Election Code of Conduct Training Manual for Journalists and Media Professionals



Ethiopian Media Council

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Five-Day Training Manual for Journalists and Media Professionals

Prepared by: Ethiopian Media Council

1. Purpose of the Training

This manual is designed to equip Ethiopian media professionals with the legal awareness, ethical grounding, and technical skills required for impartial, inclusive, and responsible reporting throughout the entire electoral process. As Ethiopia navigates a complex and evolving political transition, the role of the media in safeguarding democracy has never been more vital.

2. Workshop Goals

- Build capacity among journalists to understand and uphold press freedom, ethical journalism, and conflict-sensitive reporting.
- Promote impartial and full coverage of all phases of the electoral process—from voter education to election day logistics and post-election dispute coverage.
- Prevent the spread of misinformation, hate speech, and partisan bias through legal and professional safeguards.
- Emphasize the watchdog and guide dog functions of the media as civic protectors and public educators.

3. Foundational Principles

The training is grounded in:

- Article 29 of the FDRE Constitution – guaranteeing freedom of expression and of the press (FDRE, 1995).
- Proclamation No. 1238/2021 – establishing media regulatory authority and journalistic protections.
- Proclamation No. 1162/2019 – detailing the electoral process and media responsibilities during elections.
- Proclamation No. 1185/2020 – preventing hate speech and disinformation.
- Universal Declaration of Human Rights, Article 19 – affirming freedom to seek and impart information globally.

4. Key Themes and Questions

- Impartiality: What does it mean to be an impartial journalist during elections?
- Public Duty: How can media support a free, fair, safe, and secure electoral process for all Ethiopians?
- Ethical Balance: How can journalists balance public interest, political pressure, and factual reporting?

5. Structure of the Manual

The training is organized into five intensive days, each with specific learning objectives, including:

1. Media law and journalists' rights

2. Ethical conduct and codes of practice
3. Inclusive and equitable reporting
4. Hate speech and misinformation
5. Election-day procedures and safety

Each day includes:

- Lecture notes
- Group activities
- Case studies from previous elections
- Simulations and newsroom scenario planning

6. Final Output

By the end of the training, participants will:

- Develop their own newsroom code of ethics
- Create a checklist for inclusive electoral reporting
- Draft practical tools for fact-checking, field safety, and election-day coordination
- Gain certification from EMC and NEBE for electoral reporting readiness

Introduction: Elections, Media, and Journalists in the Ethiopian Context

In every democratic society, the media plays a pivotal role in facilitating informed participation in elections. In Ethiopia—a country undergoing political reform, democratic consolidation, and rapid media liberalization—the intersection between electoral processes and journalism has become more consequential than ever before.

Elections are not merely moments of voting but complex democratic processes that require an informed electorate, transparent governance, and active civil society engagement. The media, particularly journalists, are essential intermediaries in this equation: they provide voters with critical information about candidates, platforms, election logistics, and legal procedures. They also act as watchdogs, holding institutions accountable and exposing irregularities that may undermine democratic legitimacy.

However, in the Ethiopian context, this ideal has often been challenged by a volatile political environment, fragile institutions, and a media sector grappling with legal ambiguity, limited resources, and ethical dilemmas. Past elections—most notably in 2005, 2010, and 2021—highlighted both the potential and the peril of media influence. While independent outlets have expanded political discourse and citizen engagement, state-affiliated or partisan media have, at times, exacerbated polarization or disseminated misinformation.

With the adoption of legal reforms such as the Media Proclamation No. 1238/2021, the Electoral Proclamation No. 1162/2019, and the Hate Speech and Disinformation Proclamation No. 1185/2020, Ethiopia has begun the long journey of clarifying the role of media actors during elections. Yet challenges remain in implementation, capacity-building, equitable access, and enforcement.

The role of journalists in Ethiopia during elections is also shaped by structural constraints—such as lack of access to information, harassment, censorship, and digital manipulation. Women, ethnic minorities, and journalists in regional states often face additional marginalization. Meanwhile, the rise of digital platforms and social media has further complicated the media landscape, creating opportunities for citizen journalism but also increasing the risks of disinformation and hate speech.

In this evolving landscape, the need for a standardized Election Code of Conduct for media professionals is urgent. Such a framework must not only protect press freedom as enshrined in Article 29 of the FDRE Constitution, but also promote ethical, inclusive, and accountable journalism. It should ensure that journalists are equipped with the legal knowledge, ethical guidelines, and practical tools needed to navigate the complexities of election reporting—especially in politically sensitive or high-risk environments.

Therefore, this research and training initiative by the Ethiopian Media Council (EMC) seeks to formalize the responsibilities of journalists and media institutions during elections, prevent harmful practices like hate speech and misinformation, and strengthen democratic resilience through professional and ethical electoral communication.

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ከሰው ሃይል አንጻር የሚደረገው ዝግጅት አንድን ምርጫ ከጅምሩ እስከ ፍጻሜውና ድህረ-ምርጫው ድረስ በተደራጀ መንገድ ለመዘገብ የሚያስችል የተለያዩ ባለሞያዎች የተካተቱበት ቡድን ማዋቀር ቅድሚያ የሚሰጠው ጉዳይ መሆን አለበት። በምረጡኝ ቅስቀሳ ወቅት፣ ምርጫው በሚከናወንበት ጊዜ እንዲሁም ምርጫው ከተካሄደ በኋላ ምክንያታቸው በግልጽ የሚታወቅ ወይም ሌላ የተደበቀ አጀንዳ ያነገቡ ግጭቶች የመነሳት እድላቸው ከፍ ያለ ነው። በተለይም እንደ
ኢትየጵያ ባሉ ታዳጊ አገራት ምርጫን አስታከው የሚቀሰቀሱ ግጭቶች ለሰዎች ሞት፣ ንብረት ውድመት እና የተለያዩ መጠነ-ሰፊ ቀውሶች መንስኤዎች ይሆናሉ።

የብዙሃን መገናኛዎችም በእጅጉ የሚፈተኑባቸው እንዲሁም የሚዲያ ተቋማቱ ባለማወቅ ግጭት እንዲባባስ አስተዋጾ ሊያደርጉ የሚችሉባቸው ሁኔታዎች አሉ። በምርጫ ወቅት ሊነሱ የሚችሉ ግጭቶችን በደንብ ተረድቶ የግጭቶችን መንስኤዎችና ግጭቶች የሚያስከትሉትን መዘዝ ወገንተኝነት ባልተንጸባረቀበት እንዲሁም በግጭቱ ከተሳተፉ ወገኖች ያሉትን ሃሳቦች አካቶ ግጭቱን በቅጡ ለመረዳት የሚያስችል የተሟላ ዜና ለህዝብ ማቅረብ ከሚዲያዎች የሚጠበቅ ሃላፊት
ነው። በምርጫ ወቅት የሚኖሩ ግልጽና ድብቅ ፍላጎቶችን መረዳት፣ በምርጫ የሚሳተፉ አካላት የሚያቀርቡትን ወይም የሚያስተላልፉትን ሃሳብ ማጣራት (መመርመር)፣ በተለያየ መልኩ የሚለቀቁ መረጃዎችን ትክክለኛነት ተገቢውን አሰራር በመከተል ማንጠርና ለመራጮች ማሳወቅ፣ ግጭቶች እንዳይባባሱ እንዲሁም ለግጭቶች የመፍትሄ ሃሳብ የሚጠቁሙ ዘገባዎችን ለህዝብ ማድረስ ለጀማሪም ይሁን ለነባር ጋዜጠኞች ፈታኝ ናቸው። የሚዲያ ተቋማት ለመራጮች በደንብ የተደራጀና ለውሳኔ የሚረዳቸውን ጥራት ያለው መረጃ ለማድረስ እንዲሁም በምርጫ ወቅት ሊነሱ የሚችሉ ግጭቶችን በቅጡ በመገንዘብ መስራት የሚችሉበትን አቅም ለማዳበር ስራዎችን ሲሰራ ቆይቷል፤ ይህን የግጭት አገናዛቢ አዘጋገብ ላይ ያተኮረ ማጣቀሻ ለአብነት መጥቀስ ይቻላል። ይህ ማጣቀሻ ስለምርጫ፣ ግጭት፣ የግጭት አገናዛቢ አዘጋገብ እንዲሁም መረጃዎችን ለማጣራት የሚረዱ ስልቶችንና በቀላሉ የምንጠቀምባቸውን መገልገያዎች የያዘ በመሆኑ ለሚዲያዎችና ጋዜጠኞች በእጅጉ እንደሚጠቀም ይታመናል።

ምርጫ የዴሞክራሲ ሥርዓት ግንባታ ሒደት የመሠረት ድንጋይ ነው። በዚህ ሒደትም መገናኛ ብዙኃን ለዜጎች ስለምርጫ ሥርዓትና ሒደት ወቅቱን የጠበቀና ያልተዛባ
መረጃ የመስጠት ሁነኛ ድርሻና ኃላፊነት አላቸው።
ምርጫዎች በተለምዶ ትርምሶች፣ ሊገመቱ የሚችሉና የማይችሉ ክስተቶችና አስገራሚ ኩነቶችን ያስተናግዳሉ።

የፖለቲካ ፓርቲዎች እንዲሁም እጩ ተወዳዳሪዎች ወክለው ከሚወዳደሩባቸው የምርጫ ጣቢያዎችና ክልሎች ላይ የተቻላቸውን ያክል ከፍተኛ ድምፅና ድጋፍ ለማግኘት፣

የመገናኛ ብዙኃንን ጨምሮ የተለያዩ አማራጮችን ይጠቀማሉ።
የሕዝብ ተወካዮች ምክር ቤት ወይም የክልል ምክር ቤት ወንበሮችን በአብላጫ ድምፅ ለማግኘት እነዚህ ፓርቲዎችም ሆኑ እጩ ተወዳዳሪዎች የሚጠቀሙባቸው አማራጮች ትክክለኛ ወይም አከራካሪ ሊሆኑ ይችላሉ።

በዚህ ሂደትም ለመገናኛ ብዙኃን ፈታኝና አስቸጋው ስራ ያልተዛባና ሚዛናዊ ዘገባ ማቅረብ ይሆናል። ከዚህም ባሻገር በብሔራዊ የምርጫ ቦርድ የሚወጡትን የምርጫ ሕጎችንና የምርጫ ሰሌዳን በሚገባ ከመረዳት ጀምሮ ፍትሐዊ ሽፋንን ለተወዳዳሪዎች መስጠትና ከመቼውም ጊዜ በበለጠ መልኩ ለጋዜጠኝነት የሙያ ሥነምግባር በመገዛት ጋዜጠኞች አንድ አገር በምታደርገው ዲሞክራሲያዊ ጎዞ ውስጥ የበኩላቸውን ሚና ይጫወታሉ።

በምርጫ ሒደትም ውስጥ ሕግና ሥርዓትን ያልተከተሉ እንቅስቃሴዎች በምርጫ አስፈፃሚውም ይሁን በተወዳዳሪዎች ሲፈፀም፣ ቢወጣተከታትሎ ሽፋን መስጠት ሌላኛው ጋዜጠኞች በምርጫ ወቅት ሊያደርጉት የሚገባው አስተዋጽኦ ነው።

በምርጫ ወቅት የጋዜጠኞች የዘገባ እይታና አረዳድ ሰፋ ያለ ሊሆን ይገባል። በሒደት እንደታየው ብዙዎቹ የምርጫ ዘገባዎች በትላልቅ ከተማዎች፣ አካባቢዎችና ታዋቂ እጩዎች በሚሰተፉባቸው ቦታዎች ላይ ያተኩራሉ። የዘገባዎቹ ሒደትም በተወሰኑት የምርጫ ሒደቶች ላይ ብቻ ያጠነጥናሉ።
ይሁን እንጂ ጋዜጠኞች በምርጫ ወቅት ዜጎች በትክክል የሚወክላቸውን ተወዳዳሪ ለመምረጥ ውሳኔ ላይ ለመድረስ የሚረዷቸውን አስፈላጊ መረጃዎች ማቅረብ ይጠበቅባቸዋል።

የምርጫ ዑደት

የምርጫ ዑደት በምርጫ ሥርዓት ውስጥ ያሉትን የተለያዩ ደረጃዎችን እና ሒደቶችን የሚወክል ነው። ሒደቱም ከቅድመ ዝግጅት እስከ ድምፅ መስጫ ቀን ድረስ የሚደረጉ እንቅስቃሴዎችን እና በውጤት ማረጋገጫና ማሳወቂያ እንዲሁም ከምርጫው በኋላ ቅሬታ ማዳመጥና ውሳኔ አሰጣጥ ሒደትን ያጠቃልላል። የምርጫ ዑደት በሦስት ዋና ዋና ወቅቶች የተከፈለ ነው። እነዚህም የቅድመ ምርጫ ጊዜ፣ የምርጫ ጊዜ እና የድኅረ ምርጫ ጊዜ ናቸው።



የቅድመ ምርጫ ጊዜ ወደ ምርጫ ቀን የሚወስዱትን ቅድመ ዝግጅቶችቢወጣ ጨምሮ ሁሉንም ተግባራት የሚያካትት የጊዜ ሰሌዳ ነው። በዚህ ጊዜ ውስጥ ከሚከናወኑት ዐበይት ተግባራት መካከል የፖለቲካ ፓርቲዎች ምዝገባ፣ የሕግ ማዕቀፎች ዝግጅት፣ የምርጫ አስፈፃሚዎች ምልመላና ቅጥር፣ ሥልጠና እና ምደባ፣ የምርጫ ክልል ወሰን፣ የመራጮች ምዝገባ፣ የሲቪክ እና የመራጮች ትምህርት፣ የምርጫ ጣቢያዎችን ማቋቋም እንዲሁም

እጩ ተወዳዳሪዎችን መመዝገብ ዋና ዋናዎቹ ናቸው። በተጨማሪም በዚህ ወቅት የምርጫ አስፈፃሚው አካልና ባለድርሻ አካላት የምርጫውን ሒደትና ድባብ ለማሻሻል የተቀናጁ ጥረቶችንና ተግባሮችን የሚያከናውኑበት ነው።

በምርጫ ዑደት መሠረት፣ የምርጫ ወቅት በርካታ ወሳኝ ተግባራት የሚከናወኑበት ጊዜ ነው ፤ የድምፅ አሰጣጥ፣ ቆጠራ፣ ውጤት አገላለጽና ማረጋገጥ፣ እንዲሁም የቅሬታ አቀራረብና አፈታት በዚህ ምዕራፍ የሚካተቱ ተግባራት ናቸው፡

በምርጫ ዑደት መሠረት፣ የምርጫ ወቅት በርካታ ወሳኝ ተግባራት የሚከናወኑበት ጊዜ ነው ፤ የድምፅ አሰጣጥ፣ ቆጠራ፣ ውጤት አገላለጽና ማረጋገጥ፣ እንዲሁም የቅሬታ አቀራረብና አፈታት በዚህ ምዕራፍ የሚካተቱ ተግባራት ናቸው።

የቅድመ ምርጫ ወቅት

የቅድመ ምርጫ ጊዜ ወደ ምርጫ ቀን የሚወስዱትን ቅድመ ዝግጅቶችበወጣ ጨምሮ ሁሉንም ተግባራት የሚያካትት የጊዜ ሰሌዳ ነው። በዚህ ጊዜ ውስጥ ከሚከናወኑት ዐበይት ተግባራት መካከል የፖለቲካ ፓርቲዎች ምዝገባ፣ የሕግ ማዕቀፎች ዝግጅት፣ የምርጫ አስፈፃሚዎች ምልመላና ቅጥር፣ ሥልጠና እና ምደባ፣ የምርጫ ክልል ወሰን፣ የመራጮች ምዝገባ፣ የሲቪክ እና የመራጮች ትምህርት፣ የምርጫ ጣቢያዎችን ማቋቋም እንዲሁም እጩ ተወዳዳሪዎችን መመዝገብ ዋና ዋናዎቹ ናቸው። በተጨማሪም በዚህ ወቅት የምርጫ አስፈፃሚው አካልና ባለድርሻ አካላት የምርጫውን ሒደትና ድባብ ለማሻሻል የተቀናጁ ጥረቶችንና ተግባሮችን የሚያከናውኑበት ነው።

የምርጫ ወቅት

በምርጫ ዑደት መሠረት፣ የምርጫ ወቅት በርካታ ወሳኝ ተግባራት የሚከናወኑበት ጊዜ ነው። የድምፅ አሰጣጥ፣ ቆጠራ፣ ውጤት አገላለጽና ማረጋገጥ፣ እንዲሁም የቅሬታ አቀራረብና አፈታት በዚህ ምዕራፍ የሚካተቱ ተግባራት ናቸው።

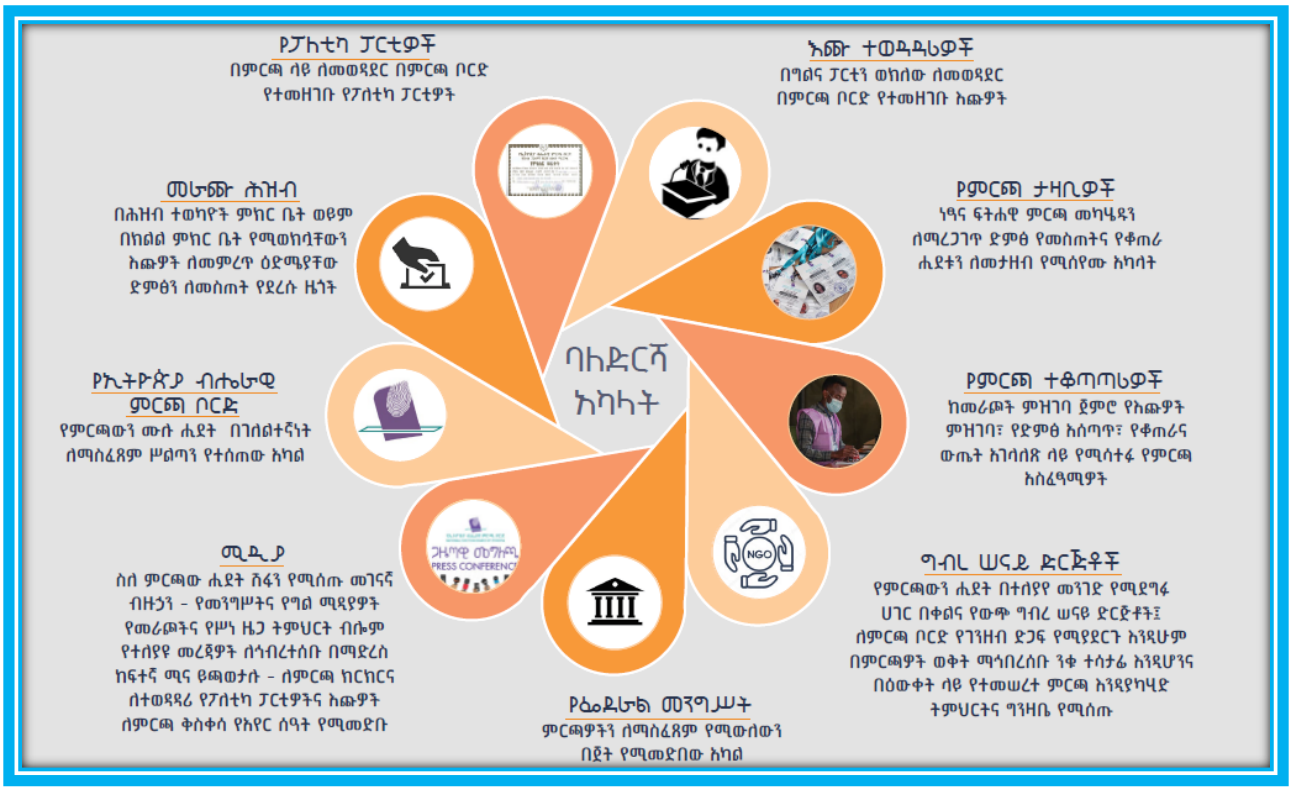
የድኅረ ምርጫ ወቅት

በምርጫ ዑደት መሠረት፣ የምርጫ ወቅት በርካታ ወሳኝ ተግባራት የሚከናወኑበት ጊዜ ነው። የድምፅ አሰጣጥ፣ ቆጠራ፣ ውጤት አገላለጽና ማረጋገጥ፣ እንዲሁም የቅሬታ አቀራረብና አፈታት በዚህ ምዕራፍ የሚካተቱ ተግባራት ናቸው።

የምርጫ ሒደት ባለድርሻ

አካላትን (ተዋናዮችን)

መለየት





FACILITATOR: HOW MANY DAYS???

WHAT DOES IMPARTIAL MEAN TO YOU?

IMPARTIALLY MEANS REPORTING HONESTLY, ACCURATELY, FAIRLY, AND FULLY.

IMPARTIALLY MEANS OFFERING FACTS AS BEST WE KNOW THEM IN A WAY THAT REPRESENTS THE REALITY ON THE GROUND.

IMPARTIALLY MEANS NOT FAVORING ONE PARTY, ONE GROUP, OR ONE IDEOLOGY.

IMPARTIALLY MEANS REPORTING AS AN INDEPENDENT JOURNALIST TO BETTER INFORM OUR AUDIENCES.

WE WILL DISCUSS MORE ABOUT IMPARTIAL, NON-PARTISAN REPORTING DURING THE NEXT DAYS.

The purpose of this training manual is to enhance Ethiopian media practitioners' capacity to provide impartial, accurate, fair, and full reporting on the entire election process.

Key Question

What can we do to help assure the entire electoral process is free, fair, safe, and secure for all Ethiopians?

FACILITATOR DISCUSSION POINT… ASK: WHAT CAN WE DO AS MEDIA PROFESSIONALS TO HELP ASSURE THE ENTIRE ELECTORAL PROCESS IS FREE, FAIR, SAFE AND SECURE FOR ALL ETHIOPIANS?

ELECTIONS ARE A

BIG

THING!!!

Why are elections a BIG thing?

DISCUSSION: WHY DO PARTICIPANTS BELIEVE ELECTIONS ARE IMPORTANT TO DEMOCRACY?

NOTE ANSWERS ON EASEL OR WHITE BOARD.

FOR EXAMPLE: REQUIRED BY CONSTITUTION… GIVE PEOPLE VOICE…. ?



A future that is…

democratic & peaceful… or not

FACILITATOR COMMENT: WE WILL BE DISCUSSING THE IMPACT OF MEDIA REPORTING IN DETAIL OVER THE NEXT DAYS.

Day 1: Media Law, Rights, and Responsibilities

- Lecture: Overview of Article 29 of the FDRE Constitution and the legal right to freedom of expression (FDRE, 1995).

- Case Study: Detention of journalists and conflict between press freedom and public order.

- Group Activity: Draft a press freedom charter for your newsroom.

- Discussion: Are existing Ethiopian laws sufficient to protect journalists during elections?

- Reference Reading: Proclamation No. 1238/2021, UDHR Article 19, African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights.

የምርጫ ሕጎች

የብሔራዊ ምርጫ ቦርድ ማቋቋሚያ አዋጅን ጨምሮ፣ ለቦርዱ የምርጫ ሒደቱን ለመምራት የሚያስችሉት የተለያዩ ሕጎች ወድቀው በሥራ ላይ ውለዋል። ከነዚህም መካከል ዋና ዋናዎቹ የሚከተሉት ናቸው፦



የኢትዮጵያ ብሔራዊ ምርጫ ቦርድ ማቋቋሚያ አዋጅ ቁጥር 1133/2011

አዋጁ ዜጎች የሚወክሏቸውን የሚመርጡበት ሒደት ነፃ በሆነ የምርጫ አስፈፃሚ ተቋም እንዲመራ የብሔራዊ ምርጫ ቦርድ አቋቁሟል። በተጨማሪም የምርጫ ቦርድ

አባላትን አመላመልና አሿሿም፣ ስለቦርዱ ሥልጣንና ተግባር፣ ስለቦርዱ አባላት አሰያየምና ሥነ ምግባር የሚደነግጉ ክፍሎችን የያዘ ሕግ ነው።



የምርጫ ፰ የፖለቲካ ፓርቲዎች ምዝገባና የምርጫ ሥነ ምግባር አዋጅ ቁጥር 1162/2011

ይህ ሕግ በዋናነት ስለ ምርጫ ደንብና መርሕ፣ ስለፖለቲካ ፓርቲዎች፣ ስለምርጫ ታዛቢዎችና የመራጮች ትምህርት አሰጣጥ፤ በምርጫ ስለሚነሱ

አቤቱታዎችና ክርክሮች እንዲሁም ስለምርጫ ሥነ ምግባር የሚደነግጉ ክፍሎችን በውስጡ ይዟል።



የመገናኛ ብዙኃን እና የጋዜጠኞች የምርጫ አዘጋገብ የሥነ ምግባርና አሠራር መመሪያ ቁጥር 02

መመሪያው የመገናኛ ብዙኃን እና ጋዜጠኞች በምርጫ ጣቢያዎች ተገኝተው በሚዘግቡበት ወቅት ስለሚኖራቸው መብት፣ የሥነ ምግባር ኃላፊነትና ግዴታዎችን በዝርዝር ያብራራል። በምርጫ ጣቢያው ውስጥ በመገኘት ዘገባ ለማጠናቀር የሚዲያ ተቋማትና ጋዜጠኞች የእውቅና ጥያቄ ለቦርዱ

ለማቅረብ ማማላት ያለባቸውን ስነዶችና መከተል ያለባቸውን ሒደቶችም በውስጡ ይዟል።



የመራጮች ትምህርት ፈቃድ አሰጣጥና ሥነ ምግባር መመሪያ ቁጥር 4/2012

መመሪያው ለመራጮች ትምህርት ስለሚሰጡ የሀገር በቀል ሲቪል ማኅበረሰብ ድርጅቶች፣ ትምህርቱ ስለሚሰጥበት አሠራርና ለነዚህ አካላት

የማስተማር ፈቃድ አሰጣጥና ሥነ ምግባር ላይ ያተኩራል።



የሀገር ውስጥ የምርጫ ታዛቢዎች ፈቃድ አሰጣጥ ፰ አሠራርና ሥነ ምግባር መመሪያ ቁጥር 5/2012 መመሪያው ከምርጫ

ቦርድ ፈቃድ አግኝተው በተወካያቸው አማካይነት ምርጫን የሚታዘቡ በሕግ የተመዘገቡ ገለልተኛና ለትርፍ ያልተቋቋሙ መንግሥታዊ ያልሆኑ፣ የሀገር በቀል የሲቪል ማኅበረሰብ ድርጅቶች፣ የሙያ ማኅበራትና የብዙኃን ማኅበራት ፈቃድ አሰጣጥ፣ አሠራርና ሥነ

ምግባር የሚደነግግ ሕግ ነው።

How Elections Will Strongly Help Determine the Future of Ethiopia

Elections are more than periodic political events; they are defining moments in a nation’s democratic journey. For Ethiopia—a country rich in diversity, with a complex political history and a youthful, dynamic population—elections hold the transformative potential to shape governance, social cohesion, and national identity for generations to come.

1. Legitimizing Leadership and Power Transitions

Credible elections provide a peaceful and constitutional means for the transfer of power. This is especially important in Ethiopia’s context, where political transitions have often been accompanied by instability. Democratic elections strengthen the legitimacy of elected leaders and institutions, reducing the likelihood of contested power grabs or violence.

2. Deepening Federalism and Local Representation

Ethiopia's federal structure is rooted in ethnic and regional representation. Free and fair elections allow for the peaceful expression of local voices, ensuring that diverse communities across the country are not only heard but also have a stake in governance. This inclusiveness is vital to maintaining national unity and preventing marginalization.

3. Strengthening Public Trust in Institutions

Regular, transparent elections promote accountability by enabling citizens to hold their leaders responsible for decisions, corruption, or poor performance. Trust in democratic processes can reduce public cynicism and increase civic participation, paving the way for stronger institutions and rule of law.

4. Reducing Conflict Through Political Participation

When political grievances can be addressed through the ballot box rather than violence, the risk of civil unrest and armed confrontation is significantly reduced. Elections offer a mechanism for negotiation, dialogue, and peaceful resolution of disputes—critical for Ethiopia's ongoing efforts to build peace in historically divided regions.

5. Catalyzing Socio-Economic Development

Stable political environments attract investment, support economic growth, and facilitate international partnerships. Elections that result in credible, accountable governance encourage policy continuity, infrastructure development, and equitable service delivery, which are essential to Ethiopia’s long-term economic goals.

6. Empowering Youth and Marginalized Groups

With over 60% of Ethiopia's population under 25, elections offer a vital platform for young people to shape their future. Empowering women, youth, and minority communities through electoral participation ensures a more inclusive democracy that reflects the aspirations of all Ethiopians.

"The future of Ethiopia will not be decided by force, but by the ballot. Elections are our best hope for a peaceful, just, and united society."
— Ethiopian Civic Coalition for Democracy, 2021

In summary, Ethiopia's future stability, prosperity, and unity are inextricably linked to how elections are conducted, perceived, and respected. By safeguarding electoral integrity and empowering citizens to vote freely and safely, Ethiopia can lay a strong foundation for sustainable peace and democratic transformation.

Elections:

- Are one of the pillars of democracy
- Provide people an opportunity to express what they want in a democracy
- Provide people an opportunity to participate in political affairs directly as candidates (and if they win as elected officials)
- Help people elect their representatives to run state affairs on their behalf

The Electoral Cycle and the Role of the Media

"It is not only voting day that matters! Elections are processes, not events."

In a functioning democracy, elections are not confined to a single day of voting. They unfold across a comprehensive electoral cycle that includes three major phases:

1. Pre-Electoral Period
2. Electoral Period (Voting Day)
3. Post-Electoral Period

Each phase is critical to democratic legitimacy, and the media plays an essential role throughout.

1. Pre-Electoral Period

This phase includes:

- Voter registration
- Candidate announcements
- Campaigns and political debates
- Electoral law reform and civic education

Media Role:

- Provide voter education about registration, electoral rules, and rights.
- Ensure equal and fair coverage for all political parties and candidates.
- Report on the credibility of the preparation process.
- Highlight inclusivity (youth, women, minorities) in the campaign discourse.
- Act as a watchdog on early irregularities or voter suppression efforts.

2. Electoral Period (Voting Day)

This is the moment of polling, where public attention is at its peak.

Media Role:

- Offer accurate, real-time reporting from polling stations.
- Avoid releasing premature results before official NEBE announcements.
- Provide a platform for public voices, ensuring calm and informed participation.
- Report irregularities responsibly, without inciting fear or unrest.
- Monitor media ethics and security laws, especially regarding images of voting.

3. Post-Electoral Period

This period includes:

- Announcement of results
- Handling of disputes and complaints
- Swearing-in and transition of power

Media Role:

- Ensure transparency in result reporting and dispute resolution.
- Offer a platform for legal experts, NEBE, and civil society to interpret outcomes.
- Promote peaceful acceptance of results and dialogue among stakeholders.
- Cover post-election violence or unrest carefully, without sensationalism.

Why the Media's Role Matters Throughout the Cycle

- Elections are long-term processes, not one-day events.
- The media shapes public expectations and perceptions before, during, and after voting.
- Biased, irresponsible, or poorly trained journalism can incite violence or erode trust.
- Ethical, inclusive, and accurate reporting can strengthen democracy and stability.

"When the media engages throughout the electoral cycle—not just on polling day—it becomes a partner in building informed citizenship and democratic resilience."
— UNESCO, 2022

Group Exercise: Categorizing Elements of the Electoral Cycle

- Resolution of electoral disputes
- Auditing and archiving
- Declaration of results
- Locking ballot boxes
- Counting
- Polling
- Procurement
- Registration of parties
- Recruitment and training of electoral staff
- Electoral campaign
- Voter registration
- Electoral planning
- Nomination of parties and candidates
- Tabulation of results
- Formulating directives and code of conducts
- Voter education

Facilitator's Note: Exercise (15 min.)

- Distribute pieces of paper with words/phrases that describe different elements of the electoral cycle and ask participants to post them on the wall under each phase of the electoral cycle. For example, procurement goes under pre- electoral period while declaration of results falls under the post electoral period ;

Source: European Centre for Electoral Support;

https://www.eces.eu/en/electoral-cycles-steps-training



Basic Preconditions for Free & Fair Elections

FACILITATOR:

- ANYONE REPORTING ON THE ELECTORAL PROCESS MUST HAVE GOOD KNOWLEDGE OF PRECONDITIONS FOR FREE AND FAIR ELECTIONS.
- WE'LL LOOK AT THESE NOW AND THEN DISCUSS WHETHER THEY EXIST TODAY IN ETHIOPIA,
- ACCORDING TO LAWS AND REGULATIONS
- AND ALSO IN PRACTICE ON THE GROUND.

Freedom of Expression

Freedom of Association

Freedom of Assembly

Civic and Media Access to the Entire Electoral Process

Fair and Impartial Administration

Independent Judiciary

Secret Ballot

An informed choice facilitated by media literacy, civic and voter education, and impartial reporting

Basic Preconditions for Free & Fair Elections

A truly democratic election must go beyond simply allowing people to vote. It must meet internationally recognized standards of freedom, fairness, transparency, and credibility throughout the entire electoral cycle. Below are the fundamental preconditions necessary for ensuring free and fair elections—especially relevant to Ethiopia's democratic development.

1. An Independent and Impartial Electoral Management Body (EMB)

- The National Electoral Board of Ethiopia (NEBE) must be autonomous, well-resourced, and perceived as neutral.
- It must act transparently and equitably in voter registration, ballot access, results tabulation, and dispute resolution.

 Reference: African Union Declaration on the Principles Governing Democratic Elections in Africa (2002)

2. Universal and Equal Suffrage

- Every eligible citizen must have the right and opportunity to vote without discrimination.
- Electoral laws must ensure equal access to registration, ballots, and polling stations across regions, genders, and ethnicities.

 Reference: UDHR Article 21; FDRE Constitution, Article 38

3. Political Pluralism and Multiparty Participation

- All legally recognized parties must be allowed to compete freely.
- Candidates and parties must be allowed to campaign without intimidation, censorship, or unfair advantage.

4. Freedom of Expression and Media

- Journalists and media houses must operate free from censorship or harassment.
- All parties and candidates should have equitable media access.
- Voters must be able to access diverse, factual, and balanced information.

 Reference: FDRE Constitution, Article 29; Proclamation 1238/2021

5. Freedom of Assembly and Association

- Citizens must be free to attend rallies, protests, and campaign events without fear of violence or reprisal.
- Political organizations must be allowed to mobilize and organize freely.

6. Security and Safety of Voters and Candidates

- The environment must be peaceful and free of intimidation.
- Security forces should act neutrally and protect all electoral actors.

 Reference: Electoral Integrity Framework, International IDEA

7. Transparent and Verifiable Electoral Process

- Voter rolls, ballots, and counting processes must be open to independent observation.
- There must be clear procedures for handling complaints, disputes, and recounts.

8. Independent Judiciary and Dispute Resolution

- Courts or electoral tribunals must be competent, impartial, and responsive to electoral disputes.
- All parties should have equal access to fair legal recourse.

9. Civic and Voter Education

- Voters must understand the electoral system, procedures, their rights, and responsibilities.
- Special attention should be given to reaching women, youth, rural populations, and minorities.

10. Inclusive and Equitable Participation

- Special efforts should be made to remove barriers for persons with disabilities, internally displaced persons (IDPs), and marginalized ethnic groups.

“The test of a free and fair election is not whether one party wins or loses—it is whether the process gives everyone a fair and equal chance.”
— National Democratic Institute (NDI)

CASE STUDY

- Do these conditions for a free and fair election exist today in Ethiopia?



POLITICS

Certified to run

5 June 2021
By **Tewedaj Sintayehu**

Balderas is set to withdraw its petition seeking the suspension of the sixth general elections due to be held on June 21, 2021 following the issuance of certificates of candidacy to its leaders Eskinder Nega, Sintayehu Chekol, Keleb seyoum and Askale Demele.

Bekalu Atnafu (PhD), Public Relations Head of Balderas, told *The Reporter* that the reason they submitted the petition to suspend the election was to ensure the registration of its leaders adding now that they have received the certificates of candidacy, they will withdraw the petition when they appear before the Federal High Court First Election Affairs Bench on Monday June 7, 2021.

Bekalu stated that the National Election Board of Ethiopia (NEBE) handed them the certificates of candidacy yesterday afternoon.

"We have now settled our case with the NEBE," remarked the public relations head.

NEBE and Balderas appeared before the Federal High Court First Election Affairs Bench on June 3, 2021 following NEBE's request to be given a chance to explain its predicament in registering the Balderas leaders as per the decision by the Cassation Bench of the Federal Supreme Court a fortnight ago.

During that court session, Chairwoman of the Board, BirtukanMideksa,said that the certificates of candidacy would be ready by June 4, 2021.



FEATURED News

Authority tells FBC Not to Air Interview with Abiy

June 17, 2021 Ethiopian Monitor #Election 2021, #Election Silence period, #Ethiopia, #Ethiopian Media Authority, #Fana Broadcasting, #PM Abiy Ahmed

ADDIS ABABA – Ethiopian Media Authority told media outlets in Ethiopia to refrain from broadcasting Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed's interview conducted with Fana Broadcasting Corporation (FBC).

The Authority's decision came after the FBC aired a promotion saying it would run an interview with the PM Friday night, which, oppositions say, goes against the election rules and procedures.

The national Electoral Board of Ethiopia has already designated the four-day period prior the voting day on Monday as a silence period, banning any kind of political campaigning.

This prohibits media houses from running election-centered stories or conducting interviews with candidates, according to the board message posted on its official twitter page on Wednesday.

- Source https://www.thereporterethiopia.com/article/certified-run https://www.ena.et/en/?p=25545

- IN ETHIOPIA, THE COURT RECENTLY BRAVELY RULED ESKINDER THE JAILED OPPOSITION PARTY LEADER CAN RUN FOR ELECTION.

https://addisstandard.com/news-nebe-to-register-jailed-members-of-the-opposition-balderas-for-candidacy/

Ethiopian Media authority told media outlets to refrain from airing PM Abiy’s interview during electoral silence period

https://www.ena.et/en/?p=25545

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Case study 2



Fortune FORTUNE NEWS FEATURED AGENDA OP-ED COMMENTARY VIEWPOINT FINELINE MORE...

Subtler Censorship through Discrimination

February 1 , 2020 . By Sileshi Yilma Reta

Hotel Franchise and Hotel Management, One Stop Service
Qualifying your property to the right branding and management

The last three decades have witnessed the rise in the number of media outlets in Ethiopia. However, not all were lucky enough to go through the tough journey, which has been full of hurdles and hardships. Those that persisted are facing immense challenges.

During all these dramatic years, one feature remains constant: discriminatory practises between state and affiliated media houses and the independent ones. The latter receive preferential treatment by getting exclusive access to cover events or conduct interviews with high ranking government officials.

In contrast, the private outlets are sidelined and more often than not denied access to information and resources that are vital to their day-to-day tasks.

The government has invested tremendously to expand its media power. This is despite private media organisations suffering from lack of resources. Few of them that survived the hardships were able to make it to this day due to a commitment and respect to the profession as well as the generous support extended from the

Facilitator: There can be very direct or indirect restrictions on all these rights and conditions. Media should report on how official resources are used during the election period to support one party or another, or to give certain media outlets more privilege and more power.

Addis Fortune reported on the use of official resources to support government media:

https://addisfortune.news/subtler-censorship-through-discrimination/

Group Discussion

FACILITATOR: LET'S LOOK AT THIS SYSTEMATICALLY WITH A HANDOUT.

- GROUPS OR THREE OR FOUR—EXERCISE WITH HANDOUT.

- DO THESE CONDITIONS EXIST IN LAW?

- DO THESE CONDITIONS EXIST IN REALITY ON-THE-GROUND?

- WHAT ARE THE CHALLENGES TO ACHIEVING THESE CONDITIONS?

- HOW CAN YOU REPORT ON THESE ISSUES?

- FOR NOW, LET'S NOT FILL IN THE "HOW TO REPORT" SECTION. WE WILL DISCUSS THIS MORE LATER.

- *EACH GROUP TO ASSESS ONE OF THE KEY ISSUES IN THE LOCAL CONTEXT, AND PREPARE A BRIEF REPORT-BACK TO THE GROUP.*
- PLEASE PROVIDE AN EXTRA COPY OF THIS EXERCISE FOR PARTICIPANTS TO TAKE BACK FOR DISCUSSION AT THEIR MEDIA OUTLETS

PRECONDITIONS FOR A FREE AND FAIR ELECTION

Do these conditions for free and fair elections exist today in Ethiopia?

	BY LAW	ON-THE-GROUND	CHALLENGES	HOW TO REPORT?
Freedom of Expression				
Freedom of Association				
Freedom of Assembly				
Fair & Impartial Administration				
Fair Use of Official Resources				
Independent Judiciary				
Civic & Media Access to Entire Electoral Process				
Proper Voter Registration Secret Ballot, Clean Count				
An informed choice for citizens facilitated by:				
Media literacy				
Civic & voter education				
Impartial Media				

TR Lansner

Legislations relevant to Elections and Media

- Use of mass media by political parties and candidates
- Civic and voter education
- Responsibilities of journalists on covering elections
- Rules of election campaigning
- Others
- NEBE is an autonomous government agency… has responsibilities to manage and lead the national, regional, local elections… answers to the House of Peoples' Representatives
- Five board members who are nominated by the Prime Minister and appointed by the House of Peoples' Representatives… selected based on national diversity, and gender representation
- The Secretariat is the operational branch of NEBE… has the responsibility for the preparation and conduct of the electoral process

Practical Experience Reviews ‘

Based on the CECOE Policy Brief titled “Ethiopian Media Accessibility During Elections”, a critical analysis of the legal, ethical, and professional responsibilities of media in election reporting, tailored for incorporation into the Ethiopian Media Council’s (EMC) Election Code of Conduct. This analysis emphasizes the need to promote healthy information flows and prevent/react to hate speech, misinformation, and bias during electoral periods.

I. Legal and Policy Frameworks for Media in Elections

The Ethiopian legal landscape establishes a foundation for equitable media participation in electoral processes. Key legislative references include:

- Ethiopian Election Proclamation No. 1162/2011
- Directive No. 02/2020 by NEBE
- Article 29 of the FDRE Constitution, which guarantees freedom of expression and access to information.

“Any media licensed to provide broadcasting services shall ensure that political parties or individual candidates are registered in accordance with the relevant law in order to ensure fair coverage during elections.”
(Proclamation No. 1162/2011, Art. 71)

Implications for EMC:

The EMC must ensure that its Election Code of Conduct aligns with these legal instruments by:

- Enforcing impartial coverage obligations,
- Promoting content diversity,
- Regulating misinformation and hate speech.

II. Media’s Role and Responsibilities in the Electoral Process

A. Core Democratic Function

The media is expected to:

- Serve as an election watchdog,
- Facilitate voter education,
- Provide access to election-related information for all political actors.

“For an election to be democratic... all media outlets must have equal access to all election stakeholders.”
(CECOE, 2021, p. 7)

B. Legal Obligations of Journalists and Media Houses

1. Provide balanced and fair coverage to all political parties.

2. Avoid editorial bias or promoting ruling or opposition parties disproportionately.
3. Offer accurate, fact-checked content that reflects the electoral landscape truthfully.
4. Ensure inclusiveness, particularly in coverage of women and marginalized groups.
5. Protect public safety by avoiding content that incites hate, discrimination, or disinformation.

"Media provided overwhelmingly positive coverage of the ruling party... while other parties and women received minimal representation."
(CECOE, 2021, p. 6)

III. Identified Challenges from the 6th General Elections

CECOE's Media Monitoring Unit highlighted systemic shortcomings in media conduct:

Challenge	Observation
Imbalanced Coverage	Ruling Prosperity Party dominated 8 of 12 televised debates; opposition parties marginalized.
Voter Education Neglect	Little airtime was allocated to public voter education, especially in prime time slots.
Gender Representation	Less than 20% of debate participants were women; women's political issues were underreported.
Lack of Ethical Consistency	Differences in adherence to journalistic ethics were observed across media houses, with Addis Ababa-based outlets notably biased.

IV. EMC Election Code Recommendations Based on Policy Brief

1. Promote Ethical Journalism

EMC must enforce journalistic ethics that:

- Uphold independence from political influence,
- Ban hate speech and disinformation,
- Protect the rights of candidates, voters, and vulnerable groups.

2. Codify Equal Media Access Provisions

All media must:

- Offer balanced airtime to all registered parties and independent candidates,
- Organize neutral and inclusive political debates,
- Implement non-discriminatory advertising policies.

3. Require Inclusive Representation

The EMC Code should require:

- Gender-sensitive programming,
- Minimum representation targets for women and marginalized groups,
- Monitoring indicators on inclusivity.

4. Strengthen Media Monitoring and Accountability

- Establish an EMC Media Monitoring Taskforce during elections.
- Audit content for bias, misinformation, and ethical violations.
- Publish periodic media performance bulletins.

5. Mandate Voter Education Coverage

- Require EMC members to dedicate fixed airtime to civic and electoral education.
- Partner with NEBE and CSOs to deliver accurate voter information.
- Translate materials into regional and minority languages.

V. Conclusion and Forward Strategy

The CECOE brief reinforces the idea that unregulated and imbalanced media conduct compromises democratic integrity. To prevent the recurrence of such challenges, EMC must implement a legally anchored and ethically robust Election Code of Conduct. This includes:

- Institutionalizing equity in access,
- Elevating journalistic standards,
- Combatting hate speech and misinformation through real-time monitoring and responsive measures.

Reference (APA Style)

Coalition of Ethiopian Civil Society Organizations for Elections (CECOE). (2021). *Ethiopian Media Accessibility During Elections: Policy Brief*. Addis Ababa: CECOE. Retrieved from www.cecoe.org

Experiences of Past Election practice

Based on a critical analysis of the document *"Election 2015"* (translated and interpreted for clarity), we can extract detailed insights regarding the media and communication role, responsibilities, and ethical standards that are vital for preparing election training manuals for journalists and for establishing a Code of Conduct (CoC) for the Ethiopian Media Council. This analysis is framed around promoting healthy information flows and combating hate speech and misinformation during elections.

I. MEDIA & COMMUNICATION ROLE IN ELECTIONS

1. Informing and Educating the Public

The media are explicitly tasked with the responsibility to:

- Provide complete, fair, and balanced election-related information.
- Facilitate voter education, raising awareness about the electoral process, rights, and responsibilities.

- Ensure that the electorate makes voting decisions based on knowledge, not manipulation.

"The media should encourage public participation in the democratic electoral process, provide the public with complete information… and conduct awareness-raising activities…".

2. Equal Access to Airtime and Newspaper Columns

Ethiopian electoral practice emphasizes free airtime and media space allocation to all registered political parties. The allocation:

- Is based on criteria like party size, candidates, and inclusion of women.
- Strives to uphold fairness and equity, ensuring inclusion of both financially capable and smaller parties.

"The principle of equal distribution is an option where all candidates who are presented for the competition receive equal free airtime."

3. Monitoring, Control, and Rectification

- Media are legally obligated to monitor content.
- Campaign messages must meet editorial standards and avoid violations of the Constitution or media law.
- If materials include hate speech or misinformation, media outlets have the right and duty to reject them and request revisions.

"If a party wants to broadcast a campaign, the media will not broadcast… until it is revised and submitted. They have the legal right to say no."

II. MEDIA RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Election Desk and Technical Support

- Media houses are expected to establish special election desks to handle political campaign content responsibly.
- Technical assistance must be given to under-resourced parties to meet broadcasting standards.

2. Professional Integrity

- Journalists are responsible for ensuring impartiality and accuracy.
- They must remain independent from government, parties, and candidates.
- Any reports must include multiple viewpoints and not act as propaganda tools.

"They are expected to present a fair, balanced, and accurate report… and leave the decision and judgment to the public."

3. Preventing Hate Speech and Misinformation

- Hate speech is explicitly prohibited during election coverage.

- Media have a role in defusing tension rather than inciting it.
- Adherence to constitutional limits on freedom of expression (Article 29(6)) is essential during elections.

III. ETHICAL STANDARDS FOR JOURNALISTS & MEDIA COUNCIL

To develop an effective Election Code of Conduct and training manual, the following standards must be included:

1. Objectivity and Balance

- Mandatory inclusion of competing political voices.
- Clear differentiation between opinion and factual reporting.
- Avoidance of partisan framing.

2. Avoidance of Harm

- No broadcasting of speech that could incite violence, ethnic division, or hate.
- Editors must vet content to ensure compliance with national laws and constitutional values.

3. Transparency and Accountability

- Clear documentation of content sources and production processes.
- Mechanisms for complaint resolution and correction.

4. Civic Empowerment

- Journalistic content must inform, not confuse.
- Special focus should be placed on marginalized voices, especially women and rural voters.

IV. RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE ELECTION CODE OF CONDUCT

1. Incorporate Legal Guidelines:
    - Refer to *Broadcasting Proclamation Article 30(4)* and *Election Regulation No. 6/2002*.
    - Emphasize constitutional limits on freedom of expression in the context of elections.
2. Media Council Oversight:
    - Establish an independent oversight body to assess media performance.
    - Implement sanctions or support measures based on compliance.
3. Training and Capacity Building:
    - Mandatory pre-election training for journalists, editors, and technical staff.
    - Introduce ethical dilemmas and case-based learning modules.
4. Public Engagement:
    - Encourage media literacy programs to help the public critically evaluate election content.
    - Broadcast voter education segments regularly during the election period.

V. CRITICAL GAPS IDENTIFIED IN PAST ELECTIONS

- Inconsistent compliance by some parties with technical requirements.
- Late or incomplete submissions of campaign materials.
- Use of airtime to discredit opponents instead of presenting policy alternatives.
- Limited capacity among media to fact-check or editorially guide content from parties.

These issues underline the urgent need for standardized training and a robust Code of Conduct enforced by the Ethiopian Media Council.

If you'd like, I can help you draft the structure of the Election Training Manual or a sample Election Media Code of Conduct document tailored to Ethiopia's legal and political environment. Let me know how you'd like to proceed.

The *"Election 2015"* document offers a detailed retrospective on the experiences of media engagement in past Ethiopian elections, particularly focusing on the 1997, 2002, and 2007 general elections. Here's a critical and structured synthesis of those experiences, with emphasis on media roles, strengths, weaknesses, and implications for future elections:

Facilitator's Note:

Plenary Discussion: (10 min.)- Does the fact that Ethiopia's largest media outlets are found in Addis Ababa affect how issues are reported?



Experiences of Past Elections and Media in Ethiopia

1. Media Role in Previous Elections

Media outlets—especially government broadcasters and publishers—played a significant role in:

- Disseminating party programs and policies

- Providing free airtime and newspaper columns to registered political parties
- Facilitating debates and public forums to allow political engagement

"The allocation of free airtime and newspaper columns… was carried out based on a formula determined in consultation with political parties…"

2. Free Airtime and Media Space Allocation: Key Trends

1997–2007 Trends:

Election Year	Radio & TV Airtime (Hours)	Newspaper Space (Columns)
1997	400	100
2002	600	179
2007	600	578

- Growth observed: Airtime and column space increased over time, indicating institutional commitment to enhance party access.
- However, media usage by many parties remained weak—indicating a lack of media strategy or capacity among opposition parties

"It was allocated 179 air hours and increased to 600 in 2007… This is due to the government's commitment to increasing participation."

3. Strengths Observed in Past Elections

- Establishment of election desks in media houses to handle campaign content
- Studio and technical support provided to under-resourced parties
- Efforts made to standardize content submission formats for broadcast
- Debate forums conducted with allocated airtime
- Increased voter awareness due to educational media content

"An election desk was established in media institutions… to accommodate parties."

4. Weaknesses and Gaps

Despite institutional arrangements, several recurring problems were noted:

Content Issues:

- Parties submitted low-quality or technically non-compliant materials
- Some submissions violated the Constitution or media laws
- Many parties used airtime to attack opponents rather than present clear policy alternatives

Ethical Breaches:

- Hate speech, misinformation, and denigration were occasionally observed
- Some parties attempted to pressure media rather than comply with ethical standards
- Unwillingness to revise content flagged for legal or ethical violations

"Occasionally… election programs submitted violated the Constitution, the Election Law, and ethics."

Operational Delays:

- Campaign materials were not submitted on time by several parties
- Resulted in under-utilization of allocated airtime despite government support

5. Challenges in Media Oversight

- Lack of a robust review mechanism for vetting campaign content
- No standard institutional censorship-review protocol
- Limited accountability when parties broadcast hate or defamatory content

"When media outlets request that I edit campaign programs/articles… there is a lack of interest on the part of the parties."

6. Implications for Future Elections

Lessons Learned:

- Access to media must be matched by capacity-building in political parties.
- Training in ethics and media usage is essential for all stakeholders.
- The Ethiopian Media Council and NEBE must enforce a clear, enforceable Code of Conduct to:
    - Prevent hate speech
    - Promote balanced, fair journalism
    - Encourage respectful political discourse

Best Practices to Adopt:

- Use a mixed airtime allocation formula that reflects party representation, gender inclusion, and equity.
- Build media literacy and journalistic professionalism through targeted training.
- Institutionalize editorial review boards at media houses before campaign season begins.

Here is a comprehensive section titled "Experiences of Past Elections and Media in Ethiopia", which you can incorporate into the Ethiopian Media Council's Election Code of Conduct or supporting documents. This synthesis draws from CECOE's policy brief, legal documents, and historical data to critically reflect on the role of media across past election cycles.

Experiences of Past Elections and Media in Ethiopia

1. Introduction

The relationship between media and electoral processes in Ethiopia has evolved under shifting political landscapes. From the tightly controlled state-run outlets of the early 1990s to a more diversified but still politicized media environment in recent elections, the role of the press has often been caught between opportunities for democratic contribution and systemic constraints.

2. Key Trends in Past Elections

A. 1995 & 2000 General Elections

- Media, especially state broadcasters, acted primarily as a government mouthpiece.
- Opposition voices were marginal, with little to no airtime during campaigns.
- Press freedom was severely curtailed, and independent journalism was almost nonexistent.

B. 2005 General Elections

- Marked a watershed moment in terms of media participation and political engagement.
- Independent newspapers and private radio stations flourished temporarily.
- Media diversity peaked, but post-election violence led to a harsh crackdown:
    - Over 260 print outlets were closed between 2001–2011 (CECOE, 2021, p. 7).
    - Several journalists were imprisoned, and licenses were revoked.

"Although the 2005 elections offered hope for media liberalization, the aftermath saw a dramatic reversal in media freedom." – *(CECOE, 2021)*

C. 2010 & 2015 General Elections

- Return to restricted and polarized media landscape.
- Pro-government narratives dominated state media.
- Voter education was minimal, and editorial independence declined.
- Journalistic professionalism suffered due to political fear and self-censorship.

D. 2021 (6th General Elections)

- Mixed signals of progress and regression:
    - Formation of NEBE's Media Monitoring Unit was a positive step.
    - However, the ruling Prosperity Party received disproportionate coverage, dominating 8 of 12 televised debates.
    - Less than 20% of political debate participants were women.
    - Media failed to prioritize voter education and often favored party-based narratives over issue-based journalism.

"Although 12 political parties participated in debates, only a few received equitable airtime. Public broadcasters gave preferential treatment to the ruling party." – *(CECOE, 2021)*

3. Core Challenges Identified Across Cycles

Category	Persistent Issues
Access & Equity	Uneven airtime distribution among parties; exclusion of independent candidates.
Ethics & Impartiality	Media bias, lack of neutrality, political alignment of editorial boards.
Misinformation	Poor fact-checking capacity; reactive rather than proactive correction systems.
Gender & Inclusion	Underrepresentation of women and marginalized groups in political coverage.
Legal Vulnerability	Arrests, closures, and intimidation of media actors post-elections.

4. Lessons for EMC Election Code of Conduct

Based on this historical context, the following lessons are essential for shaping the EMC's Election Code of Conduct:

- Codify Non-Partisan Reporting: Mandate impartiality, equal access, and transparency.
- Institutionalize Media Monitoring: Real-time monitoring is essential for oversight and accountability.
- Prioritize Voter Education: Embed civic education requirements into broadcaster obligations.
- Support Gender-Sensitive Journalism: Include quotas or incentives for women's participation in coverage.
- Strengthen Journalist Protection: Create legal safeguards and rapid response systems for media practitioners under threat.
- Combat Misinformation Proactively: Develop content standards and fact-checking partnerships.

5. Conclusion

The historical interplay between media and elections in Ethiopia underscores a dual reality: the media's immense potential to promote democracy and its frequent subordination to political pressures. The EMC must harness the lessons of past elections to institutionalize balanced, inclusive, and ethical journalism, making the media a pillar of Ethiopia's democratic development.

References

- Coalition of Ethiopian Civil Society Organizations for Elections (CECOE). (2021). *Ethiopian Media Accessibility During Elections: Policy Brief*.
- Article 29, Constitution of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia.
- Proclamation No. 1162/2011 – Ethiopian Electoral Law.
- NEBE Directive No. 02/2020 – Code of Conduct for Election Coverage.

Interview-Based Analysis: Media and Elections in Ethiopia – Multi-Stakeholder Perspectives

This section summarizes the qualitative interview findings from five stakeholder groups: political parties, journalists, media managers, regulatory bodies, and civil society organizations. These perspectives shed light on strengths, weaknesses, and recommendations regarding the media's role during Ethiopian elections. Responses are coded (e.g., PP1 = Political Party informant 1; J2 = Journalist 2) and are designed for inclusion in research reports, using APA-style References.

1. Political Parties' Perspectives

Strengths

- PP1: "During the last election, there was better media availability compared to previous years—we were invited to televised debates."
- PP3: "Social media gave us direct outreach without going through state filters."

Weaknesses

- PP2: "State-owned broadcasters heavily favored the ruling party. We had to fight for 5 minutes of airtime."
- PP4: "Private media hesitated to cover us due to fear of backlash."

Recommendations

- Equal airtime mandates with transparent scheduling (PP1).
- Independent, third-party media monitors for content bias (PP3).
- Media capacity-building to reduce political dependency (PP4).

"Fair access must be enforceable, not symbolic." – PP2

2. Journalists' Perspectives

Strengths

- J1: "The 2021 elections were the first time I covered multiple parties live. That was a milestone."
- J3: "NEBE's journalist accreditation improved access to polling stations."

Weaknesses

- J2: "Self-censorship is our biggest enemy. Many feared losing jobs for covering opposition voices."
- J4: "We lack training on hate speech and how to handle misinformation."

Recommendations

- Regular election journalism training (J1, J4).
- Legal protection and whistleblower frameworks (J2).
- Independent editorial councils in media houses (J3).

"Without safety, there's no press freedom." – J2

3. Media Managers' Perspectives

Strengths

- MM2: "Election season increased our audience by 30%—this shows public trust."
- MM1: "We collaborated with CSOs for voter education spots."

Weaknesses

- MM3: "Budget constraints made it hard to host neutral debates."
- MM4: "We were accused of bias even when we followed NEBE rules—perception is a challenge."

Recommendations

- Public funding or grants for independent election coverage (MM3).
- Shared access to national voter education content (MM2).
- National training curriculum for election-specific newsroom standards (MM1).

"Credibility is fragile. One mistake defines the entire outlet." – MM4

4. Media and Electoral Regulatory Bodies (e.g., NEBE, EBA)

Strengths

- RB1 (NEBE): "We provided media training for more than 500 journalists."
- RB2 (EBA): "Directive 02/2020 was enforced better than past codes."

Weaknesses

- RB1: "Our monitoring lacked real-time analytics. We need tech tools."
- RB3: "There's overlap and confusion between our mandates and the role of media councils."

Recommendations

- Harmonize regulatory frameworks between EMC, NEBE, and EBA (RB3).
- Develop real-time media dashboards for elections (RB1).
- Institutionalize media complaint resolution processes (RB2).

"Reactive regulation is outdated—we need predictive mechanisms." – RB3

5. Civil Society Organizations (CSOs)

Strengths

- CSO1: “Our voter education programs aired in five languages across 11 stations.”
- CSO2: “We trained women journalists and supported inclusive content production.”

Weaknesses

- CSO3: “Media ignored many of our non-partisan initiatives in favor of party coverage.”
- CSO4: “There’s a huge urban-rural gap in media access—people in rural areas are uninformed.”

Recommendations

- CSO-media partnerships for civic content co-production (CSO1).
- Policy to ensure minimum rural and gender-inclusive airtime quotas (CSO2).
- Stronger joint taskforces between CSOs, EMC, and NEBE (CSO3).

“Media should be a civic partner, not just a political loudspeaker.” – CSO4

Cross-Cutting Observations

Theme	Summary
Access & Inclusion	Most stakeholders highlighted **inequitable access** for opposition and women.
Ethics & Misinformation	Need for **training, monitoring tools**, and standard operating procedures.
Public Trust	Media credibility fluctuates based on election-time performance.
Regulation	Stakeholders desire **coherent frameworks** and clearer roles.

Conclusion

The perspectives gathered illustrate the multifaceted challenges and expectations facing Ethiopian media during elections. While strides have been made in accessibility and legal reform, there remains an urgent need for:

- Standardized ethical frameworks,
- Coordinated oversight bodies,
- Robust journalist support mechanisms,
- And affirmative actions to promote equity in media representation.

These insights should be directly reflected in the Ethiopian Media Council’s Election Code of Conduct, serving as both a regulatory and developmental tool.

References

- CECOE. (2021). *Ethiopian Media Accessibility During Elections: Policy Brief*. Addis Ababa: Coalition of Ethiopian Civil Society Organizations for Elections.

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Discussion Review Analysis: Media Practices and Stakeholder Experiences in Ethiopian Elections

1. Introduction

Media play an indispensable role in democratic elections by serving as a public watchdog, information disseminator, and platform for pluralistic political engagement. In the context of Ethiopia, media involvement during electoral processes has often reflected broader tensions between state control, political pluralism, and evolving legal frameworks. Drawing on policy briefs, legal directives, and institutional reports, this desk review analyzes the media's performance and interactions with various electoral stakeholders in past elections. Particular attention is given to the strengths, limitations, and forward-looking recommendations from the perspectives of political parties, journalists, media managers, regulatory institutions, and civil society organizations.

2. Political Parties and Electoral Media Coverage

Strengths

Past electoral cycles have shown marginal improvements in party-media engagement. For instance, the 6th General Elections (2021) included televised political debates featuring multiple parties (CECOE, 2021), suggesting increased media openness compared to prior elections.

Weaknesses

Despite this, unequal media access remains a chronic issue. Ruling parties have historically received disproportionate airtime across state-owned and aligned private outlets, undermining the fairness of coverage (CECOE, 2021). Moreover, opposition parties report limited editorial space and fear-based media avoidance (IREX, 2022).

Recommendations

To level the playing field, stakeholders advocate for the institutionalization of airtime quotas, neutral debate facilitation, and independent media arbitration bodies (NEBE, 2020). A participatory framework, co-developed by political parties and the Ethiopian Media Council, is also recommended.

3. Journalists and Ethical Election Reporting

Strengths

Recent reforms, including Directive No. 02/2020 by NEBE, introduced journalist accreditation processes and provided some legal clarity for reporters during elections. Additionally, increased digital literacy has allowed more journalists to engage directly with voters through online platforms (Freedom House, 2023).

Weaknesses

Field reporting during elections remains fraught with challenges. Journalists frequently face:

- Self-censorship, due to fear of repercussions.
- Limited access to opposition rallies.
- Poor understanding of misinformation and hate speech mitigation strategies (Berhanu & Tefera, 2022).

Recommendations

There is a clear need for enhanced training in election-specific reporting, including legal literacy, ethical standards, and online fact-checking. Protection mechanisms for journalists, particularly in conflict-prone areas, must be integrated into the election framework.

4. Media Managers and Institutional Constraints

Strengths

Election periods often boost media consumption, which in turn increases public trust and ad revenue—especially for digital-first outlets (IREX, 2021). Some media houses have collaborated with CSOs to co-produce civic education content.

Weaknesses

However, most media managers face:

- Severe resource constraints for neutral reporting,
- Allegations of political bias,
- Lack of editorial autonomy, particularly in state-run institutions (CECOE, 2021).

Recommendations

Public and donor-based support funds are needed to subsidize media outlets committed to balanced coverage. National standards for editorial independence should be adopted under EMC supervision to improve credibility.

Electoral and Media Regulatory Bodies

Strengths

Regulatory efforts have improved, especially through NEBE's training of journalists and introduction of media complaint mechanisms. Some monitoring frameworks were used to track bias and misinformation in the 2021 election (NEBE, 2020).

Weaknesses

- Lack of real-time content tracking tools.
- Mandate overlaps between NEBE, EMC, and EBA create confusion in enforcement.
- Inadequate public communication about rights and redress mechanisms.

Recommendations

To streamline oversight:

- Establish a joint media regulation taskforce with EMC as secretariat.
- Develop AI-supported dashboards for real-time content analysis.
- Publish periodic transparency reports on regulatory interventions.

6. Civil Society Organizations and Inclusion Advocacy

Strengths

CSOs have played an important role in:

- Broadcasting voter education in multiple languages,
- Promoting gender equity in political content,
- Training underrepresented groups in journalism (CECOE, 2021; NDI, 2022).

Weaknesses

Despite their efforts, CSOs often find their content sidelined in favor of party-driven narratives. Additionally, rural communities and marginalized populations remain underrepresented in mainstream election coverage (Freedom House, 2023).

Recommendations

- Legally mandate the inclusion of CSO-produced civic content in public media.
- Create quotas or incentives for media houses that promote gender-sensitive and rural-inclusive coverage.

7. Summary Table: Thematic Issues Across Stakeholders

Stakeholder Group	Strengths	Weaknesses	Key Recommendations
Political Parties	Debate participation	Disproportionate airtime	Airtime equity, third-party monitoring
Journalists	Increased digital	Self-censorship, legal	Training, protection,

	access	ambiguity	whistleblower support
Media Managers	Trust gains during elections	Budget constraints, bias claims	Public funds, editorial codes
Regulators	Journalist training, directives	Weak coordination, lack of tools	Unified framework, tech-based oversight
CSOs	Civic education support	Content sidelining, rural exclusion	Legal mandates, diversity targets

8. Conclusion

While Ethiopian elections have seen some progressive reforms in media regulation and engagement, systemic challenges remain across equity, ethics, and enforcement. A multi-stakeholder response is necessary to improve the integrity and inclusivity of election-related media practices. The Ethiopian Media Council, as a central actor, must lead efforts to codify and monitor ethical reporting, ensure equitable access, and mitigate hate speech and misinformation in all forms.

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ለሕዝብ ትክክለኛ መረጃ ለመስጠት እንዲሁም ለወደፊት ተአማኒ የመረጃ ምንጭ ሆኖ በሕዝብ ዘንድ ቅቡልነት ለማግኘት ጋዜጠኞች በምርጫ ወቅት መከተል ያለባቸው ቁልፍ መርሆች =–

በተቻለ መጠን የዘገባዎቹ ዋና ግብ አድማጭ፣ተመልካች እንዲሁም አንባቢን ማገልገል መሆኑን

ማረጋገጥ፣ የምርጫ ዘገባዎች ወደ ሕዝብ ከመድረሳቸው በፊት መረጃዎቹ በሚገባ መጣራታቸውን ማረጋገጥ፣

የሚሠሩት ዘገባዎች ምን ያክል ተጽዕኖ ይኖራቸዋል የሚለውን ቅድመ ግምት በዘገባዎች ወቅት ማብሰልሰል፣ ለዘገባዎች ግብዓት የሚሆኑ መረጃዎችን ለማግኘት ትክክለኛ መንገዶችን መጠቀም፣

በፍፁም ከፖለቲከኞችም ሆነ ከእጩ ተወዳዳሪዎች ምንም ዓይነት ስጦታ አለመቀበል፣

የተለየ ፍላጎት ካላቸው ጠንካራ አካላት የሚመጡ የዘገባ ቅርጽና ይዘት ለማስቀየር የሚደረጉ ጫናዎችን ተቋቁሞ ሚዛናዊ ዘገባ ማዘጋጀት፣ እውነታን ለማድበስበስ ከፖለቲካ ፓርቲዎች የሚመጡ ስጦታዎችንና ለየት ያሉ ጥቅማ ጥቅሞችን አለመቀበል፣

በቂ ዝግጅት ማድረግ፣

ብዙ ጊዜ የመስክ ዘገባ ላይ ማተኮር፣

የጥላቻ ንግግሮችን ከዘገባዎች ሙሉ ለሙሉ ማስወገድ፣

ለተደራሲያን በሚገባ ቋንቋና መልክ (መንገድ) ዘገባዎችን ማጠናቀር

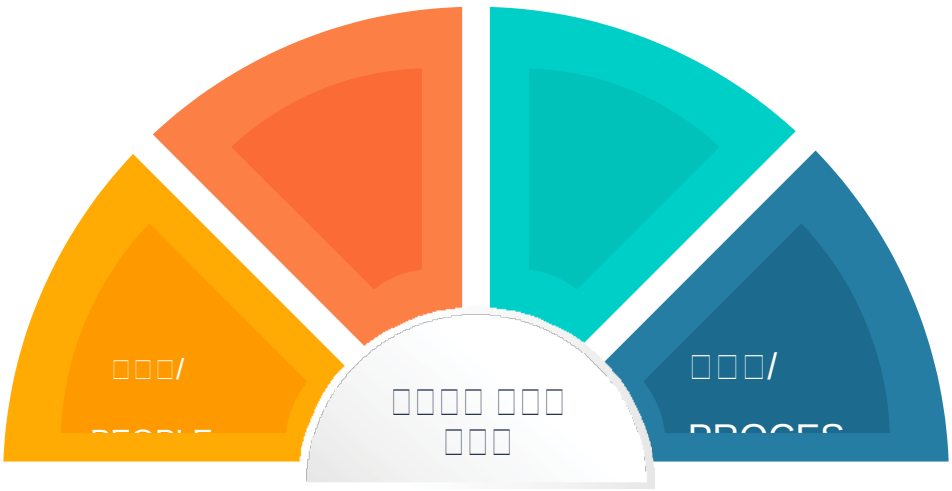
በምርጫ ዘገባ አራቱ ቁልፍ ግብዓቶች

በእያንዳንዱ የምርጫ ዘገባ ወቅት፣ ጋዜጠኞች አራቱን ፒዎች (4Ps) ማለትም people (ሰዎች)፣ places (ቦታዎች)፣ parties (ፓርቲዎች) እና process (ሒደት) የዘገባ ቁልፍ ግብዓቶች መሆናቸውን በሚገባ መረዳት ጥራት ያለው የምርጫ ዘገባ ለማጠናቀር ይረዳቸዋል።

ስለዚህም እያንዳንዱ ጋዜጠኛ በምርጫ ዘገባ ወቅት እነዚህን አራቱን ግብዓቶች ለማካተት መትጋት አለበት።

አራቱ ግብዓቶች ጋዜጠኞች ምርጫና ተያያዥ ጉዳዮችን በሚዘግቡበት ወቅት የዜናውን ቅኝትና ይዘት ለመለየት ይረዷቸዋል። ብዙውን ጊዜ ምርጫን የሚዘግቡ የመገናኛ ብዙኃን ባለሙያዎች ከ4ቱ ግብዓቶች በአንዱ ወይም በሁለቱ ላይ ብቻ ትኩረት ያደረጋሉ።

ነገር ግን ለአራቱም ግብዓቶች ተመጣጣኝና እኩል የሆነ ሽፋን መስጠት የተሟላና በሕዝብ ፍላጎት ላይ የተመሠረተ ዘገባ ለማዘጋጀት ይረዳል።



1. PEOPLE/ ሰዎች

ሰዎች ላይ ያተኮረ የምርጫ ዘገባ በማናጠቀር ሒደት

- በምርጫ ዘገባ ወቅት ጋዜጠኞች በሚያጠናቅሯቸውመረጃዎች እንዴት
- ፓርቲን ወክለው የሚወዳደሩ እጩዎች እንዲሁም የግል ተወዳዳሪዎች
- የፓርቲ መሪዎች የቀድሞ ማንነት፣ የትምህርት ማስረጃና የሥራ መጠይቅ ወቅትም ስለ ግለሰቦቹ ማንነት በማጥናት በቂ ዝግጅት አድርጎ
- የፓርቲ መሪዎችና እጩ ተወዳዳሪዎች ከዚህ ቀደም በነበራቸው የፖለቲካ፣ ዘገባው ሒደት ላይ እንደ መገናኛ ብዙኃን ባለሙያ ለሕዝቡ መረጃ ለመስጠት በበቂ እየሠራሁ ነው ብሎ ራስን መጠየቅ ያስፈልጋል።

2. PARTIES/ ፓርቲዎች

በምርጫ ዘገባ ወቅት ለፖለቲካ ፓርቲዎች በሚሰጠው የዘገባ

- የፓርቲዎችን የምርጫ ማኒፌስቶዎች ጠንቅቆ ማወቅ፣ የፓርቲዎችን ውስጠ
- ከዚህ ቀደም በነበሩት የምርጫ ጊዜያት የፖለቲካ ፓርቲዎች ቃል የገቡትን
- በምርጫ ሒደት ወቅት ተወዳዳሪ ፓርቲዎች በሕግ የተከለከሉ ተግባራትን በንቁ መከታተልና ለሕዝቡ በተገቢው መንገድ ማድረስ፣
- የፖለቲካ ፓርቲዎች በአመፆችና ረብሻዎች ተሳታፊ ነበሩ ወይ? በምን መልኩ? በማድረግ? አሊያም ለአመፅና ለረብሻዎች የገንዘብ ድጋፍ በማድረግ? የሚለውን
- በምርጫ ቅስቀሳዎች ወቅት፣ የፖለቲካ ፓርቲዎች ቅስቀሳዎችን ሲያደርጉ
- ፓርቲዎች የምረጡኝ ቅስቀሳዎቻቸው ለዜጎች በበቂ ተደራሽ ነበሩ ወይ?

- የፖለቲካ ፓርቲዎች በምርጫ ቦርድ የተያዘላቸውን በጀት በአግባቡ
- በምርጫ ቅስቀሳ ዘገባ ወቅት ነፃና ገለልተኛ ለመሆን ተገቢውን ጥረት



3. PLACES/ቦታዎች

በምርጫ ዘገባዎች ወቅት በቦታዎች ላይ ያተኮሩ ዘገባዎች

- ጋዜጠኞች በምርጫ ሒደት ሽፋን እየሰጡት ያለውን ቦታ (ክልል) የብዝኃነት
- ጋዜጠኞች የምርጫ ክልሎችን፣ ወረዳዎችን፣ ጣቢያዎችንና፣ ቀጠናዎችን ገጽታ ያስፈልጋቸዋል፡፡
- የቦታዎቹ (ክልሎቹ) ነዋሪዎች ምን ዓይነት ባህልና ታሪካዊ ትውፊት እንዲሁም
- የምርጫ ዘገባ ሽፋን የሚሰጣቸው የፖለቲካ ፓርቲዎች መሪዎቹ ቃል የገቡትን
- የምርጫ ክልሎችን በማካለል ሒደት የመራጮችን የድምፅ እኩልነት ፍትሐዊና ውክልናን በሚያረጋግጥ መልኩ መከናወኑን መፈተሽ



4. PROCESS/ ሒደት

በአጠቃላይ የምርጫውን ሒደትና አፈጻጸም በፍትሐዊነት ለሕዝብ

- አንባቢዎች(አድማጮች) የምርጫ ሒደቱን በአግባቡ እንዲያውቁት ማድረግ ካለባቸው
- ምን ያክልያህል ዜጎች የምርጫ ካርድ አውጥተዋል፣ ከእቅድ በላይ ወይስ በታች፣ ለምን
- የምርጫ ማስፈጸሚያ የሰነድና ቁሳቁስ ድልድል በተገቢው መንገድ እየተፈጸመ መሆኑን
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Day 1: Media Law, Rights, and Responsibilities

Facilitator:

JOURNALISTS MUST UNDERSTAND ELECTORAL LAWS AND REGULATIONS TO SERVE AS ”WATCHDOGS” IN CASE THERE ARE VIOLATIONS BY GOVERNMENT, POLITICAL PARTIES, OR NON-STATE ACTORS.

Participation in the government of a country either directly or through freely chosen representatives began to be considered as a human right following the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) in 1948. UDHR has universal support since almost all states including Ethiopia are represented in the UN.

Facilitator’s Note: Article 21 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) stipulates:

1 Everyone has the right to take part in the government of his country, directly or through freely chosen representatives.

2 Everyone has the right of equal access to public service in his country.

3 The will of the people shall be the basis of the authority of government; this will shall be expressed in periodic and genuine elections which shall be by universal and equal suffrage and shall be held by secret vote or by equivalent free voting procedures

Electoral Law

- Mastering the arcane world of electoral law and delving into the machinations of campaign financing is not easy work.
- Understanding these laws and processes is central to journalists’ ability to perform their professional responsibilities.
- Journalists must understand electoral laws and regulations to serve as “guide dogs” to encourage greater and better informed citizen participation.
- Journalists must understand electoral laws and regulations to serve as “watch dogs” in case there are violations by government, political parties, or non-state actors.

Discussion: How are media affected by election laws and regulations?

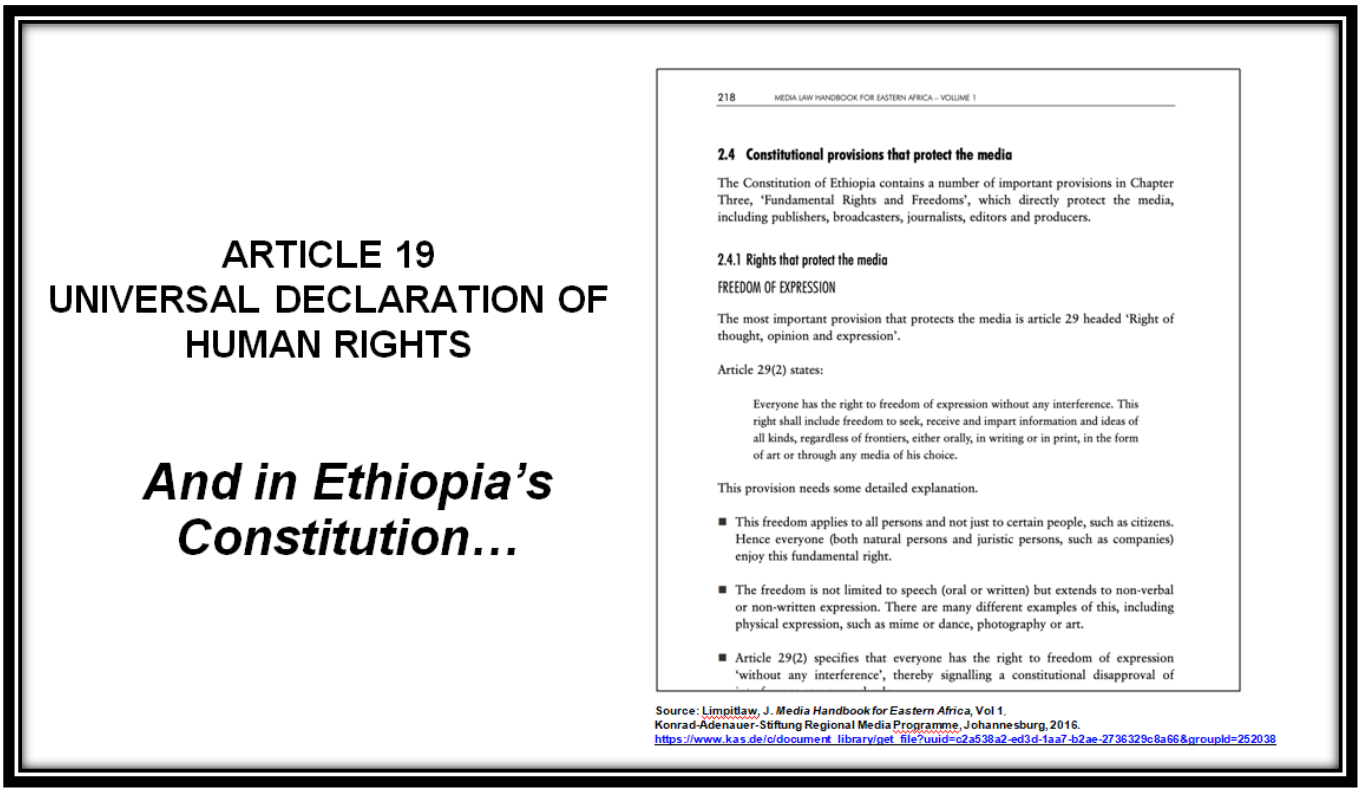
FACILITATOR:

DISCUSS THE NEED FOR MEDIA REPRESENTATION…

- - JOURNALISTS AND MEDIA OWNERS SHOULD ALWAYS DEMAND TO BE CONSULTED WHEN ANY LAWS OR REGUALTIONS AFFECTING THEM ARE CONSIDERED.
- *- IS THERE A STRONG JOURNALISTS ASSOCIATION IN THIS REGION?*

Lecture: Overview of Article 29 of the FDRE Constitution and the Legal Right to Freedom of Expression

Objective:
To introduce participants to the foundational legal frameworks that define and protect media freedom in Ethiopia and internationally, with a specific focus on elections.



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2.4 Constitutional provisions that protect the media

The Constitution of Ethiopia contains a number of important provisions in Chapter Three, 'Fundamental Rights and Freedoms', which directly protect the media, including publishers, broadcasters, journalists, editors and producers.

2.4.1 Rights that protect the media

FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION

The most important provision that protects the media is article 29 headed 'Right of thought, opinion and expression'.

Article 29(2) states:

> Everyone has the right to freedom of expression without any interference. This right shall include freedom to seek, receive and impart information and ideas of all kinds, regardless of frontiers, either orally, in writing or in print, in the form of art or through any media of his choice.

This provision needs some detailed explanation.

- This freedom applies to all persons and not just to certain people, such as citizens. Hence everyone (both natural persons and juristic persons, such as companies) enjoy this fundamental right.
- The freedom is not limited to speech (oral or written) but extends to non-verbal or non-written expression. There are many different examples of this, including physical expression, such as mime or dance, photography or art.
- Article 29(2) specifies that everyone has the right to freedom of expression 'without any interference', thereby signalling a constitutional disapproval of

Source: Limpitlaw, J. *Media Handbook for Eastern Africa*, Vol 1. Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung Regional Media Programme, Johannesburg, 2016. https://www.kas.de/c/document_library/get_file?uuid=c2a538a2-ed3d-1aa7-b2ae-2736329c8a66&groupId=252038

Key Focus: Article 29 of the FDRE Constitution (1995)
This article establishes the right of all Ethiopian citizens to hold opinions without interference, and to seek, receive, and impart information and ideas of all kinds, regardless of frontiers, either orally, in writing, or in print, in the form of art, or through any media.

Key components include:

- Freedom of expression is guaranteed without interference.
- Freedom of the press and mass media is protected and shall not be subject to prior restraint or censorship.
- Access to public information is a right, subject to limitations protecting national security or individual rights.
- Legal protection for media against unjust interference, recognizing their role in democratic development.

Complementary Instruments:

- Proclamation No. 1238/2021 (Media Proclamation): Outlines responsibilities and protections for journalists and institutions, supporting operational independence and editorial freedom.

- Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) – Article 19: Ensures everyone has the right to freedom of opinion and expression across borders.
- African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights – Article 9: Emphasizes the right to receive information and express and disseminate opinions.

Quote to consider:
"A free press is not a privilege but an organic necessity in a great society." — Walter Lippmann

Case Study: Detention of Journalists and Conflict between Press Freedom and Public Order

Scenario Description:
In June 2021, during the electoral campaign season, a group of journalists from a private outlet were detained while reporting on a protest in a regional town. Security forces accused them of inciting unrest. The journalists claimed they were covering the event objectively and were NEBE-accredited.

Discussion Questions:

1. Were the journalists legally accredited by NEBE, and what protections should that affords them?
2. Were there clear violations of the Media Proclamation or election laws?
3. How should media handle sensitive security situations during elections?
4. How do national security and press freedom intersect—and when can they be in conflict?

Reflection:
Use this real-world tension to explore whether current protections are enough or if political misuse of vague legal provisions undermines media freedom.

Group Activity: Draft a Press Freedom Charter for Your Newsroom

Instructions:
Participants break into newsroom teams and are tasked with drafting a short "Press Freedom Charter" to be used in their institution during election seasons.

Charter Sections:

1. Legal Rights: Citing Article 29, UDHR Art. 19, and the Media Proclamation.
2. Ethical Commitments: Truth-telling, impartiality, fairness.
3. Safety and Risk Response: Procedures when facing intimidation or legal threats.
4. Engagement with Regulators: Cooperation protocols with NEBE, EMC, and EBA.

Output:
Each team presents their charter and receives feedback from peers. Charters can be refined and posted in newsrooms as internal codes.

Guided Discussion: Are Existing Ethiopian Laws Sufficient to Protect Journalists During Elections?

Discussion Prompts:

- Do Article 29 and the Media Proclamation provide meaningful, enforceable protections?
- What legal mechanisms exist if a journalist is unlawfully detained?
- Are journalists outside Addis Ababa treated differently?
- How responsive are EMC, EBA, and NEBE to media rights violations?

Expected Outcomes:
Participants will reflect critically on the gap between law and practice, offering proposals for reform or better enforcement. Some might cite the need for legal clarity, while others may focus on institutional coordination and protection mechanisms.

1. Ethiopia: Legal and Institutional Frameworks

Media Laws and Electoral Policies

Ethiopia's legal framework for media and elections has evolved, particularly with the introduction of the Media Proclamation No. 1238/2021, which aims to enhance media freedom and professionalism. The National Electoral Board of Ethiopia (NEBE) oversees electoral processes, guided by the Electoral Law Proclamation No. 1162/2019. These laws emphasize transparency, fairness, and the role of media in elections.

Challenges

Despite legal reforms, challenges persist:

- Access to Information: Journalists often face difficulties obtaining timely and accurate information during elections, hindering balanced reporting.
- Media Bias: State-affiliated media dominate the landscape, leading to perceptions of bias and limited representation of diverse political views.
- Safety Concerns: Journalists reporting on sensitive electoral issues may face threats and intimidation, impacting press freedom.

A critical analysis of the Ethiopian Media Policy (2020)

A critical analysis of the Ethiopian Media Policy (2012) from the perspective of media and elections, focusing on key thematic areas such as legal foundations, media access, pluralism, ethics, roles in electoral periods, and structural gaps. This assessment is aligned with Ethiopia’s electoral context and informed by international standards and comparative experiences.

1. Legal and Constitutional Framework

The Ethiopian Media Policy (2012) recognizes Article 29 of the FDRE Constitution, guaranteeing freedom of expression, opinion, and the press, including the right to receive and disseminate information through any medium. This foundation is central to elections, where freedom of the media is critical for public dialogue, transparency, and accountability.

Strength:

- Legally entrenches media freedom and aligns with international instruments such as the ICCPR (Article 19) and African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights.

Weakness:

- The lack of direct election-related clauses in the policy undermines its utility during election cycles. It neither references the NEBE's electoral guidelines nor specifies media responsibilities during campaigning, voting, and post-election phases.

2. Media Roles in Democracy and Elections

The policy defines the media as essential to informing, educating, and fostering public debate—all critical roles in democratic elections.

Contributions to Elections:

- Promotes the idea of media as a public service, crucial for electoral literacy.
- Encourages equitable airtime and pluralistic access, though not specifically regulated for elections.

Gaps:

- No explicit provision for:
    - Monitoring political coverage.
    - Guidelines for hate speech or disinformation during campaigns.
    - Equal access obligations for public broadcasters during elections.

3. Institutional Independence and Regulation

The policy acknowledges the need for independent regulatory bodies, such as the Ethiopian Broadcast Authority (EBA), and the importance of self-governing institutions like the Ethiopian Media Council (EMC).

Election Relevance:

- Independence is crucial to prevent state interference in electoral reporting.
- Calls for self-regulation support ethical election coverage.

Weaknesses:

- No delineation of electoral responsibilities between EBA, NEBE, and EMC.
- Lack of enforcement mechanisms for election-period violations (e.g., biased reporting, misinformation).

4. Journalistic Ethics and Safety

The policy emphasizes:

- Journalistic ethics (Section 2.19),
- Professional standards (2.18), and
- Safety of journalists (2.20), especially relevant during contentious elections.

These provisions align with international principles (e.g., IFJ's Global Charter), advocating for:

- Truthful and fair reporting,
- Respect for human dignity, and
- Protection from harassment.

However, the implementation of these protections remains weak or aspirational due to the lack of structured enforcement frameworks.

5. Access, Pluralism, and Inclusiveness

The policy aims to:

- Ensure universal access to media (2.8),
- Promote diversity of ownership and content (2.7),
- Empower community media and marginalized voices, including women, ethnic minorities, and rural populations.

Election-Specific Implications:

- Inclusive media ensures broad electoral participation.
- Community radio could play a vital role in local election awareness.

Shortcomings:

- No operational mechanism to monitor access and airtime distribution during campaigns.
- Commercial and state media still dominate narratives, sidelining minority parties and voices.

6. Digital and Social Media Challenges

The policy discusses social media's risks (2.14), especially regarding hate speech and misinformation—a growing issue during Ethiopian elections.

It suggests:

- The need for regulation and accountability,
- A content filtering framework, and
- Public education to verify digital sources.

Yet, it lacks a clear legal or institutional mechanism to tackle:

- Fake news,
- Foreign interference,
- Coordinated disinformation campaigns during electoral periods.

7. Missing Provisions for Electoral Cycles

While comprehensive in many media sectors, the policy omits key elements critical for elections:

- No media access obligations per electoral phase (pre-election, campaign, voting, post-election).
- No codes on coverage fairness, such as equal interview time, balanced debates, or advertising transparency.
- No framework to manage political misinformation or public complaints.

Recommendations for Election Integration

1. Amend the policy to explicitly include electoral media obligations, referencing NEBE directives and international practices.
2. Mandate equal airtime access, particularly in public media.
3. Enforce editorial transparency and bar campaign disinformation.
4. Build synergy between NEBE, EMC, and EBA to:
    - Coordinate accreditation,
    - Monitor coverage balance, and
    - Handle public complaints.
5. Establish media literacy and journalist training for election reporting.
6. Implement crisis protocols for electoral violence, hate speech, or intimidation.

Conclusion

The Ethiopian Media Policy (2012) provides a progressive framework for media freedom, inclusivity, and development. However, from an election perspective, it remains normative rather than operational. By integrating robust election-focused mechanisms—like those in Kenya, South Africa, and Ghana—Ethiopia can elevate its media system to better protect democratic elections and public trust.

Policy Brief — Analysis of Ethiopia's Media Policy (2012) from an Electoral Perspective

Introduction

The 2012 Ethiopian Media Policy provides a guiding vision for the development, regulation, and ethical governance of the media landscape. However, from an election-specific lens, the policy lacks enforceable mechanisms, structured roles for stakeholders during elections, and actionable protections for journalists, voters, and the public against disinformation or access inequality. This brief summarizes key insights derived from desk review and key informant interviews, integrated into the broader Election Code of Conduct framework.

1. Strengths of the Policy

- Upholds Article 29 of the FDRE Constitution on freedom of expression and access to public information.
- Recognizes media's role in informing, educating, and promoting democratic participation.
- Encourages diverse ownership, community participation, and journalistic ethics.

2. Gaps from an Electoral Media Perspective

- No reference to electoral cycles: The policy omits electoral media phases (campaign, polling, post-election).
- Lack of media equity mechanisms: It doesn't require equal airtime or coverage balance for political actors.
- Inadequate regulation of digital disinformation: Social media and hate speech threats are acknowledged but not legislatively addressed.
- No synergy with NEBE, EMC, or EBA: Institutional overlap and coordination roles during elections remain undefined.

3. Interview-Based Findings

Informants across political parties, media houses, and civil society stressed the following:

- "The media policy is outdated and does not speak to today's polarized and digitized election landscape."
- "Community media are underutilized, especially during voter education."
- "Public broadcasters lack accountability and remain state-aligned during campaigns."

4. International Comparisons

- Kenya's Media Council enforces compulsory codes with election-specific provisions.
- South Africa's BCCSA applies legally binding equity rules.
- Ghana's NMC coordinates media access monitoring and journalist protection.

5. Recommendations

- Amend the policy to mandate equal access, clear election coverage guidelines, and disinformation tracking.
- Develop an Election Media Access Framework jointly led by NEBE and EMC.
- Institutionalize media complaint mechanisms under EMC.
- Fund inclusive civic education via public and community media.

Conclusion

While Ethiopia's media policy affirms press freedom and ethical principles, it must evolve to meet electoral demands. A revised version should codify obligations for fairness, balance, safety, and institutional cooperation during elections—thereby strengthening electoral integrity and public confidence.

Analysis of Proclamation No. 662/2009 – Electoral Code of Conduct for Political Parties

A critical analysis of the media and communication components relevant to the Ethiopian Media Council's (EMC) task of preparing an Election Code of Conduct. The insights provided here can be integrated into EMC's framework to strengthen media ethics, regulate content, and foster responsible information flows during elections.

I. Legal Context: Proclamation No. 662/2009

1. Recognition of Media Freedom and Neutrality

The proclamation explicitly emphasizes the independence and impartiality of the mass media, alongside electoral and judicial institutions:

"Recognizing that the Electoral Board, the mass media and the justice institutions should be independent and impartial from any political party in their activities…"
(Preamble, Proclamation No. 662/2009)

Implication for EMC:

This clause enshrines the legal foundation for the EMC to promote media independence during elections. It validates EMC's authority to issue binding ethical guidelines and enforce neutrality among its members.

II. Ethical Standards and Responsibilities for the Media

2. Respect for Media Freedom

Under Article 8(1)(c), political parties are required to:

"…respect the freedom of the media."
(Article 8(1)(c), Proclamation No. 662/2009)

This includes not obstructing journalists, not destroying campaign materials, or preventing other parties' communications.

3. Prohibition of Interference and Harassment

Article 8(2)(a)–(f) explicitly prohibits:

- Harassment of journalists
- Obstruction of campaign communication
- Destruction or defacement of posters
- Disruption of rallies or public engagements

These provisions indirectly extend to media behavior, ensuring journalists can operate freely and without fear.

Implication for EMC:

EMC must incorporate enforcement mechanisms into its Code of Conduct to protect journalists and penalize any media houses that act as agents of suppression, propaganda, or misinformation.

III. Media's Role in Election Information Ecosystem

4. Ethical Information Dissemination

The proclamation underlines the importance of informed voter decision-making:

"The legitimacy of a government elected through a democratic multiparty election shall be founded on…the ability of voters to make an informed decision…"
(Article 5(1)(a), Proclamation No. 662/2009)

This mandates that media outlets contribute to informed, factual, and balanced coverage.

5. Prohibition of Hate Speech and False Content

Although not named directly, hate speech and misinformation are addressed through behavioral restrictions. Article 10 warns against creating unrest and inciting violence, particularly through speech during rallies and broadcasts.

Implication for EMC:

Media platforms under EMC must be tasked with rigorous content vetting, especially during political debates and coverage, to prevent hate speech, defamation, and disinformation.

IV. Dispute Handling and Legal Compliance

6. Acceptance of Legal Outcomes and Complaint Handling

"Every party shall submit grievances only to the joint council, the Board or to the courts of law."
(Article 10(2), Proclamation No. 662/2009)

Implication for EMC:

Media outlets, as stakeholders in the electoral process, should have internal complaint redress systems and support EMC's conflict resolution framework. The EMC's code should mandate impartial and documented complaint processing for any electoral disputes involving coverage.

V. Recommendations for EMC Integration

1. Mandate Impartiality in Election Reporting:
   Media members must avoid favoring any political party and provide equitable airtime and space.
2. Establish a Journalist Protection Clause:
   EMC should enforce strong penalties for political actors or organizations that harass or restrict journalists.
3. Define Hate Speech and Misinformation Criteria:
   Use international definitions (e.g., UN/ACHPR) and include examples to guide interpretation and enforcement.
4. Training and Accreditation for Election Reporters:
   Reporters covering elections must undergo EMC-approved training on ethics, legal boundaries, and verification methods.
5. Monitoring and Response Mechanism:
   EMC should operationalize a rapid-response unit during election periods to address and investigate misinformation, hate speech, and violations of the code.

References

- Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, Proclamation No. 662/2009: Electoral Code of Conduct for Political Parties, Federal Negarit Gazeta, 16th Year No. 7, 2 January 2010.
- UNESCO (2022), *"Elections and the Media in Africa"*
- African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights, *Resolution 362: On the Right to Freedom of Information and Expression on the Internet in Africa*

Reference Reading

Participants should read and annotate the following legal texts before Day 2:

1. FDRE Constitution (1995), Article 29
2. Proclamation No. 1238/2021: Media Proclamation

3. Universal Declaration of Human Rights, Article 19
4. African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights, Article 9

These texts will form the foundation for ethical and legal discussions throughout the training.

Proclamation No. 1133/2019 — the legal framework that establishes the National Electoral Board of Ethiopia (NEBE)

Based on a critical analysis of Proclamation No. 1133/2019 — the legal framework that establishes the National Electoral Board of Ethiopia (NEBE) — the following assessment focuses on its implications for media and communication, with specific regard to roles, responsibilities, and ethical standards. This is intended to inform the Ethiopian Media Council's efforts in developing an Election Code of Conduct and training manual for journalists and media outlets to enhance healthy information flows and curb hate speech and misinformation.

1. Media Roles and Responsibilities during Elections

Legal Mandate:

Proclamation No. 1133/2019 explicitly empowers NEBE to:

- "Determine the manner in which political parties may use media during elections" (Article 7(5)).
- Supervise media activities to ensure fair, impartial, and lawful use of platforms by political entities.

This reflects the strategic regulatory role NEBE plays over election-related media behavior, which should be mirrored in any media council-led Election Code of Conduct.

Implications for the Ethiopian Media Council:

The EMC must:

- Align media behavior with the NEBE's standards, ensuring balanced and factual reporting.
- Develop guidelines that enforce non-partisan coverage, equal access for all candidates, and prohibitions on inflammatory language or misinformation.
- Promote ethical electoral reporting standards through training, certification, and accreditation.

2. Ethical Standards for Media and Journalists

While the Proclamation focuses more on institutional structure, its ethical implications are clear in the duties of NEBE and associated bodies:

- Fairness and neutrality: NEBE must execute elections impartially (Art. 7(1)), and this extends to how media coverage is facilitated and monitored.

- Credibility and impartiality: The Proclamation prohibits any influence that may affect the Board's neutrality, which sets a normative benchmark for media integrity.

Recommended Ethical Standards:

The EMC can operationalize the above mandates into the following principles for journalists:

1. Truthfulness and Accuracy: All electoral reporting must be verified and free of speculation.
2. Impartiality: Avoid endorsement or criticism of political candidates outside editorial spaces.
3. Balance: Provide equitable media space/time to competing political voices.
4. Accountability: Offer transparent correction mechanisms for any misinformation aired or published.
5. Professional Conduct: Journalists must refrain from language that incites violence, hate, or discrimination.

3. Addressing Misinformation and Hate Speech

The Proclamation does not detail mechanisms to counter misinformation or hate speech, but it grants NEBE authority to:

- Supervise election conduct (Art. 7(9)),
- Issue guidelines and directives as necessary to fulfill its mandates (Art. 7(11)),
- Cancel election results when integrity is compromised (Art. 7(20)).

Actionable Recommendations:

- EMC should establish a Media Monitoring and Ethics Unit (MMEU) to:
    - Track hate speech, disinformation, and imbalanced reporting.
    - Coordinate with NEBE to sanction repeat violators.
- Training manuals should include modules on:
    - Identifying and fact-checking electoral disinformation.
    - Conflict-sensitive reporting.
    - The legal implications of hate speech under national law and media ethics.

4. Media Access and Political Parties

Proclamation 1133/2019 mandates NEBE to regulate media access for political parties (Art. 7(5)) and ensure the free and fair dissemination of electoral information.

Guidance for EMC:

- Set minimum media access standards for all political parties across broadcast, print, and digital platforms.
- Collaborate with NEBE to create a compliance scorecard evaluating media performance in giving equitable access.

5. Inclusion in Training Manual for Journalists

The following themes derived from Proclamation No. 1133/2019 should structure the journalist training manual:

Core Modules:

1. Understanding Election Law and Media Regulation (esp. Art. 7(5), Art. 7(9))
2. Ethical Journalism in Political Reporting
3. Reporting on Contested Elections
4. Disinformation, Fact-Checking, and Electoral Integrity
5. Hate Speech Monitoring and Legal Boundaries
6. Media Access Protocols for Political Entities

Each module should include real case studies, legal excerpts, and reporting simulations aligned with the provisions of the Proclamation.

Conclusion

Proclamation No. 1133/2019 provides a foundational legal authority for media regulation in elections via the National Electoral Board. Its provisions — particularly around political media use, election supervision, neutrality enforcement, and directive issuance — must directly inform the Ethiopian Media Council's Election Code of Conduct and associated training tools. Strengthening legal-media synergy will be vital in advancing Ethiopia's democratic processes through responsible journalism and credible electoral communications.

Reference:
Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia. (2019). *Proclamation No. 1133/2019: A Proclamation to Establish the National Electoral Board of Ethiopia*. Federal Negarit Gazette, 25th Year, No. 71, June 6, 2019.

Ethiopian Electoral, Political Parties Registration and Election's Code of Conduct Proclamation No. 1162/2019



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OF THE FEDERAL DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF ETHIOPIA

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ADDIS ABABA 16th October, 2019

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አዋጅ ቁጥር ፩ሺ፩፻፷፪/፪ሺ፲፩

የኢትዮጵያ የምርጫ፣ የፖለቲካ ፓርቲዎች ምዝገባና የምርጫ ሥነምግባር አዋጅ

ኢትዮጵያዊያን በማንኛውም ሁኔታ ልዩነት ሳይደረግባቸው በቀጥታ እና በነፃነት በመረጧቸው ተወካዮች አማካኝነት ራሳቸውን በራሳቸው የማስተዳደር ስልጣናቸውን በተግባር ላይ ማዋል አስፈላጊ በመሆኑ፤

ማንኛውም ኢትዮጵያዊ በየደረጃው በሚደረጉ ሁሉን አቀፍ ነፃ፣ ፍትሃዊና ሰላማዊ ምርጫዎች በእኩልነትና በነጻነት በሚስጢር ድምፅ አሰጣጥ ፈቃዱን በመግለጽ የመሳተፍ መብቱን ማረጋገጥ አስፈላጊ በመሆኑ፤

ማንኛውም የምርጫ እንቅስቃሴ ዓለም አቀፍ የምርጫ መርሆዎችን አካትቶ በያዘ ህግ እንዲመራ

Proclamation No. 1162/2019

THE ETHIOPIAN ELECTORAL, POLITICAL PARTIES REGRISTATION, AND ELECTION'S CODE OF CONDUCT PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, it has become necessary to enable all Ethiopians to exercise their right to self-administration, without any discrimination, through their representatives elected in a direct and free election;

WHEREAS, it has become necessary to ensure the participation of every Ethiopian in an all-inclusive, fair and peaceful elections held at every level on the basis of equal popular suffrage in which Ethiopians freely express their will in a secret ballot;

WHEREAS, it has become necessary that any electoral activity shall be guided by an electoral law

Proclamation No. 1162/2019
The Ethiopian Electoral, Political Parties Registration and Election's Code of Conduct Proclamation
Please see:
https://nebe.org.et/sites/default/files/Ethiopian-Electoral-Proclamtion-No-1162.pdf

Proclamation No. 1162/2019

The Ethiopian Electoral, Political Parties Registration and Election's Code of Conduct Proclamation

See:

https://nebe.org.et/sites/default/files/Ethiopian-Electoral-Proclamtion-No-1162.pdf

Election Proclamation: Article 44. Use of Mass Media

1. Political parties contesting elections are entitled to equal access to state-owned mass media including Radio, TV and Newspapers.
2. Candidates shall be entitled to get access to free airtime on the state-owned media.
3. The use of the state-owned Mass Media shall be carried out in accordance with the allocation directive to be issued by the Board in collaboration with the Ethiopian Broadcasting Authority and the participation of the contesting political parties.
4. The principles pertaining code of conduct and implementation thereof to the use of private and state-owned Mass Media, journalists' coverage of elections news and related matters shall be determined by the directive to be issued by the board.

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፵፬. የመገናኛ ብዙኃን አጠቃቀም

፩/ በመንግሥት ቁጥጥር ስር ያሉትን መገናኛ ብዙኃን ማለትም ሬድዮ፣ ቴሌቪዥንና ጋዜጦችን ተወዳዳሪ የፖለቲካ ፓርቲዎች ያለ አድልዎ የመጠቀም መብት አላቸው፡፡

፪/ እጩዎች በመንግሥት የመገናኛ ብዙኃን ነፃ የአየር ጊዜ አግኝተው የመጠቀም መብት አላቸው፡፡

፫/ መንግሥት የመገናኛ ብዙኃን አጠቃቀምን በተመለከተ ቦርዱ ከኢትዮጵያ ብሮድካስቲንግ ባለሥልጣን ጋር በመተባበር ተወዳዳሪ የፖለቲካ ድርጅቶችን ባሳተፈ አካሄድ በሚያወጣው የድልድል መመሪያ መሠረት ይከናወናል፡፡

፬/ የመንግሥትም ሆነ የግል የመገናኛ ብዙኃን አጠቃቀም፥ የጋዜጠኞች የምርጫ አዘጋገብ እና ተያያዥነት ያላቸው ጉዳዮችን የሚመለከቱ የሥነ ምግባር እና የአፈጻጸም መርሆችን ቦርዱ በሚያወጣው መመሪያ ይወስናል ፡፡

Election Proclamation: Article 45. Obligation of Government Organs

To ensure the success of campaigning activities, government officials at any level shall have the obligation to create conducive conditions for candidates to utilize such facilities as radio and Television Stations, Newspaper, and Assembly Halls under their respective authority without discrimination. The Board shall issue a directive pertaining to its implementation.

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፵፫. የመንግሥት አካላት ግዴታ

የምርጫ ውድድር እንቅስቃሴዎችን ለማሳካት በየትኛውም ደረጃ የሚገኙ የመንግሥት አካላት ኃላፊዎች የሚያስተዳድሯቸውን የሬድዮና የቴሌቪዥን ጣቢያዎችን፣ ጋዜጦችና እንዲሁም የስብሰባ አዳራሾች፣ ዕጩ ተወዳዳሪዎች ያለአድልዎ እንዲገለገሉባቸው ለማድረግ ሁኔታዎችን የማመቻቸት ግዴታ አለባቸው፡፡ አፈጻጸሙን በሚመለከት ቦርዱ ዝርዝር መመሪያ ያወጣል፡፡

Election Proclamation: Article 124. Civic and Voter Education

1. The Board shall provide civic and voter education by devising a strategy of creating election related awareness and adopting various engagement approaches.

2. The Board shall issue accreditation to registered civic society organizations and educational institutions to conduct civic and voter education. The particulars shall be determined by a directive to be issued by the Board.

3. Education and training provided, in accordance with this Proclamation, by the Board or through institutions and organizations accredited by the Board, shall be based on curriculum developed by the Board.

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፩፻፳፬. የስነ ዜጋና የመራጮች ትምህርት

፩/ ቦርዱ መራጮች በቂ ምርጫ ነክ ግንዛቤ የሚያገኙበትን ስልት በመቀየስና የተለያዩ የመገናኛ ዘዴዎችን በመጠቀም የሥነ ዜጋና የመራጮች ትምህርት ይሰጣል፡፡

፪/ ቦርዱ የሥነ ዜጋና የመራጮች ትምህርት መስጠት እንዲችሉ ህጋዊ ሰውነት ላላቸው የሲቪል ማህበረሰብ ድርጅቶችና የትምህርት ተቋማት፤ የማስተማር ፈቃድ ይሰጣል፡፡ ዝርዝሩ ቦርዱ በሚያወጣው መመሪያ መሰረት ይወሰናል፡፡

፫/ በዚህ አዋጅ መሰረት በቦርዱም ሆነ በቦርዱ ፈቃድ በሚሰጣቸው ተቋማትና ድርጅቶች የሚሰጥ ትምህርትና ስልጠና ቦርዱ የሚያዘጋጃቸውን የማስተማሪያ ሰነዶች መሠረት ያደረገ ይሆናል፡፡

Election Proclamation: Article 126. Responsibilities of Journalists

1. A journalist planning to cover the election process shall bring an ID card indicating his status and a support letter from his employing media institution to cover the election process. Any journalist intending to report from within 200 meters of a polling station shall obtain authorization from the Board prior to election day.

2. Any journalist, engaged in the activities stated in the provisions of sub-article (1) of this article, shall refrain from any act that interferes with the voters' decision and polling officer's duties.

3. Any journalist shall respect the Board's election coverage code of conduct to be issued in a directive in accordance with provisions of this article.

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፩፻፳፯. ስለጋዜጠኞች

፩/ የምርጫ ሂደትን መዘገብ የሚፈልግ ጋዜጠኛ ስራውን የሚገልጽ መታወቂያና ከሚሰራበት የመገናኛ ብዙኃን ተቋም የተሰጠ ማረጋገጫ በመያዝ የምርጫውን ሂደት መከታተል ይችላል፡፡ ከምርጫ ጣቢያ ፪ መቶ ሜትር ርቀት ዙሪያ ውስጥ ገብቶ ለመዘገብ የፈለገ ጋዜጠኛ ከምርጫው ቀን አስቀድሞ ከቦርዱ ፈቃድ ማግኘት አለበት፡፡

፪/ ማንኛውም ጋዜጠኛ በዚህ አንቀጽ ንዑስ አንቀጽ(፩) የተጠቀሰውን ሥራውን ሲያከናውን በመራጮች ውሳኔ ላይ እና ምርጫ አስፈጻሚዎች ተግባራት ላይ ተጽእኖ ከሚያሳድር ድርጊት መቆጠብ አለበት፡፡

፫/ ማንኛውም ጋዜጠኛ ቦርዱ ከዚህ አንቀጽ ድንጋጌ ጋር በተጣጣመ መንገድ የሚያወጣውን የምርጫ አዘጋገብ የሥነ ምግባር ደንብ ማክበር አለበት፡፡

Election Proclamation: Article 129.

1. Any political party shall:

    a) Respect the rights and freedoms of all other parties to organize election campaigns and disseminate their political views and principles without fear;

    b) Conduct itself in a manner that respects the rights of other parties, voters and other members of the community;

    c) Respect the freedom of the mass media;

    d) Respect competing parties' voter outreach efforts; and

e) Contribute to ensure all citizens who wish to participate in political process and who are eligible to vote and be elected can do so freely.

2. Any political party shall not:

a) Harass or obstruct private or government journalists who are engaged in their professional activities; engage in activities that in any way disrupt, destroy or frustrate the election campaign of other parties or cooperate in such acts;

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፩/ ማንኛውም የፖለቲካ ፓርቲ፡-

ሀ) የሌሎች የፖለቲካ ፓርቲዎች የምርጫ ዘመቻ የማካሄድ የፖለቲካ ሀሳቦችንና መርሆዎቻቸውን ያለ ስጋት የማሰራጨት መብቶቻቸውን ማክበር፤

ለ) እንቅስቃሴው የሌላውን የፖለቲካ ፓርቲ፣ የመራጩን ሕዝብ እና የሌሎች የኅብረተሰብ ክፍሎች መብቶችን ያከበረ መሆን፤

ሐ) የመገናኛ ብዙኃን ነፃነትን ማክበር፤

መ) ተወዳዳሪ ፖለቲካ ፓርቲዎች ለመራጩ ሕዝብ ያላቸውን የሚያደርጉትን እንቅስቃሴ ማክበር፤

ሠ) በፖለቲካ እንቅስቃሴ ለመሳተፍ የሚሹ የመምረጥና የመመረጥ መብት ያላቸው ዜጎች ሁሉ በነጻነት እንዲንቀሳቀሱ የበኩሉን አስተዋጽዖ ማድረግ፤ አለበት፡፡

፪/ ማንኛውም የፖለቲካ ፓርቲ፡-

ሀ) የግል ወይም የመንግሥት ጋዜጠኞች በሙያዊ ስራቸው ላይ እንዳይሰማሩ ማዋከብ፣ እንቅፋት መፍጠር፤ በማንኛውም አይነት ድርጊት የሌሎች ፓርቲዎች የምርጫ ዘመቻ እንዲስተጓጎል፣ እንዲቋረጥ፣ እንዲበላሽ፣ እንዲዳክም ማድረግና መተባበር፤

1. Media and Communication Roles during Elections

Legal Mandate:

The Proclamation outlines the responsibility of the media (particularly public broadcasters) to provide:

- Equal and equitable access to political parties and candidates (Art. 85(1)).
- Election-related education and information to the public (Art. 84(1)).
- Impartial and balanced content before, during, and after the elections.

"The public media shall allocate equal airtime... to political parties and candidates without discrimination." – *Proclamation No. 1162/2019, Art. 85(1)*

Implication for EMC Code of Conduct:

The Ethiopian Media Council must:

- Codify these legal mandates into enforceable professional guidelines.
- Establish a mechanism to monitor and report violations in media coverage.

2. Ethical Standards for Journalists and Media Outlets

Ethical Requirements:

Article 85(2–3) mandates that media professionals:

- Avoid defamation, incitement, or hate speech.
- Maintain editorial independence and accuracy.
- Provide fair and issue-based coverage of all political entities.

"Media shall refrain from broadcasting any content that incites conflict or discrimination." – *Art. 85(3)*

Recommendations for Training Manual:

Training should include:

- Modules on conflict-sensitive journalism.
- Case studies of media incitement and how to avoid it.
- Clear rules on ethics, transparency, and professional responsibility.

3. Regulating Misinformation and Hate Speech

Legal Tools and Responsibilities:

The Proclamation mandates:

- The NEBE to issue directives to regulate political messaging and media access (Art. 84–87).
- Media to fact-check information before broadcasting and correct errors promptly.
- Suspension of any media outlet that violates electoral media codes (Art. 87(4)).

"Any media that disseminates false information knowingly shall be held accountable." – *Art. 87(3)*

Training Focus:

EMC should:

- Equip journalists with tools to detect and refute misinformation.
- Collaborate with fact-checking organizations.
- Include legal consequences of publishing disinformation in the training syllabus.

4. Responsibilities of Public vs. Private Media

Public Media:

- Must provide free and equal airtime to all registered political participants (Art. 85(1)).
- Are prohibited from promoting the ruling party disproportionately.

Private Media:

- Can offer paid advertising but must disclose sponsorship and ensure transparency (Art. 86(1–2)).

"Private media may sell advertisement space, but must do so transparently and equally." – *Art. 86(1)*

Recommendations:

- Public and private media should be trained separately with emphasis on their specific legal obligations.
- Develop EMC-endorsed templates for political advertising contracts and disclosures.

5. Promoting Inclusion and Diversity in Electoral Coverage

Legal Provisions:

Although not directly named, the Proclamation supports:

- Equal representation and freedom from discrimination (Preamble, Art. 5(1)).
- Enabling citizens to vote "based on informed decisions" (Preamble).

Training and Code Emphasis:

- Ensure gender equity and representation of minorities in media coverage.
- Train journalists on using inclusive language and visual imagery.
- Encourage programming in local languages and across rural regions.

6. Summary of Recommended Journalistic Training Modules

Module	Key Content
1. Legal Literacy	Articles 84–87 of Proclamation No. 1162/2019
2. Ethical Journalism	Conflict sensitivity, balance, fairness
3. Hate Speech & Misinformation	Legal definitions, detection methods
4. Political Advertising Standards	Rights of access, sponsorship rules
5. Inclusion & Diversity	Reporting on marginalized communities
6. Real-time Monitoring	Tools for election-period media oversight

Conclusion

Proclamation No. 1162/2019 provides a strong legal foundation for regulating electoral media conduct in Ethiopia. The Ethiopian Media Council must translate these mandates into actionable policies and training materials that ensure:

- Ethical and accurate journalism,
- Balanced access for political actors,
- Prevention of hate speech and misinformation, and
- Promotion of public trust in the media during elections.

Reference

Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia. (2019). *Proclamation No. 1162/2019: The Ethiopian Electoral, Political Parties Registration and Election's Code of Conduct Proclamation*. Federal Negarit Gazette, 25th Year, No. 97, October 16, 2019.

Freedom of the Mass Media and Access to Information Proclamation No. 590/2008

Based on the Freedom of the Mass Media and Access to Information Proclamation No. 590/2008 (uploaded document), here is a detailed critical analysis of the legal framework concerning media and communication, particularly as it applies to:

- Manuals for journalist training
- Election Code of Conduct for Ethiopian Media Council
- Combating hate speech and misinformation

1. Legal Foundation for Media Freedom and Responsibility

The law affirms the constitutional guarantee of media freedom, banning censorship (Article 4(1)) and ensuring the right to:

- Seek, receive, and disseminate information
- Express opinions and criticism
- Participate in forming public opinion
  — [Article 4(3)]

This forms the backbone for journalist training manuals, emphasizing democratic values, public interest reporting, and critical thinking.

However, the proclamation also sets boundaries to media freedom based on:

- National security
- Public order
- Morality
- Reputation and rights of others
  — [Preamble & Article 4(2)]

These become essential considerations in the Election Code of Conduct and hate speech mitigation strategies.

2. Ethical Standards and Role of Journalists

Article 5(2) guarantees the right of journalists to form associations, promoting professionalism.
Article 6 grants the editor-in-chief exclusive editorial control but also accountability, reinforcing the ethical need for:

- Editorial independence
- Fact-based reporting
- Non-discrimination

Training manuals should emphasize these standards to equip journalists for fair election coverage and ethical news dissemination.

3. Institutional Roles in Oversight and Professionalism

The proclamation introduces key media actors:

- Publisher – Responsible for production and dissemination
- Editor-in-Chief – Has final say on publication content
- Distributors and Importers – Regulated to ensure non-discriminatory practices (Article 8)

It also upholds the right to access public information, mandating public offices to disclose non-sensitive content — reinforcing transparency in electoral coverage and reducing misinformation risks.

This supports the Ethiopian Media Council's role in setting guidelines for access to information during elections.

4. Misinformation, Hate Speech, and Legal Protections

Though the law does not explicitly define "hate speech" or "misinformation", several provisions provide mechanisms to:

A. Limit Harmful Content

- Media must not publish content that incites violence or undermines constitutional order
  — [See Preamble and general restrictions under Article 4]

B. Ethical and Legal Accountability

- The editor-in-chief and publisher can be legally responsible for harmful or misleading publications
  — [Article 6(3)]

These clauses should be embedded into the Election Code of Conduct and journalist training to promote responsible election coverage.

5. Application to Election Code of Conduct Preparation

For the Ethiopian Media Council, the law provides a clear mandate to establish a code that includes:

- Fair and equitable access to media by all political parties
- Avoidance of defamatory or inflammatory language
- Balanced, issue-focused reporting
- Transparency and source attribution
- Mechanisms for fact-checking and corrections

Training manuals can integrate these legal duties, reinforce them through case-based scenarios, and offer tools for combating disinformation.

6. Recommendations for Media Training Manual & Code of Conduct

A. For Journalist Training Manual

Include modules on:

- Legal rights and responsibilities under Proclamation No. 590/2008
- Editorial ethics, verification practices, and access to public records
- Conflict-sensitive journalism (esp. for ethnic/political tensions)
- Digital security and legal risks of misinformation

B. For Election Code of Conduct

Structure around:

- Equal media access for all electoral actors
- Clear boundaries for acceptable speech (without curbing criticism)
- Response protocols for misinformation and hate speech
- Collaborative fact-checking processes between media houses

References from Law

- Article 4(1–4) – Media freedom and its legal limits
- Article 5(2) – Right of journalists to organize
- Article 6(1–3) – Editorial authority and responsibility
- Article 7(1–3) – Ownership concentration rules to prevent monopolies
- Article 9 – Registration of media outlets
- Preamble – Emphasizes democratic dialogue, access to information, and public participation

Here is a separate legal research review of the two key Ethiopian media-related laws: Proclamation No. 1238/2021 and Proclamation No. 1185/2020. Each is analyzed individually

with clear article-by-article References and explained in a format suitable for academic or policy research, using APA 7th edition Reference style.

Legal Research Review

1. Proclamation No. 1238/2021: Media Proclamation

Overview

The Media Proclamation No. 1238/2021 is Ethiopia's primary legal framework regulating mass media institutions and professional journalistic practices. It replaced older legislation to reflect digital realities and align with international human rights standards. Its provisions are foundational for developing an election-related Code of Conduct and a training manual for journalists and media practitioners.

Key Provisions

A. Editorial Responsibility and Autonomy

- Article 16(1) defines the editor-in-chief as the person with the legal mandate to approve and supervise all published material.
- Editors must take full responsibility for ensuring content is free from illegality, including incitement or defamation.

"The editor-in-chief of the print media has a mandate to supervise and determine the content of the publication and shall be responsible for any matter published" (Proclamation No. 1238/2021, Art. 16(1)).

B. Freedom of Expression and Limitations

- Article 4 guarantees freedom of the press, aligned with the FDRE Constitution Article 29.
- Article 5 outlines limitations, specifically banning hate speech and disinformation.

"Freedom of the media... may be limited only by law and only to the extent necessary in a democratic society to protect... national security, public order or morality" (Art. 5(1)).

C. Ethical Journalism and Public Duty

- Article 51 obliges media houses to deliver information reflecting Ethiopia's diverse culture and uphold public interest.
- Article 55 empowers the Ethiopian Media Authority to issue a Code of Conduct for journalistic ethics.

"The Authority shall, in collaboration with relevant stakeholders, issue a Code of Conduct that guides the professional ethics of journalists" (Art. 55(1)).

D. Public Complaints and Self-Regulation

- Article 74 encourages the formation of self-regulatory bodies and establishes public complaint handling mechanisms.

“Any person aggrieved by the content of a media shall have the right to submit a complaint to the relevant media or to the Authority” (Art. 74(1)).

Relevance to Election Code of Conduct and Training Manual

- This proclamation establishes legal accountability for misinformation, promotes editorial ethics, and provides a clear structure for complaint handling, which are essential pillars for election-period media regulation.
- It mandates media institutions to reflect diversity, equality, and professionalism, critical to electoral communication ethics.

Reference (APA 7th edition)

Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia. (2021). *Media Proclamation No. 1238/2021*. Federal Negarit Gazette, 27th Year, No. 63.

Day 2: Election Code of Conduct and Ethical Journalism

- Lecture: Key provisions in Ethiopia's new Election Code of Conduct.

- Scenario: Journalist receives leaked party document—how to handle ethically?

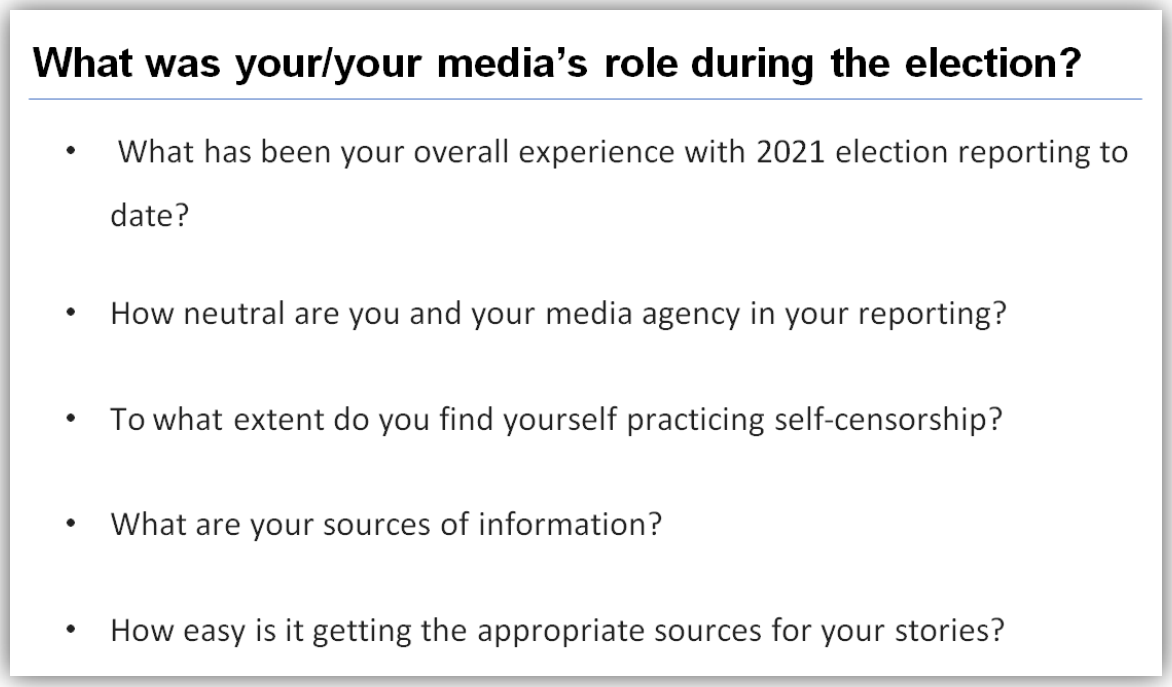
- Exercise: Compare code of conduct responsibilities for journalists vs. media houses.

- Discussion: What are the challenges of neutrality in polarized regions?

- Tool: Sample media house ethics guideline template.

FACILITATOR:

- Ask the participants to share their experience with regards to the recently held election for few minutes



Media as a MIRROR to reality, facts & evidence

Media as AMPLIFIER accelerate the spread of information

Media as ENABLER of attitudes and behaviors, for better or for worse

FACILTATOR:

- WE WILL BE DISCUSSING HOW MEDIA CAN HELP REDUCE CHANCES OF CONFLICT THROUGH "CONFLICT-AWARE" REPORTING.
- WE WILL ALSO LOOK AT HOW "FAKE NEWS" AND "DANGEROUS SPEECH" CAN CAUSE SERIOUS PROBLEMS.

Day 2: Ethical Journalism and the Election Code of Conduct

Objective

To enable journalists, editors, and media professionals to understand and internalize the ethical principles and legal responsibilities defined in the new Ethiopian Election Code of Conduct and aligned with national laws and international standards. Participants will explore how ethics apply under pressure, during high-stakes electoral coverage.

Lecture: Ethical Journalism in Electoral Contexts

Key Concepts
Ethical journalism is the foundation of media credibility and public trust—particularly during elections. It ensures that information flows are fair, inclusive, truthful, and free from manipulation or harm.

Core Principles of Journalism Ethics
(as adapted from the IFJ Global Charter of Ethics, 2019 and EMC Draft Code, 2023):

1. Truth and Accuracy – Report facts you can verify. Do not distort.
2. Independence – Avoid conflicts of interest and political partisanship.
3. Fairness and Impartiality – Cover all parties equitably.
4. Humanity – Avoid content that harms or incites.
5. Accountability – Own and correct your mistakes.

Ethiopian Legal Context

- Proclamation No. 1238/2021 (Media Law): Mandates editorial independence and journalistic accountability.
- Proclamation No. 1162/2019 (Electoral Law): Outlines fair access, airtime, and campaign regulations for media during elections.
- Proclamation No. 1185/2020 (Hate Speech Law): Criminalizes intentional disinformation and incitement.

Why Ethics Matter More during Elections

- Risk of electoral violence
- Increased political manipulation
- Public confusion due to misinformation
- Voter suppression or intimidation via biased media

“With great freedom comes great responsibility. A journalist's pen should never become a weapon of division.” – UNESCO, 2022

Case Study: Reporting Leaked Political Documents

Scenario:
A journalist receives a leaked opposition party strategy memo. It includes sensitive allegations about the ruling party and campaign funding.

Ethical Questions:

- Should the document be published without independent verification?
- Is the source trustworthy? Are they politically motivated?
- Does publishing serve the public interest or fuel disinformation?

Analysis Using the Code:

- Rule 5.4: All claims must be verified and attributed.
- Rule 6.2: Media must avoid publishing anonymous, defamatory accusations.
- Rule 7.1: News and opinion must be clearly distinguished.

Takeaway:
Even when leaked materials appear newsworthy, ethical and legal responsibilities require deeper scrutiny, verification, and context.

Group Activity: Ethics Charter for Journalists and Media Houses

Participants split into small groups and draft a two-part ethics charter, drawing from Ethiopian law and the Election Code.

Part A: Journalists' Commitments

- Uphold neutrality
- Verify sources
- Reject bribes or political favors
- Protect vulnerable groups in reporting

Part B: Media House Responsibilities

- Provide training
- Maintain internal editorial independence
- Ensure inclusive airtime allocation
- Monitor disinformation and public corrections

Presentation:
Each group shares their charter and explains how it would apply to real-life election coverage dilemmas.

Interactive Discussion: Navigating Ethical Dilemmas

Facilitator presents hypothetical scenarios for open discussion:

1. A popular candidate offers exclusive access to your newsroom if they get favorable coverage. What do you do?
2. You notice colleagues consistently covering one party while neglecting another. How do you raise the issue internally?
3. Your editor pressures you to publish a politically motivated claim without checking it. Do you comply? Why or why not?

Literature Support:

- Siebert et al. (1956): Social Responsibility Theory emphasizes journalists' duty to serve the public good, not personal or partisan interests.
- OSCE (2014): Electoral coverage must ensure balance, factual integrity, and non-discrimination.
- IFJ (2019): Journalists must act as watchdogs, not as political tools.

Practical Exercise: Map the Code to the Newsroom

Each team selects a recent election news story or radio segment (real or hypothetical) and evaluates it using the Election Code of Conduct. Consider:

- Accuracy and verification
- Balance of sources
- Use of anonymous claims
- Tone and language
- Right of reply

Objective:
Translate abstract principles into editorial decisions and routines. Discuss what should have been done differently.

Reference Reading for Day 2

Participants should review the following documents in detail:

1. Ethiopian Election Code of Conduct (full text from this study)
2. IFJ Global Charter of Ethics (2019)
3. OSCE Handbook: Media and Elections (2014)
4. Proclamations 1238/2021, 1162/2019, 1185/2020
5. EMC Draft Ethical Guidelines (2023)

Conclusion and Wrap-Up

By the end of Day 2, participants will be able to:

- Interpret and apply national and international ethics codes.
- Identify common ethical dilemmas in electoral reporting.
- Draft and adopt a newsroom ethics charter.
- Distinguish between lawful public interest and partisan content.

Analysis of the "Code of Conduct for the Mass Media and Journalists on the Manner of Reporting About Elections Regulation No. 6/2010",

The following critical assessment is presented to inform the Ethiopian Media Council (EMC)'s Election Code of Conduct. This detailed interpretation draws on direct articles and phrasing from the law to guide EMC's role in ensuring ethical media conduct, healthy information flows, and responsiveness to hate speech and misinformation.

I. Overview and Legal Basis

Purpose of the Regulation (Art. 3):
The core aim is to enable media and journalists to contribute meaningfully to democratic elections by:

- Communicating messages from candidates/parties.
- Relaying voter information.
- Providing critical and independent scrutiny of the process.

"...so that voters may make informed choices" – *Preamble*

This establishes the normative foundation for free, fair, neutral, and informative election coverage.

II. Scope of Application and Institutional Authority

Scope (Art. 4):

Applicable to any journalist or media house engaged in election-related reporting.

EMC's Election Code of Conduct must therefore bind both its members and any affiliated media actors reporting on electoral matters.

III. Responsibilities of Journalists – Ethical Standards

Core Responsibilities (Art. 6):

1. Accuracy and Balance:
    - "Report accurately and without bias" *(Art. 6.1)*
    - "Report fact-based information known to the journalist" *(Art. 6.2)*
2. Confidentiality & Integrity:

    - Protect sources *(Art. 6.3)*
    - Avoid inducements *(Art. 6.9)*
    - Reject promises from political parties *(Art. 6.10)*
3. Hate Speech and Discrimination:
    - "Avoid language that may further discrimination or violence" *(Art. 6.7)*
    - Contextualize hate speech if it must be reported *(Art. 6.8)*
4. Responsibility for Harm:
    - "Correct any harmfully inaccurate information" *(Art. 6.5)*
5. Professional Offenses (Art. 6.12):
    - Plagiarism
    - Malicious misrepresentation
    - Libel, slander
    - Acceptance of bribes

These are core principles EMC must adopt and enforce through disciplinary measures, training, and compliance auditing.

IV. Responsibilities of Media Institutions

Editorial Practice and Content Management (Art. 7):

1. Fact vs Opinion:
   "Clear separation between fact and comment." *(Art. 7.1)*
2. Public Media Neutrality:
   "Shall not express editorial opinion in favor of any party" *(Art. 7.2)*
3. Access and Fairness:
    - Equal airtime *(Art. 7.3, 7.4)*
    - Regular, fair coverage for all parties *(Art. 7.5, 7.6)*
4. Citizen Engagement:
    - Encourage voter voices *(Art. 7.7)*
5. Democratic Promotion:
    - Promote "rule of law, accountability, and governance" *(Art. 7.8)*
6. Right to Reply/Correction:
    - Must provide opportunity for redress if a candidate is defamed *(Art. 7.9)*
7. Press Conference Coverage Standards:
    - Especially when officials are also candidates *(Art. 7.10)*
8. Voter Education (Art. 7.11–7.13):
    - Must be accurate, impartial, multilingual, and inclusive of minorities.
9. Self-Monitoring:
    - Media "shall monitor their own output" for compliance *(Art. 7.14)*

EMC's code should incorporate internal review mechanisms for member media and define benchmarks for impartial education and content oversight.

V. Electoral Management and Political Party Roles

Political Parties (Art. 8):

- Must respect media freedom and not harass journalists *(Art. 8.1, 8.2)*
- No media bribery or coercion *(Art. 8.4)*

- Avoid disinformation, incitement, defamation *(Art. 8.5–8.6)*

Election Bodies (Art. 9):

- Must support media independence and facilitate access to information *(Art. 9.1, 9.4, 9.6)*
- Distribute content equally; not favor outlets *(Art. 9.5)*
- Use media to educate voters *(Art. 9.6)*

EMC must coordinate with the National Electoral Board of Ethiopia (NEBE) to maintain these standards and integrate shared oversight roles.

VI. Implications for the EMC Election Code of Conduct

EMC Code Should:

1. Embed all Article 6 and 7 principles into member obligations.
2. Establish a reporting and response system for hate speech and misinformation.
3. Define sanctions for ethical violations, including suspension, public notice, or revocation.
4. Mandate internal compliance teams within media houses.
5. Collaborate with NEBE and CSOs for voter education outreach.
6. Ensure journalist safety and editorial independence.

Conclusion

Regulation No. 6/2010 offers a legally binding, comprehensive standard that defines:

- Ethical journalism
- Equal media access
- Voter education responsibility
- Mechanisms to combat hate speech and misinformation

The Ethiopian Media Council should integrate this legal framework into its Election Code of Conduct, with clear enforcement powers and professional development tools for its members.

Reference:

- Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia. (2010). *Code of Conduct for the Mass Media and Journalists on the Manner of Reporting About Elections Regulation No. 6/2010.* National Electoral Board of Ethiopia.

Analysis of Code of Conduct and Procedures for Media and Journalists in the Preparation of Elections (Directive No. 02/2021)

Based on the translated document titled “Code of Conduct and Procedures for Media and Journalists in the Preparation of Elections (Directive No. 02/2021)”, this comprehensive analysis presents critical insights, obligations, and standards that are directly applicable to the Ethiopian Media Council’s (EMC) Election Code of Conduct. This breakdown identifies

media and journalist responsibilities, with emphasis on promoting healthy information flows, combatting hate speech and misinformation, and upholding ethical standards.

I. Legal and Institutional Framework

Legal Basis and Authority

- Issued under Proclamation No. 1133/2011 and Proclamation No. 1162/2011 by the National Electoral Board of Ethiopia (NEBE).
- Enforced starting October 18, 2021 (Art. 29).
- Applies to all forms of media including social media, blogs, broadcasting, and print during election periods (Art. 6).

Implication for EMC: This directive legally binds all journalists and media entities, providing EMC with a structured legal backbone for adopting similar codes with enforcement mechanisms.

II. Roles and Responsibilities of the Media

1. Editorial Ethics and Fair Access (Art. 16)

- Media must ensure impartiality, accuracy, and fairness.
- Avoid personal or editorial bias in reporting.
- State-run media are mandated to:
    - Provide equal airtime to all political parties.
    - Organize debates and forums.
    - Offer voter education content that is inclusive and multilingual (Art. 20–21).

EMC Takeaway: All EMC member media must implement transparent editorial policies and ensure inclusive access, particularly for minorities and underrepresented groups.

2. Reporting Standards (Art. 15 & 19)

Journalists must:

- Avoid bias, falsification, or selective quoting.
- Refrain from:
    - Recording in polling booths.
    - Taking photos of ballots.
    - Misrepresenting political stances (Art. 19.7).
- Not broadcast political predictions or election outcomes before official announcements (Art. 24).

Implication: EMC's Code should prohibit premature electoral predictions, require double-sourced verification for controversial issues, and enforce penalties for unethical practices.

III. Misinformation and Hate Speech Controls

1. Prohibited Practices (Art. 25–26)

- Accepting bribes, gifts, or any inducement by media personnel is strictly prohibited.
- Conflict of interest (e.g., being a candidate or party affiliate while reporting) is grounds for disqualification.
- Political parties are forbidden from offering material or editorial favors.

2. Preventing Harmful Content (Art. 20 & 27)

- Election reports must not:
    - Promote hate, gender-based discrimination, or stereotypes.
    - Contain false or distorted information.
    - Serve as vehicles for disinformation or incitement.

EMC Application: Require media to vet content through in-house ethics committees. Enforce zero-tolerance policies for hate speech and defamation.

IV. Accreditation and Access (Art. 8–13)

- All journalists must apply for and receive an official accreditation badge to cover electoral processes.
- Foreign media require additional licenses from the Ethiopian Broadcasting Authority.
- Media houses must declare all personnel assigned to election coverage and affirm no affiliation with political parties.

EMC Recommendation: Standardize media accreditation via EMC for internal monitoring and conflict-of-interest screening.

V. Monitoring, Complaint, and Enforcement Mechanisms

1. Violation and Suspension (Art. 18, 27)

- NEBE may suspend or revoke accreditation for any violations.
- Media houses or journalists may appeal to the Federal High Court.
- Violations include:
    - Factual misreporting.
    - Use of hate speech.
    - Political favoritism.

2. Complaints and Redress (Art. 12)

- Rejected accreditation requests and complaints can be submitted for review within 5 days.
- Violations must be documented and may result in public listing.

EMC Parallel: Establish a Complaint Resolution Committee and define appeal procedures similar to NEBE.

VI. Ethical Journalism and Inclusiveness

Key Ethical Duties (Art. 14–17):

- Uphold freedom of expression without compromising public interest.
- Encourage inclusive coverage (minorities, women, persons with disabilities).
- Protect source confidentiality.
- Prevent and correct any factual inaccuracies quickly and transparently.

EMC Codification: Reinforce these standards through training, monitoring, and peer accountability systems.

VII. Summary Recommendations for EMC Code

Area	Directive Reference	EMC Code Inclusion
Equal Airtime	Art. 16.1–2	Enforce non-discriminatory access to media platforms
Voter Education	Art. 20	Require members to broadcast NEBE-approved material
Hate Speech Prevention	Art. 19, 20, 21, 27	Define hate speech and apply strict enforcement
Misinformation Response	Art. 19.7, Art. 24	Mandate real-time corrections and fact-checking units
Accreditation Requirements	Art. 8–13	EMC-managed press registration and monitoring
Complaint Handling	Art. 12, 18	Establish internal appeals and grievance mechanisms
Conflict of Interest & Bribes	Art. 25–26	Full disclosure and disciplinary protocols

Conclusion

This directive offers an authoritative model that aligns strongly with international media ethics and local legal requirements. EMC's Election Code of Conduct must mirror these standards, codify practical enforcement tools, and serve as a pillar for protecting Ethiopia's democratic integrity through professional journalism.

Reference

National Electoral Board of Ethiopia. (2021). *Code of Conduct and Procedures for Media and Journalists in the Preparation of Elections (Directive No. 02/2021).*

Day 3: Inclusive and Balanced Election Reporting

- Lecture: Legal and ethical mandate for inclusive reporting (gender, minorities, youth).

- Workshop: Analyze front pages of regional newspapers for balance.

- Scenario: Female candidate under unfair scrutiny—how to reframe the narrative?

- Exercise: Conduct a mock editorial team meeting on equitable airtime.

- Reading: EMC Draft Ethical Guidelines; CECOE Report on Media Accessibility (2021).

Day 3: Inclusive and Balanced Election Reporting

Objective

To equip journalists and editors with the skills and legal-ethical framework necessary to ensure inclusive, impartial, and equitable coverage of all political voices during election periods. The session emphasizes representation of marginalized groups, media fairness, and responsibility for pluralistic reporting.

Lecture: Understanding Balance and Inclusivity in Election Coverage

1. What is Balanced Election Reporting?
Balanced reporting requires media to give all electoral competitors fair and equitable access. This includes:

- Equal airtime and column space for all parties/candidates.
- Fair representation of views, rebuttals, and responses.
- Avoiding bias in language, framing, visuals, and guest selection.

2. What is Inclusive Coverage?
Inclusivity involves actively covering the voices of marginalized and underrepresented groups, such as:

- Women and youth
- Ethnic and linguistic minorities
- Persons with disabilities
- Independent and emerging parties

3. Why It Matters:

- Upholds electoral fairness (Proclamation No. 1162/2019, Art. 89–91)
- Protects freedom of information and participation (FDRE Constitution, Art. 29)
- Builds public trust and avoids conflict
- Aligns with international principles like the African Union Charter and UNESCO media diversity standards

“Media silence is exclusion. Democracy is strongest when everyone is heard.” — AU Commission, 2020

Case Study: Gender Bias in Election Coverage

Scenario:
A female parliamentary candidate from Oromia receives less coverage than her male counterparts. When she is covered, the reporting focuses on her family background and dress rather than policy proposals.

Discussion Questions:

1. Is this an ethical failure, a cultural oversight, or both?
2. How does such framing affect public perception?
3. What could the newsroom have done to cover the candidate more fairly?

Link to Code:

- Election Code Section 6.3: “Avoid stereotyping, bias, or objectification based on gender, ethnicity, or status.”
- IFJ Charter: Calls for equal treatment regardless of gender or status.

Activity: Media Monitoring Simulation

Instructions:
Participants analyze real or simulated election media clips (TV, print, radio, online) from past Ethiopian elections. Using a coding sheet, they assess:

- Airtime/space allocation
- Balance in coverage
- Language used to describe different parties
- Framing of marginalized voices

Output:
Groups present their findings and identify:

- Examples of bias
- Missed opportunities for inclusion
- Suggestions for improved editorial planning

Group Work: Inclusive Interview Guidelines

Each team develops a checklist for conducting fair interviews with candidates or voters from marginalized backgrounds. The checklist should address:

- Language sensitivity and translation
- Equal opportunity to speak
- Questions focused on policy, not personal attributes
- Inclusion of follow-up questions that offer clarification

Goal:
Ensure that interviews with diverse voices reflect the same professionalism and editorial standards as those with dominant actors.

Discussion: Equal Access – Legal vs. Reality

Prompt Questions:

- Are NEBE airtime rules enforced fairly?
- How do media houses decide whom to feature in debates?
- What role do editors and producers play in gatekeeping access?
- Should media be proactive in covering underrepresented groups—or neutral?

Literature Link:

- CECOE (2021): Found significant airtime disparities in 2021 elections.
- McQuail (1987): *Democratic-Participant Media Theory* encourages horizontal communication and inclusive access.
- UNESCO (2022): Calls for *affirmative content strategies* in emerging democracies.

Quick Exercise: Rewriting Biased Headlines

Before:
“Female Candidate from Remote District Tries Her Luck in Parliament Race”
After:
“Education Advocate and Community Organizer Competes in Parliamentary Race”

Discussion:
What messages do each of these headlines send? How can framing uplift or marginalize?

Reference Reading for Day 3

1. Proclamation No. 1162/2019, Arts. 89–91 (equity in media access)
2. CECOE Policy Brief (2021): Media access and coverage patterns
3. IFJ Charter of Ethics (2019) – Fair representation mandate
4. McQuail, D. (1987) – *Mass Communication Theory*
5. UNESCO (2022) – Guide on inclusive reporting during elections

Conclusion and Key Takeaways

By the end of Day 3, participants will be able to:

- Apply equity and balance standards to real coverage
- Identify and correct biased language and framing
- Promote the inclusion of diverse voices in election coverage
- Use interview and editorial tools to ensure representational fairness

Extended List: Advantages of Media Reporting During Elections

1. Public Trust and Credibility Building
    - Media gain public legitimacy through accurate, fair, and balanced reporting.
    - Journalists who perform well increase personal and institutional credibility.
    - (McQuail, 2010)
2. Democratic Engagement and Voter Education
    - Enables citizens to make informed voting decisions.
    - Enhances political literacy and debate participation.
    - (Voltmer, 2021)
3. Watchdog and Accountability Role
    - Acts as a check on government and party activities.
    - Exposes malpractice, hate speech, and misinformation.
    - (Norris, 2000)
4. Monitoring Function
    - Tracks campaign activities, election promises, and candidate credibility.
    - Contributes to fair electoral competition.
    - (Stremlau & Price, 2009)
5. Platform for Inclusive Voices
    - Gives airtime to marginalized groups, women, minorities, and civil society.
    - Strengthens pluralism in political discourse.
    - (UNESCO, 2022)
6. Crisis Prevention and Early Warning
    - Identifies hate speech, incitement, or inflammatory rhetoric early.
    - Facilitates timely response by authorities and civil groups.
    - (Article 19, 2015)
7. Professional Development of Journalists
    - Real-time experience in investigative reporting, verification, and live coverage.
    - Elevates skills in legal understanding, electoral procedures, and source protection.
    - (Berkeley Media Studies Group, 2019)
8. Boost in Audience Reach and Influence
    - Election periods lead to higher audience numbers and greater media relevance.
    - Drives traffic to both traditional and digital platforms.
    - (IREX, 2021)
9. Revenue Generation and Advertiser Interest
    - Attracts campaign-related advertising and donor interest.
    - Opens doors for financial sustainability, especially for private media.

- (IREX, 2020)

10. Legitimacy for Independent Journalism
    - Serves as proof of media independence and resilience.
    - Counters state propaganda and partisan narratives.
    - (Howard & Hussain, 2021)

Conclusion

In conclusion, informants were clear in asserting that elections are a pivotal moment for the media. When managed ethically and professionally, this period provides a unique opportunity for the press to build institutional legitimacy, foster democratic engagement, and reinforce journalistic credibility. As one informant aptly put it, *"Elections make or break a journalist's reputation."*

Day 4: Countering Disinformation and Hate Speech

- Lecture: Digital verification tools—reverse image search, metadata analysis.

- Exercise: Debunk a viral fake video or meme.

- Scenario: Hate speech posted anonymously—how should newsrooms respond?

- Discussion: Where does regulation end and censorship begin?

- Toolbox: Fact-checking checklist; legal risks of reposting unverified content.

Day 4: Disinformation and Hate Speech in Election Reporting

Discussion: FACILITATOR:

- WE WILL LATER DISCUSS MORE ABOUT “MEDIA MISUSE”.
- JOURNALISTS SHOULD MONITOR WHETHER THIS NEW LAW IS APPLIED FAIRLY TO ALL GROUPS.

QUESTION: WHAT DOES “DISTURBANCE OF PUBLIC ORDER” MEAN?

Source: *“Ethiopia Passes Controversial Law Curbing Hate Speech,” Aljazeera, Feb. 13, 2020.*

https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2020/02/ethiopia-passes-controversial-law-curbing-hate-speech-200213132808083.html



“Controversial Law?”

The new law defines hate speech as "hatred, discrimination or attack against a person or an discernable group of identity , based on ethnicity, religion, race, gender or disability”

የጥላቻ ንግግር ማለት በአንድ ሰው ወይም በተወሰነ ቡድን ማንነት ላይ ያነጣጠረ ፣ ብሔርን፡ ብሔረሰብንና ህዝብን ፣ ሃይማኖትን ፤ ዘርን ፣ ጾታን ወይም አካል ጉዳተኝነትን መሰረት በማድረግ ሆን ተብሎ ጥላቻን ፣ መድሎን ወይም ጥቃትን የሚያነሳሳ ንግግር ነው።

የጥላቻ ንግግርና የሐሰተኛ መረጃ ስርጭትን ለመከላከልና ለመቆጣጠር የወጣ አዋጅ : አዋጅ ቁጥር 1185 /2012

The new law permits fines of up to 100,000 Ethiopian birr ($3,100) and imprisonment for up to five years for anyone who shares or creates social media posts that are deemed to result in "violence or public disturbance." 'ሁከት ወይም ግጭት'

FACILITATOR: WE WILL LATER DISCUSS MORE ABOUT "MEDIA MISUSE". JOURNALISTS SHOULD MONITOR WHETHER THIS NEW LAW IS APPLIED FAIRLY TO ALL GROUPS. QUESTION: WHAT DOES "DISTURBANCE OF PUBLIC ORDER" MEAN?

https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2020/02/ethiopia-passes-controversial-law-curbing-hate-speech-200213132808083.html

https://www.accessnow.org/cms/assets/uploads/2020/05/Hate-Speech-and-Disinformation-Prevention-and-Suppression-Proclamation.pdf

Objective

To enable journalists, editors, and media professionals to identify, prevent, and responsibly report on misinformation, disinformation, and hate speech. This session builds practical skills in verification and introduces legal and ethical safeguards relevant to Ethiopia's electoral environment.

Lecture: Understanding Disinformation and Hate Speech

Key Definitions:

- Misinformation: False information shared without harmful intent.
- Disinformation: False information deliberately created or spread to mislead.
- Malinformation: Genuine information shared to cause harm (e.g., leaked private information).
- Hate Speech: Expression that incites violence, hatred, or discrimination based on ethnicity, religion, gender, or affiliation.
- Fake News: Reportage that creates a fictional event, or significantly distorts or misrepresents the factual bases of a real event, either intentionally or not.
- FACILITATOR:
- FAKE NEWS CAN BE MISINFORMATION OR DISINFORMATION; THE MEASURE IS THE CONTENT, NOT THE INTENT
- Fake News: Profitable or Purposeful?
- Other forms including parody or satire
- are not meant to be believed…

DISCUSSION:

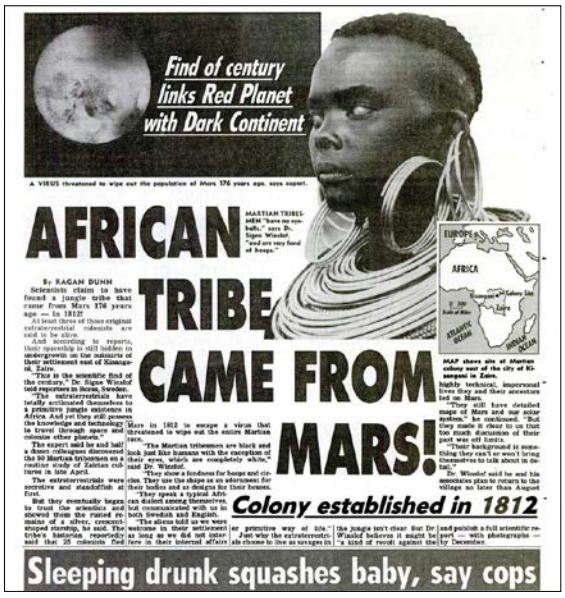
- FOR PROFIT: CLICKBAIT, EYEBALLS,
- POLITICAL INTENT?

DISCUSSION:

Weekly World News USA, 12 Jul 1988.

- COULD SUCH “NEWS” HAVE REAL-LIFE IMPACT?
- IN 1988, SUCH FAKE NEWS COULD LIKELY NOT HAVE ANY REAL IMPACT ON THE GROUND IN CONGO, BECAUSE IT WOULD NOT REACH THERE.
- IN TODAY’S GLOBALIZED INFORMATION MEDIASCAPE, THIS “FAKE NEWS” COULD REACH CONGO.
- SOME people might believe that a ”Tribe from Mars” are inferior…or has no right to land in their area… and violence could ensue.

Fake News



Find of century links Red Planet with Dark Continent

AFRICAN TRIBE CAME FROM MARS!

Colony established in 1812

Sleeping drunk squashes baby, say cops

Source: Weekly World News USA, 12 July 1988

Legal Framework in Ethiopia:

- Proclamation No. 1185/2020: Prohibits hate speech and false digital content.
- Election Code of Conduct (Chapter 13): Penalizes media for publishing hate-inciting or unverified information.
- Criminal Code Provisions: Applicable in incitement to violence or ethnic unrest via media.

Global Context:

- UNESCO (2022): Disinformation threatens electoral integrity globally.
- OSCE (2014): Media must avoid amplifying divisive rhetoric and focus on verified, evidence-based reporting.

“In elections, a lie can travel faster than the truth. The journalist’s job is not only to catch up—but to correct.” — CPJ, 2021

Beware Stereotyping

STEREOTYPING AS THREE STAGES

“Stereotyping suggests a process of categorical responding, where characteristics of a situation are increasingly interrelated and predictable from a specific stimulus — the homogenization of an image.”

FACILITATOR:

- SOME “STEREOTYPED” REACTIONS ARE USEFUL.
- FOR INSTANCE, IF WE HERE A CAR SOUND IT HORN BEHIND US [THE “STIMULUS”], we know we should get out of the way.
- Stereotyping as three stages:
- A process of categorical responding; increasingly interrelated and predictable characteristics leading to homogenization.
- Negative effects of stereotyping occur when characteristics are then polarized. The holding of attributes in the extreme, applying them to the full degree, is polarization.
- Over time, it is an example of fixedness. At this point, the image has become resistant to changes in actual conditions and events.

FACILITATOR:

- CAN OUR PERCEPTIONS OF OTHER GROUPS CHANGE?
- DISCUSSION:

+ CAN YOU OFFER SOME EXAMPLES OF STEREOTYPING OF CERTAIN GROUPS IN ETHIOPIA?

+ ARE THESE STEREOTYPING USED IN MEDIA REPORTS?

+ IS YOUR GROUP THE SUBJECT OF ANY STEREOTYPING?

+ WHAT SPECIFIC WORDS OR IMAGES ARE USED?

Beware Manipulation

"[T]he people can always be brought to the bidding of the leaders. That is easy. All you have to do is tell them they are being attacked and denounce the pacifists for lack of patriotism and exposing the country [or group] to danger. It works the same way in any country."

FACILITATOR:

- MANIPULATION OF PUBLIC SENTIMENT WAS MENTIONED A FEW MOMENTS AGO WHILE WE DISCUSSED "DANGEROUS SPEECH".
- EXPLAIN: THIS AN OLD TACTIC:
- SENIOR GERMAN NAZI LEADER HERMAN GORING EXPLAINED HOW PEOPLE ARE EASILY CONVINCED TO SUPPORT EVEN THE MOST EXTREME POLICIES.
- DISCUSSION:
- ARE SOME GROUP LEADERS APPEALING TO GROUP IDENTITY THIS WAY IN ETHIOPIA?

What may be said?

Lawful Freedom of Expression

- Article 19 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights
- Constitution of Ethiopia
- Freedom of Conscience
- Religious Belief and Opinion
- NEBE Proclamation



- THE TERMINOLOGY AROUND HATE SPEECH INCLUDES: HATE SPEECH, INCITEFUL SPEECH, DANGEROUS SPEECH, FEAR SPEECH, INFLAMMATORY LANGUAGE AND HARMFUL SPEECH



Dangerous Speech Additional Considerations

What is the influence of the perpetrator?

Is there a call to action and what does it contain?

What are the intended consequences?

How likely and imminent is any harm?

What is the content of the message?

Is there a clear target?

Ethical Journalist Network's Five Point Test for Hate Speech

1. Status of the Speaker: How might their position influence their motives? Should they even be listened to or just ignored?

2. Reach of the Speech: How far is the speech traveling? Is there a pattern of behavior?
3. Goals of the Speech: How does it benefit the speaker and their interests? Is it deliberately intended to cause harm to others?
4. The Content Itself: Is the speech dangerous? Could it incite violence towards others?
5. Surrounding Climate: Who might be negatively affected? Is there a history of conflict or discrimination?

FROM ETHICAL JOURNALISM NETWORK

FACILITATOR: EXERCISE

- GUIDE PARTICIPANTS THROUGH THE FIVE POINTS BRIEFLY
- CAN ANY PARTICIPANTS OFFER A SPECIFIC EXAMPLE THAT TO BE ANALYZED?
- EACH WILL RECEIVE A COPY OF THIS POSTER AT THE CLOSE OF THE WORKSHOP

ETHIOPIA HATE SPEECH/DANGEROUS SPEECH GLOSSARY

Facilitator:

- EXERCISE– LET'S MAKE A LIST OF WORDS OR EXPRESSION THAT COULD MAKE OTHERS ANGRY?
- - What terms are used in your region that could be considered "dangerous speech"?
- - What expressions are used to describe other groups?
- - What expressions do other groups use to describe your group?

Tips from the Ethical Journalism Network

- Maintain good journalistic values – accuracy, accountability, and building trust.
- Understand what constitutes hate speech content and how best to identify it through the use of tools such as the Ethical Journalist Network's Five Point Test for Hate Speech.
- Differentiate between facts, fiction, and opinion. Ensure to cross check statements that may be presented as 'facts' but mislead the public and generate dangerous speech.
- Be mindful of contexts and language use when reporting
- Be aware of dangerous speech embedded within linguistic codes across different cultures
- Ensure the contextual relevance of the story when identifying an individual as a member of a particular group of society
- Avoid stereotyping, generalization, judgment or labelling
- Avoid partisan views, especially when covering election campaigns
- Be aware of political agendas that use hate speech for political gains
- Avoid publishing graphic or visual content depicting hate
- Establish moderation processes to monitor feedback and comments across all media platforms, including those that are 'live'
- Critically assess the content of social media posts before rushing to report on or share them
- Consider your own physical and psychological safety

- (Please refer to the annex on Journalist Safety on your handbook)
-
- FACILITATOR:
- THESE MORE DETAILED AND USEFUL GUIDELINES WILL BE PROVIDED AS A HANDOUT.
- https://ethicaljournalismnetwork.org/resources/publications/south-east-asia-reporting-hate-speech-terrorism-violence/hate-speech



Case Study: Viral Disinformation Before the 2021 Elections

Scenario:
An image circulated online showed ballot boxes being burned in one Ethiopian region. It was later discovered that the image was from a protest in another country and several years old.

Discussion Questions:

1. What verification tools should have been used before reporting this?
2. What ethical failures occurred?
3. What are the legal consequences if the outlet had published this image without fact-checking?

Practical Lessons:

- Verify sources with reverse image search (Google, TinEye).
- Use metadata tools to analyze file creation and geolocation.
- Confirm with official statements or on-the-ground correspondents.

Election News Selection:

"Do all politicians lie?"

TRUST BUT VERIFY

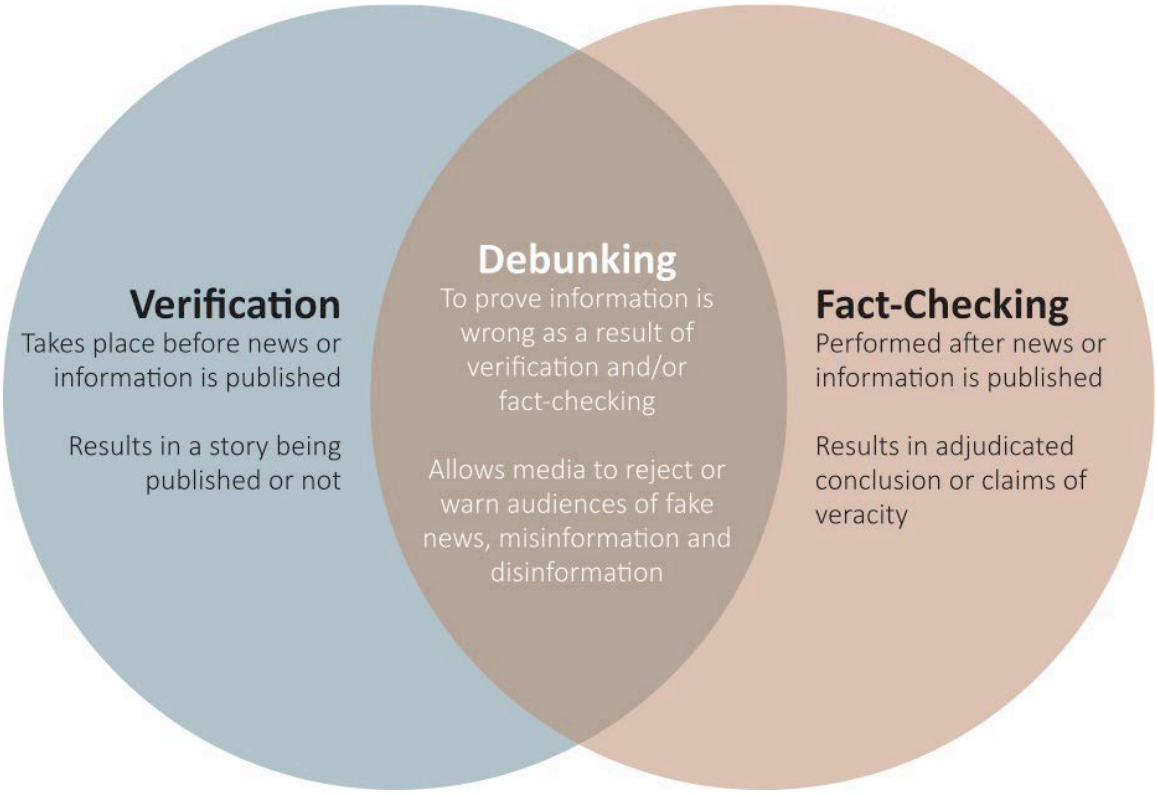
- "TRUST BUT VERIFY" IS AN EXPRESSION BASED ON A OLD RUSSIAN FOLK JOKE…
- IT WAS POPULARIZED DURING THE COLD WAR AS USA AND USSR AGREED TO REDUCE THEIR NUCLEAR WEAPONS.
- EACH SIDE SAID THEY WOULD TRUST THE OTHER TO REDUCE THEIR WEAPONS, BUT ONLY IF THEY COULD COUNT THE WEAPONS!
- WE MUST VERIFY ALL INFORMATION BEFORE WE PUBLISH.
- WE SHOULD FACT-CHECKS STATEMENTS BY POLITICIANS OR OTHERS

Teams Tasked With Creating:

- A 3-step verification procedure before publishing election content.
- Guidelines for verifying user-generated content and images.
- A newsroom response plan for retracting or correcting disinformation.

Tools to Introduce:

- InVID video verification tool
- CrowdTangle for tracking viral trends
- Fact-checking template (included in toolkit)



Facilitator:

- - VERIFICATION TAKES PLACE BEFORE NEWS OR INFORMATION IS PUBLISHED.
- - FACT-CHECKING IS PERFORMED AFTER NEWS OR INFORMATION IS PUBLISHED.
- - DEBUNKING MEANS TO PROVE INFORMATION IS WRONG.
- IT CAN BE THE RESULT OF VERIFICATION AND/OR FACT-CHECKING AND ALLOWS MEDIA TO REJECT OR TO WARN AUDIENCES OF FAKE NEWS, HOAXES, MISINFORMATION AND DISINFORMATION

Poynter Institute https://www.poynter.org/ifcn/

Scenario Discussion: Hate Speech in Political Interviews

Scenario:
During a live interview, a candidate refers to an ethnic group as “unfit to govern” and accuses them of sabotage.

Facilitator Prompts:

- Do you cut the broadcast? Why or why not?
- Are you legally obligated to report the incident?
- How do you protect freedom of speech while preventing incitement?

Legal Reference:

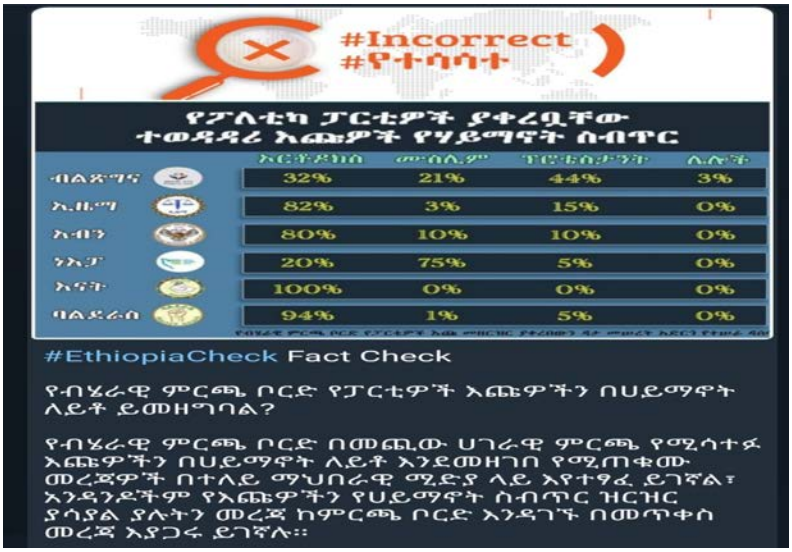
- Under Proclamation 1185/2020, the media outlet and journalist could face legal consequences for amplifying hate speech without moderation or correction.

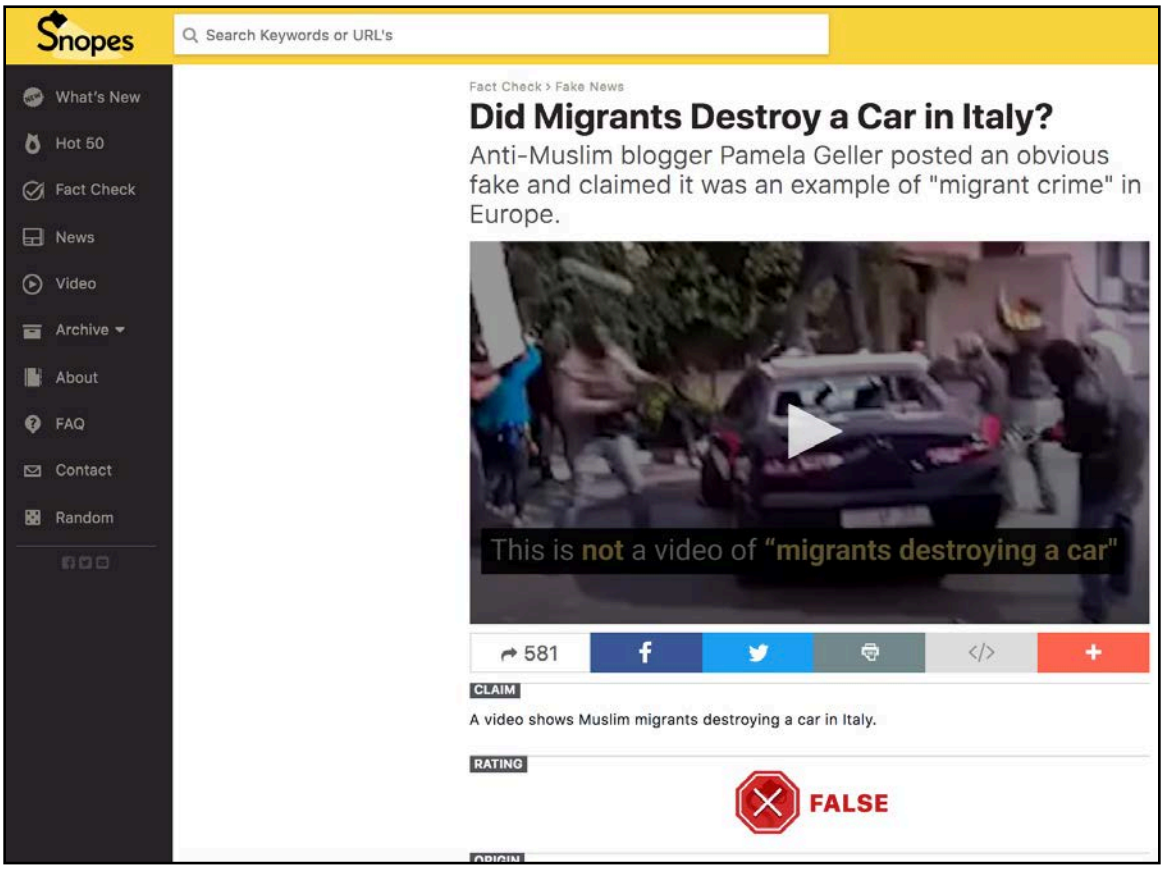
Interactive Exercise: Debunking a Viral Post

Task:
Each group is given a sample viral post with embedded falsehoods (e.g., fake quotes, misused images, fabricated polling data).

Instructions:

- Use online verification tools to confirm or disprove each element.
- Prepare a correction post or segment.
- Draft a disclaimer protocol for your outlet's digital platform.





FACILITATOR:

- THIS IS AN EXAMPLE OF HOW IMAGES CAN BE USED FALSELY TO SERVE POLITICAL PURPOSES
- WE SEE A GROUP OF BLACK MEN ATTACKING A AUTOMOBILE.
- THIS IMAGE WAS SPREAD BY RIGHT-WING ANTI-IMMIGRANT GROUPS AS AN EXAMPLE OF IMMIGRANT VIOLENCE IN ITALY.
- IN REALITY, THIS WAS FROM A MOVIE ABOUT GANG VIOLENCE.

HTTPS://WWW.SNOPES.COM/FACT-CHECK/DID-MIGRANTS-DESTROY-A-CAR-IN-ITALY/

Discussion: Regulating vs. Censoring Free Speech

Debate Prompt:
“Regulating political speech during elections is essential for peace.”
Split participants into pro and con teams and facilitate a debate exploring:

- Limits of freedom of expression (FDRE Constitution, Art. 29)
- Difference between regulation and censorship
- Who decides what qualifies as “dangerous” content?

Literature Support:

- Entman (1993): Framing Theory—how media portrayal affects public perception.
- AU (2002): Banjul Declaration—balances media freedom with responsibility.
- Freedom House (2023): Ethiopia's digital disinformation landscape.

Why Systematic Fact-Checking?

- Clear processes that apply anywhere, anytime
- Goes beyond bias and assumptions when evaluating information
- Find better data, question data sources (especially if you agree with them)
- Give easy, simple tools and shared language around fact-checking

FACILITATOR:

- THESE ARE ALSO GOOD GUIDELINES FOR ELECTION REPORTING… AND ALL REPORTING!
- REVIEW BRIEFLY–
- ASK PARTCIPANTS IF THEY THINK ANY OF THEIR BIASES AFFECT THEIR REPORTING?
- PARTICPANTS WILL RECEIVE A COPY OF THIS POSTER

HTTPS://ETHICALJOURNALISMNETWORK.ORG/EJN-LAUNCHES-NEW-MIGRATION-REPORTING-GUIDELINES-GFMD



Reference Readings for Day 4

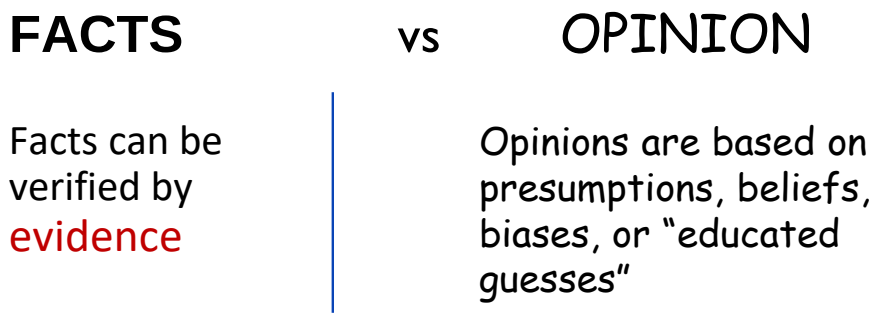
1. Proclamation No. 1185/2020: Hate Speech and Disinformation Law
2. FDRE Constitution, Article 29
3. Election Code of Conduct, Sections on disinformation and hate speech
4. CPJ (2021): Safety Guide for Journalists
5. Entman, R. (1993): Framing Theory
6. UNESCO (2022): Elections and the Media in Africa
7. African Union (2002): Declaration of Principles on Freedom of Expression

Conclusion & Key Takeaways

By the end of Day 4, participants will:

- Understand the difference between misinformation, disinformation, and hate speech.
- Know how to verify viral content and user submissions.
- Apply ethical decision-making when covering controversial or divisive content.
- Build and use an internal newsroom disinformation protocol.

FACT or OPINION



Ethiopian polling stations ma FACT OR OPINION???

- THIS CAN BE VERIFIED IN NEBE REGULATIONS. FACT

y have no more than 1000 registered voters

50 million people will vote in Ethiopia's 2021 elections

FACT OR OPINION???

THIS IS AN "EDUCATED GUESS"– ABOUT SOMETHING THAT HAS NOT YET HAPPENED. HYPOTEHTICALS AND SPECULATION CAN NEVER BE FACTS! OPINION!

The NEBE has nine commissioners.

FACT OR OPINION???

- FACT---PERHAPS!!!

- THE NUMBER OF NEBE COMMISSIONERS CAN BE VERIFIED AS A FACT IN NEBE REGULATIONS.
- BUT IS THE NUMBER CORRECT?

Recent violence in Ethiopia was caused by social media

FACT OR OPINION???

OPINION!

- THIS CANNOT BE PROVEN.
- ONE MIGHT STATE: "IT IS WIDELY BELIEVED THAT SOCIAL MEDIA CONTRIBUTED TO THE SPREAD OF RECENT VIOLENCE IN ETHIOPIA."
- BUT EVEN THIS STATEMENT SHOULD BE SUPPORTED BY EXPERT EVIDENCE.

"BAD" INFORMATION CAN…

- Prevent people from seeking or finding appropriate help
- Entrench myths around prejudice, especially race, ethnicity, religion
- Marginalize individuals and communities
- Create unnecessary fear and panic
- Inhibit appropriate allocation of resources, or strategic responses

Credible fact-checking and verification demands consistency – applying an identical process to all fact-checks, especially when you think the items being checked are true.

Case study

"Women of Al-Shabaab", East African, Nairobi, January 2018 photo caption "A combination of family ties, the desire to avenge ill-treated loved ones and economic distress is driving some young Kenyan women into the arms of Somali terrorist group Al Shabaab". PHOTO | FILE

https://www.theeastafrican.co.ke/news/ea/Al-Shabaab-women-fighters-/4552908-4285476-irtk4iz/index.html

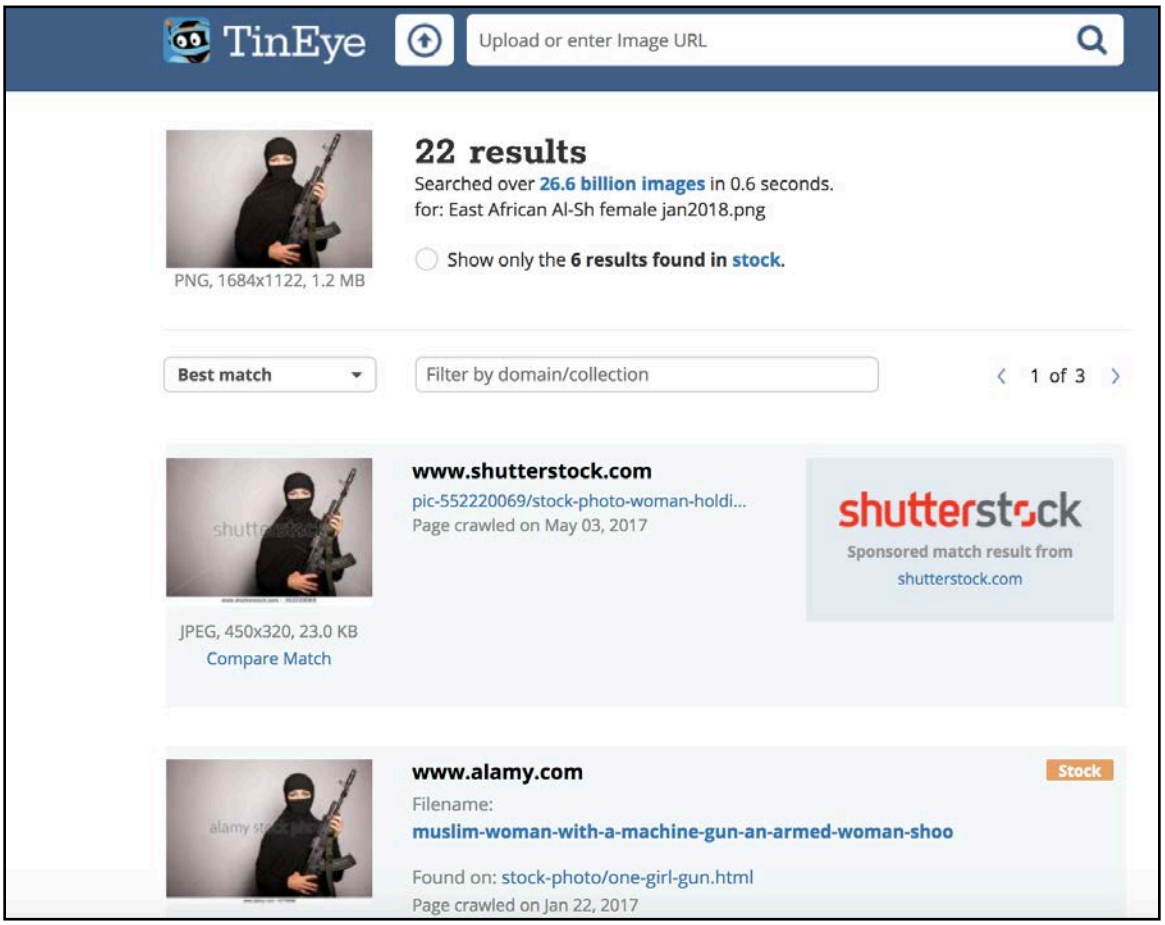
Verifying Images



Source: The East African.
https://www.theeastafrican.co.ke/news/ea/Al-Shabaab-women-fighters-/4552908-4285476-irtk4iz/index.html

FACILITATOR: WHAT DO YOU THINK ABOUT THIS PHOTO? DOES IT SEEM REAL TO YOU?

"WOMEN OF AL-SHABAAB", EAST AFRICAN, NAIROBI, JANUARY 2018



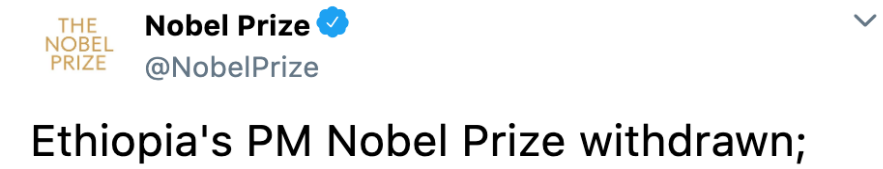
FACILITATOR:

- WE CAN CHECK IF A PHOTO IS FOUND ON THE INTERNET THROUGH REVERSE IMAGE SEARCH SITES LIKE TINEYE OR YANDEX
- WE CAN UPLOAD THE IMAGE OR INSERT THE URL.
- HERE WE FIND THE IMAGE OF THIS WOMAN ON A PHOTO AGENCY SITE… A MODEL, NOT AL-SHABAAB AT ALL!
- IN GOOGLE CHROME, WE CAN RIGHT-CLICK ON AN IMAGE TO USE SEVERAL SEARCH ENGINES.
- ALSO SHOW THIS IF POSSIBLE:
- HTTPS://FR.123RF.COM/PHOTO_65284431_FEMME-MUSULMANE-AVEC-UNE-MITRAILLEUSE-UNE-FEMME-ARM%C3%A9E-TIRE-FEMME-ISLAMIQUE-TENANT-UNE-ARME-AUTOMATIQUE.HTML
- WE CAN ALSO “RIGHT-CLICK” ON AN IMAGE WHILE BROWSING USING GOOGLE TO DO A REVERSE INMAGE SEARCH

“WOMEN OF AL-SHABAAB”, EAST AFRICAN, NAIROBI, JANUARY 2018

BEWARE FAKE POSTS!!!

Fake facebook posts are easily created - then pasted/attached into other social media, including, telegram, twitter, whatsapp, and even facebook itself.



FAKE TWEETS



HTTPS://WWW.THEEASTAFRICAN.CO.KE/NEWS/EA/AL-SHABAAB-WOMEN-FIGHTERS-/4552908-4285476-IRTK4IZ/INDEX.HTML

Fake posts are very easy to create and can be very effective means to spread fake news and dangerous speech. Source: Gobena Street, Oct 2019.

https://en.gobenastreet.com/2019/10/30/spotting-fake-photos-on-your-smartphone/

5. **Mockery/ Viral Content**



Some fake photos are simply created and distributed to create viral content for comedic purposes or mockery such as in the above image, where Ethiopian president Sahle-Work's head was photo-shopped on to another girl's photo.

As these posts tend to go viral on social media that it becomes difficult to trace the initial source of the image. This is why it is very important that people have access to quick and easy methods to verify images that circulate on social media. Below, we will demonstrate two methods of how to do a reverse image search on a smartphone.

Source: Gobena Street, Oct 2019.

https://en.gobenastreet.com/2019/10/30/spotting-fake-photos-on-your-smartphone/

2. **Falsify Protest Demands**

Fake images have also been used during protests. People changed the content of slogans by protestors and circulated them on social media platforms. One prominent example of this is during the protest in Tigray region against PM Abiy administration's decision to implement the decision on the Ethio-Eritrea Border Commission.

Through changing the content of slogans by fake images, one can try to falsify the demands of protestors and incite conflict between the protesters and other groups whose communal values are being disgraced by the photo-shopped slogan. This is demonstrated by the fake image of a slogan that went viral.



Source: Gobena Street, Oct 2019.

https://en.gobenastreet.com/2019/10/30/spotting-fake-photos-on-your-smartphone/

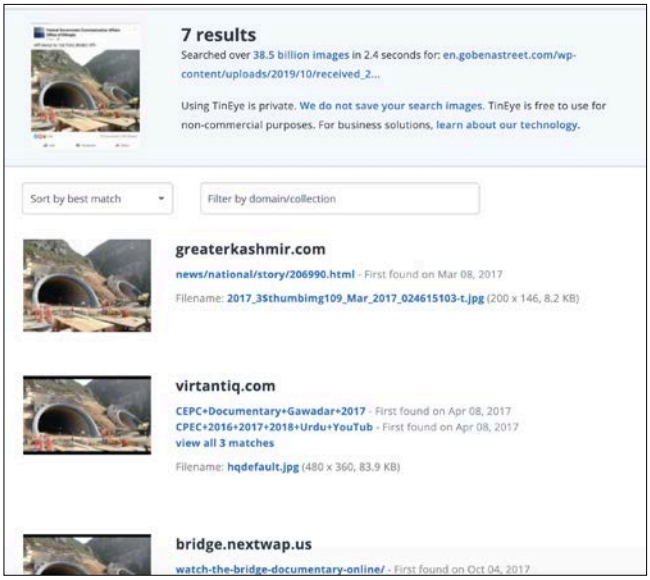
4. **Glorify Fake Accomplishments**

State media and their affiliates could also use fake images to praise accomplishments that are not entirely true for popularity. Prominent examples of this are seen through news reports on the inauguration of new and completed projects by the government. In these news reports, images of projects from other countries have been used to make it seem like those projects are being implemented in Ethiopia. The image is one example.



Image of the Devils Slide Tunnels in California being used by the Ethiopian Federal Communications Affairs Office to depict a railway project in the Awash Waldiya Hara Gebeya line

Checking images by “reverse image search”



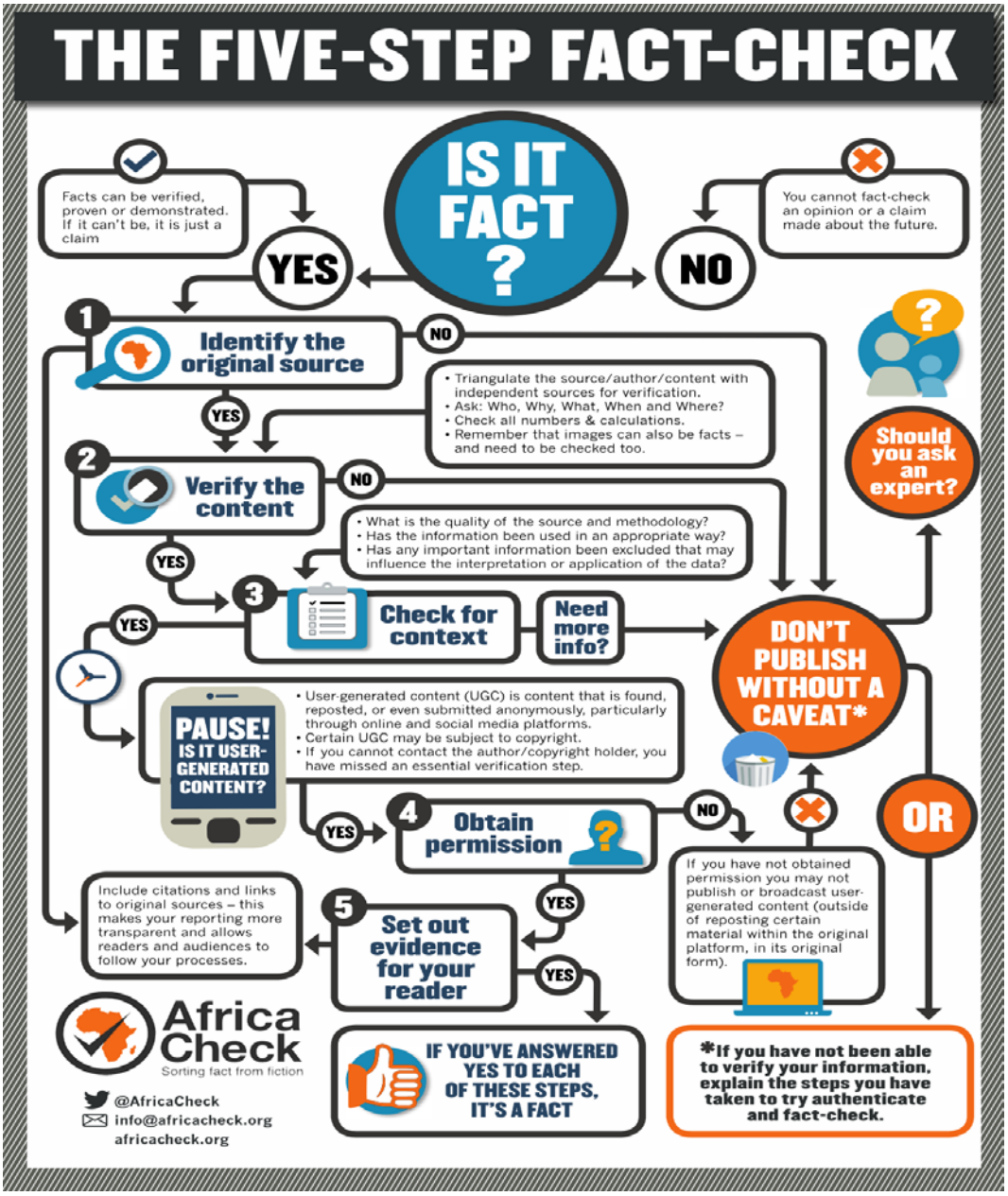
Example of a Photo/Image Verification Service

https://tineye.com/



FACILITATOR:

- THIS IS FROM THE GOOD FOLKS AT AFRICA CHECK:
- PLEASE REVIEW THE MAIN POINTS OF THE FIVE-STEP FACT CHECK USING A REAL LOCAL EXAMPLE.
- PARTICPANTS WILL RECEIVE A COPY OF THIS POSTER



Facilitator note:

1. A tweet from a non existent UN official was featured on Ethiopian Press Agency and the Ethiopian Herald and

2. A picture circulating online of a damaged church in Tigray is misleading. It is a 1999 photo from Adi Keih in Eritrea.

https://www.bbc.com/news/56456535





Facilitators note:

1. The thirsty children are not from Tigray but neighboring Afar region and the picture is from 2019.

2. "USAID has neither conducted an investigation nor sent a team to investigate the reported events that took place in Axum…“





ኢትዮጵያ ቼክ

መረጃዎችን ከሚጣራት የሚከተሏቸው ሂደቶች!



1. የመረጃው ምንጭ ማነው?

- መረጃውን ያወጣውን ግለሰብ ወይም ተቋም መለየት
- ሙሉ መረጃውን መረዳት
- መረጃው የወጣበትን ሰአት፣ ቀን፣ ወር እና አመት መለየት
- የወጣው መረጃ ለመጣራት የሚበቃ መሆኑን መለየት፣ ይህም ምን ያህል በስፋት መሰራጨቱ እንዲሁም ያሰራጨው ግለሰብ ወይም ተቋም ለብዙዎች ተደራሽ መሆኑን ማየትን ይጠይቃል



2. የቀረበው ማስረጃ ምንድን ነው?

- መረጃው አያይዞ ያቀረበው ፎቶ፣ ቪድዮ ወይም ሊንኮች እንዳሉ መለየት
- እነዚህ የተለዩትን መረጃዎች መመርመር

ኢትዮጵያ ቼክ

መረጃዎችን ከሚጣራት የሚከተሏቸው ሂደቶች!



3. ከመረጃው ጋር ተያይዞ የተጠቀሱ አካላት ምን ይላሉ?

- እነዚህን ጉዳዩ የሚመለከታቸው አካላትን በቀጥታ በማናገር መረጃውን መመዘን
- ሌሎች ግለሰቦች፣ ታማኝ ምንጮች እና ሚድያዎች በጉዳዩ ዙርያ ያሉት ነገር ካለ መመልከት



4. መረጃውን ማጣራት።

የአይን እማኞችን፣ በጉዳዩ ዙርያ እውቀት እና መረጃ ያላቸው ግለሰቦችን፣ አስፈላጊ ሲሆን የሆነ አንቀፆችን እንዲሁም በሞባይል መተግበሪያ እና በድረ - ገፅ የሚገኙ ሶፍትዌሮችን በመጠቀም የማጣራት ስራ መስራት።

ሐቅን ማጣራት ፣ የሀቅ ማስረጃ

መነሻው የጋዜጠኝነት ሙያ ሥነ ምግባር ቢሆንም የዘመናችን ሀቅ አጣሪዎች በተለይ ከሐሰተኛ መረጃ ወረርሸኝ መንሰራፋት ጋር ተያይዞ የመረጃ ቴክኖሎጂን ከሚዲያ ሥራ ጋር በማስተሳሰር (በማዋሀድ)

‹‹የሀቅ ማጣራት ጋዜጠኝነት›› ንኡስ ዘርፍን መሥርተው በስፋት እየሠሩ ይገኛሉ።

ሀቅ ማጣራት ሲባል ለብዙኃን የሚሠራጭ የማንኛውንም መረጃ ሀቀኝነት የማመሳከር ሥራ ተብሎ ሊገለጽ ይችላል። መነሻው የጋዜጠኝነት ሙያ ሥነ ምግባር ቢሆንም የዘመናችን ሀቅ አጣሪዎች በተለይ ከሐሰተኛ መረጃ ወረርሸኝ መንሰራፋት ጋር ተያይዞ የመረጃ ቴክኖሎጂን ከሚዲያ ሥራ ጋር በማስተሳሰር (በማዋሀድ) ‹‹የሀቅ ማጣራት ጋዜጠኝነት›› ንኡስ ዘርፍን መሥርተው በስፋት እየሠሩ ይገኛሉ።



ቁልፍ ሐሳቦች

ለብዙኃን የሚሠራጭ፡ ሀቅ የማጣራት ሥራ ጊዜ፣ ገንዘብና የሰው ኃይል የሚፈልግ በመሆኑ በስፋት ለሕዝብ ተደራሽ በሆኑ የኤሌክትሮኒክስ፣

የኅትመት ወይም የበይነ መረብ የተግባቦት ሥርዓቶችን በመጠቀም የሚሰራጭ መረጃን ይገልጻል።



መረጃ

ሀቀኝነቱ የሚመሳከር መረጃ ማለት በመገናኛ ብዙኃን የሚነገር ዜና ብቻ አይደለም፤ ነገር ግን በሕዝብ ዘንድ ተደማጭነት ያላቸው ግለሰቦች፣

ቡድኖች ወይም ተቋማት የሚያሠራጯቸው መረጃዎችንም ያጠቃልላል። ፖለቲከኞች የሚያደርጓቸው ንግግሮች ወይም ክርክሮች፣ የምርጫ ቅስቀሳዎችን የሚጨምር ሲሆን፣ መረጃ በጽሑፍና በድምፅ፣ በፎቶ ወይም በማንኛውም ዓይነት ተንቀሳቃሽ ምስል ሊቀርብ ይችላል።

ሀቀኝነት



ሀቅ ማለት በማያሻማ መልኩ ማንኛውም ሰው ሊያመሳክረው የሚችል ማስረጃ ላይ የተመሠረተና የተደገፈ ኩነት ወይም ሁኔታ ነው። ግለሰቦች

ወይም ማኅበረሰቦች በነባራዊ ሁኔታቸው ላይ የተመሠረቱ የየራሳቸው የሆኑ እውነታዎች ሊኖራቸው ቢችልም ሀቅ ግን የጋራ ተጨባጭ እውነታ ነው።

ሐቅን ማጣራት ለምን ያስፈልጋል?

ሀቅን ማጣራት ሕዝብን ከስህተት ለመታደግና በትክክለኛ መረጃ ላይ የተመሠረተ የሕይወት ውሳኔን እንዲያስተላልፍ ማገዝ ነው።

ዓለማችንን በእጅጉ የፈተነው የኮቪድ- 19 ወረርሽኝ፣ በአጭር ጊዜ ውስጥ ለመዛመት ካስቻሉት ሁኔታዎች አንዱና ዋነኛው ምክንያት በወረርሽኙ ዙሪያ የተዛመተው የተሳሳተ መረጃ በመሆኑ ሀቅን የማጣራት የሞሙያ ዘርፍን አስፈላጊነት ቁልጭ አድርጎ ያሳየ ሆኖ አልፏል።

ዓለማችንን በእጅጉ የፈተነው የኮቪድ-19 ወረርሽኝ፣ በአጭር ጊዜ ውስጥ ለመዛመት ካስቻሉት ሁኔታዎች አንዱና ዋነኛው ምክንያት በወረርሽኙ ዙሪያ የተዛመተው የተሳሳተ መረጃ በመሆኑ ሀቅን የማጣራት የሞሙያ ዘርፍን አስፈላጊነት ቁልጭ አድርጎ ያሳየ ሆኖ አልፏል።



ለብዙኃን የሚሠራጭ

ሀቅ የማጣራት ሥራ ጊዜ፣ ገንዘብና የሰው ኃይል የሚፈልግ በመሆኑ በስፋት ለሕዝብ ተደራሽ በሆኑ የኤሌክትሮኒክስ፣ የኅትመት ወይም የበይነ መረብ

የተግባቦት ሥርዓቶችን በመጠቀም የሚሰራጭ መረጃን ይገልጻል።



የሕይወት ውሳኔዎች

በየቀኑ በቢሊዮኖች የሚቆጠሩ የዓለማችን ሕዝቦች ሕይወታቸውን ለመምራት በርካታ ውሳኔዎችን ያሳልፋሉ ። ታዲያ በአንድም ሆነ በሌላ መልኩ ሰዎች

ከተለያዩ ምንጮች የሚያገኟቸው መረጃዎች ላይ ተመሥርተው ነው የሕይወት ውሳኔዎቻቸውን የሚያሳልፉት።

ከስህተት መታደግ



የተሳሳተ መረጃ ላይ የተመሠረተ የሕይወት ውሳኔ እንደስሙ ሕይወትን አደጋ ላይ የመጣል ዕድል አለው። በመሆኑም ሀቅን ማጣራት የሕዝብን ሕይወት

ከአደጋ ላይ ከሚጥል ስህተት የመታደግ ፋይዳ ሲኖረው፣ ይህንንም ዓለማችንን በእጅጉ ከፈተነው የኮቪድ-19 ወረርሽኝና በዚያ ዙሪያ ከገጠሙ ፈተናዎች መረዳት ይቻላል።

(የተሳሳተ መረጃ፣ የተዛባ መረጃና ሐሰተኛ /የውሸት ዜና)

ሐሰተኛ /የውሸትዜና (Fake News)

የተሳሳተ መረጃን ለመግለጽ፣ ሀቅን ከማጣራት ሥራ ጋር ተያይዞ በተደጋጋሚ የሚነሳ ሐሳብ ነው። በተለይ ታዋቂ የዓለማችን ፖለቲከኞችና የሚዲያ ሰዎች በስፋት የሚጠቀሙበት

ከመሆኑ አንጻር፣ በአሁኑ ሰዓት ትርጉም ሳያስፈልገው የተለያየ ቋንቋ በሚናገሩ ሰዎች ዘንድ የሚያግባባ ቃል ሆኗል። ሐሰተኛ /Fake- ሐሰት የሆነ፣ ውሸት፣ ሆን ተብሎ የተፈበረከ፤

ዜና /News– ዜና፣ አዲስ ነገር፣ በመደበኛ መገናኛ ብዙኃን የተሠራጨ የዜና ዕወጃ፤

የተሳሳተ መረጃ (Misinformation)

በስህተት የተሠራጨ የተሳሳተ መረጃ፣ ሆን ተብሎ ሳይሆን ባለማወቅ የተሠራጨ የተሳሳተ መረጃ፤

የተዛባ መረጃ (Information Disorder)

ከሐሰተኛ ዜናም ሆነ ከተሳሳተ መረጃ በእይታው የተሻለ፣ አካታች የሆነና ከመረጃ ጋር ተያይዞ የሚታየውን የተለያየ ዓይነት መንሸዋረር በተሻለ ሁኔታ የሚገልጽ ቃል ነው። በመሆኑም

‹‹መረጃ ተዛባ›› ሲባል ሆን ተብሎም ይሁን ባለማወቅ፣ ሐሰተኛም ይሁን እውነተኛ መረጃዎች ላይ ተመሥርቶ የሚፈጸም የመረጃ ችግርን ያካትታል።

ሐሰተኛ (የውሸት) ዜናም ሆነ የተሳሳተ መረጃ የተዛባ መረጃ ነው።

የተዛባ መረጃ ግን ሐሰተኛ (የውሸት) ዜናና የተሳሳተ መረጃ ብቻ አይደለም።

የተዛባ የመረጃ ዓይነቶችምንምን ናቸው?

የሀቅ ማጣራት ባለሙያዎች በተለይ ከማኅበራዊ ሚዲያ መስፋፋት ጋር ተያይዞ የመረጃ መዛባት በተለያየ አቀራረብና ቁመና እየመጣ ስለመሆኑ ይመሰክራሉ። ምንም እንኳን አብዛኛው የተዛባ መረጃ ሆን ተብሎ የሚሠራጭና ትክክል ያልሆነ መረጃ እንደሆነ ቢታወቅም፣ ባለማወቅ ትክክል ያልሆነ መረጃን የሚያስፋፉ ተጠቃሚዎች ቁጥራቸው ትንሽ ያለመሆኑንም ያምናሉ። በዚህ ረገድ ቢያንስ ሦስት የተዛባ የመረጃ ዓይነቶች እንዳሉ ይገልጿል። እነሱም፡-

□□□□□ □□□ (Misinformation)

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□□□□ □□□ (Disinformation)

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አደናጋሪ መረጃ (Malinformation)

ሆን ተብሎ ሕዝብን ለማሳሳት የተዘጋጀና የተሠራጨ ነገር ግን ትክክለኛ (እውነተኛ) መረጃ ሲሆን መረጃው የሚቀርብበት አግባብ፣ ጊዜና ቦታ መረጃው ያተኮረበትን አካል (ተቋም) ለመጉዳት ወይም ሌላ ፖለቲካዊ፣ ኢኮኖሚያዊና ማኅበራዊ ግብን ማሳካት ታሳቢ ያደረገ ነው።

በሦስቱ የተዛባ የመረጃ ዓይነቶች መካከል ያለው ልዩነት በሁለት ሐሳቦች የሚጠቃለል ሲሆን፣ እነሱም የመረጃው ትክክለኛነትና የምንጩ ዓላማ (ሆን ብሎ ለማሳሳት የቀረበ) ናቸው።

ቁልፍ ሐሳቦች

የመረጃው ትክክለኛነት

መረጃው በጥሬው ሲታይ ትክክል መሆኑንና አለመሆኑን ይመለከታል። ይህ ማለት መረጃው የቀረበበትን ወቅት፣ ቦታም ሆነ አጠቃላይ ዐውድ መመርመር ሳያስፈልግ፣ መረጃውን በጥሬው ትክክለኛነቱን ማረጋገጥ ነው።

የምንጩ ዓላማ

የመረጃ ምንጮች የሚያቀርቡት መረጃ ግልጽም ይሁን ድብቅ፣ የተለየ ዓላማ አለው። ነገር ግን ዓላማ አዘል መረጃ ሁሉ መጥፎ ነው ማለት አይደለም፤ ዋናው ጉዳይ የመረጃ ምንጮች ሆን ብለው ሕዝብን ለማሳሳት፣ ለማደናገር፣ ለማሸበር ወይም ለሌላ አፍራሽ ተልዕኮ ይዘው ያሠራጩት ያለመሆኑን ማረጋገጥ ነው።

የመረጃ መዛባትን እንዴት መለየት ይቻላል?



ሀቅ ማጣራት ሕዝብን ከተሳሳተ የሕይወት ውሳኔ መታደግ ቢሆንም በሌላ በኩል ደግሞ ጊዜና ገንዘብ እንዲሁም የሰው ኃይልንም የሚፈልግ ተግባር ነው: ይህ ማለት ሀቅ አጣሪዎች ሁለት ነገሮችን ልብ ሊሉ ይገባል ማለት ነው: እነሱ ሀቅን ወደማጣራት ሒደት ከመግባታቸው በፊት ልብ ሊሏቸው የሚገቡ መረጃዎች፡-

በስፋት ለሕዝብ ተደራሽ መሆናቸውን (4.1 ሥር... ቁልፍ ሐሳቦች... ለብዙኃን የሚሠራጭን... ይመልከቱ)፤

ለሕዝብ ወሳኝ መሆናቸውን፡በሁለት መንገድ መለየት ይቻላል፡-

- **ከግብረ መልስ= ለመረጃው የተሰጠውን ግብረ መልስ ፤ በተለይ በማኅበራዊ ሚዲያ ከሆነ በተጋራው (ሼር) ፣ በተወደደው (ላይክ) ፣ በአስተያየቱ (ኮሜንት)= በውይይት (ዲያሎግ) ማግኘት ፤**
- **ከርዕሰ ጉዳዩ= የይዘቱን ምንነት ከርዕሰ ጉዳዩ መረዳት ፤ አነጋጋሪ ፣ አወዛጋቢ ፣ አንቀሳቃሽ ፤**

የተዛቡ መረጃዎች መሆናቸውን= ከመረጃው አቅራቢ/ምንጭ ጀምሮ ይዘቱና አቀራረቡ ስለሀቀኝነቱ ጥርጣሬ የሚያጭሩ ሲሆን ፤

አቀራረብ

መረጃው በተደራሲው ላይ የሚፈጥረው ስሜት=–ሐዘንን ≡ ደስታን ≡ ቁጣን ≡ ቁጭትን ≡ አግራሞትን የሚፈጥር...ወዘተ ሲሆን ≡

ይዘት

ይዘቱ የተጋነነ ≡ የማይጠበቅ ≡ የሚያወዛግብ ≡ የሚጋጭ ≡ የማይታመን...ወዘተ ሲሆን ≡

ምንጭ

ያልተረጋገጠ የድረ ገጽ ወይም ማኅበራዊ ሚዲያ አካውንት ≡ አላጋጭ (ፓሮዲ) ≡ ስላቅ (ሳታየር) ≡



ቁልፍ ሐሳቦች

መረጃዎች ሀቅን ወደ ማጣራት ሒደት ውስጥ ከመግባታቸው በፊት በቂ ግብረ መልስ ያላቸው መሆኑን፣ ርዕሰ ጉዳዮቹና ይዘቶቹ በሕዝብ ሕይወት ላይ ተፅዕኖ ፈጣሪ መሆናቸውን፣ አቀራረባቸው ስሜት ቀስቃሽ መሆኑን፣ እንዲሁም ምንጫቸው ያልተረጋገጠ የድረ ገጽ ወይም የማኅበራዊ ሚዲያ አካውንት መሆኑን ማረጋገጥ ያስፈልጋል።

የተቀናጀ የተዛባ መረጃ የማሠራጨት ዘመቻ



የተዛባ መረጃ በተናጠል በድረ ገጾች ወይም በማኅበራዊ ሚዲያ አካውንቶች ሊሠራጭ እንደሚችል ሁሉ፣ በዘመቻ መልክ በቡድን በመሆን ቁጥራቸው በዛ ያሉ ድረ ገጾችና አካውንቶች አንድ የተዛባ መረጃ ተፈጥሮና አቀራረብ ያለውን ይዘት በማሠራጨትና በማባዛት/ማስተጋባት ላለሙለት ዓላማ ማዋልም እየተለመደ መጥቷል።



ይህ ዓይነቱ ዘመቻ በዋነኛነት በመረጃ መረቡ አማካይነት የሚከናወን በመሆኑ የሀቅ ማጣራት ባለሙያዎች የተቀናጁ ተፈጥሯዊ ያልሆኑ የመረጃ መረብ እንቅስቃሴዎች (Coordinated Inauthentic Behaviors) ብለው ይጠሯቸዋል። ይህ ተፈጥሯዊ ያልሆነ ባሕርይ የተዛባ መረጃን የማሠራጫ መንገድ ከመሆኑ ባሻገር በራሱ እንደ አንድ የተዛባ የመረጃ ዓይነት ሊታይ ይችላል።



የተቀናጀ የተዛባ መረጃ ዘመቻ በተሻለ የሚታወቅበት ጉዳይ ይዘትን፣ ቡድንን፣ ተቋምን፣ ግለሰብን ወይም የማኅበራዊ ሚዲያ አካውንትን ማባዛት/ ማስተጋባት ወይም እንዲናኝ የማድረግ ሲሆን፣ ይህም በዘመቻ ድግምግሞሽን በመፍጠር በሕዝብ ዘንድ ተቀባይነትን ማግኘት ወይም እንዳገኘ ማስመሰል ነው። የተቀናጀ የተዛባ መረጃ በሌላ መልኩ ጊዜው ያፈራውን ቴክኖሎጂ በመጠቀም የዘመናዊ ማኅበራዊ ሚዲያ አልጎሪዝምን (ቀመርን) ጭምር የማታለልና የሚያስተጋባውን ይዘት ወይም ነገርን (entity) ቀዳሚ ቦታ እንዲያገኝ የማስቻል አቅም ላይ ደርሷል።

የተቀናጀ የተዛባ መረጃ ዘመቻ መሆኑን ለማረጋገጥ የሚከተሉትን ጥያቄዎች

- **በዚያ ርዕሰ ጉዳይ ዙሪያ ተመሳሳይ ትርክት ሲሠራጭ ይታያልን? ትርክቱን ያስጀመረው የትኛው የመረጃ ምንጭ ነው?**
- **ትርክቱን እያስተጋቡ ያሉት ምንጮችስ የትኞቹ ናቸው? ሌላ ተመሳሳይ ትርክት ወይም ግንኙነትስ አላቸውን? ትርክቱ በማን ላይ ያነጣጠረ ነው? አንድምታውስ? ቅንጅት ይታያልን?**
- **ተፈጥሯዊ ያልሆነ እንቅስቃሴው (ባሕርይ)**
- **መደበኛ የማኅበራዊ ሚዲያ ተጠቃሚ የተደራጀ አመራር ሳይኖረውና አቅጣጫ ሊያሳየው(ሊፈጥርለት) የማይችል ለአንድ ዓላማ የመቀናጀትና የመንቀሳቀስ**
- **መልክን ማሳየት፤**
- **የተቀናጀ ዘመቻ**
- **በዘመቻ መልክ በቡድን በመሆን ቁጥራቸው በዛ ያሉ ድረ ገጾችና አካውንቶች የተዛባ መረጃ ተፈጥሮና አቀራረብ ያለውን አንድን ይዘት፣ በማሠራጨት፤**
- **ማሠራጨት**
- **በተለያዩ ድረ ገጾችና አካውንቶች በመናበብ መረጃን በፍጥነት ማድረስ፤**
- **ማስተጋባት**
- **በጥምረቱ የይዘቶችንና የግለሰቦችን ሰብዕና መገንባት፣ መናኘት/ማጋራት(ሼር፣ሪትዊት፣ ፎሎው፣ ላይክ በማድረግ)፤**
- **ቁልፍ ሐሳቦች**
- **የተቀናጀ የተዛባ መረጃ ዘመቻ ዋነኛ መገለጫ የሆነው ተፈጥሯዊ ያልሆነ እንቅስቃሴው (ፀባይ) ሁሌም ባይሆን በአብዛኛው የመጨረሻ ውጤቱ መረጃን ማዛባት ነው።**

አርቴፊሻል የማኅበራዊ ሚዲያ አካውንቶችና ቦቶች

የተቀናጀ የተዛባ መረጃ ዘመቻ በፍጥነት የማሠራጨትና የማስተጋባት ግቡን ለመምታት/ለመግታት በርካታ የማኅበራዊ ሚዲያ አካውንቶችን ባካተተ መልኩ መከናወን አለበት። በመሆኑም ቀደም ሲል ዘመቻው በአብዛኛው በተደራጁ የማኅበራዊ ሚዲያ ሠራዊት የሚከወን ነበር።

የማኅበራዊ ሚዲያ ሠራዊት በመረጃ ቴክኖሎጂ ባለሙያዎች የተዋቀሩ ሆነው፣ አንድ ባለሙያ በተለይ በርካታ የሐሰት አካውንቶች እያንቀሳቀሰ ዘመቻውን ያካሂድ ነበር። ነገር ግን ዘመኑ ያመጣው የመረጃ ቴክኖሎጂ ዕድገት አርቴፊሻል የማኅበራዊ ሚዲያ አካውንቶች ወይም ቦቶችና ሳይቦርጎችን ወደዚህ ሥራ እንዲገቡ አስችሏል።

‹ቦት›› ባጭሩ የቴክኖሎጂ ባለሙያዎች ማኅበራዊ ሚዲያ ላይ እውነተኛ ተጠቃሚ መስሎና አካውንት ፈጥሮ መረጃ እንዲያሠራጭ የጻፉት የኮምፒተር ፕሮግራም ነው። ይህም የተቀናጀ የተዛባ መረጃ ዘመቻን ወጪ ቆጣቢና ተደራሽ እንዲሆን ከማስቻሉ ባሻገር የማኅበራዊ ሚዲያ አልጎሪዝምን (ቀመርን) ጭምር የማታለልና የሚያስተጋባውን ይዘት ቀዳሚ ቦታ እንዲያገኝ የማስቻል አቅም ላይ ደርሷል።

የመረጃ ቴክኖሎጂ ዕድገቱ የደረሰበት ደረጃ በሺዎች የሚቆጠሩ ቦቶችን በጥቂት መቶ ዶላሮች የመግዛት ዕድልን የፈጠረ ሲሆን፣ ይህም ለተዛባ መረጃ መሠራጨት/ መስፋፋት ከፍተኛ አስተዋጽዖ እያደረገ ነው።

ቦት

በኮምፒተር ሙሉ በሙሉ የሚመራ፣ በማኅበራዊ ሚዲያ መረጃ የሚያሠራጭ ፕሮግራም፤

ሳይቦርግ

በከፊል በኮምፒተር በከፊል በሰው የሚታዘዝ በማኅበራዊ ሚዲያ ላይ መረጃ የሚያሠራጭ ፕሮግራም፤

ቁልፍ ሐሳቦች

ወጪ ቆጣቢና ተደራሽ ቴክኖሎጂ፡ ቦቶችና ሳይቦርጎች ርካሽ ከመሆናቸው ጋር ተያይዞ የተቀናጀ የተዛባ መረጃ ዘመቻን ወጪ ቆጣቢና ተደራሽ እንዲሆን አስችሏል። ሁሉም ቦቶችና ሳቦርጎች መጥፎ አይደሉም። ቦቶችና ሳቦርጎች የኮምፒተር ፕሮግራም እንደመሆናቸው መጠን ለማኅበራዊ አብዮት መሰል ጥሩ ዓላማም ሊውሉ ይችላሉ።

ምርጫና የተቀናጀ የተዛባ መረጃ ዘመቻ

የተቀናጀ የተዛባ መረጃ ዘመቻ ተዕዕኖ በስፋት ከተስተዋለባቸው ዘርፎች አንዱና ዋነኛው ምርጫና የፖለቲካ ፉክክር ነው። ከቅርብ ጊዜያት ወዲህ እየተስተዋሉ ያሉ እውነቶች የሚያሳዩት፣ ባደጉትም ይሁን ባላደጉት ሀገራት ለሥልጣን የሚፎካከሩ ፖለቲከኞች፣ የሕዝብን ድምፅን ለማግኘትና ተፎካካሪያቸውን ለማዳከም የተቀናጀ የተዛባ መረጃ ዘመቻን ዓይነተኛ መሣሪያ አድርገው መጠቀም መጀመራቸውን ነው። የራሳቸውን የፖለቲካ አቋም ከማሥረፅ ጀምሮ በተፎካካሪያቸው ላይ የማጠልሸት ዘመቻ ለማካሄድ የተቀናጀ የተዛባ መረጃ ዘመቻን በስፋት ሲተገብሩት ይስተዋላል።

ለሥልጣን ከሚፎካከሩ ፖለቲከኞች ባሻገር፣ የውጪ መንግሥታትና ተቋማት ሳይቀሩ የተቀናጀ የተዛባ መረጃ ዘመቻን በመጠቀም የምርጫ ውጤትን የማስቀየር አቅም ማጎልበታቸው ይነገራል። ይህም የመረጃ ጦርነት እየተባለ ይገኛል። ከዚህ ባለፈ የምርጫ ቅስቀሳዎች ሳይቀሩ በተራቀቁ የሥነ ባሕርይ ሳይንስ (ቢሄቪሪያል ሳይንስ) ስልቶች አማካይነት ለተፈላጊው የመራጭ ክፍል እንዲደርስ ማድረግና መራጩን መጠምዘዝ (voter manipulation) እየተለመደ መጥቷል።

አሁን በሥልጣን ላይ የሌሉት ሁለት የአሜሪካ መሪዎች መራጭ በመጠምዘዝ ይከሰሳሉ። ይህም የፖለቲካ መልዕክታቸውን ጨምሮ የቅስቀሳ ሥራቸውን የሥነ ባሕርይ ሳይንስ ስልቶችና የተቀናጀ የተዛባ መረጃ ዘመቻን በመጠቀም በማካሄዳቸው ነው። ካምብሪጅ አናሊቲካ የተሰኘ የእንግሊዝ ተቋም ያለተጠቃሚዎች ፈቃድ ከፌስቡክ በገዛው የተጠቃሚዎች ግለ መረጃ የአሜሪካ የመሪዎች ምርጫንና ብሬእግዚት የሕዝብን ውሳኔ በመጠምዘዝ ይከሰሳል። በዚህ ረገድ የሩሲያ መንግሥትም እንዲሁ በአሜሪካ የመሪዎች ምርጫ ጣልቃ በመግባት ይወነጀላል።

የመረጃ ጦርነት

የውጪ መንግሥታትና ተቋማት የተቀናጀ የተዛባ መረጃ ዘመቻን በመጠቀም የምርጫ ውጤትን ጨምሮ ማንኛውንም ዓላማ ለማሳካት ሲንቀሳቀሱ፤

የመራጮች ጥምዘዛ (voter manipulation)

ለመራጩ ባልታወቀ መልኩ የፖለቲካ መልዕክቶችን ጨምሮ የምርጫ ቅስቀሳን የሥነ ባሕርይ ሳይንስ (ቢሄቪሪያል ሳይንስ)ስልቶችና የተቀናጀ የተዛባ መረጃ

ዘመቻን በመጠቀም የዴሞክራሲያዊ ምርጫዎችን ውጤት ለማስቀየር ሲተጉ፤

ሀቅን በማጣራት ሥራ ላይ የተሰማራው ኮድ ፎር አፍሪካ ተቋም፣ ባጠናው ጥናት መሠረት እ.ኤ.አ. በ2017 እና 2018 መካከል ብቻ በአሥር የአፍሪካ ሀገራት ምርጫ ላይ በቦት የታገዘ የተቀናጀ የተዛባ የመረጃ ዘመቻ መካሄዱን አረጋግጧል።

ቁልፍ ሐሳቦች

ወጪ ቆጣቢና ተደራሽ ቴክኖሎጂ፡ ቦቶችና ሳይቦርጎች ርካሽ ከመሆናቸው ጋር ተያይዞ የተቀናጀ የተዛባ መረጃ ዘመቻን ወጪ ቆጣቢና ተደራሽ እንዲሆን አስችሏል። ሁሉም ቦቶችና ሳቦርጎች መጥፎ አይደሉም። ቦቶችና ሳቦርጎች የኮምፒተር ፕሮግራም እንደመሆናቸው መጠን ለማኅበራዊ አብዮት መሰል ጥሩ ዓላማም ሊውሉ ይችላሉ።

ማመሳከር ከየት እንዴት ይጀመራል?

ሀቅን የማጣራት ሥራ ወሳኙ ምዕራፍ ማመሳከር (verification) ነው።
ሀቅ አጣሪዎች ማመሳከር ሲጀምሩ አምስት ወሳኝ ጥያቄዎችን ሊጠይቁ ያገባል፤ እነሱም የሚከተሉት ናቸው፡-

መጀው የተገኘው ከአሪጅናል ምንጭ መሆኑን፤ ምንጩ ማን ነው፤

መረጃው የተሠራጨበትን /የተፈጠረበትን ቀን፤ መረጃው የተሠራጨበትን ቦታ፤ እና ለመረጃው መፈጠር መነሻ የሆነው ነገር፡፡

በጥቅሉ ማመሳከር ሲባል የአንድን መረጃ ምንጭ፣ ይዘትና የተቀናጀ የዘመቻ ባሕርይ (Behavior) መመርመር ነው፡፡ የተለያዩ በሀቅ ማጣራት ላይ የተሰማሩ ተቋማት በማመሳከር መመሪያዎቻቸው ተመሳሳይ የትኩረት አቅጣጫዎችን ይወስዳሉ፤ እነሱም፡-

ተዋናዮች (ምንጮች)፡ ማኅበራዊ ሚዲያ አካውንቶች፣ ቦቶች፣ ድረ ገጾች፣ ግለሰቦችን ያጠቃልላል፡፡

- የማኅበራዊ ሚዲያ አካውንቶች ምርመራ፡ ፕሮፋይል (ፎቶ፣ ስም፣ የተፈጠረበት ቀን ወዘተ)፤
- የቦቶች ምርመራ፡ ፕሮፋይል (ፎቶ፣ ስም፣ የተፈጠረበት ቀን)፤ ቦት መሰል ባሕርይ (መረጃ የሚለቀበት ፍጥነት)፤
- የድረ ገፆች ምርመራ፡ የተረጋገጠ ድረ ገጽ ነውን፣ ደኅንቱ የተጠበቀ ገጽ ነውን፣ የፊደልና ሰዋስው ግድፈቶች አሉትን፣ የተፈጠረበት ቀን መቼ ነው፣ የገጹ ባለቤትስ፣ የተሟላ አድራሻን የሚያመላክቱ መረጃዎች (ስልክ ቁጥር፣ ኢሜይልና መገኛ አድራሻ)፤
- የግለሰቦች ምርመራ፡ ከማኅበራዊ ሚዲያ አካውንቶች፣ ድረ ገጾች፡ በስተጀርባ ያሉ ሰዎች ማንነት፣ ስልክ፣ ኢሜይል፣ አድራሻ፣ ማኅበራዊ ገጾች፣ ሥራ፣ የትምህርት ደረጃ፣ ማኅበራትና የመሳሰሉትን ያካትታል

ይዘቶች፡ ፎቶዎች፣ ተንቀሳቃሽ ምስሎች (ቪዲዮዎች)፤ አኃዛዊ መረጃዎች፣ ኢንፎግራፊክስን ያጠቃልላል፡፡

- ፎቶዎች፣ ተንቀሳቃሽ ምስሎች (ቪዲዮዎች) ምርመራ፡ ጥቅም ላይ የዋለበት ዐውድ ልክ ነውን፣ መቼ ተነሣ/ተቀረፀ፣ የት ተነሣ/ተቀረፀ፣ ይዘቱ ተቀይሯልን (በፎቶሾፕ/ኤዲት ተደርጓልን)?
- የአኃዛዊ መረጃዎች፣ ኢንፎግራፊክስ ምርመራ፡ የይዘቱ ምንጭ ትክክለኛ ነውን፣ ግልጽ መጣረሶችስ አሉትን?

ጥምረቶች (የተቀናጁ ዘመቻዎች)፡ ተፈጥሯዊ ያልሆነ ባሕርይን፣ የተቀናጀ ዘመቻ ይመለከታል፡፡

- የተቀናጀ ዘመቻና ተፈጥሯዊ ያልሆነ ባሕርይ ምርመራ፡ የይዘት (script) መመሳሰል(ትርክት፣ ፎቶ፣ ሀሽታግ) አለበትን፣ ይዘቱ የተሠራጨበት ጊዜ ምስክል (ቅንጅት) አለውን፣ የምንጮቹ (ማኅበራዊ ሚዲያ አካውንቶቹ) ስም መመሳሰል (መቀራረብ) አለውን፣ የማኅበራዊ ሚዲያ አካውንቶቹ የተፈጠሩበት ቀን ተቀራራቢ ከሆነ፣ በማኅበራዊ ሚዲያ አካውንቶቹ ገጽታ /ፕሮፋይል ተመሳሳይ ገለጻ (description) የሚጠቀም ከሆነ፤

የኢንተርኔት መተግበሪያዎችና መሣሪያዎች

የማመሳከርና የምርምራ ሥራ - ከሁሉ በፊት የምርመራ ወይም ሀቅ ማጣራት የጋዜጠኛውን የማገናዘብ ብቃት የሚጠይቅ ተግባር ነው፡፡ ይህም ሲባል የማንኛውም የምርመራ ሥራ ቁልፍ ግብዓት የባለሙያው ትክክለኛ ጥያቄዎችን የመጠየቅ ክህሎት ሲሆን መርማሪው የሚያነሣቸውን ጥያቄዎች በበቂ ሁኔታ ለመመለስ ግን አጥጋቢ መረጃ ማግኘት አለበት፡፡ መረጃ የመሰብሰቡን ሒደት ለማፋጠን ደግሞ የተለያዩ የመረጃ መረብ መተግበሪያዎችንና ሶፍትዌሮችን መጠቀም ይጠበቅበታል፡፡

የቴክኖሎጂ ዕድገቱ ለተዛባ መረጃ መሠራጨት ታላቅ አስተዋጽዖ እንዳደረገ ሁሉ፣ ለመከላከያውም (ለአጸፋውም)ለሀቅ ማጣራት ሥራም በጣም ጠቃሚ መተግበሪያዎችና ሶፍትዌሮችን አበርክቷል፡፡

የቴክኖሎጂ ዕድገቱ ለተዛባ መረጃ መሠራጨት ታላቅ አስተዋጽዖ እንዳደረገ ሁሉ፣ ለመከላከያውም (ለአጸፋውም) ለሀቅ ማጣራት ሥራም በጣም ጠቃሚ መተግበሪያዎችና ሶፍትዌሮችን አበርክቷል፡፡

የማኅበራዊ ሚዲያ አካውንቶችንና ቦቶችን መፈተሻዎችና ምርመራዎች

ይህ ገጽ፡-

Foller.me https://foller.me/

- የትዊተር አካውንቶች አድራሻ (twitter handle) በ@ የሚጀምረው መፈለጊያ ውስጥ በመክተት ‹‹Analyze››ን ይጫኑ፤
- በትዊተር የማኅበራዊ ሚዲያ ላይ የተመሠረተ መተግበሪያ ሲሆን፣ የትዊተር አካውንቶችን ለመመርመር ይጠቅማል፤
- የትዊተር አካውንቶችን ግለ መረጃ (ገጹ መቼ እንደተከፈተ፣ ምን ያህል ተከታዮች ወይም ጓደኞች እንዳሉት ያሳያል)፤
- የአካውንቶችን የትዊተር እንቅስቃሴ ትንታኔ ይሰጣል፤
- ትዊት የተደረጉ መልዕክቶችን ቁጥር፣ ርዕሰ ጉዳይ፤
- የተጋሩ የትዊተር መልዕክቶች፣ ሀሽታግና ሜንሽኖች፤

ተመሳሳይ ግልጋሎት ያላቸው መተግበሪያዎች፡

Twitonomy: https://www.twitonomy.com/; Followerwonk: https://followerwonk.com/

የቦቶች ምርመራ

Botometer

botometer.iuni.iu.edu

• የትዊተር አካውንቶች አድራሻን (twitter handle) በ@ የሚጀምረው መፈለጊያ ውስጥ በመክተት

‹‹ከcheck user; check follower; ወይም check friends›› ውስጥ አንዱን ይጫኑ፤

• የትዊተር አካውንቶችን እንቅስቃሴ ማለትም ቦት መሰል ባሕርይ (መረጃ የሚለቅበት ፍጥነት) መዝኖ ቦት መሆኑን የሚለካ መተግበሪያ ነው፤

• የቦቶሜትር ልኬቱ ቀይ ቀለም የሚያሳይ ከሆነ፣ የትዊተር አካውንቱ በጣም ወደ ቦት የቀረበ ነው ማለት ነው፤

• የቦቶሜትር ልኬቱ ሰማያዊ ቀለም የሚያሳይ ከሆነ ደግሞ የትዊተር አካውንቱ ቦት የመሆን ዕድሉ በጣም አናሳ ነው ማለት ነው፤

• መረጃ የሚለቅበት ፍጥነትን በመመዘን ቦት ነው አይደለም የሚለው ሁሌም ተዐማኒ አይደለም፡፡ ምክንያቱም አለቃቀቁ የቦት የሚመስል ማኅበራዊ ሚዲያ ተጠቃሚ ስለሚኖር ነው፤

ተመሳሳይ ግልጋሎት ያላቸው መተግበሪያዎች፡

Truthnest፡ https://app.truthnest.com/

ድረ ገጽ መፈተሻዎች/ድረ ገጾች ምርመራ

Who.is

Whois.net or whois.icann.org

• ‹‹ሁኢዝ ሉክአፕ›› የሚባለው ሶፍትዌር እስካሁን ቴክኖሎጂ ካፈራቸው የድረ ገጽ መረጃ መሰብሰቢያዎች የተሻለው ነው፤

• የአንድን ድረ ገጽ ዶሜን ስም በፍለጋ ቦታ ላይ በመጻፍ መረጃን መፈለግ፣

• የድረ ገጹ ባለቤትን ስም፣

• የድረ ገጹ አድራሻ፣

• ድረ ገጹ የተፈጠረበት ጊዜና የገጹን እንቅስቃሴ የሚያሳዩ መረጃዎች፣

• ከድረ ገጾች ጀርባ ማን አለ? (ስልክ ቁጥር፣ ኢሜይልና አድራሻ)፤

ተመሳሳይ ግልጋሎት ያላቸው መተግበሪያዎች፡

Netim.com፡ https://www.netim.com/

Domain.com፡ https://www.domain.com/

የግለሰቦችን የኋላ ታሪክ መፈተሻዎች/የግለሰቦች ምርመራ

Spokeo

https://www.spokeo.com/

• በተለያዩ ጊዜያት ይፋ ሆነው የወጡ የግለሰብ መረጃዎችን ከያሉበት በመሰብሰብ በማጠናቀር ያቀርባል፤

• በመረጃ መረብ ላይ የተለቀቁም ያልተለቀቁም የግለሰብ መረጃዎችን ያሳያል፣

• የተለያዩ መረጃዎችን (ስልክ፣ ኢሜይል፣ አድራሻ፣ ማኅበራዊ ገጾች፣ የፍርድ ቤት የክስ ሒደቶችን ጭምር) ይሰጣል፤

• ሥራ፣ የትምህርት ደረጃ፣ የቤተሰብ ሁኔታ ወዘተ፤

• አገልግሎቱ የሚከፈልበት ሲሆን፣ መቀመጫውም አሜሪካ ነው።

ይህ ገጽ፡-

Pipl

https://pipl.com

• በተለያዩ ጊዜያት ይፋ ሆነው የወጡ የግለሰብ መረጃዎችን ከያሉበት በመሰብሰብ በማጠናቀር ያቀርባል፤

• በመረጃ መረብ ላይ የተለቀቁም ያልተለቀቁም የግለሰብ መረጃዎችን ያሳያል፤

• የተለያዩ መረጃዎችን (ስልክ፣ ኢሜይል፣ አድራሻ፣ ማህበራዊ ገፆች፣ የፍርድ ቤት የክስ ሒደቶችን ጭምር) ይሰጣል።

• ሥራ፣ የትምህርት ደረጃ፣ የቤተሰብ ሁኔታ ወዘተ... ያሳያል፤

• አገልግሎቱ የሚከፈልበት ሲሆን፣ መቀመጫውም አሜሪካ ነው።

ተመሳሳይ ግልጋሎት ያላቸው መተግበሪያዎች፡

ይህ ገጽ፡-

Google.com፡ https://www.google.com/

ፎቶግራፍ መፈተሻዎች

ፎቶዎች (በጥቅም ላይ የዋሉበት ዐውድ ትክክለኛነትን መፈተሻ)

Google Images

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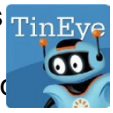
Tineye Images 

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ፎቶዎችን መሠረት ያደረጉ ሦስት ዋና ዋና የመረጃ ማፈላለጊያ አውታሮች አሉ፤

- የኋልዮሽ (Reverse image search) የፎቶ ምርመራ አውታሮች፤
- እንዲመሳከር የሚፈለገውን ፎቶ በአውታሮቹ ውስጥ በመክተት ጠቃሚ መረጃ ማግኘት ይቻላል፤
- የፎቶዎችን ኦሪጅናል ምንጭ፤
- ከዚህ በፊት ፎቶው በጥቅም ላይ ውሎ ያውቃል፣ አያውቅም?፤
- የፎቶ ዓይነትና ሌሎችንም መረጃዎች የሚሰጡ መተግበሪዎች ናቸው፤
- ሜታዳታ፣ ቁልፍ ቃላትን እንዲሁም በየፎቶግራፉ ላይ ያሉ የጽሑፍ ምልክቶች (ወተር ማርክ) ይጠቀማሉ

የፎቶግራፍ ፎረንዚክ መፈተሻዎች

ፎቶዎች በፎቶሾፕ ሶፍትዌር ኦሪጂናል ይዘታቸውን አጥተው እንደሆነ ያረጋግጣሉ፤

Fotoforensics http://fotoforensics.com/

• ሶፍትዌሩን በቅጡ ለመገልገል የቲቶሪያል ገጽን መመልከት ያስፈልጋል፤

• አንድ ፎቶ ኦሪጂናል ይዘቱን አጥቶ እንደሆነ በፎቶሾፕ ሶፍትዌር ያረጋግጣሉ፤

• የፎቶሾፕ ሶፍትዌር በሚመረመርው ፎቶ ላይ የራሱን አሻራ ትቶ ያልፋል፤ በመሆኑም ፎቶሾፕ/ኤዲት የተደረገ ምስልን ለማወቅ ያስችላል፤

• ፎቶ ቅርፁን እንዳላጣ ይፈትሻል፤

ቪዲዮ መፈተሻዎች

የተንቀሳቃሽ ምስሎች (ቪዲዮዎች) ምርመራ፡

መቼ ተቀረፀ፣ የት ተቀረፀ፣ ተቀይሯልን፣ ፎቶሾፕ/ኤዲት ተደርጓልን? የሚለውን ይፈትሻሉ።

ይህ ገጽ፡-

Youtube DataViewer amnestyusa.org/sites/default/custom-scripts/citizen-evidence

• በአሚኒስቲ ኢንተርናሽናል የተሠራው ዩቲዩብ ዳታ ቪዩር ለማመሳከር የተፈለገውን ቪዲዮ አድራሻ (url) በመፈለጊያው ውስጥ በማስገባት የቪዲዮዎችን ድንክዬዎችን (thumbnails) የኋልዮሽ (Reverse image search) በማድረግ ለመፈተሽ ያስችላል፤

• ቪዲዮዎች የተጫኑበትን ሰዓትም ከዩቲዩብ ዳታ ቪዩር ማግኘት ይቻላል። ይህም ተንቀሳቃሽ ምስሎች ጥቅም ላይ የዋሉበትን ዐውድ ትክክለኛነት ለመፈተሽ ያስችላል።

• ክፍያ የማያስፈልገው መገልገያ ነው።

ይህ ገጽ፡-

Watchframebyframe http://www.watchframebyframe.com/

• ‹‹ዎችፍሬምባይፍሬም›› (watchframebyframe) የተባለው ድረ ገጽ እንደ ስሙ ቪዲዮዎችን በቅርበት ለመመርመር የሚያገለግል መተግበሪያ ነው፤

• ቪዲዮዎች በተፈጥሯቸው የፎቶዎች/የፍሬሞች ስብስብ መሆናቸውን ባለሙያዎች ይናገራሉ። በመሆኑም ዎችፍሬምባይፍሬም ቪዲዮዎችን ወደ ፍሬሞች በመቀየር ለፍተሻ ያዘጋጃቸዋል፤

• ወደ ፍሬሞች የተቀየሩ ቪዲዮዎችን የኋልዮሽ (Reverse image search) በማድረግ ለመፈተሽ የተሻለ ዕድልን ይፈጥራል፤ወይም

• ወደ ፍሬሞች የተቀየሩ ቪዲዮዎችን በቅርበት በመመርመር የሚጣረሱ፣ የሚጋጩ ነገሮች ካሉ - ለምሳሌ ጥላን፣ ቅርፅን፣ ተመጣጣኝነትን - ለመፈተሽ ያስችላል፤

• ክፍያ የማያስፈልገው መገልገያ ነው

ይህ ገጽ፡-

InVid and WeVerify https://www.invid-project.eu/

• ኢንቪድ እንደ ክሮም ዓይነት የመረጃ መረብ አሳሾች ላይ የሚጫን ተቀጥላ (Plugin) ሶፍትዌር ሲሆን፣ ለማመሳከር የተፈለገውን ቪዲዮ አድራሻ (url) በመፈለጊያው ውስጥ በማስገባት

የቪዲዮዎችን ድንክዬዎችን (thumbnails) **የኂልዮሽ** (Reverse image search) **በማድረግ ለመፈተሽ ያስችላል፤**

• ቪዲዮዎች ወደ ፍሬሞች በመቀየር የኂልዮሽ በማድረግ ለመፈተሽ የተሻለ ዕድልን ይፈጥራል፤ ወይም

• ወደ ፍሬሞች የተቀየሩ ቪዲዮዎችን በቅርበት በመመርመር የሚጣረሱ፣ የሚጋጩ ነገሮች ካሉ - ለምሳሌ ጥላን፣ ቅርፅን፣ ተመጣጣኝነትን- ለመፈተሽ ያስችላል፤

• ክፍያ የማያስፈልገው መገልገያ ነው፤

ማጣቀሻ

National Electoral Board of Ethiopia, https://nebe.org.et

Conflict Sensitive Reporting: A toolbox for journalists, by peter du toit

Conflict Sensitive journalism project Rhodes university

Guidelines for Gender and Conflict-sensitive Reporting, UN Women

Conflict Sensitive Journalism - A handbook by Ross Howard, IMS

Elections and Conflict Prevention, A Guide to Analysis, Planning, and Programming, UNDP

https://datajournalism.com/read/handbook/verification-3/inves- tigating-disinformation-and-media-manipulation/the-age-of-informa- tion-disorder

https://www.who.int/news-room/feature-stories/detail/fighting-mis- information-in-the-time-of-covid-19-one-click-at-a-time

• https://doi.org/10.3389/fpsyg.2020.566790

https://datajournalism.com/read/handbook/verification-3/inves- tigating-disinformation-and-media-manipulation/the-age-of-informa- tion-disorder

https://s3.eu-central-1.amazonaws.com/datajournalismcom/hand- books/Verification-Handbook-3/the-age-of-information-disorder/002. jpg

https://datajournalism.com/read/handbook/verification-3/investi- gating-platforms/11b-case-study-investigating-an-information-opera- tion-in-west-papua

https://datajournalism.com/read/handbook/verification-3/investi- gating-platforms/10-tracking-actors-across-platforms

https://datajournalism.com/read/handbook/verification-3/investi- gating-actors-content/3-spotting-bots-cyborgs-and-inauthentic-activ- ity

https://www.dawn.com/news/1518967/grabyourkeyboards-inside-paki- stans-hashtag-mills

https://www.nytimes.com/2020/11/16/us/election-disinformation. html

https://www.voanews.com/a/cambridge-analytica-played-roles-in-mul- tiple-african-elections/4309792.html

2. Proclamation No. 1185/2020: Hate Speech and Disinformation Prevention and Suppression Proclamation

Overview

The Hate Speech and Disinformation Proclamation No. 1185/2020 was enacted to combat the growing threat of online incitement, digital propaganda, and inflammatory speech. It provides both criminal and regulatory mechanisms for controlling harmful content and is directly relevant to journalist training, especially during high-stakes periods like elections.

Key Provisions

A. Definition of Hate Speech and Disinformation

- Article 2(2) defines hate speech as “any speech that promotes hatred, discrimination or attacks against a person or a group of people based on ethnicity, religion, race, gender or disability.”
- Article 2(3) defines disinformation as “a false speech that is disseminated knowingly or recklessly and is likely to cause public disturbance or violence.”

“Dissemination of disinformation and hate speech shall be prohibited in all forms of communication, including print, broadcasting, and social media” (Proclamation No. 1185/2020, Art. 3).

B. Criminal Liability

- Article 4 stipulates penalties of up to three years imprisonment or a fine for disseminating hate speech.
- Article 5 establishes up to five years imprisonment for disinformation that leads to public disorder or conflict.

“Whosoever disseminates hate speech... shall be punishable with imprisonment not exceeding three years or a fine not exceeding 100,000 birr” (Art. 4(1)).

C. Responsibilities of Online Platforms and Media Institutions

- Article 8 requires platforms and publishers to moderate harmful content and enforce internal safeguards.
- Article 9 empowers the Ethiopian Broadcast Authority to issue corrective directives, suspend licenses, and collaborate with digital platforms.

“Media institutions shall have the responsibility to prevent, control and remove hate speech and disinformation from their platforms” (Art. 8(1)).

Relevance to Election Code of Conduct and Journalist Training

- This proclamation provides the legal rationale for prohibiting inciting or false electoral content.
- Journalists must be trained to understand legal thresholds, practice fact-checking, and use conflict-sensitive reporting techniques.

Reference (APA 7th edition)

Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia. (2020). *Hate Speech and Disinformation Prevention and Suppression Proclamation No. 1185/2020*. Federal Negarit Gazette, 26th Year, No. 25.

Here is a detailed critical analysis of the media and communication provisions found in the Ethiopian legal framework—particularly from the "laws.pdf" file—focused on their relevance to producing an election Code of Conduct and journalist training manual. Each element is clearly cited for legal clarity and policy development purposes.

1. Media's Legal Role and Responsibilities

a. Foundational Purpose of the Media

Ethiopian law emphasizes the importance of media in promoting informed public discourse essential for democratic society, national unity, and sustainable development.

"Ensuring the expansion of media services that are accessible and of high quality enables to create an informed society..."

b. Media Obligations During Election Periods

Broadcasters are legally required to:

- Abide by the Code of Conduct.
- Disseminate content that reflects Ethiopia's social and political diversity.
- Ensure inclusive access to public information.

"Any broadcasting licensee shall: (a) abide by the Code of Conduct; (b) broadcast programs that provide information, education, and entertainment that reflect... the Ethiopian society"

2. Ethical Standards and Editorial Responsibility

a. Editorial Oversight and Accountability

The law establishes the editor-in-chief as legally and ethically responsible for content.

"The editor-in-chief... has a mandate to supervise and determine content... ensure nothing is printed against his will"

This provision is crucial for training manuals, reinforcing editorial independence and accountability.

3. Prevention of Hate Speech and Disinformation

Ethiopia's legal instruments draw a strong boundary between freedom of expression and abuse of media platforms:

a. Hate Speech Definition and Prohibition

Defined as "speech that promotes hatred or discrimination... based on ethnicity, religion, race, gender or disability."

"Any person disseminating hate speech by means of broadcasting, print or social media... is prohibited."

b. Disinformation Definition

Defined as "speech that is false and... likely to cause public disturbance, riot, violence, or conflict" and not exempt unless due diligence to verify its accuracy was made.

"Dissemination of disinformation... is prohibited unless a reasonable effort to verify its accuracy has been made."

4. Code of Conduct and Training Standards for Media

The law mandates the Ethiopian Broadcast Authority (EBA) to issue a detailed Code of Conduct and organize media training:

"Issue detailed Code of Conduct that directs programs... ensure that the self-regulation structure... participates in its implementation."
"Organize training centers which enable building the capacity of the media."

This is directly relevant for the Ethiopian Media Council in developing:

- Pre-election training programs,
- Online media compliance guidelines,
- Digital journalism ethics manuals.

5. Promoting Healthy Information Flow

Media organizations are required to:

- Support public interest and national values,
- Avoid inflammatory or divisive content,

- Collaborate with civil society and academia to strengthen journalistic integrity.

“Render a broadcast service that contributes to the country’s political, social and economic development and create shared national values...”

6. Specific Tools for Enforcement and Oversight

The law establishes mechanisms for oversight and compliance:

- Written warnings for violations (Article 74)
- Encourages self-regulation and public complaints processing
- Specifies legal accountability for hate speech and disinformation (Article 7)

Implications for Election Code of Conduct Manual

Based on this legal framework, the Ethiopian Media Council should include the following in the manual:

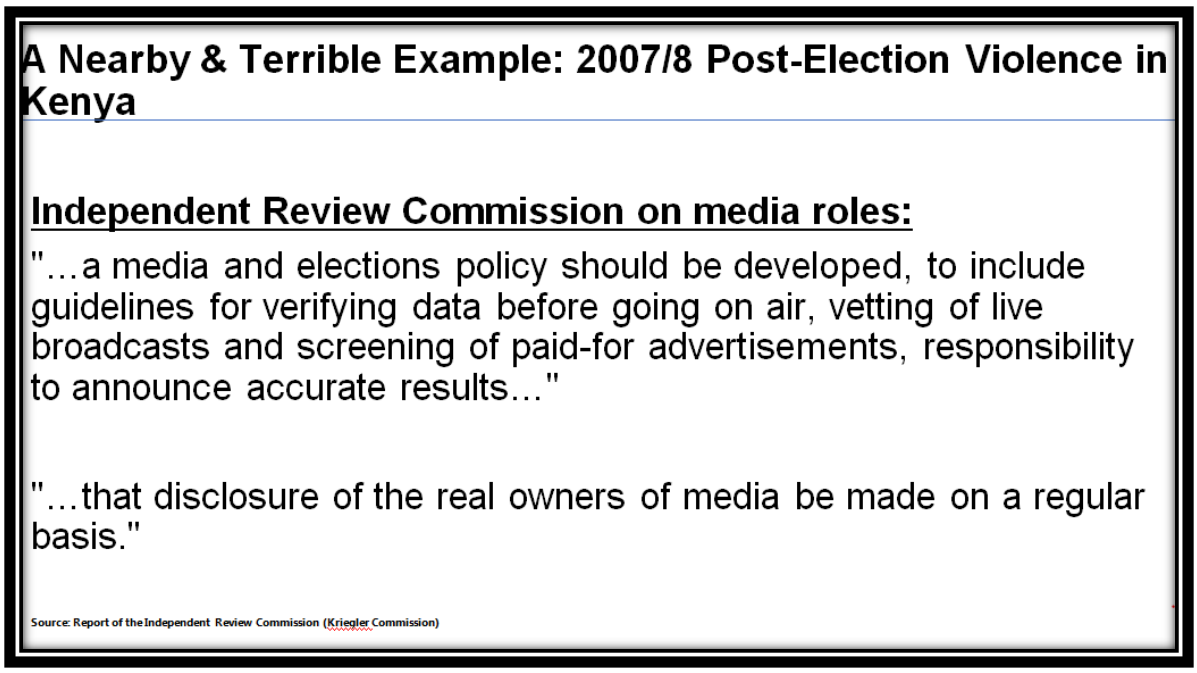
1. Ethical Reporting Guidelines – Citing Articles 51 and 55.
2. Prohibition Clauses – Citing Articles 4 & 5 of Proclamation 1185/2020.
3. Training Components – Journalists must be trained on identifying hate speech, verifying sources, editorial responsibility.
4. Complaint Handling and Monitoring Tools – Based on Article 74 and the mandate of media self-regulatory bodies.
5. Inclusivity and Pluralism – Content should reflect Ethiopia's cultural and political diversity.

Conclusion

The Ethiopian legal framework—especially Proclamation No. 1238/2021 and 1185/2020—provides a robust legal base to guide media operations, ethics, and accountability during elections. It mandates proactive training, regulatory clarity, and ethical editorial standards essential for producing a credible and lawful Election Code of Conduct and Media Manual.

If you'd like, I can proceed to draft sample modules for the training manual or outline a detailed Election Code of Conduct structure based on these laws.

Case Study



FACILITATOR:

- A COMMISSION IN KENYA URGED MEDIA HOUSES TO HAVE CLEAR GUIDELINES FOR ELECTION MEDIA COVERAGE.
- IN ETHIOPIA THIS MEANS: ETHIOPIAN LAWS AND NEBE REGULATIONS, AND FOR MEMBERS OF THE MEDIA COUNCIL, THE MEDIA COUNCIL CODE OF ETHICS
- +WHO OWNS MEDIA OUTLETS SHOULD BE PUBLICALLY KNOWN!+
- SOURCE: REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT REVIEW COMMISSION (KRIEGLER COMMISSION)

FACILITATOR:

- TODAY, ETHIOPIA IS CHANGING TO A MUCH MORE OPEN POLITCAL AND MEDIA ENVIRONMENT.
- THE 2021 ELECTIONS ARE A TEST OF THAT MORE OPEN POLITCAL AND MEDIA ENVIRONMENT.
- DO YOU AGREE THAT THE 2021 ELECTIONS CAN BE CALLED A “TRANSITIONAL ELECTION”?

Transitional Elections

- Media’s principal roles/goals while covering a transitional election should include:
  - Informing the broadest possible public the basic requirements for free and fair elections;

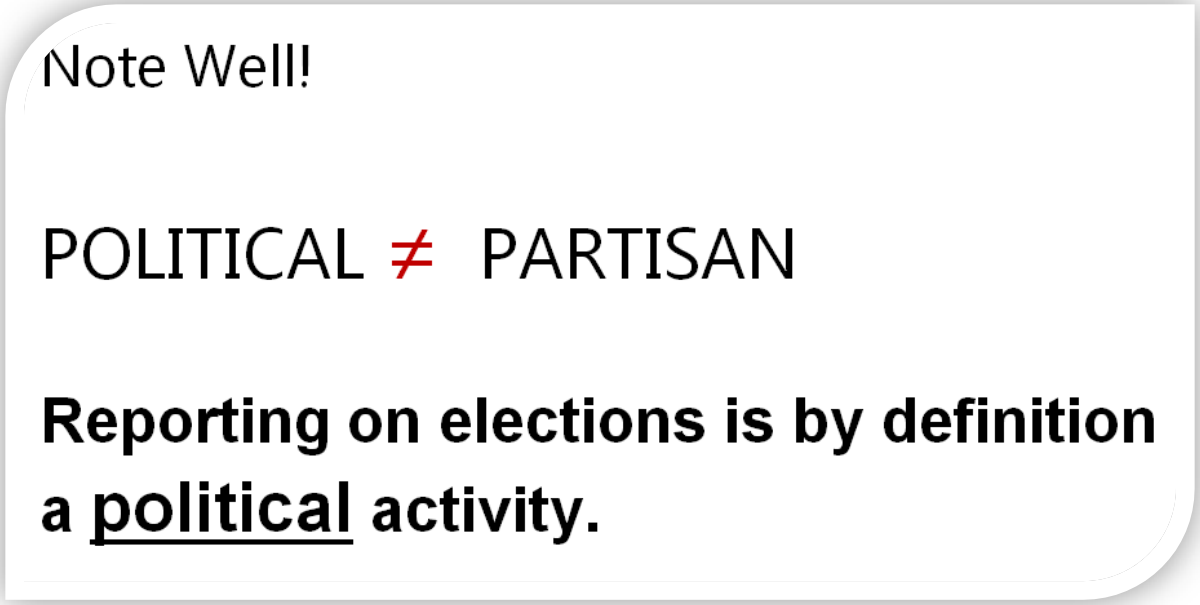
- Educating regarding the entire electoral process;
- Evaluating the preparations for elections, and whether a “level playing field” exists;

- Source: Stephen Graf, “Timing and Sequencing of Transitional Elections,” New York, NY, July 3, 2019.
- https://www.idea.int/news-media/news/timing-and-sequencing-transitional-elections
- Transitional Elections are when elections are held to elect a democratic government after a period of authoritarian or semi-authoritarian rule or to end violent conflict or resolve deep political crises.
- Source: Timing and Sequencing of Transitional Elections, NEW YORK, NY
- By Stephen Graf, Published: 03/07/2019)
- https://www.idea.int/news-media/news/timing-and-sequencing-transitional-elections

Transitional Elections

- Informing the broadest possible public the basic requirements for free and fair elections;
- Educating regarding the entire electoral process;
- Evaluating the preparations for elections, and whether a “level playing field” exists;
- Explaining and analyzing key issues, including those not highlighted by candidates;
- Describing the parties’ positions on crucial issues;
- Assessing the qualifications of candidates;
- Reporting on the conduct of the election.

- Transitional Elections are when elections are held to elect a democratic government after a period of authoritarian or semi-authoritarian rule or to end violent conflict or resolve deep political crises.
- Source: Timing and Sequencing of Transitional Elections, NEW YORK, NY
- By Stephen Graf, Published: 03/07/2019)
- https://www.idea.int/news-media/news/timing-and-sequencing-transitional-elections …*AND*…
- Performing all these roles in an impartial, accurate, full, and fair manner.

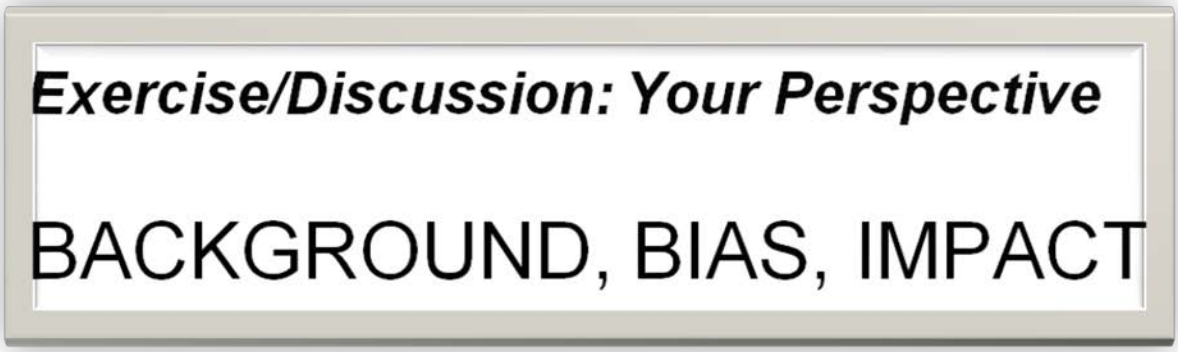


FACILTATOR:

- ELECTIONS ARE PART OF THE DEMOCRATIC PROCESS.
- BUT MEDIA MUST REPORT THIS POLITICAL PROCESS IN A NON-PARTISAN MANNER.
- DEMOCRATIC GOVERNANCE IS A POLITICAL SYSTEM THAT PEOPLE AND COUNTRIES CHOOSE OVER MONARCHIES OR OTHER AUTHORITARIAN/DICTATORIAL FORMS OF GOVERNMENT.
- It thus assumes that media will seek to work professionally and honestly to report impartially on the entire electoral process.
- IMPARTIAL REPORTING DEMANDS THAT WE ARE NOT PARTISAN BY SUPPORTING A PARTICULAR PARTY OR CANDIDATE.

FACILTATOR:

- THIS IS NOT EASY FOR ANY OF US. WE ALL HAVE VIEWS OR EXPERIENCES THAT CAN AFFECT HOW WE REPORT.
- WE NOW HAVE AN EXERCISE THAT CAN HELP US UNDERSTAND THIS BETTER.



FACILITATOR:

- WE WILL NOW HAVE AN EXERCISE…
- NONE OF US ARE “OBJECTIVE”!
- LET’S NOT EVER USE THAT WORD!!!
- JOURNALISTS ARE PEOPLE, AND WE DO NOT HAVE A “GODS’ EYE VIEW” TO KNOW EVERYTHING AND SAY WE ARE REPORTING “OBJECTIVE TRUTH”.
- BUT WE MUST TRY TO BE HONEST, ACCURATE, AND FAIR.
- WE CAN BE FAIR ONLY IF WE RECOGNIZE OUR OWN BIASES!
- THIS EXERCISE IS TO HELP US THINGK ABOUT HOW OUR OWN “MARKERS” --- IDENTITIES, BELIEFS, CHARACTERISTICS, AFFINITIES--- AFFECT HOW WE RECEIVE OR PRODUCE INFORMATION.
- PLEASE FILL IN THIS SHEET INDIVIDUALLY.
- PLEASE RATE THE EFFECT OF EACH OF YOUR “MARKERS” ON HOW YOU RECEIVE INFORMATION, AND HOW YOU PRODUCE CONTENT: “A LITTLE”, “SOMEWHAT” OR “A LOT”

YOUR WORLDVIEW—MEDIA "OBJECTIVITY"…?

Please rate the effect of each of your "markers"
on how you receive information, and how you produce content:
"A Little", "Somewhat", or "A Lot"

Individual Marker	*Information Reception*	*Content Production*
Ability/ Disability		
Age		
Educational Attainment		
Employment		
Ethnicity		
Gender/ Identity		
Lived Experience		
Nationality		
Language		
Religion/ Philosophy		
Socio-Economic Status		
Other Affinities		

FACILITATOR:

- WORLDVIEW HANDOUT TWO.
- PLEASE GATHER IN GROUPS OF THREE OR FOUR.
- *NOW PLEASE CONSIDER AN ETHIOPIAN MEDIA OUTLET.*
- *PLEASE RATE HOW YOU THINK THIS MEDIA OUTLET REPORTS CONSIDERING EACH OF THESE "MARKERS" "NOT FAIRLY&FULLY", "SOMEWHAT FAIRLY&FULLY", OR "VERY FAIRLY&FULLY"*
-

Ethiopia Elections 2020 Media Coverage Workshop

MEDIA WORLDVIEW—MEDIA "OBJECTIVITY"…?

Now please consider an Ethiopian media outlet.
Please rate how you think this media outlet reports considering each of these "markers"
"Not Fairly&Fully", "Somewhat Fairly&Fully", or "Very Fairly&Fully"

Individual Marker	*REPORTING "FAIRLY&FALLY"?*
Ability/ Disability	
Age	
Educational Attainment	
Employment	
Ethnicity	
Gender/ Identity	
Lived Experience	
Nationality	
Language	
Religion/ Philosophy	
Socio-Economic Status	
Other Affinities	

FACILITATOR: DISCUSSION—WHAT ARE THE OBSTACLES? WRITE ON LARGE PAD



Reasoning: NOT ALL MEDIA OUTLETS OR JOURNALISTS WILL CHOOSE OR BE ABLE TO REPORT IMPARTIALLY

Ownership Matters

"FREEDOM OF THE PRESS IS GUARANTEED ONLY TO THOSE WHO OWN ONE."

- American Media Commentator A. J. Liebling, 1960

Source: A. J. Liebling, "The Wayward Press: Do You Belong in Journalism?" *The New Yorker*, 14 May,1960, Page 109

Self-censorship for fear of losing jobs

Self-censorship for fear of losing jobs

Accepting payments that influence coverage

Physical Threats

Personal commitments to an ideology or an ethnic or linguistic group

Lack of access to political actors

Lack of resources to reach areas of the country

Lack of trust in media, and perhaps of journalists from different ethnolinguistic groups or religions

FACILITATOR: WE WILL DISCUSS THIS MORE DURING OUR SESSION ON MEDIA ETHICS

Day 5: Election Day Protocols and Journalist Safety

- Lecture: NEBE accreditation rules and polling station conduct.

- Simulation: Live-reporting election results with NEBE constraints.

- Scenario: Journalist is attacked while reporting—legal recourse and safety drills.

- Group Activity: Build a newsroom election safety plan.

- Reference: CPJ Safety Guidelines; NEBE Directive No. 02/2020.

Reporting Elections

Discussion

FACILITATOR: Ask the participants the following questions and have a discussion

What is/was your post election reporting plan?

Which election cases or appeals do you plan to follow/are you currently following?

How do you intend to hold the party that has won accountable about the policies it has promised?

Facilitator's Note:

Plenary Discussion: Ask participants what issues are people concerned about? Do you think you can find these issues on the media reports? Do you think there are policies that can address these issues?

Framing

Frame denotes a physical boundary within which a selected part of a picture is exhibited, so that it avoids part of a picture which is not desired.

- Selective inclusion and exclusion of facts
- A socially and culturally influenced practice
- A mechanism of looking into the world
- A tool of organizing knowledge
- A tool of effective communication

Election Framing

FACILITATOR:

- MEDIA SHOULD FOCUS ON ISSUES RATHER THAN PERSONALITY.
- THIS IS MORE DIFFICULT AND REQUIRES MORE FOCUS AND DISCIPLINE THAN JUST REPORTING WHAT CANDIDATES SAY ON ANY GIVEN DAY.

- BUT ISSUES, AND POLICIES PROMISED TO ADDRESS ISSUES THAT CONCERN CITIZENS, ARE WHAT ELECTIONS SHOULD BE ABOUT.

- Focus on issues over personalities & the “horse race”
- Elections are NOT a personality contest of leaders nor a horse race
- Elections should be about issues and policies that concern citizens
- This is more difficult and requires more focus and discipline than just reporting what candidates say on any given day



https://www.letsrun.com/news/2016/09/lrc-debate-berlin-greatest-time-kenenisa-bekele-haile-gebrselassie-mo-farah/

FACILITATOR:

- EVEN IN THE USA, THERE IS FAR TOO MUCH EMPHASIS ON THE ‘HORSE RACE” PERSPECTIVE,
- HERE, THIS IS ILLUSTRATED AS A RACE BETWEEN THE SYMBOLS OF THE TWO MAIN PARTIES: DEMOCRATIC PARTY DONKEYS AND REPUBLICAN PARTY ELEPHANTS.

https://journalistsresource.org/studies/society/news-media/horse-race-reporting-election/?utm_source=JR-email&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=JR-email%22%20target=%22_self%22&utm_source=Journalist%27s+Resource&utm_campaign=412a8cf047-

EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2019_01_28_02_40_COPY_01&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_12d86b1d6a-412



"Horse Race" Reporting

Risks of reckless reporting during elections:

Policy issues accounted for 10% of news coverage of the [USA] 2016 general presidential election.

Source: "Journalist's Research," Shorenstein Center on Media Politics and Public Policy Harvard University

"When journalists covering elections focus primarily on who's winning or losing - instead of on policy issues - voters, candidates and the news industry itself suffer…."

SOURCE: Based at Harvard's Shorenstein Center on Media, Politics and Public Policy, Journalist's Resource examines news topics through a research lens.

https://journalistsresource.org/studies/society/news-media/horse-race-reporting-election/?utm_source=JR-email&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=JR-email%22%20target=%22_self%22&utm_source=Journalist%27s+Resource&utm_campaign=412a8cf047-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2019_01_28_02_40_COPY_01&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_12d86b1d6a-412a8cf047-80361305

Decades of academic studies find that horse race reporting is linked to:

- Distrust in politicians
- Distrust of news outlets
- An uninformed electorate
- Inaccurate reporting of opinion poll data

Horse race coverage also:

- Is detrimental to female political candidates, who tend to focus on policy issues to build credibility.
- Gives an advantage to novel and unusual candidates.
- Reduces attention to [lesser-known] candidates, who often are overlooked or ignored because their chances of winning are [considered] slim.

FACILITATOR: DISCUSSION POINT:

HOW DO MEDIA KNOW WHICH ISSUES ARE MOST IMPORTANT TO ITS AUDIENCES?

Who decides which issues are important?

How do we as journalists know what people want to know?

FACILITATOR:

- MEDIA SERVES AS WATCHDOG AND GUIDEDOG FOR ITS AUDIENCES…
- AND SEEKS TO INFORM PEOPLE ON KEY ISSUES…
- BUT HOW DO WE KNOW WHICH ISSUES ARE MOST IMPORTANT?
- MEDIA SHOULD ACTIVELY SEEK THE VOICES OF ITS AUDIENCES!

FACILITATOR:

- UNDERSTANDING OPINION POLLS WILL BE DISCUSSED LATER

Crucial Issues IN ELECTION REPORTING

How do we know what people want to know?

- Community Engagement
- Reliable Assessments/ Secondary Sources
- Interviews

Methods for engaging communities:

- Roundtables
- Call-in Shows
- Community Forums/Debates
- Citizens' Voices
- Audience Research

What do people need to know?

- Civic Education
- Voter Education
- Crucial Questions
- Political party platforms & policy positions
- Candidates' qualifications
- Independent assessment of key questions

FACILITATOR:

- MEDIA MUST NOT FOLLOW ONLY WHAT PARTIES SAY IS IMPORTANT.
- ASKING AUDIENCES WHAT IS IMPORTANT TO THEM IS A KEY STEP TO HELPING RAISE ISSUES THAT ARE MOST IMPORTANT TO CITIZENS.

NEXT…LET'S DISCUSS WHAT "MAKES NEWS"… A GOOD WAY TO THINK ABOT THIS IS WHAT IS MOST NEAR TO US... NEARNESS, OR "PROXIMITY". SO WHAT IS NEWS?

FACILITATOR:

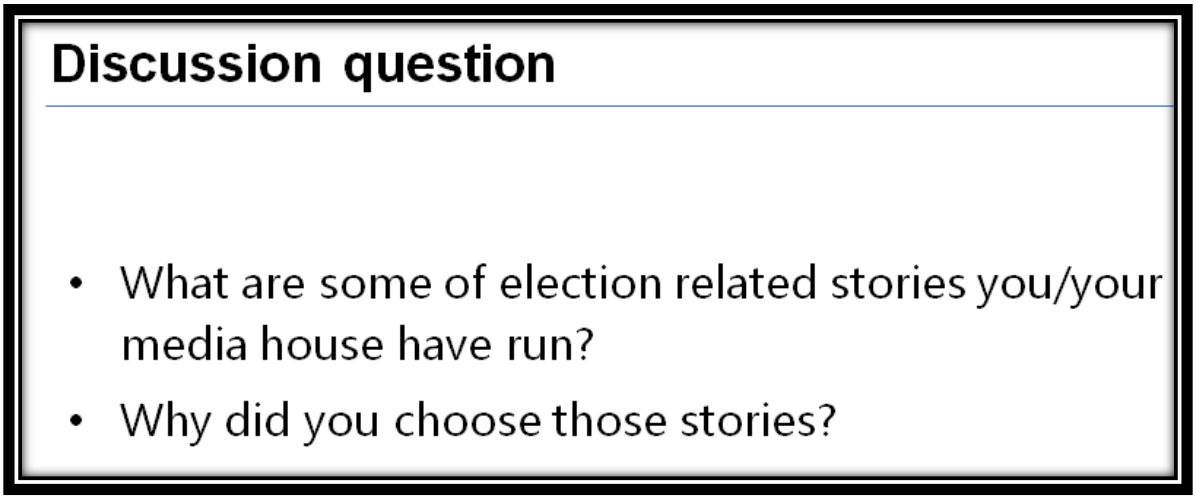
- HOW POLITICAL CAMPAIGN ARE FINANCED IS VERY IMPORTANT.
- ARE CERTAIN BUSINESSES SUPPORTING PARTICULAR PARTIES OR CANDIDATES?
- WHAT DO FUNDERS EXPECT IN RETURN?
- IS THERE ANY FOREIGN INVOLVEMENT?
- DOES THIS SPENDING COMPLY WITH ELECTORAL LAW?* [WE ARE CHECKING THE NEW REGULATIONS].

- AND AGAIN, ARE ANY PARTIES OR CANDIDATES IMPROPERLY USING OFFICIAL RESOURCES?

Campaign Financing

- How much money are political parties spending?
- How much money are political parties spending?
- Who is financing parties and candidates?
- Does spending comply with electoral law?
- Are any parties improperly using official resources?

Facilitator please gives few minutes for discussion. Also make sure that staff document this discussion (writing, audio or video)



What is covered as “news” depends on proximity.

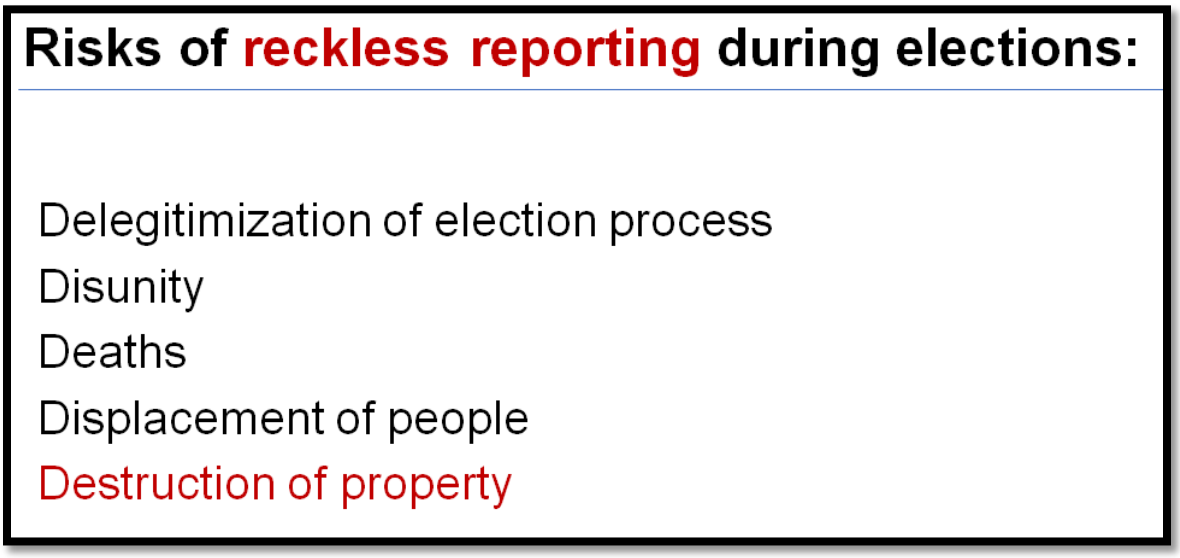
Media usually report on what is most important to you or your audience.

And usually, what is nearest to you and on your surroundings, which is also easier to do.

Plenary Discussion: (10 min.)- Does the fact that Ethiopia’s largest media outlets are found in Addis Ababa affect how issues are reported?

What is covered as news is also dependent on editorial choices.

Risks



FACILITATOR:

BEWARE REPORTING UNVERIFED CLAIMS THAT ANY PART OF THE ELECTORAL PROCESS IS UNFAIR OR CORRUPTED.

THIS CAN CEATE AN ATMOSPHERE IN WHICH ONE GROUP OR ANOTHER CAN CLAIM THE ENTIRE PROCESS IS ILLEGITIMATE.

SEEK EVIDENCE THAT PROBLEMS EXIST AND VERIFY THE EVIDENCE BEFORE PUBLISHING.

See: "Discrediting elections: why the opposition playbook carries risks"

https://theconversation.com/discrediting-elections-why-the-opposition-playbook-carries-risks-131682?fbclid=IwAR1Wu_25uCqpHjSaeL4UVURtx2X9innZQgxLvhR65JrryDwarUXIyn01DfA



FACILITATOR:

IN 2007/8, RECKLESS REPORTING BY SOME KENYA MEDIA HELPED CREATE AND SUSTAIN VIOLENCE BETWEEN DIFFERENT ETHNIC GROUPS.

AT LEAST 1300 WERE KILLED.

Case Study

A Nearby & Terrible Example: 2007/8 Post-Election Violence in Kenya

International Criminal Court: Kenyan radio broadcaster Joshua Arap "Sang, by virtue of his influence in his capacity as a key Kass FM radio broadcaster [joined in]:

... fanning violence by spreading hate messages and explicitly revealing a desire to expel ...; and broadcasting false news regarding alleged murder(s) of ... people in order to inflame the violent atmosphere."

FACILITATOR:

THE INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL COURT INVESTIGATED THE ROLE OF MEDIA IN KENYA 2007/8 POST-ELECTION VIOLENCE.

KASS FM RADIO URGED VIOLENCE AND BROADCAST ”FAKE NEWS” OF KILLINGS OF ONE ETHNIC GROUP BY ANOTHER ETHNIC GROUP TO CAUSE MORE VIOLENCE.

“Among the private press the Reporter gave more attention to the election proportionately and Addis Admas the least attention, while the other four private newspapers: Addis Zena, Ethiop, Menilik and Tobia were evinced politically motivated bias in all election related coverage the election.”

Press and Election in Ethiopia: An Analysis of the Extent and Bias of the Press on the Coverage of the 2005 Ethiopian Election By Yosef Girmay MA thesis at AAU

“The ruling political party ‘Ethiopian People's Revolutionary Democratic Front’ (EPRDF) portrayed negative media coverage whereas opposition political parties received more positive coverage which in turn indicates the presence of clear political parallelism in the Ethiopian media landscape.”

The Framing of the 2005 Ethiopian National Election by Privately Owned Print Media Outlets in Ethiopia by Ashenafi Abate MA thesis at Mid Sweden University

Day 5: Election Day Protocols and Journalist Safety

Objective

Equip journalists, editors, and field reporters with the legal knowledge, safety protocols, and practical skills necessary to cover Election Day responsibly, safely, and ethically in accordance with NEBE directives, international standards, and the Ethiopian Election Code of Conduct.

Lecture: Election Day Roles, Rights, and Legal Boundaries

1. Accreditation and Access

- NEBE Directive No. 02/2020 mandates accreditation for all journalists covering polling stations and electoral events.
- Journalists must carry visible identification and comply with instructions from polling officers and security personnel.
- Failure to register with NEBE may result in removal from polling stations or legal penalties.

2. Election Day Restrictions for Media

- Do not interfere with voting or counting procedures.
- Do not publish unofficial results until confirmed by NEBE.

- Do not interview voters within the polling station or during the act of voting.
- Maintain physical distance from polling operations and respect voter privacy.

3. Right to Observe

- Accredited journalists may observe polling and counting, but not intervene.
- They can report on:
    - Turnout and logistics
    - Irregularities witnessed (with care)
    - Atmosphere, logistics, and voter sentiment

4. Legal Protections

- Article 29 of the FDRE Constitution and Proclamation No. 1238/2021 safeguard journalistic access, but this is subject to security and public order considerations.
- The Election Code of Conduct requires law enforcement to respect journalistic rights unless there is a demonstrated breach of conduct or risk to public order.



FACILITATOR:

- "What is a LEVEL PLAYING FIELD?
- IN WHICH DIRECTION WOULD YOU WISH TO BE COMPETING?

Photo: TR Lansner, Tissiat, Ethiopia, Feb 2020

FACILITATOR:

- "LEVEL PLAYING FIELD": MEANS THAT THE CONDITIONS OF THE ENTIRE ELECTORAL PROCESS APPLY EQUALLY TO ALL PARTIES.
- FOR EXAMPLE, THE RULING PARTY SHOULD NOT BE USING GOVERNMENT RESOURCES FOR CAMPAIGNING.

- NO GROUP SHOULD BLOCK CAMPAIGNING BY ANY OTHER PARTY.



Scenario Case Study: Harassment at a Polling Station

Scenario:
A journalist in Amhara is reporting live from a polling center when local officials demand the footage be deleted and threaten arrest.

Discussion Questions:

1. Was the journalist accredited? If so, what protection should that provide?
2. What are the journalist’s responsibilities in de-escalating the situation?
3. Should the newsroom report the intimidation, and to whom?

Action Plan:

- NEBE hotline or local electoral office
- EMC or EBA complaint mechanisms
- Civil society watchdogs and legal support networks

Workshop: Building a Personal and Team Safety Plan

Each participant creates or refines a personal field safety checklist, including:

- Pre-assignment risk briefing
- Emergency contact numbers (newsroom, NEBE, EMC)
- Digital security practices (encrypting data, backups)
- Conflict de-escalation techniques

- Legal aid and press advocacy contacts

Team Activity:
Work in teams to create a “Newsroom Election Day Safety Plan” that includes:

- Role assignments
- Check-in timelines
- Contingency protocols (arrest, tech failure, protests)

Reference Tools:

- CPJ’s (2021) *Election Coverage Safety Guide*
- Safety template forms and checklists (provided in annex)

Practical Simulation: Covering a Polling Station

Roles:

- Journalists
- Poll officials
- Voters
- Security forces
- Editors (back in newsroom)

Simulation Includes:

- Approaching the polling station
- Asking for access as accredited media
- Recording footage without disruption
- Reacting to a dispute or hostile environment
- Coordinating with editors to approve content

Debrief:

- What went well?
- What rights and boundaries were tested?
- How did participants respond to risk?

Interactive Discussion: Press Freedom vs. Electoral Security

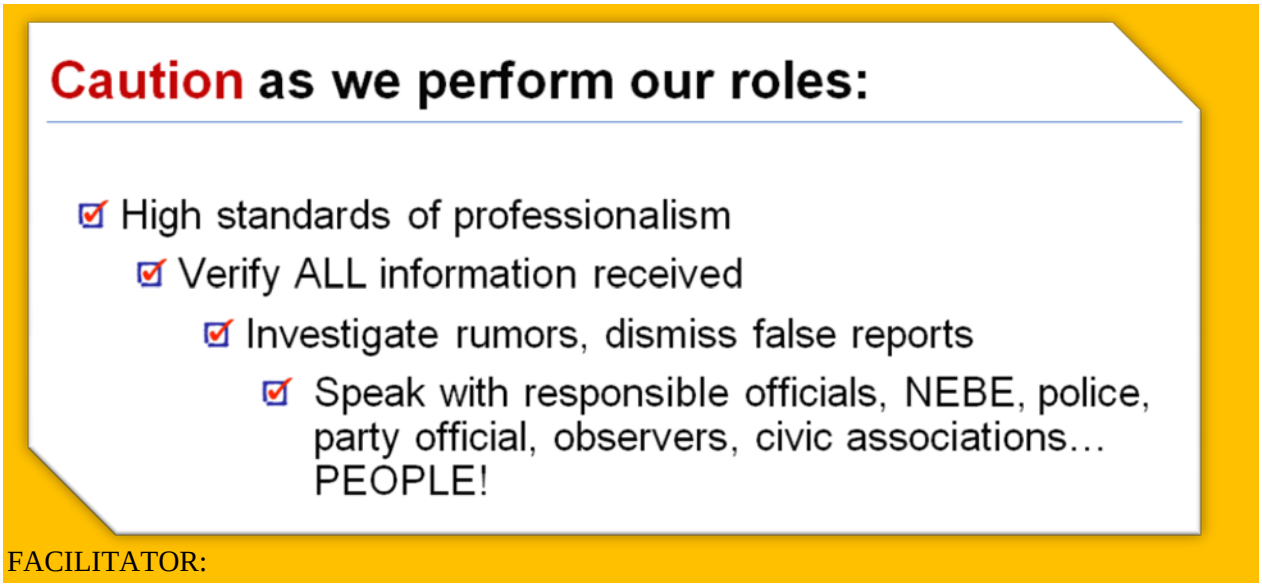
Facilitator Prompt:
“To preserve election integrity, media coverage must be tightly controlled.”
Split the room into two teams to debate:

- How much freedom is too much?
- Who decides when security overrides access?
- How can journalists build respectful relationships with poll workers?

Legal References:

- Proclamation No. 1162/2019, Article 90: Media conduct during polling
- African Charter on Democracy, Elections and Governance: Promotes transparency and access for the media

Caution as we perform our roles:



FACILITATOR:

- THERE IS A GOOD EXPRESSION: "TRUST BUT VERIFY".
- IT MEANS THAT WE HOPE THAT INFORMATION OFFERED BY GOVERNMENT, PARTIES, OR OTHERS—AND ESPECIALLY ANYTHING ON SOCIAL MEDIA—IS ACCURATE AND HONEST.
- BUT WE MUST ALSO ALWAYS VERIFY INFORMATION… SO…IT IS BETTER SAID: "NEVER TRUST, ALWAYS VERIFY…"

On the Public Record vs "On the Public Agenda"

FACILITATOR:

- IF SOMETHING IS REPORTED EVEN ONCE, IT CAN BE STATED TO BE ON THE "PUBLIC RECORD".
- BUT ATTENTION FROM THE PUBLIC OR POLICYMAKERS REQUIRES THAT ISSUES RISE TO THE "PUBLIC AGENDA".

- CONSISTENT AND IN-DEPTH REPORTING CAN PLACE MATTERS ON THE "PUBLIC AGENDA". THIS MEANS THAT THE PUBLIC AND POLITICIANS ARE BETTER ABLE TO UNDERSTAND ISSUES, AND THAT THE PUBLIC WILL DEMAND THAT THESE ISSUES ARE ADDRESSED. THE PUBLIC WILL BE MUCH MORE ENGAGED IF REALISTIC EVIDENCE-BASED SOLUTIONS ARE OFFERED.

FACILITATOR:

- CANADIAN MEDIA THEORIST MARSHALL MCLUHAN WARNED OF "COMPASSION FATIGUE" WHEN MEDIA REPORT PROBLEMS AGAIN AND AGAIN.
- HIS OBSERVATION REFERRED TO THE EXPRESSION, "THE PRICE OF LIBERTY IS ETERNAL VIGILANCE". (keeping careful watch for possible danger or difficulties)
- HOWEVER, INDIFFERENCE RISES WHEN WE BELIEVE WE CAN DO NOTHING TO ADDRESS THE PROBLEMS WE SEE REPORTED. REPORTING THAT SUGGESTS SOLUTIONS CAN AVERT PROMOTING INDIFFERENCE.

FACILITATOR

DISCUSS:

- THIS REPORT IS ON CORRUPTION FROM KENYA IN 1968…
- THEN VICE PRESIDENT MOI PLEDGED TO "CRUSH CORRUPTION"…
- MOI DIED RECENTLY ONE OF AFRICA'S RICHEST MEN.
- IF MEDIA REPORT GOVERNMENT OR OTHER ELITE STATEMENTS UNCRITICALLY, THEY ARE NOT SERVING AS A WATCHDOG OR GUIDE DOG
- THEY WILL NOT EARN PUBLIC TRUST
- Media's job is
- "ETERNAL VIGILANCE" BUT IT IS NOT ENOUGH
- FACILITATOR: THIS IS THE CRUCIAL "WATCHDOG ROLE"



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Vice-President Moi asks Kenyans to hand in information

GOVT. PLEDGE TO CRUSH CORRUPTION

By NATION Reporter

KENYA's Vice-President, Mr. Daniel arap Moi, promised in Parliament yesterday that the Government would take action to stamp out corruption.

Speaking on a motion for the adjournment of the National Assembly he referred to remarks on the subject made by earlier speakers and said it would be far better if individuals who had information on the subject passed it to the Government instead of going to the Press.

The Vice-President said every individual had a right to report to the Government cases in which Ministers or high-ranking Government officials took advantage of their positions to indulge in corrupt practices. Action would be taken, he said.

This should also apply to all other citizens, including Members of Parliament, Mr. Moi added. If such incidents were reported to the Government it would enable its machinery to run smoothly. He said he expected people appointed to high positions to make decisions without malice or without being induced to do so.

'Many others'

"Ministers and their assistants are not the only people to blame," he said. "There are many others."

Turning to the question of citizenship, the Vice-President said the Government had decided that certain classes of foreigners should give way to citizens in employment.

He told the Assembly that the Kenyanisation Bureau was working in collaboration with his Ministry towards this end. Mr. Moi complained that the picture had been distorted by the Press overseas.

What had been done was that private employers had been asked to train Kenyans to take over jobs from non-citizens as soon as they were ready to do so, he said.

On the question of Graduated Personal Tax, he said there was no bluff and that action on implementation of the new rates would be taken as promised.

Mr. Moi concluded by saying: "We are bro-

Sale of ship in Kilindini

By NATION Reporter

THE Aba Prince affair took a new turn in Mombasa yesterday with the announcement that the ship is to be offered for sale by public auction next Saturday to raise £8,000 back wages owed by the skipper to the mainly Greek crew.

An advocate engaged in the legal fight over the Aba Prince, which has been in Kilindini Harbour since last September when it entered for repairs, fuel and water, said a court order has been made to attach the ship on behalf of the crew. On the basis of this attachment, the court brokers had offered the vessel for sale by auction.

The order was made under the recently implemented Merchant Shipping Act of Kenya (1967) in which "Papanikolaou Stylianos and other officers" were the complainants and the ship's master was the respondent.

It is not known for certain whether payment of the crew's wages before the date scheduled for the auction

The day Ladybird Johnson w

WASHINGTO

FIFTY women guests sat in stuna at a White House luncheon as Ne Eartha Kitt shouted angrily at Johnson's wife, Ladybird.

Miss Kitt's vigorous complaints a ditions in Negro ghettos and allegi American boys were being "snatch to be shot at in Vietnam" brough Mrs. Johnson's eyes.

The vibrant-voiced singer's outb at yesterday's luncheon for women in social work.

Some of the guests said they h seen Mrs. Johnson as upset.

After listening to the singer i Mrs. Johnson stood up and replied pite the war in Vietnam, the Go was trying to do something to imp ditions for Americans.

A few minutes before Miss Kitt's President Johnson walked into th walled with crystal chande spoke of the need to improve polic

As he was leaving, Miss Kitt c "What about delinquent parents w their children when they go out to

The President, apparently emb replied something to the effect that social security legislation provi centres for children.

Miss Kitt told Mrs. Johnson: "I many things burning the people country. Mothers bring up sons snatched away to be shot at in V

Mrs. Johnson replied: "Because t war — which I pray will end in a honest peace — that does not give ticket not to try to work on better in this country."

EARTHA KITT

MRS. JOHNSON

Free movement of EA notes barred

By NATION Reporter

FREE movement of old East African Currency Board note into the three East African countries has been outlawed —

FACILITATOR:

IF PEOPLE ARE ONLY TOLD AGAIN AND AGAIN ONLY ABOUT PROBLEMS, THEY CAN BECOME INDIFFERENT, BECAUSE THEY DO NOT BELIEVE THERE IS ANY CHANCE OF CHANGES.

Media's job is eternal vigilance Means:

Journalism that only <u>describes</u> problems is *weak journalism*

Good journalism <u>explains</u> context and <u>identifies</u> causes

Strong journalism suggests evidence-based solutions

Great journalism does this while telling a human story that breaks through audiences' indifference

FACILITATOR:

- PLEASE ASK PEOPLE BREAK INTO GROUPS OF THREE FOR TEN MINUTES TO DISCUSS:
- *WHAT ARE THE TOP ISSUES FOR YOUR OUTLET TO MOVE ONTO THE PUBLIC AGENDA?*
- *GROUPS REPORT BACK FOR TEN MINUTES.*
- *QUESTIONS:*

- *HOW DO YOU KNOW THESE ARE THE TOP ISSUES?*
- *HOW CAN YOU FIND POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS TO THESE ISSUES?*
- *WE WILL DISCUSS THIS MORE DURING OUR "STORY-TELLING" SESSION*



Reference Reading for Day 5

1. NEBE Directive No. 02/2020 (Media Accreditation & Conduct)
2. FDRE Constitution, Art. 29
3. CPJ (2021): Journalist Safety in Election Environments
4. Proclamation No. 1238/2021: Media Proclamation
5. Election Code of Conduct: Enforcement & Journalist Protocols
6. IFJ Safety and Gender Protection Guidelines
7. OSCE Guidelines on Election Media Access and Rights (2014)

Conclusion & Key Takeaways

By the end of Day 5, participants will:

- Understand legal boundaries and access rights on election day
- Identify key personal and institutional safety risks
- Know how to engage lawfully and professionally with security and electoral officials
- Be prepared to operate ethically and safely in high-pressure election environments

Key References

- Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia. (1995). Constitution of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia.

- Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia. (2021). Proclamation No. 1238/2021: Media Proclamation.

- Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia. (2019). Proclamation No. 1162/2019: Electoral Law.

- Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia. (2020). Proclamation No. 1185/2020: Hate Speech and Disinformation.

- Committee to Protect Journalists. (2021). Safety Guide for Journalists.

- UNESCO. (2022). Elections and the Media in Africa.

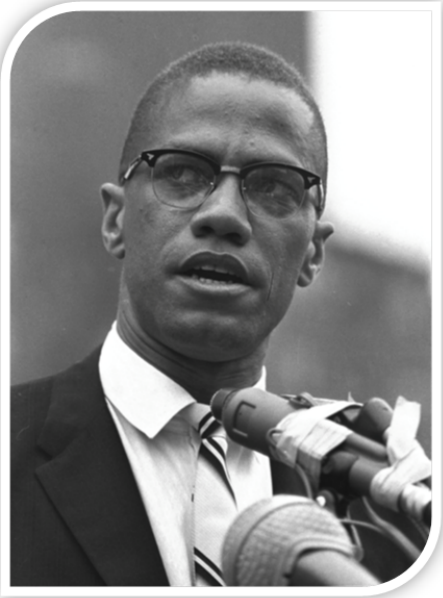
- International Federation of Journalists. (2019). Global Charter of Ethics for Journalists.

- National Electoral Board of Ethiopia. (2020). Directive No. 02/2020.

DAY SIX: ELECTION REPORTING PRACTICES

Section 1: Voice and Legitimacy

Who is heard in media? Who is not?



"The Media [is] the most powerful entity on earth. They have the power to make the innocent guilty and to make the guilty innocent, and that's power. Because they control the minds of the masses."

- Malcom X

Source: IZ Quotes; https://izquotes.com/quote/malcolm-x/the-media-s-the-most-powerful-entity-on-earth-they-have-the-power-to-make-the-innocent-guilty-and-202685
As quoted in "Redefining Black Power: Reflections on the State of Black America", City Lights Books, 2013, p. 115 – ISBN: 9780872865488

FACILITATOR: PLEASE EXPLAIN: There is no "THE MEDIA"!! THERE ARE MANY MEDIA OULETS WITH DIFFERENT AIMS AND VARYING LEVELS OF PROFESSIONALISM. IF WE SPEAK OF "THE MEDIA", WE CREATE AN IMPRESSION THAT ALL MEDIA OUTLETS SHARE THE SAME VALUES AND SKILLS. THIS IS NOT CORRECT, ESPECIALLY TRUE TODAY WITH THE RISE OF "SOCIAL MEDIA" LET US USE "MEDIA', NOT "THE MEDIA"!!

DISCUSSION: DO MEDIA "CONTROL" OR STRONLY INFLUENCE POPULAR OPINION AND PEOPLE'S ACTIONS IN ETHIOPIA TODAY? REQUEST SPECIFICI EXAMPLES.

Power of Media

Media provide information that broadly shape our perceptions, our beliefs, our attitudes, and our behaviors.

FACILITATOR: HOW DO WE KNOW WHAT WE KNOW? WHERE DO WE GAIN INFORMATION? WE ARE NOT BORN KNOWING ABOUT SOCIETY, CULTURE, POLITICS, GROUPS, RELIGIONS, IDENTITIES. WE LEARN FROM OUR FAMILIES, SCHOOLS, RELIGIOUS GROUPS… AND FROM EVERY FORM OF MEDIA WE CONSUME.

Media also supply news that can evoke or provoke immediate action/reaction by those receiving it.

FACILITATOR: ASK if participants can give a local example of how media reports have caused people to react.

"The pen is mightier than the sword"?



Photo: TR Lansner 2020, Image displayed at Red Terror Museum Addis Ababa

FACILITATOR: SOME PEOPLE SEE THE "MEDIASCAPE" AS SIMPLY ANOTHER ARENA FOR STRUGGLE, AND FOR ADVANCING THEIR OWN INTERESTS. THEY ARE WILLING TO MANIPULATE MEDIA, TO CENSOR, TO INTIMIDATE, TO BRIBE. THESE ARE SERIOUS CHALLENGES TO IMPARTIAL MEDIA COVERAGE THAT WE WILL DISCUSS LATER.

THIS PHOTO SHOWS ITEMS SEIZED DURING THE "RED TERROR". NOTE THAT THAT THERE IS ONE FIREARM, BUT TWO COPY MACHINES AND A TYPEWRITER…. AUTHORITARIAN RULERS ARE OFTEN MORE AFRAID OF THE POWER OF MEDIA THAN THE POWER OF GUNS.

Photo: Red Terror Memorial Museum, Addis Ababa

Civic Journalism

Empowering people to make their voices heard to help monitor and improve governmental and societal performance is a central role for civic journalism.

FACILITATOR:

WHEN MEDIA WORK TO INFORM AND EMPOWER PEOPLE TO BETTER UNDERSTAND AND PARTICIPATE IN GOVERNANCE AND DIRECT THEIR OWN AFFAIRS, IT SERVES A "CIVIC MEDIA" ROLE.

"CIVIC MEDIA" REPORTS IMPARTIALLY ON ALL ASPECTS OF SOCIETY, INCLUDING GOVERNMENTAL PERFORMANCE, THE ACTIONS OF BUSINESSES, OF NGOS, OF SCHOOLS AND UNIVERSITIES, OF RELIGIOUS GROUPS, OF INTERNATIONAL GROUPS AND FOREIGN GOVERNMENTS… ANYTHING THAT AFFECTS PEOPLE'S LIVES.

FACILITATOR: A CIVIC MEDIA SERVES ALL PEOPLE AND GROUPS.

WE WILL DISCUSS MORE ABOUT COVERING "MARGINALIZED GROUPS" LATER.

- Listens to and addresses people's concerns, including marginalized groups
- Earns trust by reporting impartially
- Serves as a crucial link between government and people
- Serves as a crucial link between society and people

"…works to assure citizens are aware of problems and solutions to issues that affect them, and are so empowered to demand and realize greater and better-informed participation in decision making that affects lives and livelihoods."

T.R. Lansner

FACILITATOR POINT: WHEN MEDIA WORK TO INFORM AND EMPOWER PEOPLE TO BETTER UNDERSTAND AND PARTICIPATE IN GOVERNANCE AND DIRECT THEIR OWN AFFAIRS, IT SERVES AS A "CIVIC MEDIA"

CIVIC MEDIA IS A ROLE, NOT A STRUCTURE

CIVIC MEDIA CAN BE PRIVATE, PUBLIC, OR NOT-FOR-PROFIT.

EXAMPLE: WHO DECIDES WHAT BEANS FARMERS SHOULD PLANT? IS THIS A GOOD TOPIC FOR MEDIA COVERAGE?



Photo: TR Lansner, AKU-GSMC Nyanza, Rwanda, 18 January 2018. Photo: TR Lansner, AKU-GSMC

For more on SAMI activities in Rwanda, please visit: https://www.thegpsa.org/stories/growing-gains-farmers%E2%80%99-voices-rise-rural-rwanda

Key Pillars of Civic Journalism

FACILITATOR: "CIVIC MEDIA" IS ALWAYS ACCOUNTABLE BY REPORTING IMPARTIALLY, ACCURATELY, FAIRLY, AND FULLY. MEDIA'S POWERFUL ROLE MEANS THAT ITS WORK WILL BE SCRUTINIZED BY EVERYONE… AND IS ACCOUNTABLE TO EVERYONE.

SELF-REGULATING MEDIA COUNCILS AND JOURNALIST ASSOCIATIONS CAN HELP BUILD PROFESSIONAL AND RESPONSIBLE MEDIA SYSTEMS.

https://www.publicmediaalliance.org/about-us/what-is-psm/

- 360 Degree Accountability
- Audience/Citizen Engagement
- Relevant and Impartial Content
- Evidence-based solutions

Media as a Watchdog

FACILITATOR: THE WATCHDOG IS A CLASSICAL MEDIA ROLE… TO ”WATCH OVER” EVERY PART OF OS SOCIETY, AND TO “BARK” LOUDLY IF THERE ARE ABUSES OF LAW AND/OR POWER. THE WATCHDOG IS ALWAYS VIGILANT, IS SMART, IS FEARLESS, AND READY TO “BITE” ANYONE WHO CROSSES THE LINE!

Media as

“Watch Dog”



Investigative Journalism

- Signifies the unveiling of matters that are concealed either deliberately, by someone in a position of power, or accidentally, behind a mass of facts and circumstances, and the analysis and exposure of all relevant facts to the public
- Crucially contributes to freedom of expression and freedom of information

— UNESCO

- Source: “Investigative Journalism,” UNESCO. https://en.unesco.org/investigative-journalism

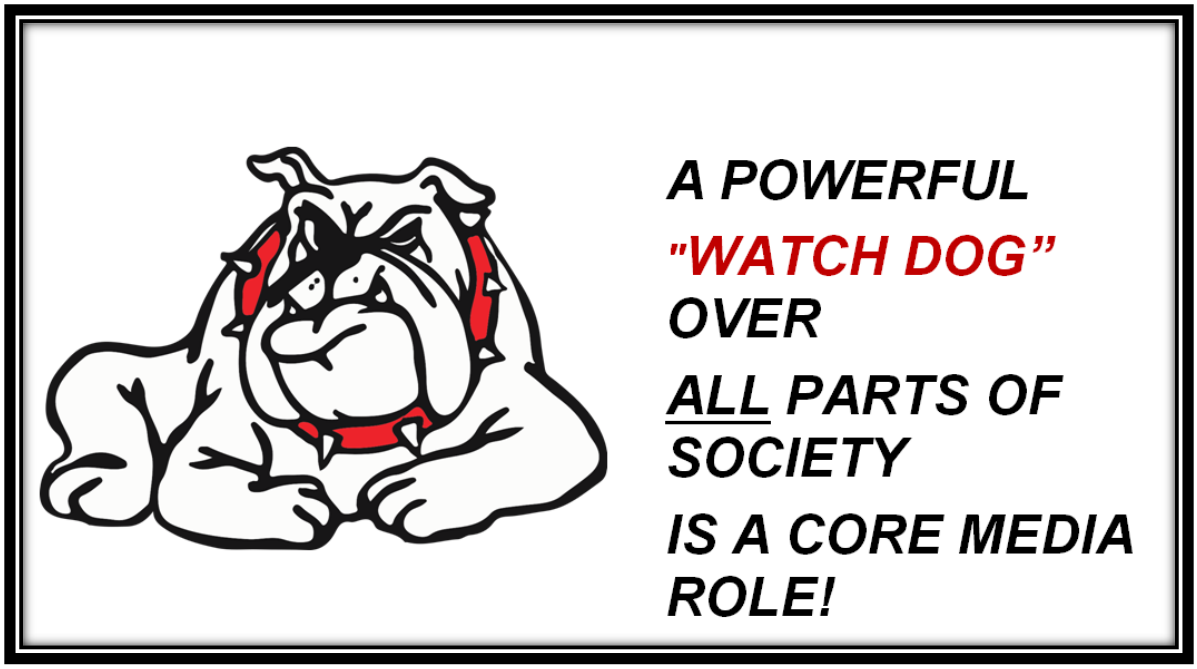
FACILITATOR:

- PLEASE ASK A PARTCIPANT TO READ QUOTE.
- “MUCKRAKING” AND WATCHDOG JOURNALISM HAVE USUALLY SERVED TO PROMOTE THE RIGHTS AND STATUS OF OPRESSED OR MARGINALIZED GROUPS.
- *WATCHDOG JOURNALISM MAKES DEMANDS ON THOSE WITH POWER.*

http://www.unesco.org/new/en/communication-and-information/resources/publications-and-communication-materials/publications/full-list/the-global-9. “Investigative Journalism,” UNESCO. https://en.unesco.org/investigative-journalism-journalism-casebook/

FACILITATOR POINT:

- WATCHDOG MEDIA DO NOT ONLY LOOK AT GOVERNMENT…
- ALSO BUSINESS, POLITICAL PARTIES, RELIGIOUS GROUPS, CIVIC ASSOCIATIONS, AND MEDIA ITSELF…



Media's other crucial role?

FACILTATOR: WHAT IS "CIVIC MEDIA'S" OTHER MOST IMPORTANT ROLE IN ELECTIONS?

FACILITATOR:

- "GUIDEDOG MEDIA" HELPS US GET WHERE WE WISH TO GO!
- GUIDEGOG MEDIA PROVIDE IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR CIVIC AND VOTER EDUCATION;
- "KNOW YOUR RIGHTS";
- ENCOURAGING AWARENESS OF IMPACT OF VIOLENCE;
- GUIDEDOG MEDIA ENCOURAGES AND EMPOWERS CITIZENS TO PARTICIPATE IN THE ELECTORAL PROCESS.



FACILTATOR:

- CIVIC EDUCATION INFORMS CITIZENS ABOUT THE DEMOCRATIC PROCESS TO ENCOURAGE GREATER ENGAGEMENT AND PARTICIPATION.
- WE WILL DISCUSS CIVIC EDUCATION A BIT MORE LATER.

FACILTATOR

- VOTER EDUCATION INFORMS CITIZENS ABOUT THE ENTIRE ELECTORAL PROCESS, INCLUDING HOW TO REGISTER TO VOTE AND ELECTION DAY PROCEDURES
- WE WILL DISCUSS CIVIC EDUCATION A BIT MORE LATER.

Media as Educator: the GUIDE DOG

- Civic Education
- Voter Education
- AND
- Citizen Engagement
- Impartial Coverage of Issues and Candidates
- Safety and Security Information

FACILITATOR:

- LET'S NOTE THAT "GUIDEDOG MEDIA" AND "WATCHDOG MEDIA" SOMETIMES INTERSECT OR OVERLAP…

- FOR EXAMPLE, REPORTING ON VOTING PREPARATIONS CAN HELP CITIZEN'S PARTICIPATE [GUIDEDOG] BUT ALSO WARN OF PROBLEMS [WATCHDOG]



FACILITATOR:

- THERE ARE MANY PRESSURES ON MEDIA, ESPECIALLY DURING ELECTIONS.
- PEOPLE WILL ATTEMPT TO CORRUPT MEDIA:
    - BY OFFERING BRIBES,
    - BY DEMANDING THAT JOURNALISTS REPORT ONLY FROM ONE IDEOLOGICAL OR ETHNIC PERSPECTIVE
    - BY PHYSICAL THREATS.
- JOURNALISTS SHOULD SEEK TO RESIST.
- BUT THIS CAN BE VERY DIFFICULT.
- WE DISCUSS THIS MORE LATER WHEN WE LOOK AT ETHICS AND JOURNALIST SAFETY.

Section 5: Voice and Legitimacy

Who is heard in media? Who is not?

WHAT DO WE MEAN BY “MARGINALIZED GROUPS”?

Marginalized groups are formed of people who have lesser access to official and societal resources on the basis of their gender, race, ethnicity, age, location, socio-economic status, or other identifiable characteristic.

FACILITATOR:

- DO PARTICIPANTS AGREE?

- CAN PARTICIPANTS GIVE EXAMPLES OF MARGINALIZED GROUPS IN THEIR REGION?

- HOW DO WE REACH MARGINALIZED GROUPS?

HOW TO ASSESS?

“Marginalization is both a condition and a process that prevents individuals and groups from full participation in social, economic, and political life enjoyed by the wider society.”” It derives from exclusionary relationships based on power. “ Access to tool by request: https://wfto-asia.com/system-tools/ https://elliott.gwu.edu/sites/g/files/zaxdzs2141/f/World%20Fair%20Trade%20Organization.pdf

Exercise:

What sources/voices are used?

What sources/voices are absent?

Voice & Legitimacy

- Women
- Youth
- Persons with Disabilities
- Urban Poor
- Pastoral Communities
- Farmers

- Internally Displaced Persons
- Tip: marginalized people might not necessarily minority in number. The voice of 85% of the Ethiopia population or the rural mass are not heard in the media.

why media needs to GIVE voice To marginalized groups

Marginalization can be understood as persistent inequality and adversity resulting from discrimination, social stigma and stereotypes

Democracy is more likely to develop and endure when all segments of a society are free to participate and influence political outcomes without suffering bias or reprisal

Members of an already marginalized population may face “double” or “triple” exclusion owing to their gender, age or other characteristics

To be heard is their human right

National Democratic Institute: https://www.ndi.org/political-inclusion-of-marginalized-groups

Politicians are often more willing to listen to marginalized groups during election periods – and make promises to address their concerns.

Hierarchies of Coverage: *Voice & Legitimacy*					
Item/ Outlet URL	Story Headline	Topic	Sources/ Voices offered in the story	Sources/ Voices *absent* in the story	Imputed Credibility/ Impact

FACILITATOR:

- WE WILL USE THIS EXERCISE TO LOOK AT MEDIA COVERAGE, AND TO SEE WHOSE VOICE IS OFFERED.
- YOU CAN LATER USE THIS EXERCISE SHEET TO ASSESS COVERAGE IN YOUR OWN MEDIA OUTLET!

Voice & Legitimacy

Engaging with civic associations is one of the best ways for media to reach marginalized groups and to hear their voices and concerns



FACILITATOR (10m):

- PLEASE BREAK INTO GROUPS OF THREE OR FOUR.
- REVIEW THIS ARTICLE.

- WHAT VOICES/SOURCES ARE IN THE STORY?
- ARE THE SOURCES CLEAR AND CREDIBLE?
- WHAT VOICES /SOURCES ARE ABSENT THAT SHOULD BE HEARD?

Violence puts free election in doubt advocates say

By Muluken Yewondwossen

Political advocacy groups and electoral elites are expressing concern about the lack of security in some parts of Ethiopia. They say it could hinder the upcoming election. The government says there are no plans to postpone the 2020 election even though some areas of Ethiopia are under command post control while others have been disabled from attacks.

During a recent dialogue organized by the National Electoral Board of Ethiopia (NEBE) in collaboration with Friedrich Ebert Stiftung under the title: 'election and political parties proclamation of Ethiopia' senior members of NEBE expressed their concern that if more steps weren't taken ensure a peaceful climate, it could negatively impact the next election.

The way things are now is making it difficult for all sides to get their views heard, members of the civic association said, adding that the instability affects the election process and fair competition.

The civic society members appreciate the government's decision encourage civic society to be active in the election process, which was suspended after the 2005 election. They are happy to play a role in a free and fair election process to improve the democratization process. According to them, the peace issue affects their ability to contribute to the election.

Some of the minority parties say the recently amended electrical proclamation is a challenge for them. The proclamation requires national parties to come up with at least 10,000 signatures to get on the ballot. Smaller parties argue that the unstable conditions make it difficult for them to get 10,000 signatures, a dramatic increase from the previous number of 3,000.

Since the proclamation was amended during the extraordinary meeting at the parliament last summer, some of the small parties say that the rules create a rigged system where they can't compete on the same playing field. However, other parties are happy with the rules.

Sudden attacks and instability have occurred in various parts of Ethiopia. Last week there were killings in SNNP and Afar. Some political parties are reluctant to campaign in towns where unrest may occur, which also presents a challenge for future elections

The election is expected to be held during May 2020. Following the massive reform operation by the ruling EPRDF almost all parties who were also categorized as terrorist organizations have entered the country to compete peacefully.

FACILITATOR:

- IF THERE IS TIME, ALSO ANALYZE THIS ARTICLE:
- PLEASE BREAK INTO GROUPS OF THREE OR FOUR.
- REVIEW THIS ARTICLE.

- WHAT VOICES/SOURCES ARE IN THE STORY?
- ARE THE SOURCES CLEAR AND CREDIBLE?
- WHAT VOICES /SOURCES ARE ABSENT THAT SHOULD BE HEARD?

Media council conducts first general assembly

By our staff reporter

The Ethiopian Media Council (EMC) held its maiden general assembly after it was registered as a legal entity by the Agency for Civil Society Organizations, to discuss about how the future...

The discussion was held at the Intercontinental Hotel on October 19, 2019, in the presence of Getechew Dinku Director of Ethiopian Broadcasting Authority and representative of United Nations Development Program (UNDP).

Established with the aim of contributing to the development of professional and responsible media in Ethiopia, EMC has got registration certificate from the civil societies' agency three months ago, after three and half years of process, according to Teguest Yilma, Chairperson of Ethiopian Media Council, who made an opening remark at the meeting.

As the number of media outlets increase and the country is set to hold general election next year, having responsible media is vital, according to Getachew Dinku.

He stated that the establishment of self-regulator media council in Ethiopia by media owners will play critical role in allowing the media outlets to provide timely, balanced and accurate information in a responsible manner.

He also urged all media outlets in Ethiopia to be member of Ethiopia's first self-regulatory media council.

The first establishment conference was hosted by the United Nations on 12th January 2016 at the UN Conference Center.

During the council's founding meeting, 19 founding members have signed on to the membership, now the members have increased to 29 which include public and private media outlets.

EVENTS [news] FRAMES NARRATIVES

FACILITATOR:

NOW LET'S DISCUSS FROM A LARGER PERSPECTIVE OF HOW WE TREAT PEOPLE, GROUPS, AND ISSUES IN OUR MEDIA.

- EVENTS OR NEWS
    - is reportage intended to be perceived by audiences as accurate and honest.
- FRAMES
- rely on our pre-existing beliefs, biases, stereotypes, and cultural conditioning to provide settings for news within the context of current events

Events or news

Frames

NARRATIVES

develop organically as part of our group identities, or can be purposefully crafted as politico-ideological frameworks seeking to maintain or to challenge the status quo.

FACILITATOR:

- *NARRATIVES ARE OFTEN IN THE BACKGROUND, AND INFLUENCE HOW WE PERCEIVE AND REPORT ON EVENTS [NEWS].*

- AN EXAMPLE IS REPORTING ON "THE WAR ON TERROR". THE OFFICIAL AND DOMINANT AMERICAN NARRATIVE IS THAT THE "THE WAR ON TERROR" IS A RESPONSE TO MINDLESS VIOLENCE BY GROUPS "WHO HATE US". THIS DOMINANT NARRATIVE ALLOWS ONLY ONE RESPONSE [VIOLENCE], AND DOES NOT ACCEPT THAT ANOTHER GROUP COULD HAVE GENUINE AND REASONABLE GREIVEANCES.

- <u>DISCUSSION</u>: do certain narratives affect media reporting inside ETHIOPIA?

FRAMES & CONTEXT

FACILITATOR: LET'S LOOK AT AN ELEPHANT:

INSERT FRAMES & CONTEXT SLIDES

Photo: TRLansner, Namibia, 2018



FACILITATOR:

- ENCOURAGING THE “FULL ENGAGEMENT” OF ALL CITIZENS IS CRUCIAL TO DEMOCRATIC ELECTIONS.
- THE CREDIBILITY OF ELECTIONS AND THEIR RESULT ARE REDUCED IF MARGINALIZED GROUPS HAVE LESS OPPORTUNITY TO PARTICIPATE.

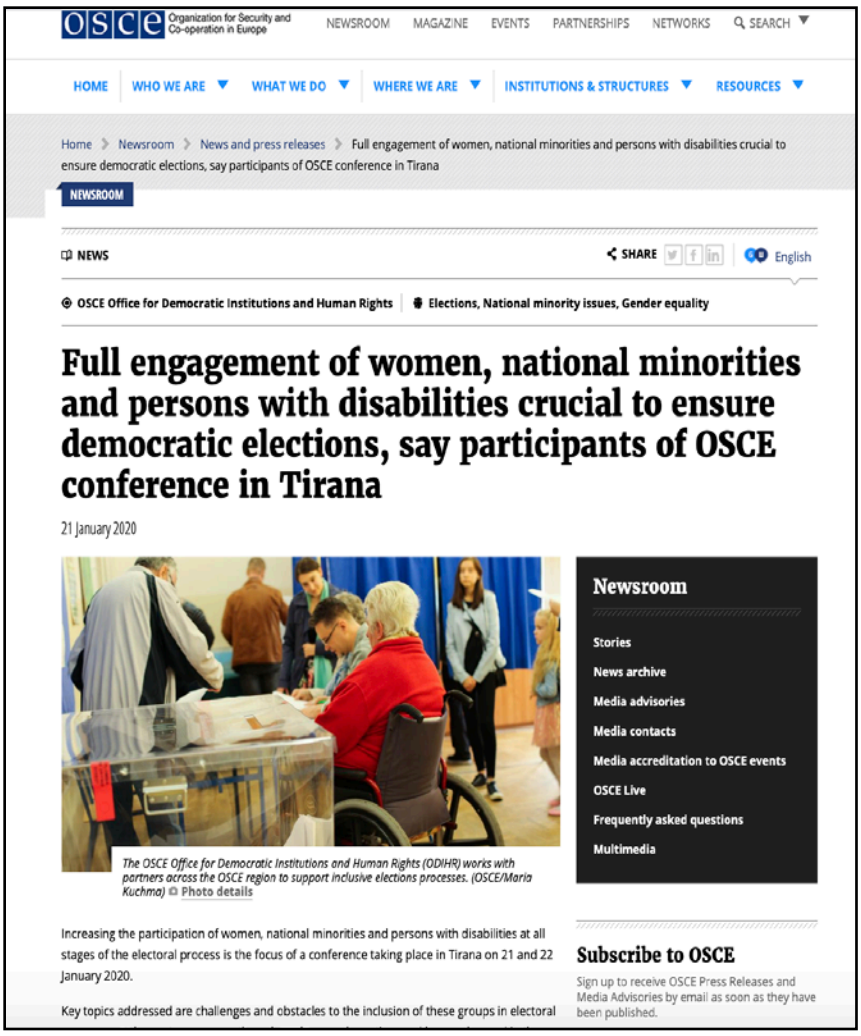
https://www.osce.org/presence-in-albania/444442

Source: “Full Engagement of Women, National Minorities and Persons with Disabilities Crucial to Ensure

Democratic Elections, Say Participants of OSCE Conference in Tirana,” OSCE, Jan. 21, 2020.

https://www.osce.org/presence-in-albania/444442

What reporting and what images demonstrate that we are sensitive/responsive toward marginalized groups?



OSCE Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe

NEWSROOM MAGAZINE EVENTS PARTNERSHIPS NETWORKS SEARCH

HOME WHO WE ARE WHAT WE DO WHERE WE ARE INSTITUTIONS & STRUCTURES RESOURCES

Home > Newsroom > News and press releases > Full engagement of women, national minorities and persons with disabilities crucial to ensure democratic elections, say participants of OSCE conference in Tirana

NEWSROOM

NEWS SHARE English

OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights | Elections, National minority issues, Gender equality

Full engagement of women, national minorities and persons with disabilities crucial to ensure democratic elections, say participants of OSCE conference in Tirana

21 January 2020

The OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR) works with partners across the OSCE region to support inclusive elections processes. (OSCE/Maria Kuchma) © Photo details

Increasing the participation of women, national minorities and persons with disabilities at all stages of the electoral process is the focus of a conference taking place in Tirana on 21 and 22 January 2020.

Key topics addressed are challenges and obstacles to the inclusion of these groups in electoral

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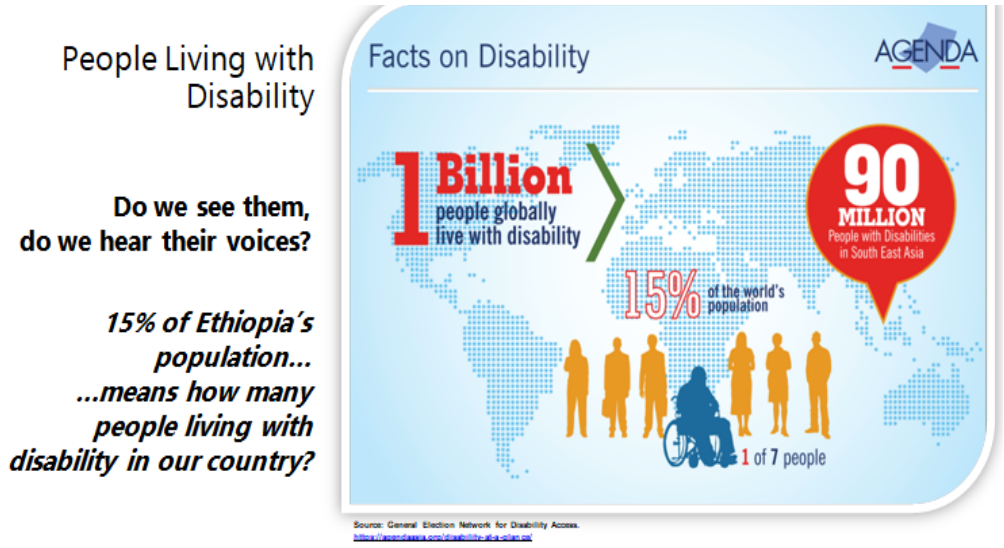
FACILITATOR: DISCUSS HOW MEMBERS OF OTHER MARGINALIZED GROUPS ARE OFTEN "INVISIBLE" IN SOCIETY AND IN MEDIA…



How are women represented in media?

How do women participate in elections? As candidates, voters, observers, etc.

FACILITATOR:

Some coverage sexualizes women as objects and exploits this for profit.

Do we show youth, people with disability as source/ solution provider or only associated with problems?

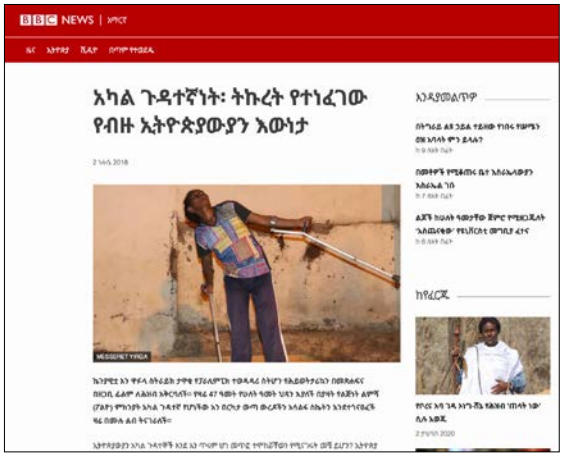
How are people with disability represented in media?

Victim/Helplessness

Seldom covered in the media… often negatively stereotyped and not appropriately represented

Treated as objects of pity, charity or medical treatment that have to overcome a tragic and disabling condition

UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs Disability



Source:"አካል ጉዳተኝነት ትኩረት የተነፈገው የብዙ ኢትዮጵያዊያን ገጽታ," BBC, 2 ነሐሴ 2018. https://www.bbc.com/amharic/news-45004239

How do we reflect trends in marginalized group participation?

Marginalized group members running for office

FACILITATOR:

FOR EXAMPLE, WHAT PERCENTAGE OF CANDIDATES ARE FEMALE?

https://www.un.org/development/desa/disabilities/resources/disability-and-the-media.html

How do we reflect trends in marginalized group participation?

Women running for office

Who are the women candidates?

What do they offer in terms of qualifications and policy?

FACILITATOR: DO MARGNILIZED CANDIDATES HAVE THE SAME OR BETTER QUALIFICATIONS AS OTHER CANDIDATES?

Ethiopia / News / Diplomacy / Women Decision Makers / Women Empowerment / Africa / Society & Economy

NEWS: ETHIOPIAN WOMEN PARTICIPATION IN POLITICS UP BUT A LOT NEEDS TO BE DONE

addisstandard / December 19, 2019 / 5.4k



Partial view of today's national conference on Women's Political Participation and Election in Ethiopia

Mahlet Fasil

Addis Abeba, December 19/2019– The number of Ethiopian women in the national legislative and executive branches has grown significantly since Ethiopia conducted its first parliamentary election in 1995. However a lot more needs to be done to make sure women are proportionally represented in political decision making.

This was highlighted at a daylong national conference under the theme: "Women's Political Participation and Election in Ethiopia: Envisioning 2020 and Beyond for generation Equality." The conference was organized by UN Women Ethiopia, in collaboration with Addis Abeba University's Center for Human Rights.

"Women politicians face unique forms of online and offline attacks and deliberate actions to discourage their participation in politics. This reflects how patriarchal [our] society is in its functions," said Daniel Bekele (PhD), Commissioner of Ethiopia Human Rights Commissioner, during his keynote speech. He also said that women face particular challenges in times of elections that seriously impact and discourage their participation.

FACILITATOR: CIVIC ASSOCIATIONS CAN HELP US BE AWARE OF THE CONCERNS OF MARGAINALIZED GROUPS AND TO HEAR THEIR VOICES. IN 2019, ETHIOPIAN WOMEN PROMOTED MORE PARTICIPATION

Source : https://addisstandard.com/news-ethiopian-women-participation-in-politics-up-but-a-lot-needs-to-be-done

CIVIC IMPACT



KITOTO> I'm a pastor having an affair and risk ruining my marriage PAGE 26

FREE WITH YOUR DAILY NATION.

DN2

Daily Kenya Living

Monday, June 12, 2017

PHOTO | PAUL LETIWA

Women from Nantundu Village in Isiolo North no longer have to walk long distances to fetch water, thanks to an initiative that taps rain water and conserves it in pans.

Climate change Act now allows them to access financing to adapt

Hope at last for drylands

BY PAUL LETIWA

In the hillside Longopito Village, about 80 kilometres from Isiolo Town, Lucy Ntepenika has to walk eight kilometres to the nearest water point.

The residents of Longopito are among the millions of Kenyans living in arid and semi-arid lands (Asals), who bear the brunt of climate change. The recurrent droughts, floods, inequitable distribution of land and over-dependence on rain-fed agriculture all increase their vulnerability, leading to widespread poverty.

Mr Ibrahim Jarso, who works with the Adaptation Consortium (ADA), an initiative that seeks to strengthen adaptation and resilience to climate change, says disadvantaged people have little security against extreme climatic actions.

"Most people in Asals have few resource reserves, poor housing and depend on natural resources for survival. Regular floods and long periods of drought have damaged their property and killed people, reduced business opportunities and increased the cost of transacting business," he says.

Climate change and variability are considered major threats to sustainable progress. Experts say that the areas likely to feel the greatest impacts are the economy, water resources, ecosystems, food security, coastal zones, health, population and settlements.

It is projected that average temperatures in Kenya will increase by between 1° and 3° Celsius by 2050, yet an increase in temperature by more than 1° Celsius might aggravate the attendant aridity, especially in low-lying areas. If that happens, conflicts over resources are likely to escalate.

Data from the Kenya Metrological Department (KMD) indicate that pastoral livelihoods are at risk from rising surface temperatures, more intense rainfall and more frequent droughts.

"There has been a slight decline in rainfall in Lodwar in Turkana County, where the mean rainfall decreased by 13 mm between the first 23 years recorded (1950-1973) and the last 43 years (1974-2015). The frequency and severity of droughts have increased in recent decades, with episodes of moderate to severe drought occurring more frequently since the 1980s," the KMD report says.

However, Mr Jarso says there is hope for pastoralists living in Asals since the passing of the Kenya Climate Change Act of 2016 creates an enabling environment for them to access climate financing.

"In Kenya, Wajir and Makueni counties were the first to enact the County Climate Change Fund (CCCF) legislation, with Isiolo, Garissa, and Kitui at advanced stages of approving theirs, which are anchored to the Kenya Climate Change Act," adds Mr Jarso.

The CCCF Act allows counties to access climate change finance from their own budgets, as well as from national and international sources.

Miriam Naramat, a 25-year-old mother of three, is one of the beneficiaries of the CCCF fund, which has brought water close to her Nantundu Village in Isiolo North. She no longer has to walk long distances in search of water since the Count Climate Change Fund seed money from the UK government's Department for International Development (DfID) has enabled the fencing and rainwater of water to kiosks and troughs from the water pan.

Pastoralists living in the nearby villages of Lengiteng, Ntumodet, Loosekeret, Langaaman and Lmesheni have also benefited. This is one way of helping herders in the north tackle climate change.

CCCF legislation commits counties to devote a certain percentage of their development budget to building community resilience, empowering residents through their elected ward adaptation planning committees (WAPCs) to set priorities on how 70 per cent of the funds set aside for adaptation will be used. The approach, piloted in Isiolo and being replicated in Makueni, Garissa, Kitui and Wajir, uses funds from (DfID).

In Isiolo, the fund has helped the communities invest in infrastructure such as sand dams to trap rainwater, providing clean and reliable water during dry periods. The fund has also helped strengthen customary resource management institutions, such as "dedhas" among the Borana, to manage the resources currently the source of conflict between the Borana and neighbouring pastoralist counties.

"The County Climate Change Fund in Isiolo also strengthened the traditional systems that govern the natural resources in rangelands. The strengthened traditional grazing governance institution (dhedha elders) subdivided land into grazing zones (namely wet dry season areas, as well as a and drought reserve area)", says Lordman Lekalkuli, the Isiolo County drought coordinator.

He says the management of the designated grazing zones makes Isiolo better off than its neighbours, enabling it to accommodate pastoralists from other counties in when it is extremely dry. "For instance, in Merti, the Yamicha water pan was put off limits, thanks to a resolution by dedha elders to prevent access to pasture in the reserve before the stipulated time."

Statistics from the African Union's policy framework show that in Kenya, pastoralism accounts for between 13 and 44 per cent of the gross domestic product.

> Most people in Asals have few resource reserves, poor housing and depend on natural resources for survival. Regular floods and long periods of drought have damaged their property and killed people, reduced business opportunities and increased the cost of transacting business."
>
> - Ibrahim Jarso, Adaptation Consortium

FACILITATOR:

- THIS ARTICLE DESCRIBES SOLUTIONS TO PROBLEMS THAT AFFECT REAL PEOPLE. IT CAN BE CALLED A FORM OF "CIVIC MEDIA".
- BUT LET'S ALSO ASK: "WHO CARRIES THE WATER??" DOES THIS REINFORCE GENDER ROLES?
- Can this change women's Positions (Does this address Strategic Gender Needs/Interests -SGN)

NOTE:

- THIS ARTICLE CAN BE USED FOR “CONTENT ANALYSIS”.
- PLEASE SEE PDF VERSION SUPPLIED

https://www.nation.co.ke/lifestyle/DN2/Hope-at-last-for-drylands/957860-3966094-ffolua/index.html

From the victim side:	**From third parties of all kinds:**
Revenge, making the evildoers also suffer, identifying and incapacitating them (individual prevention)	Helping to punish the evildoers by bringing them to justice (general prevention)

The task of the media would be to check that “justice” is done.

Source: Johan Galtung and Jake Lynch, “Reporting conflict: a war or peace approach?” http://www.thescavenger.net/media-a-technology/reporting-conflict-a-war-or-peace-approach-48676-255.html

US AND THEM– IDENTITY CONFLICT

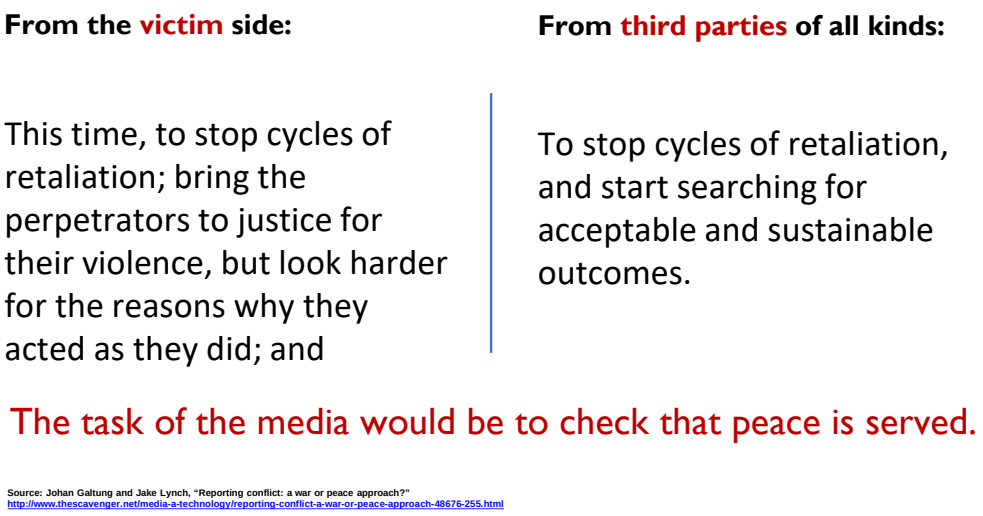
Johan Galtung and Jake Lynch, “Reporting conflict: a war or peace approach?” http://www.thescavenger.net/media-a-technology/reporting-conflict-a-war-or-peace-approach-48676-255.html

On the other hand, if ‘their’ action is seen as motivated by goals that have some justification…at least partly legitimate…highlighting peaceful ways of bridging their and our legitimate goals without compromising other legitimate goals…reactions could be different.

Media’s Problem Frame

- Conflict-sensitive journalism encourages reporting, editing and producing in such a way that the following are presented:
- All stakeholders’ needs, worldviews, and interests within a given conflict (rather than presenting only one perspective);
- Common ground, goals and interests among the stakeholders (rather than presenting only what divides the conflict parties); and

- Peacebuilding potential originating within and among all stakeholders.
- FACILITATOR: Not every stakeholder can be represented in every story. Journalists should strive to represent multiple voices, including traditionally marginalized groups.
- Michael Shank, GPPAC Media Training Manual. 2010, The Global Partnership for the Prevention of Armed Conflict
- https://gppac.net/files/2018-12/Media%20manual.pdf



Majid Tehranian describes "peace journalism" as:

"A kind of journalism and media ethics that attempts... to transform conflicts from their violent channels into constructive forms by conceptualizing news, empowering the voiceless, and seeking common grounds that unify rather than divide human societies."

Majid Tehranian (2002). 'Peace Journalism: Negotiating Global Media Ethics' in Press/Politics 7(2): 58-83, cited in World Association of Christian Communications, "The No-Nonsense guide to

Peace Journalism". http://cdn.agilitycms.com/wacc-global/Images/Galleries/RESOURCES/e-pubs/No-nonsense-guides/PDFS/14peace_journalism.3.pdf .

Ten Commandments for peace journalism

Tehranian's "Ten Commandments for peace journalism are negotiable and suggestive rather than exhaustive:" Source: Media Tehranian, 'Peace Journalism: Negotiating Global Media Ethics' in Press/Politics 7(2): 58-83, 2002:

Cited in World Association of Christian Communications, "The No-Nonsense guide to Peace Journalism".

http://cdn.agilitycms.com/wacc-global/Images/Galleries/RESOURCES/e-pubs/No-nonsense-guides/PDFS/14peace_journalism.3.pdf .

1. Never reduce the parties in human conflicts to two. Remember that when two elephants fight, the grass gets hurt. Pay attention to the poor grass.
2. Identify the views and interests of all parties to human conflicts. There is no single "Truth;" there are many truths.
3. Do not be hostage to one source, particularly those of governments that control sources of information.
4. Develop a good sense of skepticism. Remember that reporting is representation. Bias is endemic to human conditions. You, your media organization, and your sources are not exceptions.
5. Give voice to the oppressed and peacemakers to represent and empower them.
6. Seek peaceful solutions to conflict problems, but never fall prey to panaceas.
7. Your representation of conflict problems can become part of the problem if it exacerbates dualisms and hatreds.
8. Your representation of conflict problems can become part of the solution if it employs the creative tensions in any human conflict to seek common ground and nonviolent solutions.
9. Always exercise the professional media ethics of accuracy, veracity, fairness, and respect for human rights and dignity
10. Transcend your own ethnic, national, or ideological biases to see and represent the parties to human conflicts fairly and accurately.

Source: Majid Tehranian, "Peace Journalism: Negotiating Global Media Ethics." International Journal of Press/Politics 7(2), 2002, 58-83.


borkena.com

Woldia University clash reportedly left at least two students dead,14 injured

Source: https://borkena.com/2019/11/10/ethiopia-woldia-university-clash-reportedly-left-at-least-two-students-dead14-injured/


Ethiopia24

TWO OROMO STUDENTS KILLED OVERNIGHT IN WOLDIA UNIVERSITY

Source: https://ethiopia24.info/2019/11/10/amhara-region-police-commissioner-abere-adamu-on-woldia-university-issues

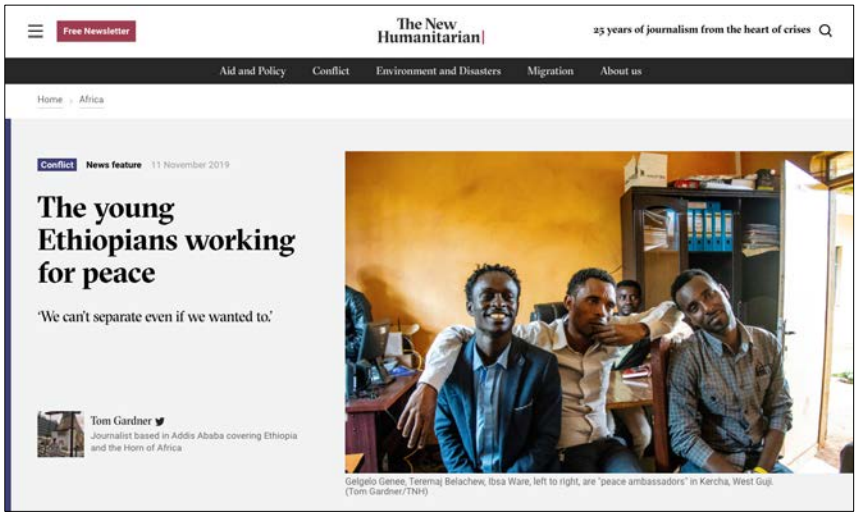
FACILITATOR:

- THESE TWO REPORTS ON THE SAME EVENT ARE HEADLINED VERY DIFFERENTLY.

- WOULD THESE REPORTS EVOKE DIFFERENT REACTIONS FROM THE AUDIENCE?

- COULD YOU WRITE THE SECOND HEADLINE DIFFERENTLY TO EVOKE A LESS EMOTIONAL REACTION?

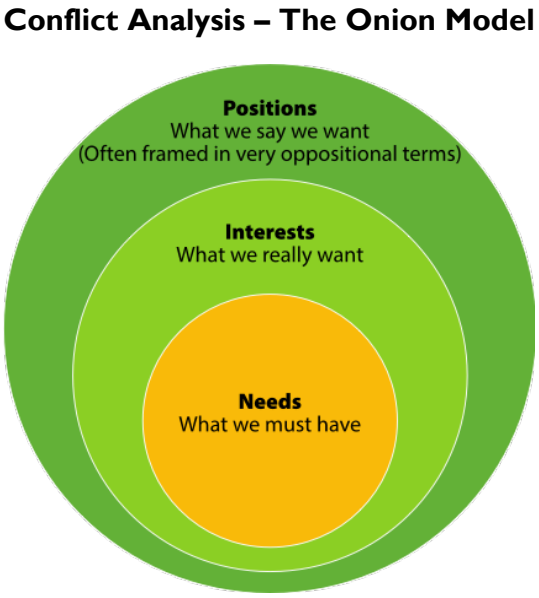
https://ethiopia24.info/2019/11/10/amhara-region-police-commissioner-abere-adamu-on-woldia-university-issues/



Source: Tom Gardner, "The Young Ethiopians Working for Peace: 'We Can't Separate Even If We Wanted To,'" The New Humanitarian, Nov. 11, 2019. https://www.thenewhumanitarian.org/news-feature/2019/11/11/Ethiopia-peace-ambassadors-Gedeo-West-Guji

Tom Gardner, "The young Ethiopians working for peace: 'We can't separate even if we wanted to.'" The New Humanitarian, 11 November 2019. https://www.thenewhumanitarian.org/news-feature/2019/11/11/Ethiopia-peace-ambassadors-Gedeo-West-Guji

Conflict Analysis – The Onion Model

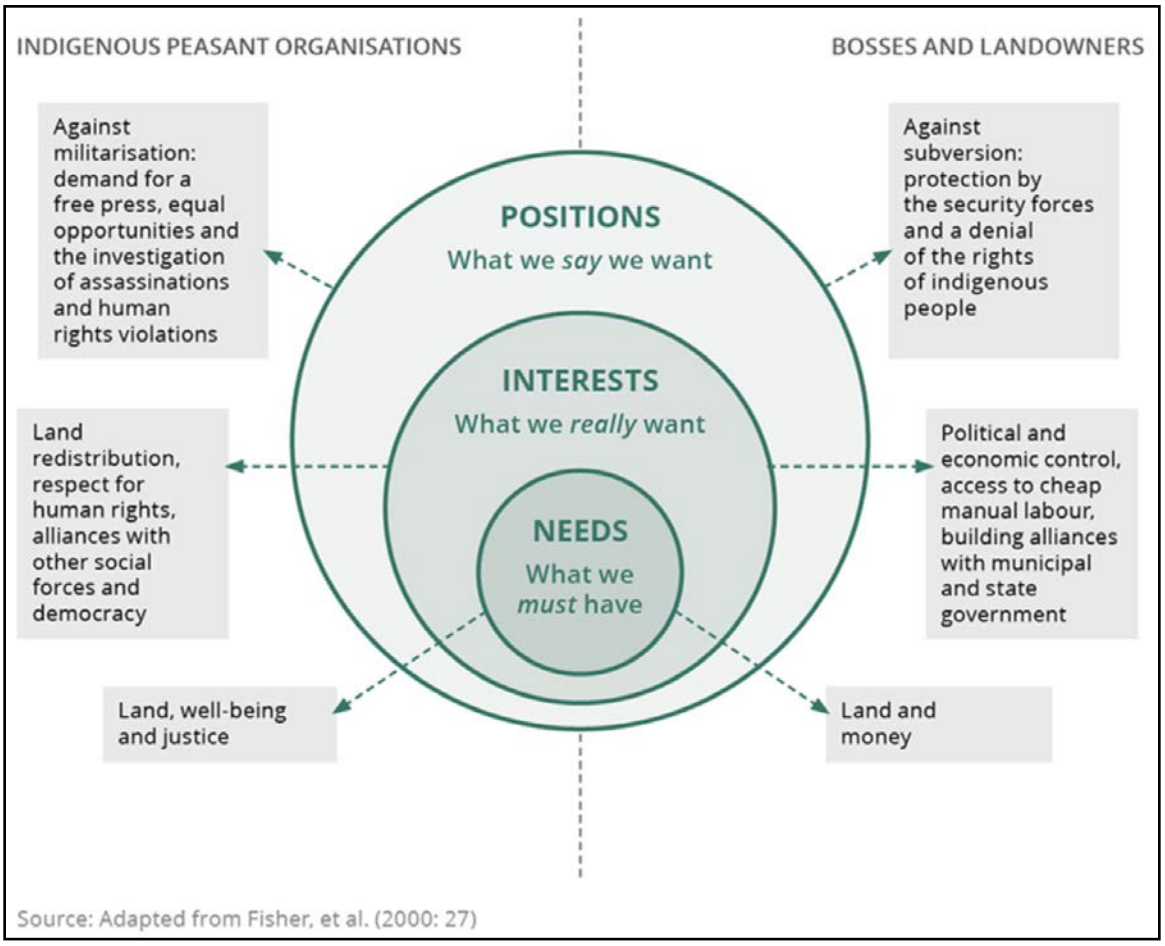


THIS IS ONLY ONE METHOD OF ANALYZING CONFLICT. THE ONION ILLUSTRATES SOME OF MANY LAYERS AND ELEMENTS OF CONFLICT THAT GET BUILT UP OVER THE COURSE OF A DISPUTE. THE AIM IS TO UNDERSTAND AND IDENTIFY THESE DYNAMICS AND

LAYERS SO THAT THE REAL NEEDS AT THE HEART OF THE DISPUTE CAN GET ADDRESSED AND THE CONFLICT IS RESOLVED IN A CONSTRUCTIVE WAY.

- "INTERESTS" USUALLY RELATE TO MATERIAL MATTERS AND CAN BE NEGOTATIATED
- "NEEDS" SOMETIMES RELATE TO "VALUES" AND IDENTITY THAT ARE HARDER TO NEGOTIATE.
- BEWARE THAT SOME LEADERS TRY TO MAKE EVERY INTEREST A MATTER OF VALUES AND IDENTITY.

https://werise-toolkit.org/en/system/tdf/pdf/tools/Using-The-Onion-as-a-Tool-of-Analysis.pdf?file=1&force=

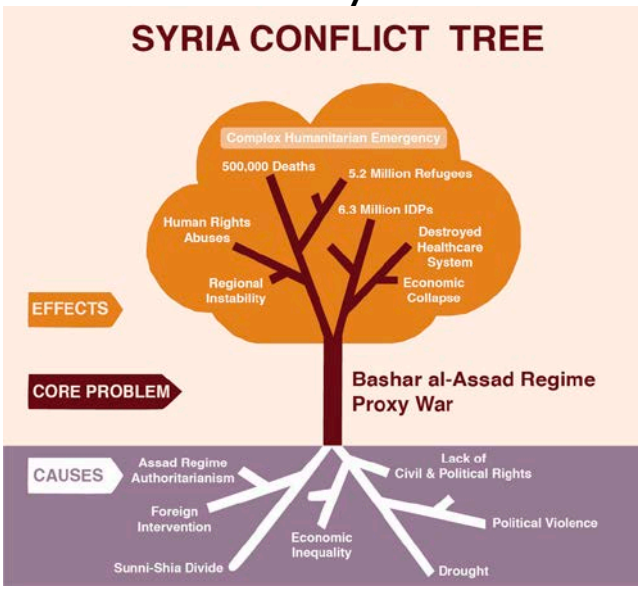


FACILITATOR:

DISCUSS THIS EXAMPLE OF A CONFLICT ONION ANALYSIS RELATED TO LAND OWNERSHIP

HTTPS://GSDRC.ORG/TOPIC-GUIDES/CONFLICT-ANALYSIS/CORE-ELEMENTS/

Causes of Conflict Analysis – The Tree Model



THIS IS ANOTHER METHOD OF ANALYZING CONFLICT.

It is often difficult to differentiate between cause and effect in a conflict it is made easier with a visual representation of a tree.

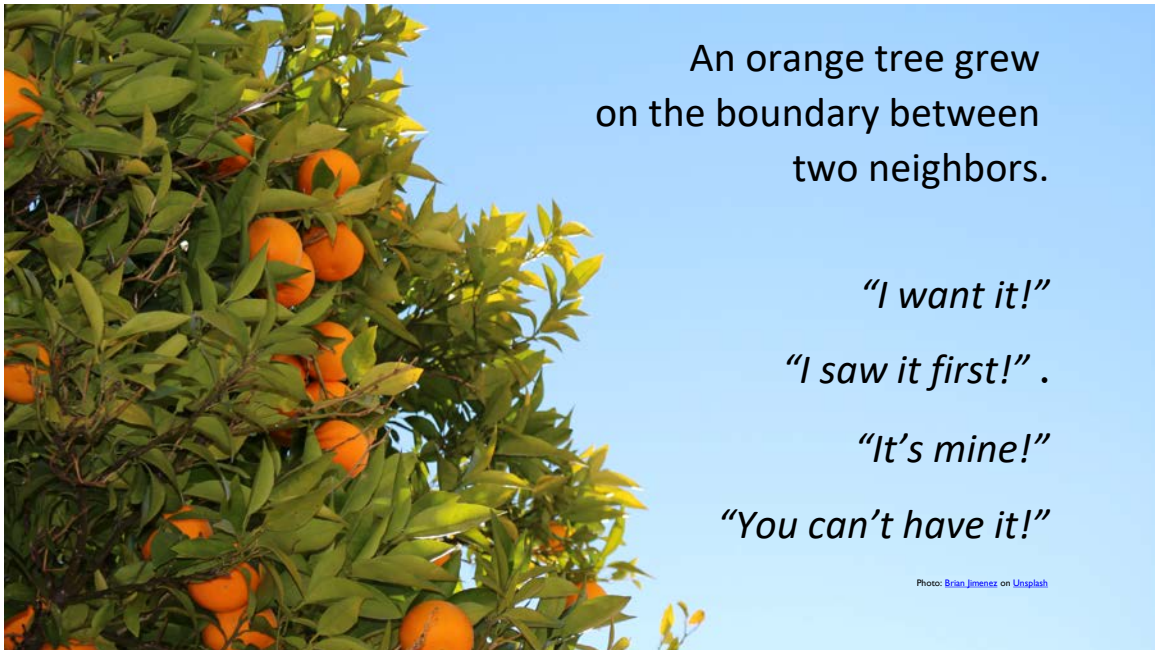
The roots of the tree represent the root causes of a conflict, which are not clearly visible on the surface, and the effects of which, cannot be directly linked back to them immediately. They act as a foundation for the core problem.

The trunk of the tree represents the core problem, which is the problem the conflict is explicitly involved in. This often means that the main discussions and arguments of conflict will happen around this core problem. This core problem will often be the most prominent reason for unrest, fights, and even civil wars to break out, and then these core problems will often be the clearest visible issue of contention. The conflict tree helps separate this out from the rubble of causes and effects in complicated scenarios.

The branches of the tree represent the effects of the conflict in the real world. This helps link the conflict and its causes together into a relatively compact diagram.

https://www.ionutgitan.com/conflict/

https://beyond-peace.com/tools-of-conflict-analysis-in-theory-and-practice-the-conflict-tree-model/



One party prevails: Violence; stronger neighbor wins the orange tree

Withdrawal: One or both groups simply walk away; conflict unresolved

Compromise: Neighbors squeeze the orange and share the juice; a different way of seeing the orange; a resource with a different value

Transcendence: Real resolution of conflict: together they plant orange seeds, make an orange grove & become a prosperous orange supplier together

Conflict sensitive reporting is:

Process oriented: Paints a picture of the past, present and future rather than reporting what just happened

Truth oriented: Exposes truths on all sides and uncovers cover ups

People oriented: Focuses on potential or real sufferings and on people peace makers

Solution oriented: Seeks a non-violent, win-win solution

Source: "Handbook: A Conflict Sensitive Approach to Reporting on Conflict and Violent Extremism," Internews, Dec. 13, 2019.

https://internews.org/sites/default/files/2020 01/Handbook_Re-porting_Violent_Extremism_eng2020.pdf

Handbook: A Conflict Sensitive Approach to Reporting on Conflict and violent Extremism. Internews. https://internews.org/sites/default/files/2020-01/Handbook_Reporting_Violent_Extremism_eng2020.pdf

Questions Journalists Should Ask:

- **What is the conflict about?**
- **Who are the parties involved and what are their real goals?**
- **What other parties, beyond the conflict arena where the violence is taking place, are involved?**

Source: "Handbook: A Conflict Sensitive Approach to Reporting on Conflict and Violent Extremism," Internews, Dec. 13, 2019.
https://internews.org/sites/default/files/2020_01/Handbook_Re-porting_Violent_Extremism_eng2020.pdf

- What are the deeper roots of the conflict?
- Are there structural imbalances that need to be addressed?
- What is the history behind the conflict?
- What kinds of ideas exist about the outcomes other than one party imposing itself on the other?
- "Does this have to be a winner-take all?"
- Are there any particularly creative or new ideas about how a conflict might be resolved?
- Can such ideas be sufficiently powerful to prevent violence?
- If violence occurs, what impact will the invisible effects, such as hatred and the wish for revenge and for more glory, have on the possibilities for peace?
- Who is working to prevent violence?
- What are their visions of the conflict outcomes?

Capturing Conflict Complexity:

Present the position of all sides

Interview various stakeholders

Do not limit coverage only to familiar voices of dominant elites

Avoid presenting conflict as simply between two opposing side

Media Roles in Conflict Prevention and Management

Communication: Reporters can play an essential role in channeling clear, precise information, which can help reduce likelihood of conflict arising from faulty or miscommunication.

Adapted from Rob Manoff," Track Two : Constructive Approaches to Community and Political Conflict," Volume 7, Issue 4, Dec 1998.

Education: Making facts known to all stakeholders is critical in an information environment that is complex, dynamic and multiparty.

Confidence Building: Journalists can help to mitigate mutual suspicion among ethnopolitical factions and increase trust through reporting of stories that highlight possibilities for accommodation.

Truth-telling: Stories focus on the veracity of public statement by stakeholders.

De-objectifying: Providing human interest stories about individual members of various groups to mitigate against objectification (dehumanization) of the "other".

"Safety Valve": Media can serve as an outlet for expression of pent up emotions that if left unaddressed may explode.

Consensus-Building: Media can help group leaders explain rationale for compromise solutions to generate support among co-ethnics.

Questions Journalists Should Ask:

- What kinds of ideas exist about the outcomes other than one party imposing itself on the other?
- "Does this have to be a winner-take all?"
- Are there any particularly creative or new ideas about how a conflict might be resolved?
- Can such ideas be sufficiently powerful to prevent violence?
- If violence occurs, what impact will the invisible effects, such as hatred and the wish for revenge and for more glory, have on the possibilities for peace?
- Who is working to prevent violence?
- What are their visions of the conflict outcomes?

Some see media as simply another arena for struggle, and care nothing about honesty in what they say

Do not rely on conventional or dominant narratives of any group

Gather evidence/rely on facts

Election-related violence

- Identity conflict
- Campaign conflict
- Balloting conflict
- Results conflict
- Representation conflict

Actors and agents in electoral conflict

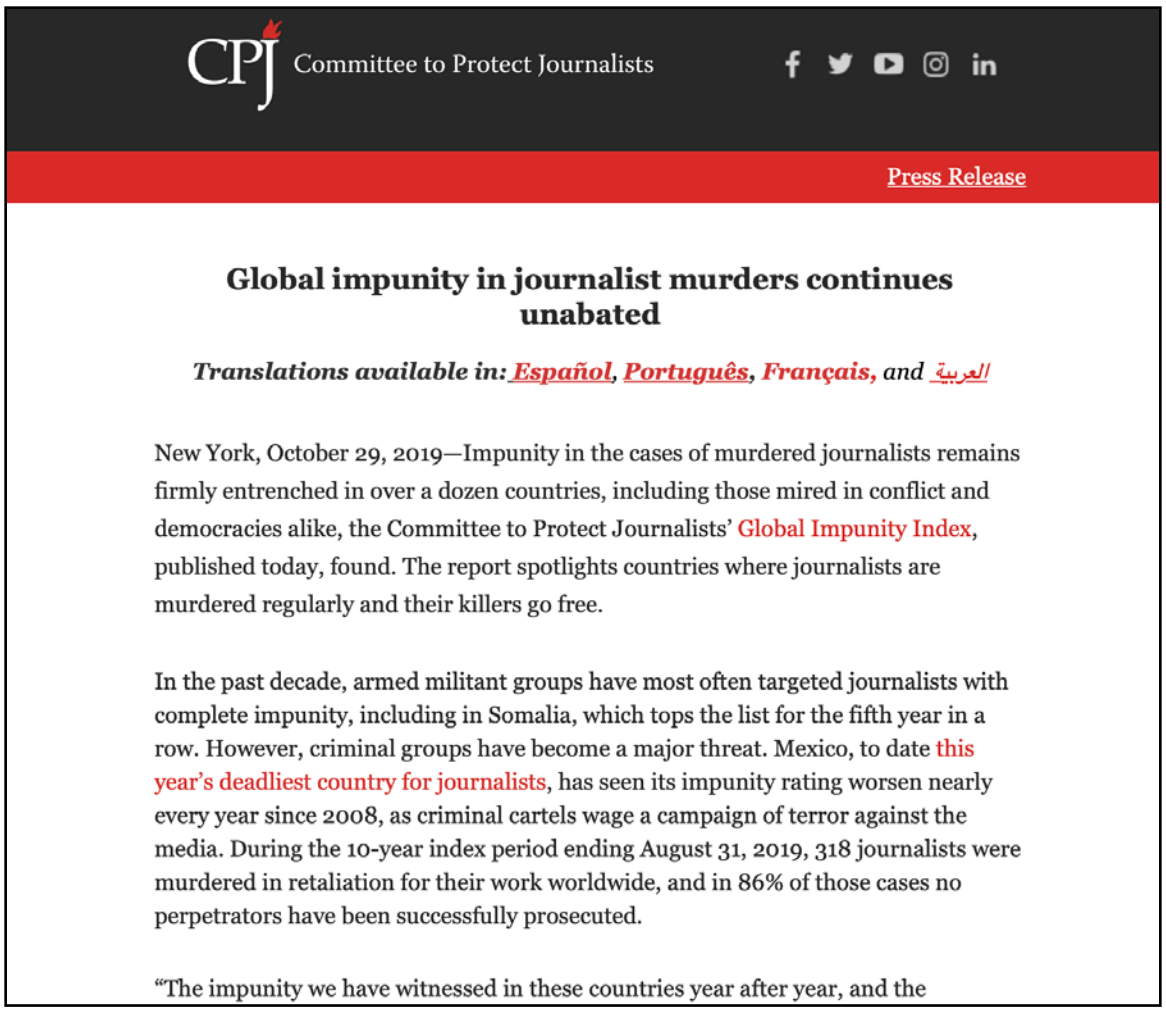
Facilitators please ask participants to refer to the note on ‘election-related violence’ and have a few minutes discussion about it.

- DON’T FORGET ABOUT YOUR OWN SAFETY!

FACILITATOR:

- THREATS TO JOURNALISTS ARE WORLDWIDE.
- DANGERS INCREASE DURING UNCERTAIN TIMES SUCH AS ELECTIONS.

https://cpj.org/2019/10/global-impunity-in-journalist-murders-continues-un.php



CPJ Committee to Protect Journalists

Press Release

Global impunity in journalist murders continues unabated

Translations available in: Español, Português, Français, and العربية

New York, October 29, 2019—Impunity in the cases of murdered journalists remains firmly entrenched in over a dozen countries, including those mired in conflict and democracies alike, the Committee to Protect Journalists' Global Impunity Index, published today, found. The report spotlights countries where journalists are murdered regularly and their killers go free.

In the past decade, armed militant groups have most often targeted journalists with complete impunity, including in Somalia, which tops the list for the fifth year in a row. However, criminal groups have become a major threat. Mexico, to date this year's deadliest country for journalists, has seen its impunity rating worsen nearly every year since 2008, as criminal cartels wage a campaign of terror against the media. During the 10-year index period ending August 31, 2019, 318 journalists were murdered in retaliation for their work worldwide, and in 86% of those cases no perpetrators have been successfully prosecuted.

"The impunity we have witnessed in these countries year after year, and the

Prepare for Safety

- Receive safety training, including first aid
- Know your right of refusal
- Do you have insurance coverage?
- Don't travel alone!
- Always inform office or colleagues of destinations and check in regularly
- Carry media identification… know when NOT to show it
- Carry spare identification & some cash in a hidden place
- Be sure that your basic documents are on your phone & accessible online

- Wear comfortable clothing in “neutral” colors
- Carry scarf or handkerchiefs and water for tear gas, and goggles or better personal protective equipment if possible
- Wear strong shoes
- Carry a basic first aid kit
- Introduce yourself as journalist to security personnel and to event/rally/demonstration leaders, if appropriate
- During active demonstrations, keep your distance from armed people if possible
- Avoid standing between demonstrators and security forces
- Carry no weapons
-
- FACILITATOR:
- BE CAREFUL NOT TO WEAR CLOTHING IN THE COLORS OF ANY POLITICAL PARTY OR ACTIVIST GROUP.
- CHOOSE DARKER COLORED CLOTHING THAT YOU CAN RUN IN…
- AND STRONG LACE-UP SHOES.
- IN CASE OF TEAR GAS, WET A CLOTH AND COVER YOUR MOUTH AND NOSE, AND EYES IF POSSIBLE. FLUSH EYES AND NOSE AND MOUTH WITH LOTS OF WATER AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE AFTER EXPOSURE.
-

FACILITATOR:

- YOUR OFFICE SHOULD ALWAYS KNOW WHERE YOU ARE HEADED AND WHEN YOU ARE EXPECTED BACK.
- IF AWAY FOR MORE THAN A FEW HOURS IN POTENTIALLY RISKY CONDITIONS, YOU SHOULD SET REGULAR “CHECK-IN” CALLS OR TEXTS TO YOU OFFICE.

FACILITATOR:

- ALWAYS CARRY YOUR MEDIA IDENTIFICATION, BUT IN PROTEST OR DEMONSTRATION SITUATIONS, BE AWARE THAT DISPLAYING IT COULD CAUSE RATHER THAN PREVENT PROBLEMS.
- MEDIA WORKERS FROM SOME OUTLETS MIGHT BE TARGETED BECAUSE OF THE OUTLET'S REPORTING OR PERCEIVED REPORTING, ITS OWNERSHIP, OR EVEN THE LANGUAGE IN WHICH IT REPORTS.
- BE SURE THAT YOU UNDERSTAND THE CONTEXT OF THE EVENT THAT YOU ARE COVERING.
- THIS IS KNOWN AS "SITUATIONAL AWARENESS", WHICH IS A CRUCIAL SKILL OF EVERY MEDIA WORKER COVERING POTENTIALLY RISKY SITUATIONS.

FACILITATOR: \

Use your SITUATIONAL AWARENESS" to asses the conditions for potentially risky situations.

Section 7: Addressing Media Misuse

Ethiopia is an ethnically diverse and potentially deeply divided country. Dangerous speech that could ignite widespread violence centered around ethnicity and/or religion is rising.

FACILITATOR:

- DISCUSSION…
- DO PARTICIPANTS BELIEVE THIS IS TRUE?
- CAN THEY OFFER SPECIFIC RECENT EXAMPLES IN THEIR REGION, OR ELSEWHERE IN ETHIOPIA?

Everybody hopes for a peaceful election

- Media literacy, civic education, and voter education campaigns on all media platforms should be part of this
- Contentious election history and increasing occurrence of dangerous speech is cause for vigilance
- Need for high-level focus, resources, and monitoring safeguards so that dangerous speech does not disrupt democratic transition

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=I3l4XLZ59iw

#VoCo. Adobe Audio Manipulator Sneak Peak with Jordan Peele | Adobe Creative - Cloud Nov 2016.

Proclamation No. 1162/2019

The Ethiopian Electoral, Political Parties Registration and Election's Code of Conduct Proclamation

ለምርጫ ዘመቻ ጥቅም ላይ ስለሚውል የቋንቋ ይዘት እና ሰላማዊነት

፩/ ማንኛውም የፖለቲካ ፓርቲ፡- ሀ/ የምረጡኝ ዘመቻውን ሲያደራጅና ሲያካሂድ ለአጠቃላይ የምረጡኝ ዘመቻ፣ ለድምፅ አሰጣጥ፣ ለቆጠራ እና ለድህረ ምርጫ ሂደቱ ሰላማዊነትና ስኬት አስተዋፅኦ በሚያደርግ አኳኋን ማድረግ አለበት፡፡ ለ/ ከሚጣልበት ኃላፊነትና ካለው ክብር ጋር በተመጣጠነ ደረጃ መንቀሳቀስ አለበት፡፡

፪/ ማንኛውምሕዝባዊ የድጋፍ ሰልፍ ላይ ንግግር የሚያደርግ ሰው፡- ሀ) ግጭት ቀስቃሽ የሆነ ወይም የግል ስብዕናን የሚነካ ቋንቋ ማስወገድ አለበት፡፡ ለ) በማንኛውም መልኩ ለአመጽ የሚጋብዝና በግለሰቦች ወይም ቡድኖች ላይ ስጋትን የሚጭር የቋንቋ አጠቃቀም ማስወገድ አለበት፡፡

፫/ ማንኛውም የፖለቲካ ፓርቲ በይፋም ሆነ በስውር አመፅ የሚቀሰቅስ ወይም በማንኛቸውም የመገናኛ ብዙሃን የሚያበረታታ የቋንቋ ይዘት ያለው በራሪ ወረቀት፣ የዜና መጽሔት ወይም ፖስተር ማሳተም ወይም ማሰራጨት የለበትም፡፡

Proclamation No. 1162/2019 , The Ethiopian Electoral, Political Parties Registration andElection's Code of Conduct Proclamation

132. The Language to Be Used in Election Campaigns

1. Any political party shall:
    a) Organize and conduct its election campaign in manner that contributes to the peacefulness and success of overall campaign, voting, vote counting and post- electoral processes;
    b) Conduct itself with a sense of responsibility and dignity befitting its status
2. Anyone delivering a speech at a rally may not:
    a) Use inflammatory or defamatory language; or
    b) Use language that in anyway incites violence or increases threat to individuals or groups.
3. No political party shall publish or distribute any pamphlets, newsletters or posters containing inflammatory language or material that blatantly or covertly incites violence or encourages such acts through mass media.

https://dangerousspeech.org/guide/ ALSO:

THE INTERNATIONAL COVENANT ON CIVIL AND POLITICAL RIGHTS NOTES THAT “ANY ADVOCACY OF NATIONAL, RACIAL OR RELIGIOUS HATRED THAT CONSTITUTES INCITEMENT TO DISCRIMINATION, HOSTILITY OR VIOLENCE SHALL BE PROHIBITED BY LAW” (HTTP://WWW.OHCHR.ORG/EN/PROFESSIONALINTEREST/PAGES/CCPR.ASPX).

Dangerous Speech

Any form of expression (e.g. speech, text, or images) that can increase the risk that its audience will condone or commit violence against members of another group.

Adapted from The Dangerous Speech Project

Source:“Dangerous Speech: A Practical Guide” by Susan Benesch, Cathy Buerger, Tonei Glavinic, and Sean Manion, January 2020. https://dangerousspeech.org/guide/

Hate speech is a widely-used term, but hard to define clearly and consistently

This can endanger freedom of expression, which must always be vigorously protected since it is a fundamental human right

Also, silencing people can make them more likely to resort to violence, if they have no peaceful way of expressing and resolving their grievances

Dangerous speech increases the risk that its audience (the “in-group” as often called….) will commit or condone violence against another group (the “out-group”). The out-group must have a defining characteristic that is both different from and meaningful to the “in-group” (whether this accurately describes or is meaningful to members of the out-group, or not).

DANGEROUS SPEECH: A PRACTICAL GUIDE by Susan Benesch, Cathy Buerger, Tonei Glavinic, and Sean Manion January 2020 https://dangerousspeech.org/guide/

A defining feature of dangerous speech is that it often promotes fear, as much as it expresses or promotes hatred.

For example, one can assert that another group is planning to attack one’s own group without expressing hatred, yet that message might easily convince people to condone or commit violence, ostensibly to fend off the attack.

Violence would seem defensive and, therefore, justified.

Dangerous speech is commonly false – not surprisingly since it describes whole groups of human beings in appalling terms.

People can be quite easily persuaded of misinformation (false assertions) or disinformation (false assertions that are spread knowingly or intentionally).

Dangerous speech can harm directly or indirectly, or both.

It may directly offend, denigrate, humiliate or frighten the people it purports to describe.

Speech can also bring about harm indirectly – and with equal or even much greater brutality – by motivating others to think and act against members of the group in question.



"The media work is half of the jihad."

EXTREMISTS SEE MEDIA AS SIMPLY ANOTHER ARENA FOR STRUGGLE, AND CARE NOTHING ABOUT HONESTY IN WHAT THEY SAY. THIS IS ESPECIALLY TRUE FOR THOSE PURSUING "IDENTITY POLITICS".

Samir Khan, the late editor of al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula Inspire Magazine and an American citizen, was killed in a US drone attack. Khan here quoted a late leader of al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula as saying, "The media work is half of the jihad."

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Samir_Khan

Dangerous Speech Framework

The very same words can be highly inflammatory, or benign.

To understand whether a message is dangerous when spread in a particular context, one must examine both content and context.

The five-part Dangerous Speech Framework examines:

- the message itself,
- the audience,
- the historical and social context of the message,

- the speaker, and
- the medium with which a speaker delivers a message.

NOTE:

- TO USE THE FRAMEWORK FOR A PARTICULAR EXAMPLE OF SPEECH, ONE ASKS WHETHER EACH OF THE FIVE ELEMENTS MAKES IT DANGEROUS, AND IF SO, HOW DANGEROUS.
- FOR EXAMPLE, ONE MIGHT ASK WHETHER A MESSAGE CAME FROM A COMPELLING OR INFLUENTIAL SOURCE.
- BECAUSE THE SOCIAL, HISTORICAL, AND CULTURAL CONTEXT IN WHICH SPEECH WAS MADE OR DISSEMINATED IS ESSENTIAL FOR UNDERSTANDING ITS POSSIBLE IMPACT, THIS ANALYSIS MUST BE CARRIED OUT WITH EXTENSIVE KNOWLEDGE OF THE RELEVANT LANGUAGE, CULTURE, AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS – OR AT LEAST WITH ASSISTANCE FROM ADVISORS WHO HAVE SUCH KNOWLEDGE.
- After considering all five elements:
- Did/would this message make people more ready to commit or condone violence?
- This is not a calculation or a formula; it is a qualitative assessment meant to help predict the behavior of other people.
- Five Hallmarks/distinctive features/ of Dangerous Speech

1. DEHUMANIZATION
2. ACCUSATION IN A MIRROR
3. THREATS TO GROUP INTEGRITY OR PURITY
4. ASSERTIONS OF ATTACKS AGAINST WOMEN & GIRLS
5. QUESTIONING IN-GROUP LOYALTY

1. DEHUMANIZATION

Dehumanizing [or “demonizing] targets prepares audiences to condone or commit violence, by making their targets’ death and suffering seem less significant, or even by making it seem useful or necessary.

2. ACCUSATION IN A MIRROR (AiM)

Combatants in intergroup conflicts often frame violence as a necessary means to protect against greater harm; a specific kind of collective justification of violence.

To presume violence from another group is powerful (whether the threat is real, false, or exaggerated); it makes violence against that group seem defensive and necessary.

3. THREAT TO GROUP INTEGRITY OR PURITY

By portraying members of the target group as a threat to the audience group reinforces fear. Messages indirectly (and sometimes directly) instruct people to rid their group of the supposed contaminant.

* This need not include any prediction of physical violence.

A culture, group identity, or political project may be threatened instead.

4. ASSERTION OF ATTACK AGAINST WOMEN AND GIRLS

Related to the previous hallmark is the suggestion that women or girls of the in-group have been or will be threatened, harassed, or defiled by members of an out-group.

In many cases, the purity of women symbolizes the purity, identity, or way of life of the group itself.

FACILITATOR:

- ACCUSATIONS OF HARMING BABIES ARE EVEN MORE POWERFUL WEAPONS OF DEMONIZATION.
- THESE HAVE BEEN USED AS TOOLS OF PROPAGANDA IN MANY CONFLICTS FOR MANY MANY YEARS.
- MEDIA OUTLETS MUST BE VERY CAREFUL ABOUT REPORTING SUCH ALLEGATIONS
- EVEN IF THEY CAN VERIFIED, REPORT THEM CAREFULLY WITH AWARENESS THAT THE REPORTS WILL ALMOST CERTAINLY INFLAME PUBLIC OPINION.
- FOR INSTANCE, WAS THIS AN ISOLATED INSTANCE BY AN INDIVIDUAL, OR EVEN PERHAPS UNINTENTIONAL?

DANGEROUS SPEECH: A PRACTICAL GUIDE by Susan Benesch, Cathy Buerger, Tonei Glavinic, and Sean Manion January 2020 https://dangerousspeech.org/guide/

5. QUESTIONING IN-GROUP LOYALTY

Though dangerous speech usually describes members of the out-group or target group, some of it never mentions them, instead characterizing members of the in-group as insufficiently loyal, or even traitorous, for being sympathetic to the out-group.

FACILITATOR: “LOYALTY” TO A GROUP IDENTITY [NATIONALITY, RACE, ETHNICITY, LANGUAGE… OR EVEN A FOOTBALL CLUB– THINK BUNA VS GIORGIS] CAN BE USED TO JUSTIFY ATTACKS ON OTHERS… AND TO MANIPULATE PEOPLE INTO BELIEVING

TERRIBLE ACTIONS ARE NECESSARY AND JUSTIFIED… WE WILL SEE WHAT A FAMOUS HISTORICAL FIGURE SAID ABOUT THAT IN A MOMENT.

DANGEROUS SPEECH: A PRACTICAL GUIDE by Susan Benesch, Cathy Buerger, Tonei Glavinic, and Sean Manion January 2020 https://dangerousspeech.org/guide/

How to Respond to Dangerous Speech

Restrictive Approaches to Countering Dangerous Speech

Under international laws and conventions, restricting the right to free speech is a permissible response to speech that threatens to incite group-targeted hostility and violence.

Restrictive Approaches to Countering Dangerous Speech

Censorship and criminal prosecution for incitement – the most common restrictive approaches to inflammatory hate speech – are not effective for preventing or combatting dangerous speech.

Restrictive approaches to combatting dangerous speech primarily target the speaker or the means of dissemination.

Non-restrictive approaches primarily target the audience, with the aim of preventing audience receptivity to the message of dangerous speech.

Countering Dangerous Speech Protecting Free Speech: Practical Strategies to Prevent Genocide: Report of the 2014 Sudikoff Annual Interdisciplinary Seminar.

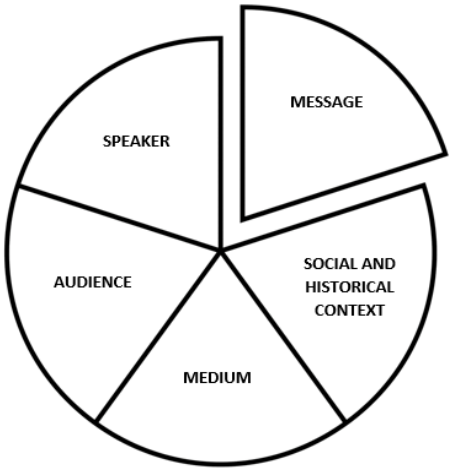
https://www.ushmm.org/m/pdfs/20150512-sudikoff-report.pdf

At least two non-restrictive approaches can be effective:

Educate people about dangerous speech before it happens, so that they can recognize and resist it.

Counter speech – responding to dangerous speech in a way that undermines it; especially effective when done by people who have influence over the relevant audience.

Dangerous Speech



https://dangerousspeech.org/guide/

Figure 1.
The Dangerous Speech Five Part Framework

EXERCISE:

- JOIN IN GROUPS.
- EXERCISE PART 1: PARTICIPANTS IDENTIFY AN ACTUAL INSTANCE OF DANGEROUS SPEECH IN THE LOCAL CONTEXT, AND USE THE FRAMEWORK TO ANALYZE.

  EXERCISE PART 2: IMAGINE THAT YOU ARE LEGAL, SECURITY AND MEDIA ADVISORS TO YOUR REGIONAL LEADER.
- WHAT STRATEGIES, TACTICS AND TOOLS WILL YOU SUGGEST TO COUNTERACT DANGEROUS SPEECH IN THE CASE YOU IDENTIFIED?

DANGEROUS SPEECH: A PRACTICAL GUIDE BY SUSAN BENESCH, CATHY BUERGER, TONEI GLAVINIC, AND SEAN MANION JANUARY 2020
HTTPS://DANGEROUSSPEECH.ORG/GUIDE/

Beware!
DEMONIZATION!

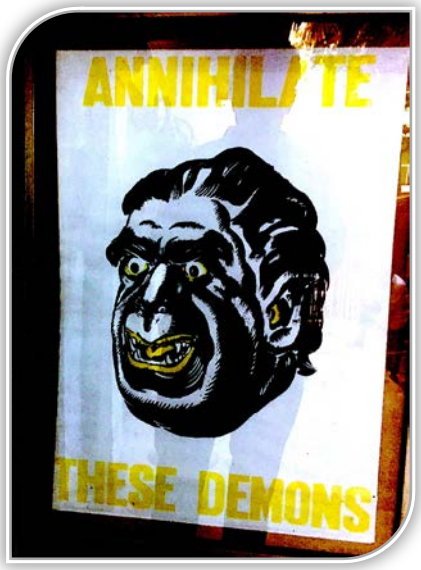


Photo: TR Lansner
Bangladesh Liberation War Museum, Dhaka

FACILITATOR:

- DEMONIZING ENEMIES GIVES US MORAL AND PRACTICAL JUSTIFICATION TO TREAT THEM AS LESS THAN HUMAN BEINGS.
- IF THE ENEMIES ARE “DEMONS” OR “EVIL”, WE CAN CLAIM THAT OUR RELIGION BLESSES OR COMMANDS US TO KILL THEM.
- Bangladesh Liberation War Museum, Dhaka. Describing others as “demons” justifies attacks.

Photo TR Lansner

Beware!
DEMONIZATION!



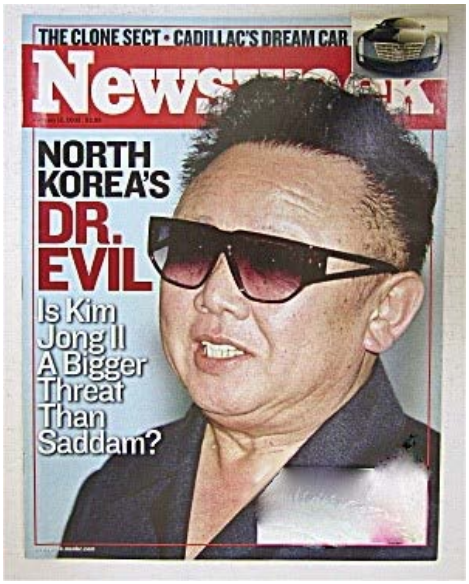
Source: "The Face of Evil," Newsweek, April 12, 1999

FACILITATOR:

- AMERICAN MEDIA HAVE OFTEN USED THE WORD "EVIL" WHEN TRYING TO CONVINCE AMERICANS TO SUPPORT A CONFLICT.
- HERE, SERBIAN LEADER SLOBODAN MILOSEVIC IS CALLED "THE FACE OF EVIL" IN THE RUN-UP TO US-LED ATTACKS ON SERBIA

Newsweek, 12 April 1999

Beware!
DEMONIZATION!



Source: "Dr. Evil," Newsweek, Jan. 12, 2003.

FACILITATOR:

IN 2003, NEWSWEEK CALLED NORTH KOREA LEADER KIM JONG IL, “DR EVIL” WHEN SOME IN THE USA WERE CALLING FOR AN ATTACK ON NORTH KOREA.

Same story without DEMONIZATION!



Source: “The Bigger Threat,” Time, Jan. 13, 2003.

FACILITATOR:

- HERE IS HOW THE SAME ISSUE IS PRESENTED WITHOUT PERSONAL DEMONIZATION.
- DISCUSSION POINT:
- WHICH MAGAZINE COVER IS MORE LIKELY TO RAISE SUPPORT FOR WAR?
- **በደርግ ዘመን**
    - **“የፍየል ወጠጤ”**
    - **“ባንዳ”**
    - **"የእናት ጡት ነካሽ”**
- **በዘመነ ኢህአዴግ**
    - **“አደገኛ ቦዘኔ”**
    - **“ኪራይ ሰብሳቢ”**
- **አሁን**

- "የእናት ጡት ካንሰር"
- "የቀን ጅብ"
- "ባንዳ"

Beware Stereotyping

STEREOTYPING AS THREE STAGES

"Stereotyping suggests a process of categorical responding, where characteristics of a situation are increasingly interrelated and predictable from a specific stimulus — the homogenization of an image."

FACILITATOR:

- SOME "STEREOTYPED" REACTIONS ARE USEFUL.
- FOR INSTANCE, IF WE HERE A CAR SOUND IT HORN BEHIND US [THE "STIMULUS"], we know we should get out of the way.

Stereotyping as three stages:

- A process of categorical responding; increasingly interrelated and predictable characteristics leading to homogenization.
- Negative effects of stereotyping occur when characteristics are then polarized. The holding of attributes in the extreme, applying them to the full degree, is polarization.
- Over time, it is an example of fixedness. At this point, the image has become resistant to changes in actual conditions and events.

FACILITATOR:

- CAN OUR PERCEPTIONS OF OTHER GROUPS CHANGE?
- DISCUSSION:

+ CAN YOU OFFER SOME EXAMPLES OF STEREOTYPING OF CERTAIN GROUPS IN ETHIOPIA?

+ ARE THESE STEREOTYPING USED IN MEDIA REPORTS?

+ IS YOUR GROUP THE SUBJECT OF ANY STEREOTYPING?

+ WHAT SPECIFIC WORDS OR IMAGES ARE USED?

Beware Manipulation

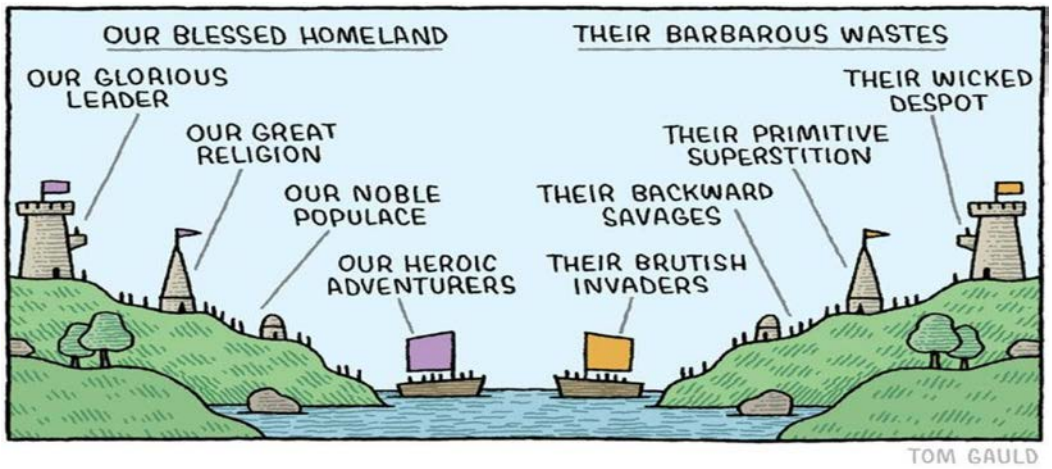
"[T]he people can always be brought to the bidding of the leaders. That is easy. All you have to do is tell them they are being attacked and denounce the pacifists for lack of patriotism and exposing the country [or group] to danger. It works the same way in any country."

FACILITATOR:

- MANIPULATION OF PUBLIC SENTIMENT WAS MENTIONED A FEW MOMENTS AGO WHILE WE DISCUSSED "DANGEROUS SPEECH".
- EXPLAIN: THIS AN OLD TACTIC:
- SENIOR GERMAN NAZI LEADER HERMAN GORING EXPLAINED HOW PEOPLE ARE EASILY CONVINCED TO SUPPORT EVEN THE MOST EXTREME POLICIES.
- DISCUSSION:
- ARE SOME GROUP LEADERS APPEALING TO GROUP IDENTITY THIS WAY IN ETHIOPIA?

FACILITATOR:

- DISCUSSION:
- LET'S LOOK AT THIS AGAIN.
- DO ANY GROUPS IN YOUR REGION THINK OF THEMSELVES AND OTHERS IN THIS WAY?
- DO ANY MEDIA OUTLETS REPORT IN THIS WAY?



ግጭት አገናዛቢ ዘገባ

ሁለት ወይም ከዚያ በላይ ግለሰቦች ወይም ቡድኖች የተለያየ (በጋራ የማይጋሩትን) ዓላማ ለማሳካት የሚሞክሩበት ሁኔታ ግጭትን ይፈጥራል። ለውጥ ባለበት ሁኔታ ግጭት የተለመደ ነው። ነገር ግን ሁሉም ግጭቶች ግን ወደ ዓመፅ ይለወጣሉ ማለት አይደለም።

ግጭትን ለመለየት የሚያስችሉ ሐሳቦች፦

- ግጭት በሁለት ወገኖች መካከል የሚፈጠር ሲሆን፣ በሁለቱ መካከል ያለው ግንኙነት የግጭቱን አካሄድ ይወስነዋል። በሁለቱ ወገኖች መካከል የረጅም ጊዜ ቂም ወይም ጠብ ካለ ግጭቱን ያለ ዓመፅ የመፍታት ዕድሉ ይቀንሳል።

- የሁለት ወገን መሠረታዊ ፍላጎቶችና እሴቶችን ያካትታል።

- ግጭት ለረጅም ጊዜ ተደብቆ ሊቆይ ይችላል። ሁለቱ ወገኖች በመካከላቸው ግጭት እንዳለ ሳያውቁ ለረጅም ጊዜ ሊቆዩ ይችላሉ።

- ሁለቱ ወገኖች ያላቸውን የመዋዕለ ንዋይ ማንቀሳቀስ ሲጀምሩ ግጭት ይፈጠራል።

የግጭት ዓይነቶች

ገንቢ ግጭት አጥፊ ግጭት

ገንቢ ግጭት

በማሳመን ወይም ቃል በመግባት እንዲሁም መፍትሔ የሚያመጡ አካሄዶችን መፈለግ ያካትታል።

- ግጭቱ የተፈጠረባቸው ወገኖች እርስ በርስ እውቅና ይሰጣጣሉ፤ ለመጠፋፋትም አይሞክሩም።

አጥፊ ግጭት

- የሌላውን ወገን ጥቅምና ፍላጎት አያማክልም።
- ውጤቱ አንዱን ወገን የሚጫን ወይንም የሚያዋርድ፣ እርምት ወይንም የበቀል እርምጃ የሚያመጣ።

- በሁለቱወገኖች መካከል ወደፊት ግጭቶች በዚሁ መልክ የሚሄዱበትን ሰፊ ዕድል የሚፈጥር።

በምርጫ ወቅት የግጭት መንሥኤዎች በተለያዩ መንገዶችና ሁኔታዎች ሊታዩ ይችላሉ። ምርጫ በራሱ የግጭት ምክንያት ሊሆን አይችልም። የግጭት መንሥኤዎች ብዙውን ጊዜ ሥር የሰደዱ ኢኮኖሚያዊ፣ ማኅበራዊ ወይም ፖለቲካዊ ጉዳዮችእንዲሁም በሥልጣን ክፍፍል ጊዜ አለመግባባትን ተከትሎ የሚከሰቱ ናቸው።

የምርጫ ውጤትን ተከትሎ አሸናፊ ወይም ተሸናፊ በመሆን የሚገኘው ወይም የሚታጣው ጥቅም መጠነ ሰፊ ሲሆን ዓመፅ ሊፈጥር

ይችላል። ይህም ጥቅም ለአንድ ግለሰብ ወይም ፓርቲ ብቻ ሳይሆን ለተመሳሳይ ወገን፤ ጎሳ ወይም ብሔረሰብ ሲሆንና በተለይም ደግሞ ከፍተኛ ድህነትና እኩልነት ባልሰፈነበት ሁኔታ ሲሆን ዓመፅ ያስከትላል።

በምርጫ ውድድር ጊዜ እጩ ተወዳዳሪዎች ወይም የፖለቲካ ፓርቲዎች ማሸነፍ ወይም መሸነፍ ይመጣል ብለው በሚጠብቁት ሁኔታ ዓመፅ ሊፈጠር ይችላል። የምርጫ ውጤትን መገመት በማይቻልበት እንዲሁም ውጤቱን መገመት በሚቻልበት ጊዜ ማኅበራዊ ግጭቶች ሊባባሱ ይችላሉ።

ከምርጫ ጋር የተያያዙ ማበረታቻዎች የዓመፅ ምክንያት ሊሆኑ ይችላሉ። ማለትም፣ በምርጫ ወቅት ለምርጫ ቅስቀሳ የጎሳ ወይም የሌላ ትስስርን ማዕከል አድርጎ ቡድኖችን በማሰባሰብና በማደራጀት የቡድን የይገባኛል ጥያቄዎች ማንሳት ዓመፅን ሊፈጥር ይችላል።

የግጭት የእድገት ሒደቶች

1.ድብቅ ግጭት

ድብቅ ግጭት የሚያሰኘው ግጭት ሊያስከትሉ የሚችሉ ሁኔታዎች ሲኖሩና በሚመለከታቸው ወገኖች ሳይታወቅ ሲቀር እንዲሁም የአንድ ወገን ዓላማ ከሌላ ወገን ጋር እንደሚጻረር ባለማወቅ ወይም ባለመረዳት የራሱን ጥቅም ለማሳካት ሲሞክር የሚከሰት ግጭት ነው።

2.አዲስ ግጭት (አፍላ)

ሁለት ወገኖች እርስ በርስ የማይጣጣሙ ግቦች እንዳላቸው ሲገነዘቡ የሚፈጠር ግጭት ነው። አንድ የተበደለ ወገን ያለበት ሁኔታ ፍትሐዊ እንዳልሆነ ሲገነዘብና ይህንን ሁኔታ በቀጣይንት ለመቋቋም እንደማይፈልግ ሲወስን አዲስ ግጭት ሊፈጠር ይችላል። አብዛኛውን ጊዜ አንድ ወገን የሌላ ወገንን የበላይ አገዛዝ ለረጅም ጊዜ ተቀብሎ ሊኖር ይችላል። ነገር ግን የለውጥን አስፈላጊነት ተገንዘቦ፣ የለውጥን ፍላጎት መግለጽ ሲጀምር አዲስ ግጭት ሊፈጠር ወይም ሊጀመር ይችላል።

3.ዓመፅ አልባ ግጭት

አንድ ወገን ለውጥ ለማምጣት ሌላኛው ወገን ይህንን በመቃረን መደራጀትና መሰባሰብ ሲጀምር ዓመፅ አልባ ግጭት ይፈጠራል።

በዚህ የግጭት ደረጃ አንዱ ወገን ሌላውን ለማሳመንና አመለካከቱን ለማስቀየር ዛቻና ሌሎች መሳሪያዎች ያደርጋል።

4.ዓመፅ

ይህ ዓመፅ የሚጀምረው ሁለት ወይም ከዚያ በላይ የሆኑ ወገኖች እርስ በርስ ላይ ኃይልን መጠቀም ሲጀምሩ ነው። ይህ በግጭቱ ውስጥ ብዙ ተለዋዋጭ ሁኔታዎችን የሚያመጣና እጅግ አጥፊ ምዕራፍ መጀመሩን ሊያመለክት ይችላል። ተዋናይ ወገኖች ለግጭቱ መንሥኤ የሆኑ ጉዳዮች ላይ መፍትሔ ማበጀትና በዓመፁ የተጎዱ ሰዎችን እንዲሁም ማኅበረሰቦችን የማስታረቅ ዘዴ መፈለግ ይኖርባቸዋል።

በምርጫ ወቅት የግጭት ተዋናዮች ትንተና

የፖለቲካ ፓርቲዎች እና እጩዎች

በተለይም የታጠቁ ወይም ከወታደራዊ ቡድኖች ጋር ግንኙነት ያላቸው ፓርቲዎች፤ በግጭት ጊዜ የፖለቲካ ፓርቲ እጩ ጠባቂዎች ወይም በዙሪያቸው ያሉ የደጋፊዎች ቡድን (በእጩው እውቅና የተሰጣቸውም ያልተሰጣቸውም) ጥቃት መፈጸማቸው የተለመደው ነው።

ዜጎች

በሌላ ወገን ደጋፊዎች ላይ ቀጥተኛ የኃይል እርምጃ የሚወስዱ

መንግሥት

እንደ ፖሊስ፣ የጦር ሠራዊት አባላት፣ ወይም ልዩ የመረጃ ደኅንነት አገልግሎት ተቋማት፣ ተቃዋሚ ቡድኖችን እና እጩዎችን ዒላማ ማድረግ ተቃዋሚ ቡድኖች ላይ ጥቃቶች እንዳይደርሱ ተገቢውን ጥበቃ አለማድረግ

መንግሥታዊ ያልሆኑ የጸጥታ ኃይሎች

ዓማፂ ቡድኖች፣ ሚሊሻዎች

የግብረ ሰናይ ድርጅቶችና ማኅበረሰብ

የተለየ ፍላጎት ወይም ዓላማ ያላቸው ግለሰቦች ወይም ድርጅቶች

በምርጫ ሒደቱ ላይ በዓመፅ ተጽዕኖ ለማሳደር የሚፈልገው ወገን ማን ነው? ዓላማውስ ምንድን ነው?

• አመራር

ዓመፁ ስልታዊ ነው። አንድ የተወሰነ ውጤትን ለማስገኘት የተሰላ እናም የዚህ ዓመፅ መገለጫ ስልቶችን ለመንደፍ የበላይ አመራርን የሚጠየቅ ሲሆን፤

• ድርጅታዊ

በተመሳሳይ ሁኔታ ይህ የዓመፅ እይታ መዋቅራዊ ወይም ድርጅታዊ ገጽታ አለው። ይህ ከፖለቲካ ፓርቲዎች ወይም ከፓርቲዎች ጋር ግንኙነት ያላቸው

ሚሊሻዎችና ታጣቂ ቡድኖች መካከል አዛዥን ከታዛዥ የሚያገናኝና ድርጊቶችን ለመፈጸም የሚያስፈልገውን የሎጂስቲክስ መስፈርቶች የሚያሟላ መጠነ ሰፊ ድርጅታዊ አወቃቀር አለው። በተጨማሪም የማኅበረሰቡን ውክልና የያዘ ያሆናል።

• መዋዕለ ንዋይ

መሪዎችና ድርጅታዊ አወቃቀሮች ዓመፅ ለማስነሳት የሚያስችሉ ሁኔታዎች፡- ይህም የሰው ሀብት፡ ለምሳሌ የተቸገሩና ሥራ አጥ የሆኑ ወጣቶች፣ ሊሆኑ

ይችላሉ። ቁሳዊ ሀብቶችም ሊሆኑ ይችላሉ፣ ለምሳሌ ገንዘብ።

ግጭትን እንዴት መረዳትና መተንተን ይቻላል?

በግጭቱ ቀጥተኛ ተሳታፊ አካላት እነማን ናቸው?

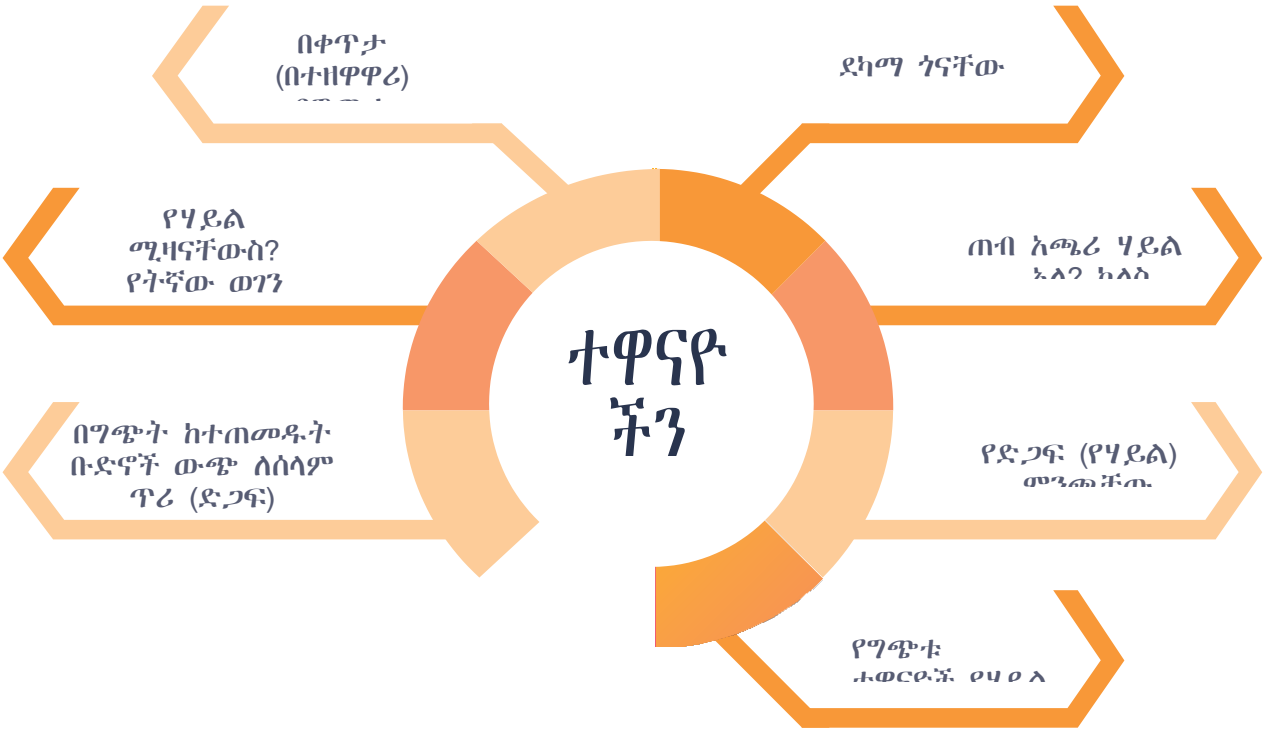
ሌሎች ተዋናዮችስ አሉ? ፍላጎታቸው፣ ጥቅማቸውና ፊት ለፊት የሚያጋጫጥቋቸው አቋሞች ምንድን ናቸው? ግጭቱ ቢቀጥል ተጠቃሚ ለመሆን የሚያስበው ማነው? የተሸሸጉ ጥቅሞችስ አሉ?

የግጭቱ ዕድገት ምን ይመስላል?

የግጭቱን አውድ፣ መንስኤና ውጤት ለመመርመር የሚያስችል መረጃ አለኝ?

ሁኔታው በግጭት ተሳታፊ በሆኑ አካላት እና አንዳንድ ፍላጎቶች ባሏቸው ባለድርሻ አካላት ላይ ምን ተፅዕኖ አሳድሯል?

ለግጭቱ መባባስ፣ መርገብ ወይም መሻሻል እንዲኖር አስተዋፅዖ ያደረጉት የትኞቹ ምክንያቶች ሊሆኑ ይችላሉ? ይህን ግጭት ለመፍታት ምን ሊያስፈልግ ይችላል?



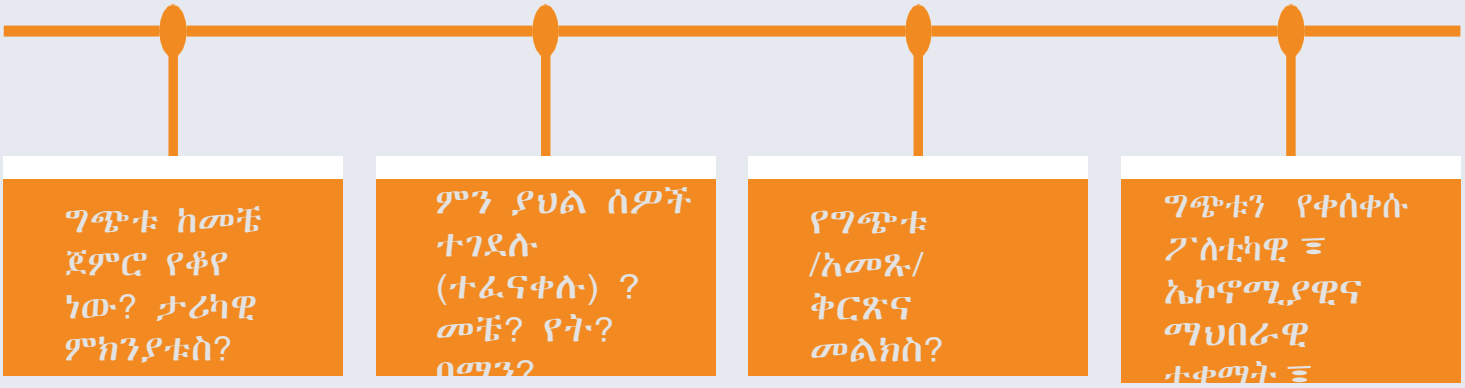
የግጭቱ አውድና መቼት (የጊዜ ሰሌዳ)

የግጭቱ ወቅታዊ ሁኔታን መመርመር

በቅርብ ጊዜያት ምን ተከሰተ? ዜማ፣ ልማድ፣ የባህርይ ለውጥ በማን? ለምን?

የግጭቱ መንስኤ ከሆኑ ጉዳዮች መካከል ግጭቱን የሚያባብሱ ወይንም የሚቀንሱ ሁኔታዎች (ክስተቶች) ታይተዋል?

ግጭቱ እንዲያጭር የሚያስገድዱ ሁኔታዎች አሉ? ምንድን ናቸው? የሁኔታዎች ማመላከቻ አለ?



ግጭት አገናዛቢ ዘገባ ምንድን ነው?

• ግጭቱን በተጨባጭና ግልፅ በሆነ መልኩ ለማሳየት መንሥኤዎችን እና አማራጮችን ማቅረብ፤

• የሁለት ተቃዋሚ ወገን መሪዎችን ብቻ ሳይሆን የሚመለከታቸውን አካላት ሁሉ አስተያየት መጠየቅ፤

• የተለያዩ የሥራ ድርሻ ያላቸውን የወንዶችን እና ሴቶችን ድምፅ ማካተት፤

• አድልዎን በማስወገድ በሁሉም ወገን የሚደረጉ እንቅስቃሴዎችን መዘገብ፤ በደሎችን ለመሸፈን የሚደረጉ ሙከራዎችን ማጋለጥና በሁሉም ወገኖች የሚደርሰውን ስቃይ ማሳየት፤

• ለሰላማዊ አካሄዶችና ከግጭት በኋላ ለሚፈጠሩ ዕድገቶች ትኩረት መስጠት፤

• ግጭቱን ከመተንተን አልፎ አዳዲስ ሐሳቦችን ማቅረብ፤ ግጭቱን ለመፍታት የሚሞክሩ አካላትን ማዕከል ማድረግ እንዲሁም ሌሎች ግጭቶች እንዴት እንደተፈቱ መዘገብ፤

• ግጭትን የሚዘግብ ጋዜጠኛ ወገን ሳይዝ መፍትሔ ፍለጋ ላይ አተኩሮ መሳተፍ፤

ግጭት አገናዛቢ ዘገባ ምን ጠቀሜታ አለው?

በግጭት ውስጥ የሚገኙ ዜጎች በመረጃ ላይ የተመሠረተ ዘገባ ሲቀርብላቸው፦

የግጭቱ ምክንያት የጋራ ሆኖ ሲታይ ግጭቱ ወደ ወደ አመፅ የመቀየር ዕድሉ ይጠባል።

በሰፊው ማኅበረሰብ ዘንድ ትኩረት ያገኘ ግጭት ወደ አመፅ እንዳይቀየር በሚመለከታቸው ወገኖች ላይ ጫና ይፈጥራል። ግጭቱን ለመፍታት ብዙ አማራጭ መንገዶች ሲፈጠሩ የአመፅ ዕድሉ ይጠባል

ስልቶች

ሰላም ፈጣሪዎች ላይ ያተኮር ዘገባ ማቅረብ በሰላም ሥራ ውስጥ በተሳተፉ ሰዎች ላይ ዘገባዎችን በመጻፍ፣ ሰዎች ስለ ሰላም ያላቸውንም ግንዛቤ ማሳደግና ከዓመፅ ሌላ አማራጮች እንዳሉ ማሳየት ይቻላል። እነዚህ ሰዎች በማኅበረሰቡ ውስጥ ከፍተኛ ቦታ ያላቸው ሰዎች ሊሆኑ ስለሚችል መፍትሄ ከመፈለግ አንጻር የበኩላቸውን ሚና ሊወጡ ይችላሉ። ዘገባው በዕለት ተዕለት ሕይወታቸው ውስጥ ለውጥ እያመጡ ስላሉ ሰዎችም ሊሆን ይችላል። ዓመፅ ሲፈጠር ጣልቃ የሚገቡ የሰላም መድረክ አዘጋጆችንእንዲሁም ከተለያዩ ቡድኖች የተውጣጡ ሰዎችንም ሊያካትት ይችላል።

የጋራ ቃለ መጠይቆች

ጋዜጠኞች ከተቃዋሚ ቡድኖች ጋር ተቀምጠው አብረው ቃለ መጠይቅ በማድረግ በጣም ጠቃሚ ዘገባዎችን መሥራት ይችላሉ። በርግጥ ከተቃዋሚ ቡድኖች መሪዎችን በእንደዚህ ዓይነት ቃለ መጠይቆች ውስጥ እንዲሳተፉ ማድረግ አስቸጋሪ ሊሆን ይችላል። ነገር ግን የተቃዋሚ ወገን አባላትን በእንደዚህ ዓይነት ቃለ መጠይቆች ውስጥ እንዲሳተፉ ማድረግ ይቻላል። ጋዜጠኞች እነዚህን ዘገባዎች ሲሠሩ ሰዎችን አደጋ ላይ እንዳይጥሉ መጠንቀቅ አለባቸው።

ጋዜጠኞች ሁለት ተቃዋሚ ወገኖች እርስ በርስ መጠየቅ የሚፈልጉትን ጥያቄዎች እንዲያቀርቡ አጋጣሚ መፍጠር ይችላሉ። ለምሳሌ አንድ ወገን ያለውን አቋም እንዲያስረዳ፤ ከአንድ ቡድን ጥያቄ ሰብስቦ ለሌላኛው ቡድን አባላት ምላሽ እንዲሰጡ ማቅረብ ማለት ነው። ከዚያ ለጥያቄዎቹ ምላሽ የሰጠውን አካል ለሌላኛው ወገን ጥያቄዎች ካለው እንዲጠይቅ ዕድሉን መስጠት ይገባል። በግጭት ውስጥ ያሉ ወገኖች በቀጥታ መግባባት በማይችሉበት ጊዜ ቁልፍ ጉዳዮች ላይ እርስ በርስ እንዲነጋገሩ ዕድል ይሰጣል።

በግጭት ውስጥ ተሳታፊ የሆኑትን አካላት አንድ ዓይነት ጥያቄዎች መጠየቅ የጋራ እንዲሁም የሚለያዩበትን ሐሳቦች ለማወቅ ያግዛል። በተለያዩ ወገኖች የሚሰጠውን ምላሽ አብሮ በመዘገብ ሰዎች ስለ ጉዳዩ ያላቸውን ግንዛቤ፣ የፓርቲዎቹንም አቋምና የመፍትሔ ሐሳቦችን ማስፋት ይቻላል።

የፓርቲዎች እሴቶች ከተጋጩ፣ እነዚህን እሴቶች በማስረዳት ግንዛቤን ማስፋት ይቻላል። ተቃራኒ ወገኖች ተመሳሳይ እሴቶችን ከተጋሩ ይህንን ማስረዳት የጋራ ሰብአዊነታቸውን እንዲገነዘቡ በማድረግ ውጥረቶችን ለመቀነስ ቁልፍ ሚና ይጫወታል።

የጋዜጠኞች ሚና እንዴት ግጭቶች መፈታት እንዳለባቸው መንገር አይደለም። ነገር ግን ግጭቶችን ለመፍታት የሚያስችሉ ሐሳቦችን ለይተው እንዲያውቁ በመርዳት ረገድ ሚና አላቸው። ግጭቱ ውስጥ ካሉ አካላት በተለየ መልኩ በመመልከት ተቃዋሚ ወገኖች ሊያዩት በማይችሉት መንገድ ግጭቱን ለመረዳት ዕድል ይሰጣል።

ስለ ግጭት የሚዘግቡ ጋዜጠኞች በግጭቶች ውስጥ ያሉትን ውስብስብ ሒደቶች ታዳሚዎቻቸው በሚረዱበት መንገድና አስፈላጊ መረጃዎችን ባካተተ መልኩ ማቅረብ ሊከብዳቸው ይችላል። ለታዳሚዎች በሚገባ መልኩ ግጭቶችን ለማስረዳት ስንሞክር ከመጠን በላይ እንዳናቀለው መጠንቀቅ አለብን። ረዘም ያለ ጊዜ ወስዶ የተፈጠረውን ግጭት ማስረዳት ታዳሚዎች በበቂ መረጃ ላይ የተመሠረተ ውሳኔ እንዲወስዱ ያስችላል።

በዘገባችን ውስጥ የምንጠቀመው ቋንቋ ታዳሚዎች ስለ ግጭቱ የሚኖራቸው አረዳድ ላይ ተጽዕኖ ያሳድራል። በተጨማሪም በጋዜጠኛው ላይ ባላቸው አመለካከት ላይ ተጽዕኖ ይኖረዋል። ታዳሚዎቻችን የቋንቋ አጠቃቀማችን ስሜትን የሚቀሰቅስ ወይም ግልጽ አለመሆኑን ከተገነዘቡ በእኛ ተአማኒነት ላይና በግጭት ውስጥ ሊኖረን በሚችለው ገንቢ ሚና ላይ እንዲጠራጠሩ ያደረጋል ።

ሥራችን ስለኛ ምን እንደሚል መረዳት ይኖርብናል። ታዳሚዎችን አክብሮ በግጭት ውስጥ ያሉ የተለያዩ ሐሳቦችን ግምት ውስጥ በማስገባት ሰፊ ግንዛቤ መፍጠር አስፈላጊ ነው። አስተያየታችን መረጃን የተመረኮዘ ሊሆን ይገባል። የአድማጮችን ልዩነት በማወቅ የምናጋራው አስተያየት የተለያዩ ማኅበረሰቦች እንዴት ሊረዱት እንደሚችሉት ማሰብ አለብን።

የጥላቻ ንግግርና ቀስቃሽ ቋንቋን መከላከል

የጥላቻ ንግግር በግለሰብ ወይም በቡድን ሰዎችን በማንነታቸው ምክንያት ለይቶ የሚፈጸም የጥላቻ መግለጫ ነው።

ሐሳብን በነጻነት የመግለጽ መብት እንዳለ ሆኖ፣ ይህ መብት ግን ፍጹም መብት እንዳለመሆኑ መንግሥት በተወሰኑ ልዩ ሁኔታዎችና ዓለም አቀፍ የሰብአዊ መብት ሕግን መሠረት በማድረግ መብቱን ሊገድብ ይችላል።

የግጭት አገናዛቢ ዘገባ በሁለት ወገኖች መካከል ያለውን የተሳሳተ አመለካከት ይቀንሳል።

በማኅበራዊ ሚዲያዎች ላይ ትኩረት አድርጎ መሥራት፤ የጥላቻ ንግግር ሲከሰት ለመለየትና እርምጃ ለመውሰድ ያመቻል። በማኅበረሰቡ መካከል ስለ ጥላቻ ንግግርና ተመሳሳይ ወንጀሎች ያለውን ግንዛቤ ማስፋት።

አባሪዎች

አባሪ 1፡ የመገናኛ ብዙኃን አጠቃቀምና ድልድል መመሪያ

የፖለቲካ ፓርቲዎችና የግል እጩ ተወዳዳሪዎች የመገናኛ ብዙኃን አጠቃቀምና ድልድል መመሪያ ቁጥር 12/2013

ምዕራፍ አንድ

ጠቅላላ ድንጋጌዎች

አንቀጽ 1. አውጪው ባለሥልጣን

የኢትዮጵያ ብሔራዊ የምርጫ ቦርድ እና የኢትዮጵያ ብሮድካስት ባለሥልጣን በኢትዮጵያ የምርጫ፣ የፖለቲካ ፓርቲዎች እና የምርጫ ሥነ ምግባር አዋጅ ቁጥር 1162/2011 ዓ.ም. አንቀፅ 44 ንዑስ አንቀጽ (3) እና በተሰጣቸው ስልጣን መሠረት ይህንን መመሪያ አውጥቷል።

አንቀጽ 2. አጭር ርዕስ

ይህ መመሪያ "የመገናኛ ብዙኃን አጠቃቀምና ድልድል መመሪያ ቁጥር 12/2013" ተብሎ ሊጠቀስ ይችላል።

አንቀጽ 3. ትርጓሜ

የቃሉ አግባብ የተለየ ትርጉም የሚያሰጠው ካልሆነ በስተቀር በዚህ መመሪያ፤

1. "አዋጅ" ማለት የኢትዮጵያ የምርጫ፣ የፖለቲካ ፓርቲዎች ምዝገባና የምርጫ ሥነ ምግባር አዋጅ ቁጥር 1162/2011 ነው።
2. "ቦርድ" ማለት በአዋጅ ቁ. 1133/2011 የተቋቋመው የኢትዮጵያ ብሔራዊ ምርጫ ቦርድ ነው።
3. "ባለሥልጣን" ማለት በአዋጅ ቁ.533/1999 የተቋቋመው የኢትዮጵያ ብሮድካስት ባለሥልጣን ነው።
4. "እጩ ተወዳዳሪ" ማለት በምርጫ ለመወዳደር በፖለቲካ ፓርቲ ወይም በግሉ የተመዘገበና መታወቂያ ያገኘ ግለሰብ ነው።
5. "የአካል ጉዳተኛ" ማለት ባለው ወይም በደረሰበት የአካል፣ የአእምሮ፣ወይም የስሜት ህዋሳት ጉዳት ምክንያት በሚመጣ ኢኮኖሚያዊ፣ ማህበራዊ ወይም ባህላዊ መድሎ ሳቢያ የእኩል እድል ተጠቃሚ ያልሆነ ሰው ነው።

6. **“በመገናኛ ብዙሃን የሚደረግ የምርጫ ቅስቀሳ ዘመቻ ወቅት”** ማለት ቦርዱ በሚያወጣው የጊዜ ሰሌዳ መሠረት የምርጫ ቅስቀሳ ዘመቻ በይፋ ከተጀመረበት ቀን ጀምሮ ድምጽ መስጫ ሰዓት አራት ቀናት አስኪቀሩት ድረስ ያለው ጊዜ ነው።
7. **“ነጻ የአየር ጊዜ”** ማለት ማንኛውም የሕዝብ ብሮድካስት አገልግሎት ሰጪ በምርጫ ለሚወዳደር የፖለቲካ ፓርቲ ወይም የግል እጩ ተወዳዳሪ የምርጫ ነክ መልዕክቱን ያለ ክፍያ እንዲያስተላልፍ የሚመድበው የአየር ጊዜ ነው።
8. **“ነጻ የጋዜጣ አምድ”** ማለት የኢትዮጵያ ፕሬስ ድርጅት፣ የክልል መንግስታት በሚያሳትሟቸው ወይም በግል ባለቤትነት በተያዙ ጋዜጦች ውስጥ በምርጫ የሚወዳደር የፖለቲካ ፓርቲ ወይም የግል እጩ ተወዳዳሪ የምርጫ ነክ መልዕክቱን ያለ ክፍያ እንዲያስተላልፍ በጋዜጣው በገጽ 3 ወስጥ በቀላሉ በሚታይ ቦታ ላይ የተከለለ አምድ ነው።
9. **“ምርጫ ነክ መልዕክት”** ማለት ለምርጫ የሚወዳደር የፖለቲካ ፓርቲ ወይም የግል እጩ ተወዳዳሪ በመገናኛ ብዙኃን በሚደረግ የምርጫ ቅስቀሳ ዘመቻ ወቅት ለመራጮች የሚያቀርበው የአላማ፣ የፕሮግራምና የምረጡኝ ቅስቀሳ፣ ሃሳ፣ አስተያየት ወይም መሰል የምርጫ ቅስቀሳ መልዕክት ነው።
10. **“የምርጫ ማስታወቂያ”** ማለት ለምርጫ የተመዘገበ የፖለቲካ ፓርቲ ወይም የግል እጩ ተወዳዳሪ ራሱንና የፖለቲካ ፕሮግራሙን፣የምረጡኝ ቅስቀሳ፣ ሃሳ፣ አስተያየት ወይም መሰል የምርጫ መልዕክት ለማስተዋወቅ ገንዘብ በመክፈል ወይም ለመክፈል ቃል በመግባት በመገናኛ ብዙሃን የሚያስነግረው ማስታወቂያ ነው።
11. **“መገናኛ ብዙኃን”** ማለት በመንግስት ገንዘብ የሚካሄድ ወይም በፌዴራል ወይም በክልል በመንግስት ባለቤትነት የተያዙ ሬዲዮ እና ቴሌቪዥን፣ እንዲሁም የኢትዮጵያ የፕሬስ ድርጅትና እና የክልል መንግስታት የሚያሳትሟቸው ጋዜጦች ወይም በግል ባለቤትነት የተያዙ ሬዲዮ፣ ቴሌቪዥን እንዲሁም ጋዜጦች ናቸው።
12. **“አሳታሚ”** ማለት የኢትዮጵያ የፕሬስ ድርጅት፣ የክልል መንግስታት ጋዜጦችን ወይም በግል ባለቤትነት የተያዙ ጋዜጦችን የሚያሳትም አካል ነው።
13. **“የምርጫ ዴስክ”** ማለት የምርጫ ነክ መልዕክቶችን ተቀብሎ ለማስተናገድ በመገናኛ ብዙኃን ተቋማት የሚቋቋም ተቋም ነው።
14. **“ወሳኝ ሰዓት”** ማለት በሬዲዮና ቴሌቪዥን ጣቢያዎች ከዜና እወጃ ቀጥሎ ያለውና በርካታ አድማጭና ተመልካች ያለበት የአየር ጊዜ ነው።
15. በአዋጁ አንቀፅ 2 የተመለከቱት ሌሎች ትርጓሜዎች ለዚህ መመሪያም ተፈጻሚ ይሆናሉ።

አንቀፅ 4. የተፈፃሚነት ወሰን

ይህ መመሪያ በ፣ የፖለቲካ ፓርቲዎች እና የግል ዕጩ ተወዳዳሪዎች የመገናኛ ብዙኃን አጠቃቀምና ድልድል ላይ ተፈፃሚ ይሆናል።

አንቀፅ 5. የፆታ አገላለፅ

በዚህ መመሪያ ላይ በወንድ በአንዱ ፆታ የተጠቀሰው ሁሉ ሌላኛውንም ፆታ ያመለክታል።

አንቀጽ 6. ዓላማ

የዚህ መመሪያ ዓላማ ፖለቲካ ፓርቲዎች ወይም ዕጩ ተወዳዳሪዎች በምርጫ ቅስቀሳ ዘመቻ ወቅት መልእክታቸውን የሚያስተላልፉበትን ሥርዓት መደንግግ ነው።

ምዕራፍ ሁለት

በመገናኛ ብዙኃን በሚደረግ የምርጫ ቅስቀሳ መገናኛ ብዙኃንን በነጻ ስለመጠቀም

አንቀጽ 7. መገናኛ ብዙኃንን በነጻ ስለመጠቀም

1. የፖለቲካ ፓርቲ እና የግል እጩ ተወዳዳሪዎች በዚህ መመሪያ በተቀመጡት መስፈርቶች መሠረት በመገናኛ ብዙኃን በሚደረግ የምርጫ ቅስቀሳ ዘመቻ ወቅት በህዝብ መገናኛ ብዙኃን አማካኝነት የምርጫ ነክ መልዕክቶቻቸውን በነጻ እና በፍትሃዊነት የማስተላለፍ ወይም የማሳተም መብት አላቸው።

2. ማንኛውም የህዝብ መገናኛ ብዙኃን በምርጫ ለሚወዳደር የፖለቲካ ፓርቲ ወይም የግል እጩ ተወዳዳሪ በዚህ መመሪያ የአየር ጊዜ ድልድል ቀመር እና የጊዜ ሰሌዳ እንዲሁም የጋዜጣ አምድ ድልድል መሠረት ምርጫ ነክ መልእክቶችን የማሰራጨት አገልግሎቱን በነጻና በፍትሓዊነት መስጠት አለበት።

አንቀጽ 8. በመገናኛ ብዙኃን የሚደረግ የምርጫ ቅስቀሳ ዘመቻ መጀመሪያና ማጠናቀቂያ ጊዜ

በመገናኛ ብዙኃን የሚደረግ የምርጫ ቅስቀሳ ዘመቻ ወቅት የሚሰራጨው የምርጫ ነክ መልዕክት ቦርዱ በሚያወጣው የጊዜ ሰሌዳ መሠረት በመገናኛ ብዙሀን የሚደረግ የምርጫ ቅስቀሳ ዘመቻ በይፋ ከተጀመረበት ቀን ጀምሮ የሚተላለፍ ሲሆን የድምጽ መስጫው አራት ቀን ሲቀረው መጠናቀቅ አለበት።

አንቀጽ 9. በመገናኛ ብዙኃን የምርጫ ዴስክ ስለማቋቋም

1. ማንኛውም የመገናኛ ብዙኃን ለዚህ መመሪያ አፈጻጸም ይረዳ ዘንድ በተቋሙ የምርጫ ዴስክ ያቋቁማል።

2. የምርጫ ዴስክ፣

ሀ. የምርጫ ነክ መልእክቶችን ተቀብሎ በተመደበላቸው የአየር ጊዜ ወይም የጋዜጣ አምድ አማካኝነት ለመራጩ ህዝብ እንዲሰራጭ ወይም እንዲታተም ማስተባበር፣

ለ. የምርጫ ነክ መልእክቶችን የሚያስተላልፍበትን ሁኔታ የሚያሳይ የፕሮዳክሽን ወይም የሕትመት የቴክኒክ መስፈርት አስቀድሞ ለፖለቲካ ፓርቲዎች፣ ለግል ተወዳዳሪዎች እና ለባለስልጣኑ በጽሁፍ ማሳወቅ፣

ሐ. በዚህ መመሪያ አንቀጽ 18 መሠረት የአየር ጊዜ ወይም የጋዜጣ አምድ አመዳደብን የሚመለከቱ ጉዳዮችን በሚመለከት ከተወዳዳሪዎች የሚቀርብ ቅሬታን ተቀብሎ በመመርመር ውሳኔ መስጠት፣

መ. ማንኛውም የፖለቲካ ፓርቲ ወይም እጩ ተወዳዳሪ እንዲተላለፍ ያቀረበው ምርጫ ነክ መልዕክት ግጭት ቀስቃሽ እና የጥላቻ ይዘት ያለው ከሆነ በዚህ መመሪያ አንቀጽ 14(4) እና 15(5) መሠረት መልዕክቱ መተላለፍ እንደማይችል ይገልፃል።

ሠ. ለተወዳዳሪዎች አስፈላጊውን የቴክኒክ ድጋፍ መስጠትንና ሌሎች ተዛማጅ ተግባራትን ያከናውናል።

አንቀጽ 10. መረጃ ስለመስጠት

ማንኛውም የፖለቲካ ፓርቲ ወይም የግል እጩ ተወዳዳሪ የሚከተሉትን መረጃዎች በሚመለከተው የበላይ ኃላፊ በፊርማና በማህተም አረጋግጦ ለመገናኛ ብዙሃኑ ማቅረብ ይኖርበታል። የግል እጩ ተወዳዳሪ ማህተም የሌለው ከሆነ መረጃዎቹን በፊርማው ብቻ በማረጋገጥ ማቅረብ ይችላል።

1) የፖለቲካ ፓርቲውን ወይም የግል እጩ ተወዳዳሪውን ስም፣ ዋና ጽ/ቤቱ የሚገኝበትን አድራሻ፣ በቦርዱ የጸደቀለትን የመወዳደሪያ አርማ ወይም ምልክት፣

2) የፖለቲካ ፓርቲው ወይም የግል እጩ ተወዳዳሪው ከመገናኛ ብዙሃኑ ጋር የሚኖረውን ግንኙነት እንዲያስፈጽም የተወከለ ሕጋዊ ተወካይ ስም፣ እና

3) የምርጫ ነክ መልዕክቱ እንዲተላለፍ ወይም እንዲታተም በፖለቲካ ፓርቲው ወይም በግል እጩ ተወዳዳሪው የተፈቀደ መሆኑን የሚያስረዳና በሚመለከተው የበላይ ኃላፊ ወይም በወኪሉ የተፈረመ ማስረጃ።

ምዕራፍ ሶስት

የመገናኛ ብዙሀን የአየር ጊዜ እና የጋዜጣ አምድ ድልድል መስፈርትና ቀመር

አንቀጽ 11. የአየር ጊዜ ወይም የጋዜጣ አምድ ድልደላ ቀመር

1. ቦርዱ ለተወዳዳሪ የፖለቲካ ፓርቲዎች ለምርጫ ውድድር ጠቅላላ የአየር ጊዜ ወይም የጋዜጣ አምድ የሚደለደለው የሚከተሉትን መርሆች መሠረት በማድረግ ነው።

   ሀ) በእኩል የሚደለደል፣

   ለ) ፓርቲው በሚወዳደርበት የፌደራል እና/ወይም የክልል ም/ቤቶች በሚያቀርባቸው እጩዎች ብዛት

   ሐ) ፓርቲው በስራ ላይ ባለው የፌደራል እና/ወይም የክልል ምክርቤት በያዘው የመቀመጫ ብዛት የሚደለደል፣

   መ) ፓርቲው በሚያቀርበው የሴት እጩ ተወዳዳሪዎች ብዛት የሚደለደል፣

   ሠ) ፓርቲው በሚያቀርበው የአካል ጉዳተኛ እጩዎች ብዛት የሚደለደል።

2. የጠቅላላ የአየር ጊዜ ወይም የጋዜጣ አምድ ድልደላ ቀመር መሠረት እንደሚከተለው ነው

   ሀ) ከቦርዱ በሚገኝ መረጃ መሠረት ለምርጫ የሚወዳደሩ ሁሉም የፖለቲካ ፓርቲዎች ከተመደበው ጠቅላላ የመገናኛ ብዙኃን የአየር ጊዜ እንዲሁም የጋዜጣ አምድ ውስጥ ሃያ አምስት በመቶ 25% የሚሆነውን እኩል ይከፋፈላሉ።

   ለ) ከቦርዱ በሚገኝ መረጃ መሠረት ተወዳዳሪ የፖለቲካ ፓርቲዎች በሚወዳደሩበት የፌደራል እና/ወይም የክልል ም/ቤቶች በሚያቀርቡት እጩ ብዛት መሠረት ከጠቅላላው የአየር ጊዜ እንዲሁም የጋዜጣ አምድ ውስጥ አርባ በመቶ (40%) ይከፋፈላሉ።

   ሐ) ከቦርዱ በሚገኝ መረጃ መሠረት ተወዳዳሪ የፖለቲካ ፓርቲዎች ለህዝብ ተወካዮች እና ለክልል ምክር ቤቶች ባቀረቧቸው የሴት እጩ ተወዳዳሪዎች ብዛት መሠረት ከጠቅላላው የአየር ጊዜ እንዲሁም የጋዜጣ አምድ ውስጥ ሃያ በመቶ (20%) ይከፋፈላሉ።

   መ) ከቦርዱ በሚገኝ መረጃ መሠረት ተወዳዳሪ የፖለቲካ ፓርቲዎች ለህዝብ ተወካዮች እና ለክልል ምክር ቤቶች ባቀረቧቸው የአካል ጉዳተኛ እጩ ተወዳዳሪዎች ብዛት

መሠረት ከጠቅላላው የአየር ጊዜ እንዲሁም የጋዜጣ አምድ ውስጥ አስር በመቶ (10%) ይከፋፈላሉ።

ሠ) ከቦርዱ መሠረት የፖለቲካ ፓርቲዎችንና የግል እጩ ተወዳዳሪዎች በስራ ላይ ባሉት በህዝብ ተወካዮች እና በክልል ምክር ቤቶች ባላቸው የመቀመጫ ብዛት መሠረት ከጠቅላላው ምርጫ የአየር ጊዜ እንዲሁም የጋዜጣ አምድ ውስጥ አምስት በመቶ (5%) እንደ መቀመጫ ብዛታቸው ይከፋፈላሉ።

3. ከተመደበው ጠቅላላ የአየር ጊዜ እና የጋዜጣ አምድ ውስጥ ለግል እጩ ተወዳዳሪዎች የሚከፋፈለውን መጠን ቦርዱ ይወስናል።

4. ለግል እጩ ተወዳዳሪዎች የሚመደበው የአየር ሰዓት እና የጋዜጣ አምድ የተወዳዳሪዎችን ጾታ እና የአካል ጉዳተኝነት ከግምት ባስገባ ሁኔታ በቦርዱ ይወሰናል።

5. በዚህ መመሪያ ላይ የተቀመጡ መስፈርቶች ለ6ተኛው አገራዊ ምርጫ ወቅት የሚያገለግሉ ሲሆን በሌሎች የምርጫ ወቅቶች እንደየሁኔታው ሊከለሱ ይችላሉ።

አንቀጽ 12. የአየር ጊዜ እና የጋዜጣ አምድ ድልደላ ቀመር አፈጻጸም

1. ባለስልጣኑ በአንቀጽ 11(2) ቦርዱ የሚወስነውን ቀመር መሠረት በማድረግ ለመገናኛ ብዙኃን በአጠቃላይ እንዲሁም እያንዳንዱ የመገናኛ ብዙኃን በተናጥል ለምርጫ ነክ መልዕክት ሊመድብ የሚገባውን የአየር ሰዓት እንዲሁም የጋዜጣ አምድ ይወስናል፤ ዝግጁ እንዲሆን ያደርጋል።

አንቀጽ 13. የአየር ጊዜ ወይም የጋዜጣ አምድ መጠንና የእጣ አወጣጥ ሁኔታ

1. ባለስልጣኑ መገናኛ ብዙኃን ለምርጫ ነክ መልእክት ዝግጁ የሚያደርጉትን የአየር ጊዜና የጋዜጣ አምድ ይወስናል።

2. ለምርጫ ውድድር የሚደለደለው አጠቃላይ የአየር ጊዜ እና የጋዜጣ አምድ በዚህ መመሪያ በተቀመጡት የድልደላ መስፈርቶችና ቀመር መሠረት በተቻለ መጠን ቴክኖሎጂን በመጠቀም በፍትሓዊነት ይደለደላል።

3. በምርጫ ለመወዳደር የተመዘገበ የፖለቲካ ፓርቲ ወይም የግል እጩ ተወዳዳሪ የሚያቀርበውን ምርጫ ነክ መልእክቶችን የሚያስተላልፍበት የአየር ሰዓት እና የጋዜጣ አምድ ቅደም ተከተል በተቻለ መጠን ቴክኖሎጂን በመጠቀም በእጣ ይወሰናል።

አንቀጽ 14. የመገናኛ ብዙኃን የአየር ጊዜ ወይም የጋዜጣ አምድ አጠቃቀም

1. ባለስልጣኑ ካልፈቀደ በስተቀር፣ መገናኛ ብዙሃኑ፣ የፖለቲካ ፓርቲው ወይም እጩ ተወዳዳሪው በዚህ መመሪያ መሠረት በእጣ የወጣውን የአየር ጊዜ እና የጋዜጣ አምድ ድልድል በድርድር ወይም በመግባባት እንዲዛባ ወይም እንዲለዋወጥ ማድረግ አይችልም።

2. ማንኛውም የፖለቲካ ፓርቲ ወይም የግል እጩ ተወዳዳሪ በዚህ መመሪያ መሠረት፤

   ሀ) የተመደበለትን የአየር ጊዜ ወይም የጋዜጣ አምድ በተደለደለለት ጊዜ መጠቀም ይኖርበታል።

   ለ) የተመደበለትን የአየር ጊዜ ወይም የጋዜጣ አምድ ካልተጠቀመበት እንዳልፈለገው ይቆጠራል።

   ሐ) የተመደበለትን የአየር ጊዜ ወይም የጋዜጣ አምድ መጠቀም ካልፈለገ ሌላ የፖለቲካ ፓርቲ ወይም የግል እጩ ተወዳዳሪ ሊጠቀምበት አይችልም።

3. ማንኛውም መገናኛ ብዙኃን፤

   ሀ) የፖለቲካ ፓርቲው ወይም የግል እጩ ተወዳዳሪው ባልተጠቀመበት የአየር ጊዜ ወይም የጋዜጣ አምድ ከፖለቲካ ድርጅቱ ወይም ከግል እጩ ተወዳዳሪው ቅድሚያ ፈቃድ ሳያገኝ በፖለቲካ ፓርቲው ወይም በግል እጩ ተወዳዳሪው ቀደም ሲል የተላለፈ ወይም የታተመ የምርጫ ነክ መልዕክት በድጋሚ ሊያስተላልፍ ወይም ሊያሳትም አይችልም።

   ለ) በፖለቲካ ፓርቲው ወይም በግል እጩ ተወዳዳሪው ጥቅም ላይ ባልዋለው የአየር ጊዜ ወይም የጋዜጣ አምድ መደበኛ ፕሮግራሙን ወይም ህትመቱን የማስተላለፍ መብት አለው።

   ሐ) ባለስልጣኑን ሳያስፈቅድ ለፖለቲካ ፓርቲ ወይም ለግል እጩ ተወዳዳሪ የተመደበውን የአየር ጊዜ ወይም የጋዜጣ አምድ ሊያሻጋሽግ አይችልም።

   መ) በጣቢያው ዕለታዊ ሥርጭት የተሰራጨ ፕሮግራምን በድጋሚ በሚያሰራጭበት ወቅት በእለቱ የተሰራጨውን የምርጫ ነክ መልእክት በድጋሚ ማሰራጨት የለበትም።

   ሠ) የብሮድካስት አገልግሎት ሰጪ ከሆነ የቀረበለትን የምርጫ ነክ መልእክቱን በወሳኝ ሰዓት ማሰራጨት አለበት። በዜናውና በምርጫ ነክ መልእክቱ መካከልም የጣቢያውን ማስታወቂያ ማሰራጨት የለበትም።

ረ) የጋዜጣ አሳታሚ ከሆነ የምርጫ ነክ መልእክቱን በጋዜጣው በገጽ 3 ውስጥ በቀላሉ በሚታይ ቦታ ላይ ማሳተም አለበት።

ሰ) የምርጫ ነክ መልእክቶች ከመደበኛው ፕሮግራሙ በተለየና ለምርጫ ወድድር ታስቦ በተመደበ የአየር ጊዜና የጋዜጣ አምድ ላይ እንዲቀርቡ ማድረግና ይህንንም በፕሮግራሙ መግቢያና ማጠናቀቂያ ላይ እንዲሁም በሚታተመው መልእክት መጀመሪያ ላይ በግልጽ ማሳወቅ አለበት፡

ምዕራፍ አራት

በመገናኛ ብዙሀን በሚደረግ የምርጫ ቅስቀሳ ዘመቻ ወቅት ስለሚሰራጭ የምርጫ ነክ መልዕክት፣ የምርጫ ማስታወቂያ እና ሌሎች ፕሮግራሞች

አንቀጽ 15. ስለምርጫ ነክ መልእክት

1. የፖለቲካ ፓርቲዎችና የግል እጩ ተወዳዳሪዎች የሚያስተላልፉት የምርጫ ነክ መልእክት የአዋጁን አንቀጽ 132(3) ፣ አንቀጽ 134(10) ፣ አንቀጽ 144፣ አንቀጽ 157(3)(ለ) ፣ ይህንን መመሪያ እና ሌሎች የአገሪቱን ሕጎች፣ የመራጮችን መብትንና፣ የሌሎች እጩዎችን የመወዳደር መብት ያከበረ መሆን አለበት።
2. ነጻ የአየር ጊዜ ወይም የጋዜጣ አምድ የተሰጠው የፖለቲካ ፓርቲ ወይም የግል እጩ ተወዳዳሪ ለተሰራጨው ፕሮግራም ወይም ላሳተመው መግለጫ ይዘት በተመለከተ ኃላፊነት አለበት።

3.ማንኛውም የፖለቲካ ፓርቲ ወይም የግል እጩ ተወዳዳሪ እንዲተላለፍለትም ሆነ እንዲታተምለት ለመገናኛ ብዙሃኑ የሚልከው የምርጫ ነክ መልዕክት፤

ሀ) ከሚሰራጭበት ወይም ከሚታተምበት ከ48 ሰዓት በፊት ለመገናኛ ብዙሃኑ ማድረስ አለበት።

ለ) በብሮድካስተሩ ወይም በአሳታሚው ተቀባይነት ያለው የቴክኒክ ፎርማት መሠረት መሆን አለበት። ብሮድካስተሩ ወይም አሳታሚው የቴክኒክ ፎርማቱን ከለወጠ የፖለቲካ ፓርቲ ወይም የግል እጩ ተወዳዳሪው ቀድሞ እንዲያውቅ ማድረግ ይኖርባቸዋል

4. አንድ የፖለቲካ ፓርቲ ወይም እጩ ተወዳዳሪ እንዲተላለፍለት ያቀረብን ምርጫ ነክ መልዕክት ይዘት፣ የመገናኛ ብዙሃኑ ግዴትን የሚያነሳሳ እና የጥላቻ ይዘት ያለው ነው ብሎ ካመነ የመገናኛ ብዙሀኑ ጉዳዩን ወዲያውኑ መልዕክቱን ላቀረበው የፖለቲካ ፓርቲ

ወይም እጩ ተወዳዳሪ እና ለባለስልጣኑ መግለጽ አለበት።የፖለቲካ ፓርቲው ወይም እጩ ተወዳዳሪው መለእክቱን አስተካክሎ እንዲተላለፍለት ሊጠይቅ ይችላል።

5. በዚህ አንቀጽ ንኡስ አንቀጽ 3(ሀ) ስር በተደነገገው መሠረት የምርጫ ነክ መለዕክቱ እንዳይተላለፍ በመገናኛ ብዙሃኑ የተሰጠው ውሳኔ አግባብነት የለውም ብሎ የሚያምን የፖለቲካ ፓርቲ ወይም እጩ ተወዳዳሪ በዚህ መመሪያ አንቀጽ 18 መሠረት አቤቱታ ማቅረብ ይችላል።

አንቀጽ 16. በክፍያ የሚተላለፍ የምርጫ ማስታወቂያ

1. ማንኛውም የፖለቲካ ፓርቲ ወይም እጩ ተወዳዳሪ በመገናኛ ብዙሀን በሚደረግ የምርጫ ቅስቀሳ ዘመቻ ወቅት የምርጫ ማስታወቂያ በክፍያ ማስተላለፍ ይችላል።

2. የፖለቲካ ፓርቲዎችና የግል እጩ ተወዳዳሪዎች የሚያስተላልፉት የምርጫ የምርጫ ማስታወቂያ አዋጁን፣ በተለይም አንቀጽ 132(3)፣ አንቀጽ 134(10)፣ አንቀጽ 144፣ አንቀጽ 157 (3)(ለ)፣ ይህንን መመሪያ፣ የተለያዩ የአገሪቱን ሕጎች፣ የመራጮችን መብትንና፣ የሌሎች እጩዎችን የመወዳደር መብት ያከበረ መሆን አለበት።

3. ለምርጫ ማስታወቂያ የሚጠየቀው ክፍያ ለሁሉም ፓርቲዎች ተመሳሳይ መሆን አለበት። የሚጠየቀው ክፍያም ለንግድ ማስታወቂያ ከሚጠየቀው ክፍያ ሊበልጥ አይችልም።

4. ድንገተኛ ወይም አጣዳፊ የሆኑ መልዕክቶችን ለማስተላለፍ ካልሆነ በስተቀር የፖለቲካ ፓርቲዎች ወይም የግል እጩ ተወዳዳሪዎች የምርጫ ማስታወቂያ በሚሰራጭበት ጊዜ ማስታወቂያውን ማቋረጥ አይፈቀድም።

5. አንድ የፖለቲካ ፓርቲ ወይም እጩ ተወዳዳሪ እንዲተላለፍለት ያቀረበው የምርጫ ማስታወቂያ ይዘት፣ የመገናኛ ብዙሃኑ ግጭትን የሚያነሳሳ እና የጥላቻ ይዘት ያለው ነው ብሎ ካመነ የመገናኛ ብዙሀኑ ጉዳዩን ወዲያውኑ መልዕክቱን ላቀረበው የፖለቲካ ፓርቲ ወይም እጩ ተወዳዳሪ እና ለባለስልጣኑ መግለጽ አለበት። የፖለቲካ ፓርቲው ወይም እጩ ተወዳዳሪው የፖለቲካ ማስታወቂያውን አስተካክሎ እንዲተላለፍለት ሊጠይቅ ይችላል።

6. በዚህ አንቀጽ ንኡስ አንቀጽ 4 ስር በተደነገገው መሠረት የምርጫ ማስታወቂያው እንዳይተላለፍ በመገናኛ ብዙሃኑ የተሰጠው ውሳኔ አግባብነት የለውም ብሎ የሚያምን

የፖለቲካ ፓርቲ ወይም እጩ ተወዳዳሪ በዚህ መመሪያ አንቀጽ 18 መሠረት አቤቱታ ማቅረብ ይችላል።

አንቀጽ 17. በመገናኛ ብዙሀን በሚደረግ የምርጫ ቅስቀሳ ዘመቻ ወቅት ስለሚሰራጩ ዜናዎችና ፕሮግራሞች ገለልተኛነት

በምርጫ ቅስቀሳ ዘመቻ ወቅት በመገናኛ ብዙኃን የሚሰራጩ ዜናዎች እና ማናቸውም ፕሮግራሞች የፖለቲካ ፓርቲዎችንና የግል እጩ ተወዳዳሪዎችን ከማስተዋወቅ፣ የተለየ ድጋፍ ከማድረግ፣ አድልኦና ተቃውሞ ከመፍጠር ወይም የግል አስተያየትና አቋም ከማንጸባረቅ እንዲሁም በሌሎች ድምጽ ሰጪዎች ውሳኔ ላይ ተጽእኖ ከሚያሳድር ይዘትና አቀራረብ ነጻ መሆን አለባቸው።

አንቀጽ 18. የአየር ሰዓት እና የጋዜጣ አምድ ድልድልን የሚመለከቱ ቅሬታዎች አቀራረብ ሥነ ሥርዓት

1. ማንኛውም የፖለቲካ ፓርቲ ወይም የግል እጩ ተወዳዳሪ በመገናኛ ብዙሀን ላይ ከራሱ ነጻ የአየር ሰዓት ወይም የጋዜጣ አምድ አጠቃቀም ጋር የተያያዘ ቅሬታ ካለው ቅሬታ የፈጠረበትን ጉዳይ በ48 ሰዓት ውስጥ ለመገናኛ ብዙሀኑ ምርጫ ዴስክ በጽሁፍ ማቅረብ ይችላል።

2. የመገናኛ ብዙሀኑ የምርጫ ዴስክ የቀረበለትን ቅሬታ መርምሮ በ24 ሰዓት ውስጥ ውሳኔ በመስጠት ውሳኔውን ለቅሬታ አቅራቢው ማሳወቅ አለበት።

3. በመገናኛ ብዙሀኑ የምርጫ ዴስክ ውሳኔ ቅር የተሰኘ የፖለቲካ ፓርቲ ወይም እጩ ተወዳዳሪ ቅሬታውን ለባለስልጣኑ ማቅረብ ይችላል።

4. ባለስልጣኑም የቀረበለትን ቅሬታ በ48 ሰዓት ውስጥ መርምሮ ውሳኔ በመስጠት ውሳኔውን ለቅሬታ አቅራቢውና ቅሬታ ለቀረበበት አካል ማሳወቅ አለበት።

5. ባለስልጣኑ በሰጠው ውሳኔ ቅር የተሰኘ አካል ውሳኔ ከተሰጠበት ጊዜ በ5 የሥራ ቀናት ውስጥ ቅሬታውን ለቦርዱ ሊያቀርብ ይችላል።

6. ባለሥልጣኑ ስለቀረቡለት ቅሬታዎችና ስለሰጣቸው ውሳኔዎች በየጊዜው ለቦርዱ ያሳውቃል።

አንቀጽ 19. የመልዕክት ይዘትን ላይ የሚሰጥ ውሳኔን የሚመለከቱ ቅሬታዎች አቀራረብ ሥነ ሥርዓት

1. በዚህ መመሪያ 14(4) እና 15(5) መሠረት ምርጫ ነክ መልዕክት ወይም የምርጫ ማስታወቂያ ግጭትን የሚያነሳሳ እና የጥላቻ ይዘት ያለው ነው በሚል በመገናኛ ብዙሃኑ ውድቅ የተደረገበት የፖለቲካ ፓርቲ ወይም እጩ ተወዳዳሪ፣ በውሳኔው ቅር የተሰኘ እንደሆነ ቅሬታውን በ48 ሰዓት ውስጥ ለባለስልጣኑ ሊያቀርብ ይችላል።
2. ባለስልጣኑም የቀረበለትን ጉዳይ መርመሮ ውሰኔውን በ48 ሰዓት ውስጥ መስጠት እና አቤቱታ ያቀረበው ፓርቲ ወይም እጩ ተወዳዳሪ ውሳኔውን እንዲየውቀው ማድረግ አለበት።
3. በባለስልጣኑ ውሳኔ ቅር የተሰኘ አካል፣ ውሳኔው በተሰጠ በ5 ቀናት ውስጥ ለቦርዱ ቅሬታውን ሊያቀርብ ይችላል።
4. ባለስልጣኑ በየጊዜው ስለሚቀርቡ ቅሬታዎች እና ስለተሰጡ ውሳኔዎች ለቦርዱ ማሳወቅ አለበት።

አንቀጽ 20. የባለስልጣኑ የሥራ ክፍሎች ዝርዝር ተግባርና ኃላፊነት

1. ባለስልጣኑ የሚከተሉትን መረጃዎች ከቦርዱ በማሰባሰብ እና አደራጅቶ በመያዝ ለእጣ አወጣጥ ሂደቱ በግብአትነት ያውላል።

ሀ) ለምርጫ ውድድር የተመዘገቡ የፖለቲካ ፓርቲዎችን ብዛት፣ ስም ዝርዝር፣ የምርጫ መወዳደሪያ ምልክት መረጃን፣

ለ) ተወዳዳሪ የፖለቲካ ፓርቲዎች እና የግል እጩ ተወዳዳሪዎች ለፌዴራልና ለክልል ምክር ቤቶች ያቀረቧቸው እጩ ተወዳዳሪዎች ብዛት መረጃን፣

ሐ) ተወዳዳሪ የፖለቲካ ፓርቲዎች ለየምክር ቤቶቹ ያቀረቧቸው የሴት እጩ ተወዳዳሪዎች ብዛት መረጃን፣

መ) ተወዳዳሪ የፖለቲካ ፓርቲዎች ለየምክር ቤቶቹ ያቀረቧቸው የአካል ጉዳተኛ እጩ ተወዳዳሪዎች ብዛት መረጃ፣

ሠ) ተወዳዳሪ የፖለቲካ ፓርቲዎች በህዝብ ተወካዮች ምክር ቤት እና በክልል ምክር ቤቶች ያላቸው መቀመጫ ብዛት መረጃን፣

2. የምርጫ ቅስቀሳ ዘመቻው ሲጠናቀቅ የፖለቲካ ፓርቲዎችና እጩዎች የመገናኛ ብዙኃን አጠቃቀም ሪፖርትን አደራጅቶ በመያዝ እንዲታተም ያደርጋል።

3. የባለስልጣኑ የመገናኛ ብዙኃን ክትትልና ድጋፍ የስራ ክፍል፣

ሀ) በምርጫ ቅስቀሳ ዘመቻ ወቅት ነጻ የአየር ጊዜና የጋዜጣ አምድ የሚመደብባቸውን የ መገናኛ ብዙኃን አንዲሁም ለፖለቲካ ፓርቲዎችና ለግል እጩዎች የተመደቡትን ነጻ የአየር ጊዜና የጋዜጣ አምድ መረጃ አደራጅቶ ይይዛል፣

ለ) የፖለቲካ ፓርቲው ወይም የግል እጩ ተወዳዳሪው በመገናኛ ብዙኃኑ ላይ የሚያቀርበውን ቅሬታ ተቀብሎ በመመርመር ውሳኔ መስጠትና ውሳኔውን ለቅሬታ አቅራቢውና ቅሬታ ለቀረበበት አካል ያሳውቃል።

5. የባለስልጣኑ እና የቦርዱ የኢንፎርሜሽን ቴክኖሎጂ የስራ ክፍሎች ለምርጫ ውድድር የሚደለደለውን አጠቃላይ የአየር ሰዓት እና የጋዜጣ አምድ በዚህ መመሪያ የተቀመጡትን የድልደላ መስፈርቶችን እና ቀመር መሠረት በማድረግ በኢንፎርሜሽን ቴክኖሎጂ የታገዘና ፍትሓዊ የሆነ እጣ የሚወጣበትን ሁኔታ ያመቻቻል።
6. ቦርዱ እና ባለስልጣኑ አስፈላጊ ሆኖ ካገኙት የዚህን መመሪያ አፈጻጸም የሚከታተል የጋራ የስራ ቡድን ሊያቋቁሙ ይችላሉ።

አንቀጽ 21. በግል ባለቤትነት የሚተዳደሩ መገናኛ ብዙኃን

በግል ባለቤትነት የሚተዳደሩ መገናኛ ብዙኃን ምርጫ ነክ መልእክት ለማስተላለፍ ስለሚመድቡት የአየር ሰዓት፣ የጋዜጣ አምድ ድልድል እና አጠቃቀም በሚመለከት ባለስልጣኑ ልዩ መስፈርቶችን በማውጣት ይወስናል።

ምዕራፍ አምስት
ልዩ ልዩ ድንጋጌዎች

አንቀፅ 22. ስለ መመሪያ መጣስ

ማንኛውም መገናኛ ብዙኃን፣ ጋዜጠኛ፣ የፖለቲካ ፓርቲ ወይም እጩ ተወዳዳሪ የዚህ መመሪያ ድንጋጌዎችን ተላልፎ ሲገኝ ቦርዱ ከባለስልጣኑ ጋር በመመካከር አስፈላጊውን የእርምት እርምጃ ይወስዳል።

አንቀፅ 23. ተፈጻሚነት የማይኖራቸው መመሪያዎች

ይህንን መመሪያ የሚቃረን ማንኛውም መመሪያ እና ልማዳዊ አሰራር በዚህ መመሪያ በተሸፈኑ ጉዳዮች ላይ ተፈፃሚነት አይኖረውም።

አንቀጽ 24. መመሪያውን ስለማሻሻል

ቦርዱ እና ባለሥልጣኑ በመመካከር ይህንን መመሪያ ሊያሻሽሉት ይችላሉ።

አንቀፅ 25. መመሪያው የሚፀናበት ጊዜ

ይህ መመሪያ በቦርዱ እና በባለሥልጣኑ ከፀደቀበት የካቲት 18 ቀን 2013 ዓ.ም ጀምሮ የፀና ይሆናል።

አዲስ አበባ

ብርቱካን ሚደቅሳ	ጌታቸው ድንቁ (ዶ/ር)
የኢትዮጵያ ብሔራዊ ምርጫ ቦርድ ሰብሳቢ	የኢትዮጵያ ብሮድካስት ባለሥልጣን ዋና ዳይሬክተር

የኢትዮጵያ ብሔራዊ ምርጫ ቦርድ
NATIONAL ELECTION BOARD OF ETHIOPIA

Oath taken by the head of a media organization that requested for accreditation

I. would like to inform you that our media organization, which is known as _____ is a legally registered media organization authorised by the appropriate authorizing body.

2. The management of the media institution and the journalists deployed by the organization shall be independent from any political activity.

3. Journalists deployed by the organization meet the required criteria.

4. I certify in my duty of the organization that we will comply with the ethical responsibilities and obligations set out in the directives for covering elections. I acknowledge that it is against the law to give false information about the Board and that I will make it clear to journalists working in my organization.

Full name of the head of the media organization: _____

Her/his responsibilities at the organization: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

The seal of the institution

የኢትዮጵያ ብሔራዊ ምርጫ ቦርድ
NATIONAL ELECTION BOARD OF ETHIOPIA

የምርጫውን ሂደት ለመዘገብ ፈቃድ እንዲሰጠው በጠየቀ የሚዲያ ተቋም የበላይ ኃላፊ የሚሞላ ቃለመሃላ

_____ በሚል መጠሪያ ስም የሚታወቀው ተቋማችን በተገቢው አካል በህግ ተመዝግቦ የሚሰራ የሚዲያ ተቋም መሆኑን እየገለጽኩ፡-

1. የሚዲያ ተቋሙን የሚመሩ ኃላፊዎችም ሆነ ድርጅቱ የሚያሰማራቸው ጋዜጠኞች ከማንኛውም የፖለቲካ እንቅስቃሴ ገለልተኛ መሆናቸውን፣
2. ተቋሙ የሚያሰማራቸው ጋዜጠኞች የሚፈለገውን መሰረት የሚያሟሉ መሆኑን፣
3. ተቋሙ የሚያሰማራቸው ጋዜጠኞች በማንኛውም የፖለቲካ ድርጅት በእጩነት የቀረቡ ያለመሆናቸውን ወይም በግል ለመወዳደር ያልተመዘገቡ መሆኑን
4. የምርጫ አዘጋገብ የሰነ ምግባር እና አሰራር መመሪያ ላይ የተቀመጡትን የአሰራር እና የሥነ ምግባር ኃላፊነቶች እና ግዴታዎች አክብረን የምንሰራ መሆኑን በተቋሙ ሀላፊነቴ በእውነተኝነት አረጋግጣለሁ፣ ስለቦርዱ የተሳሳተ መረጃ መስጠት ብህግ የሚያስጠይቅ መሆኑን መገንዘቤን እና ተወካይ ጋዜጠኞችም ይህንን እንዲገነዘቡ እንደማደርግ አላውቃለሁ ።

የሚዲያ ተቋሙ የበላይ ኃላፊ ሙሉ ስም፡-_____

በተቋሙ ያላት/ያለው ኃላፊነት፡-_____

ፊርማ፡-_____

ቀን፡-_____

የተቋሙ ማህተም

አባሪ 2



የኢትዮጵያ ብሔራዊ ምርጫ ቦርድ
NATIONAL ELECTION BOARD OF ETHIOPIA

የመገናኛ ብዙሃን እና የጋዜጠኞች የምርጫ አዘጋገብ የስነ ምግባር እና አሰራር መመሪያ ቁጥር

02/2013

ምዕራፍ አንድ
ጠቅላላ

አንቀጽ 1 አውጪ ባለስልጣን

የኢትዮጵያ ብሔራዊ የምርጫ ቦርድ ማቋቋሚያ አዋጅ ቁጥር 133/2011 አንቀጽ 8 ንኡስ አንቀጽ (1) እና በኢትዮጵያ የምርጫ፣ የፖ/ሊቲካ ፓርቲዎች እና የምርጫ ስነ ምግባር አዋጅ ቁጥር 1162/2011 ዓ.ም. አንቀፅ 44 ንኡስ አንቀፅ (4) አንቀፅ 123 እና አንቀፅ 126 መሠረት ይህንን መመሪያ አውጥቷል።

አንቀፅ 2 አጭር ርዕስ

ይህ መመሪያ « የመገናኛ ብዙሃን እና የጋዜጠኞች የምርጫ አዘጋገብ የሥነ ምግባር እና አሰራር መመሪያ ቁጥር 02/2013 ዓ.ም» ተብሎ ሊጠቀስ ይችላል።

አንቀፅ 3 ትርጓሜ

የቃሉ አገባብ ሌላ ትርጉም የሚያሰጠው ካልሆነ በስተቀር በዚህ መመሪያ ውስጥ፡-

1) “በአዋጅ” ማለት አዋጅ ቁጥር 1133/2011 እና አዋጅ ቁጥር 1162/2011 እና በአዋጅ ቁጥር 1133/11 ላይ ያሉ ለዚህ መመሪያ አግባብነት ያላቸው ትርጓሜዎች እንደአግባብነቱ ተፈፃሚነት አላቸው።

2) **"የመገናኛ ብዙሃን"** ማለት መጻሕፍትን፣ ማኅበራዊ መገናኛ ብዙኃንን፣ ጦማሮችን እና በየጊዜው የሚወጣ ጎትመት አካል ያልሆኑ ፎቶ፣ ሥዕልና ካርቱንን ሳይጨምር በየጊዜው የሚወጣ ጎትመትን፣ የብሮድካስት አገልግሎትን እና የበይነመረብ የመገናኛ ብዙሃንን በመጠቀም የዜና ወይም የፕሮግራም ወይም የዜና እና የፕሮግራም አገልግሎት ለሕዝብ ለማቅረብ የተቋቋመ አካላት ሲሆኑ የዜና አገልግሎት ድርጅቶችንም እና የማህበረሰብ ሬዲዮዎችንም ያጠቃልላል፤

3) **"በየጊዜው የሚወጣ ጎትመት"** ማለት አንድ ቋሚ ስያሜ በመያዝ በመደበኛነት ሳይቋረጥ በተከታታይ እንዲወጣ ታቅዶ ቢያንስ በዓመት ሁለት ጊዜ የሚታተም፤ ለጠቅላላው ኅብረተሰብ ወይም ለአንድ የተወሰነ የሕዝብ ክፍል እንዲደርስ ታስቦ የሚሰራጭ ጋዜጦችንና መፅሄቶችን የሚያካት የጎትመት ስራ ነው፤

4) **“የብሮድካስት አገልግሎት”** ማለት ዳታና የፅሁፍ መልዕክትን፣ የግል ድርጅት ወይም የመንግሥት አካል ውስጣዊ ግንኙነቶችን ሳይጨምር በምድር ለምድር አስተላላፊ፣ በሬዲዮ ሞገድ፣ በኬብል፣ በሳተላይት፣ ወይም እነዚህን በማቀናጀት ሥራ ላይ

በሚውሉ የሬዲዮ ወይም የቴሌቪዥን ወይም የሬዲዮና የቴሌቪዥን ማሰራጫዎች አማካይነት አጠቃላይ ሕዝብን ወይም የተወሰነ የኅብረተሰብን ክፍል ለማሳወቅ፣ ለማስተማር ወይም ለማዝናናት በድምጽ ወይም በምስል ወይም በድምጽና በምስል በክፍያ ወይም ያለክፍያ የሚተላለፍ ወይም የሚሰራጭ የሬዲዮ ወይም የቴሌቪዥን ፕሮግራም ሥርጭት አገልግሎት ነው፤

5) **"የበይነመረብ መገናኛ ብዙሃን"** ማለት በመገናኛ ብዙሃን አገልግሎት አቅራቢው ይዘት ላይ የመወሰን ኃላፊነት ሥር ዋነኛ ሥራው ዜናና ፕሮግራምን መሰብሰብ፣ ማዘጋጀት፣ ማጠናቀርና ማሰራጨት በሆነ ድርጅት በበይነ መረብ/በኢንተርኔት አማካይነት የሚሰራጭ ምስል፣ ድምፅ፣ ቪድዮ እና የድረ-ገፅ ፅሁፍን በመጠቀም ወይም እነዚህን በማቀናጀት መረጃ የማስተላለፍ አገልግሎት ነው፤

6) **“ምርጫ ነክ መልዕክት”** ማለት ለምርጫ የሚወዳደር የፖለቲካ ፓርቲ ወይም የግል እጩ ተወዳዳሪ በምርጫ ቅስቀሳ ዘመቻ ወቅት ለመራጮች የሚያቀርበው የአላማ፣ የፕሮግራምና የምረጡኝ ቅስቀሳ፣ ሃሳ፣ አስተያየት ወይም መሰል የምርጫ ቅስቀሳ መልዕክት ነው።

7) **“የፖለቲካ ማስታወቂያ”** ማለት ለምርጫ ውድድር የተመዘገበ የፖለቲካ ፓርቲ ወይም የግል እጩ ተወዳዳሪ ገንዘብ በመክፈል ወይም ለመክፈል ቃል በመግባት በመገናኛ ብዙሃን የሚያስነግረው አጭር ማስታወቂያ ነው።

8) **“የምርጫ ወቅት”** ማለት ቦርዱ የሚወስነው የመራጮች ምዝገባ ከተጀመረበት ቀን ጀምሮ ቦርዱ የምርጫ ውጤት ለህዝብ ይፋ ካደረገበት ቀን በኋላ ጀምሮ አንድ ወር ጊዜ ውስጥ ያለው ጊዜ ነው።

9) **“ከአቅም በላይ የሆነ ምክንያት”** ማለት በማንኛውም መደበኛ ሁኔታ ይደርሳሉ ተብሎ ያልተገመቱ እና ያልተጠበቁ፣ ከአመልካቹ ቁጥጥርና ምክንያታዊ ግምት ውጪ በሆነ ምክንያት የሚደርሱ እና እንዳይደርሱ መከላከል ወይም ማስቆም የማይቻሉ ክስተቶች ናቸው።

10) **“የጥቅም ግጭት”** ማለት በጋዜጠኛው እና በእጩ ተወዳዳሪው መካካል ያለ ዝምድና፣ ማለትም አባቱን፣ እናቱን፣ ልጁን፣ አያቱን፣ እህቱን፣ ወንድሙን፣ አክስቱን፣ አጎቱን ወይም የትዳር አጋሩን፣ የትዳር አጋሩን ወንድም፣ እህት፣ እናትና አባትጋ የሚያያዝ ከሆነ እንዲሁም፣ ፣ ማንኛውም አይነት የጥቅም ግንኙነት ወይም የግጭት የንግድ ግንኙነት እና የመሳሰሉትን ያካትታል።

11) **“ቦርድ”** ማለት የኢትዮጵያ ብሔራዊ የምርጫ ቦርድ ነው።

አንቀፅ 4 የፆታ አገላለፅ

በዚህ መመሪያ ላይ በወንድ ፆታ የተደነገገው የሴትንም ፆታ ያጠቃልላል።

አንቀጽ 5 አላማ

የመገናኛ ብዙሃን ምርጫ ፍትሃዊ፣ ሚዛናዊ እና ትክክለኛ እንዲሆን የሚያበረክቱት ሚና ከፍተኛ መሆኑን በመገንዘብ፤የመገናኛ ብዙሃን እና ጋዜጠኞች በምርጫ ጣቢያዎች ተገኝተው በሚዘግቡበት ወቅት የሚኖራቸው መብት፣ የስነምግባር ሀላፊነት እና ግዴታዎችን መደንገግ ለምርጫ ሂደት መሳካት አስፈላጊ ሆኖ ስለተገኘ ይህ መመሪያ ወጥቷል።

አንቀፅ 6 የተፈፃሚነት ወሰን

ይህ መመሪያ በምርጫ ወቅት ሀገሪቱ ውስጥ ምርጫን አስመልክቶ በሚከናወን ዜናን፣ ዘገባን፣ ሪፖርትን፣ ወይም ማናቸውም ሌላ መረጃን የማተም፣ የማሰራጨት እና የማቅረብ ተግባር ላይ የሚሳተፍ ማንኛውም የመገናኛ ብዙሃን ወይም ጋዜጠኛ ላይ ተፈፃሚ ይሆናል።

ምዕራፍ
ሁለት

የመዘገብ ፈቃድ ጥያቄ አቀራረብ እና አሰጣጥ

አንቀፅ 7 የምርጫ ሂደትን ለመከታተል ጥያቄ ማቅረብ ስለመቻሉ

1) ማናቸውም በተመዘገቡበት አገር ህግ እውቅና ተሰጥቷቸው የሚሰሩ የአገር ውስጥም ሆነ የውጪ የመገናኛ ብዙሃን በሀገሪቱ ውስጥ የሚካሄዱ ምርጫዎችን በምርጫ ጣቢያው ውስጥ በመገኘት በሚወክሏቸው ጋዜጠኞች አማካይነት ለመከታተል እና ለመዘገብ የእውቅና ጥያቄ ለቦርዱ ማቅረብ ይችላሉ።

2) ማንኛውም ምርጫን የሚዘግብ የመገናኛ ብዙሃን ጋዜጠኛ ስራውን የሚገልፅ መታወቂያ በጉልህ ሊታይ በሚችል መልኩ ደረቱ ላይ ወይም አንገቱ ላይ በማንጠልጠል፣ ከሚሰራበት የመገናኛ ብዙሃን የተሰጠውን ማረጋገጫ በመያዝ በምርጭ ወቅት ከምርጫ ጣቢያ ከ200 ሜትር ርቀት ዙሪያ ውጪ በመሆን መዘገብ ይችላል።

አንቀፅ 8 ስለ እውቅና ጥያቄ አቀራረብ እና አሰጣጥ

1) ማናቸውም የምርጫ ሂደት ከምርጫ ጣቢያው ውስጥ ተገኝቶ ስለሂደቱ በጋዜጠኞቹ አማካኝነት ለመዘገብ የሚፈልግ የመገናኛ ብዙሃን የእውቅና ካርድ እንዲሰጠው ጥያቄውን በፅሁፍ ለቦርዱ ማቅረብ ይችላል።

2) ማናቸውም የምርጫ ሂደትን ለመከታተል የሚቀርብ የእውቅና ጥያቄ ማመልከቻ በቦርዱ ለእውቅና ጥያቄ ማቅረቢያ ጊዜ ተብሎ በተወሰነ ጊዜ ውስጥ መቅረብ አለበት፡

፡ የጥያቄ ማቅረቢያ ጊዜው የመጨረሻ ቀን ድምፅ የሚሰጥበት ዕለት 15 ቀን ሲቀረው ይሆናል።

3) ቦርዱ ለቀረበለት የመዘገብ ፈቃድ ጥያቄ ማመልከቻው ተሟልቶ በደረሰው በአምስት ቀናት ውስጥ በፅሁፍ ምላሽ ይሠጣል።

4) ቦርዱ የቀረበለትን የመዘገብ ፈቃድ ጥያቄ መርምሮ መመዘኛውን አሟልቶ ለተገኘ የመገናኛ ብዙሀን እና ጋዜጠኛ የእውቅና ካርድ ወይም የመታወቂያ ካርድ በአስራ አምስት ቀናት ጊዜ ውስጥ ይሰጣል።

5) ቦርዱ አስፈላጊ ሆኖ ሲያገኘው እውቅና የመስጠት ሃላፊነቱን ለክልል ቅርንጫፍ ፅ/ቤቶች በውክልና ሊሰጥ ይችላል።

አንቀፅ 9 ቦርዱ በሚያዘጋጀው ቅፅ ላይ ስለሚሞሉ መረጃዎች ቦርዱ ማመልከቻ የሚቀርብበትን ቅፅ የሚያዘጋጅ ሲሆን፤ ቅጹ ምርጫን በምርጫ ጣቢያ ውስጥ በ200 ሜትር ዙርያ ውስጥ ገብቶ ለመዘገብ ጥያቄ የሚያቀርቡ የመገናኛ ብዙሀን የሚከተሉትን ማካተት ይኖርበታል፡፡

1) የተቋሙን በህግ የተመዘገበ ስምና አድራሻ፣

2) ተቋሙ መከታተል የሚፈልገው የምርጫ ሂደት ወይም አይነት፣ የሚሸፍነው አካባቢ

3) ምርጫውን የሚከታተሉለት ጋዜጠኞች ስም ዝርዝር፣

4) የጋዜጠኞች ቡድን ሲሆን ቡድኑን የሚመራው ጋዜጠኛ ስም እና አድራሻ እና፣

5) የውጭ ጋዜጠኞች ከሆኑ ወደ ኢትዮጵያ የሚገቡበት ወይም የገቡበት ቀን መገለጽ ይኖርበታል፡፡

አንቀፅ 10 ከፍቃድ ጥያቄው ጋር ተያይዘው ስለሚቀርቡ ሰነዶች

የመገናኛ ብዙሃኑ ከሚያቀርቡት ማመልከቻ ጋር፡-

1) ከሚመለከተው አካል በመገናኛ ብዙሃንነት እንዲሰራ የተሰጠው ፍቃድ ቅጂ፣

2) ምርጫውን እንዲዘግቡለት የሚልካቸው ጋዜጠኞች በማንኛውም የፖለቲካ ድርጅት በእጩነት የቀረቡ ያለመሆናቸውን ወይም በግል ለመወዳደር ያልተመዘገቡ እንደሆነ እና ይህን የስነምግባር መመሪያ እና ሌሎች ተገቢነት ያላቸው የአገሪቷ ህጎች አክብሮ ለመንቀሳቀስ ፈቃደኛ መሆኑን የሚገልፅ የተቋሙ የበላይ ሃላፊ ፊርማ እና የተቋሙ ማህተም ያለው ማረጋጋጫ ደብዳቤ፤

3) መገናኛ ብዙሃኑ ሂደቱን እንዲከታተሉ የሚያቀርበው የጋዜጠኞች ዝርዝር ላይ ያለው የእያንዳንዱ ጋዜጠኛ ሙሉ ስም፣ የጋዜጠኛው የቅርብ ጊዜ የፓስፖርት መጠን ፎቶግራፍ፣ የጋዜጠኛው ማንኛውም አይነት የመታወቂያ ካርድ ቅጂ/ኮፒ ተያይዞ መቅረብ አለበት፡፡

4) ፍቃድ ጠያቂው የውጪ መገናኛ ብዙሃን ጋዜጠኛ ሲሆን ከላይ ከተመለከቱት ሰነዶች በተጨማሪ ከኢትዮጵያ ብሮድካስት ባለስልጣን የተሰጠውን የዘገባ ፍቃድ ማቅረብ ይኖርበታል፡፡

5) እያንዳንዱ ጋዜጠኛ ይህንን የስነ-ምግባር መመሪያ እና ሌሎች የአገሪቱ ህጎችን ለማክበር ፍቃደኛ መሆኑን ቦርዱ በሚያዘጋጀው የጥያቄ ማቅረቢያ እና የስነ-ምግባር መመሪያ ቅፅ ላይ አረጋግጦ መፈረም ይኖርበታል፡፡

አንቀፅ 11 የፍቃድ ጥያቄው ውድቅ የሚሆንባቸው ምክንያቶች

አንድ የመገናኛ ብዙሃን ወይም ጋዜጠኛ እንደ አግባብነቱ በሚከተሉት ምክንያቶች ምርጫን የመዘገብ ፈቃድ ጥያቄው ውድቅ ሊደረግበት ይችላል፦

1) በአንቀጽ 10 ሥር የተዘረዘሩትን መስፈርቶች ያላሟላ ከሆነ
2) ምርጫውን እንዲዘግቡለት ያቀረባቸው ጋዜጠኞች በፖለቲካ ድርጅት አጩነት ወይም በግል አጩነት ለመወዳደር የተመዘገቡ ሲሆኑ፣
3) የማመልከቻ ማቅረቢያ ጊዜ ካለፈ በኋላ የሚቀርብ የእውቅና ጥያቄ ሲሆን፣
4) የእውቅና ጥያቄ ለማቅረብ መብት ወይም ስልጣን በሌለው ሰው የቀረበ ማመልከቻ ሲሆን፣
5) ጥያቄውን ያቀረበው ተቋም ህጋዊ እውቅና የሌለው ከሆነ።

አንቀፅ 12 ውድቅ የተደረገ ጥያቄ ላይ ስለሚቀርብ ቅሬታ

1) ያቀረበው ማመልከቻ ውድቅ የተደረገበት የመገናኛ ብዙሃን ውሳኔው በተሰጠው በአምስት ቀናት ጊዜ ውስጥ ቅሬታውን ለቦርዱ ማቅረብ ይችላል።
2) በአንቀጽ 11 (3) መሰረት ጥያቄው ውድቅ የተደረገበት አመልካች የጊዜ ገደቡን ያሳለፈበት ከአቅም በላይ የሆነ ምክንያት እንዳለው ሲያስረዳእና ቦርዱ ሲያምንበት ፍቃድ የሚሰጠው ይሆናል።
3) ከላይ በንኡስ ቁጥር (2) ላይ የተደነገገው እንደተጠበቀ ሆኖ እውቅና ጥያቄ በማንኛውም መልኩ የድምፅ መስጫ ቀን አምስት ቀን ከቀረው በኋላ ተቀባይነት ሊኖረው አይችልም።
4) ቦርዱ ቅሬታውን ከአስፈላጊ ማስረጃዎች ጋር በማገናዘብ ቅሬታው ከቀረበለት ጊዜ ከአምስት ቀናት ባልበለጠ ጊዜ ውስጥ ምላሽ መስጠት አለበት።
5) ቦርዱ በአምስት ቀናት ጊዜ ውስጥ ምላሽ ካልሰጠ ወይም ቦርዱ በሰጠው ምላሽ ቅር የተሰኘ ሰው ቅሬታውን ቦርዱ መልስ መስጠት ከነበረበት ቀን ወይም ውሳኔው ከተሰጠበት ቀን ጀምሮ በአስር ቀናት ጊዜ ገደብ ውስጥ ለፌዴራል ከፍተኛ ፍርድ ቤት ማቅረብ ይችላል።

አንቀፅ 13 የመዘገብ ፈቃድ መታወቂያ ካርድ ስለመስጠት

1) ቦርዱ ፈቃድ ለሰጣቸው ጋዜጠኞች መታወቂያ ካርድ ያዘጋጃል፣ ይህንንም ለተቋሙ ወይም ለህጋዊ ወኪሉ እንዲሁም እንዳግባብነቱ ለጋዜጠኛው ለራሱ ይሰጣል።

2) የመታወቂያ ካርዱ የሚከተሉትን ነጥቦች የያዘ ይሆናል፣ ሀ.

የቦርዱ አርማ፣

ለ. ጋዜጠኛ የሚል ከቅርብ ርቀት ሊለይ የሚችል ቀለም ያለው ፅሁፍ ሐ.

የወከለውን ተቋም ስም፣ ፣

መ. የጋዜጠኛውን ስም እና ፎቶግራፍ ፣

ሠ. የቦርዱን ማህተም፣

ረ. መታወቂያው ፀንቶ የሚቆይበት ጊዜ፣ ሰ.

የመታወቂያ ቁጥር፣

ሸ. ፈቃዱን የሠጠው ኃላፊ ፊርማ እና፣

ቀ. የባለመታወቂያው ፊርማ።

3) ቦርዱ ለእያንዳንዱ ተቋም የሚሰጠውን የመታወቂያ ካርድ ቁጥር፣ በአመልካቶቹ ብዛት፣ በመገናኛ ብዙሃኑ የሽፋን መጠን፣ ስርጭት ቋንቋቸው እና በሌሎች ከምርጫ አፈጻጸምና ጸጥታ ጋር በተያያዙ ሁኔታዎች መሰረት አድርጎ ይወስናል።

ምዕራፍ
ሶስት

የመገናኛ ብዙሀንና የጋዜጠኞች መብቶች፣ ግዴታዎች እና ሃላፊነቶች

አንቀፅ 14 የምርጫ ሂደትን ለመዘገብ ፈቃድ የተሰጠው ጋዜጠኛ መብት

ማናቸውም ምርጫን ለመከታተል ፈቃድ የተሰጣቸው የመገናኛ ብዙሀን ወይም ጋዜጠኞች እንደአግባብነቱ የሚከተሉት መብቶች ይኖራቸዋል፣

1) ከጋዜጠኛው ያለቅድሚያ ማስታወቂያ መከታተል በሚፈልግበት ማንኛውም ምርጫ ጣቢያ እና ሂደት ምርጫን የመከታተልና የመዘገብ፤

2) ማንኛውም የምርጫ ሂደት ማለትም የመራጮች ምዝገባን፣ የእጩ ምዝገባን፣ የምርጫ ቅስቀሳን፣ የድምፅ አሰጣጥን፣ የቆጠራ ሂደትን እና የውጤት አገላለጽን የመከታተል እናየመዘገብ፤

3) ከመንግስት፣ ከቦርዱና ከሌላ ከማንኛውም ሰው ተፅእኖ ውጪ በገለልተኛነት ሥራውን የማከናወን፤

4) ከቦርዱና በየደረጃው ከሚገኙ የምርጫ አስፈፃሚ አካላት መረጃና ትብብር የማግኘት፤

5) በድምፅ ሰጪነት የሚመዘገቡትን፣ ድምፅ ሰጪዎችን ወይም የምርጫ አስፈፃሚዎችን ሥራ የሚያውክ ወይም የሚያደናቅፍ እስካልሆነ ድረስ በምርጫ ጣቢያው ውስጥ የመዘዋወር፣

6) በድምፅ ሰጪነት ለሚመዘገቡ፣ ለድምፅ ሰጪዎች፣ ለዕጩዎች ወኪሎች ወይም ለታዛቢዎች ከምርጫ ጣቢያው ውጭ ቃለመጠይቅ የማድረግ

አንቀፅ 15) የምርጫ ሂደትን ለመዘገብ ፈቃድ የተሰጠው ጋዜጠኛ ግዴታዎች

ማንኛውም ምርጫን ለመከታተል የእውቅና ካርድ የተሰጠው የመገናኛ ብዙሀን ወይም ጋዜጠኛ የሚከተሉትን ግዴታዎች ማክበር ይጠበቅበታል፤

1) የህዝብን ሰብአዊ መብትና መሠረታዊ ነፃነቶች ማክበር፣

2) የቦርዱን፣ የምርጫ አስፈፃሚዎችን፣ የፀጥታና ደህንነት እንደዚሁም የሌሎች የመንግስት አካላትን ሚና እና ስልጣን ማክበር፣

3) ለምርጫ አስፈፃሚዎች ስለ ኃላፊነታቸው ምክር ወይም መመሪያ አለመስጠት፣

4) መራጩ ድምፁን ለማን እንደሰጠ አለመጠየቅ፣

5) የህግ ጉዳዮችን በራስ አለመተርጎም እና የምርጫ ሂደትን የሚመለከት ህጋዊ ያልሆነ መረጃ ወይም መመሪያ አለማስተላለፍ፣

6) መራጭ በሚስጢር ድምፅ በሚሰጥበት ክፍል ወይም ለድምፅ መስጫ የተከለለ ቦታ ካሜራም ሆነ ሌላ የድምፅ ወይም የምስል መቅረጫ መሳሪያ አለመጠቀም፣

7) ከአድልዎና ከወገንተኝነት በፀዳ አኳኋን ተግባራትን ማከናወን፣

8) የሀገሪቱን እና የአካባቢውን ባህልና ልምድ ማክበር፣

9) በቦርዱ የተሰጠውን የመታወቂያ ካርድ በሚታይ መልኩ በመያዝ መንቀሳቀስ

10) የመራጭ ምዝገባ መረጃዎች በሰነድ ላይ ሲሰፍሩ ወይም መራጩ በድምፅ መስጫው ወረቀት ላይ የምርጫ ምልክት ሲያደርግ፣ በፊልም አለመቅረፅ ወይም ፎቶግራፍ አለማንሳት ፣

11) ግለሰቡ በግልፅ እየተቃወመው በምርጫ ጣቢያ ወይም ምርጫ ክልል ውስጥ ያሉ ምርጫ አስፈፃሚዎችን፣ ታዛቢዎችን እና የግል የእጩ ወኪሎችን ወይንም እጩዎችን በተንቀሳቃሽ ማንኛውም ሰው ፎቶ ወይም አለማድረግ እና፣

12) የመራጮች ማንነትን ግላዊነት በሚነካ አኳኋን የመራጮችን መዝገብ፣ የመራጮችን ምዝገባ መታወቂያ ወይም ማንኛውንም ተመሳሳይ ሰነድ በፊልም አለመቅረጽ፣ ፎቶግራፍ አለማንሳት ወይም ኮፒ አለማድረግ ናቸው።

አንቀፅ 16- የመገናኛ ብዙሀን በምርጫ ነክ ጉዳዮች ላይ ያለባቸው ግዴታዎች

1) የመንግስት መገናኛ ብዙሃን ሁሉም ተወዳዳሪ የፖለቲካ ፓርቲዎች አላማቸውን ለመራጭ ህዝቡ ለማቅረብ፣ ፍትሃዊ እድል እንዲያገኙ ማድረግ አለባቸው

2) መገናኛ ብዙሃን የሚያቀርቧቸው ከምርጫ ጋር የተያያዙ ዜናዎች፣ ዘገባዎች፣ ሪፖርቶች እና ወቅታዊ ፕሮግራሞች ማንኛውንም ፓርቲ ከመደገፍ ወይም ከማጥላላት የተቆጠቡ ከሕትመቱ ወይም ከፕሮግራሙ አዘጋጆች የግል አቋም የፀዱ ወቅታዊ፣ ገለልተኛ፣ ሚዛናዊና ትክክለኛ መሆን አለባቸው፣

3) የመገናኛ ብዙሃን በምርጫ ወቅት በሚሰሩት ስራ ሴቶችን ወይም ወንዶችን በሚሰጣቸው የተሳሳተ ባህላዊ እምነት ላይ የተመሰረተ ሚናቸውን የሚጠቁም መሆን የለበትም።

4) ማንኛውም ምርጫ ነክ ዘገባዎች ወይም ሪፖርቶች በትክክለኛ መረጃ ላይ የተመሰረቱ መሆን አለባቸው።

5) የመገናኛ ብዙሃን እና ጋዜጠኞች ከሚከተሉት አካላት የሚደርስባቸውን ቀጥተኛም ሆነ ቀጥተኛ ያልሆነ ጫና ማስወገድ አለባቸው፣

   ሀ/ የመገናኛ ብዙሀኑ ባለቤት፣

   ለ/ ከመንግስት፣

   ሐ/ ከማስታወቂያ ድርጅት፣

   መ/ ገንዘብ ወይም ድጋፍ ከሚሰጠው ሰው ወይም ከደንበኛው ወይም፣ ሠ/ ከሌላ ማንኛውም ድርጅት ወይም ሰው።

6) የመንግስት መገናኛ ብዙሃን በምርጫ ወቅት ለሚዘጋጁ የውይይትና የክርክር ፕሮግራሞች እንደዚሁም ለሚካሄዱ ቃለ ምልልሶች ተገቢውን የዜና ሽፋን መስጠት አለባቸው።

አንቀፅ 17 የመገናኛ ብዙሀንና የጋዜጠኞች የምርጫ ሂደትን የመከታተል እና የመዘገብ ሃላፊነቶች

1) ማንኛውም የመገናኛ ብዙሃን ወይም ጋዜጠኛ ተግባራቸውን ሲያከናውኑ ምርጫውን ከሚያደናቅፍ ማንኛውም ተግባር እንደዚሁም በምርጫው ሂደት ጣልቃ ከመግባት መቆጠብ አለባቸው።

2) ምርጫን የሚከታተሉ ጋዜጠኞች ወጪ የሚሸፈነው በራሳቸው ወይም በወከላቸው ተቋም ይሆናል። የቦርዱን ተሽከርካሪ ወይም ሌላ ሀብት የመጠቀም መብት የላቸውም።

3) ማንኛውም የመገናኛ ብዙሀን ተቋማት የወከሏቸው ጋዜጠኞች ተግባራቸውን ከመጀመራቸው በፊት፦

ሀ. ስለ ምርጫ ሂደቶች ፣

ለ. በምርጫ ህጐች እና አሠራሮች

ሐ. በዚህ የስነ-ምግባር መመሪያ ድንጋጌዎች ላይ

የተሟላ ስልጠና እንዲያገኙ እና በቂ ግንዛቤ እንዲኖራቸው ጥረት ማድረግ አለባቸው።

4) ማንኛውም ጋዜጠኛ የታዘበውን ጉዳይ ወይም ግድፈት በየደረጃው ለሚገኙ የምርጫ አስፈፃሚ አካላት በማቅረብ ማሳወቅ ይችላል።

5) ማንኛውም የእውቅና ካርድ የተሰጣቸው የመገናኛ ብዙሀን ወይም ጋዜጠኞች ከፍተኛ የሙያ ስነምግባር ሊኖራቸው ይገባል።

6) የመገናኛ ብዙሀን ተቋማት የወከሏቸው ጋዜጠኞች ይህንን የስነ-ምግባር መመሪያ አክብረው እንዲንቀሳቀሱ የማድረግ ኃላፊነት አለባቸው።

አንቀፅ 18 የእውቅና ካርድ ስለመሠረዝ ወይም ስለማገድ

ቦርዱ አንድ የመገናኛ ብዙሀን ወይም ጋዜጠኛ የምርጫ ሂደትን እንዲከታተል የተሰጠውን በኢትዮጵያ የምርጫ፣ የፖለቲካ ፓርቲዎች ምዝገባ እና ስነምግባር አዋጅ እና በዚህ መመሪያ የተደነገጉትን ግዴታዎች ወይም ሀላፊነቶች ጥሶ ሲገኝ ቦርዱ እስኪያጣራ ድረስ የሰጠውን ፈቃድ ሊያግድ ወይም ጥሰቱን ሲያረጋግጥ ሊሰርዝ ይችላል።

1) ቦርዱ ለመገናኛ ብዙሃን ወይም ለጋዜጠኛ የሰጠውን የእውቅና ካርድ ሲሰርዝ ወይም ሲያግድ ውሳኔውን የወሰደበትን ምክንያት በመጥቀስ ለሚመለከተው ጋዜጠኛ እና መገናኛ ብዙሃን በፅሁፍ ማሳወቅ አለበት።

2) የመገናኛ ብዙሀኑ ወይም ጋዜጠኛው ምርጫን እንዲዘግብ የተሰጠውን የእውቅና ፈቃድ በቦርዱ ከተሰረዘ የተሰጠውን የመዘገብ መታወቂያ ካርድ ወዲያውኑ ለቦርዱ መመለስ አለበት።

3) ቦርዱ እንደ አስፈላጊነቱ የእውቅና ፍቃዳቸው የተሰረዘባቸውን መገናኛ ብዙሃን ወይም ጋዜጠኞች ዝርዝር ለህዝብ እና ለምርጫ አስፈፃሚዎች ይፋ ማድረግ ይችላል፡፡

አንቀፅ 19 ስለምርጫ ነክ መልዕክቶችና የፓለቲካ ማስታወቂያ

1) ማንኛውም የመገናኛ ብዙሃን ወይም ጋዜጠኛ ለስርጭት የቀረበለትን የምርጫ ነክ መልዕክት ከስርጭቱ በፊትም ሆነ በኋላ ፓርቲውን ወይም የግል እጩ ተወዳዳሪውን ሳያማክር ምንም አይነት ማስተካከያ ማድረግ አይችልም፡፡

2) የመገናኛ ብዙሃኑ ከፓርቲው ቅድሚያ ፈቃድ አግኝቶ ያሰራጨውን የምርጫ ነክ መልእክት ፓርቲው ድጋሚ እንዳይተላልፍ ወይም ስርጭቱ እንዲቋረጥ የጠየቀው እንደሆነ በባለመልእክቱ ፓርቲ ጥያቄ መሰረት ወዲያውኑ ስርጭቱን ማቆም አለበት፡፡

3) ማንኛውም የፖለቲካ ማስታወቂያ በፕሮግራም ጣልቃ አይሠራጭም፡፡

4) ማናቸውም የፓለቲካ ማስታወቂያ ይዘት ህጋዊነትና ትክክለኛ ስለመሆኑ ፓርቲው ወይም እጨው ማረጋገጡን የሚገልጽ መሆን አለበት፡፡

5) ፍትሀዊ፣ ሚዛናዊ እና ከወገንተኝነትና ከአድልዎ የፀዳ ሁሉ አቀፍ የሆነ ትክክለኛ ሪፖርት ወይም ዘገባ ማቅረብ አለባቸው፡፡

6) የፓርቲዎችን እና የእጨ ተወዳዳሪዎችን አመለካከት በተቻለ መጠን በራሳቸው ቃላት የተነገረውን በቀጥታ ሪፖርት ማድረግ ወይም መዘገብ አለባቸው፡፡

7) የፖለቲካ ፓርቲን ወይም የእጨ ተወዳዳሪን መረጃ ሆን ብሎ ማዛባት፣ መደበቅ፣ እውነቱን ሀሰት ወይም ሀሰቱን እውነት አስመስሎ ማቅረብ የለባቸውም፡፡

8) የማንኛውንም ፓርቲ ወይም እጨ አርማ ወይም ሌላ መለያና መቀስቀሻ ምልክት አድርገው ስራቸውን ማከናወን የለባቸውም፡፡

9) የመገናኛ ብዙሀን ወይም ጋዜጠኞች በምርጫ ዘመቻ ወቅት በተለያዩ ፓርቲዎች መካከል ስለተፈጠረ አከራካሪ ጉዳይ ሲዘግቡ በማስረጃ ተደግፈው አድልዎን በማስወገድ የሁሉንም ወገን አቋም ባካተተ መልክ በሚዛናዊነት የቀረቡ መሆን አለባቸው፡፡

አንቀፅ 20 በምርጫ ሂደቶች ላይ ትምህርት እና ገለፃ ስለማስተላለፍ

መገናኛ ብዙሀን ቦርዱ በሚሰጠው መረጃ መሠረት ገለልተኛ በመሆን በሚከተሉት የምርጫ ሂደቶች ላይ ያተኮሩ ትክክለኛ የመራጮች ትምህርት ማስተላለፍ ይችላሉ፣

ሀ. የመራጮች ምዝገባ መቼ እንደሚካሄድ፣

ለ. መቼ፣ የት እና እንዴት ድምፅ እንደሚሰጥ፣ ሐ. ድምፅ አሰጣጥ ሂደቱ በሚስጥር እንደሚካሄድ፣

መ. መራጩ ህዝብ ከምርጫ ተሣትፎው ጋር በተያያዘ ከማንኛውም ተፅእኖ የተጠበቀ መሆኑን፣

ሠ. የድምፅ መስጠትን አስፈላጊነት፣ ረ. ስለተለያዩ አካላት ሚና እና

ሰ. በምርጫ ህጉ በተካተቱ ተመሳሳይ ጉዳዮች ላይ።

አንቀፅ 21 አካታችነት

ማናቸውም ጋዜጠኞች እና የመገናኛ ብዙሀን በሚያደርጓቸው የምርጫ ዘገባዎች፡-

1) በሴቶች፣ አካል ጉዳተኞች፣ አረጋውያን እና ሌሎች እኩል ተጠቃሚ ያልሆኑ የህብረተሰቡ ክፍሎች ላይ አድሏዊ የሆነ ወይም የጥላቻ እና የእምነት ማጣት አመለካከትን ለሚፈጥሩ ወይም ለሚያንፀባርቁ መረጃዎች ሽፋን መስጠት የለባቸውም።

2) ከላይ በንኡስ አንቀፅ (1) ላይ የተዘረዘሩ የህብረተሰብ ክፍሎች በምርጫ ወቅት ማሳተፍ የሚኖረውን ጠቀሜታ በማስተማርና የህዝቡን ግንዛቤ በማሳደግ የዚህን ማህበረሰብ ክፍል የሚወክሉ እጩ ተወዳዳሪዎችን ማስተዋወቅ እና ማበረታታት አለባቸው።

አንቀፅ 22 ስለክፍያ

1) የቦርዱ ማንኛውም የምርጫ መረጃ፣ ትምህርት ወይም ማስታወቂያ እና ፕሮግራም በመገናኛ ብዙሀን ይተላለፋል። የመንግስት መገናኛ ብዙሃን መልእክቶቹን በነፃ የማስተላለፍ ግዴታ አለባቸው። መልእክቱ የሚተላለፈው በግል የመገኛኛ ብዙሃን ከሆነ እንደየሁኔታው በነፃ ወይም በክፍያ ይተላለፋል። በነፃ የሚመደበውን የአየር ሰአት ወይም የጋዜጣ አምድ ቦርዱ ከብሮድካስት ባለስልጣን ጋር በመመካከር ይወስናል።

2) የመገናኛ ብዙሀኑ ከማንኛውም ፖለቲካ ፓርቲ ወይም እጩ ተወዳዳሪ ለተመሳሳይ ጊዜ ወይም የሽፋን አይነት የሚጠይቁት የማስታወቂያ ክፍያ መጠን እኩል መሆን አለበት፡፡

3) ማናቸውም የመገናኛ ብዙሀን የፖለቲካ ማስታወቂያ ያለ ክፍያ ማስተናገድ አይችሉም፡፡

4) ለፖለቲካ ማስታወቂያ የሚጠየቀው ክፍያ ለንግድ ክፍያ ከሚጠየቀው ክፍያ መብለጥ የለበትም፡፡

አንቀፅ 23 የምርጫ ቅስቀሳን ማስተናገድ ወይም ማስተላለፍ የማይፈቀድበት ወቅት

ማናቸውም የመገናኛ ብዙሀን እና ጋዜጠኛ ድምፅ የሚሰጥበት ቀን አራት ቀን ከቀረው በኋላ የእጩ ተወዳዳሪ ወይም የፖለቲካ ድርጅት የምርጫ ቅስቀሳን ማተም ወይም ማሰራጨት ወይም መዘገብ የለበትም፡፡

አንቀፅ 24 ምርጫ ትንበያ እና ውጤት

ማናቸውም የመገናኛ ብዙሃን ወይም ጋዜጠኛ የምርጫ ውጤት ትንበያ ማድረግ አይችልም፡፡ ነገር ግን በምርጫ ጣቢያ እንዲሁም በምርጫ ክልል ደረጃ ውጤቶች ይፋ ስለሆኑ ውጤቶች ዘገባ መስራት ይችላሉ፡፡

አንቀፅ 25 ስጦታ መቀበል የተከለከለ ስለመሆኑ

1) ማንኛውም ጋዜጠኛ ወይም የመገናኛ ብዙሀን ሀ.

በጉቦ፣

ለ. በስጦታ፣

ሐ. በጥቅማጥቅም

መ. በማንኛውም ሁኔታ በመደለል የምርጫ ዘገባ ወይም ሪፖርት ማቅረብ የለበትም፡፡ ሠ. ማንኛውም ጋዜጠኛ ወይም የመገናኛ ብዙሀን ትራንስፖርትም ሆነ ሌላ ምንም

አይነት መደለያ ከፓርቲዎች፣ ከፖለቲከኞች ወይም ከእጩዎች መቀበል የለባቸውም፡፡

አንቀፅ 26 ጥቅም ግጭትን ማስወገድ

ማንኛውም የመገናኛ ብዙሃን ወይም ጋዜጠኛ የምርጫ ዘገባ በሚሰራበት ወቅት የጥቅም ግጭትን ማስወገድ አለበት።

አንቀፅ 27 ስለፖለቲካ ፓርቲዎች እና እጩ ተወዳዳሪዎች ኃላፊነት

ማናቸውም የፖለቲካ ፓርቲ ወይም እጩ ተወዳዳሪ፣

1) የመገናኛ ብዙሀን ነፃነት ማክበር አለበት

2) ጋዜጠኞችን ማዋከብ፣ ሙያዊ ተግባራቸውን ማደናቀፍ ወይም ማወክ የለበትም።

3) የያዘውን የስራ ኃላፊነት ወይም ስልጣን ተጠቅመው ፍትሀዊ ያልሆነ የመገናኛ ብዙሀን ተጠቃሚ ከመሆን መቆጠብ አለበት።

4) ለመገናኛ ብዙሀንም ሆነ ለጋዜጠኛ ምንም አይነት ስጦታ፣ ጉቦ ወይም የተስፋ ቃል መስጠት የለበትም።

5) የሌላ ፓርቲን ወይም እጩን አስመልክቶ የተገለፀ አቋምን እና መረጃዎችን አዛብቶ ማቅረብ የለበትም።

6) መገናኛ ብዙሃን በምርጫው ሂደት ተገቢ ሚናቸውን እንዲጫወቱ አስፈላጊውን ትብብር ማድረግ አለበት፤

7) ወኪሎቹ ወይም ደጋፊዎቹ በጋዜጠኞች ላይ ጥቃት፣ ማስፈራራት፣ አደጋ፣ ጫና እና ድብደባ እንዳያደርሱ ተገቢውን እርምጃ መውሰድ አለበት።

8) በምርጫ ዘመቻ ወቅት መቻቻልና ነፃ ክርክር እንዲረጋገጥ ተገቢውን ሁሉ ማድረግ ይጠበቅበታል።

አንቀፅ 28 ስለ ምርጫ አስፈፃሚ አካል ኃላፊነት

1) ቦርዱ፦

ሀ. የመገናኛ ብዙሃን፣ የጋዜጠኞች፣ የፓርቲዎችን እና የእጩ ተወዳዳሪዎች የመናገር ነፃነት ማክበር እና በህግ መሠረት ስራዎቹን ለመገናኛ ብዙሀን ተደራሽ ማድረግ አለበት። ለ. መረጃ እና የእውቅና መታወቂያ በመስጠት ረገድ በመገናኛ ብዙሀን መካከል ልዩነት መፍጠር የለበትም።

2) ምርጫ ጣቢያ አስፈፃሚዎች ስራው ሳይረበሽ ሊያስተናግዱ የሚችሉትን የጋዜጠኛ ቁጥር ታሳቢ በማድረግ በአንድ የተወሰነ ጊዜ ጣቢያው ውስጥ ሊገኙ የሚገቡ የመገናኛ ብዙሃን ቁጥር ወይም ጋዜጠኞች ቁጥር ሊወስኑ እና የመስተናገድ ተራ ሊያወጡ ይችላል፡፡

3) ቦርዱ አቅም በፈቀደው እና በህግ መሠረት ትብብር ማድረግ እና በየደረጃው የሚገኙ የምርጫ አስፈፃሚ አካላትም ተገቢውን ትብብር እንዲያደርጉ ማድረግ አለበት፡፡

4) የምርጫ ጣቢያ ምርጫ አስፈፃሚዎች ሃላፊ ከመረጃ ጋር ለተያያዙ አጠቃላይ ጥያቄዎች ምላሽ ሊሰጥ ይችላል፤ ሆኖም በመረጃው ላይ ትንታኔና አስተያየት ማቅረብ ወይም መስጠት የለበትም፡፡

5) የምርጫ ጣቢያ ምርጫ አስፈፃሚች ከዚህ በታች የተዘረዘሩትን እና ሌሎች ተመሳሳይ አጠቃላይ የመረጃ ጥያቄዎች ላይ ምላሽ ሊሰጡ ይችላሉ፣ ቃለመጠይቅ ማድረግ ግን አይፈቀድላቸውም፡፡

ሀ. የመራጮችን ምዝገባ፣ የመራጮችን መዝገብ ለሕዝብ ክፍት ማድረግና የድምፅ አሰጣጡን ሥነ ሥርዓት፤

ለ. በምርጫ ጣቢያው የተመዘገበውን እና ድምፅ የሰጠውን ሕዝብ ብዛት፤ ሐ. የምርጫ አስፈፃሚዎችን ተግባራትና የተሰጣቸውን ሥልጠና እና መ. በሥራ ላይ ያሉ የሥነ ምግባር መመሪያዎችንና የአሠራር ደንቦችን በተመለከተ ሊሆን ይችላል፡፡

6) የምርጫ ጣቢያ ኃላፊዎች ከዚህ በታች ያሉትን እና የመሳሰሉ ትንታኔዎችን ወይም አስተያየቶችን መስጠት አይኖርባቸውም፣

ሀ. የምርጫውን አጠቃላይ ውጤት፤ በምርጫ ጣቢያ፣ በምርጫ ክልል ወይም በክልል ደረጃ በታየው ውጤት ላይ ተመስርቶ መተንበይ፤

ለ. ድምፅ አሰጣጡ ስለሚያመላክተው አዝማሚያ ወይም ከድምፅ አሰጣጡ ስለሚጠበቀው ውጤት አስተያየት መስጠት፤

ሐ. ስለፖለቲካ ፓርቲዎች፣ ስለዕጩዎች ወይም ስለምርጫው የፖለቲካ ሃሳብ መሰንዘር፤ መ. በፖሊሲ ጉዳዮች ላይ፣ ተገቢው ሥርዓት ስለመከበሩ አስተያየት መስጠትን፤ በሌሎች አከራካሪ ጉዳዮች ላይ ግምታዊ አስተያየት መስጠት ወይም ማቅረብ እና

ሠ. አሉባልታዎችን በተመለከተ አስተያየት መስጠት የለባቸውም፡፡

7) የምርጫ ክልል ምርጫ አስፈጻሚዎች ወይም የክልል ቅርንጫፍ ጽ/ቤት ሃላፊዎች በዚህ አንቀጽ ንኡስ አንቀጽ (4)፣ (5) እና (6) ስር የተመለከቱትን ግዴታዎች ማክበር አለባቸው::

አንቀፅ 27 ስለ መመሪያ መጣስ

ክፍል አምስት ልዩ ልዩ ድንጋጌዎች

ማንኛውም መገናኛ ብዙሃን ወይም ጋዜጠኛ የዚህ መመሪያ ድንጋጌዎች ተላልፎ ሲገኝ ቦርዱ ከሚመለከተው አካል ጋር በትብብር በመስራት አስፈላጊውን የእርምት እርምጃ እንዲወሰድ ሊያደርግ ይችላል፡፡

አንቀፅ 28 የተሻሩ መመሪያዎች

ይህንን መመሪያ የሚቃረን ማንኛውም መመሪያ እና ልማዳዊ አሰራር በዚህ መመሪያ በተሸፈኑ ጉዳዮች ላይ ተፈፃሚነት አይኖረውም፡፡

አንቀፅ 29 መመሪያው የሚፀናበት ጊዜ

ይህ መመሪያ ቦርዱ ካፀደቀበት ጥቅምት 18 ቀን 2013 ዓ.ም ጀምሮ የፀና ይሆናል፡፡

ብርቱካን ሚደቅሳ

የኢትዮጵያ ብሔራዊ ምርጫ ቦርድ

ሰብሳቢ

የኢትዮጵያ ብሔራዊ ምርጫ ቦርድ

የሚዲያ ግንኙነት አጭር መግለጫ

መግቢያ

የኢትዮጵያ ብሔራዊ ምርጫ ቦርድ መረጃን ለመራጮች እና ለሚመለከታቸው አካላት ለማድረስ፣ ግልጽነትን ለማሻሻል በዚያውም ድርጅታዊ ተጠያቂነትን ለማረጋገጥ ከሚዲያ ጋር የሚደረጉ ግንኙነቶችን ማጠናከር እንዳለበት ያምናል። ቦርዱ መረጃዎችን ለማስተላለፍ ከሚጠቀማቸው የራሱ የማኅበራዊ ሚዲያ ገጾች እና ድኅረ-ገጽ በተጨማሪ የሚመጡለት ጥያቄዎችን መመለስ፣ በተከታታይ የሚነሱ እና ግርታ የሚፈጠርባቸውን አሠራሮች ለማስረዳት ከሚዲያዎች ጋር ግንኙነቶችን ያከናውናል።

ከቦርዱ መረጃ የሚገኝባቸው መንገዶች

የቦርዱ ድኅረ-ገጽ- የመገናኛ ብዙኃን መረጃ በሚፈልጉበት ወቅት የቦርዱን ድኅረ- ገጽ በመጎብኘት በቀላሉ መረጃዎችን ማግኘት ይችላሉ፤ ቆይተው የወጡ መግለጫዎች፣ ከዚህ በፊት ይፋ የሆኑ መረጃዎች በቦርዱ ድኅረ-ገጽ ላይ በተለያዩ ክፍሎች ይገኛሉ። ሁሉንም ክፍሎች በመፈተሽ መረጃዎችን ማጠናቀር ይቻላል።

የቦርዱ ማኅበራዊ ሚዲያ ገጾች - ለፈጣን መረጃዎች የቦርዱ ማኅበራዊ ሚዲያ ገጾች መረጃዎችን ይሰጣሉ። ገጾቹን ሰብስክራይብ በማድረግ መረጃዎችን በፈጣን መንገድ ማግኘት ይቻላል። በማኅበራዊ ሚዲያ ላይ የሚወጡ መግለጫዎች በአብዛኛው አጭር እና ግልጽ ሲሆኑ ለተጨማሪ የማብራሪያ ጥያቄ የሚዲያ ግንኙነት ስልክ ላይ በመደወል ማብራሪያ መጠየቅ ይቻላል። በቦርዱ አፊሻል ገጾች የሚወጡ መረጃዎች አፊሻል በመሆናቸው ያለተጨማሪ ማረጋገጫ መረጃ ለማንኛውም አገልግሎት ማዋል ይቻላል።

መረጃዎችን በመጠየቅ- ቦርዱ ማንኛውንም የመገናኛ ብዙኃን ዕውቅና ያላቸው ተቋማት የመረጃ ጥያቄዎችን ለማስተናገድ ይሞክራል። በዚህም መሠረት በስልክ ወይም በኢ-ሜል መረጃዎችን መጠየቅ ይቻላል። ከፍተኛ መረጃ ፈላጊዎች በመኖራቸው የተነሣ ስልክ ለማግኘት ያስቸገረው ማንኛውም አካል የሚጠይቀውን ጉዳይ እና ሚዲያውን ጠቅሶ አጭር የስልክ መልዕክት ወይም በኢ-ሜል

media@nebe.org.et ላይ መላክ ይችላል። የኮምኒኬሽን የሥራ ክፍሉ በጽሑፍ ወይም በተመቸ በሌላ አማራጮች መረጃውን የሚሰጥ ይሆናል።

የሚዲያዎች ግብጥ- ብሔራዊ ምርጫ ቦርድ የተለያዩ ሁነቶችን በሚያከናውንበት ወቅት በሁነቱ ውስጥ እንዳለው ቦታ እና ምቹነት በልዩ ሁኔታ ሚዲያዎችን ይጋብዛል። እነዚህ ሚዲያዎች ከሚከተሉት በአንዱ ወይም በብዙ መሥፈርቶች የተነሣ የሚጋበዙ ሲሆኑ ካለው የኃብት (የቦታ፣ የአዳረሽ... የመሳሰሉት) ዕጥረት የተነሣ ሁሉም ሚዲያዎች የሚጋበዙበት አይሆንም፤ ነገር ግን ቦርዱ በተወሠነ ጊዜ የሚጋበዙ ሚዲያዎችን ቁጥር እና ሽፋን እያየ ተከታታይ ለውጦችን ያደርጋል።

ሚዲያዎች ሲጋበዙ-

- ሕጋዊ ምዝገባ ያላቸው መሆኑን፣
- ከፍተኛ ሽፋን ያላቸው መሆኑን፣
- ከፍተኛ ተደራሽነት ያላቸው መሆኑን፣
- የዜና ሽፋን በሚሰጡበት ወቅት በትክክል እና በፍትሐዊ መልኩ መዘገባቸውን፣

- ለምርጫ እና ፓለቲካ ፓርቲዎች ዜናዎች በቋሚነት የሚዘግቡ እና እንደ ተዓማኒ የመረጃ ምንጭነት የሚቆጠሩ መሆኑን፣

- በተከታታይ በቦርዱ ተጋብዘው ሽፋን እንዲሰጡ በሚጠየቁበት ወቅት ሽፋን የሚሰጡ መሆናቸውን ከግምት ውስጥ የሚያስገባ ሲሆን፤ በየጊዜው የሚጋበዙ ሚዲያዎችን ዝርዝር በመከለስ በተቻለ መጠን ብዙ ሚዲያዎች እንዲጋበዙ ጥረት ያደርጋል። ከዚህም በተጨማሪ የቋንቋ ሽፋን፣ የሚዲያ ዓይነት (ሬዲዮ፣ ቲቪ፣ የኅትመት እና ኢንተርኔት ሚዲያ ወዘተን) ለማመጣጠን ከፍተኛ ጥረት ይደረጋል።

- ሚዲያዎች ምንም እንኳን በቦርዱ ሁነት ላይ ባይገኙም መረጃዎችን ለማግኘት በስልክ አድራሻ - በጥሪ ወይም በአጭር የስልክ መልዕክት - +251905053051 በኢሜይል- media@nebe.org.et መረጃዎችን ማግኘት ይችላሉ።

ከላይ የተጠቀሰው እንዳለ ሆኖ ቦርዱ በሚሰጣቸው ጋዜጣዊ መግለጫዎች ማንኛውምየኢትዮጵያ መገናኛ ብዙኃን ባለሥልጣን ዕውቅና ያለው ሚዲያ መሣተፍ የሚችል ሲሆን፤ የጋዜጣዊ መግለጫዎችን ጥሪ እና የቦርዱ ዋና ዋና ውሣኔዎች በኢ-ሜል እንዲደርሰው የሚፈልግ የሚዲያ ተቋም የኢ-ሜል አድራሻውን ለቦርዱ የኮሚኒኬሽን ክፍል በመላክ ወደ ቦርዱ የሚዲያ ኢ-ሜል ቋት ውስጥ በመመዝገብ መረጃዎችን ማግኘት ይችላል።

አንዳንድ መረጃዎች የቦርዱን መሰብሰብ ውሣኔ መስጠት እና መመርመር የሚጠይቁ በሚሆኑበት

ወቅት አስተያየት መስጠት አስቸጋሪ ስለሚሆን፣ ሚዲያዎች የሥራ ሂደቱ ተጠናቆ ውሣኔ ላይ አለመደረሱ ሲገለጽ በትዕግሥት የሥራውን መጠናቀቅ እንዲጠብቁ እንጠይቃለን።

የቦርዱ ሰብሳቢን ወይም ሌላ የቦርድ አባል ቃለ መጠይቅ ለማድረግ - በኢ-ሜል ወይም በጽሑፍ የቃለ-መጠይቁን ዓላማ እና የሚያተኩርበትን ጉዳይ በመጥቀስ ጥያቄ ማቅረብ ይቻላል። ቀጠሮ ለመያዝ በቂ ጊዜ በሚሰጥ ሁኔታ ጥያቄውን ማቅረብ አስፈላጊ ነው።

የኢትዮጵያ ብሔራዊ ምርጫ ቦርድ የኮምኒኬሽን የሥራ ክፍል

ከ6ተኛ ጠቅላላ ምርጫን ለመዘገብ ጥያቄ ለሚያቀርቡ የመገናኛ ብዙሃን የማመልከቻ ቅፅ የተወሰደ ሞዴል

Media Accreditation form

1. በህግ የተመዘገበ የተቋሙ ስም _____

   Legally registered name of the media organization: _____ 2. ተቋሙ

_____(የተሰጠው ፍቃድ ቅጂ ይያያዛል)

Reference number for the registration license granted by the Ethiopian Broadcast Authority:_____(Please attach a copy of the permit)

3. የሚዲያው አይነት

ህትመት ☐

Print media ☐

ብሮድካስት ☐

Broadcast media

☐

ኢንተርኔት ☐

Online media ☐

4. የተቋሙ አድራሻ:- _____ Address: _____

ሀ. ክልል _____

Region _____

ለ. ክ/ከተማ ወይም ዞን _____

Sub city or zone _____

ሐ. ወረዳ_____

District _____

መ. የ.ቤት/የቢሮ ቁጥር _____

Office/ House number _____

ሠ. ስልክ ቁጥር _____

Telephone number _____

ረ. ኢሜይል (ለእውቅና ምላሾች አገልግሎት የሚውል) _____

Email (for accreditation process correspondence) _____

ሰ. ዲጂታል መረጃዎች (ድረገጽ፣ ማህበራዊ ሚዲያ፣ የሚዲያው ማህበራዊ ገጾች)

_____

Digital information (website, social media accounts of the media organization)

_____

5. ተቋሙ መከታተል የሚፈልገው የምርጫ ሂደት ወይም አይነት (ከሚመርጡት ሂደት አጠገብ ምልክት ያድርጉ፣ ከአንድ በላይ ከሆነም ምልክት ያድርጉ)

Election process the media organization wants to cover (mark in front of the process you chose, please mark all if the process is more than one)

የእጩዎች ምዝገባ ☐

Candidate registration ☐

የመራጮች ምዝገባ ☐

Voter registration ☐

የድምጽ አሰጣጥ እና ቆጠራ ☐

Polling and counting ☐

ውጤት ድመራ እና ውጤት ገለጻ ☐

Result tally and announcement ☐

6ተኛ አገራዊ ምርጫን የተመለከቱ የቦርዱ መግለጫዎች ☐

NEBE press conference on 6th National election ☐

6. ተቋሙ የሚሸፍነው አካባቢ:-

Area the media organization wants to cover

ክልል _____

Region _____

ከተማ መስተዳድር _____

City/ town _____

ዞን _____

Zone _____

ወረዳ _____

Woreda _____

ሌላ _____

Other _____

7. ምርጫውን የሚከታተሉለት ጋዜጠኞች ቁጥር (ስም ዝርዝራቸው እና መታወቂያቸው ኮፒ በሚከተለው ቅጽ ላይ መያያዝ ይኖበታል) _____

Number of journalists requested to be accredited (Names and copy of their photo ID or passport should be presented) _____

8. ለጋዜጠኞች ቡድን፣ ቡድኑን የሚመራው ጋዜጠኛ ስም እና አድራሻ (ካለ)

For a team of journalists, name and address of the team leader

ስም_____

Name_____

ሃላፊነት_____

Responsibility _____

ስልክ_____

Phone_____ ኢሜይል_____ Email _____

9. ለውጪ ሚዲያ ብቻ / Foreign Media only

9.1 ከተመዘገቡበት አገር የተገኘ ዋና ፍቃድ ቁጥር (ቅጂው ይያያዝ)

Copy of registration/ License from country of origin (attach copy)

8.2 አገር ውስጥ የሚገቡበት ወይም የገቡበት ቀን እና የቆይታ ጊዜ

Date of arrival to Ethiopia and duration of stay

እውቅና እንዲሰጣቸው የተጠየቁ ጋዜጠኞች ስም ዝርዝር

List of Journalists to be accredited

የሚዲያ ተቋም ስም፦

Media's name:

ስ/ቁ S/N	ስም Name	ኃላፊነት Responsibility	ስልክ ቁ. (የዋትሳፕ እና ቴሌግራም ቁጥር ጨምሮ) Telephone number (including WhatsApp	ኢሜይል Email

የኢትዮጲያ ምርጫ፤ የጋዜጠኞች የደህንነትመርጃ መረጃ

ይህንን የምርጫ የጥንቃቄ ኪት ምርጫውን ለሚዘግቡ ጋዜጠኞች አጠናቅሯል። ኪቱም ለአዘጋጆች፣ ለሪፖርተሮች እና ለፎቶ ጋዜጠኞች ስለ ጠቅላላው የምርጫ ኡድት እንዴት መዘጋጀት እንዳለባቸው እና አካላዊና ዲጅታል ስጋቶችን እንዴት መቀንስ እንደሚችሉ መረጃ ይሰጣል።

ማውጫ

- ግንኙነቶችና ግብአቶች/ምንጮች
- አካላዊ ደህንነት፤ ጠቀላላ የደህንነት ምክር
- አካላዊ ደህንነት፤ ከፖለቲካዊ ስብሰባዎች እና ህዝብ ከተሰበሰበባቸው ዝግጅቶች ሪፖርት ማድረግ
- አካላዊ ደህንነት፤ ሕዝባዊ አመፅ ባለባቸው እና ሩቅ ስፍራዎች ውስጥ መሥራት
- አካላዊ ደህንነት፤ ከምርጫ ጋር በተያያዘ ከሚነሱ የተቃውሞ ቦታዎች ሪፖርት ማድረግ
- አካላዊ ደህንነት፤ ከነውጠኛ ማህበረሰብ መሀል ሆኖ ሪፖርት ማድረግ
- አካላዊ ደህንነት፤ ኮቪድ-19ን ከግምት ውስጥ ማስገባት

- የዲጂታል ደህንነት፤ አጠቅላላ ምርጥ ተሞክሮዎች
- የዲጅታል ደህነነት፤ መሳሪያዎችዎን ለፖለቲካዊ የድጋፍ ሰልፍ ማዘጋጀት
- የዲጂታል ደህንነት፤ ለግንኙነት መቋረጥ መዘጋጀት
- የዲጅታል ደህንነት፤ እራስን ከማስገር (Phishing) ስለመከላከል
- የዲጂታል ጥንቃቄ፤ የመስመር ላይ ጥቃት እና የተሳሳተ መረጃ ዘመቻዎች
- ማጠቃላያ፤የአዘጋጆች የደህንነት ማረጋገጫ ዝርዝር

ግንኙነቶችና ግብአቶች/ምንጮች

ኢትዮጵያ ውስጥ እርዳታ የሚያስፈልጋቸው ጋዜጠኞች እርዳታውን በሚከተሉት የኢሜል አድራሻዎች ማግኘት ይችላሉ፤ የአደጋ ጊዜ ፕሮግራም በኢሜል አድራሻ፤.....
ወይም በሲፒጄ የአፍሪካ ፕሮግራም በኢሜል አድራሻ፤.....

አካላዊ ደህንነት፤ ጠቅላላ የደህንነት ምክር

- ስለ አካባቢው ታሪካዊና ወቅታዊ ህዝባዊ አመጾች/ አስከፊ ግጭቶች ጥናት ያድርጉ። ግጭቱ፣ ልክ በአማራ ክልላዊ መንግስት፣ በኦሮሞ ልዩ ዞን እንደታየው አይነት ዘግናኝ ከሆነ፣ እቦታው ሊያጋጥመዎት ከሚቸለው አደጋ አንጻር ዜናውን በመስራት ሊገኝ የሚችለውን ጠቀሜታ ያመዛዝኑት።
- ብሄረዎ፣ አብራዋቸው የሚሰሩት ሰዎች ብሄር ወይም የሚሰሩበት የዜና ወኪል ወገንተኝነት፣ በአካባቢው ሰዎች ወይንም ለስራ በተሰማሩበት ክልል ውስጥ ያሉ ባለስልጣናት የጥቃት ኢላማ ሊሆነ እንደሚችሉ ግምት ውስጥ ያስግቡ።
- ወደ አካባቢ አሽከርክረው መሄድ ካለበዎት፣ በመንገደዎ በሚያገኟቸው ቦታዋች የጸጥታ ችግር ወይንም ብጥብጥ ተከስቶ እንደነበረ ያጣሩ። ለምሳሌ፤ ኤ2 የተባለው አውራ ጎዳና የሚያልፈው በጠብ መነሻነቷ በምትታወቀው፣ አጣየ በኩል ነው። በዛ በኩል ማሽከርከር በጣም አስጊ ከመሰለዎት እና የሚቻል ከሆነ፣ የአውሮፕላን ጉዞን እንደ አንድ አማራጭ ይወሰዱ።
- በአውሮፕላን የሚጓዙ ጋዜጠኞች፣ ባገር ውስጥ በረራ ሳይቀር፣ ከባድ ፍተሻ ሊያጋጥማቸው እንደሚችል ማዎቅና ለዚህም መዘጋጀት ይኖርባቻዋል። ሰለሆነም፣ ሁሌም የሙያ ብቃት ማረጋገጫ ሰነዶቻቸውን እና የፈቃድ ወረቀቶቻቸውን ከእጃቸው መለየት የለባቸውም። ለምሳሌ፣ በ2011 ዓ.ም መስከረም ወር ላይ፣ የፌደራል መንግስቱ፣ ህገ ወጥ ያለውን ምርጫ ለመዘገብ የፈለገ አንድ የጋዜጠኛ ቡድን ከአዲስ አባባ ወደ መቀሌ እንዳይበር ታግዶ ነበር።
- ጋዜጠኞች ለሲፒጄ እንደነገሩት፣ ባለስልጣናቱ ግንኙነትን ሙሉ በሙሉ ማቋረጥን፣ 'እንደ አንድ የማስናከያ' መንገድ በመጠቀም፣ ስራ ላይ ግልፅ አደጋ በመፍጠር፣ ቦታው ላይ የዘገባ ተግዳሮት

እንዲኖር ያደርጋሉ። እንዲህ አይነት ሁኔታ ሲያጋጥመዎት፣ እንዴት ግንኙነት ማድረግ እንዳለብዎትና እየተደረጉ ስላሉ ነገሮች እንዴት ማዎቅ እንዳለበዎት ያስቡበት።

- የኢትዮጵያ ህግ ፈቃድ ያልተሰጠባቸውን የመገናኛ መሳሪያዎችን መጠቀም እንደ ወንጀል ስለሚቆጥር፣ መሳሪያዎቹ ላይ ባለስልጣናቱ ክትትል ሊያደርጉባቸው ይችላሉ፤ በመሆኑም፣ ኢትዮጲያ የሳተላይት ስልኮች ወደ ሀገር ውስጥ እንዳይግቡ ገደብ ጥላለች። ምንም እንኳን የሳተላይት ስልኮችን ወደ ሀገሪቱ ለማስገባት የሚያስችል ፈቃድ ማግኘት አስቸጋሪ ቢሆንም፣ የሙያ ብቃት ማረጋገጫ ፈቃድ ሲያወጡ፣ ጋዜጠኞች ስለሚጠቀሙበት መሳሪያ ከጉዟቸው በፊት የፈቃድ ወረቀት ማግኘት ግድ ይላቸዋል።

- በተለይ በርጥበታማ እና በተራራማ አካባቢ የሚገኙ ትናንሽና ከመንገድ ገባ የሚሉ የኢትዮጵያ መንገዶች አዳጋች እና አደገኛ ሊሆኑ ይችላሉ። በእንደነዚህ አይነት መንጎዶች መጓዝ ካለበዎት፣ ከመሬት ከፍ ያሉ አስተማማኝ የኪራይ፤ ጎብዝ ሾፌር ይቅጠሩ።

- አንዳንድ የኢትዮጵያ ቦታዎች የሚገኙት ከባህር ወለል 2,500 ሜትር (8,200 ጫማ) በላይ ነው። ወደ እነዚህ ቦታዎች መሄድ ካላበዎት፣ እራሰዎን ከአየሩ ጠባይ ጋር ለማላመድ በቂ ጊዜ ይውሰዱ፤ በቂ ውኃ ይጠጡ፤ አይጣደፉ።

- ለአዳር ሆቴል ለመያዝ ካሰቡ፣ አንዳንድ ሆቴሎች በእጅ ቦንብ እና በፈንጅ ጥቃት ደርሶባቸው እንደነበር ልብ ይበሉ። የዚህ አይነት ጥቃት ከደረሰባቸው መካከል፣ የሚከተሉት ይገኙበታል፤ ግራንድ ሆቴል ሪዞርት (ባህር ዳር)፤ ሶቄል ሆቴል (ነቀምቴ) እና ፍሎሪዳ ኢንተርናሽናል ሆቴል (ጎንደር)። ስለዚህ፣ ስለሚይዙት ሆቴል የፀጥታ ሁኔታ፣ በማን ባለቤትነት እንደሚተደደር እና የጥቃት ኢላማ የመሆን ዕድሉ እስከምን ድረስ እንደሆነ ያጣሩ (ለምሳሌ፣ አማራ ክልል ውስጥ ያንድ የትግሬ ሆቴል የመጠቃቱ ዕድል ከፍተኛ ነው።)

- በአንድ ሁነት ወስጥ ማን ሊገኝ እንደሚችል እና ያ ሰው እንዲሚመጣ በመነገሩ ምክንያት ምን አይነት ሁከት ሊከሰት እንደሚችል ወይንም የትኞቹ የአካባቢ/ የክልል ጉዳዮች አለመረጋጋግት ሊያስነሱ እንደሚችሉ ያጣሩ። ብጥብጥ፣ ያለ በቂ ማስጠንቀቂያ፣ በመላው ኢትዮጵያ፣ ሊከሰት፣ ሊባባስ እና ሊዛመት እንደሚችል ልብ ይበሉ።

- ተገቢውን የሙያ ብቃት ማረጋገጫ እና የጋዜጠኝነት ፈቃድ ማግኘተዎን ያረጋግጡ፤
    - የውጭ ሀገር ዜጋ ከሆኑ፣ ስለ መግቢያ ቪዛ የሚመለከተውን ኤምባሲ/ የቆንስላ መሥሪያ ቤት፣ የፈቃድ ወረቀተዎን እና ይዘዋቸው ሊግቡ ስለአሰቧቸው መሳሪያዎች ደግሞ የኢትዮጵያ መገናኛ ብዙሃን ባለሰልጣንን ያማክሩ።
    - የኢትዮጵያ ብሔራዊ ምርጫ ቦርድም ተጨማሪ የሙያ ብቃት ማረጋገጫ ለሀገር ውስጥ እና ለዓለም-አቀፍ ጋዜጠኞች ይሰጣል።
    - የሚዲያ ሠራተኞች፣ ወደ አንዳንድ የሀገሪቱ ክፍሎች ለመሄድ፣ ከክልልና ከፌደራል ባለስልጣናት ተጨማሪ ሰነዶች ማግኘት ሊያስፈልጋቸው ይችላል።
    - ለውጭ ሀገር ጋዜጠኞች፣ የሙያ ብቃት ማረጋገጫን ለማግኘት ረዘም ያለ ጊዜ ሊወስድ ይችላል--በግንቦት ወር መጀመሪያ ላይ ሲፒጄ ያነጋገራቸው ጋዜጠኞች እንደሚሉት፣ ወደ ኢትዮጵያ ለመግባት የሚያስችላቸውን ፈቃድ ለማግኘት ለሳምንታት መቆየት ነበረባቸው።

አካላዊ ደህንነት፤ ከፖለቲካዊ ስብሰባዎች እና ህዝብ ከተሰበሰበባቸው ዝግጅቶች ሪፖርት ማድረግ የመገናኛ ብዙሃን ሠራተኞች በፖለቲካዊ ስብሰባዎች፣ ህዝብ ከተሰበሰባበቸው ዝግጅቶች ወይም ከምርጫ ጋር በተያያዙ የተቃውሞ ሰልፎች ላይ በሚሳተፉበት ወቅት በሁከትና/ ወይም አመጽ መሃል ሊገቡና የጥቃቱም ሰለባ ሊሆኑ እንደሚችሉ ማወቅ አለባቸው። ይህ ደግሞ በተለይ በብሔሮች መካከል አለመግባባት በሚፈጠርባቸው እና የታጠቁ ቡድኖችና ሚሊሻዎች በሚንቀሳቀሱባቸው ወረዳዎች እና ዞኖች ሊከሰት እንደሚችል ሊገነዘቡ ይገባል።

እነዚህን አደጋዎች ለመቀነስ እንዲቻል፣ የመገናኛ ብዙሃን ሰራተኞች የሚከተሉትን የደህንነት ምክሮች ማጤን አለባቸው፤

በቦታው ላይ

- የኢትዮጵያ ዋና የዝናብ ወቅት፣ ክረምት፣ ባመዛኙ በሰኔ ወር ይጀምራል። ሥራዎትን የሚሰሩት ከቤት ውጭ ከሆነ፣ ለራስዎ፣ የዝናብ ልብስ፤ ለመሣሪያዎችዎ ደግሞ የዝናብ መከላከያን ይያዙ።

- ከቤት ውጭ በሚከናወኑ ዝግጅቶች ላይ የሚዘግቡ ከሆነ፣ ሰዓቱን ልብ ይበሉ-- ለፀሐይ ሀሩር ሊጋለጡ እንደሚችሉ ያስታውሱ። ዝግጅቶች እስከሚጀመሩ ድረስ ለተወሰነ ጊዜ ሊያስጠብቁዎት እንደሚችሉ ልብ ይበሉ። በቂ ውኃ ይጠጡ፤ የፀሐይ መከላከያ ኮፍያ ያድርጉ፤ አስፈላጊ መስሎ ከታየዎም የፀሐይ መከላከያ ቅባቶችን ይጠቀሙ።

- በዝግጅቶች ላይ ጠብ ይነሳል ብለው ካሰቡ ራስን ለመካላከል የሚረዱ የተለያዩ ቁሳቁሶችን (PPE) መያዝን ያስቡ።

- ህዝቡ ወይም ፖሊስ የመገናኛ ብዙሃን ሰራተኞች ላይ ጥቃት የሚሰነዝር ከመሰለ ወይም ከሰነዘረ፣ የሚዲያ መለያ ያላባቸውን ልብሶችን አይልበሱ። አስፈላጊ ከሆነም፣ ከመሳሪያዎችዎና ከተሽከርካሪዎችዎ ላይ የሚዲያ መለያ ሎጎዎችን ያንሱ።

- ጠንካራ ሶል፣ ማሰሪያ እና በተውሰነ መልኩ የቁርጭምጭሚት ድጋፍ ያላቸውን ጠንካራ ጫማዎችን ያድርጉ። ግልጽ ጫማዎችን ወይም ማሰሪያ የሌላቸውን ጫማዎች ከማድረግ ይቆጠቡ ።

- ከሥራ ባልደረባ ጋር አብሮ መሥራት ብልህነት ነው፤ የምርጫ ሂደቶች በጣም እስኪመሽ ድረስ ሊቆዩ እንደሚችሉ ግምት ውስጥ በማስግባት፣ የሚቻለዎ ከሆነ ከሌላ ዘጋቢ ወይም ፎቶግራፍ አንሺ ጋር አብረው ለመሄድ ያስቡ፤ ጨለምለም ሲል፣ የአደጋው መጠን ይጨምራል።

- ለአደጋ የማያጋልጥዎት ከሆነ የጋዜጠኝነት ማረጋገጫ ወረቀትዎትን ያሳዩ። መታዎቂያዎትን በአንገት ላይ በሚንጠለጠል የመታዎቂያ መያዣ ከማንገት ይቆጠቡ። ክዚያ ይልቅ፣ በቀበቶዎ ላይ በመቆንጣጫ ያስይዙት ወይም መታውቂያውን ማሳየት በሚያስችል ግልጽ ቦርሳ ላይ አድርገው ክንድዎ ላይ ይሰሩት።

- የሕዝቡን ስሜት ለመረዳት ይሞክሩ። የሚቻል ከሆነም፣ ድባቡን ለማጤን ቀደም ብለው እዝግጅቱ ቦታ የደረሱ ጋዜጠኞች ዘንድ ይደውሉ። ህዝቡ ሁከት የሚፈጥር አይነት ከሆነ፣ ጠያፍ ቃላትን ለመመከት እንዲችል አፅምሮዎትን ያዘጋጁ። ለሚደርስብዎ ጥቃት ምላሽ ከመስጠትም ሆነ ከህዝቡ ጋር ከመላተም ይቆጠቡ።

- የሕክምና ዕርዳታ ለማግኘት ቅርብ የሆነውን ቦታ ለይተው ይወቁ።

- ሥራው አስቸጋሪ ወይም ፈታኝ ከሆነ ስሜትዎን አምቀው አይያዙ። ስለሁኔታው ለአለቆችዎ እና ለሥራ ባልደረቦችዎ ይንገሩዋቸው። ስለ ሁሉም ፈታኝ ተሞክሮ መነጋገር እና ማውራት በጣም አስፈላጊና በዚህ መልኩ አንዱ ከሌላው መማር እንደሚችል ይገንዘቡ።

የቦታ አያያዝንና ሁኔታን ስለመገንዘብ

- ወደ ስፍራው በከፍተኛ ፍጥነት በመብረር ህዝቡንና የፖለቲካ እጩዎችን የጥቃት ኢላማቸው ሊያደርጉ የሚችሉ ተሽከርካሪዎችና ሞተር ብስክሌቶች እንቅስቃሴ በአይነ ቁራኛ ይከታተሉ። በ 2011 ዓ.ም በዐብይ አህመድ የፖለቲካ ድጋፍ ሰልፍ ላይ የእጅ ቦንብ ተጥሎ እንደነበር ልብ ይሏል።

- ሊፈጠር የሚችለውን የመረጋገጥ አደጋ ግምት ውስጥ በማስገባት፣ በህዝባዊ ዝግጅቶች ላይ፣ የፖለቲካ ዕጩዎች እና ሕዝቡ ካሉብት አቅጣጫ አንጻር እርሰዎ ያሉበትን ቦታ በጥሞና ያስተውሉ። ከስልፉ ዳር በመሆን ሊያመልጡባቸው የሚችሉበትን መንገዶች ሁሉ ያለማቋርጥ ያስተውሉ። ሕዝቡ መገፋፋትን ከጀመረ ወይም ሥርዓት-አልባ ከሆነ ደህና ጥግ ይዘው የማምለጫ መንገዶችን መከታተለዎን ይቀጥሉ።

- ለጥቃት ዒላማ ሊሆኑ የሚችሉ የፖለቲካ እጩዎች ወደ ህዝቡ የሚቀላቀሉ ከሆነ፣ በግርግሩ መሃል እንዳይገቡ ይጠንቀቁ። ከእጩዎቹ ለአንዱ ጥያቄ መጠየቅ ካለበዎት፣ በተቻለዎት መጠን፣ ጥያቄዎን ከአስተማማኝ ርቀት ላይ ሆነው ይጠይቁ።

- ከህዝቡ መሃል አስጊ ሊሆኑ ይችላሉ ብለው የሚያስቧቸውን ግለሰቦች በንቃት ይከታተሏቸው። ሰዎች ምን አይነት ባህሪ እያሳዩ እንዳሉ፣ ከሌሎች ጋር የመረጃ ልውውጥ እያደረጉ መሆን አለመሆኑና እንዴትስ እየተለዋወጡ እንዳሉ በአስተውሎት ይከታተሉ። ቀልብዎ የሚነግርዎትን እያዳመጡ፣ አጠራጣሪ ከሆኑ ግለሰቦች በስተጀርባ ወይም በጎን በኩል በመሆን አስተማማኝ ርቀተዎን ጠብቀው ይቁሙ።

- አጠራጣሪ እንቅስቃሴዎችን ለመለየት ይችሉ ዘንድ፣ ባቅራቢያዎ የቆሙ ተሽከርካሪዎችና በአካባቢያቸውም ሆነ በውስጣቸው ያሉትን ግለሰቦች ባንክሮ ይከታተሉ።

- በተለይ ጥቃቅን ወንጀል የተለመደ በሆነባቸው አካባቢዎች፣ በሕዝቡ መሃል ወይም በቅርብ ርቀት ሆነው ሥራዎን በሚሠሩበት ጊዜ፣ ከኪስ አውላቂዎች ይጠንቀቁ።

- ነገሮች በድንገት ወደ አስከፊ ሁኔታ ሊቀየሩ በሚችሉበት አጋጣሚ፣ የማምለጫ ስልት ይኑረዎ። በተቻለዎ መጠን፣ ይህንን ስልትዎን እቦታው ከመድረስዎ ቀደም ብለው ለመንደፍ ይሞክሩ። ከሁሉም መውጫ መንገዶች አንጻር፣ ያሉበትን ርቀት ግምት ውስጥ በማስገባት፣ ደህንነቱ ከተጠበቀ ቦታ ሆነው፣ ለምሳሌ፣ የፕሬስ ማቆያ ቦታ (ቦታው ካለ ማለት ነው) ይዘግቡ።

- ከሌሎች ጋር አብረው የሚሰሩ ከሆነ ለድንገተኛ ጊዜ ለመገናኛት የሚይገለግለዎትን ስፍራ ለይተው ይወቁ። ወደዚህ መገናኛ ስፍራ የሚያመሩትን ሁሉንም መንገዶች ደህንነት በአንክሮ ያጢኑ።

- የተሽከርካሪዎን ፊት ወደ ማምለጫው አቅጣጫ በማዞር ተደራሽ እና ደህንነቱ በተጠበቀ ቦታ ላይ ያቁሙ፤ ወይም ዋስትና ያለው አማራጭ የትራንስፖርት ዘዴ እንዲኖርዎት ያድርጉ።

- ህዝቡ ነውጠኛ መሆን ክጀመረ፣ ሰዎችን ከመጠየቅም ሆነ ከህዝቡ ጋር አንድ ላይ ከመቆየት ይቆጠቡ።

ጠቅላይ ሚኒስትር ዐብይ አህመድ በ 2010 ስልጣን ከያዙበት ጊዜ ጀምሮ በመላው ኢትዮጵያ ግጭቶች፣ ህዝባዊ አመጾች እና ወታደራዊ እንቅስቃሴዎች እየተከሰቱ ሲሆን፣ ይህንን ተክትሎም የጥላቻ ንግግሮች እና የተሳሳቱ መረጃዎችም ታሪካዊ አለመተማመንን ሲያቀጣጥሉት በጎሳና ፖለቲካ ቡድኖች መካከል ያለውን ውጥረትን ሲያጦዙት ቆይተዋል። አከባቢያዊ ወይም ክልላዊ አለመረጋጋቶችን ሲያነሳሱ ከነበሩ አይነትኛ ምክንያቶች መካከልም የመሬት ይገባኛል ግጭቶች፣የግጦሽ መሬት የመብት ጥያቄዎች ፣ የተማሪዎጭ አመጾች እና የሃይማኖት ግጭቶች ይገኙበታል።

ሁከቱን ምን እንደቀሰቀሰውና ምን እንደሚያራግበው መረዳት፣ ሊፈጠሩ የሚችሉ ስፍር ቁጥር የሌላቸውን አደጋዎችን ለይቶ ለማወቅና ለመቀነስ ይረዳል። የሁከቱ መንሰኤ፣ አልፎ አልፎ ብልጭ ድርግም የሚል የክልል ድንበሮች (በቅርቡ ሶማሌ እና አፋር ውስጥ እንደታየው) መካከል ያለ ግጭት ነው? ወይስ፣ ሃይማኖትን መሰረት ያደረገ (በኦሮሚያ ውስጥ በቅርቡ እንደተስተዋለው) ጥቃት ነው? ወይስ ደግሞ ሲብላላ የቆየ ብሄር-ተኮር (በድሬዳዋ እና በሐረር በቅርቡ እንደተከሰተው) ውጥረት ውጤት ነው?

የመገናኛ ብዙሃን ሠራተኞች፣ የትኛውም ቦታ (ትልቅ ከተማም ይሁን ሩቅ ቦታ የሚገኝ ወረዳ) ድንገተኛ የረብሻ አመጽ ሊያስተናግድ እንደሚችል ሊገነዘቡ ይገባል፤ ይህ ደግሞ፣ አብዛኛውን ጊዜ ያለበቂ ወይንም ያለ ምንም ማስጠንቀቂያ ሊከሰት ይችላል።

አስቀድሞ ማቀድ

- ውጥረት ወይም ግጭት በሚኖርበት ወቅት፣ የፀጥታ ኃይሎች ወይም የአካባቢው የሚሊሻ አባላት አለመረጋገት ወደሚታየበት ቦታ መሄድን ሊክላክሉ ይችላሉ፤ ይህንን ሁኔታ ግምት ውስጥ በማስገባት ወደ ስፍራው ስለመሄድ አለመሄድ አዋጭነት ሁሌም ይጠይቁ።
- በአካባቢው እይተንቀሳቀሱ ስላሉ የተለያዩ የፀጥታ ኃይሎችን እና የሚሊሻ ቡድኖችን ጥናት ያካሂዱ። ምን ዓይነት ዩኒፎርም እንደሚለብሱ፣ ለመገናኛ ብዙኃን ሊኖራቸው ስለሚችለው አመለካከት እና በቦታው ላይ ስለሚጠቀሙባቸው ታክቲኮች ለይተው ይወቁ። እነዚህ ኃይሎችም የሚከተሉትን ሊያካትቱ ይችላሉ፤
    - o የኢትዮጵያ ብሄራዊ መከላከያ ኃይል (ኢብመሀ)
    - o የክልል/የመንግስት ፖሊስ ኃይላት
    - o የተገንጣይ ሚሊሻዎች (ለምሳሌ፣ የኦሮሞ ነፃነት ሰራዊት) o የውጭ ወታደራዊ ኃይል (ለምሳሌ፣ ኤርትራዊያን)
    - o የክልል ልዩ ኃይል (ለምሳሌ፣ የሶማሌ ክልል ልዩ ኃይል)

- የእርስዎን መገለጫ፣ ብሔረዎን፣ ጾታዎን እና የቀድሞ ሥራዎን--አብረዎት በተባባሪነት የሚሰሩትንም ሰዎች ጭምር (ለምሳሌ ሾፌሮች ፣ ተርጓሚዎች)--ግምት ወጥ ያስገቡ። እንደዚህ ያሉ ነግሮች በአካባቢው ሰዎች፣ በፀጥታ ኃይሎች ወይም በሚሊሺያ ቡድኖች ክትትል እና እይታ ውስጥ የመሆን ዕድልን ይጨምራሉ ወይ?
- በተመደቡበት ስራ ላይ እያሉ ምክር ወይም እገዛ ሊያደርጉልዎ የሚችሉ በቦታው ላይ ካሉ ከታመኑ ሰዎች ትውውቅ ለመመስረት ይሞክሩ። በተለይ አደገኛ በሆነ አካባቢ ውስጥ የሚሰሩ ከሆነ፣ ተጨማሪ ድጋፍ የማግኘትን አስፈላጊነት ወይም ከባለስልጣናት ጋር አብረው ለመስራት ያስቡ (ይህን ማድረግ ስጋት ውስጥ የማይጥለዎት ከሆነ ማለት ነው)።
- እንደ ሰሜናዊ አፋር ክልል ባሉ ሩቅ ቦታዎች ለስራ የተሰማራ አይነት የውጭ ዜጋ ከሆኑ፣ በ 2000 ፣ በ 2005 እና በ 2010 እንደተከስቱት አይነት የጠለፋ እና የግድያ ዒላማ ሰጋቶች ጥናት ያካሂዱ።
- ግለሰቦች፣ ሩቅ እና ብጥብጥ በሚዛባቸው አካባቢዎች ብቻቸውን እንዲሰሩ ሊጠበቅባቸው አይገባም። በቦታው ላይ ሊፈጠሩ የሚችሉ የመግባባት ችግሮችን ለማስወገድ፣ ጋዜጠኞች የክልሉን ቋንቋ ከሚናገር ሰው ጋር አብረው መሥራት አለባቸው።
- ኃይለኛ ብጥብጥ የሚጠበቅ ከሆነ፣ እንደስጋቱ መጠን፣ የመከላከያ መነጽሮች፣ የደህንነት የራስ ቆቦች ፣ የአስለቃሽ ጋዝ መተንፈሻዎች እና የመከላከያ የሰውነት አልባሳትን መጠቀምን ማሰብ ተገቢ ነው። ለበለጠ መረጃ፣ የሲፒጂን ራስን ለመካላከል የሚረዱ የተለያዩ ቁሳቁሶችን አጠቃቀም

  መመሪያ (እንግሊዝኛ ብቻ) ይመልከቱ።
- ለሥራ ባልደረባዎ፣ ለጓደኛዎ ወይም ለቤተሰብዎ አባል ወዴት እንደሚሄዱ እና መቼ እንደሚመለሱ ማሳወቅዎን አይርሱ። የግንኙነት መስመሮች ያለበቂ ወይንም ያለምንም ማስጠንቀቂያ ሙሉ በሙሉ ሊቋረጡ እንደሚችሉ ግምት ውስጥ በማስገባት የመግቢያ ሰአትዎ በታሰበው ሰአት መሆን ካልቻለ፣አማራጭ መግቢያ ሰአትና ሊወስዱት የሚችሉትን ርምጃ አስቀድሞ ማዘጋጀት ይመከራል።
- የቦታውን አቀማመጥ በማጥናት ዋና የሁከት መናሀሪያ ሊሆኑ ይችላሉ የሚሏቸውን ስፍራዎች (ለምሳሌ፣ የከተማ አደባባይ፣ የመታሰቢያ ሐውልት ወይም አንድ የተለየ ሕንፃ) ለይተው ይወቁ ።
- ወደቦታው የሚያስገቡና የሚያስወጡ ማለፊያ የሌላቸውን መንገዶችን ወይም ማነቆ ቦታዎችን ለይተው ይወቁ። የጉዞ መርሃ-ግብርዎን እንደሁኒታው በማስተካከል ተቀያያሪ ያድርጉት።
- በሲፒጄ እንተደሰነደው፣ ጋዜጠኞች እና ተርጓሚዎች ያለ ክስ ሊታሰሩ እንደሚችሉ በመገንዘብ በእስር ጊዜ ሊያነጋግሩዋቸው የሚችሉ የህግ ተወካይ ይኑረዎት።
- የመገናኛ ብዙሃን ዘገባዎች እና ለደህንነቸው ሲባል ማንነታቸው እንዳይገለጽ የጠየቁ ሲፒጄ ያነጋገራቸው እንዳስታወቁት፣ ባለፉት የቅርብ ወራት፣ በርካታ ጋዜጠኞች በቦሌ ዓለም አቀፍ አውሮፕላን ማረፊያ እንዲቆዩ እና ወደ ፈለጉበት ቦታ እንዳይበሩ ተክልክለዋል። ይህንን አጋጣሚ ግምት ውስጥ በማስገባት አማራጭ የጉዞ መስመሮችን ያስቡ።

- በአካባቢው የሚገኙ የሕክምና ተቋማት በሙሉ የት የት እንድሚግኙ ለይተው ይውቁ። ትግራይ ውስጥ የሚሰሩ ከሆነ፣የድንበር የለሽ ሀኪሞች (Médecins Sans Frontières) እንደዘገበው በግምት ወደ 70% የሚሆኑ የጤና ተቋማት ከጥቅም ውጭ እንደሆኑ ልብ ይበሉ።

መጓጓዣ እና መገልገያ መሳሪያዎች

- የተወሰኑ ሰዓቶች ላይ እንቅስቃሴን ሊከለከሉ የሚችሉ ገደቦች ወደተጣሉባቸው አካባቢዎች ጉዞዎን ሲያቅዱ፣ እቅደዎ የሚሄዱብት አካባቢው ከጣለው የእንቀስቃሴ ገድብ ጋር እንዲጣጣም ያድርጉ፤ (በካራት እና በደቡብ ህዝቦችና ብሄር ብሀረሰቦች ክልል በሚገኘው ኮንሶ ውስጥ እንደታየው) የተወሰኑ ሰዓታት የእንቀስቃሴ ገደብ ሊጣልባቸው ይችላል። ሲፒጄ እንደሰነደው፣ ጋዜጠኛ ዳዊት ከበደ አርአያ በታህሳስ ወር 2013 መቐለ ከተማ ውስጥ በጥይት ተመቶ መገደሉን ልብ ይሏል። የግድያው ዓላማ እስክ አሁን ደረስ ግልፅ ባይሆንም፣ ጋዜጠኛው በወቅቱ ተደንግጎ የነበረውን የሰአት እላፊ ጥሶ እንደነበር የአከባቢው ባለሥልጣናት ተናግረዋል።
- የሚጓዙበትን መልካምድር በሚገባ ይወቁ። መሬቱ ጭቃማ፣ የሚያቃጥል ሀሩር፣ ድንጋያማ ወይም ደግሞ ተራራማ ሊሆን ይችላል። ስለሆነም፣ ሁል ጊዜ ለቦታው የሚስማማ ተሽከርካሪ እና ብቃት ያለውን ሹፌር ይጠቀሙ። ብልሽት ወይም ሌላ መሰናክል ሊገጥምዎት ስለሚችል በቂ መሳሪያዎች እና መለዋዎጫዎችንም ይያዙ።
- በሕዝባዊ አመጽ ወቅት፣ የመንገዶች መቆላለፍ እና መዘጋት ሊያጋጥዎ ስለሚችል በተቻለ መጠን አማራጭ መንገዶችን ይጠቀሙ (ለበለጠ መረጃ ከዚህ በታች ስለ ፍተሻ ኬላዎች የሚገልጸውን ክፍል ይመልከቱ)።
- ጉዞው የሚፈጅብዎትን ጊዜና የመድረሻ ሰአትዎን አስቀድመው ያስሉ። የሚነዱበትን የጊዜ እርዝመትና የቦታ ርቀትን በሚያስሉ በመተግበሪያዎች ላይ ብዙ አይተማመኑ። ከዚያ ይልቅ፣ ከአካባቢው የሚያገኟቸውን አስተማማኝ መረጃዎችን ይጠቀሙ።
- ረጅም የፍተሽ ስርዓት አስፈላጊ ሆኖ በሚገኝበት ወቅት፣ ስለጉዞዎ መርሀግበር ለውጥ፣ ችግር ከመፈጠሩ በፊት፣ ለአለቆቸው ወይም ለሚያምኑት ሰው አስቀድመው ያሳዉቁ።
- አውሮፕላን ማረፊያ ወይም ወደ አውቶቡስ መናኸሪያ በሚደርሱበት ሰአት የካባቢው ነዋሪ የታመነ ሾፌር እንዲጠብቀዎ ማድረግ ይመከራል፤ በስራ ላይ እያሉ ይህ የሚያምኑት ስው ከጎነዎ እንዳይለይ ያድርጉ።
- በተቻለ መጠን ከቦታው ጋር አብሮ የሚሄድ ተሽከርካሪን ይጠቀሙ(ለምሳሌ፣ ውድ የሆኑ የስፖርት መኪናዎች ዝቅተኛ የኑሮ ሁኔታ ባላቸው ወይም ገጠራማ አካባቢዎች ላይ አላስፈላጊ ትኩረትን ሊስቡ እንደሚችሉ ልብ ይበሉ)።
- በተለይ ወደ ሩቅ ስፍራዎች በሚጓዙበት ወቅት የተሟላ የመጀመሪያ እርዳታ መስጫ/ የትራወማ ኪት ይያዙ።
- ሁልጊዜ የተሽከርካሪዎን ፊት ለማመለጥ ወደሚመቸው አቅጣጫ አዙረው በቂ ብርሃን ባለበትና ሰው በሚበዛበት አካባቢ ያቁሙ። ጉዞ ከመጀመርዎ በፊት የተሽከርካሪዎን ውጫዊ ገጽታ

በደምብ ይፈትሹ። በጣም ፈታኝ በሆኑ መንገዶች ላይ በሚያሽከረክሩበት ጊዜም እንደዚሁ ይህንኑ ፍተሻ ደጋገመው ያድርጉ።

- የመኪናዎን የኋላ እና የጎን መስተዋቶች በመጠቀም፣ አሁንም አሁንም የአካባቢዎን ሁኔታ ይቃኙ። ሰዎች እየተከታተሉኝ ነው ብለው ከተጠራጠሩ፣ ቀልብዎ የሚነግርዎን በማዳመጥ በተቻለ ፍጥነት አስጊ ወዳአልሆነ ቦታ ያሽከርክሩ።
- እጅግ አስፈላጊ ካልሆነ፣ የሌሊት ጉዞን ያሰዎግዱ፤ ወደሚሄዱበት ቦታም ሳይጨልም እንዲደርሱ አድርገው ጉዞዎን ያቅዱ።
- ይዘዋቸው የሚጓዙትንም ውድ ዕቃዎች ብዛት ይመጥኑ። ሰዎች መስታዎት ሰብረው ሊገቡ ስለሚችሉ ተሽከርካሪዎ ውስጥ ማንኛውንም መሳሪያ ትተው አይውረዱ። በሚጭልምበት ወቅት፣ የወንጀል ስጋት ይበልጥ ሊጨምር እንደሚችል ያስታውሱ።
- ጥቃቅን የወንጀል እና የዝርፊያ አደጋዎችን ግምት ውስጥ በማስገባት፣ ዝግ ባለ የትራፊክ ሁኔታ፣ በመሳለጫ መንገዶችና በመብራት ላይ በሚያሽከረክሩበት ወቅት የተሽከርካሪዎ በሮች መቆለፋቸውንና መስኮቶችም መዘጋታቸውን ያረጋግጡ።
- በሕዝብ አውቶቡሶች የሚጓዙ ከሆነ ለጥቃቅን ወንጀሎች ሰለባ ሊሆኑ እንደሚችሉና ተሽርካሪዎቹም የሽፍቶች የጥቃት ዒላማ ሊሆኑ እንደሚችሉ ልብ ይበሉ።

የአካባቢ ደህንነት እና ግንዛቤ

- መስጊዶችን፣ አብያተ-ክርስቲያናትን ወይም የመንግስት ህንፃዎችን የመሰሉ ለጥቃት መነሻ ሊሆኑ የሚችሉ ቁልፍ ህንፃዎችን እና ልዩ ምልክቶችን ለይተው ይወቁ።
- በተቻለ መጠን፣ በእነዚህ ለአደጋ በተጋለጡ ቦታዎች አይቆዩ። የሚፈልጉትን ነገር ካገኙ፣ ቦታዉን ባፋጣኝ ይልቀቁ።
- ስራዎ ላይ ሲሆኑ ከአካባቢው ሰው ጋር በመመሳሰልና አይን የሚስቡ ንብረትችንም ሆነ ሌሎች ትኩረት የሚስቡ ነገሮችን ማስወገድ ብልህነት ነው።
- ጸጥ-ረጭ ባሉ፣ በቂ ብርሃን በሌላቸው እና ራቅ ባሉ አካባቢዎች (በተለይ የአደጋው መጠን ሊጨምር በሚችልበት በምሽት ወቅት) ስራዎትን ከማከናወን ይቆጠቡ።
- በአንድ ቦታ ላይ ረዘም ላላ ጊዜ የሚሰሩ ከሆነ የዕለት ተዕለት እንቅስቃሴዎን በተቻለ መጠን ለመለዋወጥ ይሞክሩ። በዓላማ እና በልበ ሙሉነት ይንቀሳቀሱ። በእንቅስቃሴ ላይ እያሉ፣ ሃሳበዎን ሊሰርቁ የሚችሉ ነገሮችን ከማድረግ(ለምሳሌ፣ ስልክ ክማውራት) ይቆጠቡ።
- ወደ ውጭ ሲሄዱ ወይም ለመውጣት ሲያስቡ፣ እየተከታተሉዎ ያሉ ግለሰቦች እንዳሉ በጥሞና ያጢኑ። እንደ ምግብ ቤት ወይም ሆቴል ባሉ ህዝባዊ ስፍራዎች ከሰዎች መገናኘት ሲኖርበዎት፣ ሰዎች በቀላሉ እንዳይከታታሉዎት እመስኮት አጠገብ ያሉ ቦታዎች ከመቀመጥ ይቆጠቡ። ከህንጻው የሚወጡ ተሽከርካሪዎችን፣ ወደ ህንፃው የሚገቡና የሚወጡ አሽከርካሪዎች፣ ከህንጻው ውጭ አካባቢ ውር ውር የሚሉ ግለሰቦችን በንቃት ይከታተሉ። አስፈላጊ ከሆነም፣ ሊረዱዎ የሚችሉ ሰዎችን ይለዩ። በእግርም ሆነ በተሽከርካሪ በመሆን ፎቶ እያነሱ የሚከታተሉዎትን ሰዎች ባዓይነ ቁራኛ ይከታተሉ።

- ለአዳር የሚቆዩበት ስፍራ፣ በተወሰነ ደረጃ፣ ደህንነቱ የተጠበቀ ቢሆን ይመከራል። ከተከራዩበት ቤት የሚያስወጡ የማምለጫ መንገዶች ለይተው ይዎቁ። በህንፃው ፊት ለፊት ያሉ ክፍሎችን ላለመከራየት ይሞክሩ።

የፍተሻ ኬላዎች

በተለይ ህዝባዊ አመፅ እና ወታደራዊ እንቅስቃሴዎች ባሉባቸው አካባቢዎች በወታደሮች፣ በፖሊስ ኃይሎች እና በአካባቢው ሚሊሻዎች የሚካሄዱ የፍተሻ ጣቢያዎችን በኢትዮጵያ አውራ ጎዳናዎች እና መንገዶች ላይ ማየት የተለመደ ክስተት ሊሆን ይችላል።

መንግስታዊ ያልሆኑ ድርጅቶች ተሽከርካሪዎች እና ሰራተኞቻቸው ከቅርብ ጊዜ ወዲህ በኬላዎች እና በተዘጉ መንገዶች ላይ የጥቃት ዒላማ ሆነዋል። በዚህ ረገድ፣ ትግራይ ወስጥ ኤም.ኤስ.ኤፍ ሰራተኞች ላይ፤ በቤኒሻንጉል ጉሙዝ ደግሞ፣ በአየርላንድ የእርዳታ ኤጀንሲ (GoAL) ሰራተኞች ላይ የደርሰው ተጠቃሽ ነው። በተጨማሪም፣ ሲኤንኤን በቅርቡ እንደዘገበው፣ ከኢትዮጵያ ጦር ፈቃድ ያገኘ የጋዜጠኞች ቡድን ወደ ትግራይ አንዳንድ አካባቢዎች እንዳይገባ በኤርትራ ወታደሮች ተከልክሏል ።

አጠቃላይ ደህንነት

- በመንገደዎት ላይ ሊያጋጥሙዎ የሚችሉ የታወቁና ህጋዊ ኬላዎችን አስቀድመው ለየተው ይወቁ።
- የሚያምኗቸውን የአካባቢውን ጋዜጠኞችና ሌሎች የሚያውቋቸውን ሰዎች በመጠየቅ ኦፊሴላዊ ያልሆኑ የፍተሻ ኬላዎች የት ቦታ እንደሚገኙ ለማወቅ ይሞክሩ። የሚቻል ከሆነ፣ በዚያ መስመር እንዳያልፉ አድርገው ጉዞዎትን ያቅዱ።
- የአደጋው መጠን ሊጨምር ይችላል ተብሎ በሚታሰብበት ሰአት፣ በተለይም ከጨለመ በኋላ፣ ኦፊሴላዊ ያልሆኑ የፍተሻ ኬላዎች ችግር ሊፈጥሩ እንደሚችሉ በሚታመንባቸው መስመሮች ከማሽከርከር ይቆጠቡ።

ምርጥ ተሞክሮዎች

- ከፍተሻ ጣቢያ ሲደርሱ፣ ፍጥነትዎን ይቀንሱ፤ ዳር ለመያዝ ሲፈልጉ ምልክት ያሳዩ፤ ጨለማ ከሆነ፣ ደብዛዛ የፊት መብራቶችን ይጠቀሙ፤ በታዘዙበት ቦታ ላይ ያቁሙ።
- ሁል ጊዜም እጆችዎ በግልጽ እንዲታዩ ያድርጉ፤ ጨለማ ከሆነም የመኪናዎን የውስጥ መብራት ያብሩ።
- እንዲከፍቱ እስኪጠየቁ ድረስ መስኮቶችዎን ዝግ አድርገው ይቆዩ።
- እንደ ሞባይል ስልኮች ያሉ ማናቸውንም መሣሪያዎች አይጠቀሙ።
- እንደ ላፕቶፖች እና ካሜራዎች ያሉ መሣሪያዎችን ከዕይታ ያርቁ። ከተጠየቁ በተሽከርካሪው ውስጥ እንደያዟቸው ያስረዱ።
- የጉዞ እና የተሽከርካሪ ሰነዶችን (ለምሳሌ፣ ፓስፖርት፣ የመንጃ ፈቃድ ፣ የተሽከርካሪ ኢንሹራንስ ፖሊሲ) ከእጅዎ አይለዩ።
- የፀሐይ መነፅር እና ኮፍያ የሚያደርጉ ከሆነ፣ የፍተሻ ኬላው ጋ ሲደርሱ ያውልቁ።

- ረጋ ይበሉ፤ የሚያነጋግሩትን ሰው አይን አይኑን ይመልከቱ፤ በራስ መተማመንዎን ያሳዩ፤ ሁሌም በቀናነት ያናግሩ፤ መመሪያዎችን በትክክል ይተግብሩ፤ ሁሌም ትሁትና ጨዋ ይሁኑ።

ሊያስዎግዷቸው የሚገቡ፤

- በከፈተኛ ፍጥነት ማሽከርከር፣ መኪናዎን ወዲያና ወዲህ ማጠማዘዝ ወይም ከዋናው መንገድ ታጥፎ ለማሽከርከር መሞከር፤
- መጮህ ወይም ግለሰቦች የሀየለኝነት ስሜት ማሳየት፤
- ሰዎችን በሚያነጋግሩበት ጊዜ ጀርባዎን መስጠት፤
- ለጠብ ሊዳርግ የሚችል አካላዊ እንቅስቃሴ ማሳየት (ለምሳሌ፣ በጣት መጠቆም ወይም እጅጌን መሰብሰብ)።

አካላዊ ደህንነት፤ ከምርጫ ጋር በተያያዘ ከሚነሱ የተቃውሞ ቦታዎች ሪፖርት ማድረግ/መዘገብ

በ1997ቱ የኢትዮጵያ ምርጫ እንደታየው ሁሉ፣ ሕዝባዊ ሰልፎች በማንኛውም የምርጫ ዑደት ወቅት ሊከሰቱ እና በፍጥነት/በድንገት ወደሚዘገንን ሁኔታ ሊለወጡ ይችላሉ። እንዲህ ዓይነቱን ተቃውሞ የሚዘግቡ የመገናኛ ብዙሃን ሠራተኞች ለተለያዩ አደጋዎች ሊጋለጡ ይችላሉ። ይኽም የሚሆነው፣ በተቃውሞ ሰልፈኞች፣ በፀረ-ተቃዋሞው ሰልፈኞች እና ሰልፈኞችን ለመበተን ጥይት በመተኮስ እና

አስለቃሽ ጭስ በመጠቀም በየሚታወቁ በፀጥታ ኃይሎች መካከል በሚነሳ ብጥብጥ የተነሳ ነው። እንደ ትግራይ ባሉ የግጭት ቀጠናዎች፣ ቀላል መሳሪያዎች ጥቅም ላይ አይውሉም ማለት አይቻልም ።

አደጋውን ለመቀነስ ይቻል ዘንድ የሚዲያ ሰራተኞች የሚከተሉትን የደህንነት ምክሮች ማጤን ይገባቸዋል፤

ማቀድ

- ለሪፖርትዎት የሚያስፈልጉዎትን ቁሳቁሶች ይለዩ። የማይጠቀሙባቸውን ቁሳቁሶች ይዞ ተቃውሞ ባለበት አካባቢ መዘዋወር ለጉዳት የመዳረግን እድል ይጨምራል ።
- ኃይለኛ ብጥብጥ የሚጠበቅ ከሆነ፣ እንደስጋቱ መጠን፣ የመከላከያ መነጽሮች፣ የደህንነት የራስ ቆቦች ፣ የአስለቃሽ ጋዝ መተንፈሻዎች እና የመከላከያ የሰውነት አልባሳትን መጠቀምን ማሰብ ተገቢ ነው። ለበለጠ መረጃ፣ የሲፒጂን ራስን ለመከላከል የሚረዱ የተለያዩ ቁሳቁሶችን አጠቃቀም መመሪያ (እንግሊዝኛ ብቻ) ይመልከቱ።
- የአጎራባች አካባቢውን ካርታ በማጥናት፣ የቦታውን አቀማመጥ በተመለከት የቅድሚያ ጥናት ያካሂዱ። ማምለጥ ቢያስፈልግዎት ከቦታው ሊያስወጡ የሚያስችሉ መንገዶችንና ለማምለጥ የማያስችሉዎትን ዝግ መንገዶች ይለዩ። ከሌሎች ጋር የሚሰሩ ከሆነም የአደጋ ጊዜ መሰብሰቢያ ቦታዎችን እንዲሁ ለይተው ይወቁ።

- ግለሰቦች በተቃውሞ ሥፍራዎች ላይ ብቻቸውን እንዲሠሩ አይጠበቅባቸውም። ከሥራ ባልደረባዎ ጋር ለመስራት በመሞከር፣ ከተቆጣጣሪዎ፣ ከቤተሰብዎ ወይም ከጓደኞችዎ ጋር የስራ ስምሪት ሥነ ሥርዓት ያዘጋጁ። ከጨለመ በኋላ መሥራት የበለጠ አደገኛ ስለሚሆን፣ ከተቻለ መወገድ ይኖርበታል። ለተጨማሪ መረጃ፣ እባክዎ ለብቻቸው ለሚዘግቡ ጋዜጠኞች የተዘጋጀውን የሲፒጄን ምክር ይመልከቱ።

አለባበስ እና መሣሪያዎች

- የውትድርና መልክ ያላቸውን መለዮዎችን፣ ለቀቅ ያሉ ልብሶችን፣ የፖሊቲካ መፈክሮችን፣ የሚዲያ መለዮዎችን እና ያሉ ተቀጣጣይ ልብሶችን (ለምሳሌ፣ናይለን) አይልበሱ/አያድርጉ።
- ጠንካራ ሶል፣ ማሰሪያ እና በተውሰነ መልኩ የቁርጭምጭሚት ድጋፍ ያላቸውን ጠንካራ ጫማዎችን ያድርጉ።
- ጠጉርዎ ረጂም ከሆነ ወደላይ ይጠቅልሉት ወይም በልብስ ውስጥ ሊገባ በሚችል መልኩ ይጎንጉኑት። ይህን ማድረግ፣ ግለሰቦች ከኋላ እንዳይጎትቱዎት ይከላከልለወታል። በአንገትዎ ላይ ሰንሰለቶችን፣ ክሮችን/ማተቦችን ወይም ጌጣጌጦችን ከማድረግ ይቆጠቡ።
- አጠቃቀሙን ካወቁበት፣ የህክምና ኪት ይያዙ፤ የሞባይል ስልክዎ ባትሪም ሙሉ እንደሆነ ያረጋግጡ። ይህን ማድረግ ካልቻሉ፣ ተንቀሳቃሽ የኃይል ባንክ እና የስልክዎን ቻርጀር ይያዙ።
- በተቻለ መጠን የተወሰኑ መሳሪያዎችን ብቻ ይዘው ይሂዱ፤ ይህን ማድረግ በቅልጥፍና እንዲንቀሳቀሱና እና በፍጥነት መጓዝ ሲያዝፈልገዎትም ሸክም እንዳይበዛብዎ ይረደወታል።
- የሚይሏቸውን ውድ ዕቃዎች መጠን ይገድቡ። መኪናዎን ስበረው ሊዎስዱበዎት ስለሚችሉ ማንኛውንም መሳሪያ አይተዉ። ጨለምለም ሲል፣ የአደጋው መጠን እየጨመረ እንደሚሄድ ልብ ይበሉ።

የቦታ አያያዝን እና የሁኔታዎች ግንዛቤ

- ያሉበትን ቦታ ከግምት ውስጥ በማስገባት ስለ ሁኔታዎች በቂ ግንዛቤ ይኑረወት። የሚቻል ከሆነ፣ የበለጠ ደህንነትዎን ሊያረጋግጥልዎ የሚይስችል ከፍ ያለ ስፍራ ይምረጡ።
- ከዘረፋ፣ ከጥፋትና ከእሳት ቃጠሎ ጋር ተያይዘው የሚመጡት አደጋዎችን (ለምሳሌ፣ የሚወድቁ ፍርስራሾችን፣ የመስተዋት ስብርባሪዎችን እና እሳትን) ግምት ውስጥ በማስገባት፣ ከህንፃዎች እና ከተሽከርካሪዎች በቂ ርቀተዎን በመጠበቅ ለመስራት በሚያመችዎ ቦታ ይሁኑ።

- ህዝብ በብዛት ከተሰበሰበበት ቦታ በቅርብ ርቀት ሆነው የሚሰሩ ከሆነ፣ ዳር ዳሩን ይያዙ። ለማምለጥ አዳጋች በሆነ መልኩ ወደ መሃል አይግቡ። ሁሉም ጋዜጠኞች፣ ነገሮች በፍጥነት ወደ አደገኛ ሁኔታ ሊቀየሩ እንደሚችሉ መገንዘብና ተቃውሞ ሰልፍ አካባቢ ከልክ በላይ መቆየት እንደሌለባቸው ልብ ማለት ይገባቸዋል።
- ከህዝቡ እንቅስቃሴ ጋር በተያያዘ የባለስልጣናትን ስሜት እና ባህሪ ያለማቋረጥ ይከታተሉ፤ ያንብቡ። ፖሊስ ህዝቡ ዘንድ የመረበሽሥሜት ሲያይ (ወይም የዚህ ተቃራኒ ሲከስት) የበለጠ ጨካኝ ሊሆን ይችላል። የአድማ መበተኛ መለዮዎች የለበሱ ፖሊሶች በአካባቢው መታየት መጀመር ወይም የአድማ መበተኛ ጥይቶች ውርወራ ምልክቶች መታየት፣ የብጥብጥ መነሻ ጠቋሚዎች ናቸው። እንደዚህ አይነት ግልጽ ማስጠንቀቂያ ጠቋሚ ምልክቶች ሲያዩ፣ ቶሎ ብለው ደህንነቱ ወደተጠበቀ ቦታ ይሂዱ፤ ወይም ደግሞ፣ በፍጥነት አካባቢውን ለቀው ለመሄድ የሚያስችለዎትን እቅድ ያውጡ።
- በአጠቃላይ፣ የፎቶግራፍ ጋዜጠኞች ድርጊቶች በሚከሰኑብት አፍላ ቦታ ስለሚገኙ፣ ለአደጋ የተጋለጡ ናቸው። የፎቶ ጋዜጠኛ ከሆኑ፣ ከጀርባዎ ሆኖ ሁኔታዎን የሚከታተል ሰው ሊያዘጋጁ ይገባል። ስራዎን እየስሩ. አሁንም አሁንም (በየጥቂት ሴኮንዶች) ከጀርባዎ የሚሆነውን ይቃኙ። የካሜራዎን ማንገቻ አንገተዎ ውሰጥ በማንጠልጠል ፎቶግራፍ ከማንሳት ይቆጠቡ። ያንን ባላማደርግ፣ በገዛ ማንገቻዎ ከመታነቅና ወደ መሬት ተጎትቶ ከመውደቅ እራስዎን ሊታደጉ ይችላሉ። ብዙውን ጊዜ፣ የፎቶ ጋዜጠኞች ስራቸውን ከርቀት ለመሥራት አልታደሉም፤ ስለሆንም፣ የሚፈልጉትን ፎቶ ቶሎ አንስተው ቦታውን በመልቀቅ፣ የሚያጠፉትን ጊዜ መቀነስ ይኖርባቸዎል።
- ለሕክምና ዕርዳታ የሚያገኙበትን በጣም ቅርብ ቦታ ለይተው ይውቁ።

የአስለቃሽ ጋዝን መቋቋም

የአስለቃሽ ጋዝ ጥቃት ማስነጠስ፣ ማሳል፣ መትፋት፣ ማልቀስ እና መተንፈስን የሚገታ ንፍጥ እንዲፈጠር ሊያደርግ ይችላል። አንዳንድ ጊዜ፣ በአስለቃሽ ጋዝ የተጠቁ ግለሰቦች፣ ሊያስታውኩ እና መተንፈስም ሊያቅታቸው ይችላል። እንደነዚህ አይነት ምልክቶች፣ የሚዲያ ሰራተኞችን፣ በአየር ወለድ የቫይረስ ጠብታዎች አማካይነት ለሚመጣ ለኮርኦቫይረስ በሽታ እስከ መጋለጥ ሊያደርሳቸው ይችላል። በኮቪድ-19

ተጋላጭ ምድብ ውስጥ በተዘረዘሩ እንደ አስም ባሉ የመተንፈሻ አካላት ችግር የሚሠቃዩ ግለሰቦች፣ ህዝባዊ ሁነቶችን ከመዘገብ ሊቆጠቡ ይገባል። የዚህ አይነት ችግር ያለባቸወ የሚዲያ ሰራተኞች፣ የአስለቃሽ ጭስን የመጠቀም አዝማሚያንም ሲያዩ፣ ተቃውሟቸውን ማሰማት አለባቸው።

በተጨማሪም፣ በኤን. ፕ. አር (NPR) እንደተገለጸው እና መረጃዎች እንደሚያመለክቱት፣ አስለቃሽ ጭስ፣ ግለሰቦችን፣ እንደ ኮሮናቫይረስ ላሉ በሽታ አምጪ ተህዋሲያን ይበልጥ ተጋላጭ ሊያደርግ ይችላል።

የአስለቃሽ ጋዝ ተጋላጭነት ስለመቋቋም እና የሚያስከትሉትን የአስከፊ ውጤቶችን በተመለከተ ተጨማሪ መመሪያ ለማግኘት፣ እባክዎን የሲፒጄን የሲቪል ዲዝኦርደር ምክረ-ሀሳብ ይመልከቱ (CPJ’s civil disorder advisory) ይመልከቱ።

አካላዊ ትንኮሳ እና ጥቃት

በሮይተርስ ፎቶግራፍ አንሺ ቲክሳ ነገሪ ላይ እንደተከሰተው የመገናኛ ብዙሃን ሰራተኞች በቦታው ላይ ሆነው በቀጥታ በሚዘግቡበት ጊዜ፣ በተቃዋሚዎችም ሆነ በፀጥታ ኃይሎች የአካል ጥቃት አደጋ ሊደርስባቸው እንደሚችል ከግምት ውስጥ ማስገባት አለባቸው። ጠብ አጫሪነት ሲገጥመዎት፣ የሚከተሉትን የደህንነት ምክሮችን ለመጠቀም ያስቡ፤

- ወደ ተሰበሰበ ህዝብ መሃል ከመግባትዎ በፊት የተቃውሞ ሰልፈኞቹ በጋዜጠኞች ላይ ያላቸውን ስሜት ይገምግሙ። ጥቃት ሊያደርሱብዎ የሚችሉ ሰዎችን በንቃት ይከታተሉ። በህዝቡ ዘንድ የነውጠኝነት አዝማሚያ ካስተዋሉ፣ በተቻለ ፍጥነት አስጊ ወዳልሆነ ስፍራ ያፈግፍጉ።
- ጠብ አጫሪዎችን ለይቶ ለማወቅ የአካል እንቅስቃሴያቸውን ያስተውሉ፤ የራስዎን አካላዊ ቋንቋ በመጠቀም ሁኔታውን ለማረጋጋት ይሞክሩ።
- የጠብ አጫሪውን ሰው አይን አይኑን በማየት፣ እጆችዎን ባለማጣመር እና በተረጋጋ መንፈስ መናገረዎን ይቀጥሉ።
- ሊያጠቃዎት ከሚያስብ ሰው አንድ እርምጃ ያህል ርቀትን ይጠብቁ። ይዘው ሊያጠቁዎ ቢሞክሩ፣ ጉልበት ሳያሳዩ ወደኋላ በማፈግፈግ እራስዎን ያስለቅቁ። እማይፈናፍን ጥግ ካስያዙዎትና አደጋ ላይ ከሆኑ፣ ይጩሁ።
- ጠቡ እየከረረ የሚመጣ ከሆነ፣ እጆችዎን ነፃ አድርገው ጭንቅላትዎን እየተከላከሉ እና ላለመውደቅ እየተጠነቀቁ በአጫጭር እርምጃዎች ይራመዱ። በቡድን የሚንቀሳቀሱ ከሆነ፣ አብረዎት ካሉት ሰዎች ጋር ሳይነጣጣሉ እጀ ለእጅ ይያያዙ።
- ጠብ-አጫሪናትን መሰነድ ወሳኝ የጋዜጠኝነት ሥራ የሚሆንበት ጊዜ ቢኖርም፣ ሁኔታውን በማጤን ለደህንነተዎ ቅድሚያ ይስጡ። ጠብ-አጫሪ የሆኑ ግለሰቦችን ፎቶግራፍ ማንሳት ሁኔታውን ይበልጥ ሊያባብሰው እንደሚችል ልብ ይበሉ።
- ሰዎች ሰብስብ ብለው ሊያጠቁዎ ከመጡ፣ የሚጠይቁዎትን ነገር ያስረክቧቸው። ማንኛዉም መሳሪያም ሆነ ገንዘብ ከህይወትዎ የበለጠ ዋጋ የለውም።

አካላዊ ደህንነት፤ ከነውጠኛ ማህበረሰብ መሀል ሆኖ ሪፖርት ማድረግ

በምርጫ ዑደት ወቅት፣ የመገናኛ ብዙሃን ሠራተኞች ለሚዲያ ሰዎች፣ ከሙያው ውጭ ለሆኑ ሰዋቸ ወይንም ደግሞ ለሚዲያ የጠላትነት ስሜት ባላቸው አካባቢዎች ወይም ማኅበረሰቦች መሃል ሆነው መስራት ሊጠበቅባቸው ይችላል። የዚህ አይነት ሰሜት ሊፈጠር የሚችለው፣ አንድ ማህበረሰብ የተሰማራባቸነ ህገ-ወጥ እንቅስቃሴዎች (ለምሳሌ የጦር መሳሪያ ወይም የሰዎች ዝውውር) ለመደበቅ በሚፈልግበት ጊዜ ነው። ስለሆነም፣ እንደዚህ አይነት ማህበረሰቦች፣ ጋዜጠኞችን ሊያጋልጡን ይችላሉ በሚል ፍርሃት፣ እንደ ስጋት ሊመለከታቸው ይችላሉ። አንዳንዶቹ ደግሞ፣ ሚዲያው በትክክል አይወክለንም የሚል ስሜት አላቸው፤ በአሉታዊ መልክ ነው ስለእኛ የሚዘግበው ብለው የሚያምኑ ወግኖችም አሉ።

አደጋዎችን መቀነስ ማስቻል

- በኢትዮጵያ ውስጥ አንዳንድ ማህበረሰቦች (ለምሳሌ፣ የተወሰኑ የኦሞ የስምጥ ሸለቆ ክፍሎች፣ ራቅ ያሉ የአፋር እና የሶማሌ ክልል አካባቢዎች) የራሳቸው የአካባቢ ህጎች እና ሚሊሻዎች እንዳሏቸው ልብ ይበሉ። በእንደዚህ ዓይነት ቦታዎች ላይ የሚሰሩ ከሆነ፣ በአካባቢው ሊያጋጥመዎ የሚችልን ማንኛውንም ችግር ለመከላከል፣ የአካባቢውን ህጎች፣ ልማዶች እና ደንቦችን በጥልቀት ማጥናት አለበዎት።

- ወደ እንደዚህ አይነት ማህበረሰቦች ለመዘገብ ከመሄድዎ በፊት፣ ሀሌም ፈቃድ የግኙ፤ ያለእነእርሱ ግብጣ ወይንም ስላማንነተዎ የሚመሰክርልዎት ሰው በሌለበት ሁኔታ ለመዘገብ መሄድ ችግር

  ሊያመጣበዎት እንደሚችል ይገንዘቡ። ስለ ማህበረሰቡ እና ስለ አመለካከቱ አስቀድመው በማጥናት፣ ለመገናኛ ብዙሃን ዘጋባዎች ምን ዓይነት ምላሽ ሊሰጡ እንደሚችሉ ያረጋግጡ። አስፈላጊ ከሆ፣ እራስዎን ዝቅ አድረገው ይቅረቡ።

- በ 2010 ዓ.ም፣ በምዕራብ ጎጃም ዞን በአማራ ክልል ውስጥ በተመራማሪዎች ላይ በደረሰው የግድያ

  ጥቃት እንደታየው፣ በህብረተሰቡ ውስጥ እየተዛመተ ያለ የሃሰት መረጃ ወደ ጠላትነትን ስሜት አምርቶ አስከፊ ጥቃት/የጅምላ ሊያስከትል እንደሚችል ልብ ይሏል።

- አብሮዎ በመሆን ስራዎን በማስተባበር ሊያግዘው የሚችል ጎብዘ ያካባቢ ተውላጂ፣ የማህበረሰብ መሪ፣ በማህበሩ ዘንድ የተከበረ ሰው መቅጠር ብልህነት ነው። ድንገተኛ ሁኔታ ቢፈጠር፣ ሊረዳዎ የሚችል ተጽዕኖ መፍጠር የሚችል አካል ለይተው ይወቁ።

- በማህበረሰቡ ውስጥ የአልኮል ወይም የአደንዛዥ ዕፅ ያለቅጥ አጠቃቀም ካለ ወይም በከፍተኛ ደረጃ የተንሰራፋ ወንጀል ካለ፣ የማይጠበቁ አደጋዎች የመፈጠራቸው እድል እየጨመረ እንደሚሄድ ይገንዘቡ።

- በተለይ አንድ ማህበረሰብ በጣም በአስጊ ሁኔታ ያለ ከሆነ፣ የሰውነት መከላከያ ጭምብሎች መልበስን ያስቡ።

- በተቻለ መጠን፣ በቡድን ሆነው ወይም ትክ አዘጋጅተው ወደ ስራ ይሰማሩ። እንደ አደጋው አስጊነት መጠን የሚተካዎት ሰው አስፈላጊ ከሆነ ምላሽ ለመስጠት እንዲችል በአቅራቢያዎ በሚገኝ ደህንነቱ በተጠበቀ ቦታ (ለምሳሌ ነዳጅ ማደያ) ውስጥ ሊቆይ ይችላል ።

- የአካባቢውን መልካ ምድራዊ አቀማመጥ ታሳቢ ያደረገ የስራ እቅድ ያውጡ። ሊከሰት የሚችለው አደጋ ከፍተኛ ነው ብለው ካመኑ፣ የደህንነት ድጋፍ የሚያገኙበትን መንገድ ግምት ውስጥ ያስገቡ። በሥራዎ ላይ ትኩረት በሚያደርጉበት ጊዜ፣ እርስዎንና መሣሪያዎን ለመጠበቅ የቀጠሩት ያካባቢው ነዋሪ የስጋቱን ሁኔታ ሊከታተልለዎ ይችላል ።

    - ተሽከርካሪዎን ወደ ማምለጫ አቅጣጫ አዙረው ያቁሙ፤ ከተቻለም፣ አሽከርካሪዎ ሁሌም በተጠንቀቅ ዝግጁ ይጠብቅዎት።

    - ከአሽከርካሪው ርቀው መሥራት ካለብዎ፣ እንዴት ወደዚያ መመለስ እንደሚችሉ ይወቁ። መንገዱን ለመለየት የሚረዱ ምልክቶችን ልብ ይበሉ፤ ለባልደረቦቸዎም ይንገሩ።

    - ድንገተኛ አደጋ ቢገጥመዎ ሕክምና ለማግኘት ወዴት መሄድ እንዳለበዎት ለይተው ይወቁ። የመውጫ ስልትም ይኑርዎ።

- አንድን ግለሰብ በቪዲዮ ከመቅረጽዎ ወይም ፎቶግራፍ ከማንሳትዎ በፊት ሁል ጊዜ ፈቃዱን ይጠይቁ፡፡ ሁልጊዜም የግለሰቦችን እምነቶቻቸውን እና ስጋቶቻቸውን ያክብሩ፡፡
- በምሽት፣ ማለትም የአደጋው መጠን በከፍተኛ ፍጥነት ሊጨምር በሚችልበት ጊዜ ላይ ነውጠኛ ማህበረሰብ ውስጥ ከመስራት ይቆጠቡ ፡፡
- በቦታው ካስፈላጊው ጊዜ በላይ አይቆዩ፡፡ የሚፈልጉትን የመረጃ ይዘት ካገኙ፣ በፍጥነት ይውጡ፡፡ ስምምነት የተድረሰበት ቁርጥ ያለ የመውጫያ እቅድ አስቀድሞ ማዘጋጀት፣ በተባለው ጊዜ ለመውጣት ያግዛል፡፡ አንዱ የቡድንዎ አባል ምቾት እየተሰማው ካልሆነ፣ በውይይት ጊዜዎን አያባክኑ፤ ዝም በለው ፈጥነው ይውጡ፡፡
- ለቦታው የሚስማማ፣ አክብሮት የተመላበት፣ የሚዲያ ኩባንያ መለያ የሌለው ልብስ ይልበሱ፡፡ አስፈላጊ ከሆነም ከመሳሪያዎችዎና ከተሽከርካሪዎችዎ ላይ የሚዲያ መለያ ሎጎዎችን ያንሱ፡፡
- የሚይዟቸውን ውድ ዕቃዎችና የገንዘብ ብዛት ይመጥኑ፡፡ ሌቦች እርስዎን ለማጥቃት እና መሣሪያዎቸዎን ለመቀማት አልመዋል? ከሆነ የሚፈልጉትን ሁሉ ያስረክቧቸው፡፡ ማንኛዉም መሳሪያ፣ ከህይወትዎ የሚስተካከል ዋጋ የለውም፡፡
- አጠቃቀሙን ካወቁበት፣ የህክምና ኪት ይዘው ይሂዱ፡፡
- ዘገባዎን ከማሰራጨተዎ/ ከማተመዎ በፊት ወደዚህ ቦታ ሊመለሱ እንደሚችሉ አይርሱ፡፡ የሰሩት ዘገባ ወደቦታው በሚመለሱበት ጊዜ ተቀባይነት እንደማያሳጣዎ ያረጋግጡ፡፡

አካላዊ ደህንነት፤ ኮቪድ-19ን ከግምት ውስጥ ማስገባት

የምርጫ ዝግጅቶች እና ተዛማጅ የተቃውሞ ሰልፎች ላይ ከፍተኛ የህዝብ ብዛት መኖሩ የተለመደ ነው፤ በእንደዚህ አይነት ሁኔታ፣ አካላዊ ርቀትን መጠበቅ ደግሞ በጣም ፈታኝ ነው፡፡ የህብረተሰቡ አባላት የፊት

መሸፈኛ ጭምብል ላይለብሱ ይችላሉ፡፡ የሚዲያ ሰራተኞችም ከሌሎች ጋዜጠኞች ጋር በትንሽ ስፍራ ተፋፍገው መስራት ሊኖርባቸው ይችላል፡፡ እንዲህ ዓይነቱ መተፋፍግ፣ ጋዜጠኞችን ለቫይረሱ ጠብታዎች ሊያጋልጣቸው ይችላል፡፡ ከዚህም በላይ፣ ነውጠኛ ሆኑ የማህበርሰቡ አባላት ሊሰድቧቸው፣ የአካላዊ ጥቃት ሊደርስባቸው እና እላያቸውም ላይ ሊስሉባቸዉና ሊያነጥሱባቸው ይችላሉ፡፡

የዲጂታል ደህንነት፤ ጠቅላላ ምርጥ ተሞክሮዎች

- የመስመር ላይ አካውንቶቸዎ ስለራሰዎ፣ ስለ ቤተሰቦቸዎ ስለ ምንጮቸዎ በርካታ መረጃዎችን ይዘዋል፡፡ 15 ወይም ከዚያ በላይ የያዙ የይለፍ ቃላትን በመጠቅምና፣ የሁለት-ደረጃ ማረጋገጫን (two-factor authentication ፤2FA) በማብራት የአካውንቶቸዎን ደህንነት ያረጋግጡ፡፡ የአካውንቶቸዎን ደህንነት ይበልጥ ለማረጋገጥ፣ አዘውትረው ምትክ ያስቀመጡ፤ ይዘቶቻቸውንም ያጥፉ፡፡ ይህን ማድረግ፣ እራስን ከመንታፊዎች ለመታደግ ይረዳል፡፡ ፡ይህን በማድረግ፣ አካውንቶቸዎን ሌሎች መክፈት ቢችሉ እንኳ ሊያገኙ የሚችሉትን መጠን መቀነስ ይቻላል፡፡ የአካውንቶቸዎን ደህንነት ይበልጥ ለመጠበቅ ያሚያስችለዎን መረጃ ለማግኘት፣ የሲፒጄን የዲጂታል

የደህንነት ኪት (የ አማርኛውን ትርጉም) ይመልከቱ።።

- የመሣሪያዎችዎን ደህንነት ለመጠበቅና በውስጣቸው የያዟቸውን መረጃወች ከጥቃት መታደግ አስፈላጊ ነው። መሣሪያዎችዎን በይለፍ ቃል ወይም በፒን ይቆልፉ። ኦፐሬቲንግ ሲስተመዎን፣ መተግብሪያዎችዎን እና መፈለጊያዎችዎን አዘውትረው ያዘምኑ። ይህን በማድረግ፣መሳሪያዎችዎን ከተንኮል አዘል ዌር ይታደጉ:: መረጃዎችዎ እና ይዘቶችዎ እንዳይጠፉብዎ፣ ለመሳሪያዎችዎ አዘውትረው ምትክ ያዛጋቹላቸው። ስለ መሳሪያ ደህንነት አጠባበቅ የበለጠ ለማወቅ፣ የሲፒጄን

  የዲጂታል የደህንነት ኪት ያንብቡ።

- ከሌሎች ጋር ደህንነቱ በተጠበቀ ሁኔታ ለመግባባት የትኞቹን መሳሪያዎች እንደሚጠቀሙ መረዳቱ እርስዎ እና ምንጮቻችሁን ለመጠበቅ ወሳኝ ሊሆን ይችላል። በሚቻልበት አጋጣሚ ሁሉ፣ እንደ ሲግናል ወይም ዋትስአፕ ያሉ ከጫፍ-እስከ-ጫፍ የተመሰጠሩ የመልዕክት መላላኪያ መተግበሪያዎችን ይጠቀሙ። ጥሪዎችን፣ የድምፅ መልዕክቶችን፣ ሰነዶችን እና ፎቶዎችን ጨምሮ ሁሉም ይዘቶች በሚተላለፉበትም ወቅት ይሁን በሰርቨር ላይ በሚቀመጡበት ሰአት የተመሰጠሩ ናቸው። የሲፒጄ

  የዲጂታል ደህንነት ኪት፣ ከሌሎች ጋር ደህንነቱ በተጠበቀ ሁኔታ እንዴት መግባባት እንደሚቻል ተጨማሪ መረጃ አለው ።።

- በተንቀሳቃሽ ስልክም ሆነ በመደበኛ ስልክ በኩባንያዎ በኩል የሚመጣ ማንኛውም አጭር መልዕክት ወይም የስልክ ጥሪ ደህንነቱ ያልተጠበቀና ክትትልም ሊደረግበት እንደሚችል ይወቁ ።።

- የሚጎበኟቸው ድር-ገጾች በእያንዳንዱ ዩ.አር.ኤል (https://cpj.org) መጀመሪያ ላይ የኤችቲቲፒስ (https) እና የቁልፍ ምልክት እንዳላቸው በማየት የተመሰጠሩ መሆናቸውን ያረጋግጡ። ይህን ማድረግ፣ በእርስዎ እና በገጹ መካከል ያለው ትራፊክ የተመሰጥረ መሆኑን ያረጋግጥልዎታል። እንዲሁም፣ የገጹን አፃፃፍ በመፈተሽ ድረ-ገጹ እውነተኛ መሆኑ አለመሆኑን ያረጋግጡ።

- ስፓይዌር በኢትዮጵያ ጋዜጠኞች እና ተቃዋሚዎች ላይ ያነጣጠረ ጥቃት ለመፈፀም እንደዋለ ሲቲዝን ላብ ያደረገው ጥናት አመልክቷል። ይህንን ጥቃት በተሻለ መንገድ ለመከላከል፣ ጋዜጠኞች መሣሪያዎቻቸውን፣ መተግበሪያዎቻቸውን እና ብራውዘሮቻቸውን በየጊዜው ማዘመን አለባቸው። ስፓይዌሮችን እንዴት መከላከል እንደሚቻል ተጨማሪ ዝርዝሮችን ለማግኘት ከዚህ በታች በፊሺንግ ላይ ያለውን ክፍል ያንብቡ።

የዲጀታል ደህነነት፤ መሳሪያዎችዎን ለፖለቲካዊ የድጋፍ ሰልፍ ማዘጋጀት

አንድን የድጋፍ ሰልፍ ከመዘገብዎ በፊት የመሳሪያዎን እና የመረጃዎን ደህንነት ለመጠበቅ እርምጃዎችን መውሰድ ሌሎች ስለ እርስዎ እና ስለ ምንጮችዎ መረጃ የማግኘት እድላቸውን ይቀንሰዋል ።።

ምርጥ ተሞክሮዎች

- የሞባይል ስልክዎ ሙሉ ቻርጅ እንዳለው ያረጋግጡ፤ ተንቀሳቃሽ የኃይል ባንክም ይዘው ይሂዱ።።

- መሣሪያዎችዎን ያዘጋጁ። በእጅ ስልክዎ እና በላፕቶፕዎ ላይ ያለው መረጃ ምን እንደሆነ እና በምን መልኩ እርስዎንም ሆነ ሌሎችን ለአደጋ ሊያጋልጥ እንደሚችል ይወቁ። መሣሪያዎችዎ ቢሰረቁ፣ ቢወረሱ ወይም ቢሰበሩ ሌሎች እንዲያገኟቸው ለማይፈልጓቸው መረጃዎች ምትክ ያስቀምጡ እና ያስወግዷቸው።
- መሣሪያዎችዎን በይለፍ ቃል ወይም በፒን በመቆለፍ ደህንነታቸውን ይጠብቁ። ይህን ማድረግ ግን ባለስልጣናት መሳሪያዎቸዎን ከመክፈት ሊያግዳቸው እንደማይችል ልብ ይበሉ።
- በሁነቱ የማይጠቀሙባቸውን ማናቸውንም መተግበሪያዎች ከስልክዎ ዘግተው ያውጡ።
- ከሌሎች ጋር መረጃን ለመለዋወጥ እንደ ሲግናል እና ዋትስአፕ ያሉ ከመጨረሻ-እስከ-መጨረሻ ምስጠራ ያላቸውን መተግበሪያዎች በሚቻልበት ሁኔታ ሁሉ ይጠቀሙ። የስልክ ውይይቶች እና ኤስኤምኤስ በሕግ አስከባሪዎች ሊጠለፉ እንደሚችሉ ይወቁ።
- በመልዕክት መላኪያ መተግበሪያዎችዎ ውስጥ ምን ይዘት እንዳለ ይውቁና ይዘቱን በመደበኛነት ምትክ ለማዘጋጀትና ለመሰረዝ የሚያስችለዎትን ሂደት ያዘጋጁ ።
- በስልክዎ እና በመልዕክት መላላኪያ መተግበሪያዎችዎ ውስጥ ያሉትን ዕውቂያዎች ይቆጣጠሩ። እርስዎን ወይም እነሱን አደጋ ላይ ሊጥሉ ይችላሉ የሚሏቸውን ሰዎች ዝርዝር መረጃዎች ያስወግዱ። እውቂያዎች በመተግበሪያዎች እና ክላውድ ውስጥ እንዲሁም በሲም ካርዱ ላይ ተከማችተው እንደሚቆዩ ልብ ይበሉ።
- መሳሪያዎችዎን ከርቀት ለማጽዳት እንደሚችሉ አድርገው ያዘጋጁ። ምንአልባት ብያዝ ወይም ብታሰር እና በርቀት መሳሪያዎቼን ለማጽዳት ጊዜ አይኖርኝም የሚል ስጋት ካለዎት፣ በእንዲህ አይነት ሁኔታ ሃላፊነት ወስዶ ከርቀት ያጸዳልኛል ብለው ከሚያምኑት ሰው ጋር አስቅድመው መነጋገር ይኖርብዎታል። አንድ መሣሪያን ከርቀት ማጽዳት የሚቻለው ከበይነመረብ ጋር ወይም ከተንቀሳቃሽ ስልክ ዳታ ጋር ከተገናኘ ብቻ ነው። መሣሪያዎን ማጽዳት የበለጠ ተጠርጣሪ ሊያደርግዎት እንደሚችልም ልብ ይበሉ።
- ከእይታዎ ርቀው ቆይተው ከቀናት በኋላ ሊመለሱለዎት የሚችሉ መሳሪያዎችዎ፣ በስፓይዌር ተበክለው ሊሆን ይችላል። እንደዚህ ባለ ጊዜ፣ ከተቻለ አዳዲስ መሣሪያዎችን ይግዙ። ይኽ የማይቻል ከሆነ ደግሞ፣ የስልክዎን የፋብሪካ ዳግም ማስጀመር ስራ (factory reset) ያከናውኑ፤ ይኽን ማድረግ ግን ስፓይዌሩን ሊያስወግደው እንደማይችል ልብ ይበሉ።
- ሂደቱን ለመዘገብ የግል ስልክዎን መውሰድ የሚያሰጋዎ ከሆነ በምትኩ ረከስ ያለ ስልክ ገዝተው እሱኑ ይዘው ለመሄድ ያስቡ።
- መሣሪያዎችዎን ያመስጥሩ። ለተጨማሪ መረጃ፣ የማመስጠርያ መሳሪያዎችን በተመለከት፣ የሲፒጄን መመሪያ (CPJ's guide on encrypting devices) ይመልከቱ።
- አካውንቶቸዎን በሁለት-ደረጃ ማረጋገጫ እና 15 ወይም ከዚያ በላይ ፊደላትን የያዙ ረጅምና ለይት ያሉ የይለፍ ቃላት በመጠቀም ደህንነታቸውን ይጠብቁ። ከባዮሜትሪክስ ይልቅ የይለፍ ኮድዎን በመሳሪያዎችዎ ላይ ያድርጉ። የአካውንቶችን ደህንነት ማስጠበቅን በተመለከተ የሲፒጄን መመሪያ (CPJ's guide on securing accounts) ይመልከቱ።
- ለቀረጹት/ለሰነዱት ሁነት አዘውተረው ምትክ ያስቀምጡ። ይህን ማድረግ፣ መሣሪያዎችው ቢቀሙ ወይም ቢሰበሩ እንኳ መረጃዎን እንዳያጡ ያግዘዎታል።

- ሁነቱ እየተካሄደ እያለ ሁነቱን ትዊት ማደርግ ወይም በቀጥታ አየር ላይ ማሰራጨት ለከፍተኛ አካላዊ አደጋ ላይ ሊጥለዎት እንደሚችል ይወቁ፡፡
- መሣሪያዎን ሊወስዱ፣ ሊሰብሩ ወይም ሊሰርቁ ከሚፈልጉ ሰዎች ይጠንቀቁ፡፡

የዲጂታል ደህንነት፤ ለግንኙነት መቋረጥ መዘጋጀት

በሲፒጄ እንደተሰነደው፣ ኢትዮጵያ ውስጥ፣ በተለይም የፖለቲካ አለመረጋጋት በሚከሰትበት ወቅት፣ የኢንተርኔት የግንኙነት መቋረጦች የተለመዱ ናቸው፡፡ በሰኔ 2012፣ በሀገር አቀፍ ደረጃ፣ ኢንተርኔት

ተዘግቶ ነበር፤ እንዲህ አይነት የግንኙነት መቋረጦች በየክልሉም የተለመዱ ናቸው፡፡ በህዳር 2012

ከተፈጠረው የትጥቅ ግጭት አንስቶ፣ የትግራይ ክልል የኢንተርኔት መቋረጥ አጋጥሚታል ሲል ሲፒጄ

ሰንዷል፡፡ የግንኙነት መቋረጥ ከጥቂት ሰዓታት እስከ ወራቶች ሊቆይ የሚችል ሲሆን፣ ሙሉ በሙሉ ወይም በከፊል መጥፋትን ሊያካትት ይችላል፤ በግንኙነቶኝ መቋረጥ ወቅት መሥራት ውስብስብ ሊሆን ቢችልም፣ ጋዜጠኞች እራሳቸውን ለዚህ ሁኔታ በማዘጋጀት፣ ሊወስዷቸው የሚችሏቸው እርምጃዎች አሉ

አጠቃላይ የዲጂታል ደህንነት ምክር

- የመሳሪያዎችዎን ደህንነት ይጠብቁ፤ በውስጣቸው የሚያስቀምጡትንም መረጃ መጠን ይገድቡ፡፡ ይህን ማድረግ፣ ግኙነት በተቋረጠበት ሁኔታ ዘገባ ላይ እያሉ በቁጥጥር ስር ቢውሉ፣ እርስዎንም ሆነ ምንጮችዎን በተሻለ መልኩ ለመከላከል ይረዳዎታል፡፡
- ከሌሎች ጋር ለመገናኘት/ ለመነጋገር ዳር እስከ ዳር የተመሰጠሩ የመልእክት መላላኪያ መተግበሪያዎችን ይጠቀሙ፡፡ ዳር እስከ ዳር ምስጠራ ማለት ጥሪዎችን ጨምሮ በመተግበሪያዎ በኩል የተላከው ይዘት የተመሰጠረ ስለሆነ መልክቱ በሚንቀሳቀስበት ውስጥ ጣልቃ መግባት አይቻልም ማለት ነው፡፡ ለዚህ አይነቱ ግንኙነት ሲግናል እና ዋትስአፕ በምሳሌነት የሚጠቀሱ መተግበሪያዎች ናቸው:: የእነዚህ መተግበሪያ ባለቤቶች የመልዕክቶችን ይዘት ማወቅ ስለማይችሉ፣ በመንግስትም የመረጃ ስጡኝ ጥያቄ አይኖርባቸውም፡፡ እነዚህ አገልግሎቶች እንዲያጡ ታግደው ከሆነና መጠቀም ሳይችሉ ቀርተው፣ በቴሌኮሙኒኬሽን ኩባንያ በኩል የሚያልፉ አጫጫጭር ምልዕቶች እና የስልክ ጥሪዎችዎ ቢያስትላልፉ ሊጠለፉበዎ እንደሚችሉ ይወቁ ::

ለግንኙነቶች መጥፋት/መቋረጥ መዘጋጀት

- የበይነመረብ ወይም የግንኙነቶች መዘጋት መቼ ሊከሰት እንደሚችል ይተንብዩ፡፡ በይነመረብ ሊዘጋባቸው የሚችሉ ጊዚያት የሕዝባዊ አመጽን፣ የተቃውሞ ሰልፎችን እና የምርጫ ወቅቶችን ያካትታል፡፡ አንዳንድ የሀገራቱ ክልሎች፣ ከሌሎቹ በበለጠ ለበይነመረብ ገደቦች የተጋለጡ ሊሆኑ ይችላሉ፡፡ ምንም እንኳን ከዚህ በፊት የኢትዮጵያ መንግስት በሀገር አቀፍ ደረጃ ግንኙነትን የዘጋ ቢሆንም፣ በቅርብ ጊዜ የተደረጉ መቋረጦች የታዩት በትግራይ እና በምእራብ ኦሮሚያ እንደነበር መረጃዎች ያመለክታሉ፡፡

- የበይነመረብ ግንኙነቶች ሙሉ በሙሉ ሊዘጉ በሚችሉበት ወቅት ስለሚኖረዎት እቅድ ከዜና ክፍልዎ እና ከሥራ ባልደረቦችዎ ጋር ይነጋገሩ። የት እና መቼ በአካል እንደምትገናኙ ዝርዝር እቅድ ይኑረዎ። በይነመረቡንም ሳይጠቀሙ እንዴት መረጃዎችን ለአዘጋጆች በሰነድ ማስተላልፍ የሚያስችለዎን ዘዴ ይፍጠሩ። የመደበኛ የመስመር ስልክዎን አድራሻ ማጋራትም ያስቡ፤ ነገር ግን፣ መደበኛ የስልክ ጥሪዎች ደህንነታቸው የተጠበቀ ስላልሆኑ ሚስጥራዊ ውይይቶችን መጠቀም እንደማያስችሎዎ ይገንዘቡ። የግኙነት መቋረጥ ሊገጥሟቸው በሚችሉ ክልሎች ወይም አካባቢዎች ውስጥ ሊኖሩ እና ሊሠሩ የሚችሉ የሥራ ባልደረቦቾዎን እንዴት መደገፍ እንዳለብዎም ያቅዱ።
- ግንኙነት ከመቋረጡ በፊት ሊያስፈልጉኝ ይችላሉ የሚሏቸውን በኢንተርኔት ላይ የሚገኙ ማናቸውንም ሰነዶች ወይም ይዘቶች ያትሙ።
- ግንኙነት በሚቋረጥበት ወቅት፣ መረጃዎችን ለማከማቸት ዩኤስቢ ድራይቮችን ወይም ሲዲዎችን በስረዎ ለሚስሩ ሰዎች ያቅርቡ።

በይነመረብ መዘጋት ወቅት፣ በይነመረብን የማግኘት እድል ያላቸው እንድ ኤምባሲ ወይም ባንኮች ያሉ መስርያቤቶች ውስጥ የሚሰሩ ሰዎችን ወይም አገልግሎቶችን ለየትው ይወቁ። በይነመረብ ላይ ያለን መረጃ ሊያገኙልዎ ይችሉ እንደሆነ አስቀድመው ያነጋግሩዋቸው።

ትክክለኛዎቹን መሳሪያዎች መምረጥ

የመስመር ላይ መሳሪያዎች እና አገልግሎቶች ለደህንነት ጥሰቶች የተጋለጡ ናቸው። ጋዜጠኞች፣ በተለይ እንደ የመልዕክት መላላኪያ መተግበሪያዎች ያሉ የግንኙነት መሳሪያዎችን በተመለከተ፣ የቅርብ ጊዜውን የዲጂታል ደህንነት መረጃ እንዲተገብሩ ይመከራሉ። የሚከተለው ምክር ግንቦት 2013 ጀምሮ የሚያገለግል ነው።

- በይነመረብ በከፊል በሚዘጋበት ጊዜ፣ የታገዱ ጣቢያዎችን ለማግኘት እንዲረዱዎት የቪፒኤን አገልግሎቶችን ያውርዱ እና ያዋቅሩ። የበይነመረብ አገልግሎት አቅራቢዎች ቪፒኤንዎችን በተደጋጋሚ ያግዳሉ፤ ስለሆነም፣ በርካታ አማራጮች እንዲያዘጋጁ ይመከራል። ቪፒኤንን መጠቀም፣ በኢትዮጵያ ውስጥ ሕገወጥ አይደለም፤ ይሁን እንጂ፣ የአከባቢው ባለሥልጣናት ሕጉን በተለየ መንገድ በመተርጎም ቪፒኤን መጠቀምን ሊከለክሉ እንደሚችሉ ጋዜጠኞች መገንዘብ አለባቸው። በይነመረብ ሙሉ በሙሉ በሚመዘጋት ወቅትቪፒኤንን መጠቀም፣ ዋጋ የለውም።
- ከሌሎች ጋር ለመገናኘት ከአንድ በላይ አማራጮች ይኑረዎት። የተለያዩ የግንኙነት መተግበሪያዎችን ማውረድ እና ማዋቀር አንዱ ከታገደ ወደሌላው በቀላሉ ለመዞር ያስችለዎታል። ከተለያዩ መተግበሪያዎች ጋር ሊኖሩ ስለሚችሉ የደህንነት ተጋላጭነቶች ይወቁ። ለምሳሌ፣ አንዳንድ አገልግሎቶች፣ በራሳችው በመብራት ፋንታ፣ ምስጠራን ራስዎ እንዲያበሩ ሊፈልጉ ይችላሉ። በበይነመረብ መዘጋት ወቅት እ ይበልጥ ደህንነታቸው ባልተጠበቀ

መንገዶች እንደ አጫጭር መልዕክት መላላኪያ መልዕክት ለመለዋወጥ ሊገደዱ ይችላሉ፤ ስለሆነም፣ ሚስጥራዊ መረጃዎችን እንዴት እንደሚያጋሩ ልብ ይበሉ።

- ብሉቱዝ፣ ዋይፋይ ዳይሬክት እና ኒር ፊልድ ኮሙኒኬሽንን (Near Field Communication) በመጠቀም እንዴት መረጃዎችን ማጋራት እንደሚችሉ ይወቁ። እነዚህ ዘዴዎችን በመጠቀም፣ ያለበይነመረብ ስልክዎን ከሌላው ሰው ስልክ ጋር በማጣመር መረጃን ለማስተላለፍ ያስችሉዎታል። እነዚህ መሳሪያዎች በመደበኛነት በስልክዎ የቅንብር ክፍል ውስጥ ሊገኙ ይችላሉ። የበይነመረብ መቋረጥ ከመከሰቱ በፊት አጠቃቀማቸውን ይለማመዱ። እንዲሁም ሚስጥራዊ ፋይሎችን በማጋራት ረገድ ያላቸውን ውሱንነት ይገንዘቡ።
- እንድ ብሪያር (Briar) ወይም ብሪጅፊይ(Bridgefy) ያሉ የአቻ-ለ-አቻ መልዕክት መላላኪያ መሣሪያዎችን ያውርዱ እና ያዘጋጁ። ብሪያር፣ በበይነመረብ፣ በዋይፋይ ቀጥታ እና በብሉቱዝ የሚሰራ ከዳር-እስከ-ዳር የተመሰጠረ የመልዕክት መተግበሪያ ነው። ብሪጅፊይ ከብሪየር ዝቅ ያሉ የደህንነት ማስጠብቂያ ባህሪያት ቢኖሩትም፣ በረጅም ርቀት ላይ የተሻለ ይሠራል።
- ሮሚንግ ወይም የሳተላይት ስልክ ባለው ዓለም አቀፍ ሲም ካርድ በይነመረብን ሊያገኙ ይችላሉ። እነዚህ አማራጮች ውድ ከመሆናቸውም በላይ የሳተላይት ስልኮችን ወደ ኢትዮጵያ አስመጥቶ ለመጠቀም፣ ጋዜጠኞች ከባለስልጣናት የቅድሚያ ፍቃድ ማግኘት ይጠበቅባቸዋል። በተለይ፣ የአካባቢ ቅኝትን (location tracking) የሚዘግቡ ከሆነ እነዚህን አገልግሎቶች መጠቀምዎ ሊያስከትልብዎ የሚችለውን የደህንነት አደጋ ይወቁ። የውጭ ጋዜጠኞች፣ የእጅ ስልኮቻቸውን ኢትዮጵያ ውስጥ የሚጠቀሙ ከሆነ መሳሪያቸው በመንግስት ባለቤትነት ከሚገኘው ኢትዮ ቴሌኮም (ኢቲሲ) ጋር እንደሚገናኝ ማወቅ አለባቸው፤ ይህም ማለት፣ መንግስት የሚገኙበትን ስፍራ መከታተል ይችላል ማለት ነው።

በግንኙነት መጥፋት ወቅት

- በይነመረብ በተቋረጥብት ወቅት ሲዘግቡ፣ እንደ ሁኔታው፣ ለእስር ተጋላጭነትዎ ሊጨምር ይችላል። ስለሆነም፣ መሣሪያዎችዎ፣ እርስዎንም ሆነ ሌሎችን ለአደጋ ሊያጋልጡ የሚችሉ ሚስጥራዊ መረጃ እንዳልያዙ ያረጋግጡ።
- ልክ በሰአቱ ሪፖርት ማድረግ አስቸጋሪ ቢሆንብዎትም እንኳ፣ ምን እየተከናወነ እንዳለ መሰነድ ይችላሉ። መረጃን ለማከማቸት እና ለሥራ ባልደረቦችዎ እና ለዜና አዘጋጆቸዎ ለማስረከብ ዩኤስቢዎችን ወይም ሲዲዎችን ይጠቀሙ። ከተቻለ፣ መርጃዎቸዎን ያመስጥሩ። በእነዚህ መሳሪያዎች ላይ መረጃ ባልተመሰጠረበት ሁኔታ በቁጥጥር ስር ከዋሉ፣ መርጃዎችን ባለስልጣናቱ ሊያገኟቸው እንደሚችሉ ይወቁ።
- ብሉቱዝን፣ ዋይፋይ ዳይሬክትን ወይም ኤን.ሲ.ሲን በመጠቀም በመሣሪያዎች መካከል ፋይሎችን ያጋሩ (እነዚህ ነገሮች ብዙውን ጊዜ በመሣሪያው ቅንብሮች ስር ይገኛሉ)። በዚህ መንገድ መረጃን ማስተላለፍ ደህንነቱ የተጠበቀ አለመሆኑንም ይገንዘቡ፤ መሣሪያዎ በአቅራቢያ ካሉ የማይታወቁ መሣሪያዎች ጋር እንዳይገናኝ ለማስቻል የሚጠቀሙበትን ማንኛውም ነገር ተጠቅመው ሲጨርሱ ይዝጉት።

- እንደ ብሪር እና ብሪድፊ ያሉ የአቻ-ለ-አቻ የግንኙነት መተግበሪያዎችን ይጠቀሙ። ይሁንና እነሱን መጠቀም ሊያስከትላቸው ከሚችሉ የደህንነት አደጋዎችም ይጠንቀቁ።
- ግንኙነት በሚዘጋበት ጊዜ፣ ሚስጥራዊ መረጃ ለማግኘት እንደ አጫጫር መልዕክት መላኪያ ወይም የስልክ ጥሪዎች ያሉ ደህንነታቸው ያልተጠበቀ የግንኙነት ዘዴዎችን ከመጠቀም ለመቆጠብ ይሞክሩ። እነዚህ የግንኙነት ዘዴዎች በመንግስት ባለቤትነት በሚተዳደረው የቴሌኮሙኒኬሽን አቅራቢ በኩል፣ በኢትዮጵያ መንግስት ሊጠለፉ ወይም ሊደርስባቸው ይችላሉ።
- የአንድሮይድ ስልክ ተጠቃሚዎች፣ ከበይነመረቡ ጋር ግንኙነት ሳያስፈልጋቸው መተግበሪያዎችን ለማውረድ ኤፍ-ድሮይድን (F-Droid) መጠቀም ይችላሉ። ለአንድሮይድ ሌላ አማራጭ መተግበሪያን ለመጫን የኤ.ፒ.ኬ ፋይልን መጠቀም ይበጃል። እነዚህ የመተግበሪያ ፋይሎች ከመተግበሪያ መደብር (store)ጋር ሳይገናኙ በመሣሪያዎች መካከል ሊጋሩ ይችላሉ፤ ይሁን እንጅ፣ የመተግበሪያ መደብር ማጣሪያ አይደረግባቸውም፤ ስለሆነም እንሱን ሲጠቀሙ ከሚያምኗቸው ሰዎች ብቻ ፋይሎችን ይቀበሉ።
- የታገዱ ገጾችን በስክሪን ሾት በማንሳት፣ ስለመዘጋታቸው ይሰንዱ። ይህንን ሰነድ፣ በአገርዎ ወይም በዓለም አቀፍ-ደረጃ ለሚንቀሳቀሱ የዲጂታል መብት ተሟጋች ድርጅቶች በሌላ ጊዜ ሊያጋሯቸው ይችላሉ። ይህን ማድረግ ግን ለአደጋ ሊያጋልጥዎ እንደሚችል ልብ ይበሉ ።

ከግንኙነቶች መጥፋት በኋላ

- ስለ በየነመረብ መዘጋት ዝግጅት እየተደረገ ባለበት ሁኔታ፣ የትኛው ዘዴ እንደሠራ እና የትኛው እንዳልሠራ ከዜና ክፍልዎ ወይም ከሥራ ባልደረቦችዎ ጋር ይነጋገሩ።
- መሣሪያዎችዎን ይፈትሹ፤ ምትክ በማስቀመጥ ይዘተዎን ወደ ውጫዊ ማከማቻ ወይም ወደ ክላወድ ያስተላልፉ። በሚቻልበት ጊዜ ሁሉ፣ ደህንነቱ ይበልጥ የተጠበቀ እንዲሆን ለማድረግ መረጃዎን ያመስጥሩ።

የዲጅታል ደህንነት፤ እራስን ከማስገር (Phishing) ስለመከላከል

የማስገር ዘመቻዎች፣ በምርጫ ወቅት ሊጨምሩ ይችላሉ። ኢትዮጵያውያን ተቃዋሚዎች፣ ጋዜጠኞች እና የሚዲያ ተቋማት ከዚህ ቀደም የተራቀቁ የአስጋሪ የጥቃት ሰለባዎች ሆነው ቆይተዋል። ሲቲዝን ላብራቶሪ እና ግላዊነት ኢንተርናሽናል (Citizen Lab and Privacy International) እንደዘገበው፣ የዚህ አይነቱ ጥቃት፣ በየመሣሪያዎች ላይ እየተጫኑ ላሉ የንግድ ስፓይዌሮች ምክንያት ሆኗል። ሰለ ምርጫ፡ ዘመቻው የሚዘግቡ ጋዜጠኞች በኢሜል እና በመልዕክቶች የተላኩ ሰነዶች እና ሊንኮች ሲያጋጥሟቸው የተለየ ጥንቃቄ ሊያደርጉ ይገባል ። በዚህ ረገድ፣ ምርጥ ተሞክሮዎችን የያዙ ምክሮች ከዚህ በታች ተዘርዝረዋል።

አጠቃላይ ምርጥ ተሞክሮዎች

- በመልዕክቶች ወይንም በኢሜል አማካኝነት የተላከለዎትን ሊንክ ተጠቅመው ፋይሎችን ከማወረድ ይልቅ፣ ሁሌም ግልጋሎቱን በሚሰጡ ድር-ገጾች የሚገኙ ሶፍትዌሮችን ያውርዱ።

- በጥድፊያ አንድ ነገር እንዲያደርጉ ከሚገፋፉዎ ውይንም ደግሞ ለማመን የሚያዳግቱ የሚያማልሉ ነገር የሚሰጥዎ መስለው ከሚታዩ መልዕክቶች ይጠንቀቁ ፣ በተለይም አገናኙን ጠቅ ማድረግ ወይም ዓባሪን ማውረድ የሚያካትቱ ከሆነ።

- የመልዕክቱን እውነትኛነት ለማወቅ፣የላኪውን አካውንትና የመልዕክቱን ዝርዝር ሁኔታ በደንብ ይፈትሹ። በፊደል አጻጻፍ፣ በሰዋስው፣ በመልዕክቱ አቀማመጥ፣ ወይም ቃና የሚታዩ ትናንሽ ልዩነቶች አካውንቱ እንደተጭበረበረ ወይም እንደተጠለፈ ሊያመለክቱ ይችላሉ።

- በሞባይል ስልክ ኩባንያዎ ወይም በተንቀሳቃሽ ስልክዎ በኩል የሚመጣ ማንኛውም አጫጭር መልዕክት ወይም የስልክ ጥሪ ደህንነቱ ያልተጠበቀ እና ክትትል የሚደረግበት ሊሆን እንደሚችል ያረጋግጡ።

- የደረሰዎት መልዕክት ከሚያውቁት ሰው የመጣ ቢመስልዎም እንኳን ሊንኮችን ከመጫነዎ በፊት በጥንቃቄ ያስቡ። የዩ.አር.ኤሉን(URL) ትክክለኛነት ለማረጋጥ ከርሰርዎን በሊንኩ ላይ እንዲያንዣብብ ያድርጉ።

- በኢሜል የሚቀበሉትን ማናቸውንም አባሪ አስቀድመው ይመልከቱ። ሰነዱን ካላወረዱ ማንኛውም ተንኮል አዘል-ዌር ባለበት ተይዞ እንዲቆይ ማድረግ ይቻላል። ጥርጣሬ ካለዎት ለላኪው ይደውሉና ይዘቱን በኢሜል ውስጥ ገልብጠው እንዲልኩለዎት ይጠይቋቸው።

- በወሬ ቡድኖች አማካኝነት በሚላኩ ሊንኮችና ሰነዶች ላይ ይጠንቀቁ። በርካታ ቁጥር ያላቸው የወሬ ቡድኖች ዘንድ፣ ባልስጣናት ወይንም ተሳታፊዎችን ለማጥመድ የፈለጉ ሌሎች ሰዎች ሰርገው ሊገቡ ይችላሉ

- መልዕክቶችን ለመገምገም/ለመፈተሽ የዴስክቶፕን መተገብሪያዎች ይጠቀሙ። ትልቅ ስክሪኖችን መጠቀም የተቀበሉትን መልዕክት ምንነት ለማዎቅ ይረዳውታል፤ እናም ብዙ ተግባራትን የመጠቀም እድለዎም ያነሰ ይሆናል።

- አጠራጣሪ ሊንኮች እና ሰነዶችን ቫይረስ ቶታል ላይ ይስቀሉ። ቫይረስ ቶታል ተንኮል አዘል ዌርን ለመለየት የሚያስችል አግልግሎት ነው፤ ይሁን እንጂ፣ ብዙ ጊዜ የሚታወቁትን ብቻ ለመቃኘት እንደሚያስችል መገንዘብም ተገቢ ነው።

- ራስ-ሰር ማዘመኛዎችን እንዲሰሩ በማድረግ በየመሣሪያዎችዎ ላይ ያሉ ሶፍትዌሮችን ሁሉ ወቅታዊ ያድርጉ። ይህንን በማድረግ፣ ደህንነትዎን የሚያደናቅፉ ተንኮል አዘል ዌሮችን የሚያስከትሉ የታወቁ ተጋላጭነቶችን ማስተካከል ይቻላል።

- ምርጫ በሚከናወንበት ጊዜ እና በሁከትና በብጥብጥ ወቅት ወይም ባልደረቦቸዎና በአካባቢው ያሉ የሲቪል ማህበራት ጥቃት እንደደረሰባቸው ሪፖርት ማድርጋቸውን ተክትሎ ሊከሰቱ የሚችሉ የፊሺንግ ሙከራዎችን በንቃት ይከታተሉ።

የዲጂታል ጥንቃቄ፤ የመስመር ላይ ጥቃት እና የተሳሳተ መረጃ ዘመጃዎች

በመርጫ ወቅት፣ በተለይ አዘጋገቡ መንግስትን በጣም በሚያጥላላ ወይም በጣም በሚደግፍ ሁኔታ ተቃኝቶ በሚሰራብት ጊዜ፣ በሲፒጄ እንደተሰነደው፣ በእነሱ ላይ ያነጣጠረ ጥቃትን ጨምሮ፣ ጋዜጠኞች የመስመር ላይ የትንኮሳ ሰለባ የመሆናቸው አጋጣሚ ከፍተኛ ነው። በመስመር ላይ፣ የገፀው ፓርቲ

ደጋፊዎችም ሆን ተቃዋሚዎች ንቁ ተሳታፊዎች ናቸው። ትግራይ ውስጥ ሆነው የሚዘግቡ ጋዜጠኞች

የመስመር ላይ ጥቃት እና ሀሰታኛ መረጃን ታሰራጫላችሁ የሚል ክስ ሊግጥማቸው እንደሚችል ልብ ሊሉ ይገባል። የዲጅታል መብት ኔትዎርክ ለአፍሪካ የተሰኘው ለትርፍ ያልተቋቋመ ድርጅት እንደዘገበው፣ ጥቃቶች፣ የተቀነባበሩ የትዊተር ዘመቻዎችን አቋቁመው በሚያጧጡፉ የመንግስት ተቃዋሚ የኢትዮጵያ ዲያስፖራ ማሕበርስቦች ሊፈጸሙ ይችላሉ። ጋዜጠኞች እራሳቸውንና አካውንቶቻቸውን ከጥቃት በተሻለ ለመከላከል የሚያስችሏቸው የተለያዩ ዘዴዎች አሉ።

የጥቃትን ስጋት ለመቀነስ

- የጠቅላላ የምርጥ ተሞክሮ በሚለው ክፍል እንደተገልጸው፣ 15 ፊደላትን ወይም ከዚያ በላይ የያዙ የይለፍ ቃላትን እና የይለፍ ቃል ማኔጀርን በመጠቀም፣ አካውንቶዎቸዎን በ2ኤፍኤ ደህንነታቸውን ይጠብቁ። የይለፍ ቃላትን በድጋሚ አይጠቀሙ።
- የተለያዩ የመፈለጊያ ኢንጅኖችን (search engines) በመጠቀም ስመዎን ይፈልጉና ከህዝብ እይታ መውጣት አላባቸው የሚሏቸውን እርሰዎን የሚመለከቱ መርጃዎች ያጥፉ።
- የማህበራዊ ሚዲያ አካውንቶቸዎን በሚገባ ያጢኑና ማንነቱን ሊያሳውቁብኝ የሚሏቸውን የግል መረጃዎች ያስወግዱ ወይንም ይቀንሱ። ከህዝብ እይታ ውጭ መሆን አለባቸው የሚሏቸውን እንድ ስልክ ቁጥረዎ ያሉ የግንኙነት መረጃዎቸዎን ያስወግዱ።
- አካውንቶቸዎን በውል በማጤን፣ እኔን ለማጥላላት ሊያገለግሉ የሚሏቸውን ፎቶዎች ወይንም ምስሎች ያሰወግዱ።
- የዲጂታል ማስፈራሪያዎች ውደ አካለዊ ጥቃቶች ሊያመሩ ስለሚችሉ እንደዚህ አይነቶችን ምልክቶች ለማየት ይችሉ ዘንድ አካንቶቸዎን ባንክሮ ይከታተሉ። የትኞቹ ምልክቶች የበለጠ ስጋትን ሊያስከትሉ ይችላሉ የሚለውን በተመለከተ ከዚህ በታች የቀረበውን ዝርዝር ይመልከቱ።
- ስለመስመር ላይ ትንኮሳዎች ለቤተስቦቸውና ለጓደኞዎቸዎ ያዋዩ። የመስመር ላይ አጥቂዎች ብዙ ጊዜ ስለጋዜጠኞች የሚፈልጉትን መረጃ የሚያገኙት በዘመዶቻቻው ወይንም በዙርያቸው ባሉ ሰዎች የሚዲያ አካውንቶች አማካኝነት ነው። ቤተስቦቸዎንና ጓደኞቸዎን ፎቶቸዎን እንዲያስዎግዱለዎት ዎይም የእይታቸውን መጠን እንዲቀንሱለዎት ይጠይቋቸው።
- ከቻሉ፣ በመስመር ላይ በተቃጣ ጥቃት የተነሳ ቤተዎን ለቀው የመውጣት እቅድ ካለዎት፣ ለዋና አዘጋጁ ይንገሯቸው። በግለዎ የሚሰሩ ጋዜጠኛ ክሆኑ ደግሞ፣ ስለመስመር ላይ ጥቃቱና ባስፈላጊ ጊዜ ሊጠቀሙባቸው ስለሚችሉ የድጋፍ አገልግሎቶች ስለማቋቋም ለስራ ባልደረቦቸዎ ያሳስቧቸው

በጥቃት ጊዜ

- ከጥቃቱ በስተጀርባ ያሉ ማን እንደሆኑና አላማቸው ምን እንደሆነ ለማጣራት ይሞክሩ። ይህን ማድረግ የአካላዊውን የማስፈራሪያ ስጋት ልክ ለማወቅ ይረዳወታል።

- መልዕክቶችን በደንብ በመመልከት፣ ለአካላዊ ጥቃት የመዳረገዎ የስጋት ደረጃ ምን ያህል እንደሆነ ያጢኑ። በመስመር ላይ እየተንሸራሸሩ ያሉ መልዕክቶች የቤተዎን አድራሻ ወይንም የስልክ ቁጥርዎን የያዙ ከሆነ፣ የአደጋው የስጋት መጠን ከፍ ያለ ነው ማለት ያስችላል። መልዕክቶቸን ማየት የማልችልበት ሁኔታ ነው ያለሁ ብለው ካስቡ፣ የሚያምኗቸው ጓደኛዎ ወይንም የስራ ባልደራበዎ እንዲያዩለዎ ይጠይቁ።

- የዛቻ መልዕክቶችን ፣ መልዕክቶቹ የተላለፈበትን ቀንና ሰዓት እና የተላለፈባቸውን የማህበራዊ ሚዲያዎችን አካተው የያዙ ስክሪንሾቶችን ጨምሮ፣ አሳሳቢ የሆኑ መልዕክቶችን እና ምስሎችን ሰንደው ይያዙ። የኋላ ኋላ ስለ ጥቃቱ ለማህበራዊ ሚዲያ ድርጅቶች፣ ለዜና አዘጋጅዎ፣ ሀሳብን

  በነፃነት ስለመግለጽ ለሚሟገቱ ድርጅቶች እና ስለጥቃቱ ለባለስልጣናት ሪፖርት ማድረግ ቢያስፈለግዎት፣ የዚህ አይነቱ መረጃ ሊጠቅመዎት ይችላል።

- የመስመር ላይ ትንኮሳ እየደረሰበዎ እንደሆነ ለቤተሰበዎ፣ ለተቀጣሪዎቸው፣ እና ለጓደኞቸው ይንገሯቸው።

- ብዙውን ጊዜ ባላጋራዎቸው የቤተሰበዎን አባላት እና ጓደኞቸዎን ያገኟቸዋል፤ ያ ደግሞ የማዋክቡ ኡደት አንድ አካል ነው።

- የሚላኩለዎትን መልዕክቶች በማገድ፣ መልስ ባለመስጠት እና ለመልዕክቶቸዎ መልስ ሊሰጡ የሚችሉትን ሰዎች ቁጥር በመገደብ ችግሩን ለመቅረፍ የሚረዱ እርምጃዎች ናቸው፤ ይሁን እንጅ፣ እነዚህን እርምጃዎች መውስዱ፣ ከሰዎች ጋር የሚያደርጉትን የመስመር ላይ ግኑኝነት ከመገደቡም በላይ፣ የማስፈራሪያ መልዕክቶች እንዲያመልጡዎ ምክንያት ሊሆኑ ይችላሉ።

- ትንኮሳው እስኪያከትም ድረስ፣ አብዛኛወቹን የማህበራዊ ሚዲያ አካዎንቶቸዎን የግል ለማድረግ ያስቡ።

- ከዜና ክፍለዎ ጋር በመሆን ለመስመር ላይ ትንኮሳዎች መቸ እና እንዴት ምላሽ መስጠት እንዳለበዎ ይወስኑ። ለእያንዳንዱ መልዕክት ምላሽ መስጠት አዋጭም ጠቃሚም አይደለም። ይሁን እንጅ፣ የተሳሳተ የመረጃ ዘመቻ ወቅት ከእርስዎ የዜና ክፍል የሚገኘውን የድጋፍ መልዕክት በእርስዎ እና በማኅበራዊ ሚዲያ አናት ላይ እንዲቀመጥ ማድረግ ጠቃሚ ሊሆን ይችላል

- የመስመር ላይ ትንኮሳ ከፍተኛ የሆነ የመገለል ስሜት ሊፈጥር ይችላል። እርስዎን ለማገዝ የሚረዱ የድጋፍ ትስስሮች እንዲኖረዎ ያድርጉ። ይህን ማድረግ፣ ነገሮች በጎ በሆኑ ጊዜ፣ አሠሪዎንም ያካትታል። በመስመር ላይ ጥቃት በሚከሰትበት ጊዜ የአእምሮ ጤንነትዎን ለመጠበቅ የሚረዱ የበለጡ መረጃዎች ለማግኘት የሲ.ፒ.ጄን የደህንነት ማስታወሻ ይመልከቱ።

ማጠቃለያ፡ የአዘጋጆች የደህንነት ማረጋገጫ ዝርዝር

የዜና አዘጋጆች፣ የሚዲያ ሰራተኞችን በአጭር ጊዜ ማሳሳቢያ ከምርጫ ጋር የተያያዙ ኩነቶችን እንዲዘግቡ ሊጠይቋቸው ይችላሉ፤ አዘጋጆቹ ይህንን በሚያደርጉበት ጊዜ፣ የሚዘገበው ሁነት በድንገት ወደ ግጭት ሊያመራ እንደሚችል፣ ሁነቱ የሚዘገበው በጣም ከራቀ አካባቢ ሊሆን እንደሚችል ወይም ደግሞ አካባቢው በብሔር መቆራቆስና ግጭት የሚታምስ ሊሆን እንደሚችል ግምት ውስጥ ማስገባት አለባቸው። ይህ የደህንነት ማረጋገጫ ዝርዝር በሠራተኞች ላይ ሊደርሱ የሚችሉ አደጋዎችን በመቀነስ ረገድ ሊነሱ የሚችሉ ዋና ዋና ጥያቄዎችን እና መወሰድ የሚገባቸውን እርምጃዎች አካትቷል።

ጠቃሚ ማስታወሻ፤ የሚከተሉት ጠቃሚ ነጥቦች እንደ መፍትሄ ፈላጊዎች፣ ቦታ አመላካቾች እና የትርጉም ስራ በሚሰሩ የአካባቢው ወገኖች ዘንድ ሊታወቁ ይገባል::

ስለሰራተኞች ሊታሰቡ/ግምት ውስጥ ሊገቡ የሚገባቸው ጉዳዮች

- የተመረጡት ሰራተኞች የሚመደቡበትን የሚመጥን በቂ ልምድ አላቸው ወይ?
- ከተመረጡት ሰራትኞች መካከል ለኮቪድ ስጋት ከተጋለጡ ወገኖች ውስጥ የሚፈረጁ ወይም የእነርሱ እርዳታ የግድ የሚያስፈልጓቸው የቤተሰብ አባላት/የእነሱ ጥገኞች ያሏቸው አሉ ወይ ? ከሆነስ፣ የሚፈለገውን የክትባት መጠን ወስደዋል ወይ?
- ከተመረጡት ሰራተኞች መካከል፣ የማንነት መገለጫዎቻቸው፣ ብሄራቸው ወይም ማንነታቸው የጥቃት ኢላማ ሊያደርጋቸው የሚችሉ ሰዎች አሉ ወይ? የሚዲያው መስሪያ ቤት ፖለቲካዊ ወገናዊ ትስስር በጋዜጠኞቹ ላይ ለያስከትል የሚችለው አደጋ አለ ወይ?
- የተመረጡት ሰራተኞች ስራቸውን ለመስራት የሚያስችል የተሟል አካላዊ ብቃት አላቸው ወይስ በስራቸው ላይ ተፅእኖ የሚያሳድር የጤና እክል አለባቸው?
- ከተመረጡት ሰራተኞች መካከክል የተለየ የስራ ድርሻቸው የበለጠ አደጋ ላይ ሊጥላቸው የሚችሉ ሰራተኞች (ለምሳሌ፣ በፎቶ ጋዜጠኝነት ተመድበው እድርጊቶች መሃል የሚሰሩ) አሉ ወይ?

መሳሪያና ትራንስፖርት

- ከቡድንም አባላት እንዴት ግንኙነት እንደሚፍጥሩና አስፈላጊ ሆኖ ሲገኝም እንዴት እራሳቸውን ከሁኔታው ሊያገሉ እንደሚችሉ፣ ሁኔታዎችን አመቻችተዋል ወይ? መሬት ላይ ያሉ የግንኙነት መስመሮች ሙሉ በሙሉ መቋረጥ፣ ሁኔታዎችን እንዴት ሊያወሳስብ እንሚችል ልብ ይብሉ።
- የእጅ ስልካቸውን ጨምሮ፣ ስራተኞች ለመሳሪያዎቻቸው ምትክ በማዘጋጀት ተገቢውን ጥንቃቄ አድርገዋል ወይ?

- ለግንኙነት መንገዶች ተገቢውን ጥንቃቄ ስለማድረጋቸውና አግባብነት የመላላኪያ መተገብረያዎችን ስለማውረዳቸው ሰራተኞችን አነጋገረዋቸዋል ወይ?
- ሰራተኞች ስለሚሄዱብት መንገድ ደህነት፣ በዛ መንገድ በቅርቡ ስለተክሰቱ ሁነቶች ወይም ነውጦች እና ሊኖሩ ሰስለሚችሉ የፍተሻ ኬላዋች በቂ ጥናት አድርገዋል ወይ?
- ግጭት ሊከሰት ይችላል ተብሎ በሚገመትበት ሁኔታ፣ እንደ ሄልሜት ያሉ እራስን ለመከላከል የሚያስችሉ ቁሳቁሶችን አዘጋጅተዋል ወይ? በስሪዎ ያሉ ሰራትኞችስ ስለ እነዚህ እራስን ለመከላከል ስለሚያገልግሉ መሳሪያዎች አጠቃቀም ያውቃሉ ወይ?
- አንዳንድ የተመረጡ ሰራትኞች እራሳቸው ናቸው መኪናዎችኝን የሚያሽከረክሩት? መኪናዎችስ ምን ያህል አስተማማኝ፣ ተገቢ እና ወጣ ገባውን የመንገድ ሁኔታ ለመቋቋም የሚያስችል ጥንካሬ አላቸው?
- ስለ ኮቪድ አደገኛነት ተጋላጭነት ከተመረጡ ሰራትኞች ጋር ተወያይታችኋል ወይ? ጥራቱን የጠበቀ ያአፍና የአፍንጫ ጭንብል እና የአልኮል ሳኒታይዝሮችንስ አቅረበውላቸዋል ወይ?

ትኩረት ሊሰጥባቸው የሚገባቸው አጠቃላይ ጉዳዮች

- ዘገባው ቢሰራ ሊገኝ ከሚችለው ጥቅም አንጻር፣ በተመረጡት ሰራትኞች ላይ ሊደርስ የሚችለው የጉዳት መጠን ተቀባይነት አለው ወይ?
- የተመረጡት ሰራተኞች ለድርጅተዎ እንደሚሰሩ የሚያመለክቱ ተገቢ የሆነ የሙያ ብቃት ማረጋገጫዎች፣ የይለፍ ወረቀቶች ወይም ደብዳቤ ተሰጥቷቸዋል ወይ?
- ለሰራ ስለተሰማሩ ሰራተኞችዎ ያደጋ ጊዜ ተጠሪዎች ዝርዝር መረጃዎች መዝግበው በጥንቃቄ አስቀምጠዋል ወይ?
- (አስፈላጊ ሆኖ ሲገኝ) ስለመግቢያ/ስለመሳፈርያ የሚያሳዩ ዝርዝሮችን አዘጋጅታውል ወይ?
- የቡድኑ አባላት ተገቢ የሆነ ዋስትና እና የህክምና ሽፋን ተግብቶላቸዋል/ተመቻችቶላቸዋል?
- በጉዳት ጊዜ የህክምና አገልግሎት የሚሰጡ የህክምና ተቋማት ለይተው አውቀዋል ወይ? ስለነዚህ ተቋማት የቡድነዎ አባላት እንዲያውቁ አድርገዋል ወይ? (አም. ኤስ. ኤፍ እንደገለጸው፣ ትግራይ ውስጥ፣ ከሚገኙት የህክምና ተቋማት መሀል፣ 70% ገደማ የሚሆኑት ተዘርፈዋል ተብሎ እንደሚነገር ያስታውሱ)።
- ከስራው ጋር በተያያዝ ሊፈጠሩ ስለሚችሉ አስጨናቂ ሁነቶች አንስተው (ከቡድን አባላቶቸዎ ጋር) ተወያይተዋል ወይ?

ስለ ስጋት ዳሰሳ እና እቅድ የበለጠ መረጃ ለማግኘት፣ የሲፒጂን የመረጃ/ የግብዓት ማዕከል ይመልከቱ

Ethiopian Election Reporting: General Safety Guidelines for Journalists

1. Pre-Assignment Preparation

- **Research conflict zones:** Know about past and current unrest in regions you're reporting from.

- **Check for risks based on identity:** Ethnicity, affiliation, or outlet reputation may make you a target.
- **Travel planning:** Some roads and towns (e.g., Ataye on the A2) are high-risk. Consider flying.
- **Accreditation:** Carry valid ID. Foreign journalists must apply through embassies and Ethiopian Media Authority.
- **Communication challenges:** Expect **blackouts**, especially during crises. Avoid unapproved satellite phones.
- **Accommodation:** Check hotel security and ownership. Some hotels have been attacked in the past.

2. Physical Safety at Events

- Avoid wearing branded media clothing in hostile environments.
- Work with a partner; never work alone at night or in conflict zones.
- Know emergency exits, local medical facilities, and have an escape plan.
- Use **PPE** (e.g., helmet, goggles, body armor) if violence is expected.

3. Crowds, Rallies & Protests

- **Risk of stampedes, attacks, and detainment** is high.
- Avoid getting trapped in the middle of crowds.
- Be alert to aggression and hostile attitudes. **Retreat calmly** when needed.
- Use **non-confrontational posture** if accosted. Hand over belongings if threatened.

4. Remote Areas & Conflict Zones

- Understand the actors: ENDF, OLA, regional forces, and local militias.
- Work with trusted local guides or fixers.
- Let someone know your schedule and have **regular check-ins**.
- Avoid staying in one place too long or traveling at night.

5. Checkpoint Navigation

- Obey directions, stay calm, and have documents ready.
- Don’t argue or make sudden movements.
- Avoid unofficial checkpoints, especially at night.

6. COVID-19 Considerations

- Wear high-quality masks (N95 or FFP2).
- Carry hand sanitizer, maintain distance, and clean gear post-assignment.
- Follow local and national health regulations.

7. Digital Safety Tips

- **Use strong passwords & 2FA.** Backup and encrypt your devices.
- **Use Signal or WhatsApp** for communication. Avoid SMS/phone for sensitive data.
- Prepare for blackouts with USBs, printed materials, offline tools (e.g., Briar, Bridgefy).
- Be cautious of phishing. Verify all links and documents before opening.

8. Online Harassment

- Secure your accounts and reduce personal info exposure.
- Prepare mentally and organizationally for digital attacks.
- Coordinate with editors about public responses to misinformation campaigns.

9. Editor's Checklist

- Are the staff experienced and safe for the assignment?
- Do they have proper PPE, insurance, and transport?
- Are there protocols for check-ins, emergencies, and post-trauma support?