



TERMS OF REFERENCE – CONSULTANT/S
**GLOBAL STUDY ON A FEMINIST APPROACH TO THE SAFETY OF JOURNALISTS
AND SOCIAL COMMUNICATORS**
Deadline May 15, 2021

ARTICLE 19 works for a world where all people everywhere can freely express themselves and actively engage in public life without fear of discrimination. We do this by working on two interlocking freedoms, which set the foundation for all our work. The Freedom to Speak concerns everyone's right to express and disseminate opinions, ideas and information through any means, as well as to disagree from, and question power-holders. The Freedom to Know concerns the right to demand and receive information by power-holders for transparency, good governance and sustainable development. When either of these freedoms comes under threat, by the failure of power-holders to adequately protect them, ARTICLE 19 speaks with pluralist voices, through courts of law, through global and regional organisations, and through civil society wherever we are present.

“Equally Safe: Towards a Feminist Agenda for the Safety of Journalists (FEMSOJ)” is a 2-year project funded by Global Affairs Canada that aims to enable a safer environment for journalists and social communicators that is more equal, inclusive and non-discriminatory by challenging unequal power relations and systemic discrimination that particularly undermine women^[1] journalists' safety, acknowledging that women are not an homogeneous group and that sexual orientation, race, ethnicity, religion or belief, age, location (urban and rural) and class are among the intersectional factors that will inform our actions.

This project includes research to define a feminist approach to the safety of journalists and social communicators and the steps needed to implement this approach to create a comprehensive and inclusive understanding on the different gender elements of threats and attacks against journalists and social communicators and its particular impact on women journalists. The final research publication will also include seven case studies from Brazil, Chile, Paraguay, in Latin America; and from Bangladesh, Bhutan, Nepal and Sri Lanka, in South Asia.

The consultant/s will lead this research that will be carried out in close consultation with ARTICLE 19's Head of Protection and in collaboration with ARTICLE 19's Head of Gender and Sexuality, Senior Legal Officer, Director of ARTICLE 19 South America, and the Director of ARTICLE 19 South Asia. The lead researcher/s will also support the work of national-level consultants that will carry out the case studies.

OBJECTIVE OF THE STUDY:

1. Develop a methodology for a feminist approach to safety of journalists and social communicators, centering freedom of expression and women's rights, and with a strong emphasis on intersectionality;
2. Identify main obstacles to the safety of women journalists and social communicators, ensuring that careful attention is paid to the varied experiences/risks of women with different identities and backgrounds, including identifying the specific environments in which attacks against women journalists and social communicators take place;
3. Provide guidance on how to implement a feminist approach on the work of protection of journalists and social communicators, in line with ARTICLE 19's Holistic Approach to Protection that includes preventive (international standards, legislation and policies), protection (monitoring, documentation, training and State protection mechanisms), prosecutorial and remedial (investigations, sentencing and remedies for both human rights violations and crimes against journalists) actions to address the safety of journalists offline and online;
4. Provide key recommendations to different stakeholder groups, such as international organizations, national policy-makers, internet intermediaries, civil society, media actors, educational institutions and journalists;

5. This study will provide a theoretical and methodological framework to seven case studies

OVERARCHING RESEARCH QUESTIONS:

1. What does a feminist approach to the safety of journalists and social communicators comprise and mean in theory and practice?
2. How does a feminist approach - or the lack of a feminist approach - interact at different levels and with various stakeholders involved in the safety of journalists?
3. What potential does a feminist approach have in addressing unequal access to and exercise of human rights, unequal power relations and systemic discrimination of women in society resulting from the exercise of their right to freedom of expression, and of women journalists and social communicators in the media environment?
4. How can safety of journalist strategies ensure an intersectional, freedom of expression and women's rights approach that takes into account factors including but not limited to race, age, economic situation, class, sexual orientation, disabilities and religion?
5. How can a feminist approach to the safety of journalists and social communicators strengthen standard setting mechanisms, policy development, media and civil society strategies?
6. Are there existing feminist approaches to safety of journalists that are being?

SCOPE OF WORK:

In light of the restrictions brought about by the COVID 19 pandemic, the assignment may be conducted virtually, coupled with physical interaction with strict adherence to national government and World Health Organization COVID 19 protocols. The scope of work will be undertaken under the supervision of ARTICLE 19's Head of Protection and in collaboration with ARTICLE 19's Head of Gender and Sexuality, Senior Legal Officer, Director of ARTICLE 19 South America, and Director of ARTICLE 19 South Asia. The full document should have an extension of maximum 30 pages.

1. A brief overview of the situation of violence against journalists from a feminist perspective globally and regionally, and peer review analysis done by consultants at the national level;
2. An overview of feminist theories and approaches useful for the work on the safety of journalists;
3. An overview of international and regional standards applicable to a feminist approach on the safety of journalists, based on the extensive A19 existing materials;
4. A proposed feminist approach to the safety of journalists and social communicators;
5. Set of key recommendations to integrate a feminist approach to the work on the protection of journalists, including:
 - By type of protection action, such as
 - Monitoring and documentation
 - Risk assessments
 - Safety protocols, protection training (legal, physical, psychosocial, digital)
 - Protection support (material, financial, legal, emergency support)
 - National protection mechanisms
 - Legal and policy impact and development
 - Advocacy
 - By type of actors, such as:
 - Journalists
 - CSOs
 - Media
 - State
 - Social media platforms
 - International and regional intergovernmental mechanisms
 - By level/layer of impact on journalist's and women life cycle, such as:
 - Personal level
 - Professional level
 - Psychological level

- Economical level
 - Family level
7. Develop a research methodology and peer review case studies done by national-level consultants that will look at specific experiences of and methods of a feminist approach to the safety of journalists and social communicators in legislation and/or protection mechanisms and/or women journalists' groups and/or monitoring and/or training and/or any experience from which to extract lessons learned can be gathered.
 8. The study needs to be written in journalistic style

Research methodologies

1. Develop a methodology for both global and national research. Outline the principles and assumptions that will guide the research from a freedom of expression, women's rights and intersectional perspective;
2. Desk Research on available research, reports and documentation on violence against women journalists, existing legislation and policies that affect their safety and other protection mechanisms and measure's available information;
3. Interviews, group discussions with authorities, media outlets, journalists, civil society working with journalists and on SoJ;
4. Potentially, surveys and media monitoring.
5. Research methodologies will be agreed between the researcher/s and A19.

Authorship clause

ARTICLE 19 does not attribute authorship of its public facing outputs solely to external individuals. We, therefore, publish as ARTICLE 19 while acknowledging the work of all individual researchers and consultants who have contributed to research and reports in the acknowledgements page¹ (except where explicit security risks suggest otherwise). Unless specified under a donor funded project, the intellectual property of research-based outputs remains with ARTICLE 19. The outputs emerging from that research is made available under the standard Creative Commons 3.0 licence².

KEY DELIVERABLES & TIMELINE:

Based on the scope above, the consultant(s) is expected to deliver the following outputs:

1. Research plan, including methodological framework, detailed research questions and detailed work plan to be agreed with ARTICLE 19, by June 4, 2021. A19 feedback by June 10.
2. A set of methodological guidelines for national-level consultants to carry out case studies in Brazil, Chile, Paraguay, in Latin America; and Bangladesh, Bhutan, Nepal and Sri Lanka, in South Asia, by June 30. A19 feedback by July 9.
3. Preliminary draft of the study, by August 15. A19 feedback by August 31.
4. By August 15, A19 receives first drafts of case studies prepared by local consultants. Peer review by the lead researcher/s, by August 31.
5. Second draft of the study, by September 17. A19 feedback by September 24.
6. By September 17, A19 receives the final draft of case studies. Peer review by lead researcher/s, by September 30.
7. Final draft of the study, by October 20. A19 feedback by October 27.
8. Final study, by November 5.
9. The study is expected to be launched **on November 25, 2021**.

REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS:

¹ Please see standard imprint page now a feature of all new publications <https://wiki.article19.io/x/KILBAg>

Acknowledgements may feature on a large format report on the imprint page, or on a separate page titled, "Acknowledgements".

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- Individual consultants, a group of consultants or an institution can apply to this call.
- Strong knowledge and experience of feminist and intersectional theories as well as freedom of expression and women's rights, particularly as it has been developed and implemented in the Global South;
- Proven experience in conducting research and interviews with a "do no harm" victim/survivor centered approach, prevention of re-traumatization, and a strong understanding of safeguarding;
- Proven record of previous research work and meaningful engagement in the field of journalism, human rights, intersectional feminism and gender studies;
- Knowledge of international human rights standards, in particular on freedom of expression.
- Understanding of global protection issues impacting journalists or HRDs, in particular women of diverse identities and backgrounds;
- Willingness and ability to closely collaborate with ARTICLE 19's staff;
- Working knowledge level of English.

Desired qualifications:

- Familiarity of safety of journalists within the UN system;
- Knowledge and/or experience working with human rights organizations;
- Experience in some of the countries where the case studies will take place;
- Language proficiency in one or some of the countries where the research will take place;

APPLICATION PROCESS:

Interested and qualified candidates should apply to silvia@article19.org **by May 15, 2021** with copies of the following attached:

1. **Technical proposal:** Explanation about the consultant(s) understanding of the ToR, including a brief proposed approach and methodology (1-2 pages max.) to accomplish the tasks.
2. **Financial Proposal:** The financial proposal should provide cost estimates for services rendered including a detailed breakdown of such costs, to stay within the maximum budget.
3. **Documentation of relevant experience:** a) Profile/CVs of the consultant(s), highlighting the level of expertise and experience for each of the required and desired qualifications, and copies or links to past research work and reports.
4. **Interviews** will take place the week of May 17.

ARTICLE 19 encourages women to apply and people who identify as LGBTQ+ and who are able to speak from direct individual experience about the obstacles to freedom of expression for marginalized populations.

BUDGET: The budget cannot exceed USD 14,000.

EVALUATION CRITERIA:

All submitted applications/proposals (including evidential attachments) will be assessed with the following technical and financial criteria:

1. Knowledge of international human rights standards, in particular on the right to freedom of expression and protection of journalists and human rights defenders.
2. Knowledge of feminist and intersectional theories and methodologies.
3. Relevant academic and/or practical experience background on issues related to freedom of expression and the protection of journalists.
4. Experience on conducting similar research and development of feminist methodologies to be applied human rights work.
5. Appropriateness and robustness of the proposed research approach and methodology.
6. Cost-effectiveness of the proposed actions of the bidder.

Please send the documentation required to Silvia Chocarro, Head of Protection, at silvia@article19.org, **by May 15, 2021**