

World Press Freedom Day: A tribute by UN to heroic journalists around the globe

The United Nation recently in Geneva celebrated world press freedom day by paying tribute to the journalists who suffer injuries, give their lives or become victim of secret hostile detentions regimes as a result of exercising their profession. Marie Heuze the spokeswoman for UN stresses free independent press to be one of the fundamentals of liberty and strongly condemned all the unaccepted activities that are designed to block the media freedom and highlighted the violation of fundamental rights of individuals and the obstruction of free circulation of verifiable information given by the journalists in good faith to flourish democracy.

According to Geneva based press emblem report (PEC) highlighted that since 2008 at least 28 journalists died in 17 different countries. Mexico was shown the world most dangerous country for active journalists where 6 reported dead in last four months, Iraq counted five, three perished in Pakistan and two killed in Russia. The remainder found lost in India, Philippines, Panama, the Gaza Strip, Bolivia, Colombia, Uganda, Honduras, Brazil, Niger, Nepal, Afghanistan, and in Somalia.

On the brighter side, Ethiopia was being removed from global black list by another media rights organization's (RSF) reporters without borders and has joined 14 other countries campaign named as "enemy of the internet" along with Zimbabwe. As now Ethiopian internet access is now being controlled by state with the help of Chinese investment. RSF signifies that individual's militia, rebel leaders as well as the high-level drug leaders are among the fiercest enemies of the press.

In Democratic Republic of Congo, the country journalist in danger (JID) branch explored the existence of secret detention centres, out with the formal Kinshasa prosecution service, where several journalists have been tortured physically and psychologically interrogated. JID ask for President Joseph Kabila to pardon the duo, Nsimba Embete Ponte and Davin Ntongo the two journalists who were arrested in March and detained without access to their own legal or medical advisors.

UN Chief Ban Ki-moon made a plea on the forum of World Press Freedom Day in support of free secure and independent media around the globe for peace and democracy.