

# Impact Report

A year of great support to  
women journalists

2021



The Coalition For  
Women In Journalism

# Press Freedom Under Siege

## Murders doubled since last year

CFWIJ documented 12 targeted killings of women journalists worldwide. Female reporters were killed in Afghanistan, Kenya, Yemen, Algeria, Palestine, the United States and Cameroon. The number of murders witnessed in 2021 increased by 100% as compared to 2020.



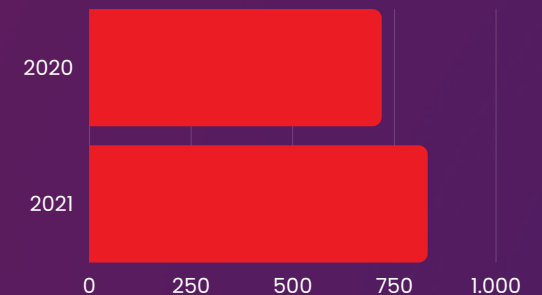
## 62 women journalists behind bars

At least 62 women journalists remained behind bars in different countries around the world in 2021.



## 13.6% increase on threats

The year 2021 saw major violations against women journalists increase by **13.6%** as compared to the previous year.



# Testimonials

Ailia Zehra works as a managing editor at Naya Daur Media. She covers counter-extremism, human rights and freedom of speech among other issues.

*“The Coalition For Women In Journalism has been documenting the harassment and intimidation of female journalists around the world which helps highlight the various challenges they face. Networks like CFWIJ, therefore, play an important role in pressuring the authorities to act and protect journalists.”*



**Ailia Zehra**  
Journalist, Pakistan

Bukola Adebayo is a freelance multimedia journalist whose reporting is focused on Africa. She has a decade experience reporting on politics, health, social justice issues across Africa for many reputable medium platform

*“I don’t recall any organization or non-profit that is solely focused on the risks and dangers that female journalists face doing their job before the Coalition For Women In Journalism.”*



**Bukola Adebayo**  
Journalist, Nigeria

# CFWIJ in numbers



15 #HeForShe members



Monitoring press freedom  
in 128 countries



160+ global mentors  
and advisors



Global networks with 1000+  
top women journalists

## Instagram



**@womeninjournalism**

6500+ followers

## Twitter



**@CFWIJ**

15.5K+ followers

## Facebook



**@CFWIJ**

6800+ followers



# CFWIJ Programs and Initiatives

## Press Freedom Newsroom



CFWIJ's Press Freedom Newsroom is the largest of its kind in the world, monitoring and documenting violations against women and LGBTQ+ journalists from 128 countries. In 2021, our Press Freedom Newsroom reported an average of 5 cases of violations per day (including weekends!)



## Mentorship

CFWIJ pioneered a one of a kind mentorship program dedicated to improve work and life of mid-career women journalists around the world, and is the first organization to focus on the status of free press for women and LGBTQ journalists. Our mentorship members in 2021 published in leading newsrooms including NYT, the Guardian, BBC, DW and won prestigious awards including the Pulitzer Prize.

## Mental Health Support



Mental health has been part CFWIJ's work from the very start – part and parcel of many of our projects focused of development and safety for journalists. This year we launched a dedicated initiative that offers tools, and an open platform for women journalists to share their experience and need. We recognize that mentally healthy journalists have better tools to navigate the newsroom, industry and their mission to tell amazing stories.



## Advocacy

CFWIJ is closing the gender gap in Press Freedom advocacy, putting women and LGBTQ journalists at the centre of our global awareness about press freedoms and democracy. In 2021 we expanded our reach to build awareness and support for women journalist by working closely with global leaders, partners and allies around the world. In 2021 our work lead for journalists released from prison, and support for exiled journalists.

# Generating Change In The Industry



## Evacuation of women journalists

In 2021, CFWIJ was on the frontlines of evacuating more than **320** female and LGBTQ+ journalists and leaders from Afghanistan who were at risk because of their work.



## Analysis of major issues

Analyze how major events and issues are shaping the work of women and LGBTQ+ journalists. Recent deep dives document the increasingly risky environment for women and LGBTQ+ journalists in Europe.



## Reports on threats and violations

CFWIJ published monthly, quarterly and annual reports on the status of press freedom from a gendered perspective.



## Global attention

CFWIJ brings global attention to the experiences of women and LGBTQ+ journalists and demand answers and accountability for specific cases of violence.

# Recent Advocacy Campaigns



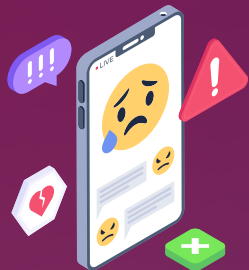
## Free Sedef Kabaş

CFWIJ led 38 press freedom organizations to call on the Turkish government to release imprisoned journalist Sedef Kabaş. She was released in the first hearing.



## End Online Violence in Canada

CFWIJ launched a campaign to extend its complete support to the women journalists who were targeted by online trolls. The campaign included testimonies by journalists and solidarity messages from our members from different parts of the world.



## #ThreatsToWIJ

In 2021, the CFWIJ revived its Twitter campaign to raise awareness on #ThreatsToWIJ – abbreviated from Threats to Women in Journalism. The campaign did bring together women journalists, activists and rights advocates.



## Impunity for Crimes Against Journalists

On International Day to End Impunity for Crimes Against Journalists, CFWIJ extended support to women and LGBTQI+ journalists worldwide. Journalists from around the world joined our campaign to stress that impunity begets violence and demanded justice for crimes against women and LGBTQI+ journalists everywhere.

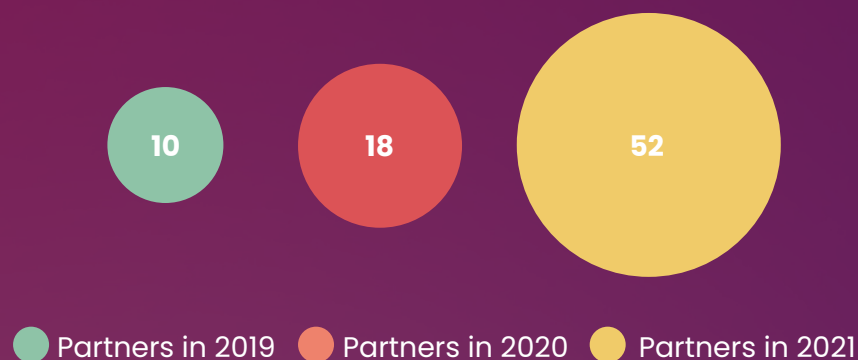
# CFWIJ Influence Growth in 2021

CFWIJ's advocacy work has had a direct and large-scale impact.

In Pakistan, where CFWIJ put forward a series of principles to foster a safer working environment for women and LGBTQ+ journalists, a delegation of The Coalition For Women In Journalism's Pakistan Chapter met with Human Rights Minister Dr. Shireen Mazari to present a resolution for the protection of media workers in the country, particularly women journalists in July 2019. After the delegation meeting, the Prime Minister issued his formal support for implementing these measures.

In Turkey, our Founder Director Kiran Nazish and Turkey Coordinator Damla Tarhan met with Turkey's democratic party CHP's women wing in Istanbul in 2020. The meeting was part of a series of assignments and activities set up as part of the CFWIJ's delegation to Turkey this month.

## Organization Partnerships



## Media Partnerships

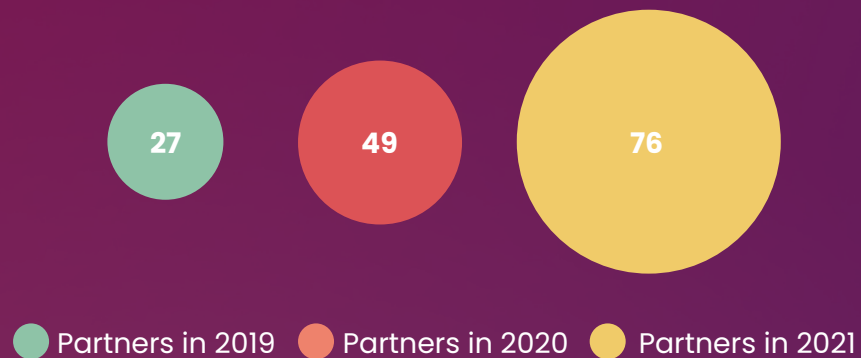




# CFWIJ Influence Growth in 2021

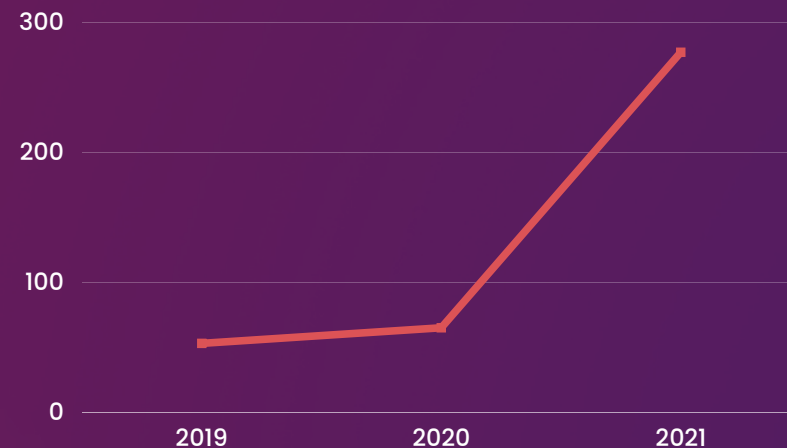
## General Partnerships

Partnering with many organizations, CFWIJ provides a worldwide support network for women journalists.



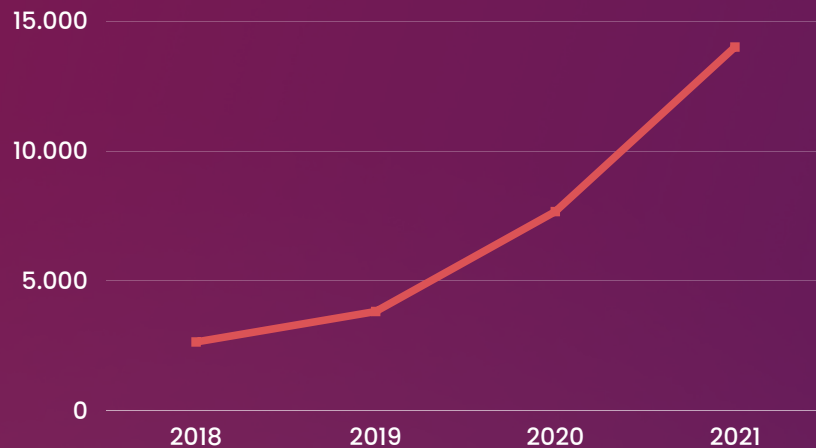
## Media Coverage

Global press coverage of the CFWIJ on mainstream media has visibly increased.

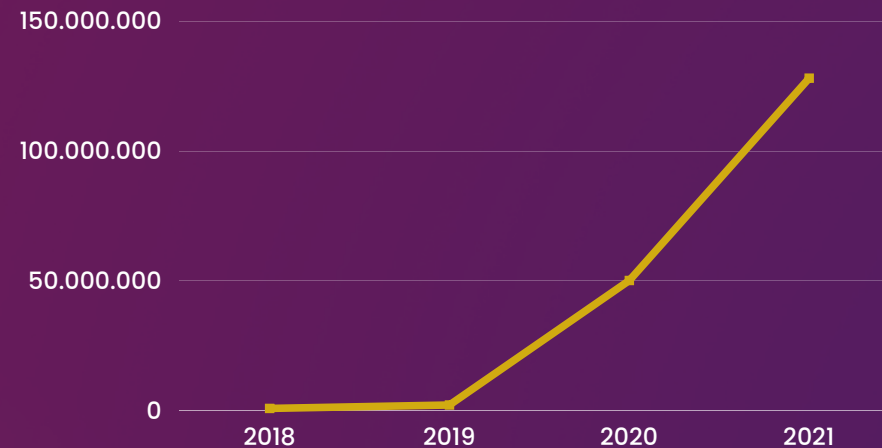


# Followers on Twitter

Since January 2020, followers of the CFWIJ Twitter account increased by 187% in 2021. According to Twitter Analytics, tweet impressions increased by 140% compared to the 2020.



● Number of followers



● Tweet impressions



# CFWIJ in the Press

Many prominent media outlets such as NYT, VOA, BBC, Independent and more covered CFWIJ's work. Global press coverage of the CFWIJ on mainstream media has visibly increased.



# Partner Amplification

We get regular amplification from partners like CIVIUS, IFEX, ACOS Alliance, Rory Peck Trust, UN Women, The Fuller Project, PEN International and 44 other partner organizations.



We are connected with women journalists from different countries and regions as well as our partners worldwide who share our values and goals, helping us advance our message and continue our efforts. The Coalition strives in all its work to promote a culture of stewardship in the public interest of good journalism. Empathy and responsibility are at the heart of everything we do.

# Impact map

In 2021 only, CFWIJ monitored and documented each case of violence against women journalists in 92 countries around the world. Since 2018, CFWIJ's Press Freedom Newsroom is the largest of its kind in the world, monitoring and documenting violations against women and LGBTQ+ journalists from 128 countries.





# Invitation to support



With your support we will be able to keep on reporting on violations against women journalists around the world. We are planning on employing new researchers to cover more countries in more detail. There are still a lot of cases to be recorded and due to our limited resources we are not able to report on all of them. We will also create more region based reports and timelines. We will be able to focus on the cases that need a lot of attention and publish more detailed reports and timelines on them. We would like to extend our journalists' networks which will help us with providing assistance to every woman journalist when needed. Thanks to you we will grow and in result women journalists' voices will be heard worldwide.

