CFWIJ Impact Report

Increased support for women and LGBTQ journalists

2022
Women journalists are exposing truth, shaking up power dynamics and bringing dictators to justice with intrepid, bold and courageous journalism.

But this journalism often comes at a cost. Each year, hundreds of women journalists face abuse, harassment, imprisonment, and even murder for doing their job.

The Coalition For Women In Journalism is a global non-profit organization that supports and advocates women and LGBTQ+ journalists around the world. Our Press Freedom Newsroom covers violations from 128 countries. Since 2019, the CFWIJ has supported and advocated for more than 2,000 women journalists who encountered such circumstances. CFWIJ’s work has led to more than 600 evacuations and relocations of women and LGBTQ+ journalists from Afghanistan, Ukraine, Iran, Mexico, Egypt, Iraq, Syria, Pakistan, and Turkey.
12 women journalists murdered
The highest number of women journalists killed in a single year

97 women reporters behind bars
The highest number of women journalists imprisoned in a single year

49 cases of online trolling campaigns
Campaigns that target, attack and threaten women journalists

Press Freedom Under Siege
2022: The year of 'highest' number of cases

Coalition For Women In Journalism
CFWIJ In Numbers

Global Impact We Created

- 600+ women journalists and leaders evacuated and relocated
- 105 legal support provided
- 50 female reporters benefit from mental health therapy
- 197 organization, media and general partnerships
- 1500+ top women journalists within our network
- 160 global mentors
- 128 countries where we monitor press freedom
- 15 #HeForShe members
- 17K followers on Twitter
- 7000 followers on Instagram

Coalition For Women In Journalism
Impact Map
CFWIJ expanded its Press Freedom status monitoring to 128 countries
The CFWIJ Emergency Relief work includes advocacy support and a survival fund that helps women journalists from the most vulnerable backgrounds. This year alone, CFWIJ work has led to more than 600 evacuations, relocations, legal support and mental health therapy for women and LGBTQ journalists from Afghanistan, Ukraine, Iran, Mexico, Egypt, Iraq, Syria, Pakistan, and Turkey.

“I could have been imprisoned again, maybe even tortured I’m sure, if CFWIJ did not help me come to safety. My govt has arrested so many of my colleagues who are doing what every journalist deserves: ability to question and write freely. CFWIJ has helped many of my colleagues persecuted under this regime.”

S.M., Iranian journalist, in exile
Relocated by CFWIJ
The Coalition For Women In Journalism is a global non-profit organization that supports women and LGBTQ+ journalists around the world. Our advocacy is based on our monitoring and research, some of which can be found in our Press Freedom Newsroom, which reports from 128 countries. Alongside the press freedom monitoring and reporting globally, we are often involved in exploring ways to support work revolving around safety and equity issues journalists from diverse backgrounds face, both within the newsroom and out in the field.

“In December, I was called by an accountant who asked me to leave as I was no longer needed. When I inquired about my pending salaries, he assured me to clear the pending salaries in a week. It’s been more than six months, and I was still waiting. There was a lot of support from the Coalition For Women In Journalism. Thankfully, my backdated paychecks were finally paid by Daily Jinnah.”

Nargiz Janjua, Pakistani journalist

Impact Highlights
Programs and Initiatives
Mentorship

CFWIJ pioneered a one of a kind mentorship program dedicated to improve work and life of mid-career women journalists around the world, and is the first organization to focus on the status of free press for women and LGBTQ journalists. Our mentorship members in 2021 published in leading newsrooms including NYT, the Guardian, BBC, DW and won prestigious awards including the Pulitzer Prize.

“I don’t recall any organization or non-profit that is solely focused on the risks and dangers that female journalists face doing their job before the Coalition For Women In Journalism.”

Bukalo Adebayo, Nigerian journalist
Mental Health Support

Mental health has been part CFWIJ's work from the very start - part and parcel of many of our projects focused on development and safety for journalists. This year we launched a dedicated initiative that offers tools, and an open platform for women journalists to share their experience and need. We recognize that mentally healthy journalists have better tools to navigate the newsroom, industry and their mission to tell amazing stories.

Peer Support

As a part of our global support for women and LGBTQ+ journalists, we have established varied peer-support programs across 12 countries which cover the most critical regions. Through our peer support work journalist, and mentors share knowledge, experience, emotional, social or practical knowledge with each other. CFWIJ has a global network that includes more than 1500 journalists around the world. These peer support groups across many countries help to create spaces for women journalists where they can be nurtured, stay safe, and expand their skills.
Collision Conference
CFWIJ’s Kiran Nazish joined two sessions at Collision Conference in Toronto, Canada.

Roundtable with Cyprus journalists
CFWIJ led a roundtable with Cyprus Turkish Journalists Association and Turkish press freedom organisations in Ankara, Turkey.

OSCE Roundtable
CFWIJ’s Damla Tarhan spoke at roundtable led by OSCE on online violence in Turkey.

Self-defence workshop
CFWIJ organized a self-defence workshop for women journalists on how to protect themselves against physical attacks.

Major Events
Panels and seminars we joined and led
Influence Growth In 2022

Partnerships and media coverage

Organization Partnerships
- 2020: 18
- 2021: 52
- 2022: 65

Media Partnerships
- 2020: 31
- 2021: 69
- 2022: 90

Coalition For Women In Journalism
Media Coverage

Global press coverage of the CFWIJ on mainstream media has visibly increased.

Tweet Impressions

Since January 2022, tweet impressions increased by 107% compared to the 2021, according to Twitter Analytics.

Influence Growth In 2022
Partnerships and media coverage
Coalition For Women In Journalism
Many prominent media outlets such as NYT, VOA, BBC, Independent and more covered CFWIJ’s work. Global press coverage of the CFWIJ on mainstream media has visibly increased.
“I’m glad to join CFWIJ on 16 Days of Activism against Gender-based Violence. I think there is a lot that needs to be done in the media to stop women feeling like outsiders, particularly in hard news. That means more mentoring opportunities for women, more open dialogue about the issues women face and better representation of women in senior journalist and editor positions.”
Kira Taylor, EURACTIV Brussels

“I’m glad to join CFWIJ on 16 Days of Activism against Gender-based Violence. Women journalists are far more prone to be subject to online harassment for simply doing our job than our male counterparts. We can’t let women’s voices in online spaces be silenced.”
Anna Gumbau Freelancer, Brussels
“I’m glad to join CFWIJ on 16 Days of Activism against Gender-based Violence. We are being targeted for doing our job. But let me be very clear to the trolls, ‘every woman should be entitled to the basic human right, that is expressing and talking about the issues we want to.’”

Neelum Yousaf
Geo News, Pakistan

“I’m glad to join CFWIJ on 16 Days of Activism against Gender-based Violence because I stand in solidarity with my female colleagues who continue to be silenced all over the world. Women’s stories deserve to be told and listened to. Without this, the media cannot reflect the lived experience of our society and everyone ends up poorer for it.”

Natasha Foote, EURACTIV Brussels
Join Us In This Mission

Join us by donating to help elevate change-driven courageous journalism.

Donate now.

Coalition For Women In Journalism