

Worlds of Journalism Study

Master questionnaire, 2021

Version 1.8.4 consolidated – **SELF-ADMINISTERED**

Notes:

- This is the **questionnaire version to be used for self-administered questionnaires (online and paper-pencil)**. There is another version that should be used for the interview (telephone or face to face).
- The questionnaire contains mandatory questions (in black ink) as well as **optional questions and optional statements (marked in blue)**.
- Parts printed in *green italics* are instructions. They should not be presented to the respondent.
- Please refer to the field manual for explanations (**→FM**).
- Use the code “999” for questions respondents did not answer.

job_ttle **What is your current job title or position?**

→FM Please specify:

empl **Which of the following categories best describes your current working situation as a journalist?**

- 1 Full-time permanent contract
- 2 Part-time permanent contract
- 3 Full-time fixed-term contract
- 4 Part-time fixed-term contract
- 5 Freelance or self-employed
- 6 Other, please specify:
- 777 Don't know

empl_c1 **Has your work contract or self-employed status changed because of Covid-19?**

- 1 Yes
- 2 No
- 777 Don't know

empl_c2 *Ask only if empl_c1 = 1, otherwise filter out*

Which of the following categories best describes your working situation as a journalist before it changed?

- 1 Full-time permanent contract
- 2 Part-time permanent contract
- 3 Full-time fixed-term contract
- 4 Part-time fixed-term contract
- 5 Freelance or self-employed
- 6 Other, please specify:
- 777 Don't know

incm_j **Approximately what percentage of your overall work-related income comes from your work as a journalist?**

Please specify:
777 Don't know

incm_o *Ask only if incm_j < 100, otherwise filter out*

Do you also receive income by working in any of the following sectors? Please choose all that apply.

- 1 Yes
- 2 No
- A Advertising
- B Public relations or corporate communication
- C Education (for example, teaching or training)
- D Local or national government agencies
- E Other, please specify:

work_exp **For how many years have you worked as a journalist?**

→FM Please specify:

union **Do you belong to any organizations or associations that are primarily for people in journalism or the communications field?**

- 1 Yes
- 2 No
- 777 Don't know

role **Please tell me how important it is to do each of the following in your daily work.**

- 5 Extremely important
- 4 Very important
- 3 Moderately important
- 2 Slightly important
- 1 Not at all important
- A Be a detached observer
- B Monitor and scrutinize those in power
- C Shine a light on society's problems
- D Motivate people to participate in politics
- E Provide analysis of current affairs
- F Let people express their views
- G Provide information people need to form political opinion
- H Advocate for social change
- I Influence public opinion
- J Set the political agenda
- K Promote peace and tolerance
- L Educate the audience
- M Point toward possible solutions to society's problems
- N Speak on behalf of the marginalized
- O Support national development
- P Support government policy
- Q Convey a positive image of political leaders
- R Provide entertainment and relaxation
- S Provide the kind of news that attracts the largest audience
- T Provide advice, orientation and direction for daily life
- U Tell stories that emotionally move the audience
- X Support efforts to protect public health
- Y Counteract disinformation
- V Discuss future implications of current events

ethic1 **The following statements describe different responses journalists may have to ethical problems. For each of them, please tell me how strongly you agree or disagree.**

- 5 Strongly agree

- 4 Agree
- 3 Neither agree nor disagree
- 2 Disagree
- 1 Strongly disagree
- A What is ethical for journalists should always be determined by professional standards regardless of situation and personal judgment
- B What is ethical for journalists should be determined by professional standards unless extraordinary circumstances require disregarding them
- C What is ethical for journalists should depend on each specific situation
- D What is ethical for journalists should be a matter of personal judgment

ethic2

Which of the following, if any, do you think may be always justified, or justified on occasion, and which would you not approve of under any circumstances?

- 3 Always justified
- 2 Justified on occasion
- 1 Not approve under any circumstances
- A Claiming to be somebody else
- B Using hidden recording devices
- C Using confidential business or government documents without authorization
- D Using the personal materials of powerful people, such as documents and photos, without their permission
- E Using the personal materials of ordinary people, such as documents and photos, without their permission
- F Paying people for confidential information
- G Accepting money from sources
- H Accepting a free product or service from sources
- I Producing content that mimics news stories but hides its promotional nature
- J Publishing or broadcasting stories with information that is not yet verified

safe1

→FM

In the last five years, how often have you experienced any of the following actions related to your work as a journalist?

- 5 Very often
- 4 Often
- 3 Sometimes
- 2 Rarely
- 1 Never
- A Demeaning or hateful speech directed at you
- B Public discrediting of your work
- C Surveillance
- D Hacking or blocking of social media accounts or websites
- E Arrests, detentions or imprisonment
- F Legal actions against you because of your work
- G Stalking
- H Other threats or intimidation directed at you
- I Sexual assault or sexual harassment
- J Other physical attacks
- K Coercion
- L Questioning of your personal morality
- M Others using your byline for fabricated or manipulated stories
- N Others disseminating your personal information
- O Workplace bullying
- P Abductions
- Q Office raids or seizures or damage to equipment
- R Intimidation that targets your family
- Z Been required to work in an environment where Covid-19 had easily spread

S Other, please specify:

safe2 *Ask only if any statement in safe1 > 1, otherwise filter out*

When you experienced, to any extent, these actions, did you receive support (for example, legal or emotional support, time off work) from any of the following sources?

- 1 Yes, received support
- 2 No, received no support
- A Your news organization (owners, top editors)
- B Other colleagues in your news outlet or other outlets
- C A journalists' organization such as an association, press club, trade union
- D Non-governmental or human rights organizations that support journalists
- E Government authorities
- F Other, please specify

safe3 **Thinking about your work, please tell me how strongly you agree or disagree with the following statements:**

- 5 Strongly agree
- 4 Agree
- 3 Neither agree nor disagree
- 2 Disagree
- 1 Strongly disagree
- A I am worried about losing my job in journalism within the next 12 months
- B I am concerned about my physical well-being
- C I am concerned about my emotional and mental wellbeing
- D I am concerned that those who harm journalists in [COUNTRY] go unpunished

protct **In the last five years, have you engaged in any of the following measures to protect yourself? Please choose all that apply:**

- 1 Yes
- 2 No
- A Taken safety training and/or used safety equipment and protocols
- B Sought government protection
- C Sought legal protection
- D Engaged in self-censorship
- E Changed news beats or jobs at news organization
- F Changed your news organization
- G Changed your personal or daily routines
- H Moved to another place (e.g., state, province, city) within your country or to another country
- I Limited time spent in dangerous reporting areas
- J Removed or hidden your press IDs
- K Published anonymously, with a pseudonym or without a byline
- L Changed your phone number or taken extra precautions to safeguard your devices from intervention or tracking
- M Established communication networks with peers or supervisors for security
- N Filtered ideas/information to international media or published stories abroad
- O Paid much greater attention to verification of facts
- X Modified work routines to reduce the risk of exposure to Covid-19
- Y Refused to cover an assignment due to potential for exposure to Covid-19

stress **In the last six months, how often have you felt stressed out in your work as a journalist?**

- 5 Very often
- 4 Often
- 3 Sometimes
- 2 Rarely
- 1 Never

auto1 **Thinking of your work overall, how much freedom do you personally have in selecting the news stories you work on?**

- 5 Complete freedom
- 4 A great deal of freedom
- 3 Some freedom
- 2 Little freedom
- 1 No freedom at all

auto2 **And how much freedom do you personally have in deciding which aspects of a story should be emphasized?**

- 5 Complete freedom
- 4 A great deal of freedom
- 3 Some freedom
- 2 Little freedom
- 1 No freedom at all

freedom **In your view, how much freedom do the news media have in [country]?**

- 5 Complete freedom
- 4 A great deal of freedom
- 3 Some freedom
- 2 Little freedom
- 1 No freedom at all
- 777 Don't know

influ1 **Here is a list of potential sources of influence. Please tell me how much influence each of the following has on your work as a journalist.**

- 5 Extremely influential
- 4 Very influential
- 3 Moderately influential
- 2 Slightly influential
- 1 Not influential
- 8 Not relevant to respondent's/my work
- 777 Don't know
- A Your peers on the news staff where you work
- B Your editorial supervisors and higher editors
- C The business managers of your news organization
- D The owners of your news organization
- E Editorial policy
- F Advertising considerations
- G Profit expectations
- H Audience research and data, for example, ratings, circulation, and web metrics
- I Availability of news-gathering resources
- J Time limits
- K Journalism ethics
- L Self-Censorship
- M Your personal values and beliefs

influ2 **Here is another list. Again, please tell me on a scale of 5 to 1 how influential each of the following is in your work.**

- 5 Extremely influential
- 4 Very influential
- 3 Moderately influential
- 2 Slightly influential
- 1 Not influential
- 8 Not relevant to respondent's/my work
- 777 Don't know
- A Colleagues in other media
- B Your friends, acquaintances and family
- C Feedback from the audience
- D Competing news organizations
- E Media laws and regulation
- F Access to information
- G Government censorship
- H Government officials
- I Politicians
- J Business people
- K Public relations
- L Relationships with news sources
- M Police
- O Issue advocacy groups (such as NGOs, Labor unions...)
- Z Scientists or health experts
- P Religious groups and institutions
- Q Military
- R Para-military groups, militias and similar groups
- S Organized crime and criminal groups
- T Terrorist groups

epist1 **The following statements deal with beliefs related to how journalists know what they know. For each of them, please tell me how strongly you agree or disagree.**

- 5 Strongly agree
- 4 Agree
- 3 Neither agree nor disagree
- 2 Disagree
- 1 Strongly disagree
- A Interpretation is necessary to make sense of facts
- B Truth is inevitably shaped by those in power
- C It is impossible for journalists to withhold their personal beliefs from reporting
- D Things are either true or false, there is no in-between
- E It is possible to represent objective reality in reporting

epist2 **Using the same scale, please tell me how strongly you agree or disagree with the following beliefs.**

- 5 Strongly agree
- 4 Agree
- 3 Neither agree nor disagree
- 2 Disagree
- 1 Strongly disagree
- A Journalists should trust their instincts in deciding what's true and what's not
- B Journalists should intuitively know what the final story will be
- C Journalists should let the facts speak for themselves
- D Journalists should be part of a community to portray it accurately

- E Journalists should make their standpoint transparent in their work
 F Journalists should alert audiences when a source's claim is untruthful

beat1 **Do you usually work on or supervise a specific beat or subject area (such as politics, economy or sports), or do you usually work on or supervise various beats or subject areas?**

- 1 Work on a specific beat or subject area
 2 Work on various beats or subject areas

beat2 *Ask only if beat1 = 1, otherwise filter out*

→FM **Which beat or subject area do you primarily work on or supervise?**

Please specify:

hours1 **How many hours a week on average do you work as a journalist?**

Please specify:

hours2 **How many of these hours on average do you work from home?**

Please specify:

platf1 **Journalists can produce content for a variety of platforms, such as print, TV, radio, websites, and so on. When you produce or edit journalism content, or when you supervise its production, do you usually know in advance on which platforms it will be delivered to the audience?**

- 1 Yes, I usually know in advance
 2 No, I usually don't know in advance

platf2 *Ask only if plat1 = 1, otherwise filter out*

How often do you produce or edit content, or supervise its production, specifically for these platforms?

- 5 Always
 4 Often
 3 Sometimes
 2 Rarely
 1 Never
 777 Don't know

- A Print
 B Radio
 C Television
 D Websites
 E News apps
 F Podcasts
 G Social media, such as [insert country-specific examples]
 H Messaging apps, such as [insert country-specific examples]
 I E-Mail newsletters
 J Other, please specify:

mbackg **How would you describe the background of your main employer, or the main outlet where you work? Which of the following categories makes the best fit?**

→FM

- 1 Newspaper
 2 Magazine
 3 TV
 4 Radio
 5 News agency
 6 Internet native, such as [country specific examples]

- 7 Telecommunications, such as [country specific examples]
 9 I don't have one main employer or one outlet I work for more than others
 777 Don't know

format **How often do you produce, edit or supervise the production of journalism content in any of these formats?**

- 5 Always
 4 Often
 3 Sometimes
 2 Rarely
 1 Never
 A Text
 B Photographs
 C Audio
 D Video
 E Graphics, cartoons, illustrations, or animation
 F Other, please specify,

- G Multimedia stories that use a combination of the above

tech1 **Please tell me how frequently you use the following technologies for journalistic purposes.**

- 5 Always
 4 Often
 3 Sometimes
 2 Rarely
 1 Never
 777 Don't know
 A Technology that tracks and analyses information about the characteristics and behavior of online audiences (such as which stories they read and for how long). Examples of tools that do this include Chartbeat, Parse.ly, and Google Analytics
 B Social media for purposes such as to discover potentially newsworthy events, and/or to find sources, information and opinions for stories
 C Social media to promote journalism produced for other platforms

tech2 **Please tell us whether these technologies are used in any of the newsrooms you work in.**

- 1 Yes
 2 No
 777 Don't know
 A "Automated" or "robot" journalism in which computer software automatically converts data into news texts
 B "News personalization" where computer software automatically selects which stories are shown to audience members and how prominently

gen_edu **What is the highest level of education you have completed?**

- 1 Not completed high school
 2 Completed high school
 3 Bachelor's degree or equivalent
 4 Master's degree or equivalent
 5 Doctorate
 6 Undertook some university studies, but no degree

- train1 **Have you completed any formal education or professional training in journalism?**
 1 Yes
 2 No
- train2 *Ask only if train1 = 1, otherwise filter out*
Please indicate whether or not you received this formal professional training or education in any of the following types of institution.
 1 Yes
 2 No
 A University or college (where you received a degree in journalism)
 B Journalism apprenticeship/cadetship
 C University, college, institute, or some other means through which you received a certificate or diploma for a short-term course
- gender **What is your gender?**
 1 Female
 2 Male
 3 Other
- age **In what year were you born?**
 Please specify:
 777 Don't know
- pol_view **In political matters, people talk of “the left”, “the right”, and the “center”. On a scale from 0 to 10, where 0 is left, 10 is right, and 5 is center, where would you place yourself?**
 0 ... 10
- cult_grp **To which [cultural community] do you belong?**
 →FM Please specify:
 777 Don't know
- religio **Do you consider yourself as affiliated with any particular religion or religious denomination? If yes, which one?**
 →FM
 1 No affiliation with a religion or religious denomination
 2 Yes, affiliated with the following religion/denomination:
- income **In which of the following categories does your [monthly, annual etc.] salary as a journalist fall [, after taxes]?**
 →FM
 1 ... 10
 777 Don't know

TECHNICAL QUESTIONS

To be filled by the researcher! →FM

- T1 **Interview code**

- T2 **Interview date**
 (ddmmyy)

- T3 **Interviewer code**

- T4 **Interview mode**
 1 Telephone
 2 Face to face
 3 Paper-pencil
 4 Mail or E-mail
 5 Online
 6 Video call
- T5 **Rank of respondent (position in editorial hierarchy)**
 →FM 1 No management role (no operational or strategic authority)
 2 Middle management role (operational authority)
 3 Top management role (strategic authority)
 777 No information
- T6 **Location of medium the respondent mainly works for**
 →FM (city, municipality etc.)
- T7 **Reach of medium the respondent mainly works for**
 1 Local
 2 Regional
 3 National
 4 Transnational
 9 No main medium
 777 No information
- T8 **Primary ownership of medium the respondent mainly works for**
 1 Private/commercial media
 2 Public Service Media
 3 State-run media
 4 Community media
 5 Non-Profit Media
 6 Other, specify
- T9 **Notes**
