



Annual Report 2020/2021





RISJ at a Glance 2020/2021

JOURNALIST PROGRAMMES

20 Journalist Fellows 11 Summer School Participants 71 Deep Dives Participants

LEADERSHIP PROGRAMMES

65 Forum Participants (Invitation-only) 42 Open Admission Participants 29 Bespoke Programme Participants

RESEARCH PROGRAMMES

13 RISJ Publications 9 Outside Publications

EVENTS

44

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PREVIOUS PAGE: An Ethiopian woman who fled the ongoing fighting in Tigray region, carries her child near the Setit river on the Sudan-Ethiopia border in Hamdayet village in eastern Kassala state, Sudan November 22, 2020. REUTERS/Mohamad Torokman

ABOVE: An Israeli soldier walks in a field of buttercup flowers near Kibbutz Nir Yitzhak in southern Israel, just outside the Gaza Strip April 12, 2021. REUTERS/Amir Cohen

FONT COVER: A supporter holds the final edition of Apple Daily in Hong Kong, China June 24, 2021. REUTERS/Lam Yik

Preface

ALAN RUSBRIDGER CHAIR · RISJ STEERING COMMITTEE



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It would be easy to write off 2021 as an *annus horribilis* for journalism. The economic outlook for our trade was, in general, still bleak. Repressive states were taking ever greater steps to inhibit the freedoms the press used to enjoy. Journalists around the world worked in fear of imprisonment or worse. COVID made the daily workings of journalism ever harder.

But – as the 2021 Reuters Institute *Digital News Report* found – there were glimmers of hope. Trust in news has remained generally stable. Audiences seem to be placing a greater premium on accurate and reliable news sources. The gap between the best and the rest is widening. Television news continues to perform strongly in some countries.

Meanwhile, the work of the Reuters Institute has gone from strength to strength. Despite the challenges of lockdowns, we've hosted 20 Journalist Fellows here in Oxford. COVID

restrictions meant that this was not the best time to be in Oxford, but Meera Selva and her team were extremely creative in making the programme feel as 'normal' as possible.

This year we hosted 136 newsroom leaders at RISJ. Our new online leadership programmes have allowed us to expand the pool of newsroom leaders we can reach, serve, and learn from across all continents, from Australia to Africa. Furthermore, to deliver on our ambition to be more global, diverse, and inclusive, we have introduced a bespoke remote leadership programme for newsrooms in the Global South.

We've published the first instalments from our Trust in News Project, analysing one of the most pressing issues in journalism. We've published the first instalment of *Changing Newsrooms*, an annual report that'll track how the way journalists work is changing around the world through a survey of news executives. We've created a new website for the *Digital News Report*, which I hope users find to be cleaner, faster, and more mobile-friendly.

As the pandemic raged on, we've increased our digital footprint on different channels. We created a weekly newsletter in Spanish and a daily Telegram channel. Our contributors published deeply reported pieces on countries such as Thailand, Ethiopia, Nigeria, Afghanistan, Colombia, Mexico, and Vietnam.

Journalists are resilient people, and the need for trusted, accurate journalism has never been more acutely felt. I'm proud to be part of an Institute which plays such a vital role in scrutinising, evaluating, and supporting this most necessary of roles in society.

ANTONIO ZAPPULLA CEO · THOMSON REUTERS FOUNDATION



In the time since the eruption of the COVID-19 pandemic, independent journalism and media freedom around the world have suffered profound and lasting damage.

This global crisis has undoubtedly highlighted how dependent the health and well-being of nations are on a functioning, free, and thriving media ecosystem: on a daily basis, we were reminded of the indispensable role that trustworthy news plays, as journalists worked tirelessly to provide life-saving information and hold power to account.

Yet the pandemic's sweeping devastation continues to exacerbate issues that already threatened the profession – from journalists facing a surge in censorship and harassment, to significant levels of public distrust in the media, to the relentless onslaught of mis- and disinformation. With many news organisations facing plummeting revenues, the economic sustainability of media ecosystems is also in jeopardy, and, as a result, editorial independence is increasingly at risk.

At a time when independent media are fighting the battle of their lives, the Thomson Reuters Foundation's focus on promoting and protecting media freedom has never been more relevant. We believe that societies around the world should be free, fair, and informed. This simply cannot be achieved without a free and robust press.

No single response or actor will alone be able to safeguard diverse and healthy media ecosystems. We are proud to be core funders of the Reuters Institute for the Study of Journalism at the University of Oxford, and to support its world-renowned research, programmes, and convenings, all of which are integral to ensuring an improved and more sustainable journalism for tomorrow. By working together, we are better equipped to help journalists and news organisations navigate the opportunities and challenges of a rapidly changing media environment and succeed in our aligned missions to strengthen the future of the profession.

As we chart the long roadmap to recovery, it's critical that we all play our part in securing free and vibrant media. Independent journalism is a public good and protecting it should, and must, be a shared goal.

Director's Report

RASMUS KLEIS NIELSEN



Journalists need to learn from one another – those who try to silence us do.

That's how Bermet Talant concluded an evening of presentations by our latest group of journalist fellows from all over the world. Her background – a Kyrgyz journalist working in Ukraine – reflects the global nature of our work at the Reuters Institute. Her work – for Ukraine's *Kyiv Post* newspaper, broadcasters including Radio Free Europe, as well as non-profits like the Organised Crime and Corruption Reporting Project – captures the breadth of experience they bring to us. Her interests – from covering domestic and international politics to examining how misinformation is created and spread on the messaging application Telegram – show the timeless commitment to holding power to account along with new challenges often associated with digital media that motivate the journalists we host.

The most important thing we do at the Reuters Institute is to create opportunities for journalists like Bermet to learn from one

another, to draw inspiration from editors, reporters, technologists, and media leaders from across the news industry, and provide them with research relevant to the challenges and opportunities they face.

We do this in more and more ways, to ensure we can help as many different journalists as possible. I am so grateful to the whole community at and around the Institute who have worked tirelessly to expand almost all of these activities in the past year, despite the ongoing pandemic.

We do it for the outstanding fellows we host in Oxford. We do it for those who join our short courses at the Institute. We do it via online digital deep dives on topics ranging from artificial intelligence to climate change to public health during the pandemic. We do it for the editors and media executives who join our various leadership programmes. And we do it by hosting open online seminars featuring journalists, editors, and academics with insights to share, through our extensive research programmes, and through our efforts to communicate all that work as far and wide as we can.

By doing that, we create the opportunities Bermet found here, and that hundreds of other journalists and editors find via the Institute every year. Opportunities to learn. Opportunities to draw strength from solidarity. Opportunities to grow professionally and personally and be better equipped to circumvent those who try to silence them. On that basis, I know that they will lead the way to better and more sustainable forms of journalism for tomorrow.

Journalist Fellowship Programme

MEERA SELVA DIRECTOR · JOURNALIST FELLOWSHIP PROGRAMME

CAITHLIN MERCER ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR · JOURNALIST FELLOWSHIP PROGRAMME



Running an international fellowship programme in the middle of a global pandemic requires flexibility, creativity, and patience. Our team and Fellows demonstrated all three characteristics in abundance.

With the support of our sponsors, including new funding from Sweden's *Dagens Nyheter* newspaper and Facebook, we brought together a group of 20 journalists. The year began with the programme's first all-female cohort, who donned masks and thick coats for seminars at the Institute with the windows and doors flung wide open to the British winter.

The second and third terms fell during the UK's second lockdown, meaning our Fellows conducted much of their fellowship via conference calls from their Oxford bedrooms. It didn't stop our journalists from forming lasting bonds, whether on scheduled one-to-one park walks or their Zoom-based Film Club.

There were silver linings to online adaptations: it meant our public seminars could reach a wider audience, and our Wednesday seminar series is forever changed as a result. Now

titled the Global Journalism Seminars, 32 seminars drew an audience of almost 3,000 with more than 21,000 playbacks on YouTube and Facebook. We also ran a COVID-secure summer school in September 2020 between two of the UK's various lockdowns, with participants from all over the world gathering in Oxford for a much-needed chance to exchange ideas with other journalists face(mask) to face(mask).

We tried out other new formats too: we hosted bi-weekly podcasts with the Fellows, and some of our journalists contributed articles to the website. We also created new short courses to help more journalists rise to the unique challenges of 2020/2021. The Digital Deep Dives gave journalists a one-day immersion in a key topic with top experts, including Vaccine Reporting, AI in Newsrooms, and Climate Change.

By the end of Trinity Term, we had emerged from lockdown and travelled with our resilient group to London to present a Summer Showcase of the work done over the year. Live-streamed to an audience of 5,000, it brilliantly captured the spirit of innovation that drives the Journalism Fellowship forward.

Digital Deep Dives

We designed and delivered a series of new short courses for journalists this year. Dubbed the ‘Digital Deep Dives’, these online programmes focus on some of the defining challenges of the 21st century and offer a unique combination of private presentations by leading University of Oxford experts and a chance to network and share experiences with journalist peers from across the world.

The aim of the Deep Dives is to connect journalists around the world with the high-quality information and resources of the University of Oxford through a one-day intensive programme on current affairs such as the vaccine rollout, climate change, and artificial intelligence. Each course also creates a small global support network of journalists who attend the programme, and we encourage future cross-border collaboration.

This programme has been monumentally helpful. The resources, links on where to get data, communities, and new information and perspectives will inform my reporting moving forward. I feel emboldened now more than ever to speak truth to polluting power, backed by facts and confidence.

S. I. Ohuma
Climate Change Reporting

I can keep the global perspective in mind in a better way than before and I will hopefully have gained a fantastic new network to give and take information through.

Annika Rentola
Vaccines and Public Health Reporting

VACCINES AND PUBLIC HEALTH REPORTING (I)

SPEAKERS: Peter Drobac, Director, Skoll Centre for Social Entrepreneurship, University of Oxford; Professor Trudie Lang, Professor of Global Health Research, University of Oxford; Professor Denise Lievesley CBE, former Principal of GTC; Rasmus Kleis Nielsen, Director, RISJ.

VACCINES AND PUBLIC HEALTH REPORTING (II)

SPEAKERS: Peter Drobac, Director, Skoll Centre for Social Entrepreneurship, University of Oxford; Professor Trudie Lang, Professor of Global Health Research, University of Oxford; Professor Denise Lievesley CBE, former Principal of GTC; Rasmus Kleis Nielsen, Director, RISJ.

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE REPORTING

SPEAKERS: Professor Gina Neff, Professor of Technology & Society, Oxford Internet Institute, University of Oxford; Rasmus Kleis Nielsen, Director, RISJ; Professor Michael Osborne, Dyson Professor in Machine Learning, University of Oxford.

CLIMATE CHANGE REPORTING

SPEAKERS: Wolfgang Blau, Visiting Fellow, RISJ; Professor Sir Dieter Helm, CBE, Professor of Economic Policy, University of Oxford; Dr Friederike Otto, Associate Director, Environmental Change Institute, University of Oxford.

MEDIA AND PRESS FREEDOM

SPEAKERS: Victoria Nash, Director and Senior Policy Fellow, Oxford Internet Institute, University of Oxford; Rasmus Kleis Nielsen, Director, RISJ; Alan Rusbridger, Chair, RISJ Steering Committee.

JOURNALIST FELLOWS 2020/2021



Ramisha Ali

COUNTRY OF ORIGIN: Pakistan
POSITION AND PLACE OF WORK: Journalist, Independent Urdu
SPONSOR: Thomson Reuters Foundation
RESEARCH PROJECT TITLE: Preparing to pivot Pakistan’s shrinking news media to digital



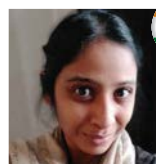
Sangmee An

COUNTRY OF ORIGIN: South Korea
POSITION AND PLACE OF WORK: Multimedia Producer, Korean Broadcasting System (KBS)
SPONSOR: Columbia Journalism School
RESEARCH PROJECT TITLE: Digital video content for Korea’s ageing population



Ayla B.

POSITION AND PLACE OF WORK: Freelance
SPONSOR: Thomson Reuters Foundation
RESEARCH PROJECT TITLE: How to support refugee journalists



Ipsita Chakravarty

COUNTRY OF ORIGIN: India
POSITION AND PLACE OF WORK: Associate Editor, Scroll.In
SPONSOR: Thomson Reuters Foundation
RESEARCH PROJECT TITLE: How the Kashmiri press was silenced after the region lost autonomy



Rachel Chitra

COUNTRY OF ORIGIN: India
POSITION AND PLACE OF WORK: Financial Journalist and Special Correspondent, Times of India
SPONSOR: Facebook Journalism Project
RESEARCH PROJECT TITLE: How to cover hate crimes and violence using data



Kathy English

COUNTRY OF ORIGIN: Canada
POSITION AND PLACE OF WORK: Public Editor and Associate Editor, Toronto Star
SPONSOR: Thomson Reuters Foundation
RESEARCH PROJECT TITLE: Redefining the role of a public editor



Peter Erdelyi

COUNTRY OF ORIGIN: Hungary
POSITION AND PLACE OF WORK: Senior Editor/Director, 444.hu
SPONSOR: Google News Initiative
RESEARCH PROJECT TITLE: Digital audience revenue strategies in CEE and the Global South

Fellows' Voices



“After this, things won't be the same again. The lecturers, the study groups, the seminars, and the mix of cultures made the experience so unique.
Mark Zablon Oloo, Kenya



“This fellowship gave me time and mental space to think about common challenges that journalism faces worldwide as well as to reflect on my own work.
Bermet Talant, Kyrgyzstan



“The discussions with my fellow colleagues, both formal and informal, made me think about transparency and accountability in a more complex and diverse level.
Luiz Fernando Toledo Antunes, Brazil

“I am amazed at how inclusive this fellowship is, because there are a lot of roles that are very important but are sometimes overlooked. This is very important because we need to talk about journalism in many aspects to understand and overcome the problems faced by the media industry.
Christine Franciska, Indonesia



“The Fellowship is a unique opportunity for journalists willing to have deeper discussions and understandings of the field.
Adele Santelli, Brazil

“The Fellowship was an extraordinary opportunity to explore challenging questions with a group of smart, committed global journalists.
Kathy English, Canada

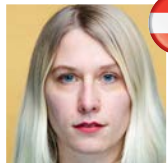


“The fellowship to me means friendship, deeper understanding of the challenges we face as journalists and a space for creation and collaboration.
Malva Izquierdo, Nicaragua



Christine Franciska

COUNTRY OF ORIGIN: Indonesia
POSITION AND PLACE OF WORK: Managing Editor, Glance, Indonesia
SPONSOR: Thomson Reuters Foundation
RESEARCH PROJECT TITLE: The new battleground for attention on mobile lockscreens



Elisabeth Gramperl

COUNTRY OF ORIGIN: Austria
POSITION AND PLACE OF WORK: Managing Editor, Digital Storytelling Unit, *Süddeutsche Zeitung*
SPONSOR: *Süddeutsche Zeitung*
RESEARCH PROJECT TITLE: Overcoming metrics anxiety: the new guidelines for measuring news



Malva Izquierdo

COUNTRY OF ORIGIN: Nicaragua
POSITION AND PLACE OF WORK: Multimedia Journalist, Managuafuriosa.com
SPONSOR: Thomson Reuters Foundation
RESEARCH PROJECT TITLE: A handbook for journalists covering emergencies



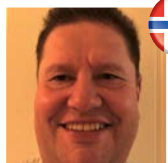
Evelyn Jones

COUNTRY OF ORIGIN: Sweden
POSITION AND PLACE OF WORK: Reporter, *Dagens Nyheter*
SPONSOR: *Dagens Nyheter*
RESEARCH PROJECT TITLE: Ethnic representation in newspaper articles about Sweden



Jenni Kangasneimi

COUNTRY OF ORIGIN: Finland
POSITION AND PLACE OF WORK: Managing Editor, *Sanoma Lifestyle*
SPONSOR: Helsingin Sanomat Foundation
RESEARCH PROJECT TITLE: Pushing the boundaries of immersive journalism



Tor Kjetil Kristoffersen

COUNTRY OF ORIGIN: Norway
POSITION AND PLACE OF WORK: News Editor, *Finnmark Dagblad*
SPONSOR: Fritt Ord Foundation
RESEARCH PROJECT TITLE: Representation of Sámi people in Norwegian media



Jakub Krupa

COUNTRY OF ORIGIN: Poland
POSITION AND PLACE OF WORK: Senior Correspondent, Mlex News Agency
SPONSOR: Thomson Reuters Foundation
RESEARCH PROJECT TITLE: A road plan for restoring trust in Poland's public media



Mark Zablon Oloo

COUNTRY OF ORIGIN: Kenya
POSITION AND PLACE OF WORK: Editor/Staff Reporter, *The Standard*
SPONSOR: Google News Initiative
RESEARCH PROJECT TITLE: How Kenya repurposed peer review to improve news quality



Zoe Ramushu

COUNTRY OF ORIGIN: Zimbabwe
POSITION AND PLACE OF WORK: Freelance Filmmaker and Multimedia Journalist
SPONSOR: Columbia Journalism School
RESEARCH PROJECT TITLE: Questions you should be asking about diversity in your newsroom



Adele Santelli

COUNTRY OF ORIGIN: Brazil
POSITION AND PLACE OF WORK: Content Editor, TV Cultura
SPONSOR: Anglo American
RESEARCH PROJECT TITLE: How Brazilian media cover the climate change crisis



Rebecca Skippage

COUNTRY OF ORIGIN: United Kingdom
POSITION AND PLACE OF WORK: Assistant Editor, BBC Monitoring
SPONSOR: BBC
RESEARCH PROJECT TITLE: The role of public service media in the fight against disinformation



Bermet Talant

COUNTRY OF ORIGIN: Kyrgyzstan
POSITION AND PLACE OF WORK: Political Reporter, *Kyiv Post*
SPONSOR: Thomson Reuters Foundation
RESEARCH PROJECT TITLE: How to investigate disinformation using Telegram



Luiz Fernando Toledo Antunes

COUNTRY OF ORIGIN: Brazil
POSITION AND PLACE OF WORK: Data Journalist and Open Government Researcher, Abraji and Fiquem Sabendo
SPONSOR: Facebook Journalism Project
RESEARCH PROJECT TITLE: Unlocking the investigative potential of Freedom of Information Acts

Leadership Development Programmes

FEDERICA CHERUBINI HEAD OF LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT



The Leadership Development activities deliver on the Reuters Institute’s mission to explore the future of journalism worldwide through debate, engagement, and research by bringing together those in charge of guiding the industry through the present and towards its future.

In light of the unprecedented existential challenges and opportunities that the journalism sector faces, we provide emerging and established leaders with a space to tackle these challenges and opportunities by connecting with peers, learning from the brightest minds in the industry, and presenting insights from our world-class research.

During the past year we resumed all our activities by moving everything online: 136 newsroom leaders have attended our programmes and we hosted discussions with Editors-in-Chief, CEOs, public service heads of news, leaders of digital-born organisations, and colleagues who assumed new leadership positions.

It has been a year of learning in which we have experimented with various online formats, with a view to establishing a digital offer that can be maintained even when the resumption of in-person activities becomes possible.

Our online offerings have allowed us to expand the pool of newsroom leaders we can reach, serve, and learn from across all continents, from Australia to Africa.

Furthermore, to deliver on our ambition to be more global, diverse, and inclusive, we have introduced a new bespoke remote leadership programme for newsrooms in the Global South.

We have also connected leadership development and research even more closely by introducing a new yearly report, Changing Newsrooms, that looks at the evolution of processes and cultures in news organisations.



LEADING NEWSROOM CHANGE

“The group discussions were fantastic as it was very validating to hear that other organisations are experiencing similar issues, and to be inspired by their approaches.”

Jackie Bischof
Quartz

BESPOKE PROGRAMMES

“A rare opportunity to custom-design a course for our newsroom leaders with RISJ. Insightful guest speakers and challenging topics sparked further work that continues today.”

Styli Charalambous
CEO and co-founder, Daily Maverick

FUTURE LEADERS IN NEWS

“This has been the best [programme] I have participated in throughout my working life and am certainly trying hard at putting into practice the concepts of the course. I am also really happy for the opportunity of meeting people from different media organisations and background and how we shared experiences and brainstormed.”

Halima Umar
BBC

ABOVE LEFT: The newsroom at Xinhua News Agency Africa Bureau in Nairobi. Chinese and Kenyan editors are watching Chinese news. © Sven Torfjinn

ABOVE RIGHT: Anti-government demonstrators hold roses during a Thai anti-government mass protest, on the 47th anniversary of the 1973 student uprising, in Bangkok, Thailand October 14, 2020. REUTERS/Athit Perawongmetha

Research and Publications

RICHARD FLETCHER SENIOR RESEARCH FELLOW



How do people use news? How are news organisations adapting to a changing media environment? How can we understand the impact of digital media? And do all of these issues continue to be shaped by the coronavirus pandemic?

These are some of the key issues we deal with in our research, work that provides timely, accessible, and evidence-based independent analysis of issues facing journalism and news media around the world, through our series of RISJ publications, as well as more specialised academic articles and book-length treatments of important topics.

Our publications include our flagship *Digital News Report*, which covered 46 markets globally in 2021, including Colombia, India, Indonesia, Nigeria, Peru, and Thailand for the first time, as well as other work looking at journalism and news media across the world.

We have also launched our new Trust in News project. Based on interviews with journalists and editors, in-depth qualitative research, surveys, and more, and conducted across

Brazil, India, the UK, and the US, we hope to offer actionable, evidence-based options for what publishers and platforms can do to help people make decisions about what news to trust online.

Beyond this, we have continued separate work on several other topics, including the (lack of) diversity in news media leadership, how people navigate the ‘infodemic’ around the coronavirus pandemic, innovation in journalism, organisational change in media organisations, and much more.

In addition to informing decision-making by journalists and in newsrooms, our work is part of policy and public debates. We have presented our research privately and publicly at numerous high-level gatherings, it has featured in thousands of news articles, and it is cited by hundreds of researchers.

In 2020/2021, we published several dozen reports, articles, and books. A sample is included on the following pages. Many RISJ publications are available for free download from our website. Hard copies can be purchased via our partner publisher, Columbia University Press, Amazon, other booksellers, or the University of Oxford online store.

PREVIOUS PAGE: A migrant carries her belongings following a fire at the Moria camp for refugees and migrants on the island of Lesbos, Greece, September 9, 2020. REUTERS/Elias Marcou.

BELOW: A firefighter works as the Caldor Fire burns in Grizzly Flats, California, U.S., August 22, 2021. REUTERS/Fred Greaves.

RISJ BOOKS (selected)

Hearts and Minds: Harnessing Leadership, Culture, and Talent to Really Go Digital
Lucy Kueng.

Sponsor: Google News Initiative.

RISJ REPORTS (selected)

Digital News Report 2021

Nic Newman, Richard Fletcher, Anne Schulz, Simge Andi, Craig T. Robertson, and Rasmus Kleis Nielsen.

Sponsors: BBC News, Broadcasting Authority of Ireland, the Dutch Media Authority (CvdM), Centre d’études sur les médias, Québec, Edelman, Fritt Ord Foundation, Gabo Foundation, Google News Initiative, Hans-Bredow-Institut, Korea Press Foundation, Media Industry Research Foundation of Finland, Ofcom, Open Society Foundations, Roskilde University, University of Canberra, University of Navarra.

An Ongoing Infodemic: How People in Eight Countries Access and Rate News and Information about Coronavirus a Year into the Pandemic

Rasmus Kleis Nielsen, Anne Schulz, and Richard Fletcher.

Sponsor: Reuters Institute for the Study of Journalism.



Listening to What Trust in News Means to Users: Qualitative Evidence from Four Countries

Benjamin Toff, Sumitra Badrinathan, Camila Mont’Alverne, Amy Ross Arguedas, Richard Fletcher, and Rasmus Kleis Nielsen.

Sponsor: Facebook Journalism Project.

Women and News: An Overview of Audience Behaviour in 11 Countries

Meera Selva and Simge Andi.

Sponsor: Reuters Institute for the Study of Journalism.

What We Think We Know and What We Want to Know: Perspectives on Trust in News in a Changing World

Benjamin Toff, Sumitra Badrinathan, Camila Mont’Alverne, Amy Ross Arguedas, Richard Fletcher, and Rasmus Kleis Nielsen.

Sponsor: Facebook Journalism Project.



Daily News Podcasts: Building New Habits in the Shadow of Coronavirus

Nic Newman and Nathan Gallo.

Sponsor: Google News Initiative.

Changing Newsrooms 2020: Addressing Diversity and Nurturing Talent at a Time of Unprecedented Change

Federica Cherubini, Nic Newman, and Rasmus Kleis Nielsen.

Sponsor: Reuters Institute for the Study of Journalism.

Communications in the Coronavirus Crisis: Lessons for the Second Wave

Rasmus Kleis Nielsen, Richard Fletcher, Antonis Kalogeropoulos, and Felix M. Simon.

Sponsor: Nuffield Foundation UK COVID-19 News and Information Project.

ABOVE LEFT: People take part in an opposition demonstration to protest against police violence and to reject the presidential election results in Minsk, Belarus August 14, 2020. The placards read: "No to violence" and "It's late to apologize". REUTERS/Vasily Fedosenko.

ABOVE RIGHT: Supporters of U.S. President Donald Trump gather in front of the U.S. Capitol Building in Washington, U.S. January 6, 2021. REUTERS/Stephanie Keith.

RISJ FACTSHEETS (selected)

Women and Leadership in the News Media 2021: Evidence from Twelve Markets

Craig T. Robertson, Meera Selva, and Rasmus Kleis Nielsen.

Sponsor: Reuters Institute for the Study of Journalism.

Race and Leadership in the News Media 2021: Evidence from Five Markets

Craig T. Robertson, Meera Selva, and Rasmus Kleis Nielsen.

Sponsor: Reuters Institute for the Study of Journalism.

RISJ ACADEMIC ARTICLES (selected)

'Exposure to News Grows Less Fragmented with an Increase in Mobile Access'

T. Yang, S. Majó-Vázquez, R. K. Nielsen, S. González-Bailón (2020). *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, 117(46) (2020), 28678–83; DOI:10.1073/pnas.2006089117.

'More Diverse, More Politically Varied: How Social Media, Search Engines and Aggregators Shape News Repertoires in the United Kingdom'

R. Fletcher, A. Kalogeropoulos, R. K. Nielsen (2021). *New Media and Society*, 0(0). DOI: 10.1177/14614448211027393.

ABOVE LEFT: A group of Nihangs (Sikh warriors) arrive to take part in a protest against the newly passed farm bills at Singhu border near Delhi, India, December 3, 2020. REUTERS/Danish Siddiqu.

ABOVE RIGHT: People with fresh produce look on at a market in Cap-Haitien, Haiti July 21, 2021. REUTERS/Ricardo Arduengo.

'How Many People Live in Politically Partisan Online News Echo Chambers in Different Countries?'

R. Fletcher, C. T. Robertson, R. K. Nielsen (2021), *Journal of Quantitative Description: Digital Media*, 1. DOI: 10.51685/jqd.2021.020.

'Beyond (Mis)Representation: Visuals in COVID-19 Misinformation'

J. S. Brennan, F. M. Simon, R. K. Nielsen (2021). *International Journal of Press/Politics*, 26(1), 277–99. DOI: 10.1177/1940161220964780.

'Do Not Blame the Media! The Role of Politicians and Parties in Fragmenting Online Political Debate'

R. Heiberger, S. Majó-Vázquez, L. Castro Herrero, R. K. Nielsen, F. Esser (2021), *International Journal of Press/Politics*, 0(0). DOI: 10.1177/194016122110151.

Communications

EDUARDO SUÁREZ HEAD OF COMMUNICATIONS



As the pandemic raged on, our team worked very hard to increase the Institute's digital footprint, bridging the gap between journalists and academic researchers, reaching out to new audiences in more global languages, and exploring the future of journalism beyond Europe and the United States.

Since we now publish every new piece of research in both PDF and HTML formats, we have created a new home for the *Digital News Report*. The new microsite is cleaner, faster, and more mobile-friendly, and is now integrated in the Institute's website. The report was also translated in full into Spanish for the first time this year. The translation, supported by the Gabo Foundation and executed by our former Journalist Fellow Abel Escudero Zadrayec, introduced the report to new audiences in Latin America, and was presented in events directed to audiences in Chile, Mexico, Colombia, and Spain.

The translation of this year's *Digital News Report* is part of a broader strategy to reach out to our global audience beyond the English language. In October 2020 we created a weekly newsletter in Spanish. Around 1,500 people receive it every Saturday. We've also translated some of our research into Spanish and Portuguese so journalists can read it in their local languages.

TOP RIGHT: Activists hold posters during a rally in memory of Pireveli TV channel cameraman Alexander Lashkarava, a victim of violence against LGBT+ activists and journalists last Monday, in Tbilisi, Georgia July 11, 2021. REUTERS/Irakli Gedenidze.

Regions such as Africa, South Asia and Latin America have often been underrepresented by publications covering the news industry in Europe and the US. As the Institute's mission is to explore the future of journalism worldwide, we launched an open call to hire journalists to report on how the news industry is changing in the Global South. Since January 2021, our contributors Raksha Kumar, Benon Oluka, and Laura Oliver have published deeply reported pieces on countries such as Thailand, Ethiopia, Nigeria, Afghanistan, Colombia, Mexico, and Vietnam.

As our digital output grew, we created new digital channels to engage with our most loyal audiences. In October 2020 we launched *Future of Journalism*, a podcast where we have featured our Journalist Fellows, our academic researchers, and guests such as Nikki Usher, Nikhil Pahwa, Sophie Ho, and Chani Guyot. In March 2021 we created a Telegram channel where we share insights from our own research and a daily roundup of readings tracking the evolution of journalism around the world.



TOP LEFT: A member of a feminist collective paints the helmet of a riot police officer during a protest against gender and police violence, in Mexico City, Mexico November 11, 2020. REUTERS/Toya Sarno Jordan.

TOP RIGHT: Security personnel stop journalists during the visit by the World Health Organization (WHO) team tasked with investigating the origins of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) to Huanan seafood market in Wuhan, Hubei province, China January 31, 2021. REUTERS/Thomas Peter.

ABOVE: A U.S. Marine comforts an infant while they wait for the mother during an evacuation at Hamid Karzai International Airport, Afghanistan, August 21, 2021. Picture taken August 21, 2021. U.S. Marine Corps/Lance Cpl. Nicholas Guevara.

RISJ Events

RISJ hosts events, seminars, and publication launches all over the world. RISJ also convenes 'The Global Journalism' seminar series, normally at Green Templeton College but this year online due to the pandemic, as part of the Journalist Fellowship Programme. Here are some highlights from 2020/2021.

THE GLOBAL JOURNALISM SEMINARS (selected)



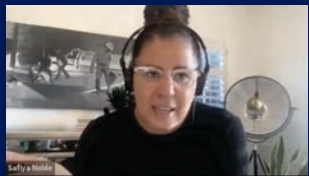
Arrested Development: The State of Journalism in Zimbabwe

Hopewell Chin'ono, Freelance journalist, Zimbabwe, joined us to talk about press freedom in Zimbabwe, and the role of journalists in exposing corruption.



Live from Capitol Hill: How to Cover an Insurrection

Robert Moore, Correspondent, ITV News, was the only journalist on Capitol Hill who was inside the rotunda when protesters breached the Capitol buildings on January 6th 2021. How did he calibrate the risks? Was it appropriate to broadcast interviews with white supremacists? And what was it like being in an angry crowd in the middle of a pandemic?



What is Data Bias, and Why Should Journalists Pay Attention to it?

Safiya Umoja Noble, Associate Professor, UCLA, and author of *Algorithms of Oppression* explained data bias and what can be done to fix it.



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP: Farmers and agricultural workers arrive to attend a rally against farm laws, in Barnala, northern state of Punjab, India, February 21, 2021. REUTERS/Danish Siddiqui.

An Iranian woman holds her passport as she shows her ink-stained finger after casting her vote during Iranian presidential election at the Iranian consulate, in Najaf, Iraq, June 18, 2021. REUTERS/Alaa Al-Marjani.

A militiaman loads his rifle as Afghan Special Forces visit a district centre during a combat mission against Taliban, in Kandahar province, Afghanistan, July 12, 2021. Picture taken July 12, 2021. REUTERS/Danish Siddiqui.

Journalists and mourners carry the coffin of TV reporter Adeb al-Janani who was killed in an attack on Aden airport, during his funeral in Taiz, Yemen January 2, 2021. REUTERS/Anees Mahyoub

A woman reacts as restaurant owners scuffle with police as tensions rise over COVID-19 restrictions on businesses, in Rome, Italy April 6, 2021. REUTERS/Yara Nardi.





OTHER EVENTS

Numbers Game. How to Make the World Add Up: Ten Rules to Think Differently about Numbers

Tim Harford, *Financial Times*, spoke about the precautions journalists should apply when working with statistics.

Stress Test: How to Acknowledge and Mitigate the Long-Term Mental Health Impacts of a Career in Journalism

Hannah Storm, Director, Ethical Journalism Network, spoke about what journalists and editors can do to ensure the emotional well-being of their colleagues.

Race and Media

Meera Selva, Deputy Director, RISJ, and **Shazia Majid**, Senior Investigative Reporter, *Verdens Gang*, discuss one of the most pertinent issues in newsrooms and the media today.

Diversity in Newsrooms

Meera Selva, Deputy Director, RISJ and **Federica Cherubini**, Head of Leadership Development, RISJ, discuss the state of diversity in newsrooms and what can be done to improve it.

How to Rescue Journalism in an Age of Lies

Reuters Memorial Lecture 2021

KEYNOTE SPEAKER: **Patrícia Campos Mello**, reporter at large and columnist for *Folha de São Paulo*

MODERATOR: **Alan Rusbridger**, Chair, RISJ Steering Committee

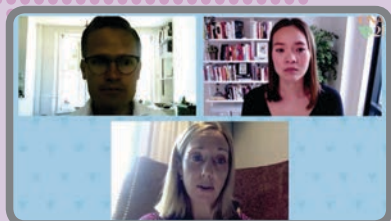
Patricia spoke about her experiences reporting some of the world's biggest stories including the war in Afghanistan, Ebola in Sierra Leone, the refugee crisis in the Middle East, as well as politics, human rights, and public health in Brazil.

Summer Showcase of the Reuters Institute Fellowship Programme

JOURNALIST FELLOWS' SYMPOSIUM, THE CENTURY CLUB, LONDON

Conducted for a socially distanced audience of 30 and live-streamed for the first time to an audience of 5,000 on YouTube, Facebook, and Twitter, the annual symposium included short presentations on a range of topics currently impacting the news industry, from diversity in newsrooms to reporting from repressive regimes.

REUTERS INSTITUTE DIGITAL NEWS REPORT 2021 LAUNCH EVENTS (ONLINE)



US launch, in partnership with the Online News Association

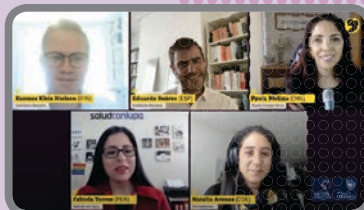
Rasmus Kleis Nielsen, Director, RISJ; **Louise Story**, Chief Product and Tech Officer, *Wall Street Journal*; **Millie Tran**, VP Content Strategy and Growth, Condé Nast.



Europe launch, in partnership with Edelman UK

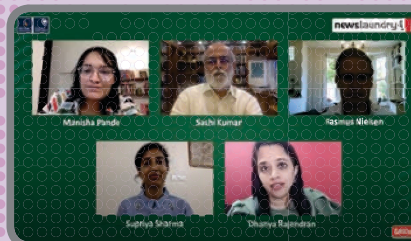
CHAIR: Ed Williams, President and CEO, Edelman EMEA

SPEAKERS: **Alexandra Förderl-Schmid**, Deputy Editor-in-Chief, *Süddeutsche Zeitung*; **Roula Khalaf**, Editor, *Financial Times*; **Rosalía Lloret**, CEO, *elDiario.es*; **Nic Newman**, Senior Research Associate, RISJ; **Naja Nielsen**, Digital Director, BBC; **Rasmus Kleis Nielsen**, Director, RISJ; **Antonio Zappulla**, CEO, Thomson Reuters Foundation.



Latin America launch, in partnership with Fundación Gabo

Natalia Arenas, Editor, *Cerosetenta*; **Paula Molina**, journalist, Radio Cooperativa; **Rasmus Kleis Nielsen**, Director, RISJ; **Eduardo Suárez**, Head of Communications, RISJ; **Fabiola Torres**, Editor-in-Chief, *Salud con Lupa*.



India launch, in partnership with Newslaundry

Sashi Kumar, Chair, Asian College of Journalism; **Rasmus Kleis Nielsen**, Director, RISJ; **Manisha Pande**, Executive Editor, *Newslaundry*; **Dhanya Rajendran**, Editor, *The News Minute*; **Supriya Sharma**, Editor, *Scroll.in*.



Asia-Pacific launch

Premesh Chandran, CEO and founder, *Malaysiakini*; **Federica Cherubini**, Head of Leadership Development, RISJ; **Yvonne Chua**, Associate Professor of Journalism, University of the Philippines; **Nic Newman**, Senior Research Associate, RISJ.



Africa launch, in partnership with Jamlab

Adesola Afolabi, Deputy Editor, *Stears Business*; **Ron Derby**, Editor-in-Chief, *Mail & Guardian*; **Jamila Mohamed**, Managing Editor, *Citizen TV*; **Nic Newman**, Senior Research Associate, RISJ; **Tshepo Tshabalala**, Director, *Jamlab*.

About Us

GOVERNANCE 2020/2021

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The RISJ Advisory Board gives input and suggestions for our work. It comprises high-profile international figures from news organisations, technology companies, media policymaking, and the academy.

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Steering Committee

The RISJ Steering Committee has general oversight of the Institute, its programme of activities, and its strategy. The RISJ Director is accountable to the Steering Committee and reports to the Head of the Department of Politics and International Relations at the University of Oxford.

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Wolfgang Blau

Catarina Carvalho

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RISJ receives core funding from the Thomson Reuters Foundation



DEPARTMENT OF POLITICS AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

RISJ is part of the Department of Politics and International Relations at the University of Oxford, and one of the joint Heads of Department, Professor Nicholas Owen, serves on our Steering Committee.



GREEN TEMPLETON COLLEGE

RISJ is also affiliated with Green Templeton College, as are all our journalist fellows and researchers, and we host many events at the college. Principal Sir Michael Dixon serves on our Steering Committee.



In addition we also receive grants, sponsorship, and donations and gifts in kind to support our research projects, events, publications, and the Journalist Fellowship Programme. We are most grateful for the generous support of all our benefactors in 2020/2021. Our total turnover in 2020/2021 was approximately £4.1 million. Further details on our funding can be found on our website, and all major new grants are announced there.

New sponsors for this year are indicated below with an asterisk.

Breakdown of Funding Sources





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