
Investigative Journalism

Investigative journalism holds governments and vested interest groups to account and uncovers abuse of power and human rights.

Support to investigative journalism initiatives has always been a cornerstone in IMS' work. By improving the professional skills of journalists within the field of investigative journalism, we enable the media to act as a watchdog and fulfil its role as the fourth estate, promoting good governance, accountability and transparency.



Investigative Journalism Conference #IJC18, Ukraine. Photo: Gohar Khodjayan/IMS

We focus on

- Spreading the culture of investigative journalism.
- Training followed up with a production of story.
- Networking & Collaboration.
- Organisational development.

Impact

- Investigative stories produced and lead to change for people challenged by unfair laws and modus operandi of authorities.
- Networks of investigative journalists are well functioning, and journalists exchange and share knowledge and experience and work together on cross boarder investigations.
- Media content from targeted journalists meets international standards and ensures impact and outreach.
- Partners and associated male and female journalists operate safely and have access to safety measures.

Media Overview

- Number of traditional media partners are decreasing because of strong censorship from people in power.
- Much of the media is often politically and economically compromised during times of conflict, transition and crisis.
- Journalists tend to lack the means and resources to conduct in-depth, public-interest journalism in general, and investigative reporting in particular.
- By its nature, investigative journalism is usually painstaking, time-consuming and, therefore, costly. It can also be extremely dangerous. As a result, the culture of investigative journalism tends to be nascent or even non-existent throughout the global south.
- While the rapid, digital transformation of the media in recent years has made it possible for many more people to practice journalism, it has disrupted the business models of the traditional mass media outlets that have historically invested in investigative journalism. It has also resulted in an upsurge in misinformation as those with partisan agendas have exploited and abused digital communication technologies, often in the guise of journalism. This has increased the demand for IJ as many people go in search for information they can trust.
- Many investigative journalists have recently started to join diverse consortiums and networks to collaborate on data exchange, verification, fact checking and even on the same story. This allows them to get the profound material and data as well as reach to a broader audience.



paving the way for good journalism

IMS is a non-profit organisation working to support local media in countries affected by armed conflict, human insecurity and political transition. www.mediasupport.org

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