

OUTCOME REPORT FOR THE CAMPAIGN:



#ThreatsToWIJ

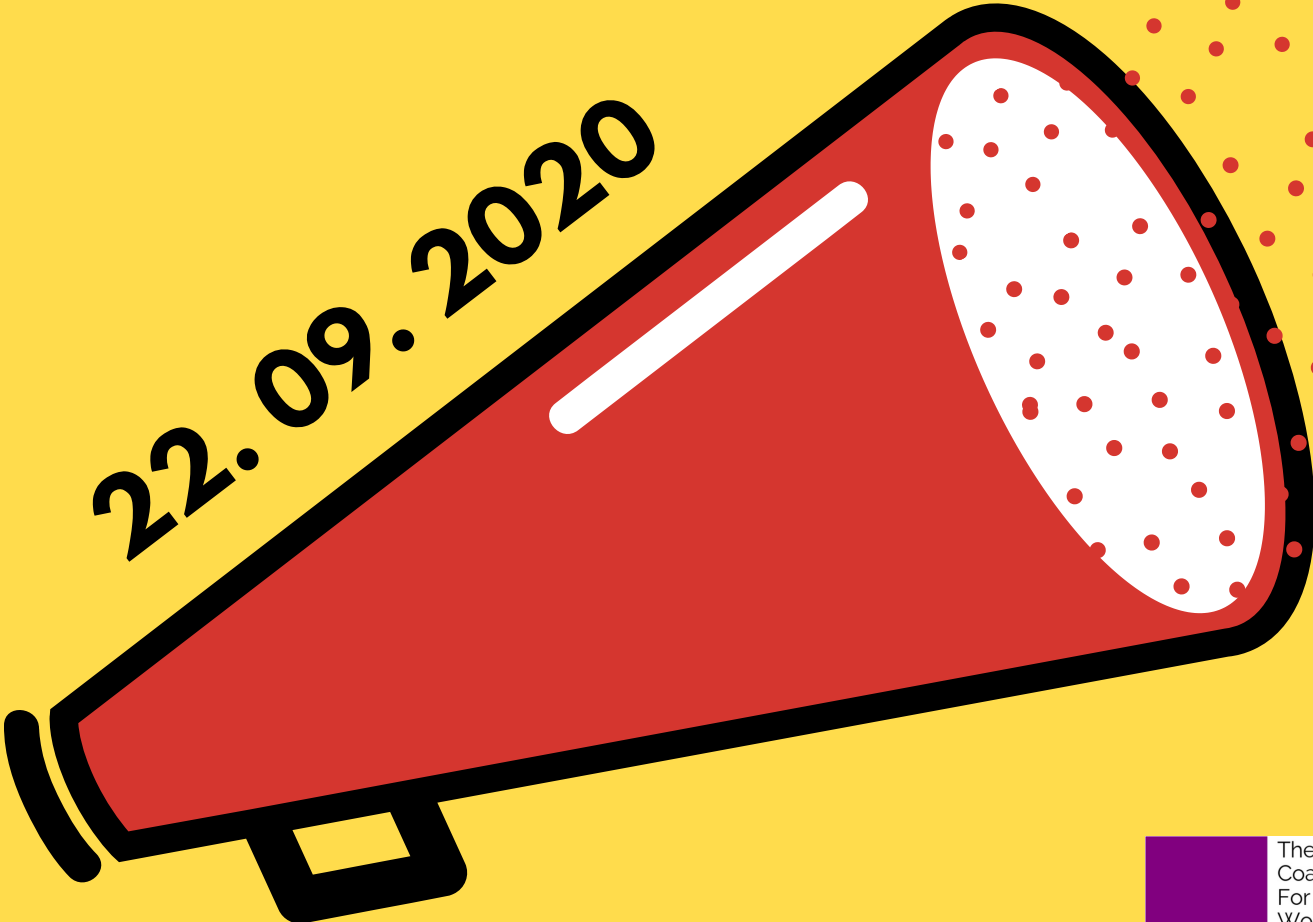


#ThreatsToWIJ



#ThreatsToWIJ

22.09.2020



Outcome Report: #ThreatsToWIJ Global Campaign

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ABOUT US



The Coalition For Women In Journalism (CFWIJ) is a global organization of support for women journalists. The CFWIJ pioneered mentorship for mid-career women journalists across several countries around the world, and is the first organization to focus on the status of free press for women journalists. Our network of individuals and organizations brings together the experience and mentorship necessary to help female career journalists navigate the industry. Our goal is to help develop a strong mechanism where women journalists can work safely and thrive.



INTRODUCTION

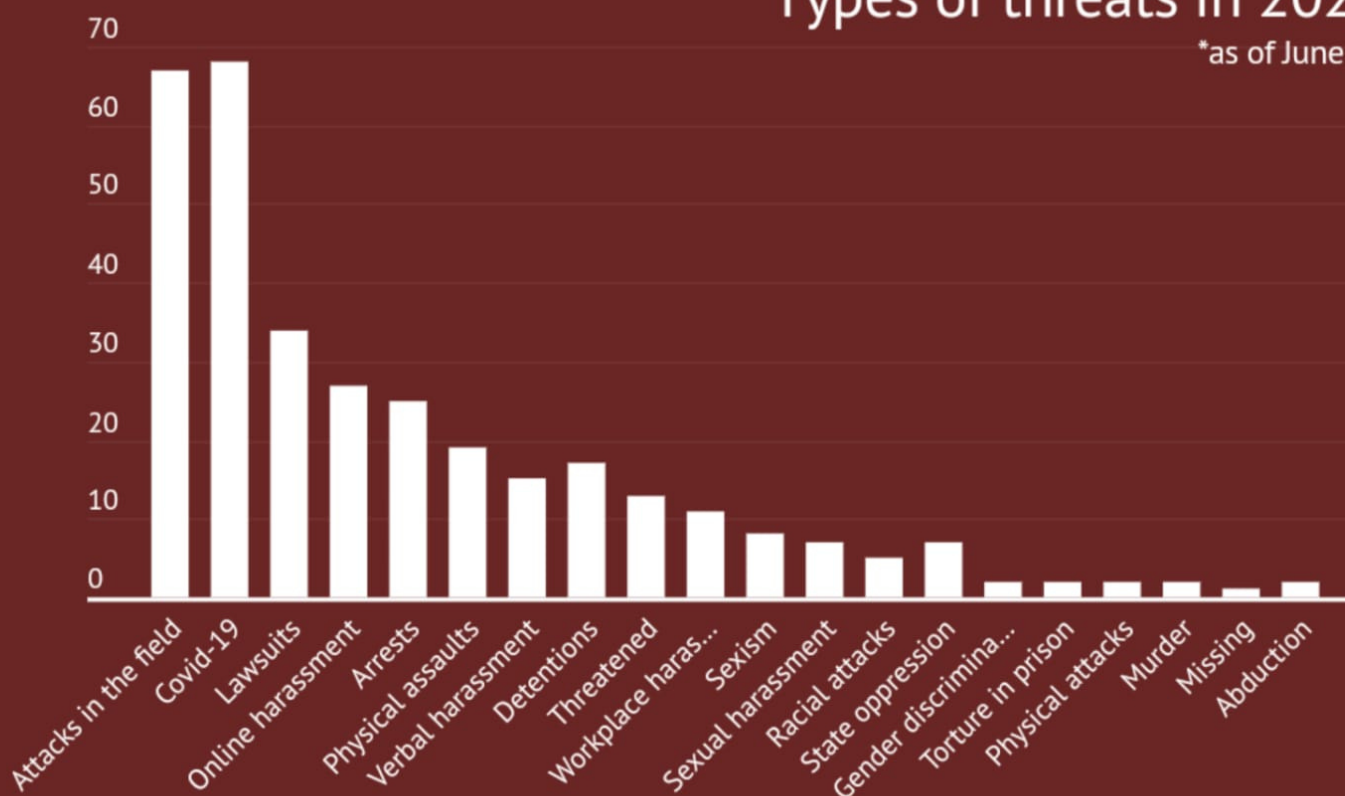
On September 22, 2020 The Coalition For Women In Journalism (CFWIJ) launched its global campaign to discuss various forms of threats and attacks women journalists face around the world. The campaign which was designed as an interactive chat on Twitter used #ThreatsToWIJ hashtag to bring together women journalists, activists and right advocates in order to share their testimonies and propose remedies to the dire environment in which women journalists perform their jobs.

CFWIJ first launched this campaign in 2017, when journalist #GauriLankesh was killed in India. 2020 called for a re-invoking of this campaign's second edition with a main focus on Pakistan. It was triggered by the brutal murder of Baloch journalist Shaheena Shaheen and massive online trolling of women journalists in this country.

In the last three years, the CFWIJ has documented an unprecedented increase of online and physical attacks on women journalists or any women voices all around the world. As online trolling and other severe threats towards women are on the rise, the campaign aimed to bring awareness about this burning issue and to bring forth potential remedies.

Types of threats in 2020

*as of June 30



BACKGROUND

The Coalition For Women In Journalism documented 267 cases of attacks and threats against women journalists in the first half of this year. While the type of threats vary depending on the region and specific conditions of each country, online harassment and trolling cases grew exponentially this year. With a 78% increase compared to that of last year online violence seems to be the most burning issue when it comes to women in journalism. Online harassment or “gendertrolling” stems from various factors such as inaction of politicians to polarization in society and has severe consequences which impact both mental and physical health of women journalists, pushing them into isolation and self censorship.

MAJOR ORGANIZED TROLL CAMPAIGN TARGETING WOMEN JOURNALISTS

FIRST HALF YEAR OF
2019

17

major campaigns against
women journalists



FIRST HALF YEAR OF
2020

25

major campaigns against
women journalists

CFWIJ research shows, most of these campaigns were sponsored either by state agencies or paid trolls.

In order to shed a light to the complexity of the issue, CFWIJ did a regional breakdown to assess trends of threats against women journalists in each region.

Middle East, North Africa and Eurasia: During 2020, the threats against women journalists have increased significantly in the past few months especially in line with the movement of disclosing and openness that women journalists adopting as a result of the ongoing #metoo movement. CFWIJ has documented over 70 threats against women journalists in the MENA region since the beginning of 2020; 9 arrest cases, 13 physical assault\attacks, 13 detention, 18 legal harassment, 8 online harassment, 2 torture cases, 4 sexual and workplace harassment, 3 threats with violence and 2 jobs lost due to state oppression. While legal harassment and physical attacks are the most common types of threats against the women in the region, lack of documentation of online harassment cases might be due to a) victim shaming culture based on patriarchal society structure which forces women journalists to stay silent about online attacks, b) crackdown on social media platforms and government censorship making it difficult for women journalists to access these platforms.

Bombarding in northern Syria and the policy of restricting media freedoms have caused and formed violations against the media in Syria. In 2019, different types of violations such as injury, detention, abducting, hitting and confiscation of equipment were observed in Syria.

In 2019, ten journalists were killed, two of them recently during Turkey's cross-border offensive against the Kurdish People's Protection Units (YPG) and a third during a Russian airstrike in the Idlib region.

In the South of the region, CFWIJ is monitoring shows that lots of women journalists lose their jobs because of harassment, threat and abuse in Lebanon. Women journalists who are covering protests in Lebanon are mostly being threatened on digital platforms and facing online harassment. Whereas in Israel and the occupied territory of Palestine border and occupation conflict has a dire effect on women journalists. Israel has a long history of arresting journalists reporting on its violations of human rights and has mastered the art of suppressing the freedom of the press, particularly that which comes from Palestinian news organizations and journalists. Imprisonment and attacks on the field are the most rampant cases of threats against women journalists in Israel and Palestine.



According to the data archive of CFWIJ, 4 of the 72 journalists jailed are women.

Looking at the West of the region, Eurasia, Turkey and Azerbaijan remain to be very problematic in terms of weaponization of law and censorship by the state. In Azerbaijan the CFWIJ observed that state intimidation caused most of the women journalists to muzzle their speech. Following some of the remarkable incidents, as narrated in the details below, the precedent of a deeply censored state has been set and most women journalists we have observed reporting on any sensitive subject is close to impossible. Azerbaijani women journalists continue to regularly experience reprisals, such as blackmail, sexual assault and harassment. Additionally, CFWIJ documented that Azerbaijan uses emergency measures against activists and journalists.

As the largest journalist prison in the world, Turkey has the most female journalists behind bars. According to the data archive of CFWIJ, four of the 72 journalists jailed are women; most detained on anti-state charges. In particular, three types of journalists are targeted by the government: investigative and critical reporters, Kurdish journalists, collateral damage of the general assault on the press. Dozens of women journalists are in prison, all on terrorism or other anti-state charges.

When it comes to media history in recent years, there are two milestones that are vital to be examined. The first one is Gezi Park protests in 2013. Gezi Park protests marked a turning point of the media-government relations. Many journalists in mainstream media outlets lost their jobs for criticizing the government. As a second milestone, the failed coup attempt and the state of emergency in 2016 is crucial to be examined. During the state of emergency, 179 media organizations, [newspapers (53), TVs (34), radios (37), magazines (20), news agencies (6) and 29 printing houses] have been shut down.



After the failed coup attempt, a new period that freedom of speech is queried has started. Many women journalists were subjected to legal harassment. They started to be tried just because of their news. Press cards of seven journalists from Evrensel and Birgün newspapers were cancelled by the government. According to data of CFWIJ, women reporters suffer from legal harassment and imprisonment more often.



Asia: As of September 15, the CFWIJ documented at least 79 cases of threats to women journalists in Asia with data collected from the East Asian, Southeast Asian, South Asian and Central Asian region. Among the total cases of different threats documented against women journalists, cases of online harassment identified across Asia were 18 (22.8%).

Countries, where online harassment was rampant, included Pakistan, India and Hong Kong. Pakistan took the top spot with nine (50%) cases of online harassment, followed by India with eight (44.4%) and one (5.6%) case was documented in Hong Kong.

In South Asia, Pakistan and India were the only two countries where CFWIJ identified 17 (28.3%) cases of online harassment in both the countries combined. Following is a breakdown of the cases of online harassment documented by CFWIJ till September 15, 2020.

Pakistan especially, remains to be one of the most dangerous countries in the world for women journalists. Aside from the glass ceiling and government intervention, women journalists in Pakistan are encountering vicious social media attacks, doxing, and hacking attempts by accounts affiliated to the ruling party and conservative, right-wing elements in the country. We have documented 26 cases of threats and violence against women journalists, since 2017. Knowing that these cases are only exemplary, and the vicious online attacks happen everyday for umpteenth times to several journalists explains how dire the situation in reality is.



Europe: Western Europe is perceived as a region where freedom of press is held in a high regard. Nevertheless, women journalists face numerous challenges like their counterparts in other continents. Threats mostly circulate around cases of online harassment and sexist comments, including approaching female reporters while they are on air. Western journalists are also pointing out lower salaries and glass ceiling as it is disproportionately harder for them to reach management positions.

Whereas in Eastern Europe most common cases CFWIJ documented revolve around state oppression and impediment at work.

The situation of media freedom in Eastern Europe has been gradually deteriorating. In the latest Press Freedom Index Hungary and Poland hit their lowest positions ever (respectively 89th and 62th). Geographically in Central Europe, when it comes to attacks on media and using public media for propaganda they resemble much more eastern practices. It's strictly connected to the attempts to control the media made by both rightist and populists governments. In Poland we also observe an immense polarisation in the country and growing hatred between liberals and nationalists. Russia(149th) and Belarus (154th) as they represent autocratic regimes, have been imposing limitations and censorship on the free press for a long time.

Intimidation, fear of imprisonment and lawsuits, threats for investigating abuse of power - are main threats which (with different intensity) journalists in this region can encounter. Apart from that women journalists need to face the obstacles linked to patriarchal structure, deeply rooted in this culture. There is also a problem with trolls (mostly representing far right views) which use misogyny to undermine women.

Latin America: The environment for journalists is more and more hostile in Latin America as mistrust towards the media continues to grow and coverage of sensitive subjects such as politics and coronavirus pandemic trigger attacks on journalists, especially by politicians, government officials and so called "cyber-activists".

With 406 assaults and four murders of journalists documented in the first half of 2020 in Mexico, and if the trend continues, 2020 could become the most violent year for the press since there are records, according to Article 19. By gender, attacks against women journalists have almost doubled, from 56 to 111 so far in 2020. Attacks in coverage of protests, such as women's movements that demand justice, represent more than 16% of cases. CFWIJ documented that eight of very serious threats were against women journalists including two murders in the first half of 2020. The main attacks against journalists and the media registered in 2020 are threats, intimidation, harassment, censorship and alteration of content. The investigation of corruption cases by women journalists is among the main causes of violence. 70% of the attacks were perpetrated against female reporters who were investigating events related to diversion of funds and serious human rights violations.

Meanwhile Brazilian women journalists are targeted by the state itself and state funded media. At the request of the United Nations, Abraji (Brazilian Association of Investigative Journalism) also produced a report in which it analyzes the environment experienced by female journalists in Brazil. Among misogynist and sexist offenses, discredit of work and exposure of personal information, Brazilian women journalists reported having experienced at least one of the following situations of psychological violence: verbal insults; humiliation in public; abuse of power or authority; verbal or physical bullying; attempted to damage your reputation; threat of losing her job in the event of pregnancy; internet threats; or Internet insults.



North America: Despite remarkable advances in the last century, women in the region still face structural obstacles and discriminatory practices that exclude many women from public debate and prevent them, forcibly and persistently, from exercising their right to express their ideas and opinions publicly and to receive information on an equal footing with men. Many of these obstacles and practices are manifestations of gender-based discrimination, in addition to other factors, such as race, ethnicity, religion or belief, age, class, sexual orientation, and gender identity, that women in the region face, and they continue to create disparities in women's exercise of the right to freedom of expression in comparison to their male peers.

The impact of these discriminatory practices is particularly pronounced on women who actively exercise freedom of expression and have a high public profile, such as women journalists, women human rights defenders, and women politicians. These groups of women are doubly attacked for exercising freedom of expression and because of their gender. In addition to the risks of threats and violence faced by all human rights defenders and journalists in the region, women belonging to these groups are exposed to additional or specific risks. At the same time, they face a lack of protection and obstacles to access to justice that are also differentiated from their male counterparts.

Women journalists and women working in other areas of communication must deal with specific threatening environments that restrict their work and/or have a disproportionate impact on the exercise of their right to freedom of expression. From inequality at work, sexist and misogynist comments, sexual violence and gendertrolling, these threats or risks tend to be invisible and are not recognized as undue restrictions on freedom of expression by most colleagues, the media, and state authorities.

Sexual violence in the workplace can include a range of behavior, such as unwanted comments or advances, 'jokes', brief physical contact and sexual assault. Sexual harassment is a form of sexual violence that commonly occurs in the world of work, and it is frequently categorized in two ways: "quid pro quo" or "hostile working environment."

Online violence on the other hand has a chilling effect on the exercise of freedom of expression. In particular, while there are countless women journalists who choose to continue reporting in the face of violence, threats or harassment, others resort to self-censorship, shutting down their digital accounts, and/or leaving the profession.

Women journalists are three times more likely to receive online harassment than their male counterparts. Clearly, attacks against women journalists result in the silencing of those targeted. They have the effect of intimidating the messenger into self-censorship, ultimately blocking the effective dissemination of news and information.

Overall, the major concern is that physical and online violence are intrinsically linked and essentially inseparable; often digital threats lay the foundation for future physical attacks and the violence moves from online into the real world. That is especially true for journalists who are victims of "doxing," a practice that involves searching for and publishing private or identifying information online, putting not only the journalist but also their family members at risk.

#ThreatsToWIJ

LET'S PUT A STOP

TO HARMFUL TROLLS.

Join our campaign on Twitter on
September 22, Tuesday, 11:00 AM EST



OVERVIEW OF CAMPAIGN THROUGH TWEETS

During the #ThreatsToWIJ campaign which lasted two hours and gathered more than fifty participants around the world, journalists shared their stories, criticism towards the inaction of states and social media platforms and extended support to each other while suggesting ways to tackle #ThreatsToWIJ. Below are only some of the examples of the tweets during the conversation:

#WomenInJournalism @CFWIJ · 19h
#Womenjournalists will not stay silent. #CFWIJ has been documenting an unprecedented amount of #ThreatsToWJ. We are starting our chat now. Join us to share your testimonies and stand against those who want to silence the voice of #womenjournos.



#WomenInJournalism @CFWIJ · 19h
Online platforms must work on their codes of conduct to make their platform safe and healthy for #womenjournalists and free of #ThreatsToWJ

Zeinobia is at home @Zeinobia · 19h
I report those users attacking me and other women on #twitter but nothing happens except in a very rare occurrence to be accurate, when there are tons of reports #ThreatsToWJ
[Show this thread](#)

4 2

#WomenInJournalism @CFWIJ · 19h
NGOs and Journalists Unions play an indispensable role in standing united against #ThreatsToWJ.

SSNM @SSNM_info · 19h
Independent Trade Union of Journalists and Media Workers is joining the campaign against threats, attacks and discrimination of women in journalism. We all have to oppose this kind of attacks.
#ThreatsToWJ
[Show this thread](#)

#WomenInJournalism @CFWIJ · 18h
This year alone two #womenjournalists were murdered in #Mexico for their journalism on "sensitive" issues. #ThreatsToWJ as a systemic issue, hinders democracy and right to information.

6 2

#WomenInJournalism @CFWIJ · 18h
Intimidation through weaponization of law and online attacks are the main #ThreatsToWJ in Eastern Europe. #Womenjournalists who report on abuse of power and corruption face legal harassment along with online violence linked to patriarchal structure, deeply rooted in the society.

#WomenInJournalism @CFWIJ · 19h
#MENA region remains to be one of the most dangerous regions in terms of #ThreatsToWJ. Freedom of expression stands on thin ice and attacks against women journalists have increased significantly in the past few months as a result of the ongoing #metoo movement.

6 1

#WomenInJournalism @CFWIJ · 19h
Misogyny and the fear of change is one of the main reasons behind #ThreatsToWJ. Online attacks aim to silence the voices of women the patriarchal society deems as "uncontrollable".

#WomenInJournalism @CFWIJ · 19h
#ThreatsToWJ does not only affect journalists themselves but harms their families. Online harassment has very real consequences and #doxing is a dangerous form of attack for #womenjournalist's loved ones.

Sheena Shirani @SheenaShirani · 19h
@CFWIJ my former workplace @PressTV #suspended me for a whole month after I took part in the protests following the rigged presidential elections in Iran in 2009. I was accused of spying & threatened to have my son killed if I ever decided to have a political opinion #ThreatsToWJ

5 3

#WomenInJournalism @CFWIJ · 19h
Sexual harassment and workplace harassment seems to be a burning issue around the world. Such #ThreatsToWJ stem from a place of misogyny. In the #US it takes form of belittlement of #womenjournos by way of sexualizing and objectifying them.

4 7

#WomenInJournalism @CFWIJ · 18h
Western Europe is perceived as a region where #pressfreedom is held in high regard. Nevertheless, women journalists face numerous challenges like their counterparts in other continents. #ThreatsToWJ mostly circulate around cases of online harassment and sexist comments.

#WomenInJournalism @CFWIJ · 18h
Imprisonment, pre-trial detention and all such forms of legal harassment are also rampant in #MENA and #Eurasia countries such as #Egypt, #Turkey and #Azerbaijan. Social media posts are used against journalists and #ThreatsToWJ are conducted by the state itself.

4 3

#WomenInJournalism @CFWIJ · 18h
#SouthAsia is notorious with its misogynistic culture which intensifies #ThreatsToWJ. #WomenJournalists in the region are not only threatened with rape and death online but they also face abductions and physical attacks on a constant basis.

Xhorxhina Bami @XhorxhinaB · 13h
I am also often [#sexually](#) [#harassed](#) & being reminded that [#women](#) who make it in [#journalism](#) & get all the [#info](#) act 'sassier', flirt & grant sexual favors; this is absolutely not true bc [#womeninjournalism](#) I know work twice as much as men 2/[#ThreatsToWJ](#)

Show this thread

Sanar Hasan @HasanSanar · 12h
When you be a journalist woman in Iraq, either be brave and reveal the facts that might put you and your family in danger; or keep silent and collude with the militias, and be part of this propaganda and say what they want to hear, not what you want to write or say
[#ThreatsToWJ](#)

Sanar Hasan @HasanSanar · 12h
Months ago, I translated an article for an Iraqi local news agency, which revealed the PMF involvement in the drug trade in Basra. Soon afterward, my team began receiving threats from unknown individuals with fake accounts
[#ThreatsToWJ](#)

Zeinobia is at home @Zeinobia · 18h
Several Egyptian women journalists reported online how they were subject to sexual harassment in their work, some anonymously; one journalist came forward against her managing editor openly and it cost her her career
[#ThreatsToWJ](#)

Neelum Nawab @NeelumNawab · 19h
[#WomenJournalists](#) face harassment(abuse,trolling)on [#SocialMedia](#),a threat which must not b downplayed.Must b dealt as a societal menace.Will only improvise if the highest level of authority shows concern towards its rectification [#ThreatsToWJ](#) @CFWJ @KatMierzejewska

Hadeer Mekawy @hadeermekawy · 19h
[#ThreatsToWJ](#)
I am an Egyptian journalist. Every day I am subjected to harassment, violations and harassment messages on Twitter and Facebook platforms only because I write my opinions freely and defend women and human rights, including messages threatening to kill!

Carly Robinson @CarlyDRobinson · 14h
Myself and other female colleagues will leave our names/twitter handles out of web descriptions on stories that breed trolls.
We don't care about missed followers or credit on big stories, because we can sleep better without our phones blowing up with threats. [#ThreatsToWJ](#)

dr Andjela @djandjava · 18h
For several years, journalist of weekly @NedeljnikVreme, Jovana Gligorijević, has been exposed to threats and pressure due to her writing on topics such as women's rights, vaccinations, and human rights violations. 1/2
[#ThreatsToWJ](#)



1 7 10

dr Andjela @djandjava · 18h
The last in a series of online threats was sent to her from the Twitter profile of a man who insulted her and wrote that "the day for payment would come".

dr Andjela @djandjava

.@Twitter is especially important platform for journalists in [#Serbia](#) but also a place where women journalists often receive insults concerning their appearance,their emotional life is questioned,is she fulfilled as a mother,is she moral or is she mentally stable?
[#ThreatsToWJ](#)

Katia Mierzejewska @KatMierzejewska · 19h
This is only a small piece of the giant machine of hatred that has been targeting @marvisirmed for decades. Listen, talk, support and finally acknowledge that #WomenJourno have been notoriously attacked for speaking their minds #ThreatsToWJ

Marvi Sirmed @marvisirmed · 19h
#ThreatsToWJ
Our home was vandalized multiple times. our travel documents, our gadgets including all laptops and mobile phones were confiscated several times over past 15 yrs. I was told I could experience "an accident" while commuting if I don't 'learn'.
[Show this thread](#)

5 6

Marvi Sirmed @marvisirmed · 19h
#ThreatsToWJ
Every time we face worst kind of abuse and trolling online, they ask us to ignore it. No more. Insulting, abusing, threatening women and discrediting them through libellous campaigns, and doxing has been normalized to a level where it is considered "part of job".

15 15 47

Elle Jay Ann @raiseqalam · 19h
#ThreatsToWJ is not an isolated or #gender issue, it reflects on the whole #media & shud be resolved as it affects the entire media industry

9 8

Marvi Sirmed @marvisirmed · 19h
#ThreatsToWJ
All of this is still happening because there is an acceptance of #ThreatsToWJ. There is an acceptance and tacit approval from larger society for #RapeCulture sexism and misogyny. I am standing up to all this, will continue to do so. You decide. Are you with us?

4 7 12

[Show this thread](#)

Zivile Diminskyte @ZDiminskyte · 19h
There is a need for more women in positions of power in the world of #Media industry as #women journalists are still often excluded when reporting on issues considered "male" or are reflected as secondary characters. #ThreatsToWJ

Ghadi Francis | غدي فرنسيس @ghadifrancis · 19h
Few weeks ago, because of my tweet about a terrorist attack in northern lebanon, an article that titled: 100k for a night, was published

This is the last attack , not the first nor the last.
This is what women in journalism especially in the middleEast, go through #ThreatsToWJ

5 10 31

Elle Jay Ann @raiseqalam · 19h
In a world where #women silently suffer all kinds of abuse & violence vocal women r intolerable. All govt need to make policies to strengthen #womenjourno
#ThreatsToWJ

1 8 8

Ghadi Francis | غدي فرنسيس @ghadifrancis · 20h
I'm a woman in journalism, I covered the tragedies of war and politics in #syria #iraq #yemen #palestine #iran #turkey #egypt and firstly #lebanon
As a result, I've been beaten,slut-shamed,arrested, and threatened numerous times
Today is our day, share hashtag #ThreatsToWJ

Kaneez Fatima @Kaneezfatima · 19h
I am joining the #ThreatsToWJ today because widespread discrimination & attacks that women journalists face must be opposed. Our newsrooms and work environments still lack proper structures & mechanisms women journo can use for their protection.

1 9 14

[Show this thread](#)

Kaneez Fatima @Kaneezfatima · 19h
I was declared an "immoral woman" who seduced men by a colleague who complained about my shoes clip-clopping in Iran. My CEO "settled" the issue when I complained by suggesting "we have cultural differences." I was forced to continue working with that man for months
#ThreatsToWJ

1 10 9

Lela Savić @lelasavic · 19h
Women in journalism are often threatened for their work. The online trolling and misogynistic sources I have dealt are unfortunately the usual for many other women in media. These attacks have a mental toll on us.
[#ThreatsToWJ](#)

Masih Alinejad @AlinejadMasih · 18h
Women journalists worldwide face threats and online abuse on a regular basis. I myself have been threatened by the Islamic Republic with kidnapping for my journalism. Hear our voices. We exist and we're change-makers
[#ThreatsToWJ](#)

Zivile Diminskyte @ZDiminskyte · 18h
[#Mexico](#) is one of the most dangerous countries for the press. Number of [#journalists](#) were murdered for motives related to their work & the probability that perpetrators will be brought to justice is practically zero as crimes are often left unresolved. [#ThreatsToWJ](#)

#WomenInJournalism @CFWIJ · 18h
This year alone two [#womenjournalists](#) were murdered in [#Mexico](#) for their journalism on "sensitive" issues. [#ThreatsToWJ](#) as a systemic issue, hinders democracy and right to information.

1 8 4

Sarah Eleazar @SarahEleazar · 18h
In solidarity with women journalists in Pakistan. Such abuse is normal & is normalized through a culture of misogyny and violence that validates creeps like Khalilur Rehman and rests on a violent state that uses silencing, violence, misogyny as a tool of statecraft [#ThreatsToWJ](#)

Farwa Naqvi @farwanaqvi_ · 19h
I'm a journalist who covers, reports, speaks on TV shows & writes in leading Newspapers abt social issues, psychological awareness (a therapist), analysis of sorts & structural reforms. For that & being a feminist woman from minority of Islam, I receive abuse regularly.
[#ThreatsToWJ](#)

Najia Ashar @najaashar · 18h
You need to listen to what women have to say. The voices are growing louder and louder, the message is clear. [#StopAttackingWomen](#)
[#ThreatsToWJ](#)

Nazenin Ansari @NazeninA · 18h
[#ZahraKazemi](#) زهرا کاظمی [#CanadianIranian](#) [#photojournalist](#) Arrested 2003 photographing a protest outside [#EvinPrison](#) [#Tehran](#). Tortured, beaten & raped in detention. died after being transferred to a hospital. 2/4
[#ThreatsToWJ](#) [#WomenJournalists](#) @CFWIJ



World News Day: These are the Canadian journalists who lost their lives ... Thursday marks World News Day, a day that celebrates the importance of journalism, the stories reporters tell and the sacrifices made in the purs...
[globalnews.ca](#)

Nazenin Ansari @NazeninA · 18h
I've been leaned on, called names, and subjected to lewd photos and abusive texts. But all this is minute compared to what other [#Iranian/dual national](#) [#womenjournalists](#) have fallen victim. [#ThreatsToWJ](#) [#trolling](#) @CFWIJ 1/4

Fe'reeha@ abbtakk @Fereeha · 18h
Attacks against women journalists have grown massively in the last few years. Online trolling spurred by various political parties is often orchestrated with the consent of leaders to discourage neutral reporting. Personal attacks are being made based on lies. [#ThreatsToWJ](#)

Farwa Naqvi @farwanaqvi_ · 18h
Replying to @SarahEleazar
So proud of the ones who are unstoppable, given all of the circumstances!
❤️ Journalism in Pakistan is among least-paying jobs, I mostly work for free
@CFWIJ

19 12 70 3 1



OUTCOMES

Participation by women journalists from every region of the world has proven the dire need for solidarity and the power of speaking up against various forms of attacks against women journalists. Women journalists who shared their stories and testimonies cited mainly: state repression, effect of patriarchal societal structures, workplace harassment and last but not least online harassment. All women who participated in the discussion voiced their concern and uneasiness over gender trolling which stems from the misogynistic idea that “women are less and shall be silenced”. In line with the suggestions that women journalists discussed CFWIJ determined that the following actions (apart from solidarity and awareness campaigns such as #ThreatsToWIJ) are needed to tackle the issue at hand: 1) State action and regulations, 2) Societal structural change to tackle misogyny, 3) Union and NGO efforts and 4) Action by social media platforms.

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