



## Peace Journalism Workshop

Day-1

11th October

2022

on  
**Surviving the Social Media Onslaught: Mainstream Journalism, Peace, And Democracy In The Transitional Societies.**

### Dean's Message

Three day workshop on peace journalism has the role of social media in the democratic process as its theme. Contrary to our expectations social media seems to be a divisive force than a binding one. There is no doubt about the power of social media in giving voice to the marginalized communities in the age of corporate media structures.

At the same time we see the rise of populism, unbridled aggression, and social division in societies due to these platforms.

Communities of consent are the antithesis of democratic values of acceptance of each and every opinion to be heard. If we lose the ability to tolerate each other's opinion, we will retrogress into the primitive and irrational traits we very dearly fought to get rid of during the last few centuries.

The workshop is an effort to analyse these phenomena. The three day gathering is an effort to understand our human societies within the context of the new media, finding an understanding of the changing world around us and to remain part of the solution.

**Prof. Altaf Ullah Khan**  
Dean of Humanities

### Breakdown of Day 1

- Welcome Note was delivered by Prof. Altaf Ullah Khan, Dean of Humanities, Forman Christian College (A Chartered University) and Anne Hege Simonsen, Head of the Department of Journalism and Media Studies, Oslo Metropolitan University, Norway.
- Prof. Altaf Ullah Khan, inaugurated the workshop with his presentation on "The New Media Market; Maintaining Truth in a Social Media Dominated Societies".
- Dr. Muhammad Feyyaz, Country Coordinator Terrorism Research Initiative, presented his ideas on "Differentiating between Counter Insurgency and Counter terrorism, and Peace Building".
- Dr. Firasat Jabeen, Assistant Professor of Mass Communication at FCCU, highlighted the "Juxtaposition of Urdu-English Press in Pakistan and the likelihood of Peace Journalism".
- Multimedia Journalist and Founder at Data Stories, Mr. Khalid Khatak gave statistical briefing on how to balance technology with social media advancements.







## Breakdown of Day 2

Day-2

12th October

2022



The second day opened up with a captivating Q/A session between the Dean of Humanities, Dr, Altaf Ullah Khan and renowned anchor Rifatullah Khan where they shed light on the topic of "Reporting in Crisis Regions: Experiences as a Journalist".

Discussing about his life experiences, Rifatullah Khan addressed numerous factors that journalists face while reporting in conflict zones.

While explaining his journey in conflict reporting; he addressed the growing differences between the tribal and foreign journalists along with their organizations and the vice-versa outcomes.



Anne Hege Simonsen, Head of the Department of Journalism and Media Studies, Oslo Metropolitan University, Norway, spoke about "Journalistic Images in the Changing Media Landscape".

An activity was conducted by Prof. Anne in which she grouped the participants and held an interactive session on how to identify the true meanings behind images on media platforms.



Dr. Savera Mujib Shami, Professor and Chairperson, Department of Digital Media, School of Communication Studies, University of the Punjab, talked about the main aspects of social capital and how 'trust' plays an important factor under this discipline. While talking about social capital and social media, she stated multiple factors leading towards a polarized society and how interaction is an essential element in building stronger bonds and tolerance levels.







# WORKSHOP BULLETIN



Day-2

12th October

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Prof. Elisabeth Eide, Professor Emerita, Oslo Metropolitan University, Norway, delivered a presentation on "War and the First Causality: Propaganda and Truth in Conflict and Peace Journalism".

Prof. Eide discussed the topic of war and its relation with journalism. The presentation uncovered propaganda, and explained about revealing a different side of every story with multiple perspectives



Day 2 was concluded with Dr. Jatin Srivastava's talk on "Peace Journalism: Ethical and Theoretical Implications". Mr. Shirivastava is the Professor and Director at the Institute for International Journalism, Ohio University.

In his presentation he highlighted the importance of following certain jargons and ethics when it comes to media outlets in order to build and maintain peace in journalism.





Day-3

13th October

2022

## Breakdown of Day 3

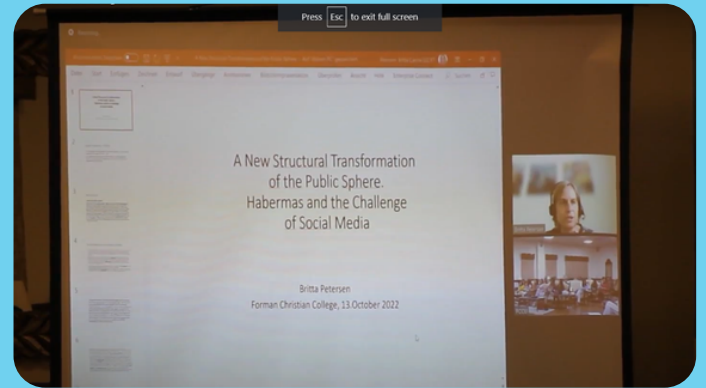
Ms. Tahira Tariq, Visiting Faculty at the Karachi University, presented on “Online Harassment and Social Media”. Her emphases was mainly on the relevance of raising awareness on online harassment.



Mr Adeel Ahmed Amir, Assistant Professor of Mass Communication, FCCU, presented on “Conflict Resolution in Digital Age”. His session focused upon concepts that come under issues of digital age, mainly the formation and spread of fake and biased news content.



Ms. Britta Peterson, Advisor at Gesellschaft fur Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ), delivered a presentation on “A New Structural Transformation of Public Sphere. Habermas and the Challenges of Social Media.” Ms. Britta’s presentation aimed on public sphere and the historical aspects of how the mass media has played a role in transformation. From her vast research on challenges of social media, she highlighted “it is not easy to curtail social media”.



The last session was conducted by Mr. Shiraz Hasnat, Bureau Chief, HUM News Network. Mr Hasnat presented on “Social Media is Dominating Mainstream Media in Agenda Setting”. His presentation mainly discussed various statistics including the bulletin performance of Pakistani media channels within the past year. His argument stated that “Political stability and instability effects the rise and fall in the ratings”.







# WORKSHOP BULLETIN



**Prof. Altaf Ullah Khan shares his closing remarks with workshop participants and presenters**



**Prof. Anne Hege gives her vote of thanks to the participants**



**Dr. Douglas Trimble, Vice Rector for Academic Affairs, Forman Christian College (A Chartered University), shares his thoughts regarding the Peace Journalism Workshop.**



**Dr. Douglas Trimble presents a souvenir to Prof. Anne**

## Workshop Group Photo







## TIDBITS FROM THE WORKSHOP

### How could Journalism Function?

- Keep the public sphere alive.
- Using social media as a right tool.
- Create larger social awareness to salvage the mainstream media.
- Introducing media literacy as an integral part of education.
- Eliminating class, gender, race and language biases.



### Measures of Remedial

- Report all sides.
- Clarify the frame of reference.
- Media ownership must not matter.
- Don't overemphasize certain views.
- Enhance educational views.
- Understand reality of arm issues.
- Attend to arm race inner dynamics.
- Consider North-South dynamics.
- Clearly portray peace benefits.



### Spotting

#### FAKE NEWS

- Credibility
- Consider the source
- Check the author
- Check the date
- Check your biases
- Ask experts
- Is it a joke?
- Supporting sources?
- Read beyond.







## Participants' Remarks

I am glad that I got this opportunity to attend Peace Journalism Workshop. I learned a lot from all the interactive session but social capital, mapping technologies and maintaining truth in social media dominating societies were the new concepts for me. Kudos to Faculty of Humanities and OsloMet.

**Ms. Sayra Hussain**  
Lecturer,  
Department of Mass  
Communication, MAO  
College, Lahore

**Ms. Shahla Adnan**  
Lecturer,  
Department of Mass  
Communication, Fatima  
Jinah University,  
Rawalpindi

It was a professionally vivid experience that enhanced knowledge and beneficial collaborations between media industry and academia both at national and international level.

FCCU has developed a reputation for providing training programs that are rich in knowledge. These workshops provide a comprehensive overview of emerging trends in peace journalism. The Subject matter on the practice of journalism in war and conflict zones was really intriguing.

**Mr. Umer Farooqi**  
Lecturer,  
School of Media and  
Communication Studies,  
University of Management  
and Technology, Lahore

**Ms. Hafsa Javed**  
Lecturer,  
Department of Mass  
Communication, Bahaudin  
Zikaria University,  
Multan

Wonderful learning experience from academia and professional journalists which opened new insights for us to look at conflict management on social media from peace journalism perspective and how to report in times of disinformation.

The peace journalism workshop at FCCU gave me an opportunity to engage with both media faculty and media practitioners from diverse backgrounds. It enabled me to broaden my horizons about challenges faced by journalists reporting from conflict zones and the future course of action in creating a more tolerant and peaceful co-existence in the online and real world.

**Ms. Tabina Sirhindi**  
Lecturer,  
School of Media and  
Communication Studies,  
University of Central Punjab,  
Lahore