INSTITUTE FOR WAR & PEACE REPORTING





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GIVING VOICE, DRIVING CHANGE

Institute for War & Peace Reporting

2015 annual report





a note from the executive director

or IWPR, 2015 was indelibly marked by the death of Ammar al-Shahbander, our dear colleague, friend, and long-standing chief of party of our Iraq programmes. This was followed five months later by the death, in different circumstances, of Jacqueline Sutton, his acting replacement. This twin blow shook the organisation deeply and we miss them on both personal and professional levels.

Within IWPR and around the world, these tragedies were met with a profound rallying of support for which we will always be grateful. This solidarity has inspired us, in their memory, to re-commit to the work of strengthening local voices in areas of crisis and conflict, even in the world's most challenging environments. The continuing open conflict and growing extremism in Syria, Iraq, Libya and elsewhere, and the massive migration into Europe from Afghanistan, the Middle East and Africa, have driven home the imperative of building independent media, civil society and voices of moderation. The two major attacks by extremists in Paris – first on an independent satirical magazine and then on public life itself - targeted precisely those sectors of free media and open civil society to which IWPR is committed. They highlighted the urgency of our efforts, both for development and stability abroad and for security and confidence at home.

A year of continuing bloodshed and loss made the reliance and successes of independent voices around the world only more apparent. While repressive governments across the world deployed various legal and extralegal means to reduce the space for civil society and open journalism, local voices demonstrated extraordinary courage to speak out - bearing human witness and holding authorities to account, while establishing skills and structures, instincts and institutions for long-term change. IWPR worked in more than 30 countries and territories around the world, supporting fragile networks in closed and war-torn areas, and strengthening free voices and independent institutions in developing and transitional societies. In a number of regions, IWPR engaged directly with local authorities to strengthen transparency and build networks for enhanced governance through open information, public engagement and accountability.

andy low

Anthony Borden



"Ammar believed profoundly that every single person's voice could make a difference. For Ammar, the media was a platform for a society to be heard. He devoted his working life, and finally gave his life, to establishing the strongest and most vibrant platform for free expression in his native country that he could."

"Jacky was one of the top development professionals working on Iraq, and she devoted nearly ten years of her life to helping the country. She was extremely bright, highly competent, able to handle herself in difficult environments, and she was universally loved."



global impact

n 2015, with an improved structure for management and day-to-day oversight of programmes, IWPR's priority was to refine and focus our projects to increase impact, and monitor and evaluate our efforts to document and demonstrate strong results across regional divisions for the Middle East and North Africa, Africa, Asia, Eurasia and Latin America.



Kobane, Syria. June 2015.

Syrian town of Kobane, liberated after more than a year under the rule of Islamic State's militants.

© Ahmet Sik/Getty Images





IWPR COUNTRIES OF OPERATION

AFRICA	Nigeria, Rwanda, Sierra Leone, South Sudan
ASIA	Afghanistan, Burma/Myanmar, Philippines, Sri Lanka
EUROPE & EURASIA	Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Georgia, Kazakstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Ukraine
LATIN AMERICA	Cuba, Ecuador, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Venezuela
MIDDLE EAST & NORTH AFRICA	Egypt, Iraq, Lebanon, Libya, Syria, Tunisia, Turkey

HEAD OFFICES

United Kingdom	London
United States	Washington, D.C., New York
Netherlands	The Hague



middle east & north africa

IRAQ

he dedicated teams in Erbil and Baghdad came together to continue their efforts on behalf of freedom of expression and better representation of youth, women and minorities in Iraq's public life. This included launching our largest project to date, Baladna Tariqna ("Our Country, Our Path"), which works with Iraqi social media activists to generate factual information and responsible content as a counter to extremist media and violent concepts. The articles, cartoons and videos commissioned by IWPR captured an impressive audience almost immediately. "In only six months, the project's participating Facebook pages attracted an average of 2.1 million active users per month, representing almost 20% of all Facebook traffic in Iraq."



LIBYA

"I learned multiple journalism skills and how to be engaged on several levels, unlike internships in media outlets in Libya where an intern stagnates at the same place for the entire time"

> **Aya Jaafari** Intern at Mosaique FM

WPR continued implementing activities under distinct but interrelated projects that strengthen the capacity of local Libyan media to produce civic debate programmes related to the country's democratic transition, provide handson training for young journalists at the universities of Tripoli and Zawiya, and enhance the quality of journalistic content produced in-country.

The first series of the regional radio program "Reporting the Transition" was completed, bringing the total number of programmes produced with partner Libya radio stations to more than 80. New funding allowed for a further 100 editions, as well as additional journalist training and support for the Media Labs established at the universities of Tripoli and Zawiya. Safety and security training is also being increased to extend to more Libya media professionals, civil society activists and other free speech advocates. Under a new initiative, IWPR will create a digital archive of its transition radio program so that this vital record of Libya's recent history will be widely available to Libya media, students and the public at large.

- In partnership with BBC Media Action, IWPR provided internships and placements within working newsrooms for 22 student journalists, and also supported the Media Labs to extend their course offerings and cooperating with other universities.
- IWPR's Libyan Content Development Fund provided grants to five media outlets for improved journalistic content, including reports, new websites and other platforms.

SYRIA



Tripoli, Libya. January 2015.

Exercises at the Tripoli Media Lab, a facility established in partnership with IWPR to provide practical journalism training.

© IWPR

WPR continued to provide journalism training to citizen journalists and activists inside Syria.

- Launched in early 2015, the Damascus Bureau women's blog shared stories from women around the country. By the end of the year, the blog had 83 writers with an average of two new writers joining every month.
- Our primary project focused on supporting Syrian civil society organisations (CSOs) through trainings to build institutional capacity, small grants and networking opportunities to strengthen collaboration and coordination among Syrian CSOs and international partners and funders. Under this project, IWPR also helped to start up a unique initiative to map Syrian grassroots organisations. This will provide a comprehensive understanding of Syrian civil society, transparently share information on CSOs' areas of activity and fields of work, and encourage networking, collaboration and exchanges of experiences among the groups.
- Five documentary short films that showcase female activists living in rebel-held areas of northeast Syria were produced by IWPR's Syria Coordinator, award-winning journalist Zaina Erhaim. IWPR organised a tour to the Netherlands, UK and US to screen the films, which highlight the human challenges faced by women living and working in rebel-held parts of Syria and the leadership roles these women play in their own communities.



asia

AFGHANISTAN



Kabul, Afghanistan. Internet Cafe.

© Paula Bronstein/Getty Images

uilding on our long-standing work to strengthen independent media, IWPR programming focused on supporting public discussion to challenge officials and connect them to the public, and provide a public forum for the discussion around peace efforts.

IWPR's Open Minds Afghanistan and Afghan Reconciliation projects reached more than 25,000 Afghans (40% of them women) in 2015 through public debates and online inter-provincial forums.

IWPR'S OPEN MINDS AFGHANISTAN AND AFGHAN RECONCILIATION PROJECTS

>25,000 AFGHANS REACHED

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"The IWPR debates gave people the ability, for the first time, to discuss issues directly with officials. They found this incredible. A kind of trust in the democratic process was created."

Muqim Adil

Project participant and presenter on Voice of Nejrab radio in Kapisa province

BURMA/MYANMAR

WPR hired staff, secured an office, in Yangon and undertook a baseline assessment for its project to combat hate speech, launched in September. While local media coverage of Buddhist-Rohingya/Muslim relations improved to some degree as a result of extensive ethical and professional training, hate speech migrated over to social media where it is increasingly dividing and inflaming society. In October 2015 after national elections, IWPR recruited and held initial trainings for 20 local journalists from the majority ethnic Bamar (Buddhist) community. Trainings focused on teaching them how to identify, analyse and deconstruct hate speech for public audiences in an effort to improve public information and education. Given the pitiful tradition and level of analytical skills in Burma, this has been a challenge from the outset: So too the fact that the majority of hate speech present has targeted Muslim communities and our attempts to focus on the issue and danger of hate speech have themselves been the focus of condemnation and attack from nationalist religious groups. Despite this, our initial trainings and course for monitors left them very well prepared for the live launch of the monitoring and the project in March 2016.



Yangon, Burma.

IWPR training session for media monitors.

© Alan Davis/IWPR

Yangon, Burma.

Radical Buddhist nationalists protest the international pressure on Myanmar to accept the repatriation of persecuted Rohingya boat refugees.

© Jonas Gratzer/Getty Images



PHILIPPINES

WPR's project in the Philippines, the Citizen Action Network for Accountability (CANA), has connected Filipino citizen action groups with local media to facilitate advocacy networks between communities and their local governments. These networks have proven to be remarkably successful in amplifying the voices of Filipino citizens to hold local government accountable and ensure that they are more responsive to their needs.

The networks enable community organisations and citizens in eight of the poorest provinces of the Philippines to function as watchdog groups led by media organisations equipped with easyto-use technology.

The groups engage in public outreach and dialogue with local government through local media to raise accountability for how public funds are spent. Local media also works to expand public information and education, complemented by advocacy, networking and alliance-building skills within communities.

- Since 2012, IWPR has helped set up 24 citizen action groups serving as anti-corruption monitors and accountability campaigners in their local communities.
- Issues tackled by the citizen action groups include accountability for welfare aid, community projects and road construction contracts. The founder of our first ever citizen action group, Abner Francisco, a local radio presenter, was presented with a national award for his anti-corruption work.

"In 2015, IWPR trained 1,000 people – media professionals, civil society staff, government officials, students, teachers, and farmers – on basic knowledge and tools to understand, monitor and report on public finance issues, including in areas in central Philippines severely hit by disasters in the past years. "

Manila, Philippines. July, 2015.

Demonstrators gathered to protest against the Philippine president and what they perceive to be anti-poor programmes implemented during his six years in office.

© Dondi Tawatao/Getty Images



SRI LANKA

WPR's Sri Lanka project worked with media, civil society groups, government officials and the public to increase accountability and transparency and strengthen fundamental human rights. With the change of government in January 2015, IWPR operated publically and worked with the country's major ethnic groups in seven out of the country's nine provinces.

- Four major thematic areas of the project were: good governance, accountability, women and sexual and gender-based violence, and the rights of the marginalised, including migrant workers and persons internally displaced during the long-standing civil war.
- The project worked with local media to help journalists better understand and cover issues that concern the population.
- IWPR training and mentoring helped civic groups and advocates organise public debates, work constructively with the media and enhance their leadership skills – with a special focus on increasing women's participation in civic issues and political life.
- Partner groups focused on a wide range of issues, from micro-credit legislation and a forthcoming freedom of information bill to a campaign called "We Change" to end violence against women.

Colombo, Sri Lanka. August 17, 2015.

Supporters of Prime Minister Ranil Wickremesinghe light fireworks to celebrate the end of voting in the General election.

© Buddhika Weerasinghe/Getty Images





central asia

REGIONAL

n 2014, IWPR launched the Central Asian Bureau for Analytical Reporting (CABAR, cabar.asia), a digital space for local politicians, experts, academics and other key groups to share their visions of regional and local problems, exchange ideas and offer ways to overcome the barriers to intergovernmental and regional cooperation. The site serves as an online think tank, giving voice to representatives of all sectors of Central Asian society. CABAR remained a key platform for reporting and analysis throughout the region in 2015.



KYRGYZSTAN



- IWPR successfully assisted civil society organisations to respond to threats from the state, including a draft law on foreign agents before the Kyrgyz Parliament, and the government denouncement of a cooperation treaty with the United States.
- IWPR provided media organisations and human rights defenders in Kyrgyzstan with the skills and knowledge to cooperate effectively. To support these linkages, a network of media and NGO representatives, Karek, was established by IWPR in cooperation with Internews, to build trust and communication between the two sectors.
- Through a core group of journalists, IWPR kick-started the production of investigative journalism in Kyrgyzstan. Through expert training, mentoring and legal advice, four investigative reports were published during the year, with many more in the development stage.
- IWPR publicised and addressed the increasing threat of radicalisation in Kyrgyzstan among young people through roundtable events at which state representatives, NGO representatives, journalists and experts discussed the threat; conducted a series of lectures for Kyrgyz students on tolerance and diversity; and trained 20 journalists in reporting specifically upon issues of radicalisation, extremism and terrorism.

Karakol, Kyrgyzstan. June 2015. ournalists at an IWPR investigative reporting course. © IWPR

KAZAKSTAN

WPR achieved important milestones in its civil society and media work in Kazakstan.

- Supported by UN Women, IWPR strengthened the capacity of women's networks to lead evidencebased advocacy efforts in the Kazak state, with the goal of integrating gender and HIV issues into gender strategies on the national level.
- IWPR strengthened the information exchange between the population and local authorities of the Mangystau region, by supporting the creation of press agencies in 8 public authorities. It also encouraged the development of strong links between NGOs and the media, through dedicated training workshops.

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TAJIKISTAN

WPR took strides towards to improve standards of journalism in the country through training and mentoring in international standards as well as investigative reporting.

- Well-received investigative reports were published in local media and on the CABAR portal.
- A 10-member Coalition of Independent Mass Media and Human Rights Activists was established in Tajikistan, to encourage collaboration between the media and NGOs on investigating and promoting human rights issues.
- IWPR also addressed the issue of youth radicalisation to counter misinformation and establish a cross-sector understanding among the Tajik government, civil society, media and the general public.



eastern europe

BOSNIA & HERZEGOVINA

WPR continued its Challenges of Transition project, to promote community level efforts at peacebuilding and reconciliation in Bosnia and Herzegovina. As part of this small project funded by the Norwegian Embassy in Sarajevo, a series of IWPR-produced films were screened in public cinemas and high schools throughout the country with the objective to challenge inaccurate and biased narratives of recent wars in the region and counter widespread misconceptions about their consequences.

Sarajevo, Bosnia & Herzegovina. April 2015.

Screening of IWPR and Mebius film documentary "No Excuses" and roundtable discussion with film makers.

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© Mario Donlic



UKRAINE

WPR launched its first programming in country in 2014, training an initial cohort of 24 journalists in hostile environment, safety and security and conflict reporting. Building on that initial programming IWPR launched a larger project to extend the hostile environment and conflict reporting training, and to improve media and civil society oversight of Ukraine government's reform agenda and address corruption. "The knowledge I acquired during the training will help me in the war zone, and will probably save my life."

Ukrainian journalist after taking the hostile environment and first aid training provided by IWPR.

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Kiev, Ukraine. May, 2015.

Ukrainian journalists in a simulation exercise, part of IWPR's hostile environments course.

© IWPR

GEORGIA - AZERBAIJAN

ARMENIA

caucasus

REGIONAL

WPR remains a key provider of quality training for journalists and civil society organisations and is a major hub for cross-border communication in the conflict divides in the South Caucasus.

Throughout 2015 IWPR worked intensively on conflicts in Georgia in order to foster greater understanding and more conciliatory attitudes between the parties to the conflict.

- In regard to the Azerbaijan-Armenia conflict, IWPR held video bridge sessions linking experts from both countries, providing local media with access to first hand analysis on complex issues of conflict and cross-border relations with neighboring Iran, Russia, Georgia and Turkey.
- Public debates held with conflict-affected community representatives in Georgia, as well as governmental and non-state actors in Armenia, provided unique platforms for networking, awareness raising and reporting.
- Despite the crackdown on independent media and international organisations in Azerbaijan, IWPR ensured continuing reporting on human rights abuses and the state of media in the country.

ARMENIA

- IWPR trained and provided an international reporting platform for 50 local journalists through IWPR's flagship weekly Caucasus Reporting Service electronic publication. Armenian journalists covered issues ranging from conflict around Nagorno-Karabakh, ethnic minorities, rights of people with disabilities, key legislative changes to governance and environmental issues.
- IWPR-Yerevan held training-workshops in communication and public outreach for local civil society organisations to help strengthen their public outreach, improve visibility and enhance the impact of their work. The key activity remains the debate and discussions platform implemented in partnership with the Armenian Public Journalism Club.
- Seven high-profile press briefings were arranged with the participation of experts, government officials and the representatives of intentional and local civil society organisations. The discussions provided alternative perspectives on issues regarded of high importance and aimed to go beyond the agenda set by the mainstream media.

Yerevan, Armenia. April 24, 2015.

Torchlight procession through the city to commemorate the anniversary of the Armenian genocide.

© Brendan Hoffman/Getty Images

AZERBAIJAN

edia environment and civil liberties continued to deteriorate in 2015. Despite this, IWPR contributors from Azerbaijan continued to report on persecutions of human rights activists, independent journalists, and opposition figures.

- 50 reports and three in-depth articles were produced in partnership with Armenian colleagues. Joint journalism projects like these facilitated professional relationships and fostered more active regional interaction/cooperation between the hostile countries.
- IWPR's Tbilisi office worked with local human rights partner organisations to provided training and support for Azerbaijani journalists in exile who had found shelter in Georgia.



GEORGIA

WPR's Tbilisi South Caucasus office is a regional hub with projects that range from journalism training and reporting to public discussions and peace-building.

- IWPR organised four cross-sector meetings where sixty civil society activists and journalists received training in mediation, advocacy, online media tools and conflictsensitive reporting.
- In partnership with local leading women's organisations, IWPR expanded a dedicated web resource entitled Women Connecting for Peace, which provides a reporting platform for leading women activists in the region.

- More than 80 reports were produced on issues of gender equality and women's role in economic and political life as well peacebuilding and reconciliation.
- More that 70 young journalists from various universities attended training sessions organised in the capital and the towns adjacent to conflict zones.
- Local media attended IWPR-organised study trips to remote areas of the country, where young people had been recruited to join insurgents in Syria.
- IWPR also ran the Special Prize for Peace Journalism project, which included a cash prize and a one-month fellowship at IWPR-London.

"I will never forget my fellowship in London. It was significant for me to meet colleagues at BBC and IWPR as both establish and follow the highest standards in journalism."

> **Gogita Aptsiauri** First winner of the EUMM Special Prize

Shushi, Nagorno-Karabakh. April, 2015.

Boys play on a street next to a building destroyed by war more than twenty years earlier.

© Brendan Hoffman/Getty Images



africa

NIGERIA

n 2015, IWPR opened an office in Abuja, recruited a core team of staff including a dedicated project manager. IWPR's investigative journalism project, operated in collaboration with US-based Partners for Democratic Change and a host of local partners, focused on in-depth reporting on corruption in the security sector, by strengthening the capacity of 22 journalists in the principles and techniques of investigative journalism as well as the safety measures required to report in hostile environments. Ten of the journalists received small grants to pursue investigative articles, with mentoring support provided by one of the most influential and recognised investigative reporters in Nigeria.

The project aimed to strengthen relationships between the media and participating civil society organisations through roundtable events, creating opportunities for collaboration on initiatives that address issues of corruption, human rights and accountable governance.

Abuja, Nigeria. October 2015.

IWPR training session on investigative reporting techniques led by Dayo Aiyetan.

© IWPR

Lampedusa, Italy. April 2015. igrant men from Nigeria relax by the sea. © Dan Kitwood/Getty Images



RWANDA

n collaboration with the Netherlands and Swedish embassies, IWPR support enabled policymakers to pass six media laws including an ambitious Access to Information Law; encouraged the development of independent media outlets; transformed the status of the public broadcaster; established media regulatory bodies; and seeded dozens of new creative initiatives through our small grants business incubator.

IWPR trained more than 224 Rwandan journalists, and enhanced the professional capacity of over 63 media outlets.



SIERRA LEONE

s a parallel to IWPR's Nigeria project, IWPR established an office in Sierra Leone, secured a locally based project team, and began a new project, The Law School for Journalists, in collaboration with Partners for Democratic Change, with the overall goal to empower independent media and civil society groups to operate more effectively as anticorruption watchdogs.

- Local journalists were trained in investigative reporting so that they could hold the government accountable and provide proper coverage of court cases and other legal matters.
- The Law School culminated in the award of a number of grants in support of investigations, along with mentoring and editorial support from a senior trainer.
- IWPR also operated a series of workshops between members of the judiciary and those from the media sector to improve relationships and encourage better collaboration.

Silas Gbandia.

A former IWPR trainee, Silas is a Sierra Leonean investigative reporter.

© IWPR

"I see so many things, so much corruption in society. I want to highlight the concerns of people"



SOUTH SUDAN

n South Sudan, IWPR expanded discussion of the rule of law and issues faced by women through a series of radio programmes produced by women journalists as part of the 'Nadhrat al-Shafafa' or 'Transparent View' project and its accompanying radio series. In partnership with the Catholic Radio Network, the radio series gave women a stronger voice and provided an alternative to Sudanese government radio in a region starved of media and information sources.



- The project recruited and trained sixteen women journalists to produce 60 weekly radio magazine programmes on women's rights, broadcasted across seven stations in South Sudan and Sudan.
- Broadcasts of the magazine program began in March 2015, accompanied by a live radio debate on the topics discussed. The programmes reached an estimated 5 million listeners.





latin america

REGIONAL

WPR's digital security program, which was developed in the Middle East and North Africa, for the first time incorporated a Latin American component, to provide online safety awareness for human rights defenders working in Mexico, Venezuela, Ecuador, Nicaragua and Honduras. These programmes play a vital role in enabling journalists and human rights activists, who are often vulnerable to serious digital and physical threats, to continue to communicate and network safely and securely online. IWPR also became a sub-partner on an initiative of Partners for Democratic Change in Ecuador and Nicaragua, providing communications training to 10 nonprofit organisations and helping them develop practical communications campaigns on a wide variety of issues. IWPR was asked to provide continued mentoring to the 10 groups as they implemented the campaigns expected to run into 2016.



CUBA

WPR implemented three projects in Cuba: Open Voices, to build journalism capacity and enhance protection for at-risk journalists; Independent News Providers, to build the capacity of three news agencies and improve journalistic output and reach; and Democracy, Leadership and Communications, to help Cuban civil society groups clarify and focus their objectives and messaging.

In 2015, Open Voices trained 46 journalists, with a dozen learning skills of investigative reporting and producing high-impact reports on subjects ranging from sex trafficking to corruption and profiteering by Mexican and Cuban officials.

Also, six journalists spent a month at prestigious media outlets in Mexico, allowing them to expand their networks and gain an unprecedented opportunity to understand the workings of the media under "conditions of greater freedom of expression." IWPR also helped the Cuban Press Freedom Association develop a Center for Attention to Journalists, to provide digital, psychological and legal support to journalists targeted by the government.

Independent News Providers assisted in the consolidation of two media groups in the central and eastern parts of the country; through IWPR's support – including training, financial assistance and business and strategic mentoring – each are now producing and publishing news on events in their regions.

IWPR helped six Cuban civil society group focus their approaches, extend their partnerships, and develop advocacy campaigns around electoral reform, gay rights, violence against women, electoral reform and other issues. The work had a profound impact, "changing the face of independent journalism in Cuba" according to a leading writer and former political prisoner, "creating a new generation of journalism" focusing on fact-based reporting rather than politicised opinion.

financial information

96% grants & grants & unrestricted funds)

INCOME

	Grants & project funding	Donations (unrestricted funds)	Total
UK	\$6,559,965	\$476,409	\$7,036,375
US	\$6,841,189	\$133,232	\$6,974,421
NL	\$194,363	\$14,388	\$208,752
Total	\$13,595,518	\$624,030	\$14,219,547



FUNCTIONAL EXPENSES

	Project Activities	Management & General	Development	Total
UK	\$6,480,698	\$908,405	\$0	\$7,389,103
US	\$5,704,909	\$476,472	\$724,133	\$6,905,514
NL	\$194,363	\$58,454	\$415	\$253,232
Total	\$12,379,970	\$1,443,331	\$724,548	\$14,547,849



	Middle East & North Africa	Asia	Africa	Latin America	Europe & Eurasia	Total
UK	\$2,191,487	\$255,600	\$2,834,702		\$1,198,910	\$6,480,699
US	\$3,032,783	\$1,403,370	\$127,470	\$968,305	\$172,981	\$5,704,909
NL			\$194,363			\$288,877
Total	\$5,224,270	\$1,658,970	\$3,156,535	\$968,305	\$1,371,891	\$12,379,972

partners

n 2015 IWPR cooperated with many international partners to inform and enrich our work, increase our effectiveness and efficiency and extend our outreach and impact. Partners included major broadcasters and publications, leading international human rights groups, media support and training institutes, universities and research groups/think tanks. Special thanks to the following:

- Adroit
- BBC Media Action
- Deutsche Welle Akademie
- European Commission
- Foreign Commonwealth Office
- Hivos
- International Alert
- International Media Support
- Partners for Democratic Change
- Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- Norway Ministry of Foreign Affairs

- National Endowment for Democracy
- Netherlands Embassy in Rwanda
- Sigrid Rausing Trust
- Swedish Embassy in Rwanda
- UN Women
- USAID
- US Department of State, Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights and Labor
- US Department of State, Bureau of Near Eastern Affairs
- The US-Middle East Partnership Initiative



INSTITUTE FOR WAR & PEACE REPORTING





Institute for War & Peace Reporting

GIVING VOICE, DRIVING CHANGE

The Institute for War & Peace Reporting (IWPR) empowers people's voices at the frontlines of conflict and transition to help them drive change. IWPR builds skills, capacity and networks for citizens and their communities so their voices can make a difference – strengthening accountability and supporting development, advancing justice and forging peace.

Working in more than 30 countries, IWPR's innovative programs are crafted to respond to the needs of the people they serve. Projects prioritise locally informed objectives and lead to sustainable outcomes. Beneficiaries include citizen and professional journalists, human rights and peace activists, policymakers, educators, researchers, businesses, and women's, youth and other civil society organisations and partners.

As encapsulated in our slogan – Giving Voice, Driving Change – IWPR's mission calls for a wide range of efforts aimed at empowering people's voices and helping them make a real difference within their own societies. The work ranges from skills building and training to media policy and legal reform; from frontline journalism to citizens accountability networks and social media; from covering war crimes tribunals and human rights abuses to establishing national networks for elections reporting. All of the programmes are linked through the objective of strengthening constructive local voices to help them drive positive change.

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