



Appendix

The Canadian Committee to Protect Journalists (CCPJ) and International Freedom of Expression eXchange (IFEX)

Founded in 1981, the Canadian Committee to Protect Journalists is a non-profit, non-governmental organization of more than 350 working journalists, editors, publishers, and media corporations working to protect and promote freedom of expression. The CCPJ operates the world's only freedom of expression and press freedom information clearing house in cooperation with similar groups from around the world. Called the International Freedom of Expression eXchange (IFEX), the Clearing House links 260 organizations in over 80 countries.

The main activity of the Clearing House is to operate an Action Alert Network that works to defend freedom of expression and the rights of journalists, writers and media organizations. Whenever a case occurs, protest information is circulated around the world to participating organizations by electronic mail. These groups, in turn, fax and email their protests to governments, inter-national organizations and others. Almost two thousand alerts are processed each year. Such concerted campaigns can be instrumental in securing the release of those imprisoned for their opinions or profession.

In 1995, IFEX launched the Developing Countries Outreach Program to support freedom of expression organizations in the developing world by helping them build links with the international freedom of expression community through IFEX. The quick and free flow of information is essential to development and crucial to effective freedom of expression work. Communications technologies are, therefore, at the heart of the Outreach Program's mission, as every day barriers to international communication are removed.

In 1996, IFEX launched the IFEX Internet Service, a searchable database World Wide Web site presenting the definitive online resource on freedom of expression throughout the world. The IFEX Internet Service can be reached at <http://www.ifex.org/>.

The CCPJ promotes press freedom in developing countries by working in partnership with local organizations on journalist training programs. In South America, CCPJ support helped the Institute for Press and Society provide human rights training for rural journalists in Peru who are occasionally targeted by both drug dealers and corrupt legal officials. The CCPJ has also worked on journalist education programs in Cambodia in partnership with local journalist associations, and in Malawi at the radio division of the Malawi Broadcasting Corporation. The CCPJ is planning new training projects in Ethiopia and Indonesia.

For more information about the Canadian Committee to Protect Journalists and the International Freedom of Expression eXchange visit the CCPJ Freedom of Expression WWW site at <http://www.web.net/ccpj/>.

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