

Annenberg Oxford Media Policy Summer Institute 2011

Speaker Biographies

Ahmad Al Rikaby

CEO, Jeel Media



The Guardian, described Ahmad Al-Rikaby as the voice of the free Iraq. He grew up in a political family, which opposed the Baath regime in Iraq since 1969. He is also a media professional with experience in TV, radio and prints. However his radio experience could be described as almost unique. Amid war destruction, severe weather conditions and very limited capabilities, Al-Rikaby managed to produce and present a daily one man radio show from a tent not far from Baghdad International Airport. That tent was the first physical presence in Baghdad of what became later the biggest media body in Iraq, known as the Iraqi Media Network. From that tent Al-Rikaby declared the end of Saddam's regime. His first words were: "Welcome to the new Iraq. Welcome to an Iraq without Saddam, without Uday or Qusay..."

Al-Rikaby was appointed by the US administration to become the first director of Iraqi radio and television in the post Saddam era.

He is also the founder of Radio Dija, the first commercial radio station in Iraq and the first talk radio station in the Arab world. The station became a model for many private stations created in Iraq after 2004.

In 2007, Radio Dija was the target of the biggest Al Qaeda terror attack against a media body in Iraq. For 5 years before the fall of Saddam, Al-Rikaby worked as the London bureau chief of (Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty). Some of his reports from that period received global attention and were used as reference in UN Security Council discussions about Iraq.

He speaks Arabic, English, Swedish and French.



Anup Surendranath

India Co-Coordinator, Programme in Comparative Media Law and Policy

Mr Anup Surendranath is currently a Felix and Gregory Kulkes scholar reading for the D.Phil in Law. He has an under-graduate degree in law from the National Academy of Legal Studies and Research (NALSAR), University of Law, Hyderabad, India and first came to Oxford in 2007 to read for the BCL. His doctoral research is focused on affirmative action policies for Scheduled Castes and Muslims in India, including the role of the media.

Babak Tehrani

Freelance Consultant, Media Law Expert

Babak Tehrani is an Iranian born, European educated lawyer.

He has started to practice as a Corporate Lawyer, before turning to the development world. During the last 6 years, Babak has cooperated in Central Asia with various UN and European Development Agencies as a media development advocate. In this role he has managed diverse Media Law and Media Strengthening projects. Babak is now freelancing as a consultant and Media Law expert.

Bjorn Edlund

Principal, Edlund Consulting Ltd



Björn Edlund, principal of Edlund Consulting Ltd, is the former Executive Vice President and Head of Group Communications at Royal Dutch Shell plc. At Shell, he led the development of an integrated communications program and realigned the global function for proactive business support through more focused messaging and enhanced stakeholder interaction.

Edlund has supported 11 CEOs in the three multinationals where he has served as Head of Communications, Sandoz AG 1992-1996 (through the merger with Ciba-Geigy to Novartis), ABB Ltd. 1998-2005, and Shell 2005-2010. With these issues-rich companies, he provided counsel and hands-on communications management for almost any challenge that can face a corporation, always focusing on helping the leadership team driving -or restoring - successful enterprise performance.

Edlund began his international career in news agency journalism in 1977, and has worked in business communications since 1989. After four years as head of corporate communications at Sandoz, he set up his own communications consultancy in 1996, with clients including Novartis, Schering pharmaceuticals as well as the ABB Group. Prior to joining Shell in 2005, Edlund spent seven years as head of communications at ABB. During the company's turnaround years, he also drove the integration of corporate responsibility and other sustainability aspects into business planning and practices.

Dr. Christian Sandvig

Associate Professor, University of Illinois



Dr. Christian Sandvig is an Associate Professor of Communication, Media & Cinema Studies, Library & Information Science, as well as Research Associate Professor at the Coordinated Science Laboratory of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. He is a researcher specializing in communication technology and public policy.

Sandvig is also a Faculty Associate at the Berkman Center for Internet & Society at Harvard University. In 2002 Sandvig was named a "next-generation leader in science and technology policy" in a junior faculty competition organized by the American Association for the Advancement of Science. In 2006 he received the Faculty Early Career Development Award from the US National Science Foundation (NSF CAREER) in the area of Human-Centered Computing.

Sandvig was previously Markle Foundation Information Policy Fellow (2001-2002) at the Programme in Comparative Media Law and Policy, Oxford University. He has been a visiting research fellow at the Oxford Internet Institute, associate fellow in Socio-Legal Studies (a research centre of the Oxford Law Faculty), visiting scholar in Communication at McGill University, visiting associate professor at Intel Research, and visiting scholar at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

Sandvig's scholarly writing has received best paper awards at meetings of the Association of Computing Machinery (ACM) Special Interest Group on Computer-Human Interaction (SIGCHI), the International Communication Association (ICA), the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication (AEJMC), and the Telecommunication Policy Research Conference (TPRC).

The US National Science Foundation, the Social Science Research Council of New York, the MacArthur Foundation, the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC) of the United Kingdom, the Internet Society, and other sources have funded Sandvig's research.

Sandvig is also a computer programmer with industry experience consulting for a Fortune 500 company, a regional government, and a San Francisco Bay Area software start-up (now bankrupt, with the rest of them). He is a member of the Computer Professionals for Social Responsibility.

Quotations, interviews, and articles about Sandvig's research have appeared in stories in/on *The Economist*, *The New York Times*, *The Associated Press*, *National Public Radio*, and other media outlets. Sandvig's own writing appears in *The Huffington Post*. Sandvig received his Ph.D. in Communication from Stanford University in 2002.



Dr. Christian Vaccari

Assistant Professor, University of Bologna

Dr. Cristian Vaccari (Ph.D, Università IULM, Milan, 2006) is Assistant Professor in Political Communication at the Faculty of Political Science 'Roberto Ruffilli', University of Bologna.

He studies political communication in comparative perspective, with a particular focus on the new media. He has authored and co-authored three books in Italian and his scholarship has been published in *Political Communication*, *Party Politics*, *New Media & Society*, *Journal of Information Technology & Politics*, *European Journal of Communication*, and *French Politics*, as well as in various international edited volumes.

Conrad Bird

Head of Strategic Campaigns, Foreign and Commonwealth Office



Mr. Conrad Bird is Head of Public Diplomacy and Strategic Campaigns at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office where he is responsible for a wide range of policies and campaigns, including soft power, the 2012 Olympics and Paralympics and campaigns in the Middle East, Afghanistan and Pakistan.

Previously he was Deputy Director, Government Communication at the Cabinet Office where he worked with the first Permanent Secretary of Government Communication on a range of cross-government communication issues and launched 'Engage' a new approach to strategic communication.

Before that, Conrad spent 18 years in the private sector working with a number of advertising agencies on national and international business. During this time, he also set an award-winning communication consultancy which he successfully ran for 8 years.

Dr. David Levy

Director, Reuters Institute for the Study of Journalism



Dr David Levy has been Director of the Reuters Institute for the Study of Journalism (RISJ) within Oxford's Department of Politics and International Relations since 2008. The RISJ runs an international programme for mid career journalists, contributes to the debate on the future of journalism through publications and events, and undertakes research on journalism worldwide.

He previously worked at the BBC, as a radio and TV reporter on *File on 4* and *Newsnight* and as Editor of *Analysis* on Radio 4, and then as Controller of Public Policy, where he ran UK/EU policy and led the BBC's relations with government and regulators, including policy for the last Charter and licence fee negotiation. He was a member of the 2008 French cross-party Commission established by President Sarkozy to consider the future of France Télévisions and is a member of Board of, *France 24* and a member of the Content Board of Ofcom, the UK Communications Regulator. Publications include *The Changing Business of Journalism and its impact on Democracy* (2010, RISJ edited with Rasmus Nielsen), *The Price of Plurality: Choice Diversity and Broadcasting Institutions in the Digital Age* (2008, edited with Tim Gardam); and *Europe's Digital Revolution: Broadcasting Policy, the EU and the Nation State* (Routledge, 2nd edition, 2001)

Ellen Goodman

Professor of Law, Rutgers University



Professor Goodman specializes in information policy law. Her research interests include media policy, spectrum policy, the use of information as a policy tool, advertising law, and the informational aspects of sustainability policy. She is an animal law expert and pioneered the teaching of animal law at the law school. Professor Goodman is currently serving as Distinguished Visiting Scholar at the FCC's Future of Media Project and as a Ford Foundation grantee, working on a project developing new policy principles for public media in a networked age. She has served as an expert before the National Academies of Science and Technology, the Brookings Institution, and the Aspen Institute. In addition to serving as Co-Director of the Rutgers Institute for Information Law and Policy, she is also a Research Fellow at American University's Center for Social Media. Prior to joining the Rutgers faculty in 2003, Professor Goodman was a partner in the Washington, D.C. law firm of Covington & Burling LLP and served as Of Counsel with the firm until 2009. Professor Goodman has visited at the University of Pennsylvania's Annenberg School of Communications, Wharton School of Business, and Law School, and has been involved with Penn's Initiative for Global Environmental Leadership on green marketing issues. From 2005 to 2006, she was a Fellow at the Rutgers University Center for Cultural Analysis. Professor Goodman clerked for Judge Norma L. Shapiro on the U.S. Federal District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania, after graduating from Harvard Law School and Harvard College. She lives outside of Philadelphia with her husband and three children.

Gordon Adam

Director and Co-Founder, iMedia



Gordon Adam is Director and co-founder of two UK based companies, Media Support Solutions (www.mediasupport.org) and iMedia Associates, formed in 2010 to advocate greater media convergence in conflict and post conflict states. He has written and lectured widely on development communications, particularly on peace-building media. He has consulted for many bi-lateral and UN organisations ranging from evaluations (Cambodia, Nepal, DRC) and media trainings (Eritrea, Uganda, Botswana, Madagascar, Sri Lanka, Cambodia) to developing communications strategies (Nigeria, DR Congo, Mozambique, Sudan, Pakistan, Afghanistan, Cambodia, China and Guyana). Gordon has set up long-term media development projects in Cambodia, Botswana, Mozambique and Afghanistan. He has helped establish local media for development organisations in Botswana, Afghanistan, Guyana and currently Zambia.

Gordon's background is journalism, working in the BBC for almost 20 years, the last eight as head of the BBC Pashto Service. Here he devised a three times weekly educational radio soap opera for Afghanistan which marked its 15th anniversary on air in April 2009. His teaching has included a module on media and conflict for at Comdev courses since 2002, and his publications include a case study on radio and Afghanistan for *Media and Global Change* (Nordicom, Goteborg University 2005)



Greg Wilesmith

Senior Producer, *Foreign Correspondent*, Australian Broadcasting Corporation

Greg Wilesmith is a senior producer with Australia's leading international current affairs television program *Foreign Correspondent*, produced by the Australian Broadcasting Corporation, the country's most respected broadcaster and web producer. Wilesmith was executive producer of *Foreign Correspondent* between 2003-2008 and was previously a reporter, foreign correspondent and news manager at the ABC.

Foreign Correspondent is seen weekly throughout Australia on the television channels ABC 1 and ABC News 24. Also throughout Asia and the Pacific on the ABC's satellite serviced, Australia Network. Additionally the program is seen on international networks as diverse as NHK International, CNN and Al Jazeera (Arabic). As one of the ABC's Europe Correspondents Wilesmith reported the guerrilla war in Kosovo in 1998 and reported from the Yugoslav capital, Belgrade, during the entirety of the NATO bombardment of Serbia in 1999. As one of the ABC's Middle East Correspondents between 1987 and 1991, reporting the Gulf War from Iraq and Saudi Arabia, entering Kuwait as it was liberated by Coalition forces. He began his international reporting career in the late 1970s in East Africa freelancing for the ABC, BBC Africa Service and British newspapers.

Wilesmith has held executive positions in the News and Current Affairs division of the ABC; Head of Policy and Program Development 2001-2002 and Head of National Programs in 2005. Concurrently he was executive producer of Elections and Special Coverage. He has won Australia's highest journalistic honour, the Walkley Award and has won prizes awarded by the New York Television Festival and the United Nations Correspondents Association. He lives in Sydney with his family.

Jamila Tangaza

Head, Hausa Service, BBC World Service



Jamilah Tangaza is the Head of BBC's Hausa Service – one of the language services of the British Broadcasting Corporation, BBC World Service. As Head of BBC Hausa, Jamilah Tangaza oversees the production and transmission of the Service's daily output on radio, online and mobile phone. She runs two production teams – in London and in Nigeria; and manages BBC Hausa Staff which include Producers, Broadcast Journalists and In-the-field Reporters in Nigeria, Niger, Ghana and Cameroun.

Prior to becoming the Head of BBC Hausa, Jamilah worked as Acting Head of BBC Hausa between 2005 and 2006. She joined the BBC in 1992 as a Producer - planning, producing, and presenting news and current affairs programmes for the BBC Hausa Service. In 1994 she became a Senior Producer, overseeing production and supervising BBC Hausa staff and reporters in the West Africa region. From 2004 to 2005, Jamilah worked as the BBC's Abuja Editor, responsible for planning and organising the BBC's output from Nigeria. Jamilah holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from the Bayero University Kano, Nigeria, and a Master of Science degree from the London School of Economics and Political Science.

Joan Barata Mir

Vice Dean for International Relations, Universitat Ramon Llull, Barcelona



Joan Barata Mir is the Vice Dean for International Relations at the Blanquerna Communications School (Universitat Ramon Llull, Barcelona) and Associate Professor at the Law Department of the Open University of Catalonia.

He has also been Head of President's Cabinet and Secretary General of the Catalonia Audiovisual Council. He gained his PhD from the University of Barcelona, writing a thesis on Television and Public Service Theory.

His recent writings include work on democracy and the media and the objectivity of the BBC in the David Kelly case. His research interests are public services, regulation, media law, telecommunications law, privacy law, law and the internet and e-government.



Kevin Anderson

Journalist, The Guardian

Mr. Kevin Anderson is a freelance journalist and digital strategist with more than a decade of experience with the BBC and the Guardian.

He has been a digital journalist since 1996 with experience in radio, television, print and the web. As a journalist, he uses blogs, social networks, Web 2.0 tools and mobile technology to break news, to engage with audiences and tell the story behind the headlines in multiple media and on multiple platforms.

As a digital strategist, he speaks at conferences and events around the world, works with organizations to improve their digital strategy and works with journalists to develop their social media and multimedia skills.

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Krisztina Rozgonyi

Lawyer/Partner, PRK Partners Budapest



Dr. Krisztina Rozgonyi, one of Hungary's foremost telecom and media regulatory expert, obtained her diploma at the Lóránd Eötvös University, Faculty of Law in 1996, where she has already become familiar with media and copyright law. She deepened her skills at the Lóránd Eötvös University, Faculty of Liberal Arts, Department of Communication and the Doctorate Program of the Faculty Law (both finished with excellent results in 2001), and obtained a general management degree at Central European University in 2008. Her special areas are media and telecommunications regulation, digital switchover legal strategies, media law focusing on digital age issues and copyright law focusing on digital archives.

Regarding her practice as a lawyer, she actively worked on the drafting of the recently adopted Hungarian Telecommunication Act, the Digital Switch-over Act and amendments to the Media Act. As a copyright lawyer, she was also involved in several major digitalization projects, such as the National Audiovisual Archive of Hungary. For 8 years she has also represented one of the copyright collecting societies in Hungary.

As member and the former head of the Hungarian Communication Authority ("HCA"), she was recently involved in strategic radio spectrum allocation issues. Krisztina resigned her position as Chairperson of the HCA to join PRK Partners Budapest and became the head of the TMT department.

Mahmood Enayat

Director, Iran Media Program, Annenberg School of Communication



Mahmood Enayat is the director of the Iran Media Program at the Annenberg School of Communication at the University of Pennsylvania. He is also currently a doctoral student at the Oxford Internet Institute. Mahmood holds a Masters degree in Analysis, Design and Implementation of Information Systems from the London School of Economics (2006) as well as a BSc in Computer Science with Management from King's College London (2005).

Mahmood's academic work centres on the legal, political, social and psychological implications of Internet filtering. His research focuses on contextual study of Internet filtering in Iran and exploring new methodologies to assess the effects of Internet filtering.

Previously Mahmood was working with the BBC World Service/Persian Service. A continuing research project in which Mahmood is closely involved is the BBC World Service Trust's Research and Learning Group (R&L) research into the use of role of the Internet in media development.



Matt Tirman

VP Corporate Development, Strategic Social

Matt Tirman is Strategic Social's Vice President of Corporate Development. He is responsible for new business development, worldwide service delivery, and expanding the company's relationships with commercial, government, and NGO partner organizations.

Before joining Strategic Social, Matt was an Executive with Accenture, and during his tenure there, he directed a number of projects aimed at helping customers in the public and commercial sectors develop innovative communication strategies.

Matt holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Political Science from East Carolina University and an M.A. in International Relations from Lancaster University in the United Kingdom.

Mary Myers

Development Communications Consultant



Mary Myers is a freelance consultant specialising in radio in Africa. She is British and works from home near Salisbury, Wiltshire, UK. She holds a BA from Oxford University and a PhD from Reading University.

She has worked with the UK's Department for International Development (DFID) on many projects, papers and publications since going freelance in 1996. From 2002 to 2003 she was an adviser on communications and media within DFID's Social Development Division. With a background in NGO programme management, she has travelled and worked in more than 25 countries in Africa. Her most recent missions have been to D R Congo, Angola, Sierra Leone and Tanzania.

Apart from working with DFID, recent clients have included the World Bank, Center for International Media Assistance, International Development Research Centre, Carleton University, France Expertise Internationale, Internews, Triple Line Consulting Ltd, BBC World Service Trust and Farm Radio International. She has contributed to various academic conferences and written many research studies, policy-papers and reports on radio, media and development.



Michael Dwyer

VP, Internews Afghanistan

Michael Dwyer joined Internews in 2008, following four years of university journalism training and humanitarian media projects in Afghanistan, and a media career spanning community broadcasting, radio and online work at the Australian Broadcasting Corporation and a stretch of freelancing in Southeast Asia. Dwyer is currently Vice President of Internews' Afghanistan Programs.

Previously, as South Asia Regional Manager, Dwyer oversaw Internews media development programs in Afghanistan, Pakistan, Sri Lanka and India, and developed new programs for the region. Dwyer hails from Australia, where he started at Radio Adelaide (then 5UV), the educational community radio station at the University of Adelaide. Upon moving to Sydney, he worked at 2SER, in various volunteer and staff roles including producing/presenting the national weekly community radio media program. Dwyer was active in national community radio sector management and was part of an award-winning Open Mind documentary production team.

Michael Starks

Associate, Programme in Comparative Media Law & Policy

Michael Starks is an Associate of Oxford University's Programme in Comparative Media Law and Policy. He is a leading expert in digital television and, in particular, in the field of public policy associated with the switch of entire nations to digital TV. He is the author of *Switching to Digital Television*, published in 2007 by Intellect Books and the University of Chicago Press.



He is the founder editor of the *International Journal of Digital Television*.

From 2002 to 2004, Michael Starks managed the UK Digital TV Project, working for the UK Government in close collaboration with all the stakeholders, to plan the strategy for the UK's full transition to digital. Prior to that, he led the BBC's Free-to-View Digital TV Project, which culminated in the launch of *Freeview* and the rescue of the digital terrestrial television platform in the UK. He also led the BBC's initial feasibility study of digital television and was the founder Chairman of the UK Digital TV Group.

Michael is now working in Oxford -- writing, lecturing and consulting on digital television. He is a member of the Senior Common Room at Lady Margaret Hall. In 2007 he was a Research Visitor at the University of Melbourne in Australia and in 2008 a Visiting Fellow at the China Media Centre at the University of Westminster. Between 2005 and 2007 he advised the New Zealand Government and, in 2008, the Broadcasting Commission and Government of Jamaica on digital switchover policy.

A graduate of Cambridge University, where he studied History, he is also an alumnus of the University of Pennsylvania, where he did post-graduate work in Political Science.

Dr. Monica Ariño

Director of International Affairs, Ofcom



Dr. Monica Ariño has been with Ofcom since January 2006 and in February 2011 was appointed Director of International Affairs. Monica is responsible for overseeing Ofcom's international activities in the areas of telecommunications, content, consumer and spectrum. Ofcom represents the UK on radio spectrum issues in key international groups and participates in international fora on both telecoms and broadcasting matters. Monica and her team lead Ofcom's regular engagement with the European institutions, regulators in Europe and across the globe, stakeholders, multilateral organisations and the academic community, with the aim to contribute to the development of international policy frameworks within which UK stakeholders operate, learn from developments elsewhere and share best practice in regulatory policy. Monica has also been Vice-Chair of the Board of the European Platform of Regulatory Authorities (EPRA) since May 2009. EPRA is a network of 52 regulators from over 40 countries which aims to exchange views and experiences in areas related to EU media policy.

Monica graduated in law at the Autónoma University (Madrid) and in 2005 obtained a PhD in law from the European University Institute (Florence). She has published widely and has been a visiting scholar at the Universities of Columbia and Oxford. Prior to joining Ofcom, Monica was a lecturer at Central European University (Budapest).



Monroe Price

Director, Center for Global Communication Studies

Monroe Price serves as Director of the Center for Global Communication Studies at the Annenberg School for Communication, University of Pennsylvania and Director of the Stanhope Centre for Communications Policy Research in London. Professor Price is the Joseph and Sadie Danciger Professor of Law and Director of the Howard M. Squadron Program in Law, Media and Society at the Cardozo School of Law, where he served as Dean from 1982 to 1991. He graduated magna cum laude from Yale, where he was executive editor of the *Yale Law Journal*. He clerked for Associate Justice Potter Stewart of the U.S. Supreme Court and was an assistant to Secretary of Labor W. Willard Wirtz.

Price was founding director of the Program in Comparative Media Law and Policy at Wolfson College, Oxford, and a Member of the School of Social Sciences at the Institute for Advanced Study in Princeton. He was deputy director of California Indian Legal Services, one of the founders of the Native American Rights Fund, and author of *Law and the American Indian*. Among his many books are *Media and Sovereignty*; *Television, The Public Sphere and National Identity*; and a treatise on cable television.

Oli Bird

Policy Manager, Radio Policy and Broadcast Licensing at Ofcom

Since participating in the 2005 Annenberg-Oxford summer institute, Oli has worked for Ofcom in a variety of roles: first as an advisor to the Chief Executive; then on a secondment to the Department for Culture, Media and Sport for the Convergence Think Tank and Digital Britain projects; and latterly leading the team responsible for broadcast radio policy. Previously he worked in television and digital media production, and completed masters degrees in Global Communication at the LSE and USC Annenberg.



Roberto Suarez

Marie Curie Research Fellow, Hans-Bredow Institute

Roberto Suárez Candel (Ph.D. 2009 Pompeu Fabra University – Barcelona, Spain) works as a Marie Curie post-doctoral researcher at the Hans-Bredow-Institut für Medienforschung an der Universität Hamburg (Germany).

Since February 2010, he has been in charge of an EU funded project that analyses the redefinition and reposition of public service broadcasting in the multiplatform media scenario. In addition to public service media, his main research interests are media policy and regulation, media structure and media technological innovation, particularly hybrid television. In his PhD dissertation, which has been awarded with two research prizes (2010 – Catalan Audiovisual Council; 2006 – Fundación Autor SGAE), he compared the public policies for the implementation of digital terrestrial television carried out in Sweden and Spain.

From 2002 until the end of 2009, he worked as a researcher and associated lecturer at the Department of Communication of the Pompeu Fabra University.



Sahal Abdulle

African Union/United Nations Information Support Team

Each year PEN (Poets, Essayists, Novelists)-USA presents Freedom to Write Awards to people who have “produced work in the face of extreme adversity, been punished for exercising their freedom of expression, or fought against censorship and defended the right to publish freely.” Photographer Sahal Abdulle was a recipient of the 2007 PEN-USA Freedom to Write Award. His reports and photographs have appeared in the *Boston Globe*, *Chicago Tribune*, *Globe and Mail*, *London Guardian*, *New York Times*, *Times of London*, *Toronto Star*, *Washington Post*, *USA Today*, and other international magazines and newspapers.

Abdulle is a veteran Somali photojournalist and reporter with over twenty years of experience in the visual communication field. He has been photographing and reporting the Somali civil war since 1993. During 2006, from Mogadishu, he covered for Reuters the rise and fall of the Islamist movement and the aftermath war in the Somali capital. Abdulle worked as a Reuters correspondent until August 11, 2007, when a remote-controlled land mine blew his car apart and killed his dear friend, Canadian-Somali Ali Iman Sharmarke, co-founder of HornAfrik, a local media house in Mogadishu. Abdulle firmly believes that journalist can influence people and can bring positive change. Abdulle currently lives and works in Nairobi, Kenya.



Sharan Tabari

Radio Free Europe/ Radio Liberty

Sharan Tabari was born and raised in Iran. She studied Political Science and received her MA in Political Behaviour at the University of Essex. In 1976 Sharan joined the BBC and worked there until March 1979 when she returned to Iran. In October 1979 she was employed at the Faculty of Politics and subsequently the department of Politics and Law of Tehran University, where she worked as a lecturer until 1986. She returned to Britain in 1986, and re-joined the BBC as freelancer until 1994, along with working in the public sector.

Since 1998, Sharan has been the Chief Correspondent in London for Radio Free Europe / Radio Liberty. She has been an elected member of the Westminster City Council since 2001, serving the city as Councillor for two consecutive terms.



Simon Haselock

Co-Founder/Director, Albany Associates

Simon Haselock has been a pioneer in media intervention in post-conflict countries and is co-founder and Director of Albany Associates.

From 1997 to 2000 he was the Deputy High Representative for Media Affairs in the Office of The High Representative (OHR) in Bosnia and Herzegovina responsible for the public presentation of policy and media development. As Temporary Media Commissioner in Kosovo he regulated the print and broadcast media and began building the legal structure and ethical environment necessary to enable independent media in Kosovo to flourish. He then served as the Director of Public Information for the United Nations Mission in Kosovo (UNMIK). In 2003 he was appointed Head of the Media Development Advisory Team (MDAT) in Iraq. In this capacity he was responsible for establishing an Iraqi National Communications and Media Commission and was instrumental in the creation of a new Iraqi Public Broadcasting Service. Since leaving Iraq in 2006 he has directed Strategic Communications projects in Darfur, advising and supporting the African Union and the UN Missions there; in Afghanistan advising UNAMA and the Afghan Government on communicating Social and economic development; in Lebanon, assisting the Lebanese Government in de-radicalising the Palestinian refugee population and in Somalia where he is currently running a project in support the African Union Mission and the Transitional Federal Government in Mogadishu. Simon Haselock served for 23 years with Royal Marines and was responsible for assisting in the development of media policy in the UK Ministry of Defence. His last appointment in the service was as the NATO Implementation Force Spokesperson in Sarajevo.



Stefaan Verhulst

Chief of Research, Markle Foundation

Stefaan G. Verhulst is the Chief of Research at the Markle Foundation and Senior Research Fellow at the Center for Global Communication Studies, Annenberg School for Communication, University of Pennsylvania. He is also an Adjunct Professor in the Department of Culture and Communications at New York University, and Senior Research Fellow for the Center for Media and Communications Studies, Central European University in Budapest.

Previously, he was the Co-Founder and Co-Director, with Professor Monroe Price, of the Programme in Comparative Media Law and Policy (PCMLP) at Oxford University, as well as Senior Research Fellow at the Centre for Socio Legal Studies. In that capacity, he was appointed the Socio-Legal Research Fellow at Wolfson College at Oxford.

Verhulst was the UNESCO Chairholder in Communications Law and Policy for the UK, a former lecturer on Communications Law and Policy issues in Belgium, and Founder and Co-Director of the International Media and Info-Comms Policy and Law Studies (IMPS) at the School of Law, University of Glasgow. Verhulst has served as consultant to various international and national organizations, including the Council of Europe, European Commission, UNESCO, World Bank, UNDP, USAID, and DFID. Verhulst is the author and co-author of several books and numerous articles and chapters. He is the Founder and Editor of the *International Journal of Communications Law and Policy*, and the *Communications Law in Transition Newsletter*.

Susan Abbott

Deputy Director for Program Development, Internews Network

Susan Abbott is the Deputy Director of Program Development at Internews Network.

Abbott is responsible for working with Internews programs worldwide on monitoring and evaluation, and research and learning. She is a frequent speaker, organizer of events, and author of publications related to monitoring and evaluation of media development programs. She recently directed a summer school at Central European University in Budapest, Hungary on Media Development and Democratization: Understanding and Implementing Monitoring and Evaluation Programs.

Abbott plays a key role in coordinating Internews collaboration, fundraising, and involvement in conferences, workshops, publications, research projects and other activities, and she works on a variety of projects related to increasing research and advocacy of media development, with partners such as the USAID, the World Bank Institute, the United States Institute of Peace, and the Center for International Media Assistance.

Abbott was previously the Associate Director at the Center for Global Communication Studies, Annenberg School for Communication, University of Pennsylvania. She also worked as a Program Officer in the Media Development Division at the International Research & Exchanges Board, in Washington, DC on the Serbia ProMedia program. Earlier her career she worked as an editor for Central Europe Review, an online journal; and as a communications officer at The Media Institute in Washington, DC. She received her BA from The American University in Washington, DC, and a MA from Central European University in Budapest.

