Mr. Khalil Mahamat Ibrahim - Director of Chadian News Agency Mr. Abdoulrazak Ali Diraneh, Director Of News Agency Of Djibouti Ms. Majda Tafra Vlahovic, President of Croatian News Agency Mr. Mederbek Shermetaliev, Director - Kyrgyzstan H.E. Mr. (Talha) Malam Maman Dalato, General-Director of News Agency of Nigeria Mr. Younis Said Nasser Al-Qannubi, Editing Officer in Ministry of Information - Sultanate of Oman

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Time	Topic of the session	Speakers
	Third Session: Ethical Responsibility in International Media **Chaired by:** Mr. Yunus Inayat, Director of External Relations and Strategic Development, Union of OIC News Agencies (UNA) Ms. Anna Belikova, Consultant of the Strategic Vision Group "Russia-the Islamic world", head of the protocol and Public Relations Department of RT TV channels, founder of the orientalists Club, senior lecturer at Moscow State University, Russian Academy of national economy, Moscow State University of international relations	
3:30-4:30	The session will explore the moral responsibility of media professionals and organizations in covering issues with religious and humanitarian aspects. It will delve into the ethical standards and regulations necessary to govern media practices, ensuring objectivity and preventing harm or the incitement of hatred. The session also aims to underscore the significance of raising awareness among media professionals regarding their societal responsibilities, emphasizing the necessity to eschew unethical practices like disinformation, rumor-mongering, and emotional manipulation. Furthermore, it suggests mechanisms for holding media accountable in instances of violations of ethical and professional standards. Jurists, media ethics experts, and representatives from relevant international institutions will convene in this session to delve into this issue and explore ways to bolster ethical practices in the media.	**Mr. Liazid Bounnah, Director of Algeria Press Service (APS)** **His Eminence, Dr. Johannes Klominek (Abdullah Al Suwaidi), Legal Specialist and Islamic Intellectual - Sweden** **H.E. Minister Moctar Malal Dia, Director of Mauritanian News Agency** **Mr. Ali Naderi Boldaji, Director and Chief Executive - Iran** **Mr. Mohammad Rashid Almannaei, Deputy Director General of the administrative and financial sector - Kuwait** **Mr. Ali Jasim Mohammed Al-Saedi, Assistant Manager of Iraqi Press Agency** **Mr. Ismail Mukhtar Omar, Director of Somali National Press Agency** **Mr. Utkir Alimov, Deputy editor-in-chief of the Uzbekistan National News Agency (UzA)**

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Time	Topic of the session	Speakers
	Fourth Session: International Religious and Media Alliances to Combat Hate speech and Extremism **Chaired by:** His Excellency Dr. Samy Mohamed Rabie El-Sherif, Secretary-General of the League of Islamic Universities, Dean of College of Media in Modern University for technology & information - Egypt His Excellency Mr. Alexandru Ion Giboi, Secretary-General of the European Alliance of News Agencies	
4:30-5:30	The session will concentrate on the crucial role of establishing and nurturing effective alliances and partnerships between religious institutions and media organizations at the international level, aimed at countering hate speech and extremism. The session will explore ways in which religious leaders and organizations can collaborate with media entities to disseminate messages that foster the values of coexistence, peace, and the correction of misconceptions. Additionally, it will address strategies to encourage media professionals to embrace professional practices that are mindful of the sensitivities surrounding issues with a religious dimension. The session will offer practical ideas for forming international media partnerships and alliances among various relevant stakeholders. This aims to facilitate the coordination of efforts and the exchange of experiences in the realm of countering extremist rhetoric globally.	His Excellency Dr. Abdelhak Idris Azzouzi, President of the Chair of the Alliance of Civilizations at the Euro-Mediterranean University in Fes - Morocco His Excellency Dr. Mohammad bin Nimr El-Sammak, Secretary-General of Islamic Spiritual Summit in Lebanon, Secretary-General of National Islamic-Christian Committee for dialogue and Secretary of the Arab Group for Islamic-Christian dialogue - Lebanon Mr. Messe A Tiati Xavier, Director General, Cameroonian News Agency - Cameroon. His Excellency Mr. Azim Rana Muhammad, the Secretary General of the General Union of Journalists, affiliated with the International Federation of Journalists Mr. Ali Yusuf Al Saad, Deputy Director-General of the Emirates News Agency Mr. Nizar Ali Zaid Al-Khalid, President of the Asian-African Media Union Ms. Oumou Valentine Claudine Barry Epse Sana, Director of the Ivory Coast News Agency Ms. Dinara Toktosunova, CEO of Ruptly (Global Video News Agency)
5:30-6:00	Closing session: Final Communique	*45 Minutes will be allocated for the speakers in each session, and the remaining for discussion.

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