Safe Journalists, Strong Democracies:

How on and offline attacks on women journalists are hurting us all

The safety of women journalists has risen to become one of the pre-eminent issues for journalism in our digital era. This UNESCO panel will discuss the many ways women journalists can be placed in vulnerable settings, both in the workplace, in the field and online, leaving them open to all kinds of harassment, intimidation and violence.

Under the framework of the UN Plan of Action on the Safety of Journalists and Issue of Impunity, panelists will share their first hand experiences of these threats and the consequences these actions have on the fundamental role that the press plays in strengthening democratic societies.

After discussions by panelists and the audience, the moderator will invite rapporteurs from all other CSW journalists’ safety side events and NGO events to provide a short report of their proceedings to better inform UNESCO on future advocacy issues developing from CSW around the UN Plan of Action.

With:

Ms Alison Smale, Under-Secretary-General for Global Communications, Department of Public Information, UN
Mr Guy Berger, Director of Freedom of Expression and Media Development, UNESCO
Ms Maria Ressa, CEO and executive Director of Rappler
Ms Jennifer Clement, President of PEN International
Ms Abeer Sa’ady, Vice President of International Association of Women in Radio and Television (IAWRT)
Mr Matthew Caruana Galizia, Pulitzer prize-winning journalist