



INSI



ANNUAL REVIEW 2017

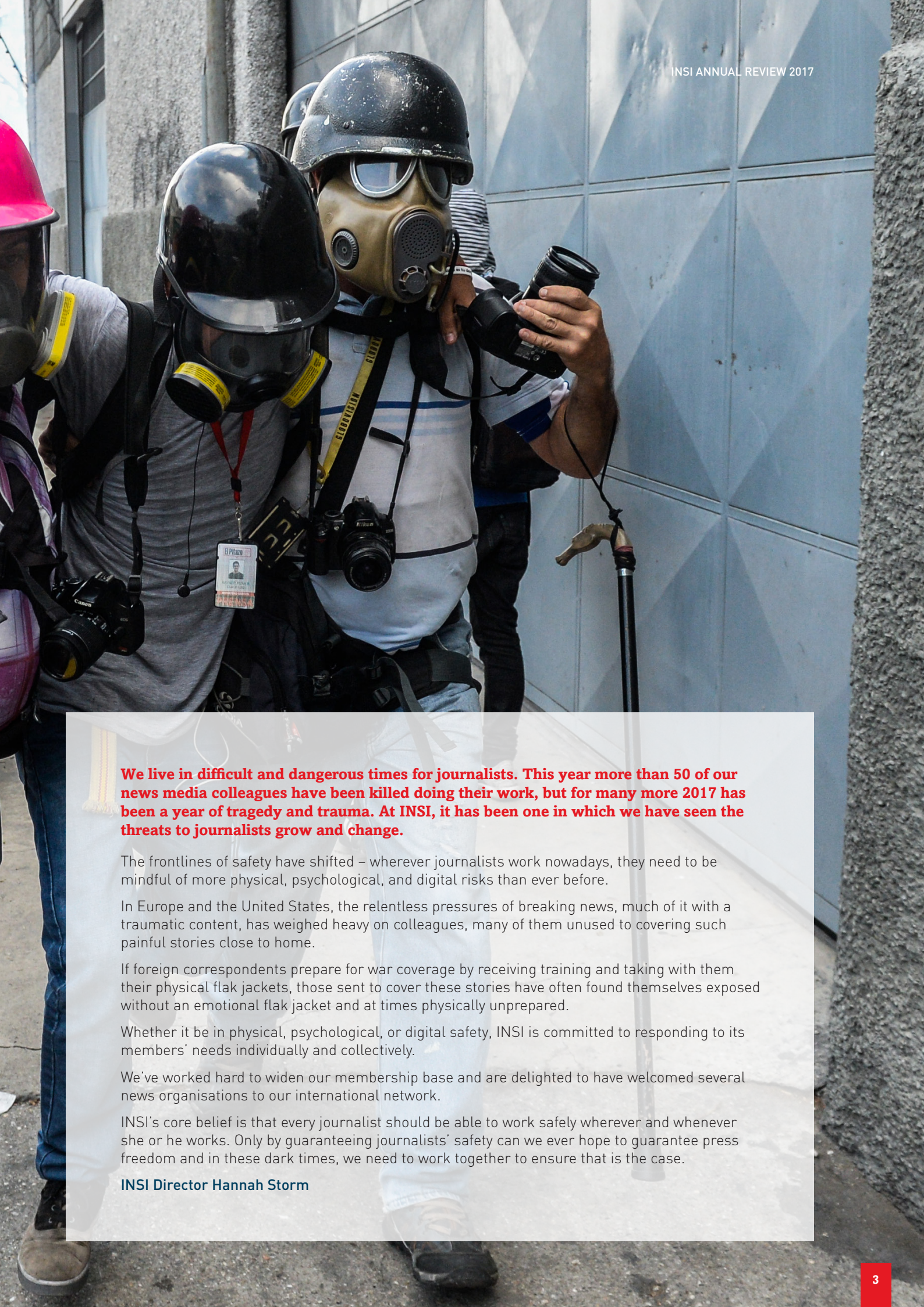
INTERNATIONAL
NEWS SAFETY
INSTITUTE

JOURNALISM SAFETY RESPONSIBILITY ACCOUNTABILITY



“The frontlines of safety have shifted – wherever journalists work nowadays, they need to be mindful of more physical, psychological, and digital risks than ever before”

– INSI Director Hannah Storm



We live in difficult and dangerous times for journalists. This year more than 50 of our news media colleagues have been killed doing their work, but for many more 2017 has been a year of tragedy and trauma. At INSI, it has been one in which we have seen the threats to journalists grow and change.

The frontlines of safety have shifted – wherever journalists work nowadays, they need to be mindful of more physical, psychological, and digital risks than ever before.

In Europe and the United States, the relentless pressures of breaking news, much of it with a traumatic content, has weighed heavy on colleagues, many of them unused to covering such painful stories close to home.

If foreign correspondents prepare for war coverage by receiving training and taking with them their physical flak jackets, those sent to cover these stories have often found themselves exposed without an emotional flak jacket and at times physically unprepared.

Whether it be in physical, psychological, or digital safety, INSI is committed to responding to its members' needs individually and collectively.

We've worked hard to widen our membership base and are delighted to have welcomed several news organisations to our international network.

INSI's core belief is that every journalist should be able to work safely wherever and whenever she or he works. Only by guaranteeing journalists' safety can we ever hope to guarantee press freedom and in these dark times, we need to work together to ensure that is the case.

INSI Director Hannah Storm

Assault on Westminster

...y and simple humanity
face of a horrific attack
than Freedland

[illegible]

photos of MPs locked in the chamber of the Commons for their phone safety, many of them on their phones searching for news just as the rest of us but with an extra edge: they were worrying about their friends, colleagues or their own families. Everyone had the same thought: what if someone they knew or loved was among the hurt?

It happens, I was in Westminster (though not in parliament) when a lunch meeting with an MP whose wife was attacked struck wrapping up a lunch meeting with a friend who was wife checking that he was safe. On television, he'd look like the next potential politician, but if people had seen him before, they'd have seen a human being.

And yet, when it comes to those involved in politics, the machine keeps our democratic machinery functioning. It seems that those who elect to represent us don't stop being people the moment we vote for them.

Last year, the murder of an MP could also be a loving, breathing, loving person. At

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He then cl
motor and fatal
before an officer
At least 20 people

WHO KNIFED 4 THE HEART

MITTIG.CO.UK

DAILY

The image shows the front page of the Daily Mirror newspaper. The masthead 'DAILY Mirror' is prominent in a large, bold, serif font. Below it, the date 'Thursday, March 23, 2017' is printed. The main headline, 'UNITED AGAINST TERROR', is in a large, bold, sans-serif font. Below this, the word 'ATTACK' is visible in a very large, bold, sans-serif font. The background of the page is a dark, textured image, possibly a photograph of a building or a group of people. The overall tone is serious and urgent.

DEMOCRACY

» MANIAC KILLS 3 IN PARLIAMENT RAMPAGE » DEFIANT PM SAYS...

»MANIAC

PHOTO: AFP

MEMBERS' SERVICES

Increasing the frequency of our **News Safety Group** meetings has meant our members now meet more regularly to share safety information in a confidential setting. As well as our regular London meetings, we have held regional meetings in Paris, Stockholm and Berlin, each with a specific safety focus, such as domestic terror attacks and reporting on far right and far left political groups. Next year we plan to expand these regional meetings to new locations and want to hear from members as to where they would like these to be held.

Knowing your legal rights when covering protests in the US and **reporting on the Kenyan elections** were just a couple of the topics that our experts discussed during INSI webinars with our members around the world. Webinars allow us to reach colleagues further afield and are another example of the tailored services we offer.

Our exclusive **safety advisories** covered a vast array of issues such as reporting on building fires, covering protests in Caracas and Hamburg and working on the ground in Iraq and Iran.

New members

This year we were thrilled to expand our network and welcome **Al Arabiya, Associated Press, Bonnier, TV4, the GroundTruth Project, Schibsted** and **Westdeutscher Rundfunk (WDR)** to INSI. Their commitment to journalists' safety has allowed us to extend our international reach and share safety intelligence within the media industry at a truly global level. Details of our membership offerings and our current members are on our website with our updated INSI Safety Code.

RESEARCH

Our research project looking at the **Emotional Toll on Journalists Covering the Refugee Crisis** broke new ground in the issues it raised, and we are seeing the beginnings of a cultural shift in newsrooms to better support those whose mental health is suffering. We launched our findings on moral injury at the Frontline Club in London with a panel and Facebook Live discussion with journalists and psychologists at the forefront of this issue.

Journalists in Europe suffer **violence, intimidation and self-censorship**, according to a survey INSI worked on with the Council of Europe that was published in April. Almost one third of those questioned said they had experienced intimidation and violence as a result of their work, which had impacted their private lives and forced many to self-censor.

Our biannual **Killing the Messenger** report of media casualties found Afghanistan, Mexico and Iraq to be the most dangerous countries for the media in the first six months of the year. The report provided hard evidence of the threats faced by media workers in countries in conflict and, increasingly, those supposedly at peace.

EVENTS

INSI led panel discussions at the **International Festival of Journalism** in Perugia on the changing frontlines of safety and online harassment and moderated a panel discussion on the latter at the **WAN-IFRA** conference. We are producing two sessions at News Xchange, on the online abuse experienced by journalists and how the barrage of traumatic news events is affecting news media colleagues, particularly those who are less experienced at covering such stories. We also took part in a panel at Sweden's **Media Days** conference, talking about the emotional impact of traumatic events on journalists.

Giving one of the keynotes at the annual **Radio Days Europe** conference allowed INSI director Hannah Storm to discuss the changing nature of journalism safety.

We joined the **Council of Europe's** online platform to monitor attacks against journalists, such as harassment, censorship, and physical assault. The platform's 10 partner organisations submit alerts on all types of violations which are then brought to the attention of the Council of Europe and its member states who are required to respond to them.



PHOTO: LISA CLIFFORD

INSI IN THE NEWS

The changing frontlines of safety and online harassment have provided an undercurrent for much of this year's work. Our director wrote about them in a number of publications, including the **BBC College of Journalism** and **Project Syndicate**. Hannah Storm also took part in conversations about the emotional health of journalists on BBC Radio 4's *The Media Show* and Germany's ARD radio.

As part of our commitment to producing a wide range of content highlighting journalists' safety issues, we were pleased to feature an article by the BBC's Lyse Doucet about how female correspondents are changing the face of journalism; CNN's Yusuf Omar spoke to us about safety issues for mobile journalists; we interviewed Mexico's Elia Balthazar about impunity; 1TV's Abdullah Khenjani explored the dangers of working in Afghanistan; and US freelancer Adam Schrader talked to us about being arrested covering the Dakota Access Pipeline protests.

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– INSI Director Hannah Storm



PHOTO: AFP



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Thomson Reuters Building
30 South Colonnade
Canary Wharf
London E14 5EP
United Kingdom

info@newssafety.org
www.newssafety.org
twitter.com/insinews