

The media

Vocabulary

the media: *les médias*; a medium: *un média* (= *un type de média*); a media outlet: *un média* (*spécifique = un journal, une chaîne de télévision en particulier...*); media coverage: *couverture médiatique*

social media: *les réseaux sociaux*; a social media platform: *un réseau social*

a (news)paper: *un journal* (! a journal: *une revue scientifique*); a daily (paper): *un quotidien*; a weekly / monthly (magazine): *un (magazine) hebdomadaire / mensuel*

a news agency (Reuters, AP [Associated Press]): *une agence de presse*

a radio station: *une station de radio*; a TV channel / station: *une chaîne de télévision*

broadcast: *diffuser*

a programme, a show: *une émission*

a host: *un présentateur / une présentatrice*; an anchor: *la présentatrice / le présentateur d'un journal télévisé*

an editor: *un rédacteur en chef / une rédactrice en chef*

the editorial board: *le comité de rédaction*

syndicated: *partagé par plusieurs journaux* (a syndicated column, a syndicated cartoon)

news (*indénombrable*): *une nouvelle, des informations*; a piece of

news, an item of news: *une nouvelle*

information (*indénombrable*): *une information, des informations*; a piece of information, an item of information: *une information*

headline: *titre (lit.), la une (fig.)*; make the headlines: *faire les gros titres*; the front page: *la une*; front-page news: *une information qui fait la une*

sensationalist: *à sensation*; yellow journalism: *le journalisme jaune*; the gutter press: *la presse à scandales*; gossip: *ragots*

an article: *un article*; a story: *un reportage*; a column: *une chronique* (a columnist: *un chroniqueur / une chroniqueuse*); an opinion piece: *un texte d'opinion*; an op-ed (=opposite the editorial page): *une tribune (texte d'opinion d'un auteur extérieur à la rédaction)*

advertising (*indénombrable*): *la publicité*; an advertisement: *une publicité*; advertise: *faire de la publicité pour*

the fourth estate: *le quatrième pouvoir*

bias: *biais, parti pris*; biased: *biaisé, partial*; unbiased: *impartial*; independent: *indépendant*; misinformation: *désinformation*; libel: *diffamation*

a press conference: *une conférence de presse*; a press briefing: *un point de presse*

freedom of speech: *la liberté d'expression*

censor: *censurer*; censorship: *la censure*

Method and language: phrases to introduce documents

This column was published in *The Guardian* / on the Monitor's website on the second of June, 2022.

Attention à ne pas confondre date de publication et date d'écriture : ~~The article was written on the second of June, 2022.~~

Attention au sens précis des mots : ~~The article was published by the journalist. The article was written by [the journalist] in [the paper].~~

The recording is an extract from a news bulletin / talk show... broadcast by the BBC on... / from a podcast released / uploaded...

Efforcez-vous d'intégrer les informations paratextuelles (sur la nature, la source, la date, l'auteur, etc, d'un document) dans des phrases denses en information qui présentent aussi les enjeux des documents : In this article published by [source] on the [date], [journalist's name] reports on [topic]... / In this opinion piece on [specific topic] published..., [author's name] argues that...

British media

In Britain, the name Fleet Street is used to refer to papers and journalists.

The press is split between quality papers and tabloids.

Many of them have a political stance and endorse candidates or parties for elections (an endorsement).

In 2011, the **Rupert Murdoch-owned** tabloid *News of the World* ceased publication after it was discovered to have hacked many people's phones.

(Among many other outlets, media mogul Murdoch owns the

British papers *The Times* and *The Sun* and the American TV channel Fox News. He uses his media empire to promote right-wing politics.)

The publicly-funded **BBC** (British Broadcasting Corporation) comprises several radio stations and TV channels. Its mission is to provide non-partisan, non-profit quality information and entertainment. Conservatives have sometimes accused the BBC of promoting left-wing politics (for example under the premiership of Margaret Thatcher). The BBC's monopoly on television ended in the 1950s, when the first private TV channels were created.

American media

The **First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution**, which states that "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances" (my emphasis), is often considered to grant the media a vital role in American democracy.

The civic role of journalism was symbolised by **Carl Bernstein and Bob Woodward** revealed in the *Washington Post* that President Nixon had bugged Democratic Party offices (the **Watergate** scandal) in 1972, leading to Nixon's resignation in 1974.

Each year, journalists and news outlets are distinguished by **Pulitzer Prizes**.

William Randolph Hearst (1863-1951) is perhaps the best-

known media mogul, whose name became a byword for sensationalist, manipulative journalism. He was the inspiration for Orson Welles's movie *Citizen Kane*.

Given the size and the diversity of the country, there are very few national newspapers, although some local ones have a nationwide readership and are considered 'newspapers of record'.

In 2013, Jeff Bezos purchased the *Washington Post*, raising concerns about the independence of a major newspaper.

Because there are several time zones in the U.S., national radio and TV outlets are not channels but **networks**. There is a publicly-funded radio and television service: **NPR** (National Public Radio) and **PBS** (Public Broadcasting Service). Conservatives often accuse public service media of left-wing bias. In May 2025, President Donald Trump decided to withdraw federal funding from NPR and PBS.