



THE
GOVERNANCE
GROUP

CYBER SECURITY IN JOURNALISM

Cyber security

“It used to be that we lived in the real world and then we went online.

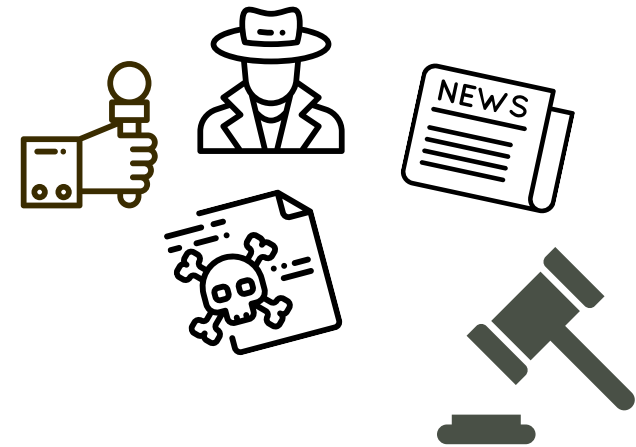
Now, we live online and go into the real world.”

Cyber security

Cyber security
=
security in the digital age and space

Cyber security

Legislation protecting media sources and journalists:



A shield law is legislation designed to protect reporters' privilege to refuse to testify regarding information and/or sources of information obtained during the news gathering process.

- European countries are active in protecting reporter-source privilege: Countries like Austria, Norway, Belgium, France and U.K. have special laws and acts to protect journalist's sources.
- States including Spain, Sweden, Portugal, Andorra and Germany provide this privilege in their constitutions.
- Currently 50 states in the USA have shield laws or other protections for reporters in place.

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Despite all the lofty sentiments,
shield laws have a significant hole:

a court **can order** a journalist to disclose the
identity of an informant if the public interest
outweighs any likely adverse consequences for
the source

TARGET: JOURNALIST

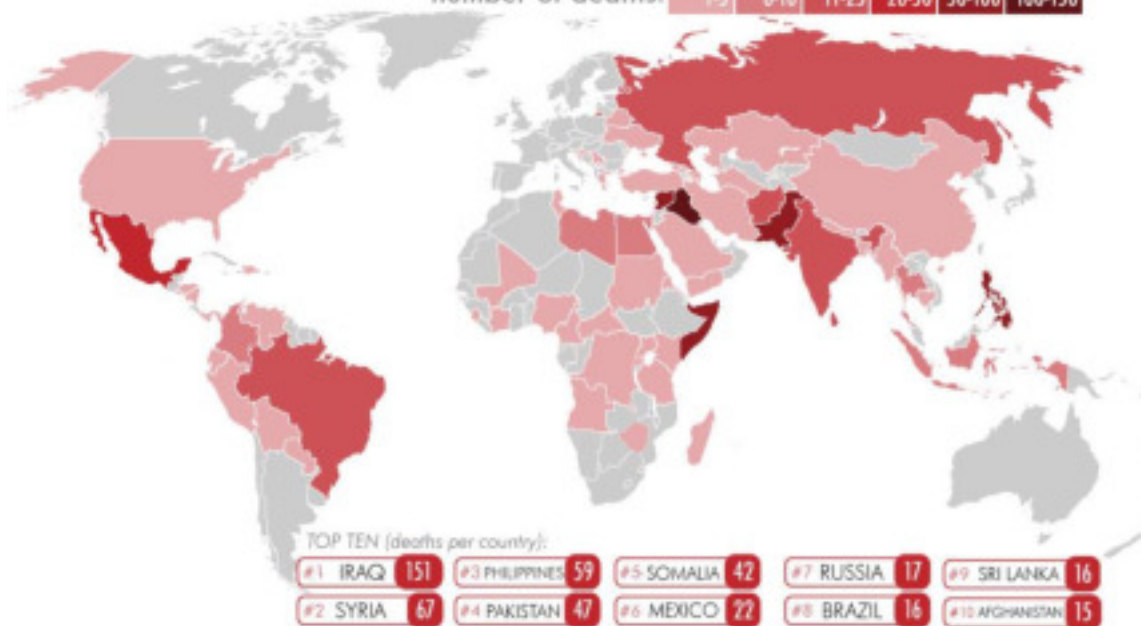
How the Assad Regime Tracked and Killed Marie Colvin for Reporting on War Crimes in Syria

جمعية القصير
الفلاحية

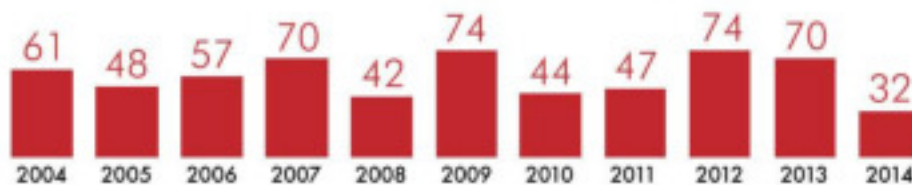
Countries Where Journalists Have Been Killed: 2004 - 2014

GP

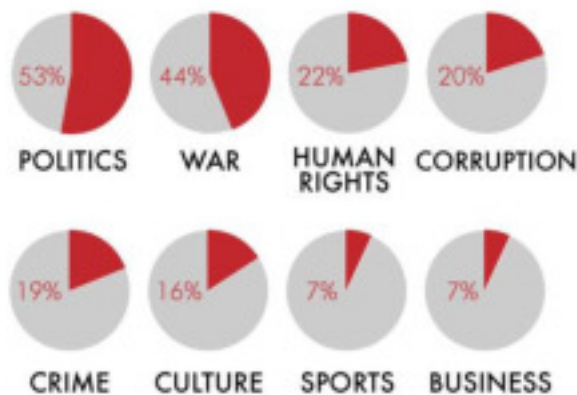
number of deaths: 1-5 6-10 11-25 26-50 50-100 100-150



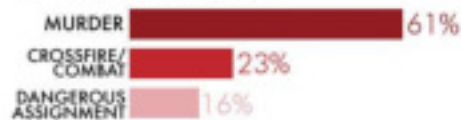
Total Number of Journalists Killed Per Year: 2004 - 2014



Type of News Covered by Victims:



Cause of Death:



Type of Journalist:



Position:

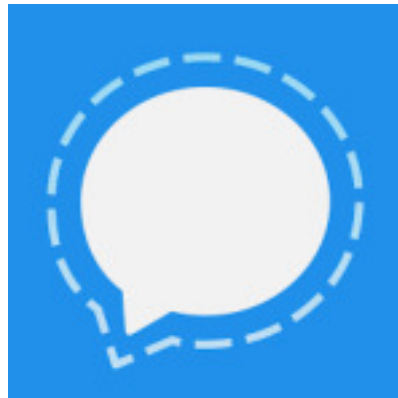


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Journalists should fully understand how computers and the internet work, and what threats make journalists vulnerable.

Many journalists are aware of the dangers of messaging or calling someone on unencrypted databases. The apps **Signal** and **WhatsApp**—which ensure there is no third-party access—are growing.

To avoid being tracked, cautious reporters won't write down the names of their sources, locations, or keep any recordings easily accessible. If they do keep data, it should be heavily protected.



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How to avoid being caught with sensitive information?

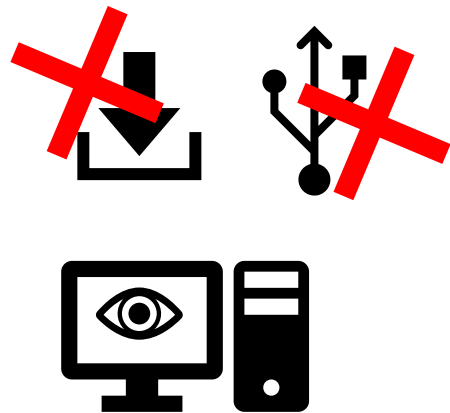
- ✓ Never write down the names of your sources
- ✓ Never write down locations of meetings
- ✓ Keep any recordings in hidden areas
- ✓ Sensitive data should be password protected and deleted as soon as possible
- ✓ If you receive information from source, make sure they never have written their names on this information

...ALWAYS protect your source as much as possible!

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Do not download a Word document from untrusted sources – it can install spyware on your computer!



Exercise 1 – two groups

- 1) Who are the most important sources of information?
- 2) Which actors would typically try to prevent a journalist from getting access to information?
- 3) In which circumstances could it be damaging to discuss where information has been obtained from?
- 4) Who might want to find out what stories a journalist is working on?
- 5) What are the mechanisms that can be used to prevent a journalist from publishing a story?

Exercise 2 – two groups

- 1) What links can there be between politicians, owners and news editors?
- 2) In what places do journalists typically meet their sources?
- 3) How would a journalist store sensitive contact information?
- 4) Have you experienced that someone tried to stop your story or prevent a source from talking to you?



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The Governance Group, Oscars gate 27
0352 Oslo, Norway

www.thegovgroup.org