

TERMS OF REFERENCE
CONSULTANCY FOR CASE STUDIES IN
BANGLADESH, BHUTAN, NEPAL AND SRI LANKA ON A FEMINIST APPROACH TO
THE SAFETY OF JOURNALISTS AND SOCIAL COMMUNICATORS

Deadline July 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 a global study to develop 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 global study will include seven case studies (one case study per country) of initiatives that have incorporated a feminist approach to the safety of journalists in Brazil, Chile, Paraguay, in Latin America; and from Bangladesh, Bhutan, Nepal and Sri Lanka, in South Asia. These case studies will follow an agreed methodology developed with the global lead researchers in cooperation with ARTICLE 19.

Within these terms of reference, **this consultancy call is to undertake four case studies (one per country) in Bangladesh, Bhutan, Nepal and Sri Lanka**, in close consultation with the global lead researchers and ARTICLE 19's Head of Protection and in collaboration with ARTICLE 19's Head of Gender and Sexual Identity and Senior Legal Officer, and the Head of Protection and Director of ARTICLE 19 South America and South Asia, as well as the lead researcher of the global study. The case studies will follow a proposed methodology agreed with the lead researcher/s and ARTICLE 19 and will be peer reviewed by the lead global researcher/s and ARTICLE 19.

OBJECTIVE OF THE STUDY:

Based and within a global study on a feminist approach to safety of journalists and social communicators:

1. Map protection experiences where a feminist approach has been mainstreamed, partially integrated and/or experimented in initiatives of the protection of journalists (or potentially of human rights defenders) and from which lessons can be extracted to develop a feminist approach to the safety of journalists and social communicators.
2. In consultation with the lead global researcher/s and ARTICLE 19, select one experience out of the mapping to be analyzed and be a case study for the global study, based on a methodology proposed by ARTICLE 19 and the lead researchers. This experience can be from legal approaches to national or subnational policies, from civil society monitoring or training practices to media outlet's measures, from unions' initiatives to journalists' actions, and so on.

3. Extract lessons learned and provide recommendations on how to implement or replicate them in protection of journalists' work.

OVERARCHING RESEARCH QUESTIONS:

- How a feminist and intersectional approach to the safety of journalists and social communicators has been applied to this concrete case study?
- How the main actors/institutions/events/incidents/processes of the case study have addressed unequal power relations and systemic discrimination of women in society, and of women journalists and social communicators in the media environment using the feminist approach?
- How the main actors/institutions/events/incidents/processes of the case study have taken an intersectional lens (taking into account factors such as race, age, economic class, disabilities and religion) using the feminist approach?
- What are the lessons learned from the specific case study?
- How can lessons learned be replicated in other protection initiatives?

SCOPE OF WORK:

In light of the restrictions brought about by the COVID 19 pandemic, the assignment may be conducted virtually, coupled with minimal physical interaction with strict adherence to national government and World Health Organization COVID 19 protocols. The below 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 Sexual Identity and Senior Legal Officer, and the Head of Protection and Director of ARTICLE 19 in the region.

1. A brief overview of the context of violence against journalists from an intersectional feminist perspective in the country, including overview of legal and policy framework in relation to freedom of expression of journalists and social communicators and their protection, and how the principles developed in a feminist approach to the safety of journalists are embedded or absent at policy, implementation and evaluation level.
2. A brief overview of the mapping done in the country on feminist initiative on the protection of journalists and human rights defenders.
3. Detailed description of the case study.
4. Following a proposed feminist methodology developed in cooperation with the lead researcher of the global study and ARTICLE staff, synthesize and highlight the successes, lessons, opportunities, and gaps of the case study, capturing the impact processes and tools.
5. Draw conclusions about lessons learned.
6. The study needs to be written in English and journalistic style.
7. This document should not exceed 10 pages.

Research methodologies

- Desk Research
- Interviews
- Potentially, surveys and media monitoring
- Consultations session/s with media actors from central and remote areas

Authorship clause

ARTICLE 19 does not attribute authorship of its public facing outputs solely to external individuals. ARTICLE 19 takes the view that all outputs are generated as a result of many individual and collective efforts by ARTICLE 19 and partners. We, therefore, publish as ARTICLE 19 while acknowledging the work of 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

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

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. Case study plan, including methodological framework, research questions, preliminary outline and detailed work plan agreed with ARTICLE 19, by July 30, 2021.
2. Map of feminist experiences in the country and to be discussed with A19 and lead researcher/s to choose case study, by August 20, 2021.
3. First draft of brief country overview and case study, by September 20.
4. Conduct consultation session/s with central and local media actors to collect input on experience and expectations, and incorporate the findings and recommendations from the participants in the first draft report by October 15
4. Second draft, based on comments received from ARTICLE 19, by October 30.
5. Final text, by November 15.

The global study, including the case studies, is expected to be launched on **March 8, 2022**.

REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS:

- Strong knowledge of feminist and intersectional theories and experiences
- Proven record of previous research work in the field of journalism, feminism and gender studies
- Knowledge of international human rights standards, in particular on freedom of expression.
- Understanding of protection issues impacting journalists or HRDs, in particular women
- Knowledge and/or experience working with human rights organizations
- Experience in the country where the case study takes place
- Willingness and ability to closely collaborate with ARTICLE 19's staff
- Working knowledge level of English.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Interested and qualified candidates should apply to silvia@article19.org **by July 15, 2021** with copies of the following attached, and interviews will take place on 19 and 20 July between 8 am and 11 am GMT:

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 be in Canadian dollars (CAD) provide cost estimates for services rendered including a detailed breakdown of such costs. The budget should be prepared in Canadian dollars. It must include the daily rate.
3. **Documentation of relevant experience:** a) Profile/CVs of the consultant(s), highlighting the level of expertise and experience for each of the required qualifications, and copies or links to past research work and reports.

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 total amount cannot exceed 3000 CAD (Canadian Dollars) per country.

EVALUATION CRITERIA:

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

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1. Knowledge of international human rights, 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. Experience on conducting similar research
4. Appropriateness and robustness of the proposed research approach and methodology.

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