

LEGAL GUIDE

FOR JOURNALISTS:

WORKING DURING THE WAR IN UKRAINE



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INTRODUCTION

In wartime, journalists face special challenges and responsibilities. Their task is not only to provide objective information, but also to observe high standards of professional ethics. Journalists are witnesses of historic events and the availability of reliable information to the public depends on their work. They are responsible not only for their profession, but also for their own safety and that of the military and civilians with whom they may cooperate.

The main requirement for journalists in wartime is to comply with national and international legislation, as well as to adhere to codes of ethics, in particular the [Code of Ethics of the Ukrainian Journalist, the Declaration of Principles of Conduct for Journalists](#), and other international standards of professional ethics.

However, journalists are often faced with a dispersion of regulations and guidelines governing their work during war. This can create additional difficulties, especially for foreign correspondents, for whom language barriers and search for relevant documents become serious obstacles.

This guide is designed to be a reliable resource for journalists, bringing together the most important rules, guidelines and recommendations for working in wartime. It will help media professionals find the right path in difficult situations while ensuring the quality and safety of their work.

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Director of the Centre for Democracy and Rule of Law

CEDEM provides free legal advice on a wide variety of media issues. In times of war, we continue to help journalists and the media. If the guide does not answer your question, please contact info@cedem.org.ua.



RULES FOR JOURNALISTS AND MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES IN THE COMBAT ZONE



RIGHTS FOR A MEDIA REPRESENTATIVE/JOURNALIST:

It shall be lawful to receive, store, use and disseminate general information about:

- Preparation and use of defense forces
- Participation of the AFU and other components of the defense forces in the repulsion and large-scale armed aggression of the Russian Federation against Ukraine, which began on February 24, 2022
- Results of completed operations (actions) (exclusively upon agreement with the respective supervisor, commander (chief)), except for information that is not subject to disclosure.

DUTIES OF MEDIA REPRESENTATIVE/JOURNALIST:

- Present a press card at the request of representatives of the Armed Forces, other components of the defense forces
- Carry and present the media representative's identity documents
- Carry personal protective equipment, including, at a minimum, protective helmet and body armor with the word "ПРЕСА", "PRESS" on it (except for the situations mentioned in the previous paragraph)
- Carry and know how to use a first aid kit (it must contain everything necessary for first aid)
- Move in the zone of hostilities only within the timeframe and along the route determined and agreed upon in accordance with the established procedure with the respective supervisors, commanders (chiefs), and the head of the public relations service (press service) of the military unit in the area of its responsibility

- Before moving to the combat zone, notify the head of the public relations service (press service) of the duration of the assignment, the route to be traveled, and the purpose of the editorial assignment by e-mail or telephone
- During the entire time of stay in the combat zone, wear (place) identification signs (markings) of media representatives (media vehicles) in a visible place, except for situations when this may lead to a threat to the life and health of media representatives
- Avoid actions incompatible with the status of civilians, i.e. avoid wearing uniforms and insignia of the Armed Forces or other defense forces, avoid taking up arms and ammunition
- Upon completion of work at military facilities, upon request, hand over electronic and tangible media with photo and video materials to a designated person for verification (to ensure they do not contain information that cannot be disclosed)
- In case there is information that is not subject to disclosure, upon request of a representative of the public relations service (press service) or other authorized person, delete such information from the electronic media.



PLEASE NOTE! The Institute of Mass Information lends high-quality and well-tested protective equipment and individual first-aid kits free of charge.

For this purpose, you need to fill out a **form**. You can find out more about the list and characteristics of the equipment [here](#).

SAFETY GUARANTEES FOR JOURNALISTS DURING TRIPS TO EMERGENCY EVENT SITES AND CONDITIONS OF THEIR WORK IN THESE TRIPS:

Media outlets (entities) may second journalists to perform professional tasks at emergency sites on condition that they provide compensation, mandatory payments and benefits provided for in [Article 13 of the Law](#) on State Support for the Media, Guarantees of Professional Activity and Social Protection of Journalists, and other compensations and payments in accordance with the legislation on labor protection and social protection of citizens.

- Should it be impossible to provide guarantees for such cases, media organizations shall not send their employees to emergency sites without their consent.
- Media outlets shall provide seconded journalists with appropriate documents, signs, signals and other means of identification of the media representative.
- Media outlets shall provide journalists and other employees during their business trips to hostility (combat) zones and/or temporarily occupied territories of Ukraine with the below:

- Means intended for protection against firearms and shrapnel injuries
- First aid kits.

INSURANCE:

Journalists and other employees for the period of their assignment to hostility (combat) zones and/or temporarily occupied territories of Ukraine are subject to compulsory insurance at the expense of the employer or any other sources not prohibited by law in case of harm to their life and/or health in the performance of professional duties.



SAFETY AND PROTECTION OF JOURNALISTS AND MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES IN THE COMBAT ZONE

- Circumstances threatening life and health: In the event of such a situation, representatives of the Armed Forces of Ukraine, other components of the defense forces, subject to real possibility, may provide a [media](#) representative with the below:

- Protection,
- Emergency medical assistance, and
- Evacuation to an appropriate healthcare facility.

- Wounds, injuries, illnesses, death: In such cases, if there is a realistic possibility, representatives of the Armed Forces of Ukraine, other components of the defense forces will pass the relevant information on to the editorial office of such media representatives.
- Return of the media representative from the combat zone: The editorial office that sent their media representative to fulfill professional tasks shall be responsible for ensuring the return of a media representative from the zone of hostilities (in particular to the country from which they came or which they are a citizen of).
- Life, health and property insurance: This issue is within the exclusive responsibility of the media editorial office whose tasks the journalist/media representative performs.

PLEASE NOTE!

The Armed Forces of Ukraine, other components of the defense forces, commanders of military units or their authorized representatives in charge of relations with the media shall not be responsible for the safety, life and health, ensuring the return, as well as issues of insurance of life, health and property of media representatives.



RULES OF CONDUCT AT CHECKPOINTS (ROADBLOCKS)

When passing roadblocks:

- Slow down the vehicle
- Prepare documents for inspection in advance
- Turn off the headlights
- Turn on emergency lights and dome lights
- Do not record any videos
- Do not get out of the car without the permission of the military
- Answer questions of the military clearly
- Be prepared to open the trunk upon request and allow inspection of the interior of the vehicle
- After inspection and permission to proceed, do not speed up abruptly.



NOTE THAT entry/exit control measures include the below:

At checkpoints (roadblocks):

- The below document will be checked:
 - IDs confirming Ukrainian citizenship or special status of the person
 - Documents necessary for the transportation of cargo (vehicle documents, cargo documents, waybill, etc.)
- Inspection of the vehicle and cargo (goods) for compliance with cargo (goods) documents
- Detention of persons, vehicles, cargo (goods), their inspection and handing them over to authorized representatives of law enforcement agencies
- Temporary restriction (ban) on the movement of vehicles and persons

Beyond the checkpoints (roadblocks):

- Detection of violation of the established procedure for the movement of persons, vehicles, cargoes (goods) to the territory where a special regime is established
- Detention of persons, vehicles, cargo (goods), their inspection and handing them over to authorized representatives of law enforcement agencies

TELEPHONE CHECK UNDER MARTIAL LAW

If you are asked to show your [phone](#) at a roadblock or other checkpoint:

- Be tactful and considerate of requests or demands. Servicemen/women of the AFU, National Guard, police officers and other authorized people do their job and risk their own lives and health every day to ensure our safety
- Ask them what is to be inspected, what information or data from the phone. Let them know in advance if the information requested is confidential
- Show the military or police officer the requested information. If possible, do not hand over your phone, especially if it has sensitive data on it
- If information from your phone (such as [IMEI](#)) is recorded or photographed, ask why they are doing this, where the information will be stored and who will have access to it and for what purpose;
- If you feel that an inspection or check goes beyond what is necessary in a particular situation, ask for the name, position and rank, and unit affiliation of the person conducting the inspection. This will help you appeal with a complaint about the actions of the authorized person to their commander. And if they abused their powers or interfered with your activities – with a statement to the National Police.



ACCREDITATION DURING THE LEGAL REGIME OF MARTIAL LAW



ACCREDITATION

gives an opportunity for a journalist to work at a certain site of an event, access to which must be coordinated with the authorities. In other words, it creates favorable conditions for journalists and media representatives to carry out their professional activities.

HOW IT IS REGULATED:

the accreditation algorithm for media representatives is regulated by [Article 26](#) of the Law of Ukraine "On Information" and [the Procedure for the Accreditation of Media Representatives during the Legal Regime of Martial Law](#).

WHAT DOCUMENTS SHOULD BE SUBMITTED:

in order to be accredited, media representatives should fill out a special [form](#) and send it to the e-mail address newsmodu@gmail.com.

THE BELOW SHALL BE ATTACHED TO THE FORM:

- A scanned copy of the passport (pages 1-3) or ID card
- A scanned copy of a media representative's ID (optional for persons providing informational support to foreign journalists)
- Submission of a media outlet requesting accreditation
- A high-resolution photo of the applicant

PLEASE NOTE!

A person who regularly disseminates mass information under his/her editorial control through his/her own accounts on information sharing platforms and has voluntarily registered as an online media outlet (entity) in accordance with the procedure provided for by the Law of Ukraine "On Media", instead of a scanned copy of the media representative's ID card, shall provide a scanned copy of the relevant supporting document issued by the National Council of Ukraine on Television and Radio Broadcasting.



TERM FOR WHICH ACCREDITATION IS GRANTED:

up to 12 months.

WHO MAKES THE DECISION ON GRANTING/REVOKING ACCREDITATION:

Public Relations Department of the Armed Forces of Ukraine.

Subject to successful accreditation, the Public Relations Department of the Armed Forces of Ukraine produces and sends to the media representative's e-mail address an electronic [press card](#) – a personalized document certifying the accreditation of media representatives and their rights to perform editorial assignments in the combat zones.

By applying for accreditation, the media representative confirms that he/she has read and agreed to comply with the [Rules for Media Representatives in the Combat Zone](#) (hereinafter referred to as the Rules), which are available on the official website of the Ministry of Defense of Ukraine.

REFUSAL TO GRANT/REVOCATION OF ACCREDITATION

Accreditation may be denied:

- If the information provided by the journalist/media representative has inconsistencies. The annex does not specify what exactly "inconsistency" means, so we will assume that it means information that does not correspond to reality
- If there are reasons to consider it inappropriate to grant accreditation to a media representative
- If accreditation had been revoked in the past and/or on the recommendation of the Security Service of Ukraine.

Accreditation may be revoked or terminated (while the circumstances of the violation are investigated):

- In case of refusal to comply with the Rules
- In the event of a violation of the Rules
- If the press card has been handed over to other persons.

For example, the Ministry of Defense **stripped accreditation** from a number of media representatives after their work in liberated Kherson, and their press cards were invalidated. The reason behind it was the violation of the Order No. 73. In particular, journalists from Hromadske, CNN and SkyNews were stripped of accreditation.

HOW YOU CAN CHECK THE VALIDITY OF YOUR ACCREDITATION:

The Ministry of Defense of Ukraine gives an option to verify the validity of your accreditation by phone:

+38 (089) 420 18 64.

You can also **contact** newsmodu@gmail.com if you have accreditation questions.

IF YOU DO NOT AGREE WITH THE DENIAL/CANCELLATION/TERMINATION OF ACCREDITATION:

you may appeal the relevant decision by sending an official letter from the head (editor) of the media outlet to the General Staff of the Armed Forces of Ukraine.

USEFUL CONTACTS:

Press and Information Department of the Ministry of Defense of Ukraine:

psmodu@post.mil.gov.ua

+38 044 271-34-33



Public Relations Department of the Armed Forces of Ukraine (Press Service of the General Staff):

press@post.mil.gov.ua

+38 044 454-42-55





ACTIVITIES OF FOREIGN MEDIA IN UKRAINE DURING THE LEGAL REGIME OF MARTIAL LAW



First of all, the activities of foreign journalists on the territory of Ukraine during the legal regime of martial law in hostility (combat) zones are subject to [ORDER No. 73 of March 3, 2022, On Interaction Between the Armed Forces of Ukraine, Other Components of the Defense Forces and Representatives of the Media During the Legal Regime of Martial Law.](#)

ACCREDITATION of foreign media representatives takes place in accordance with the [PROCEDURE for the Accreditation of Media Representatives During the Legal Regime of Martial Law](#) (Annex 3 to Order No. 73 of March 3, 2022).

[Foreigners and stateless persons](#) who came to Ukraine to work as a correspondent or representative of foreign media and received a residence permit are legally staying in Ukraine for the period of work in Ukraine.

As a [general rule](#), foreigners and stateless persons who have legally arrived in Ukraine may temporarily stay on its territory:

- Within the period of visa validity for stateless persons or foreigners who are citizens of states with visa entry procedure, unless another period is determined by the international treaties of Ukraine;
- For not more than 90 days within 180 days for foreigners who are citizens of states with visa-free entry procedure, unless another period is determined by the international treaties of Ukraine.



PLEASE NOTE!

[During the period of martial law](#) and within 30 days after its repeal or termination, foreigners and stateless persons who arrived to work as a correspondent or representative of foreign media and who have duly passed accreditation of media representatives during the legal regime of martial law shall not be subject to restrictions on the above-mentioned terms of temporary stay on the territory of Ukraine.

- The procedure for establishing measures of special entry and exit regime, restriction on the freedom of movement of citizens, foreigners and stateless persons, as well as movement of vehicles in Ukraine or its separate areas where martial law is imposed is determined by the [Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine "Procedure for Establishing Special Entry and Exit Regime, Restriction on the Freedom of Movement of Citizens, Foreigners and Stateless Persons, as well as Movement of Vehicles in Ukraine or its Separate Areas Where Martial Law is Imposed" No. 1455.](#)
- [Recommendations](#) Regarding Restrictions on Human Rights during Wartime.

Foreign journalists shall also observe the rules of work safety and shall not neglect means of protection, insure their life and health, and comply with the law. This issue must be addressed with the utmost responsibility, given that journalists' lives have been threatened on multiple occasions. For example, during the Russian missile attack on [Kharkiv](#) on December 30, 2023, the crew of the German TV channel ZDF was affected, and on [January 10](#), Turkish journalists were injured during a missile attack on a hotel.

TEMPORARY RESIDENCE PERMIT FOR JOURNALISTS IN UKRAINE

[Grounds](#) for issuance of a temporary residence permit:

- Application of a foreigner or stateless person
- Valid health insurance policy
- Foreign media appeal (see the form [here](#))
- Submission from the central executive authority implementing the state policy in the sphere of ensuring information sovereignty of Ukraine (Ministry of Reintegration of the Temporarily Occupied Territories of Ukraine).

WORKING WITH FIXERS

Foreign journalists often use the services of '[fixers](#)' – local hired coordinators who settle issues related to the work of foreign journalists, photographers or film crews.

The most typical tasks of a fixer include:

- Assistance in addressing procedural issues, for example, obtaining accreditation, necessary permits for filming, staying at the planned locations
- Developing a work plan, an itinerary, based on the goals of the media or the media customer
- Communication with the people to appear in the stories or movies or with the target group coordinators, for example, press officers of military units or heads of military administrations
- Translation and assistance in adaptation to the local situation, security requirements, etc.

Recommendations for fixers:

- Safety first. When working in a war zone or in an area with a high level of mine danger, always use personal protective equipment marked "PRESS" – it can save your life. Similarly, you should always heed the warnings of the military, police or rescuers. Learn how to use a first aid kit. You can also take special safety training or course such as [BSAFE](#). You should know the emergency contacts and think through the steps in case of unforeseen situations, especially on the part of your customer.

- Know your customer. All requests received or open job offers should come from a specific identified entity. Find out who exactly the customer is (newspaper, TV channel), what status they have (registered or not, legal form, for example LLC, individual entrepreneur, state enterprise, etc.) and for what purposes they want to use the services of a fixer. Find out if there is an announcement about this opportunity on the official media or project resources. Try to find similar materials on the customer's website or channel. Have correspondence and communication through official email accounts with real people.
- Legalize your relationship with the customer, for example, through a contract. Also formalize your status with accreditation. For example, [the procedure for the accreditation](#) of media workers under martial law also provides for the accreditation of fixers. In addition to a certain standardized list of documents, in order to be accredited, fixers must submit a letter from the senior official of the media whose journalists will be provided with information support. However, a certificate for fixers is not mandatory, because they might not be professional journalists and provide only intermediary coordination services.
- Take care of your own insurance. It is likely that foreign media will insure their own employees in case of force majeure. At the same time, it is up to you to take care of your own safety.
- Be an expert in your field. Take into account the algorithms and procedures, the current regulation in the matters in which you are involved. A fixer must thoroughly know [the algorithm](#) of media work with the leaders and commanders of military structures, the media accreditation procedure, the peculiarities of loss of accreditation and the rules for covering information about the war and casualties.
- Context is the key. According to the general approach, a fixer is a technical specialist and does not influence the material that will be released by journalists. However, it depends on them which semantic context foreigners will be in and how they will understand current events. Because it is the fixer who will explain to journalists the things usual for us, the moods of society, the context of events, the background of conflicts or other situations, the likely motives of people, etc. (to read more about the tasks of fixers, see the [link](#)).



WHAT CAN AND CANNOT BE COVERED DURING MARTIAL LAW?



Article 34 of the Constitution of Ukraine guarantees everyone the right to freedom of thought and speech, to the free expression of one's views and beliefs, namely the right to freely collect, store, use and disseminate information by oral, written or other means of one's choice.

At the same time, the same article contains restrictions on this right for reasons of national security, territorial integrity or public order in order to prevent riots or crimes, to protect public health, to protect the reputation or rights of other people, to prevent the disclosure of confidential information or to maintain the authority and impartiality of justice.

Restrictions are stipulated by:



Law of Ukraine "On Media", Article 119: restrictions on the content of information in the media related to armed aggression.

IT SHALL BE FORBIDDEN TO SHARE:

1

Information covering the armed aggression against Ukraine as an internal conflict, civil conflict or civil war, if it incites enmity or hatred or calls for violent change, overthrow of the constitutional order or violation of territorial integrity.

2

Inaccurate materials regarding armed aggression and actions of the aggressor state (occupying state), its officials, persons and organizations controlled by the aggressor state (occupying state), if it results in the incitement of enmity or hatred or calls for violent change, overthrow of the constitutional order or violation of territorial integrity.

3

Programs and materials (other than information and information-analytical programs), one of the participants of which is a person from the List of Persons that pose a threat to national security.

4

Phonograms, videograms, music videos the distribution of which is prohibited in accordance with Part 2 of Article 15 of the Law of Ukraine "On Culture".¹

Coverage of the activities of the authorities of the aggressor state (occupying state) in information and information-analytical programs and/or materials should be accompanied by a notification on the status of the aggressor state (occupying state).



Order On Interaction Between the Armed Forces of Ukraine, Other Components of the Defense Forces and Representatives of the Media During the Legal Regime of Martial Law No.73 (Annex 2)



The disclosure of this information may lead to the enemy becoming aware of the actions of the Armed Forces of Ukraine, other components of the defense forces, and negatively affect the progress of tasks as assigned during the legal regime of martial law:

1

Actual names of military units (subunits) of the Armed Forces of Ukraine, other components of the defense forces of Ukraine, personal data of military personnel performing combat (special) tasks, coordinates of their locations and deployment.

2

Combat and numerical composition of military units (subunits) of the Armed Forces of Ukraine, actual quantity, type of combat (special) equipment and its technical composition.

¹ Public performance, public display, public demonstration, public notification (making public, in particular through any means of communication in such a way that any person can access them from any place and at any time at their own choice) of the below shall be prohibited on the territory of Ukraine: phonograms, videograms and music videos that contain a recorded performance of a musical non-dramatic work with lyrics performed by a singer who is or was at any time after 1991 a citizen of the state recognized by the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine as an aggressor state (hereinafter referred to as the aggressor state), with the exception of former citizens of the aggressor state who are or at the time of death were citizens of Ukraine and do not have (did not have at the time of death) citizenship of the aggressor state, and/or produced by a natural person and/or a legal entity that at the time of their publication was, respectively, a citizen or registered in a state, which at any time was recognized as an aggressor state.

- 3** Places (districts) of concentration, deployment and restoration of combat capability of military units (subunits) of the Armed Forces of Ukraine with reference to settlements (geographical sites).
- 4** Current and future plans (intentions) of commands (commanders), combat (special) tasks and the progress of their fulfillment by military units (subunits) of the Armed Forces of Ukraine.
- 5** Effectiveness (experience) of the military units (subunits) of the Armed Forces of Ukraine and other components of the Ukrainian defense forces in using ammunition, test (special) equipment, and methods of conducting combat (tactical) operations.
- 6** Location (deployment sites) of launch (firing) emplacement of air defense units and the results of their combat mission.
- 7** Results of operations and combat operations by military units (subunits) of the Armed Forces of Ukraine and other components of the defense forces of Ukraine, unless such information has been made publicly available by the General Staff of the Armed Forces of Ukraine or other components of the defense forces of Ukraine.
- 8** Results of operations conducted by the units of the Special Operations Forces and intelligence units of the Armed Forces of Ukraine, unless such information has been made publicly available by the General Staff of the Armed Forces of Ukraine and (or) other management bodies of the defense forces of Ukraine.
- 9** Information on losses of combat (special) equipment (tanks, self-propelled artillery systems, aircraft, helicopters, anti-aircraft missile systems, ships (boats), especially foreign-manufactured ones) and personnel, unless such information has been placed in the public domain by the General Staff of the Armed Forces of Ukraine and (or) other management bodies of the defense forces of Ukraine.
- 10** Results of missile, air strikes of the enemy on military facilities (targets), critical infrastructure facilities, unless such information has been placed in public domain by the General Staff of the Armed Forces of Ukraine, other management bodies of the defense forces of Ukraine and (or) state authorities of Ukraine.

- 11** Movement (advancement) of combat (special) equipment, routes of its movement, types and quantity.
- 12** Security measures of the use of troops (forces) (information on measures to mislead, conceal the activities of troops (forces) and military facilities), forces and means that were involved, as well as photo and video materials depicting layouts and simulation means used by military units (subunits) of the Armed Forces of Ukraine, other components of the defense forces of Ukraine.
- 13** Information on conducted, ongoing and planned PSYOPs (operations, influence activities).
- 14** Information on servicemen/women of reconnaissance, missile, artillery units, electronic warfare units, unmanned aerial vehicle units, flight and engineering staff of airplanes and helicopters, and Special Operations Forces of the Armed Forces of Ukraine.
- 15** Photo and video materials showing mutual recognition signs, flight numbers and state license plates on combat (special) equipment, target designation, combat control and reconnaissance equipment, and design features on combat (special) equipment.
- 16** Photos and videos inside tanks, self-propelled artillery systems, surface-to-air missile systems, armored combat vehicles and tactical aircraft, especially foreign-made.
- 17** Information about delivery dates, types, quantities, logistics, current and future places of concentration (storage) of armaments and military equipment, which are provided within the logistical assistance from partner countries, especially missiles, ammunition, air defeat equipment, unless such information has been published by the official pages (representatives) of the Ministry of Defense of Ukraine and the General Staff of the Armed Forces of Ukraine or agencies of partner countries.
- 18** Information on awareness of the enemy, its tactics, places (areas) of concentration (location) of important military facilities.



Law of Ukraine "On Combating Terrorism", Article 17:
Prohibits dissemination of the below information
through media or other means:

- 1 Information that discloses special technical techniques and tactics for anti-terrorist operations.
- 2 Information that may hinder the conduct of anti-terrorist operation and (or) endanger the life and health of hostages and other people who are in the area of the said operation or beyond.
- 3 Information that aims to propagandize or justify terrorism, contains statements of persons who resist or call for resistance to the anti-terrorist operation.
- 4 Information that contains data on items and substances that can be directly used to commit acts of technological terrorism.
- 5 Information that discloses data on the personal composition of employees of special units and members of the operational headquarters participating in the conduct of an anti-terrorist operation, as well as on persons contributing to the conduct of the said operation (without their consent).



Law of Ukraine "On State Support of Media, Guarantees of Professional Activity and Social Protection of Journalists", Article 15:

When working in places of armed conflicts, terrorist acts, or during the disbandment of dangerous criminal illegal groups, a journalist (member of a creative team) shall comply with the requirements of non-disclosure of plans of special units, information that is a confidential under pre-trial investigation, shall avoid actual propaganda of acts of terrorists and other criminal illegal groups, their actions and statements specially inspired for the media, shall not act as an arbitrator, shall not interfere in the incident, shall not create an artificial psychological tension in society.

WHEN CAN ONE PROVIDE AND SHARE INFORMATION ABOUT SHELLING?

This issue is described in [the joint statement of the Ministry of Culture and Information Policy of Ukraine, the Ministry of Defense of Ukraine and media representatives dated April 27, 2022.](#)

PROVIDING INFORMATION:

The military is recommended to provide the media with more information about the enemy-caused destruction **no later than 1 day after the event.**

GATHERING INFORMATION:

Journalists can gather information on the ground **immediately after the shelling** to ensure all necessary safety conditions are met.

DISSEMINATING INFORMATION

Media and journalists may disseminate information about events on the battlefield in

- 12 hours – for military facilities,
- 3 hours – for civilian facilities.



LIABILITY OF JOURNALISTS



Liability for offenses and crimes specified in this section applies both to journalists who are citizens of Ukraine and foreigners.

In particular, [Article 16 of the Code of Administrative Offenses](#) states that foreigners and stateless persons who are on the territory of Ukraine are subject to administrative liability on the same basis as citizens of Ukraine.

[Article 6 of the Criminal Code of Ukraine](#) notes that persons [regardless of citizenship – author's note] who have committed criminal offenses on the territory of Ukraine are subject to criminal liability under this Code.

SPREADING UNVERIFIED INFORMATION

Media are interested in being the first to report on events and provide maximum information. Unfortunately, due to such rapid work, journalists sometimes make mistakes and disseminate unverified information.

In legal terms, there is no separate term "unverified information". Instead, there is the concept of "unreliable information". However, it is not the same thing. Unreliable information does not correspond to reality or is stated untruthfully, that is, it contains information about events and phenomena that did not exist at all. Or they did exist, but the information about them does not correspond to reality (it is incomplete or distorted). The difference is that unverified information may turn out to be either true or unreliable (false). In the latter case, there may be negative consequences. We will talk about them further on.

CONSEQUENCES OF SPREADING UNVERIFIED INFORMATION (WHICH TURNED OUT TO BE FALSE):

FOR SOCIETY

– decrease in the level of citizens' trust in news and disorientation, deterioration in people's psychological well-being, increase in the level of anxiety. Consumption of unverified information is life-threatening. If people receive unverified information about what is happening on the battlefield, which territories are occupied and which are liberated, where to look for a bomb shelter, they risk being killed or injured.

FOR THE STATE

– undermining confidence in the government, enmity, which leads to active aggression, discrediting blocs, alliances, democratic countries, which affects electoral preferences and public confrontations. Dissemination of unverified information can become a tool of enemy propaganda, harm military operations and internal stability of the country.

FOR THE MEDIA

– loss of reputation and trust of the audience.

ADMINISTRATIVE LIABILITY



Spreading false rumors (Article 173-1 of the Code of Administrative Offences)

- Dissemination of false rumors that may cause panic among the population or disruption of public order, –



Shall entail **imposition of a fine** (from UAH 170 to UAH 255) or **community service** for up to 1 month with the deduction of 20% of earnings.

If the unverified information violated personal non-property rights of a person, the person has the right to reply and refute, as well as to appeal to the court.

REFUTATION

The media publish false information about a person being the wife of a "traitor". Both the husband and the wife have the right to demand that the media refute this information. After all, their constitutional right to reputation has been violated.

THE RIGHT TO REPLY

In a response to the publication, the person whose rights have been violated can explain his or her opinion about the information disseminated and the circumstances of the violation of his or her rights.

LEGAL REMEDY


If a media outlet refuses to voluntarily refute inaccurate information or to compensate for financial and/or moral damage, in particular, if it claims that the information is accurate, the person about whom the information was disseminated may seek protection in court.

In some cases, the court may **prohibit** the dissemination of information. If, for example, the case concerns a newspaper that is being prepared for publication, the court may prohibit its distribution. If the issue has already been published, the court can seize the circulation of the newspaper in order to destroy it.

CRIMINAL LIABILITY



Dissemination of information on the dispatch, movement of weapons, armaments and ammunition into Ukraine, movement, transfer or deployment of the Armed Forces of Ukraine or other military formations formed in accordance with the laws of Ukraine (Article 114-2 of the Criminal Code of Ukraine).

- ① Dissemination of information on the dispatch, movement of
 - weapons,
 - armaments and ammunition into Ukraine,
 - including their movement through the territory of Ukraine,
 - if such information has not been placed (disseminated) in the public domain by the General Staff of the Armed Forces of Ukraine, the Ministry of Defense of Ukraine, the Main Directorate of Intelligence of the Ministry of Defense of Ukraine or the Security Service of Ukraine or in official sources of partner countries,
 - committed under conditions of martial law or state of emergency, –
-  shall be punished by **imprisonment** for a term of three to five years.

② Dissemination of information on

- movement, relocation or deployment of the Armed Forces of Ukraine or other military formations formed in accordance with the laws of Ukraine,
- if they can be identified on the ground,
- if such information has not been made publicly available by the General Staff of the Armed Forces of Ukraine, the Ministry of Defense of Ukraine or other authorized state bodies,
- committed under conditions of martial law or state of emergency, –



shall be punished by **imprisonment** for a term of five to eight years.

③ Dissemination of information provided for in the previous two paragraphs,

- by prior conspiracy by a group of persons
- or for selfish reasons,
- or for the purpose of providing such information to the state carrying out armed aggression against Ukraine, or its representatives, or other illegal armed groups,
- or if such actions caused grave consequences,
- in the absence of evidence of treason or espionage, –



shall be punished by **imprisonment** for a term of eight to twelve years.



Insulting the honor and dignity of a serviceman/woman or threatening a serviceman/woman (Article 435-1 of the Criminal Code of Ukraine)

①

Insult to honor and dignity,

- threats of murder, violence, or destruction or damage to property
- to a serviceman/woman engaged in activities to ensure national security and defense, repulse and deter armed aggression of the Russian Federation, his/her close relatives or family members, –



shall be punished by **imprisonment** for a term of three to five years or **imprisonment** for the same term.

②

Production and distribution of materials containing insult to honor and dignity, threat of murder, violence or destruction or damage to property to a military serviceman/woman engaged in measures to ensure national security and defense, repulse and deter armed aggression of the Russian Federation, his/her close relatives or family members, –



shall be punished by **imprisonment** for a term of three to five years or **imprisonment** for the same term.



Public calls for aggressive war or the unleashing of military conflict, or the production of materials calling for such acts (Article 436 of the Criminal Code of Ukraine)

- Public calls for aggressive war or the outbreak of military conflict,
- As well as the production of materials calling for such acts for the purpose of their dissemination or the distribution of such materials –



shall be punished by **correctional labor** for a term of up to two years or **probation supervision** for a term of up to three years, or **imprisonment** for the same term.



Justification, recognition as lawful, denial of the armed aggression of the Russian Federation against Ukraine and glorification of its participants (Article 436-2 of the Criminal Code of Ukraine)

①

Justification, recognition as lawful, denial of the armed aggression of the Russian Federation against Ukraine launched in 2014, in particular by presenting the armed aggression of the Russian Federation against Ukraine as an internal civil conflict,

- Justification, recognition as legitimate, denial of the temporary occupation of part of the territory of Ukraine,
- As well as the glorification of persons who carried out the armed aggression of the Russian Federation against Ukraine launched in 2014, representatives of the armed forces of the Russian Federation, irregular illegal armed formations, armed gangs and groups of mercenaries established by, subordinated to, managed and financed by the Russian Federation, as well as representatives of the occupation administration of the Russian Federation, which is composed of its state bodies and structures, functionally responsible for the management of the temporarily occupied territories of Ukraine, and representatives of self-proclaimed bodies under the control of the Russian Federation, which usurped the performance of power functions in the temporarily occupied territories of Ukraine, –



shall be punished by **correctional labor** for a term of up to two years or **arrest** for a term of up to six months, or **imprisonment** for a term of up to three years.

② Production, distribution of materials containing

- Justification, recognition as lawful, denial of the armed aggression of the Russian Federation against Ukraine launched in 2014, in particular by presenting the armed aggression of the Russian Federation against Ukraine as an internal civil conflict,
- Justification, recognition as legitimate, denial of the temporary occupation of part of the territory of Ukraine,
- As well as the glorification of persons who carried out the armed aggression of the Russian Federation against Ukraine launched in 2014, representatives of the armed forces of the Russian Federation, irregular illegal armed formations, armed gangs and groups of mercenaries established by, subordinated to, managed and financed by the Russian Federation, as well as representatives of the occupation administration of the Russian Federation, which is composed of its state bodies and structures, functionally responsible for the management of the temporarily occupied territories of Ukraine, and representatives of self-proclaimed bodies under the control of the Russian Federation, which usurped the performance of power functions in the temporarily occupied territories of Ukraine,–



shall be punished by **restriction of liberty** for a term of up to five years or **deprivation of liberty** for the same term with or without **confiscation of property**.

③ The above acts committed by:

- an official,
- or repeat offenders,
- or an organized group,
- or using the media, –



shall be punished by **deprivation of liberty** for a term of five to eight years with or without **confiscation of property**.



Wartime collaboration (Article 111-1 of the Criminal Code of Ukraine)

① Public denial by a citizen of Ukraine of the armed aggression against Ukraine, establishment and approval of the temporary occupation of part of the territory of Ukraine or public appeals by a citizen of Ukraine:

- To support resolutions and/or actions of the aggressor state, armed formations and/or occupation administration of the aggressor state
- To cooperate with the aggressor state, armed formations and/or the occupation administration of the aggressor state
- To the non-recognition of the extension of Ukrainian state sovereignty to the temporarily occupied territories of Ukraine, –



shall be punished by **deprivation of the right to hold the certain posts** or to **engage in the certain activities** for the term of ten to fifteen years.



PLEASE NOTE!

Public is defined as making appeals or raising objections to an unspecified number of persons, in particular on the Internet or through the media.

⑥ Organizing and holding events of political nature, carrying out awareness raising activities in cooperation with the aggressor state and/or its occupation administration:

- Aimed at supporting the aggressor state, its occupying administration or armed formations and/or at avoiding its responsibility for the armed aggression against Ukraine
- In the absence of signs of treason, active participation in such activities, –



shall be punished by **deprivation of liberty for a term of ten to twelve years with the deprivation of the right to hold certain offices or engage in certain activities for ten to fifteen years and with or without confiscation of property.**



PLEASE NOTE!

Events of political nature are understood as congresses, meetings, rallies, marches, demonstrations, conferences, round tables and the like.



PLEASE NOTE!

Awareness raising activities are understood as the creation, collection, receipt, storage, use and dissemination of relevant information.



COVERING SENSITIVE WAR TOPICS



There are so many little things that can make lives easier and sometimes even save lives, help numerous people in an armed conflict zone, and help the international community gather evidence of violations of the rules of warfare:

- **Correct terminology is the key to success.** If you are not sure what a particular weapon is called – clarify the correct name.
- **Protecting sources of information** – disclosure of sources of information can be much more dangerous than in a peaceful environment, so the utmost care should be taken to protect it (see [ECHR Guide](#)). Names of people can be mentioned only if there is certainty that doing so will not put their lives and health at risk.
- **Do not indicate filming locations, military unit numbers, etc.** – Do not disclose geographical or any other information without authorization of the command. When filming the location of military units, it is necessary to remember the prohibition on panoramic shots, filming the accumulation of troops and equipment, road signs and the like.
- **Information about the dead, injured, missing and hostages should be verified as thoroughly as possible,** such as age, names, status, physical appearance, etc. Clarify the names of people when interviewing them, as you may be the only person who has information that can help trace the person.
- **The use of archival materials is strictly prohibited to illustrate current events in the combat zone.** If it is important to show an image, always specify the time period when the photo or video was taken, accompany it with the caption "Archive" and the like.
- **Balanced reporting** does not include interviews with occupiers or terrorists. It is also prohibited to give the floor to aggressors to justify war crimes, terrorist acts or other violations of international law, call for violence or armed aggression. Excerpts of interviews with such persons may be broadcast only in terms of factual information.

- **Suppress panic** – detailed and fast-paced coverage helps different audiences make quick and rational decisions, including evacuations, leaving shelter areas, strategic food purchases, etc.
- **Disseminate useful resources** to help those affected by conflict, on evacuation, medical care, food and shelter, psychological support, air raid alert, etc.

HOW TO PROPERLY COVER INFORMATION ABOUT WAR VICTIMS:

- Sometimes you should **refrain from talking**, as the timing is not good and can only deepen the pain of loss. If this is a key interview, try to postpone or reschedule it and let the person decide the time, place and circumstances.
- **Do not appeal to the principles of justice and do not make empty promises.** This can traumatize the person even more in the future. Try to focus on listening to the person and writing down their story as much as possible. If you know where they can get help with their problem – for example, find a missing relative – help them contact the relevant organizations.
- **Try to convey people's feelings** rather than your own perception of their situation. It is important to describe the experiences of survivors rather than analyze them.
- Do not **start the interview** with questions, but with the **person's narrative.** Sometimes, for a constructive conversation, a person needs to express all his or her own feelings and only then will he or she be ready to answer questions.
- You should **plan the interview in advance,** understanding exactly what you want to convey – experts often advise thinking about whether a question will throw people off balance. For example, do not ask directly how people felt during torture.
- **Empathy** – learn to distinguish other people's suffering from your own, empathize with the person, but do not resort to pity. Your main task is to give the person a chance to speak.

- **Learn to work with your own emotions and stress.** Interviews with people who have experienced shelling or bombing of a city, lost their loved ones or been seriously injured are often emotionally difficult for the journalist.
- **Don't just focus on the casualties; highlight the positive events as well.** Often, amidst the grief of armed conflict, there are heroes who manage to save others from bombing, carry out an extremely difficult operation, etc.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ENGAGING POWS IN PRESS CONFERENCES:

- Do not apply any coercion to a prisoner of war regarding participation in the press conference.
- Inform the prisoner of war that he/she can voluntarily tell the truth about the actions of the Russians and the orders of the command.
- It is desirable to record on video the fact of the prisoner's voluntary consent to participate in the press conference.
- Hold press conferences involving the media after contacting the responsible units of their military formation.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR POW PHOTOS AND VIDEOS (TAKEN OUTSIDE THE PRESS CONFERENCES):

- Assess whether there is a real public interest in disseminating such information. If it is just a general public curiosity or a desire to entertain the audience, refrain from publishing it.
- The faces of POWs should be concealed (face blurring techniques, filters, etc.).
- When publishing photos and videos, the initials and positions of the POWs should be omitted, revealing only the rank and military specialization (e.g. pilot, tankman/woman, mortarman/woman, etc.).

HOW TO COVER THE TOPIC OF CHILDREN (JOINT ACT OF AGREEMENT NO. 3 (NEW VERSION)):

- Avoid glorification of children's participation in hostilities
- Avoid sensitization of heroic acts by child participants in armed conflicts, namely: do not report such facts as the first story in a newscast, do not include them in announcements of newscasts
- Where possible, information on the involvement of children in armed conflict should be accompanied by comments on the inadmissibility of such involvement and on the criminal responsibility of adults for involving children in armed conflict
- Where possible, include information stating that participation in armed conflicts and territorial defense activities is possible only after reaching the age of majority in programs for children with patriotic content and aimed at increasing motivation to defend the homeland and encouragement to defend it
- Avoid disseminating information identifying such children to the general public:
 - ➔ child's last name
 - ➔ image (photo and video) of the face, as well as identifying parts of the face (such as eyes and ears)
 - ➔ name of the locality (except for cities with a population of more than fifty thousand people) where the child lives, without generalizing to larger territorial scales (district or region)
- Avoid disseminating information about the ways in which a child returns from deportation in order to preserve the possibility of using a similar algorithm for other children
- When disseminating negative information about a child, in particular about the child's participation in the conflict or the offenses committed by the child, avoid reporting that such a child previously resided in the temporarily occupied territories and is an internally displaced person, unless this is directly related to the main content of the program (e.g. is the cause of the conflict)

- If negative information about a child is directly related to the fact that such a child previously resided in the temporarily occupied territories and is an internally displaced person, cover the event in an impartial and balanced manner, paying attention to the essence of the conflict situation, and prevent discrimination the basis of territorial affiliation
- Avoid the display of the most traumatic visual images of war during the time when children can watch television on their own (weekdays from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.), namely, photo and video images that show:
 - ➔ death of a child or a close-up of a child's body
 - ➔ infliction of torture on a child
 - ➔ close-up of the child's bodily injuries as a result of military actions, especially when firearms or explosives are used (except for the healed consequences of such injuries)
 - ➔ close-up of a frightened child in a state of shock (as such audiovisual images have a high potential for emotional contagion and can cause retraumatization)
- Involve child survivors in media productions to tell stories of resilience, to have children tell about their own examples of managing their psychological state, with informed consent of the parents, taking into account their psychological state (with the participation of psychologists or with prior consultations and appropriate instruction and training of staff), respecting the dignity of participants, in the best interests of the child
- Demonstrate, if possible on air, psychologically competent ways for journalists to interact with war-traumatized children, rather than just children's answers (namely, show how a framework for interaction is established, how journalists ask for permission to ask a question, confirm what they heard through repetition and confirmation by the child, etc.), focus on examples of resilience that support and help children in times of crisis.

HOW TO REPORT VIOLENCE AND ABUSE (JOINT ACT OF AGREEMENT NO. 4):

- Refrain from showing scenes of violence and cruelty, especially child abuse, in which children who consume media content can associate themselves with the victim
- At a time when children can watch TV on their own (on weekdays from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.), it is recommended to:
 - ➔ Refrain from showing scenes in which violence and cruelty are perpetrated by children and involving children in relation to which child consumers of media content can identify themselves with the abuser
 - ➔ Refrain from showing violence in a positive way, glorifying, glamorizing and/or romanticizing it: when violence leads to a solution to a problem, or any rewards, positively characterizes the violent character as attractive (emphasizing their charisma, toughness, skillfulness, power, sex appeal, etc.), other than in cases of legitimate violence (violence against violence)
 - ➔ Should it be impossible to avoid showing scenes of violence, include in the nearest scene an explicit condemnation of violence, explanation of its harmfulness, demonstration of the consequences of the violence committed, in particular demonstration of the victim's suffering to the extent necessary for consumers to identify violence and cruelty as socially harmful behavior
 - ➔ Refrain from elements of violence and cruelty in humorous programs, which makes it difficult to identify violence and cruelty as socially harmful behavior and increases the appeal of copying them
 - ➔ Refrain from detailed (instructive) coverage of methods of violence in order to prevent children from copying them

- ➔ Refrain from giving the impression that ways of committing violence may be available for children to copy, include messages warning the viewers not to repeat such actions in real life
- ➔ Refrain from showing scenes that combine elements of eroticism with violence and cruelty
- ➔ If there is a close-up of a blow, provided that there is one such scene or few scenes (compared to the total timeline) – these places should technically hidden (for example, through blurring)
- ➔ Refrain from scenes showing the suffering of victims of violence and cruelty, which may be categorized as horror (may frighten and severely affect the child), injuries/damage should be shown in such a way that it is impossible to see details
- ➔ Remove from the programs footage in which firearms are pointed directly at the viewer
- ➔ Avoid excessive detail in an audio story (narratives) about violence and brutality unless it is necessary to give details, e.g. in the case of investigative journalism
- ➔ Warn parents (other adults with parental responsibilities) to pay extra attention to violent content when watching together, in particular if the product contains violent scenes (through a text message and/or voice-over before the start of the show)
- ➔ Avoid using scenes of violence committed by, against or involving children in program announcements
- ➔ Where it is not possible to avoid showing violent scenes, explain the consequences of children's perception of media coverage of violence and cruelty, and the effects of addiction, learning and arousal effects in the same programs (either before or after the program ends).

SAMPLE DOCUMENTS:

- 1 Accreditation form
- 2 Sample form of an official application of a foreign mass media outlet to the State Committee for Television and Radio of Ukraine for the issuance of a residence permit in Ukraine to a foreign mass media employee
- 3 Interview request (page 10)
- 4 Request to work in a combat zone (page 11)

WHAT SHOULD BE USED TO UNDERSTAND THE LEGAL REGULATION AND ETHICAL ACTIVITIES OF THE MEDIA IN UKRAINE DURING THE WAR:

- Constitution of Ukraine

LAWS

- Law of Ukraine "On Media"
- Law of Ukraine "On the Legal Regime of Martial Law"
- Law of Ukraine "On Information"
- Law of Ukraine "On Amendments to Certain Laws of Ukraine Concerning the Prohibition of the Production and Distribution of Information Products Aimed at Propaganda of Actions of an Aggressor State"
- Law of Ukraine "On Amendments to Article 114-2 of the Criminal Code of Ukraine Concerning the Improvement of Liability for Unauthorized Dissemination of Information on Means of Countering Russian Armed Aggression"
- Law of Ukraine "On Amendments to the Criminal and Criminal Procedural Codes of Ukraine to ensure countermeasures against the unauthorized dissemination of information on the dispatch, movement of weapons, armaments and ammunition to Ukraine, the movement, transfer or deployment of the Armed Forces of Ukraine or other military formations formed in accordance with the laws of Ukraine, committed under conditions of martial law or state of emergency"

- Law of Ukraine "On Amendments to Certain Legislative Acts of Ukraine Concerning the Criminalization of Wartime Collaboration"
- Law of Ukraine "On Amendments to Certain Legislative Acts of Ukraine Concerning the Liability of Persons Who Carried Out Wartime Collaboration Activities"
- Law of Ukraine "On Amendments to Certain Legislative Acts of Ukraine Concerning the Strengthening of Criminal Liability for the Production and Distribution of Prohibited Information Products"
- Law of Ukraine "On Providing Additional Guarantees of Protection to Journalists Working in Areas of Hostility (Combat Zone)"
- Law of Ukraine "On the Prohibition of Propaganda of the Russian Nazi Totalitarian Regime, the Armed Aggression of the Russian Federation as a Terrorist State against Ukraine, and Symbols of the Military Invasion of Ukraine by the Russian Nazi Totalitarian Regime".
- Law of Ukraine "On Condemnation and Prohibition of Propaganda of Russian Imperial Policy in Ukraine and Decolonization of Toponymy"
- Law of Ukraine "On Condemnation of Communist and National-Socialist (Nazi) Totalitarian Regimes in Ukraine and Prohibition of the Promotion of Their Symbols"
- Law of Ukraine "On State Support of Media, Guarantees of Professional Activity and Social Protection of Journalists"

CODES

- Criminal Code of Ukraine

RESOLUTIONS

- Resolution of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine "On the Statement of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine on the Recognition of the Russian Regime as Terrorist, the Illegitimacy of the Russian Federation's Presence in the United Nations and its Reform, and the Responsibility of Members of Russian Political Parties Supporting the Aggression" No. 2787-IX
- Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine "Procedure for Establishing a Ban or Restriction on the Choice of Place of Stay or Place of Residence for Persons on the Territory where Martial Law is in Force" No. 1450

- Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine "Procedure for Establishing Special Entry and Exit Regime, Restriction on the Freedom of Movement of Citizens, Foreigners and Stateless Persons, as well as Movement of Vehicles in Ukraine or in Certain Areas where Martial Law is Imposed" No. 1455
- Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine "On Approval of the Procedure for Extension of the Period of Stay and Temporary Residence, Extension and Reduction of the Period of Temporary Stay of Foreigners and Stateless Persons on the Territory of Ukraine" No. 150
- Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine "Certain Issues of Stay on the Territory of Ukraine of Foreigners and Stateless Persons Who Came to Ukraine to Work as a Correspondent or Representative of Foreign Mass Media" No. 627

ORDERS

- Order of the Ministry of Defense of Ukraine "On Approval of the Instruction on the Procedure for Admission of Journalists, Mass Media Employees to the Facilities of the Ministry of Defense of Ukraine" No. 36
- Order of the Ministry of Defense of Ukraine "On Approval of the List of Data of the Ministry of Defense of Ukraine Containing Official Information" No. 605
- Order of the Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces of Ukraine Valerii Zaluzhnyi "On Interaction Between the Armed Forces of Ukraine, Other Components of the Defense Forces and Representatives of the Media During the Legal Regime of Martial Law" No. 73. **(Please note! The order is amended on a regular basis. Use the latest valid version)**
- Order of the Central Administration of the Security Service of Ukraine No. 383 "Collected information constituting a state secret"

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Recommendations to journalists on organizing work at military facilities and in combat zones under martial law
- Recommendations Regarding Restrictions on Human Rights during Wartime
- CJE recommendations for reporting on war deaths

STATEMENTS

- Joint statement of the Ministry of Culture and Information Policy of Ukraine, the Ministry of Defense of Ukraine and media representatives

ACTS OF AGREEMENT

- Joint Act of Agreement No. 3 (new version) "Media Coverage of Children of War"
- Joint Act of Agreement No. 4 "Media Coverage of Violence and Cruelty"

POSTS ON WEBSITES AND IN SOCIAL MEDIA

- Explanation by the AFU General Staff of why it is crucial to observe the rules of caution with the dissemination of information in times of war
- Memo on media coverage of defense enterprises of Ukraine
- Rules for media coverage of hospitals at work under martial law

CONSULTATIONS, MANUALS, ARTICLES

- Protecting journalistic accreditation: mission (im)possible?
- What is the IMEI number and what to do when it is checked: advice for journalists under martial law.
- Telephone check under martial law: recommendations for citizens.
- Fixers: how not to become an instrument in the hands of the enemy.
- Ukrainian fixers and foreign journalists at war: a new experience for everyone. Author: Orest Semotiuk

- OSCE Handbook "Journalism in Conflict: Best Practices and Recommendations"
- UNESCO Handbook "Terrorism and the Media"
- How to properly cover the war
- How to properly cover information about war victims
- Is it okay to post photos and videos of POWs?
- Journalists' access to court hearings during wartime
- Consequences of spreading unverified information: tips for the media

ETHICAL STANDARDS OF JOURNALISM

- Code of Ethics for Ukrainian Journalists
- Declarations of Principles of Conduct for Journalists

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[Form for request](#)

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