

This is The Eleventh Report of The Committee
for The Solidarity with The Freedom of The Press Regarding The
Situation of Journalism in Kurdistan, From 01/01/2013 - 30/06/2013



The Announcement of the Council of Kurdistan Journalists Syndicate Concernin the Shutting Down of Three TV Channels (ROJ TV - NUCE TV - MMC)

According to the verdict of the Court of Denmark, and under pressure from the Turkish Government, the decision was taken to close down th three TV channels in Europe (ROJ TV - NUCE TV - MMC) which broadcast from Europe.

They were closed completely, and they were also penalized.

The Decision taken by the Danish Governmonet is a continuation of the pressure which was put in the past on such channels as (Med TV - Medya TV and ROJ TV).

These Channels faced closure and the destruction of their equipment, furniture and properties in Europe, which respects democracy.

The Kurdistan Journalists Syndicate condemns this decision of the Danish Government, regarding is as an anti-freedom act. Earlier on, we had published our condemnation of shutting down (ROJ TV), decrying this ast. As a whole, such act is a compaign aganist the freedom od the press. At the same time, we know about the pressure of the political relations between Turkey and Denmark.

These three channels conveyed the voice and

the picture, images of the Kurds particulary for the people of the North. Because of political pressure legal obstacles, these three channels are unable now to broadcast from inside Turkey. They had no other option but to transmit from abroad. After that, they ended up facing pressure, shutdown, and the destruction of thier equipment.

Therefore, we request the European Union and the international organizations, they are requested to stand against the closure of these three channels, especially that now there is a peace process going on between the Kurds and Turkey.

Such an act would be the reason for the regression of the peace-process.

The Kurdistan Journalists Syndicate expresses solidarity with support for these channels and the journalists working there, being ready for any assistance or cooperation whether in Kurdistan Region or outside it, anywhere in the world, to back up the said channels as well as their journalists and their rights.

The Council of
Kurdistan Journalsist Syndicate

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Statistics of the Entire Violations

Statistics of the Entire Violations of Report No. 11
from 01/01/2013 till 30/06/2013

| No. | Type | Number of Cases | Numbers of People Affected |
|-------|--------------|-----------------|----------------------------|
| 1 | Arrest | 3 | 3 |
| 2 | Beating | 6 | 14 |
| 3 | Prohibitions | 8 | 10 |
| 4 | Harassment | 3 | 3 |
| Total | | 20 | 30 Journalists |

Kurdistan Journalists Syndicate
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Violations | Harassment

| No | Journalists Name | Place of Work | Date of Violation | Place of | Type of Violations |
|-----------------------------|--|--------------------------------|-------------------|------------|--|
| Harassment (3 Cases) | | | | | |
| 1 | Suzan Jamal Muhammed Amin Editor in Chief of the Magazin «Zanisti Serdem-Modern Science» | Zanisiti Serdem Magazine | Suleimani | April 2013 | She translated a book titled (A Million Questions and Answers about Sex). After that, she frequently received various threats on (Facebook) and also threats from mobile SMS with these numbers (07715762194 - 07715760989) |
| 2 | Ghandi Kollawar - Reporter | Spee Newspaper | Duhok | | He published a story about the murder of a young man, after that, he and his family received various kinds of threats via the telephones. |
| 3 | Jinan Paulos Gorgis Editor in Chief | Beth Ankawa Newspaper | 02/06/2013 | Hawler | This journalist was threatened with death by mobile number (07717490921) after publishing a story in Beth Ankawa Newspaper. |

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Violations | Prohibitions

| No | Journalists Name | Place of Work | Date of Violation | Place of Violation | Type of Violations |
|-----------------------------------|---|---------------------------|-------------------|--------------------|---|
| Prohibitions (8 Cases) 5-8 | | | | | |
| 5 | Loqman Aziz - Reporter | Payam Satellite Channel | 21/05/2013 | Hawler | He was prevented from covering the visit of Kurdistan parliament Committee from Human Rights to the Directorate General of Security in Kurdistan. |
| 6 | Hallo Hussein Jabari Reporter Omed Abdul Hussein Cameraman | Kurdistan TV Satellite | 04/06/2013 | Kirkuk | They were prevented from doing their journalist work with the Head Quarters of Kirkuk Governorate by the guards there. |
| 7 | Ahmad Jassim - Reporter | Freelance | 17/06/2013 | Duhok | He was prevented from covering the news about the Investment Directorate in Duhok by the guards there. |
| 8 | Barzan Muhammed Reporter Ahmed Shwan-Cameraman | NRT | | Hawler | They wanted to cover the party of (Jamshid and Moein) in Sami Abdulrahman Park. They were prevented from making their report, moreover, their camera was taken away from them, later on, with the efforts from the committee for the press, the camera was given back to them. |

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Violations | Prohibitions

| No | Journalists Name | Place of Work | Date of Violation | Place of | Type of Violations |
|-----------------------------------|---|-------------------------|-------------------|----------|--|
| Prohibitions (8 Cases) 1-4 | | | | | |
| 1 | Resala Shrkani - Reporter | Radio Payamner | 08/03/2013 | Mosul | She is prevented from crossing the Rabia-Mosul Checkpoint by the person in charge of the point. |
| 2 | Bestun Khdr - Reporter | Payam Satellite Channel | 09/03/2013 | Hawler | He was not allowed to cover the press conference of Mr. Barzani and Mr. Maliki |
| 3 | Omed Fuad Ahmed - Cameraman | Payam Satellite Channel | 10/04/2013 | Kirkuk | He need to visit the Real-Estate office of Kurkuk district. He was prevented by the guards of the district and his Camera was taken by them. After the good offices of Kirkuk branch of our Syndicate, he got back his Camera. |
| 4 | As:d Muhammed -Reporter Muhammed Jalal - Photographer | Speda TV Sattellite | 28/04/2013 | Garmian | He was prevented from doing his coverage of (Quoey) Village in the township of (Qaratapa) by the person in charge of PUK Committee of (Zangabadi). |

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Violations | Beating

| No | Journalists Name | Place of Work | Date of Violation | Place of | Type of Violations |
|------------------------------|---|-------------------------------|-------------------|----------|--|
| Beating (6 Cases) 4-6 | | | | | |
| 4 | Farman Muhammed - Reporter Ahmed Shwani - Cameraman | NRT | 01/06/2013 | Hawler | He was covering the annual anniversary of PUK foundation in the square near Shanadar park. A number of people dressed as civilians in addition to those in military uniform blocked his coverage, they took his microphone, mobile, and began beating the cameraman, later on the PUK Committee in charge media intervened. Due to this the equipment was given back to these men. |
| 5 | Chia Nuri - Cameraman | Payam Satellite Channel | 09/06/2013 | Kirkuk | One of the guards of the Real Estate Registration office No. Two, Kirkuk, blocked his coverage and started beating him. |
| 6 | Salar Sabir - Reporter Aram Khasro - Cameraman | Hataw TV | 17/06/2013 | Hawler | They were beaten because they were preparing a report on the quality and the price of feul. They were beaten by (Abdulkareem Khdr) in charge fuel coupons, and (Jwamer ABdulkareem), in (Baz Gas Station). |

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Violations | Beating

| No | Journalists Name | Place of Work | Date of Violation | Palce of | Type of Violations |
|------------------------------|--|---|-------------------|-----------|---|
| Beating (6 Cases) 1-3 | | | | | |
| 1 | Shorvhvan Shawkat- Cameraman Nuzhdar Hadi - Cameraman Eyaz Akram - Reporter | NRT | 04/02/2013 | Duhok | While preparing a report on the shortcomings of the Hezha city project in Duhok, a number of the companies in charge of the project started bealing them as well as insulting and prevented them from making the report. |
| 2 | Ari Abdulla - Reporter Ranj Rahman-Cameraman Farman Abdulqadir- Cameraman Muhammed Abdulla- Cameraman | KNN KNN KURDSAT KURDSAT NRT | 10/05/2013 | Hawler | When Hawler Club were playing against Sulaimani Club in Franso Hariri Stadium, the supporters of each team quarrelled against each other, a number of police men and other dressed like civilians started beating them, insulting them, and they took their equipment, later on the to them but the camera belonging to NRT, type ٤٥٠, is broken. |
| 3 | Jafar Hussein | SNN News Network | 20/05/2013 | Suleimani | While covering a gathering of bus drivers, near the headquarter of suleimani governorate, he was beaten by the civil activities police. |

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Violations | Arrest

| No | Journalists Name | Place of Work | Date of Violation | Place of Violation | Type of Violations |
|----------------------------|-------------------|------------------|-------------------|--------------------|---|
| Arresting (3 Cases) | | | | | |
| 1 | Ali Khalil Sleman | Badinan Sat | 30/01/2013 | Shangal Mosul | After publishing a report about water-shortage in a neighbourhood in shangal was arrested by a squad of Shangal security men, after one hour of investigation, he was released. |
| 2 | Ali Fartih | Jalawla TV | 13/02/2013 | Jalawla Diala | He was covering the demonstrations of Jalawla, he was arrested by Jalawla Investigation office, he was taken to Diala, after four hours of being kept there, he was released owing to sincere attempts by the Khanaqin office of the Syndicate. |
| 3 | Ali Murad Khan | He is Freelancer | 11/06/2013 | Khanaqin | He published a story and a complaint was registered against him, the judge ruled that he had to be kept in custody for twelve hours, the office of Syndicate in Khanaqin hired a lawyer for him and let him free. |

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from the media institutions to the journalist's and observe article 7 of the journalism law number 35 to implement the instruction of the syndicate. The council syndicate regards highly the Kurdistan parliament approved of the law concerning how to obtain information. It is required that the parties related to it should deal without prejudice and draw to distinctions in providing the information to journalist's. They are required to preserve the right of the journalist's to all journalist's equally in getting the information. Concerning the previous report, there were numbers of committees formed by the people in charge of affairs to follow up the reports of the present committee. But, nobody was punished for the violations mentioned there. Beside, they always make promises to the syndicate in this regard. The syndicate of journalist's in Kurdistan expresses it's discomfort regarding the obstacles which the security agencies put in front of the audible and visual channels of the media, to debar them from certain roads within the framework of law, they should access and license to work there. Legally, the results of the follow-up of the issues

related to the media would be continued by the syndicate to announce clearly it's straightforward attitude. Also, we condemn the shutting down of the three satellite channels (ROJ TV, NUCHE TV, and MMC) by the Kingdom of Denmark. The council of the syndicate, in this respect, published an announcement, the text of which is included in this press release. We emphasize that the closing down of these channels caused the journalist's and media workers there to lose their jobs. The syndicate will keep on to confirm and string then the freedom of the press, and the important of the professional work, using all the civil methods and ways of pressurizing, till the people in charge will pay respect to the law, the journalist's, and the journalist profession, which is considered as the major warrant of civil society and Democracy we hope and request that the journalist's will abide by the law and that they will perform their holy, sacred job in a professional manner.

The committee for the Solidarity with the freedom
of the press and the Rights
of the journalist's in Kurdistan

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The committee for the solidarity with the freedom of the press and the Right of the Journalist's in Kurdistan, concerning the situation of Journalism in Kurdistan Journalism is a profession which has a direct relationship with the freedom and the political, economic, social, and other condition of society. It interacts with all of these and is supposed to invest all its abilities to convey the news to the recipient .

Therefore, the Journalist's confront trouble and obstacles when they do their job facing people who have no belief in public liberties, general freedom, especially the freedom of the press. The (CFSFP) thoroughly watches over the situation of journalism in Kurdistan. It records all the violations against journalist's during six months, issued in its report given to the related parties and international organization to be published in three languages Kurdish, Arabic and English. The syndicate will keep on its solidarity with and confirmation of the journalist's rights till the time when the related parties start to show respect to the law of journalism and the profession of journalism, the council and the committee have the intention of reducing the violations committed against the journalist's. Thus, a conference was held on April 27th, 2013, bringing together the journalist's Ministry of Interior, and the security agencies of Kurdistan Region. The aim was to increase mutual understanding. Both sides were frank and candid in expressing their views. The conference also aimed at finding suitable ways

to solve the problems and case the obstacles facing the journalist's. Also on the 28th of April 2013, a conference was arranged to have talks on the importance of a special Court of Law particularly dealing with the cases and suits of journalist's, in a similar way to what they have in Baghdad. In this Conference, there were representatives of Iraqi supreme Court, Justice council of Kurdistan, the ministry of law in Kurdistan, the public persecutor, and a number of Lawmen and Law-specialist's

They were present there to discuss at length the project of such a law court. This project is now under discussion. This is a step to move forward in promoting the profession of journalism as well as the position of the journalist's. The violation listed in report Eleven are comparatively fewer than those in report Number Ten. Yet, this does not imply that the violation were committed less towards the journalist's, till now, there are a number of people in charge of responsibility but show very little respect for the law of the press and the profession of Journalism, they commit violations against the Channels of the Media and the journalist's. Also, the Syndicate of Kurdistan journalist's needs the Media foundation and institutes as well as the journalist's to have contracts binding them with the Media where they are working to protect their rights. There are many cases that came up to the committee regarding the journalist's being expelled from their work, or their contract was terminated single - handedly, unilaterally. Thus, it is requested



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Report VIOLATIONS 11

