

FINAL REPORT

The Media Freedom Cohort Findings Report is available at: <http://internews.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/03/24Mar-FindingsReport-2-1.pdf>

It is embargoed until Monday, March 27th, 9am CET.

VIDEO TRAILER

Please download a video trailer for the Media Freedom Cohort here: <https://we.tl/t-0qFdnbVCrF>

The trailer is also available on Internews' YouTube channel here: <https://youtu.be/ZTk3ITrVhcY>

Please feel free to play the video at any events you might be leading, promote it on your website or social media, and share via your personal networks.

PRESS RELEASE

(Embargoed until Monday, March 27th, 9 am CET)

Please feel free to adapt/add a quote from a representative of your organization

100+ GOVERNMENTS, CSOs, CORPORATIONS, AND MEDIA GROUPS TO ISSUE COORDINATED COMMITMENTS TO PROTECT MEDIA FREEDOM WORLDWIDE

Media Freedom Cohort creates unprecedented global partnership supporting independent media

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
MARCH 27th, 2023

WASHINGTON, DC – Ahead of the [Summit for Democracy 2023](#), more than 100 governments, businesses, and media support organizations are making official commitments to protecting media freedom worldwide.

The commitments are a direct response to a call to action issued by the [Media Freedom Cohort](#) – an international coalition chaired by the Governments of Canada and the Netherlands and facilitated by the international NGO Internews. The full list of commitments is available [here](#).

“This is a tremendous achievement for the global movement supporting independent media,” said Internews’ President and CEO Jeanne Bourgault. “At a time when journalists face new threats, local news outlets struggle to stay afloat, and dangerous disinformation campaigns sway public opinion, it’s

very encouraging to see an unprecedented number of influential actors come together to protect free, high-quality journalism around the world.”

The commitments provide a concrete roadmap for making progress in the Media Freedom Cohort’s three priority areas: protecting journalists’ safety and security, advancing freedom of expression, and bolstering independent and diverse media. Actors behind the commitments include 27 governments, leading news organizations such as The New York Times and Associated Press, corporations such as Microsoft and WPP, and an array of civil society groups, including the Committee to Protect Journalists, BBC Media Action, Free Press Unlimited and IREX. Details about each commitment, including metrics and projected timelines, can be found in the [Media Freedom Cohort’s Findings Report](#).

Looking beyond the Summit for Democracy 2023, the work of the Media Freedom Cohort will continue through the [Media Freedom Coalition](#), co-chaired by the Governments of Canada and the Netherlands.

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ABOUT THE MEDIA FREEDOM COHORT

In 2021, U.S. President Biden hosted the Summit for Democracy, at which countries from around the world pledged concrete actions to advance democracy at home and abroad. “Democracy’s Year of Action” followed, with governments and civil society groups working together to convene Democracy Cohorts in advance of the second Summit for Democracy in 2023. The second summit will highlight progress against commitments made in the first summit, as well as new commitments to advance democracy by a wider array of stakeholders. These broadened commitments were the focus of the Media Freedom Cohort, co-led by the Governments of Canada, the Netherlands and international NGO Internews.

ABOUT INTERNEWS

Internews is a nonprofit that supports independent media in 100 countries. Internews trains journalists and digital rights practitioners, tackles disinformation, and offers business expertise to help media outlets thrive financially. For 40 years, it has helped partners reach millions of people with trustworthy information that saves lives, improves livelihoods, and holds institutions accountable.

SOCIAL MEDIA

- Ahead of the 2nd #SummitForDemocracy, 100+ gov'ts, businesses & media orgs made commitments to protect media freedom 🍷 <https://bit.ly/3ZadwCX>

“This is a tremendous achievement for the global movement supporting independent media” - @InternewsJeanne



Click image to view/download in full quality.

- Ahead of the 2nd #SummitForDemocracy, the Media Freedom Cohort—co-led by @GAC_Corporate, @DutchMFA & @Internews—called for commitments to protect media freedom worldwide 🍷

100+ gov'ts, businesses & media orgs responded 🍷 <https://bit.ly/3ZadwCX>

- New report unpacks commitments to protect #MediaFreedom from 100+ gov'ts, businesses, media orgs and CSOs -- including @nytimes @AP @Microsoft 🍷

Check it out ahead of the 2nd #SummitForDemocracy this month 🍷 <https://bit.ly/3ZadwCX>.