



CARTOONING IN AFRICA

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ADDIS ABABA, MAY 1-4



World Press
Freedom Day



Alliance Éthio Française
Addis Abeba - Ethiopie



Le Monde
Le Monde Afrique



fonds de dotation
agnès b.



PROGRAMME



From the 1st to the 3rd May 2019, the **26th edition of World Press Freedom Day** will take place in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. Organized jointly by UNESCO, the Government of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia and the African Union, the international conference will be held at the African Union Headquarters in Addis Ababa, and will focus on **the role of the media in elections and democracy** (presentation of the event in the annex).

A unique opportunity to promote the major role of press cartoonists in democracy and highlight the abuses they sometimes faces.

At the invitation of the UNESCO, Cartooning for Peace takes part to this important moment of exchanges by proposing the following actions :

**Organization of a session in collaboration with the UNESCO «Cartooning for Peace and Democracy: artistic freedom and freedom of expression at the tip of the pen»
Friday 3 May, 2:00 - 3:30, African Union**

Cartooning for Peace organizes a session bringing together press cartoonists from different countries as part of an open discussion shape by testimonies from those whose work and violations make them true «barometers of freedom of expression». The session will also stress the concepts of press freedom and artistic freedom in democratic debate, mainly in an electoral context. This meeting will be accompanied by live drawing and projection of drawings from all over the world, thus allowing a lively and interactive exchange.

Guest press cartoonists of the session

Alaa Saatir (Sudan)
BBrandan (South Africa)
Xavier Gorce (France)
Lars Refn (Denmark)
Yemsrach Yetneberk (Ethiopia)
Zohoré (Ivory Coast)
Zunar (Malaysia)

Moderator: Emeline Wuilbercq, Le Monde Afrique

Emeline Wuilbercq is a French journalist based in Addis Ababa since 2015 where she's a correspondent for Le Monde. She has produced many articles Her work has appeared in GEO, TV5 Monde and Jeune Afrique, among other places.



Design of the exhibition «Cartooning in Africa» African Union and the Alliance Ethio-française of Addis Ababa

Cartooning for Peace designs an exhibition of press cartoons from all over the world about the media and press freedom, with a special focus on cartoonists and the challenges of the African continent. It will be displayed on site (African Union headquarters) and will be the subject of an opening. It will be presented at African Union at the Alliance française and will be the subject of an opening and a press conference at the AF on May 4, thus allowing the general public to discover or rediscover the work of press cartoonists from around the world.

Workshop and an African press cartoonists meeting Saturday 4 May, the Alliance française of Addis-Ababa

Cartooning for Peace brings together more than twenty African press cartoonists to discuss, for one day, the main issues currently facing press cartoons in Africa. The aim will be to examine the future of the profession in the current context of the press and media and to develop the actions of the Cartooning for Peace network on the African continent.

This meeting will also be an opportunity to present the experience acquired in media literacy within the programme «Cartooning for Peace and Democracy», funded by the European Union, and to develop the experience in other countries on the continent.

Guest press cartoonists

Sherif Arafa (Egypt)	Plantu (France)
Elias Areda (Ethiopia)	Pov (Madagascar)
Bob (Denmark)	Lars Refn (Denmark)
BBrandan (South Africa)	Alaa Satir (Sudan)
Henok Demessie (Ethiopia)	Roman Tadesse (Ethiopia)
Gado (Kenya)	Tayo (Nigeria)
Ali Ghamir (Morocco)	Wichmann (Denmark)
Xavier Gorce (France)	Willis from Tunis (Tunisia)
L'Andalou (Algeria)	Willy Zekid (Republic of the Congo)
Victor N'Dula (Kenya)	Yemsrach Yetneberk (Ethiopia)
Oscar (Guinea)	Zapiro (South Africa)
Odia (Senegal)	Zohoré (Ivory Coast)
Piçarra (Angola)	Zunar (Malaysia)

Participation of Cartooning for Peace and press cartoonists in other sessions and plenary sessions

**Wednesday 1st May, 1:30 - 3:00 pm, UNESCO Conference Center - Cartooning for Peace
2 - 3 May, African Union - press cartoonists, Cartooning for Peace members**

Collaborating with many national and international organizations present during the event, Cartooning for Peace is participating in the May 1 session organized by IICBA - International Institute for Capacity Building in Africa - on media and information education at the UNESCO Conference Center.



Publication of an illustrated book on press freedom in Africa at Editions Calmann-Lévy

All these exchanges will nourish an illustrated book on the issue of freedom of expression and freedom of the press, from the African press cartoonists' points of view in the perspective of cultural season Africa 2020

GUEST PRESS CARTOONISTS

Sherif Arafa (Egypt)



Sherif Arafa is an Egyptian editorial cartoonist, self-development author, and public speaker. Arafa holds a MBA in Human Resources, MS Degree in Applied Positive Psychology and Bachelor in Oral and Dental Surgery. He left dentistry and changed his career path in order to share his vision, foster open-mindedness, tolerance and oppose extremism through his books and cartoons. He has won many awards in appreciation of his books and cartoons, such as the Mahmoud Kahil Award, the Teriam Omran Award, the Arab Cartoon Award and the Arab Journalism Award.

Elias Areda (Ethiopia)



Elias Areda is an Ethiopian cartoonist with more than 20 years of experience. Working for the national newspaper The Reporter, he also displays his artwork in solo and group exhibition, like he previously did at the Alliance Ethio-Française and the Italian cultural center of Addis Ababa. His extensive experience and the socio-political and economic crisis that affected him and his beloved country, made him developing the strong belief that if an individual wishes to become a cartoonist, she or she should have an extensive knowledge of the political, social and economic trends of her or his country.

Bob (Denmark)



Bob Katzenelson was born in 1960 in Nuuk, Denmark. Currently living and working in Copenhagen, he has been working as an illustrator, cartoonist and caricaturist since the middle of the nineteen-eighties with a variety of Danish newspapers and magazines, both as an employee and a freelancer. Today, Bob is freelancing for Berlingske, a major Danish newspaper. He's also the vice-president of the Danske Bladtegnere (the Federation of Danish Cartoonists).

BRandan (South Africa)



Brandan Eugene Reynolds (BRandan) is South Africa's most prolific editorial cartoonist. He has been drawing the daily editorial cartoon for the national newspaper Business Day since 2002, and he also contributes a weekly cartoon to the Sunday Times and the Business Times. He attended St. Columba's High School in Athlone, Cape Town, and graduated in Graphic Design from the Ruth Prowse School of Art in Woodstock, Cape Town in 1991. He drew editorial cartoons to The Weekend Argus, The Sunday Independent and the Sunday Tribune until 2017 and Rapport until 2018. He was made a member of the international organization Cartooning for Peace in 2014 and is also a member of Cartoon Movement. He lives and works in Cape Town, South Africa.

Henok Demessie (Ethiopia)



Henok Demessie is an Ethiopian cartoonist working for Addis Fortune English weekly for the past 13 years. Since 2007, he is also a painter specializing in modern figurative art. He graduated from Ale School of Fine Arts & Design at Addis Abeba University.

Gado (Kenya)



Gado started producing caricatures at the age of 15 before becoming a freelancer for the Daily News, Business Times and The Express. In 1992, he worked for the Nation Media Group and published his cartoons in the Daily Nation, the largest newspaper in Eastern and Central Africa based in Nairobi, Kenya. In 1999, Gado was elected Kenyan cartoonist of the year. He won the Cartooning for Peace Award in May 2016 in Geneva.

Ali Ghamir (Morocco)



Ali Ghamir is an editorial cartoonist specializing in international politics. He mainly works on current events in the Middle East and North Africa. He publishes his cartoons in different newspapers and websites such as Al Jazeera Media Network and Al-Quds Al-Arabi newspaper. Laureate of many awards, he also organizes and takes part in exhibitions around the world.

Xavier Gorce (France)



Xavier Gorce is an independent press cartoonist since 1986. Graduate of fine arts, he has worked for many newspapers and magazines (Témoignage Chrétien, Passages, Enfants Magazine, CFDT Magazine, Talents, Phosphore, L'événement du Jeudi, Elle, Bon Voyage...). In 2002, he began a regular and daily collaboration with lemonde.fr and, in 2011, his series Les Indégivrables was published (almost) every day in the pages of the daily newspaper Le Monde and other media. In addition to this series, Xavier Gorce produces cartoons or illustrations for the press and publishing. His work approach focuses on purity, gesture, expressionism, seeking to preserve the vibration and intensity of primitive movement.

L'Andalou (Algeria)



L'Andalou was born in El Biar (Algiers), he studied at the Higher School of Fine Arts in Algiers. He became a comic book author in a local magazine Bendir in 2012. L'Andalou was hired by the newspaper El Watan, where he collaborated for 4 years by drawing socio-political comic strips. At the same time, his cartoons were published in prestigious international magazines. In 2016, he was awarded the Grand Prix d'Honneur at the Festival International de la Bande Dessinée d'Alger (FIBDA). His cartoons were then archived in the Billy Ireland Cartoon Museum and Library (United States, one of the most important cartoon libraries in the world) and in 2018 he graduated from the Gobelins School of Image in Paris. L'Andalou is a member of Cartooning for Peace and Cartoon movement.

Victor N'Dula (Kenya)



Victor Ndula is an editorial cartoonist, illustrator and comic artist who lives and works in Nairobi, Kenya, where he lends his voice to social commentary through his cartoons. A member of the global organization Cartoon Movement, and Cartooning for Peace, he has attended and exhibited his work at Cartoon festivals in Switzerland France and Germany, and his work has also been exhibited in Peru, Doha Qatar, Amsterdam and at the London School of Economics. Victor Ndula was recognized as Cartoonist of the Year in 2010 and Best Editorial Cartoonist of the Year in 2010 by KATUNI (East African Association of Cartoonists) and Best Editorial Cartoonist in 2012 by the Media Council of Kenya. In 2012 he was the first prize winner of Ranan Lurie International Cartoon Competition and in 2013 he came in second in a cartoon competition on Africa's Union 50th anniversary in Berlin.

Odia (Senegal)



Odia is a press cartoonist, comic book artist, illustrator and trainer at the National School of Arts in Dakar. He works for the daily La Tribune. He co-wrote the comic strip l'Afrique en partage, conceived by the Dapper Foundation (Paris), the stories of Nafi & Khadija: rights for all, with the writer Aïssatou Cissé. He participates in festivals in Africa and Europe and has collaborated with international organizations.

Oscar (Guinea)



Oscar is a journalist, comic book author, press cartoonist and communication consultant. He is the founder and director of Bingo and Flash magazine publications.

Piçarra (Angola)



Piçarra created the first comic strips in Angola in the post-independence period. From 1990 to 1997, he was a cartoonist for the *Jornal de Angola* and created the famous national character «Mankiko, the lazy one». He helps young talents by producing a practical manual on how to make a comic book. He initiated the first Angolan comic book magazine published in the 1990s and the first comic book newspaper in 2008 (year during which he obtained a diploma of merit from the Ministry of Culture). His work has been widely recognized as unique, important and courageous in exposing corruption, bad governance and nepotism. He has launched seven collections of his works, the last of which was published in December 2018. Piçarra publishes in two weeklies, several local magazines and through his pages on social networks.

Plantu (France) Cartooning for Peace's President



Plantu published his first cartoon on Vietnam War in the newspaper *Le Monde* in October 1972. His cartoons are regularly published in the headlines since 1985. From 1980 to 1986, he also worked for the magazine *Phosphore* and since 1991 he has been publishing a weekly page in the magazine *L'Express*. On the same year, he won the « Rare Document Award » at the Angers Festival du Scoop. In 2006, Plantu and Kofi Annan (Nobel Peace Prize, former Secretary General of the United Nations) organized a symposium in New York, leading to the creation of *Cartooning for Peace*. Plantu has published more than 60 collections of his cartoons (*Le Monde éditions*, *Le Seuil*).

Pov (Madagascar)



Pov, William Rasoanaivo, is a self-taught cartoonist. He is interested in drawing from preschool to the University of Antananarivo where he studied natural sciences. But his professional career began in 1997, when he started drawing for the daily newspaper *Midi Madagascar*. After training in international journalism in Berlin and Cardiff, Pov moved to Mauritius in 2006. He draws for the La Sentinelle press group's publications, including the daily newspaper *l'express*. Pov illustrates Pan-African magazines (*Planète jeune*, *Planète enfant*), and school textbooks (*les Classiques africains*, Mauritius Institute of Education). Author of comic books, he has published several titles including *Maurice quel plaisir* (*Graphic press editions*). He received the RFI/RSF Award (2003 and 2010), a 3rd place at the World press cartoon contest (2010) or United Nations mentions (2005, 2013).

Lars Refn (Denmark)



Lars Refn is an editorial Danish cartoonist who was born in Valby, a suburb of Copenhagen. In 1980, he graduated from the Skolen for Brugskunst, the School of Arts and Crafts of Copenhagen. Lars Refn is a prolific caricaturist, fond of political satire, who has led his career as a cartoonist since 1980 and has worked for numerous newspapers, magazines and digital media. He is very interested in the relations between humans and technologies. Lars Refn is also the chief editor at the satire magazine SPOT – spotsk.dk. From 2013 until 2019, he was the President of Danske Bladtegnere, the Danish editorial cartoonists federation. He currently works for Zebra Pressebureau, a press agency based in Copenhagen.

Alaa Satir (Sudan)



Alaa Satir is a Sudanese cartoonist from Khartoum, graduated in architecture from the University of Khartoum. She is currently working as graphic designer, illustrator and cartoonist. Various offices and NGOs use her visual art. She designed her first personal exhibition in 2017 called Morning Doodles, addressing topics like feminism, social media and politic. She also took part in an exhibition for women's right and gender-based violence in March 2018 and launched a new brand named Planet.B in June 2018.

Roman Tadesse (Ethiopia)



Roman Tadesse is an Ethiopian press cartoonist. Graduated in Graphic design from Addis Ababa University School of Fine Arts, she works for 8 newspapers since 2001.

Tayo (Nigeria)



Tayo is a Nigerian cartoonist, caricaturist, writer, illustrator and editorialist. Tayo is a graduate of the prestigious U.S. Art school, The Kubert School in New Jersey, US. He illustrated the award-winning digital comic strip Hooked (BBC World) and produced illustrations of the African kingdom for the British Museum. His work is published in Courrier International, The Guardian, his comics in DC Comics and the Spirit of Lagos comics. Tayo is the winner of the Crayon de Porcelaine Prize (Salon International Dessin de Presse & Humour, St-Justle-Martel) France, the ECBACC 2018 Prize and the BAOSA Prize for his career.

Wichmann (Denmark)



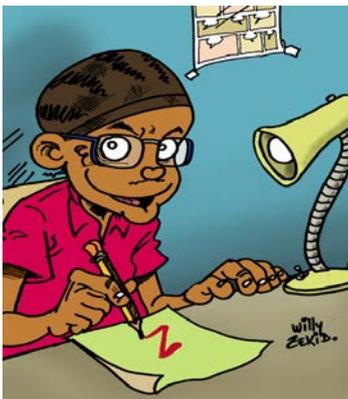
Kamilla Wichmann, Danish illustrator and cartoonist, was born in 1975. She has worked eight years for the Danish newspaper Berlingske, while illustrating a large variety of books for children, posters and school books. Kamilla is also a successful self-publisher, specialized in books for children. A front page of Berlingske, featuring one of Kamilla's drawings of Barack Obama, won an award for 'Best Front Page' at the European Newspaper Award 2013. She was awarded the GOLDEN APPLE BIB 2007 in Bratislava and an ENCOURAGEMENT PRIZE 2013 on Nami Island International Illustration Contest in South Korea for her illustrations.

Willis from Tunis (Tunisia)



When Ben Ali announced the end of censorship in Tunisia, Nadia Khiari created on Facebook the character Willis from Tunis who quickly became a phenomenon. Teacher in visual arts, painter, cartoonist, Nadia Khiari is the author of several collections of chronicles about the Arab springs and publishes her cartoons in Siné Mensuel, Courrier International, Zelium. Her work has earned her numerous distinctions: the Honoré Daumier Award at the second Cartooning for Peace meeting in Caen (2012), the International Award for Political Satire in Forte dei Marmi (2014), the Agora Med Award for the Mediterranean Intercultural Dialogue (2015). She was also awarded the insignia of Doctor Honoris Causa from the University of Liège (2013).

Willy Zekid (Republic of the Congo)



Willy Zekid, whose real name is Willy Mouélé, is a comic books artist, graphic designer, scriptwriter and press cartoonist. He is one of the pioneers of comic book edition in Congo-Brazzaville, the only one appearing in the World Dictionary of Comic book in 2010. Once done with his law and journalism studies, Willy Zekid began drawing comic strips in the Ndouvou newspaper. He collaborated with the magazine Journal des jeunes pour les jeunes. The tense military environment led him to move to Ivory Coast in 1997 where he worked for the satirical newspaper Gbich!. However, Willy Zekid left Africa to Paris in 2002. He created with Planète Jeune's collaboration the series Takef, which knows an increasing success in Africa and ACP countries.

Yemsrach Yetneberk (Ethiopia)



Originally trained as an architect, Yemsrach Yetneberk is now a cartoonist based in Addis Ababa. For Yetneberk, cartoons provide an entertaining way to teach the public about a particular topic, convey a message, and create awareness about domestic or foreign issues. Yetneberk sees cartoons as a medium that can appeal to children and adults by using satire and humor to point to issues not always heard.

Zapiro (South Africa)



Born in 1958, Zapiro (Jonathan Shapiro) is a South African press cartoonist and editorial writer for the Daily Maverick. He has worked for the Sunday Times, Mail & Guardian, Times, Sowetan, Cape Argus and Cape Times, The Star, The Mercury and Pretoria News. He has published several books including *The Mandela Files*, *VuvuzelaNation*, *Democracy* and his latest special edition *WTF: Capturing Zuma-A Cartoonist's Tale*. He has won numerous international and South African awards and received two honorary doctorates. He was sued twice by Zuma for defamation without further action. Zapiro was named one of the 50 most influential people in Africa (2011, *Young Africa* and then by *Credit Suisse* in 2015).

Zohoré (Ivory Coast)



Lassane Zohoré is an Ivorian cartoonist. In 1985, he became the cartoonist in *Fraternité Matin*. In 1999, he co-founded the newspaper *Gbich!* with Illary Simplice, and became its publishing director. His talent was solicited by several newspapers, including *Courier International* and *Jeune Afrique*, and NGOs such as *Reporters Without Borders*. He is the author of the comic book *Cauphy Gombo - No pity in bizness!* as well as the collections of cartoons *Kotoubou*, *Le sida et autres affaires le concernant* et *Kimboo contre la drogue* (collective album)... Zohoré is president of «Tache d'encre» and «Coco Bulles», the International Festival of Press Cartoons and Comics in Ivory Coast. He is the 2nd Vice-President of the Press Publishers of Côte d'Ivoire (GEPCI) and *Cartooning For Peace* ambassador.

Zunar (Malaysia)



Zunar is a political cartoonist from Malaysia. With his slogan, "How Can I be Neutral, Even My Pen Has a Stand", he exposes corruption and abuse of power committed by the government of Malaysia through his art. Until 2018, he was facing nine charges under the archaic Sedition Act, was subject to a travel ban and facing possible 43 years imprisonment. Zunar was the only Malaysian selected by Amnesty International as the first Malaysian for their biggest annual international campaign, 'Write for Rights (#W4R) 2015'. He won the "Courage in Editorial Cartooning Award 2011" by Cartoonists Right Network International, the Human Rights Watch Hellman/Hammett Award for 2011 & 2015 and the International Press Freedom Award, Committee to Protect Journalist, New York 2015. He won the *Cartooning for Peace* Award in May 2016 in Geneva.

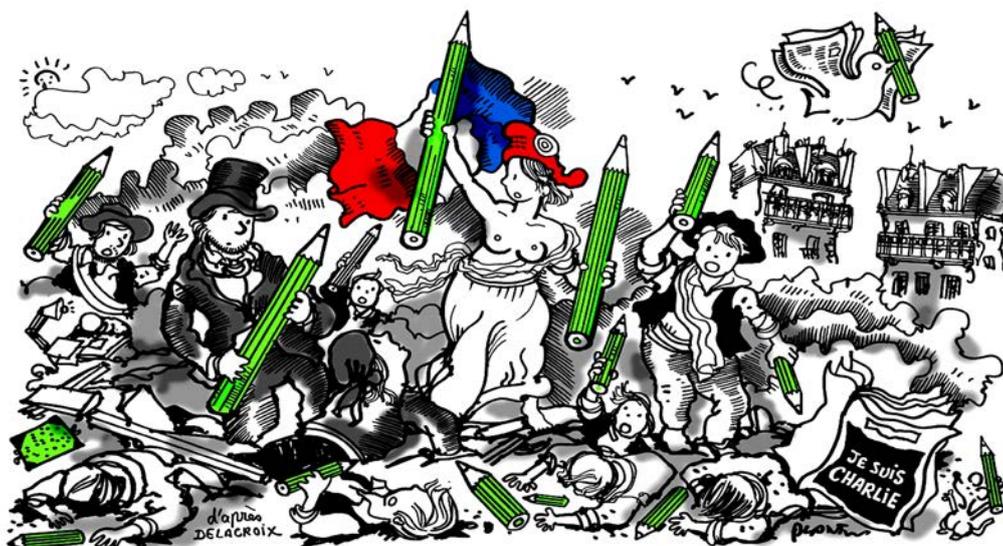
EXHIBITION

CARTOONING IN AFRICA

The exhibition "Cartooning in Africa" offers a whole view of press freedom in the world at the same time as it promotes African press cartoonists.



Gado (Kenya)



Plantu (France)



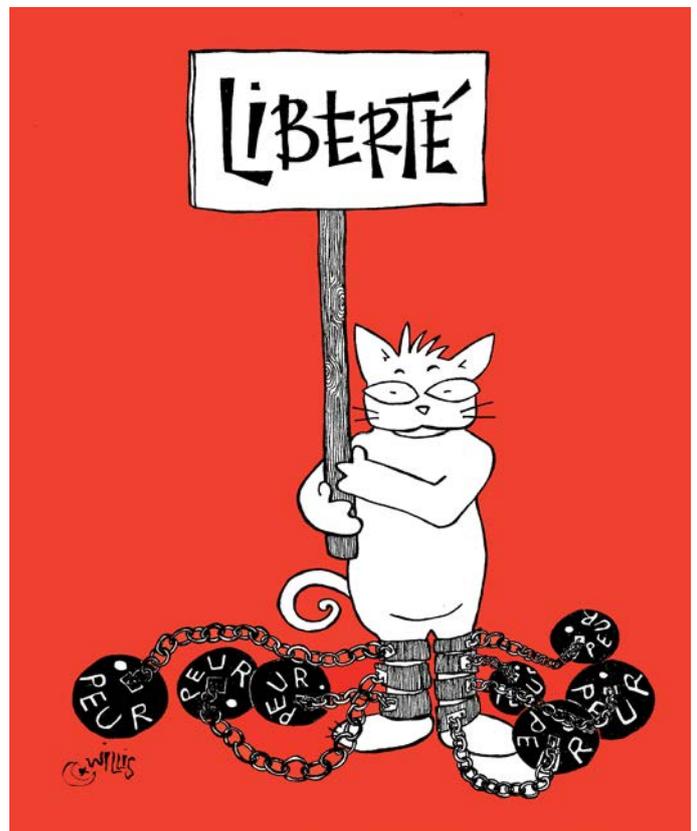
L'Andalou (Algeria)



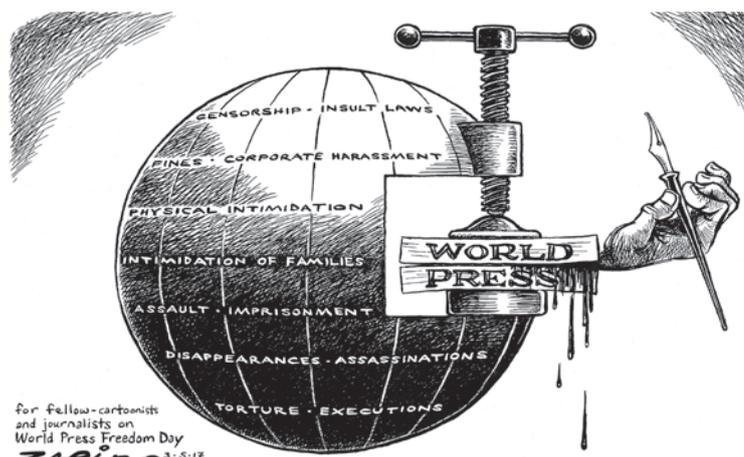
Sherif Arafa (Egypt)



Yemsrach Yetneberk (Ethiopia)



Willis from Tunisia (Tunisia)



Zapiro (South Africa)

PARTNERS

Cartooning for Peace thanks its partners for their supports: Unesco, African Union, European Union, the Delegation of European Union to the African Union, the Alliance Ethio-française of Addis Ababa, French Embassy in Ethiopia and representative to the African Union, French Embassy in Angola, French Embassy in Ivory Coast, French Embassy in Kenya, French Embassy in Sudan, French Institute in Madagascar, French Institute in South Africa, Orange Foundation, Editions Calmann-Lévy, CFI media development, International Media Support (IMS), Danish editorial cartoonists federation, SCAM, the fonds de dotation Agnès b., Whiz Kids Workshop and Ethiopian Airlines.

MEDIA

- France Médias Monde (France 24, RFI, MCD)
- Le Monde
- Le Monde Afrique
- Courrier International
- TV5 Monde



CARTOONING FOR PEACE

Created in 2006 on the initiative of Kofi Annan, Nobel Peace Prize winner and former General-Secretary of the United Nations, and the press cartoonist Plantu, Cartooning for Peace is an international network of press cartoonists committed to promoting, through the universal language of press cartoons, freedom of expression, Human Rights and mutual respect between people of different cultures or beliefs.

www.cartooningforpeace.org
<http://cartooningforpeace.blog.lemonde.fr>
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World Press Freedom Day 2019

Media for Democracy

Journalism and Elections in Times of Disinformation

Global Conference
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
1-3 May 2019

Concept Note

On 3 May 2019, UNESCO will celebrate the 26th edition of the celebration of World Press Freedom Day in almost 100 countries. The worldwide commemoration theme concerns the current challenges faced by media in elections, along with the media's potential in supporting peace and reconciliation.

The global conference event takes place in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia and is jointly organized by UNESCO, the Government of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia and the African Union Commission. It is hosted in the African Union Headquarters. The 2019 theme is closely interlinked with the objectives of the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) as well as the African Union's Agenda 2063, which seeks to promote "an Africa of good governance, democracy, respect for human rights, justice and the rule of law".

In this respect, Agenda 2063 has earmarked, under its Aspiration 3, a specific goal on "Democratic values, practices, universal principles of human rights, justice and the rule of law entrenched". The goal has also identified that democratic values, practices, universal principles of human rights, justice and the rule of law are entrenched as one of its priority areas to be realized by 2023. This is through ensuring that at least 70% of the people perceive the press and exchange of information is free and the freedom of expression prevails.





Media, Democracy and Peace

The will of the people shall be the basis of the authority of government; this will shall be expressed in periodic and genuine elections which shall be by universal and equal suffrage and shall be held by secret vote or by equivalent free voting procedures”, says Article 21 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

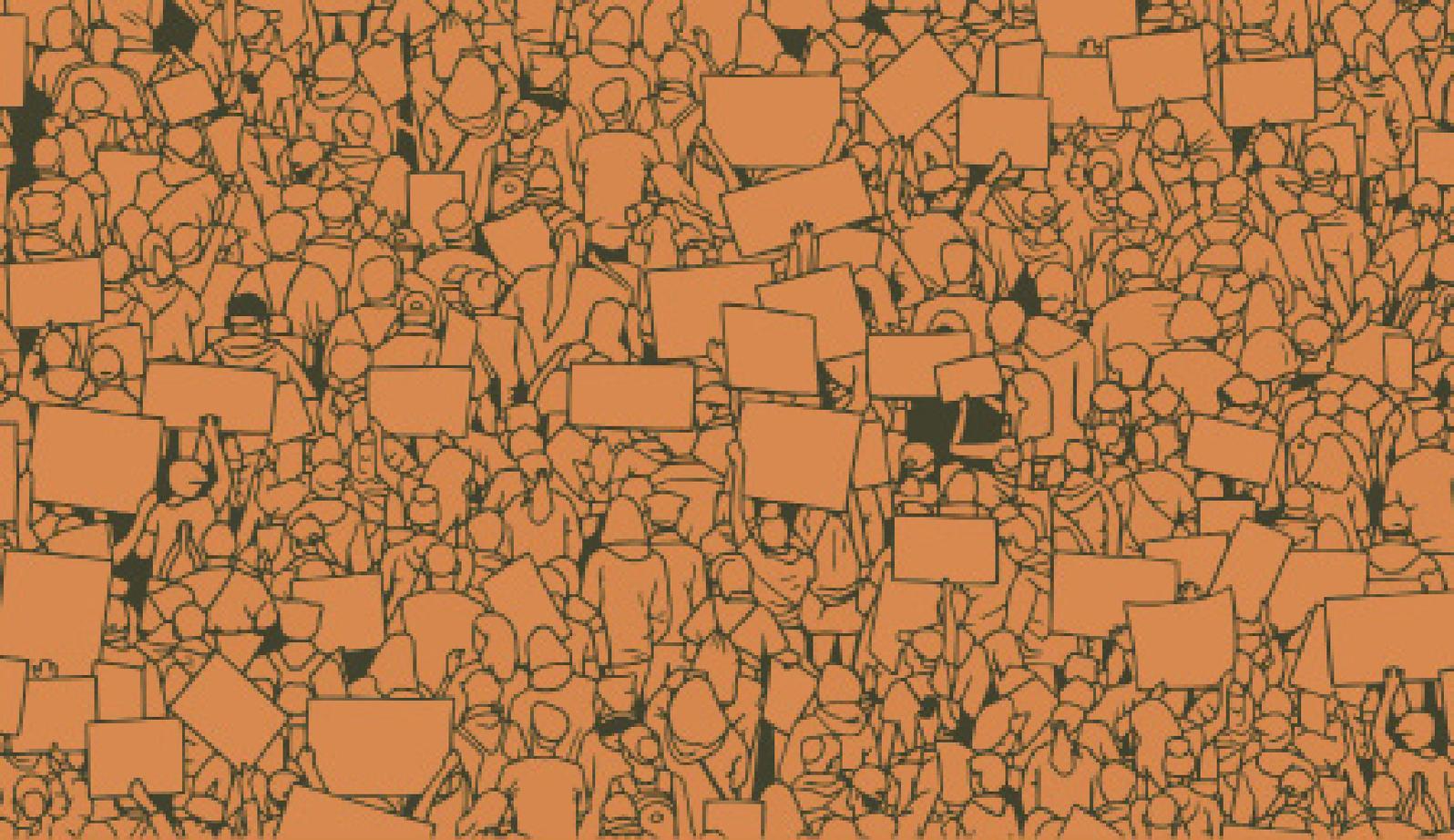
Article 19 of the same Declaration covers the right to freedom of opinion and expression: “Everyone has the right to freedom of opinion and expression; this right includes freedom to hold opinions without interference and to seek, receive and impart information and ideas through any media and regardless of frontiers”.

These two rights – to elections and to expression – come into play during polls, and call attention to their linkage. In democracies, voters should be enabled to help set the political agenda, and to cast their ballots freely and on a solid understanding of the contestants’ political records and programme pledges. Election outcomes and their aftermath are critically affected by political discourse and communications, including the role of the media in relation to the polling process.

Today, the contribution of free, pluralistic, independent and safe journalism to democracy is under unprecedented stress. Many societies have falling trust in established political parties and in news outlets themselves. This is often accompanied by polarizing political discourse that threatens peaceful elections as well as press freedom.

In many places, attempts by political actors to control media in elections continue to complicate the democratic role of journalism at a time when it is already weakened economically. At the same time, there is growing disintermediation of news institutions: politicians use channels other than the media to reach audiences directly, and voters share content directly amongst themselves. There is an avalanche of content other than journalism during an election, including made-up facts, anti-media rhetoric and attempts to discredit truthful news reports. In this context, the visibility and impact of professional journalism becomes potentially diminished.¹

1. See UNESCO report on World Trends in Freedom of Expression and Media Development 2017/2018. UNESCO: Paris, 2018.



All these factors are linked to the growing centrality of the Internet during elections. Key debates have arisen about concentration of power in technology companies, as well as about their privacy-intrusive and attention-soliciting business models. Where there is constant exposure to a mass of emotive content driven by attention-economics and psychological intelligence, citizens can find themselves both polarized and paralyzed in a situation of 'information overload'. Some people resort to 'easy answers' such as adopting conspiracy theories or treating all information as equally unreliable. In many cases, individuals put blind trust in information sourced from close friends or a populist leader; in other instances, cynicism and apathy take the place of healthy skepticism and active citizenship.

In the face of this, there are increasing calls for better self-regulation by Internet companies, as well as for forms of state-regulation and multi-stakeholder regulation. Meanwhile, state intervention has taken the form of increasing Internet shutdowns as well as the blocking and filtering of online content, thereby curbing access to communications and content in times of polls.

Against this complicated background, it is key to keep focus on a free, independent and pluralistic media, with professional journalism that is practised without fear of attack. This is how citizens can be supported to maneuver through murky and conflictual waters and be actively involved in an informed democracy. The distinctiveness of journalism in helping to ensure the integrity of elections, is more relevant than ever.

In this context, World Press Freedom Day 2019 will address the following sub-themes:

- 1. How the digital era is affecting electoral communications.**
- 2. New attempts to undermine media's role in democracy: Discrediting professional journalism, and disrupting Internet access.**
- 3. Media's potential to contribute to a culture of sustainable peace and democracy**