

## 2.3. Questionnaire

### I. General Conditions

- I.1. What is the percentage of literacy?  
Give reasons, explanations, interpretations. Illiteracy and education
- I.2. How many local radio and TV stations (including regional community-based stations) and newspapers exist in total? Local media
- I.3. Are there political parties which run (de jure or de facto or indirectly) their own radio, TV stations and/or newspapers? Media ownership
- I.4. Do independent local internet newspapers exist? Internet media
- If yes, do state authorities try to censor these internet newspapers?
  - Has the internet improved their working conditions for free coverage?
  - If no, what are the reasons?
- I.5. How many people (in total, as a percentage) have access to radio, TV, newspapers and the internet (including international satellite programming)? Media access
- I.6. How frequently do citizens use the media (TV, radio, press, internet, verbal exchange of information, miscellaneous) as a source of information in your country? Give your estimate on a scale from 1 to 4. Media consumption
- 1: almost never
  - 2: occasionally
  - 3: often
  - 4: very often

- Media influence on political opinion
- I.7. How significant is the influence of the media on the formation of political opinion in your country? Give your estimate on a scale from 1 to 4.**
- 1: no influence at all
  - 2: rather little influence
  - 3: significant influence
  - 4: highly significant influence
- Referring to answers 1 and 2, what do you think are the reasons for the media exerting only little influence on the formation of political opinion?
  - Does the social background of the media consumers determine the level of influence?
- State-owned media
- I.8. Do state-owned (or de facto/quasi state-run) newspapers, radio and/or television channels exist?**
- If yes, is the editorial departments' coverage protected by law from being influenced by government authorities?
  - Who appoints the leading positions of state-owned newspapers or television and radio channels (general directors, editors-in-chief, etc.)?
    - only the government
    - independent committees (including members of opposition parties and/or civil society)
    - miscellaneous
- State-owned media and published opinion
- I.9. To what extent is the published and broadcast opinion determined by state-owned media (reach and shares in comparison to private media)?**
- dominance of state-owned media (private media hold almost no shares of the published opinion)
  - hegemony of state-owned media (clear majority of shares are held by state-owned media)
  - hegemony of private media (clear majority of shares are held by private media)
  - dominance of private media (state-owned media hold almost no shares of the published opinion)
- Evaluate the coverage of state-owned media on a scale from -3 to +3.
    - 3: anti-government
    - 2: very critical towards government
    - 1: critical towards government
    - 0: neutral
    - +1: close to government
    - +2: very friendly towards government
    - +3: propaganda for government

- Are there any differences between press, radio and television coverage?
- If yes, what are the differences?

**I.10. Does the government regularly hold press conferences informing the public about its programs?** Government press conferences

- If yes, do all journalists have equal access to press conferences?
- Are press conferences allowed to be broadcast?
- If yes, are particular channels refused their broadcasting rights?

**II. Legal Environment**

**II.1. Is the freedom of expression established in the constitution and defined as a fundamental individual right?** Freedom of expression

- If yes, is the freedom of expression in any way restricted, e.g. by an amendment?
- If yes, to what and to whom does the amendment refer and with what consequences?

**II.2. Is the freedom of the press, or more precisely, free media coverage established in the constitution?** Media coverage

- If yes, is the free media coverage in any way restricted, e.g. by an amendment?
- If yes, to what and to whom does the amendment refer and with what consequences?

**II.3. Are there any defamation laws or laws which determine the access to information and the protection of privacy for office bearers?** Regulation of media coverage

**II.4. Is the media coverage regulated by law (or decree)?**

- If yes, is censorship by state authorities permitted under the law?
- If yes, in what cases does the law permit censorship by state authorities?
- Is free coverage of certain people, groups, institutions or issues restricted under the law?
  - If yes, what kind of people, groups, institutions or issues are concerned?
- Are certain people, groups or organizations excluded under the law from working as journalists or from expressing their opinions?
  - If yes, what kind of people, groups or organizations are concerned? What are their fields of work?
- Do media reports have to be examined by state authorities before publication?
- Are there any bodies or commissions that “regulate” media coverage on behalf of the government?

Changes in  
the past five  
years

**II.5. Has the legal framework for media coverage been modified during the past five years?**

- If yes, in what way has it been modified?
- Evaluate the effect of these modifications on the freedom of the media. Give your estimate on a scale from -3 to +3.
  - 3: extreme aggravation  
(free media coverage impossible)
  - 2: strong aggravation  
(free media coverage possible with major restrictions)
  - 1: slight aggravation
  - 0: no change in quality
  - +1: slight improvement
  - +2: strong improvement  
(free media coverage possible with minor restrictions)
  - +3: extreme improvement  
(unrestricted media coverage)
- Comment on whether 9/11 and possible anti-terror laws or regulations have impacted on and/or restricted the freedom of media coverage.

**II.6. Have there been any changes in the quality of the free media coverage during the past five years?**

- If yes, in which ways has it changed?
- Evaluate the effect of these modifications on the freedom of the media. Give your estimate on a scale from -3 to +3.
  - 3: from extreme aggravation to abolishment
  - 2: strong aggravation
  - 1: slight aggravation
  - 0: no change in quality
  - +1: slight improvement
  - +2: strong improvement
  - +3: extreme improvement – unrestricted freedom of the media

**II.7. Does legal censorship exist?**

Censorship  
under the  
law

- If yes, free coverage of which people, groups, institutions or issues is affected by censorship?
- Are certain people, groups or organizations illegally excluded from their jobs as journalists or from their right of free speech?
  - If yes, what kind of people, groups or organizations are concerned? What are their fields of work?

**II.8. What legal consequences do journalists, media companies or organizations have to fear if they act against the law that governs censorship? (several answers possible)**

- minor fine
- major fines that might endanger the economic existence of certain people and /or media companies/organizations
- official debarment from one's occupation
- compulsory liquidation of media companies/organizations
- from short-term to medium-term prison sentences
- from long-term prison sentences to life imprisonment
- from physical punishments to death penalty
- miscellaneous

Media  
licences

**II.9. Do newspapers, radio or TV stations have to be licensed or registered by state authorities before publication or broadcasting?**

- If yes, are those state authorities politically independent or impartial bodies?
- What are the reasons for refusing or taking away a license/registration?
- How often are licenses/registrations taken away or have been refused?
  - almost never
  - rarely
  - often
  - very often

Journalists'  
status

**II.10. Do journalists need an official permission to practice their profession?**

- If yes, what are the reasons for refusing such a permission or for taking it away?
- How often are work permits taken away from journalists? How often are they refused?
  - almost never
  - rarely
  - often
  - very often

**II.11. Do journalists have the legal right to participate in all public meetings of the government and the parliament?**

- If yes, do all journalists have equal access to the meetings?
- Are the meetings allowed to be broadcast?
  - If yes, are particular channels refused the right to broadcast?

**II.12. Do journalists have the right to legally challenge state repression?**

- If yes, can the courts really stop state repression?

- II.13. Is the formation of monopolies and/or cartels by private media companies prohibited by law?** Monopolies and cartels
- Do private media monopolies and/or cartels exist?
    - If yes, in which sectors of the media do monopolies and cartels exist?
      - TV
      - radio
      - press
  - Are monopolies restricted to only one sector of the media or are they overlapping?
  - Do media monopolists pursue certain political aims?
    - If yes, what are these aims?
  - Do state authorities really take action against private media monopolies?
    - If yes, what kind of actions?
    - If no, what are the reasons?

### III. Political Conditions

- III.1. Are there sections of the population or particular social strata whose political issues are not represented in the media?** Coverage of marginal groups
- If yes, which sections or social strata of the population are concerned?
  - What are their political issues?
  - What are the reasons for the exclusion of their issues in media coverage?
- III.2. Are certain sections of the population deliberately excluded by state action from their right to freedom of information?**
- If yes, which sections of the population are concerned?
  - By what means are they excluded?
  - What are the reasons for their exclusion?

- Self-censorship
- III.3. Does self-censorship in media coverage exist?**
- If yes, in which sectors of the media does self-censorship occur?
    - TV
    - radio
    - press
  - With reference to which thematic areas does self-censorship typically occur?
- Illegal state repression
- III.4. Do journalists, media companies or organizations have to fear state repression against the law?**
- If yes, what kind of repression?
  - How often is state repression used against journalists, media companies or organizations?
    - almost never
    - rarely
    - often
    - very often
- Obstacles to Internet access
- III.5. Has access to the internet been negatively affected by state measures?**
- If yes, in what way?
- Changes in the past five years
- III.6. Has the actual threat of state repression changed during the past five years?**
- If yes, evaluate the effect on *the present situation* of media freedom on a scale from -3 to +3.
    - 3: extreme aggravation  
(major repression is the order of the day)
    - 2: strong aggravation  
(acts of repression have distinctly increased)
    - 1: slight aggravation
    - 0: no change in quality
    - +1: slight improvement
    - +2: strong improvement  
(repression has become rare)
    - +3: extreme improvement  
(virtually no fear of repression)
  - What do you think are the reasons for the change?



- III.7. Do state-owned media monitor the production and distribution of print media? (e.g. the distribution of paper, the surveillance of distribution systems etc.) Government control over print media
- If yes, what kinds of control mechanisms exist?
  - Do state authorities take advantage of these control mechanisms in order to influence contents?
  - How often do state authorities use this kind of repression?
    - almost never
    - rarely
    - often
    - very often
  - Please try to estimate the frequency of this repression.

#### IV. Economic Pressures

- IV.1. Are private media subsidized by the state (through advertisements)? State subsidies
- If yes, what sectors of private media are subsidized and by which percentage?
    - TV
    - radio
    - press
  - How large is the subsidy for the media in relation to the whole private media market?
  - How much does the government spend on (political) advertisement in TV, radio and print media (in relation to big private companies)?
  - Evaluate the coverage of subsidized media on a scale from -3 to +3.
    - 3: anti-government
    - 2: very critical towards government
    - 1: critical towards government
    - 0: neutral
    - +1: close to government
    - +2: very friendly towards government
    - +3: propaganda for government
  - Are there any differences between press, radio and television coverage?
    - If yes, what are the differences?

Further aspects IV.2. Do you know of any economic aspects, leading to disadvantages for media companies?

### V. Non-state Repression

Repression by non-state groups V.1. Do journalists or media companies have to fear repression by non-state groups or organizations?

- If yes, what kind of repression?
- Who is behind these non-state groups or organizations?
- In which context or on which topics does non-state repression become likely?
- How often is non-state repression used against journalists, media companies or organizations?
  - almost never
  - rarely
  - often
  - very often
- Please try to estimate the frequency of this sort of repression.
- Do state authorities prosecute attacks against journalists?
  - If no, what are the reasons?
- Can state authorities effectively protect journalists?
  - If no, what are the reasons?

Changes in the past five years V.2. Has the actual intimidation through non-state repression changed during the past five years?

- If yes, evaluate the effect on the present situation of media freedom on a scale from -3 to+3.
  - 3: extreme aggravation  
(major repression is the order of the day)
  - 2: strong aggravation  
(acts of repression have distinctly increased)
  - 1: slight aggravation
  - 0: no change in quality
  - +1: slight improvement
  - +2: strong improvement  
(repression has become rare)
  - +3: extreme improvement  
(virtually no fear of repression)
- What do you think are the reasons for the change?

## VI. Conclusions

- VI.1. Has free media coverage generally changed during the past five years?** Evaluation of media coverage
- If yes, evaluate the effects on media freedom on a scale from -3 to +3.
    - 3: from extreme aggravation to abolishment
    - 2: strong aggravation
    - 1: slight aggravation
    - 0: no change in quality
    - +1: slight improvement
    - +2: strong improvement
    - +3: extreme improvement – unrestricted freedom of the media
- VI.2. Does the KAF support journalists and their work?** KAF support
- If yes, how does KAF support journalists?
  - Can the KAF intensify its engagement in supporting the free media?
    - If yes, what kind of support by the KAF seems to be desirable?
- VI.3. What is the general situation of media freedom?** Freedom of the media: general situation
- no freedom of the media
  - freedom of the media with major restrictions
  - freedom of the media with minor restrictions
  - unrestricted freedom of the media
- VI.4. From the point of view of journalists you are acquainted with, what are the major obstacles to free media coverage?** Major obstacles
- VI.5. From your own point of view, what are the major obstacles to free media coverage?**