

Nature?

Topic?

Main idea?

In an article published by *The Guardian* in May 2024, Annie Kelly surveys attacks on journalism in the world over the previous year, based on recent reports from Reporters Without Borders, a German-based charity and Unesco which show a sharp increase in violations of press freedom.

Main facts / ideas:

RSF accuses governments of not doing enough to protect journalism, or actively repressing them.

Natures of attacks:

- Physical violence (100 Palestinian reporters killed, 20 journalists attacked in Nigeria, Madagascar)
- Arrests, repression (closures of news outlets in Argentina, Burkina Faso; imprisonments in Vietnam, Myanmar)
- misinformation (AI, deepfakes): drowns / obliterates truthful reporting

Causes:

- Politics (elections)
- Wars
- Environment

At a time when populism is growing and spreading worldwide, access to independent and truthful information, a cornerstone of democracy, is the stake of intense fighting.

Such is the topic of this article published by *The Guardian* on the third of May 2024, where Annie Kelly surveys attacks on journalism in the world over the previous year.

According to recent surveys from Reporters Without Borders, a German-based charity and Unesco, violations of press freedom increased sharply between 2023 and 2024. Attacks on independent reporting take several forms. Journalists are subjected to physical violence in countries such as Nigeria or Gaza, where a hundred reporters were killed between 2023 and 2024. Elsewhere, their work is obstructed by repression: journalists are arrested and imprisoned, news outlets are closed, for instance in Argentina and Vietnam. Finally, RSF lists the increasing amount of AI-generated misinformation among the threats to journalism. The motives for these attacks range from domestic politics, particularly during electoral campaigns, through conflicts, to environmental issues.

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Such is the topic of this **opinion piece** published by *The Guardian* in May 2025, where Annie Kelly **surveys denounces** attacks on journalism in the world over the previous year **and defends press freedom**.

Kelly surveys attacks on journalists in the year before Unesco World Press Freedom Day 2025, including a record number of deaths, mainly in Palestine, legal repression in countries such as the United States or Afghanistan, and a boom in online misinformation. **She argues** that the most important way to defend free reporting from attacks is to enable it to reach the public, and therefore **urges** readers to support independent news outlets. Additionally, she **stresses the importance of** respecting the legal rights of journalists.