

To the Israeli Ambassador to Norway, Mr. Avi Nir-Feldklein

The Association of Norwegian Editors, The Norwegian Union of Journalists and The Norwegian Press Association represents around 800 editors, 9000 journalists and the interests of the Norwegian Press. We stand together in this appeal:

Journalists need immediate protection in Gaza

Since the beginning of the war in Gaza in October, at least 77 journalists and media workers have been killed, according to [Committee to Protect Journalists](#). Many media workers have been injured, and at least 20 have been arrested. Censorship, digital attacks, threats and attacks on the families of journalists adds to our deep concern. The security situation for journalists in Gaza is bad beyond comparison, partly due to extreme conditions for civilians in Gaza in general.

We call for immediate action to protect journalists and the press in Gaza, as the state of Israel has an obligation to do, in accordance with the Geneva Convention. The work of journalists is crucial in war and conflict, securing free and independent reporting both within and outside the borders. Israel has a strong duty to make it possible for journalists to stay in the area, document and inform without risking life and health.

We are also deeply concerned with the difficulties foreign journalists face to get access to Gaza, and the restrictions on the few that are allowed in. Israel must secure better access for international media, in accordance with fundamental freedom of speech and -information.

The consequences for local journalists and the restrictions on international reporters are unacceptable, and a daily attack on fundamental human rights and rules of war.

We would be glad to meet and discuss the situation for journalists in Gaza further.

Oslo, 4 January 2024

Reidun Kjelling Nybø, Secretary General, Association of Norwegian Editors

Dag Idar Tryggestad, Leader, Norwegian Union of Journalists

Elin Floberghagen, Secretary General, Norwegian Press Association