

ONO CONFERENCE LONDON 2023

Notes compiled by Pierre Champoux
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DAY ONE

Thursday, June 1st, BBC Broadcasting House

9h30

Adam Baxter - OFCOM

- [Decision – China Global Television Network - Ofcom](#)
- [Ofcom finds RT in breach of due impartiality rules.](#)

Charlotte Dewar - IPSO

- [Public Consultation on Guidance on Reporting of Sex and Gender Identity](#)
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10h35

Covering mass shootings

Glynn Greensmith

- ["Reporting mass shootings" by Glynn Greensmith \(2019\)](#)
- ["An examination of media ethics and journalism pedagogy for news commun" by Glynn Greensmith \(thesis, 2021\)](#)
- [Open Letter - Don't Name Them, Don't Show Them.pdf](#) (open letter after the Las Vegas shooting in 2017)
- [Mass shootings and the media: lessons from the Port Arthur massacre](#)
- [Atlanta Journal-Constitution](#) (not available in Europe)
 - [Amid a deadly spree of mass shootings, news organizations deliver a unified message](#) (Twitter)
 - ['No Way To Prevent This,' Says Only Nation Where This Regularly Happens](#)
- [Do we really need to see photos of mass shootings? - Columbia Journalism Review](#)
 - [It's time to rethink how journalism covers guns and mass shootings](#)

« When we cover the killer, we miss the really good stories »

« Let's talk about evidence, not speculation. Speculation is killing us »

11h45 - New ONO members

- [Soledad Alcaide, Defensora del lector](#), El Pais
- Kaori Ozawa, Asahi Shimbun's public editor
- [Jason Cumming, senior director of News standards, NBC Universal News Group](#)
 - [Brian Carovillano, senior V-P, Head of Standards, NBC Universal News Group](#)

12h00 Social media: live, love, leave? ([click here audio & transcription](#))

- Fiona Cameron, ABC Australia
 - [ABC Ombudsman finds coverage of King Charles III's coronation did not breach impartiality standards](#)
 - « The number of complaints we get is on the rise, but the quality of it is not necessarily on the rise. The noise is very much on the rise... »
 - [Personal use of social media – Guidelines | About the ABC](#)
- [Anna Jay, head of audience development, Thompson Reuters Foundation](#)
- David Jordan, director of Editorial standards, BBC
 - [Guidance: Social media - Editorial Guidelines](#)
 - [Guidance: Individual Use of Social Media - Editorial Guidelines](#)
 - [Editorial Guidelines](#) (BBC)
 - Gary Lineker - [BBC statement](#)
 - <https://www.theguardian.com/media/2023/mar/13/bbc-social-media-review-gary-lineker>
 - [Gary Lineker row: Ex-ITN boss John Hardie to lead BBC social media review](#)
 - [Will BBC's social media review rein in stars like Lineker?](#) (The Guardian)
- Richard Sambrook, emeritus professor of journalism, Cardiff University
 - « The media is obsessed with Twitter... » but Tik Tok, WhatsApp and Telegram are more important.
 - « Twitter matters but it doesn't matter in the way journalists think it does... »
 - [Explaining the 'how' - the launch of BBC Verify - BBC News](#)
 - [Ukraine war: Satellite images reveal Russian defences before major assault - BBC News](#) (Verify)
 - Lineker: RS is leaning towards a solution where freelancers and contractual contributors should be allowed to express their views freely outside of BBC programming. Whatever they say on social media would then not have to follow BBC editorial guidelines...

Margo Smit: should Ombudsmen leave Twitter? If not, should we engage in discussion with others users?

PC: Quote from Guy A. Lepage, a big time TV personality that left Twitter recently...

« Only 6% of Quebecers use Twitter, which isn't very many. But that includes 100% of morons, which is too many. »

LUNCH

13h45 - Ukraine and war reporting ([click here for audio and transcription](#))

- [Lars Bennike](#), TV2, Denmark ([bio on TV2 website](#), in Danish)
- Andriy Kulikov, journalist, chair of [Hromadske Radio](#) and chairman of the Commission on Journalistic Ethics , Ukraine
 - [Chairman of Commission on Journalistic Ethics Andriy Kulikov robbed and beaten in Kyiv | Institute of Mass Information](#)
- John Simpson, veteran BBC journalist
 - [John Simpson: The risks of my job have had a devastating effect on my son | The Independent](#)
 - [Unspun World with John Simpson, Is this a turning point for Ukraine? \(Sept. 18 2022\)](#)
- [Tarmu Tammerk](#), ERR, Estonia
 - [Tarmu Tammerk: ERR's coverage of the war in Ukraine | Opinion](#)

LB : « Fair and balanced : does it still make sense in the new European reality? »

AK : « You cannot be neutral when your country is attacked, but still you can be objective »
« full scale war, full scale coverage, full scale resistance... »

TT : being impartial even if we cannot have journalists in Russia... Mentioning it in our reports.
Wearing ukrainian colors...

JS : belief from certain people that being based in Moscow has an impact on one journalist's ability to report in an independent way, without feeling the pressure or getting expelled. Example of Steve Rosenberg, BBC's editor, living in Moscow for 30+ years. Married to a Russian woman, father of two boys who identify as Russians.

- [BBC iPlayer - Behind the Stories - Inside Russia in Wartime: Steve Rosenberg](#)
- [Steve Rosenberg in Moscow: Has the war changed Russia? - BBC News](#)

David Regev, Second Authority for Television and Radio, Jerusalem : in Israel, censor sits in the newsroom and, when there is an attack, tells journalists what may or may not be broadcasted. Same in Ukraine? AK says that may be the case (« but I doubt it») in the public broadcaster, but, to his knowledge, not in other medias.

JS : there is no censorship for foreign journalists working in Ukraine, as far as « people like us » are concerned.

Example of words that should be used, according to journalist and media adviser [Nina Kuryata](#), in describing the war....

- Ukraine crisis
- Disputed territories
- ...a region held by Russian troops...

AK read a message from his brother... seeing missile debris in the sky, says « what a beautiful sight »....

15h05 - Threats to journalists: physical and online ([click here for audio and transcription](#))

- Bjarne Schilling, Politiken, Denmark
 - George Claassen, News 24, South Africa
 - [South African journalists attacked, threatened, harassed in separate incidents](#)
 - [SANEF condemns acts of violence against Newcastle Advertiser female journalists by the town's mayor](#)
 - [Karyn Meaghan : her Twitter account](#)
 - Jon Williams, Committee to protect journalists
 - « Truth is not enough. Transparency is what builds trust. »
 - Pursuing the work of journalists that have been killed to be silenced...
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DAY TWO

Friday June 2nd
The Guardian

Words of wisdom: « Opinion is free but facts are sacred » (C.P. Scott, editor of The Manchester Guardian from 1872 to 1929)

9h30

Keynote - Margaret Sullivan ([click here for audio and transcription of the keynote](#), and [here for the Q&A](#))

- [Newsroom Confidential review: Margaret Sullivan's timely tale of the Times and the Post | Books | The Guardian](#)
- [Journalists are failing our fragile democracy, a media insider says](#)
- [Buffalo News](#)
- [Opinion | Newsrooms that move beyond 'objectivity' can build trust - The Washington Post](#)
- [Opinion | Marty Baron defends objectivity in journalism - The Washington Post](#)
- [Gay and trans people deserve to live without persecution in the US. Why is that so hard?](#)

« How do we reach a population that doesn't trust us? »
« Pessimism of the intellect, optimism of the will »

10h45

Katharine Viner, editor of The Guardian

([click here for audio and transcription](#))

Eleventh editor of The Guardian, first woman in that role

11h00

Where editorial codes meet the law ([click here for audio and transcription](#))

Joshua Rozenberg, moderator

Gill Phillips

Timo Houvinen

Susan McKay

- [A Lawyer Writes](#) (Joshua Rozenberg's blog on Substack)

SLAPP: Strategic Litigation Against Public Participation

12h00

ONO's new members

- Herman Scholtz, [South African Press Council](#)
 - Ana Isabel Reis, Radio Ombudsman, [RTP](#), Portugal
 - Cara Sabatini, [National NewsMedia Council](#), Canada
 - Sami Koivisto, Head of Audience Dialogue, [YLE](#), Finland
 - « People need the experience of being heard.. »
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12h20

The impact of transparency over errors ([click here for audio and transcription](#))

Margo Smit, ONO president / Ombudsman, NPO, Netherlands

[Jussi Latvala](#), journalist fellow at Reuters Institute, Oxford University

- « Trust is being comfy with not being in charge while hoping that nothing bad will happen » (JL)
- His project to be published by Reuters Institute this summer
- Reading recommendations :

- Michael Karlsson: [Transparency and journalism : a critical appraisal of a disruptive norm](#)
 - Hugo Mercier : [Not born yesterday: the science of who we trust and what we believe](#)
 - Pierre Bourdieu, *The public opinion doesn't exist* ([French original version here](#))
 - Institutional trust vs. individual trust. His work is about institutional trust.
 - Fiona Cameron (Ombudsman, ABS Australia) : « It is good to trust, it is better to verify »
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AI in the newsroom: emerging issues for journalism ethics

Andrew Cochran, moderator

Dr Bronwyn Jones

Nic Newman

Chris Moran

15h30

Identity matters: diversity issues and the language we use ([click here for audio and transcription](#))

Amanda Barrett

Miriam Lewin

Pierre Champoux