



Women
Journalists
Without
Chains

Press
Freedom
Report
2023

Yemen in 2023:
Dwindling Journalism, Mounting Violations

Over the past nine years, Women Journalists Without Chains meticulously monitored a total of 1,657 cases of violations against journalists, including the murder of 51. In 2023 alone, there were an additional 71 cases. This report outlines, with increasing concern, the attacks on journalistic and media freedom.

Yemen's Media Freedom: A Lengthy Chronicle of Violations

In 2023, the Women Journalists Without Chains (WJWC) monitored a total of 71 distressing violations against journalists, including arrests, enforced disappearances, physical and psychological assaults, trials, summons, threats, torture, and various other transgressions. This report analyses these alarming incidents, shedding light on the dangerous evolving context for press freedom in Yemen.

While officially, the number of reported violations has decreased, this is not an accurate indication of the current Yemeni context. Instead, the decrease in the number of reported journalist violations in 2022 and 2023 is reflective of the warring factions' increased control over media and press freedom. Excessive control has led to the closure of all private and independent media offices, and particularly, outlets operating prior to the Houthi militia coup in September 2014. In the aftermath of the coup, a significant number of journalists lost their jobs and were forced to flee and emigrate.

Over the course of this relentless nine-year war, journalists have worked in increasingly unsafe conditions marked by threat of killing, torture, and forced disappearance. The gravity of the situation has contributed to a significant decline in media freedom, a setback that harkens back decades. The report moves beyond metrics to provide a nuanced understanding of the current restrictive environment for journalistic work, and underscores the complex challenges and dangers encountered by journalists.





Additionally, the documentation highlights four cases where visitation and communication were denied, coupled with deprivation of healthcare for the abductees (5.63% of the total violations). Other incidents include two cases of physical assault, two salary suspensions (2.81%), and one hunger strike, constituting 1.40% of the documented violations.

This report exposes the multitude of violations and calls upon press freedom organizations to take action to protect Yemeni journalists, advocate on their behalf and provide assistance.

Challenging Media Landscape

Since 2014, WJWC has documented 1,657 violations against journalists with 51 ending in death. Additionally, hundreds of journalists have experienced arrest, enforced disappearance, trials, physical attacks, displacement, and the forced closure and looting of newspaper headquarters and satellite channels.

The warring parties have created a perilous environment for media. They control all media outlets within their territories and use the outlets for military propaganda and purposes. The dismissal, suppression, imposition of restrictions and forced displacement of journalists who dissent from the de facto authorities' policies make Yemen one of the most egregious violators of media freedoms globally.



photojournalist Nabil Al-Quaiti

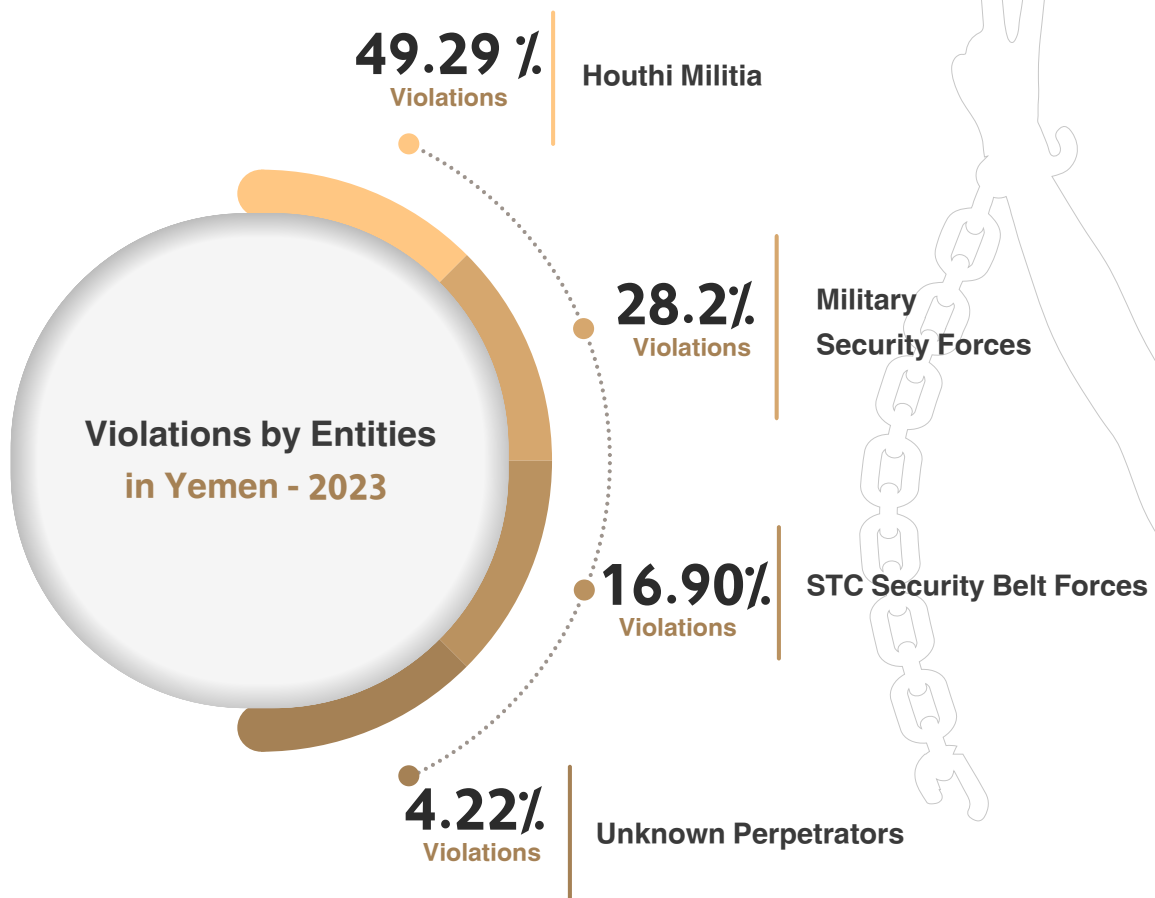
Persistent Impunity

There have been no investigations or holding perpetrators to account in the 51 killing of journalists, many while carrying out their professional duties.

For example, three years since the assassination of photojournalist Nabil Al-Quaiti, justice remains elusive largely

because of official negligence. On June 2, 2020, Al-Quaiti was fatally shot in front of his residence in Dar Saad District, Aden Governorate, by unidentified gunmen. Dissatisfied with the lack of progress in the investigation, Al-Quaiti's family highlighted the disinterest exhibited by the Public Prosecution. In a statement released on the third anniversary of his assassination, the family noted, "The case of Nabil's assassination is still being neglected, and no action has been taken." Frustrated by the consistent lack of interest by the Public Prosecution, the family demanded a transparent investigation into the case and the prosecution of those responsible.

According to the WJWC's 2023 report on media freedom violations, the Houthi militia was responsible for 35 cases, or 49.29% of the total; military and security forces loyal to the internationally recognized government were responsible for 20 cases, or 28.2%; the Security Belt Forces militia of the Southern Transitional Council (STC) accounted for 12 cases, or 16.90% of the total violations, while 3 cases, or 4.22%, could not be attributed to known actors.



Impunity for crimes against journalists is a pressing concern, warns Women Journalists Without Chains. These increasing violations, particularly in Yemen, have led to a significant decline in journalistic efforts, depriving the public of their right to vital information.

The international community's silence in this regard contributes to the worsening human rights violations against journalists in Yemen. The lack of global attention, calls for accountability, and the failure of the international community to call out the perpetrators further embolden them to commit brutal crimes - murder, torture, and disappearances - against journalists. It is imperative that perpetrators be held accountable. WJWC advocates for their just punishment, emphasizing that these crimes have no statute of limitations.



Judicial Trials and Summons

In Yemen, judicial trials and summons are most prevalent means for silencing journalists. In 2023, WJWC documented 17 cases, representing 23.94% of the total violations.



Journalist
Nabil Mohammed Al-Seddawi

The judicial system has been strategically employed by conflicting parties to constrict journalists and media outlets, and severe sentences have included the death penalty. For example, on June 9 2023, the Primary Prosecution in Marib Governorate issued arrest warrants for the following three journalists:

- a. **Ahmed Ayed, editor-in-chief of the Marib Press website.**
- b. **Ali Al-Faqih, editor-in-chief of Al-Masdar Online.**
- c. **Mohammed Al-Salhi, editor-in-chief of the Marib Press newspaper.**

They were targeted shortly after exposing and reporting on nepotism and the employment of relatives by Ali Al-Awash, the former Public Prosecutor and current Head of the Judicial Council.

Similarly, on June 5, 2023, the Security and Intelligence Service in Amran Governorate, under the control of the Houthi militia, summoned journalist Fahd Al-Arhabi. Al-Arhabi was covering corruption cases. The legal system has been strategically leveraged to stifle freedom of the press.

Journalist Nabil Mohammed Al-Seddawi's eight-year sentence ended on September 8, 2023, yet the Houthi militia denied his release. After enduring eight years in prison and forced disappearance, the Houthi court ruled that he be under police supervision post-release, and relevant authorities were directed to engage in his cultural, behavioral, intellectual, and educational rehabilitation, in collaboration with the Ministry of Endowments.

WJWC strongly denounces the instrumentalization of the judiciary to intimidate journalists and prevent press freedom. It firmly rejects the trial of journalists in courts that deny a fair and just legal process.

Disappearing Journalists

In 2023, the WJWC meticulously documented 13 cases of journalist kidnapping, arrest, and detention, constituting 9.23 percent of the total violations reported. Disturbingly, five journalists remain in custody across different factions, each with a unique and dire story.



Wahid Al-Sufi

Mohammed Qaid Al-Muqri

Naseh Shaker

Ahmad Maher

Journalist Wahid Al-Sufi, editor-in-chief of "Al-Arabiya" newspaper and the "Al-Arabiya Online" website, is one such victim. On April 6, 2015 Al-Sufi was abducted by a license plate less vehicle front of a post office in Sana'a. Since then, his family has received no information, and his fate remains unknown.

In a parallel case, journalist Mohammed Qaid Al-Muqri, a correspondent for the Yemen Today channel, was abducted by Al-Qaeda in Hadhramaut province in 2016. Since then, his whereabouts and his fate are unknown.

Further complicating the situation, journalist Nabil Al-Seddawi, employed by the official Saba News Agency, was abducted by the Houthi militia on April 6, 2015. The militia deliberately concealed his fate until July 2019 when he was charged with spying for the Arab coalition. Despite completing his sentence, he continues to be held in prison.

Given the gravity of these circumstances, WJWC urgently calls for the immediate release of all journalists currently detained in prisons. They implore the international community to exert pressure on relevant parties, seeking to secure their release and bring an end to their prolonged suffering.

A Grim Decline

In 2023, WJWC documented storming, looting, and sabotage of press institutions. Houthi militia and the Southern Transitional Council also seized media institution headquarters.



Impactful Events Post Houthi Takeover in Sanaa:



In its comprehensive annual reports, WJWC highlighted the occurrence of 37 break-ins and closures that affected both official and private media institutions, leaving lasting repercussions. The Houthi militia's control over the capital and state apparatus included the shutdown of all civil and party newspapers originating from Sanaa. Thirty-one news websites were blocked, and three media facilities were bombed by the Arab coalition aircraft, led by Saudi Arabia and the UAE

To further emphasize the dire situation, recent statistics released by the Yemeni Journalists Syndicate in mid-2022 underscored the extensive risks and detrimental effects of the ongoing war on the Yemeni media over the past eight years.

Yemeni Journalists Syndicate Data:





According to the Journalists Syndicate's report, out of a total of 365 media outlets, only 200 are currently operational, while 165 have ceased operations. Among the 26 television channels, only 22 remain active. It is noteworthy that apart from certain channels affiliated with the government or other parties involved in the conflict, all independent media outlets operate from outside the geographical boundaries of the Republic of Yemen.

The Syndicate further highlighted that newspapers and magazines bore the brunt of the war's impact, with 119 out of 132 publications, spanning daily, weekly, monthly, or quarterly frequencies, closed down as a result of the ongoing security, economic, and political repercussions of the war. At present, only 13 newspapers continue to operate.

On March 1, 2023, the Yemeni Journalists Syndicate Headquarters in Aden Governorate was forcefully stormed by the Security Belt militia, an affiliate of the Southern Transitional Council. The militia seized control of the premises and subjected the administrative staff and employees to intimidation. Shockingly, on December 8, 2023, the militia went a step further by offering the guild's park for investment, indicating their intention to exploit and plunder the seized property.

Since orchestrating the coup against the state and its official entities in 2014, these militias have persistently looted media establishments and their assets. This includes official media outlets, which have been converted into private domains under their command.

WJWC strongly denounces these deplorable actions and conducts, while wholeheartedly standing in solidarity with the visual, print, and audio media establishments that have been targeted by raids and looting. It highlights the importance of reclaiming these institutions from the grip of militias, restoring the looted assets, and ensuring that all individuals involved in the assaults and looting of these media outlets are held responsible for their actions.

Salary Non-payment Dilemma

Yemeni journalists and media professionals find themselves grappling with severe day-to-day and personal finance challenges in their day-to-day lives. The ongoing war, coupled with the heavy-handed restrictions imposed by opposing factions, has led to a wave of job losses among journalists, effectively curbing their professional activities.

The warring factions have turned a blind eye to their obligation of disbursing salaries to government journalists and media personnel since 2017 – a basic entitlement protected by international laws and agreements.

WJWC censures the globally recognized government for shirking its constitutional and ethical responsibilities. This refusal to pay wages extends not only to workers in official institutions situated beyond its jurisdiction but also obstructs compensation for those

working in its media entities. Furthermore, WJWC rebukes the Houthi militia for terminating journalists from government media outlets, citing their absence in areas under its control. The ousted journalists are replaced by militia loyalists, who receive a meager salary, doled out only once every four or six months.

WJWC stands firmly in solidarity with journalists and urges the internationally recognized government to uphold its constitutional and moral duties. The plea is straightforward – ensure that all employees in official media receive their due salaries, leaving no room for exceptions.

On April 15 2023, the Ministry of Civil Service in Sanaa, held hostage by the Houthi militia, slashed the salaries of several journalists employed in media institutions. Their justification was that the journalists were out of the country, a pretext that raises eyebrows and reeks of suspicion.

Meanwhile, discontent brewed among the workforce of the internationally acknowledged government's television sector. A group of employees, who had endured a three-month hiatus in salary payments, took a stand. Threatening to unleash a strike if their pleas fell on deaf ears, their ultimatum was boldly articulated in a statement released by representatives of state media employees on April 18, 2023.

Journalists Under STC's Crosshairs

Since 2017, the Southern Transitional Council (STC) militia has firmly gripped the reins of power in the interim capital, Aden, and various southern governorates. This control hasn't been limited to political dominance; the STC has been ruthlessly suppressing dissenting voices, particularly journalists and media professionals who dare to challenge its authority.

In an intimidation campaign, the STC militia has arrested, kidnapped, and subjected journalists to torture to quell opposition. The militia's aggressive tactics extend to storming numerous television and radio channels, official media and press institutions, private satellite channel offices, and the headquarters of civil society institutions focused on press freedoms. Notably, the STC's strong-arm tactics reached a pinnacle with the forceful seizure of the Yemeni Journalists Syndicate headquarters in Aden.

The overarching goal of the Southern Transitional Council is clear – total dominance over the media landscape in the areas it governs. Its strategy involves excluding any dissenting voices or those brave enough to expose the questionable practices and behaviors of its militias mirroring the oppressive Houthi militia playbook in regions under its control.

The Southern Transitional Council militia's attack on journalists is exemplified in the case of Ahmed Maher. Since Maher capture in August 2022, he has been subjected to brutal detention conditions including both physical and psychological torture. Under duress, he was coerced into making false confessions, evidenced in a shocking video that clearly displayed the signs of the torture he endured. The Criminal Court in Aden Governorate consistently postponed hearings in his case. And the militia refused to facilitate Maher's transfer from prison to the court, intentionally obstructing the legal proceedings.

In a shameless move, on August 15 2023, the Southern Transitional Council issued a decree through its self-styled "National Southern Media Authority" aimed at tightening its grip on journalistic activities. The directive mandates that journalists and media professionals employed in local, regional, and international media outfits, along with correspondents for channels, newspapers, and agencies on all scales, and their associates, must officially register their names with the National Southern Media Authority.

Alarming Trends: Threats to Journalism and Media Freedoms

The 2023 cases of violations outlined throughout this report are reflective of the severe and ongoing obstruction of journalistic and media rights and freedoms throughout the nine-year war. The trends outlined below are alarming:



Recommendations:

Over the course of this relentless nine-year war, journalists have worked in increasingly unsafe conditions marked by threat of killing, torture, and forced disappearance. Media institutions have been raided, shut down and restricted. The law has been used as a means of control and coercion. And Yemenis as whole continue to lose their right to a free and fair press.

The situation for journalists and media outlets in Yemen is dire. WJWC implores the international community, civil society organizations and rights-seeking bodies to:

- 1** Call for the immediate release of abducted journalists, without any conditions or demands.
- 2** Uphold the independence of media institutions and cease all attacks on their headquarters, safeguarding their ability to operate freely.
- 3** Take active measures to combat incitement, threats, and intimidation targeted at journalists and the media, ensuring their safety and protection.
- 4** Refrain from involving journalists in political or military conflicts to maintain their impartiality and preserve their role as objective observers.
- 5** Promote accuracy in reporting by exercising caution in disseminating information, verifying facts, and avoiding the spread of rumors and false news.
- 6** Foster professional solidarity among journalists and condemn all attacks on media freedoms, standing together in defense of press freedom.
- 7** Establish an independent international investigation committee to thoroughly investigate crimes committed against journalists and hold perpetrators accountable.



- 8 Encourage journalists to adhere to professional safety measures during press coverage, ensuring their physical well-being.
- 9 Provide necessary protection to journalists and media professionals, enabling them to carry out their duties without fear of violence or reprisals.
- 10 Support the independence of the judiciary and refrain from using it as a means to intimidate or silence journalists.
- 11 Cease all unjust rulings targeting journalists based on their professional work, upholding their rights to freedom of expression and press freedom.
- 12 Abolish restrictive security laws imposed by all parties that hinder journalistic work and impede freedom of the press.
- 13 Respect and adhere to international conventions that protect freedom of opinion and expression.
- 14 Ensure the timely release of salaries for all media professionals and workers in media institutions, while actively working towards improving their overall working conditions.

The individual lives of journalists rely on our collective actions and the people of Yemen deserve access to a free press. WJWC calls upon press freedom organizations to take action to protect Yemeni journalists and advocate on their behalf.

About WJWC

Founded in Yemen in 2005, Women Journalists Without Chains (WJWC) is a distinguished regional organization led by Tawakkol Karman, the recipient of the Nobel Peace Prize in 2011. Over the years, WJWC has significantly expanded its presence to over 21 countries across the Middle East and North Africa.

The organization staunchly upholds the inherent right of every individual to be informed and access reliable facts, news, and information. It is dedicated to empowering citizens in the region, enabling them to exercise their fundamental rights to formulate and express opinions and positions. Additionally, the organization aligns with the principles of good governance, actively opposing policies and actions that impede equality and threaten human dignity.

WJWC collaborates closely with various civil society organizations devoted to the advancement of press freedom, freedom of opinion and expression, and human rights. Committed to the realization of its vision, the organization passionately champions the rights of both male and female journalists. In pursuit of these noble objectives, it proactively engages in the creation of a dynamic regional and international lobby community, dedicated to fortifying the fundamental right of the peoples in the Middle East and North Africa to access precise facts, reliable news, and information.

From its inception, the organization has been at the vanguard, cultivating an unwavering independent voice in Yemen, fearlessly exposing infringements on freedom of the press and opinion. Across the Middle East and North Africa, the organization not only champions press freedom but also serves as a vigilant defender of the rights of male and female journalists, contributing to a tapestry of resilience and advocacy.

Monitoring Legal Proceedings: Journalists' Trials and Summons

January 9, 2023

Journalist Khaled Mohsen Al-Kathiri of Mukalla faced a summons from the court in Hadramaut Governorate, triggered by his writings on the rights of sports institutions, particularly the Sayun Social Sports Club.

March 15, 2023

In a covert session in Sanaa, the Houthi militia conducted a trial for four journalists who had been abducted since June 2015, namely Akram Al-Walidi, Tawfiq Al-Mansouri, Harith Hamid, and Abdul Khaleq Omran who were initially sentenced to death.

March 16, 2023

Journalist Ahmed Maher finally made an appearance before the Criminal Court in Aden after experiencing repeated delays in his trial, which had been postponed 13 times in the past. During these delays, neither the security nor judicial authorities provided reasons for the prolonged proceedings. However, the court faced further disruptions as the Transitional Council militia adamantly refused to permit Maher's transfer from prison to attend the trial sessions.

May 24, 2023

Journalist Abdullah Ali Bamuneef received a summons from the Doan Police Station in Hadramaut Governorate. This summons was issued in response to a complaint filed against him by the director of Al-Siddiq School, forwarded through the community committee in the Al-Qurain area. The complaint is linked to the publication of an opinion article.

June 4, 2023

Journalist Walid Al-Sada, the editor-in-chief of Al-Liwaa newspaper, was summoned for an investigation into charges brought against him by the governorate's finances prosecutor. The summons is in connection to an alleged attempt to fabricate malicious charges against him, stemming from his writings on corruption cases.

June 5, 2023

Journalist Fahd Al-Arhabi faced a summons from the Security and Intelligence Service in Amran Governorate, citing the grounds of publishing corruption cases.

June 9, 2023

The Public Prosecution in Ma'rib Governorate issued coercive arrest orders against the directors of Al-Masdar Online, Ma'rib Press, the Al-Mahriya Channel office, and the Yemen Shabab Channel office. These orders are related to the publication of cases concerning corruption in the judiciary.

September 19, 2023

Journalist Obaid Waked received a one-month imprisonment sentence with a suspended sentence from the Public Funds Court in Hadramaut Governorate. This ruling was a response to a lawsuit filed against him by the Yemeni Oil Company, Hadhramout Coast Branch.



September 20, 2023

Journalist Fathi Bin Lazraq was summoned by the Press and Publications Prosecution in Aden for questioning. However, the summons did not disclose the identity of the summoner or provide any details about the charges against him.

October 26, 2023

The family of journalist Ahmed Maher expressed their concerns about the halted judicial procedures in his case. Ahmed Maher has been in custody for a year in the prisons of the Transitional Council militias in Aden Governorate. The family highlighted the disruption of legal proceedings and the harsh conditions of his detention, which they believe violate the law.



Detention and Forced Disappearance

In Yemen, the plight of five journalists remains dire as they are held captive by different factions:

Houthi Group:



Nabil Al-Seddawi:
Kidnapped on September 21, 2015



Wahid Al-Sufi:
Forcibly kidnapped since 2015

Southern Transitional Council:



Ahmed Maher:
Arrested on August 6, 2022



Shaker Naseh:
Arrested on November 15, 2023

Al-Qaida Organization:



Mohammed Qaid Al-Muqri:
Kidnapped since 2015



Detention Incidents in 2023

Throughout the year 2023, a series of concerning incidents unfolded involving the detention of individuals within the media and writing community:

May 2023

Journalist Abdullah Ali Bamuneef was detained at the headquarters of the Doan Police Department in Hadramaut Governorate.

June 5, 2023

Journalist Fahd Al-Arhabi was detained in the central prison in Amran Governorate after revealing information about a senior politician controlling a significant land plot.

August 3, 2023

Journalist Jamil Al-Samit was detained by security authorities in the city of Taiz and placed in a criminal investigation prison due to his opinion writings criticizing the performance of security services.

August 30, 2023

Journalist Fouad Al-Majidi, correspondent for Al-Yemen Al-Youm channel, faced over an hour of detention in Marib at the Al-Salam Police Department by special forces.

September 18, 2023

Writer Dr. Adel Al-Shujaa was arrested in the Egyptian capital, Cairo, by Egyptian security forces.

September 18, 2023

Journalist Majid Saleh Al-Shuaibi, editor-in-chief of the Fourth-Dimension website, was detained by security belt forces in Aden. The grounds for his detention were linked to the publication of a video clip highlighting a humanitarian situation.

September 3, 2023

Forces associated with the Joint Forces on the West Coast apprehended journalist Mujahid Al-Qab while he was en route to transfer his mother for medical treatment from Al-Khawkhah District to Aden.

September 23, 2023

Journalist Mohammed Al-Qadiri's wife and 7-year-old daughter were taken into custody by a Houthi-affiliated leader in Ibb Governorate. The motive behind their arrest was to exert pressure on him to return to Ibb Governorate.

November 15, 2023

Journalist Shaker Naseh faced arrest in Aden upon his arrival from Sanaa. His intention was to proceed through Aden Airport for an overseas training course.



Storming and Looting Media Institutions

March 1, 2023

Armed individuals affiliated with the Southern Transitional Council militia in Aden Governorate forcibly entered the premises of the Yemeni Journalists Syndicate in Al-Tawahi, perpetrating a hostile takeover.

March 1, 2023

In a similar incident, armed individuals linked to the Transitional Council militia in Aden Governorate interfered with the headquarters of the Yemeni Journalists Syndicate in Al-Tawahi. They not only tampered with the facility but also removed the Syndicate's banner, replacing it with another.

June 4, 2023

Journalist Walid Al-Sada, editor-in-chief of Al-Liwaa newspaper, fell victim to a car looting incident. This attack was a direct consequence of his courageous writings addressing corruption in Ibb Governorate.

August 18, 2023

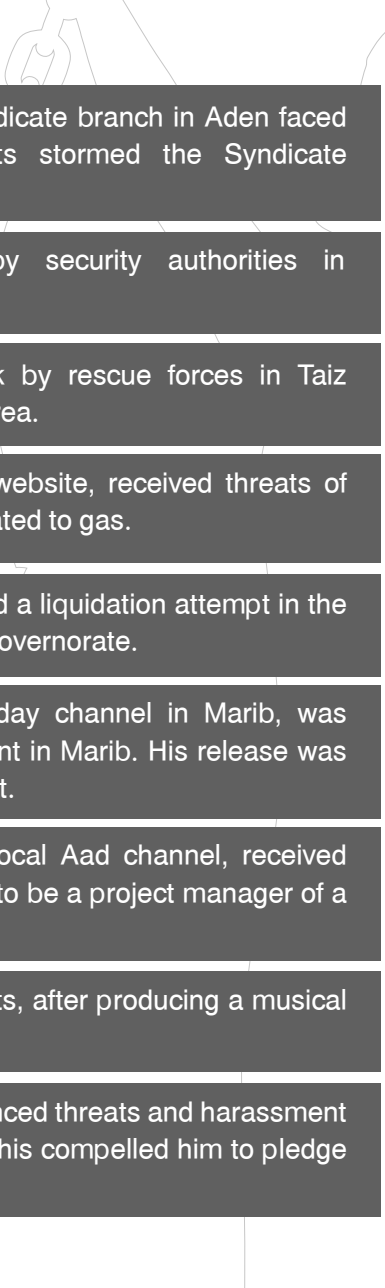
The National Southern Media Authority of the Southern Transitional Council issued a censoring circular, further tightening restrictions on journalists.

November 12, 2023

Military soldiers, under the command of the Military Operations Commander in Ataq city, Shabwa Governorate, vandalized the camera belonging to the Yemen Today satellite channel crew. This incident occurred while they were covering a public event in support of the Palestinian people in the governorate.



Threats, Pursuit, and Incitement: Series of Violations against Journalists:



March 1, 2023	Members of the administrative body of the Journalists Syndicate branch in Aden faced menacing threats from the STC militias. The militants stormed the Syndicate headquarters, vandalizing its contents.
March 10, 2023	Journalist Ibrahim Al-Hussaini encountered pursuit by security authorities in Al-Shamaytain District, Taiz Governorate.
May 1, 2023	Journalist Nawaf Al-Himyari was subjected to an attack by rescue forces in Taiz Governorate, enduring insults and threats in the Al-Haseb area.
May 21, 2023	Journalist Ali Aweida, editor-in-chief of the "Ma'rib 360" website, received threats of physical liquidation over his handling of corruption cases related to gas.
June 4, 2023	Walid Al-Sada, editor-in-chief of Al-Liwaa newspaper, faced a liquidation attempt in the old city of Ibb, owing to his writings about corruption in Ibb Governorate.
August 30, 2023	Journalist Fouad Al-Majidi, correspondent for Yemen Today channel in Marib, was pursued, arrested, and taken to Al-Salam Police Department in Marib. His release was conditional on refraining from filming without an official permit.
September 22, 2023	journalist Abdul Jabbar Bagbir, general manager of the local Aad channel, received threats, insults, and intimidation from an individual claiming to be a project manager of a real estate company via a phone call.
September 14, 2023	Journalist Sam Al-Behairi faced death and liquidation threats, after producing a musical work.
November 5, 2023	The Belqees TV correspondent in Lahj Governorate experienced threats and harassment from the Southern Media Authority affiliated with the STC. This compelled him to pledge not to work with the channel.

Salary Cuts and Journalist Assaults

Salary Stoppages:

April 15, 2023

Ministry of Civil Service in Sana'a, controlled by the Houthi militia, took a drastic step by cutting half of the salaries of several journalists associated with media institutions. The rationale claimed that these journalists were located outside the country, disproportionately affecting displaced journalists from regions controlled by the Houthi militia.

April 18, 2023

Representatives of official media employees in Riyadh expressed their discontent, through a statement. They decried the negligence of their salary payment demands, highlighting the government's failure to disburse their salaries for several months, citing various pretexts.

Assaults:

August 25, 2023

Journalist Mujali Al-Samadi, director and proprietor of Voice of Yemen Radio, endured a brutal assault. A gang of five armed individuals attacked him in front of his residence in the Al-Safiya area in the capital, Sana'a. This assault was in retaliation for his outspoken social media commentary on employee salaries.

November 12, 2023

Military soldiers, under the command of the Military Operations Commander in the city of Ataq, Shabwa Governorate, targeted the crew of Yemen Today TV. The attack occurred while they were covering a public event in support of the Palestinian people in the governorate.

Torturing:

March 15, 2023

In a clandestine session, Houthi militias subjected six journalists to torment, among them the four who had been abducted since June 2015 and subsequently sentenced to death:

- Akram Al-Walidi
- Tawfiq Al Mansouri
- Harith Hamid
- Abdul Khaleq Imran

Additionally, journalists Mohammed Al-Junaid and Nabil Al-Seddawi faced brutal torture.

August 6, 2022

Journalist Ahmed Maher languishes in the prisons of the STC militias in Aden Governorate, enduring both physical and psychological torture. His treatment is harsh, and the Journalists Syndicate vehemently condemned the torture, emphasizing coerced false confessions.



Hunger Strike:

November 30, 2023

The family of journalist Ahmed Maher issued a statement revealing that he had initiated a complete hunger strike during his detention in Bir Ahmed prison, Aden Governorate. His act of protest aims to urge a transfer of his trial and seek a fair resolution to his case.

Denial of Contact and Visitation:

March 1, 2023

Abdul Majeed Sabra, the lawyer representing the four journalists sentenced to death (Akram Al-Walidi, Tawfiq Al-Mansouri, Harith Hamid, and Abdul Khaleq Omran), reported that the Houthis persist in denying his clients their fundamental rights, including the ability to communicate with their relatives or have visitations. Sabra further conveyed that the families of the journalists assert that they have had no contact with the detained individuals since August 2022. It's noteworthy that they were released on April 14, 2023, as part of a prisoner exchange facilitated by the United Nations.

Disconnecting Internet Services:

Yemen Net Company, affiliated with the Houthi-controlled Yemeni General Telecommunications Corporation, has disrupted internet services 12 times in areas under legitimate authorities, including Aden, Taiz, Hadhramaut, Abyan, and Marib. Pretexts for the outages range from technical issues to faulty cables, causing disruptions lasting from hours to days.